



*“Sto Pro Veritate”*

... has been the family motto for 500 years.

*“I stand for truth”*

and if ever a family has stood by their ideals, Guthries have done so.

#### WHAT IS CLAN GUTHRIE-USA?

Clan Guthrie-USA may be thought of as the focal point for Guthries to communicate with each other and as the organization to represent the Guthrie name in the Scottish family of clans and societies which are active all over the world. Clan Guthrie-USA recognizes the existence of natural family clusters formed through blood relationships and close family traditions. It is not the intent of Clan Guthrie-USA to dilute these natural blood relationships. Rather, it is the purpose of Clan Guthrie-USA to promote an awareness of our expanded family of Guthrie cousins. The Scots are noted for their hospitality. Hospitality between cousins is a natural and basic human characteristic. Families are strong social units because they care for each other. The objective of Clan Guthrie-USA is no different; through our organization we seek to perpetuate our natural bonds of camaraderie.

#### CLAN OBJECTIVE

Clan Guthrie-USA, Inc. is a non-profit fraternal organization dedicated to the promotion of family heritage and fellowship amongst Guthries everywhere. The objective of Clan Guthrie-USA is to serve the Scottish cultural interests of its membership through services, activities, events, and charitable endeavors, including support and patronage for Friends of Guthrie Castle, Inc., a non-profit organization incorporated in 1981 and dedicated to the preservation of the Guthrie Castle and its artifacts.

#### ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Clan Guthrie-USA was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in 1987 under that statutes of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. A Board of Directors serves as the controlling body for all functions of the organization. The Directors serve staggered terms of office to ensure continuity and are elected to their positions by the general membership. The major officers of Clan Guthrie-USA are those of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These positions are appointed by the Board-of-Directors from time to time as described in the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws. The organization is further broken down into special interest committees, including Newsletter, Genealogy, Highland Games, and Catalog Sales; each coordinated by a designated volunteer chairperson. General Membership meetings are held each year at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, or other time and place as announced in the Newsletter. Membership is restricted to persons of Guthrie descent. Other interested parties may become associate members with the same privileges as members except that they can not hold office and do not have a right to vote on Clan matters.

#### THE CLAN

A Clan is basically “a family”. The Gaelic word “clan” means children and the “chief” was regarded as the “father.” A “chieftain” was the head of a branch or sept family. Gradually “clan” has come to have a broader meaning and in concept is now more closely aligned with “tribe,” but the strength and viability of the Highland Clan spirit lies in the belief that the clan is “one extended family” in which all members share a common loyalty.

#### ORIGIN OF THE NAME “GUTHRIE”

Guthries of Guthrie, Guthries of Hiltoun, Guthries of Craigie, Guthries of Taybank, Guthries of Gagie”

The name Guthrie in its varied spellings...Guthrey, Guthry, Gutry, etc. has had many roots ascribed to it. According to one current reference on name origins the source of Guthrie is derived from Irish Gaelic for “the windy place” and/or Old German for “war hero.” J.R. Dalgety has speculated in his book, *The Guthries: A Short History* that the name is derived from the Gaelic word gath-erran, which means arrowhead or dart shaped. This explanation would be consistent with the common usage of Pictish and Gaelic words for local place names and the findings of many flint artifacts within a few miles of Guthrie Castle. It is possible that the name is a diminutive of “Guthrum” who was a Viking warrior-King in the 9th century. He threatened the English kingdom of Alfred the Great — occupying Reading on the Thames in 871 and Northumberland and Mercia in succeeding years. In May 878, however, Alfred defeated Guthrum at Ethandun (Edington, Wiltshire) and in compliance with the Treaty of Wedmore, Guthrum submitted to Christian baptism with Alfred standing as his godfather. Thereafter Guthrum appears to have reigned peacefully in East Anglia. His descendants probably fled north to what is now Scotland after the Norman invasion of 1066 ended the Viking monarchy in England.

## GUTHRIE HERITAGE

The Guthries of Guthrie are probably the oldest family in the county of Angus and certainly one of the most ancient of Scotland. Prior to the ancient Scots' invasion of Caledonia (what is now Scotland) in 1296, the first Guthrie heard of in contemporary history was falconer to King Malcolm Canmore (1057-1083). Lands were distributed among the Kings' servants, at which time Guthrie got the lands of Halkertown, which carried that name because of his employment, being a falconer. The lands of Guthrie are mentioned in early records which say that, in 1178, King William the Lion, great-grandson of Malcolm Canmore, granted the church and the lands of Guthrie (Guchery, Guthryn, Guthre) to the Abbey of Arbroath.

In 1299 when Sir William Wallace had retired to France after his memorable, but inconclusive struggle for the freedom of Scotland, the Laird of Guthrie was sent by his northern contemporaries to persuade Wallace to return and help them in opposing the English. The first Guthrie to be mentioned by name in surviving records is Adam Guthrie, who seems to have been in possession of the lands and barony of Guthrie, and to have been on terms of friendship with Maule of Panmure. Between 1348 and 1398, during the reign of Robert III, Guthries were granted lands by charter, but in 1398 a charter granted the lands of Guthrie to the Earl of Crawford.

In the 15th century three areas of land were sold or granted to members of the Guthrie family: the lands of Kincaldrum to Alexander Guthrie and his wife, Margery, in 1446, the lands of Guthrie to Sir David Guthrie in 1465, and the lands of Lunan to William de Guthrie about 1508. Alexander Guthrie of Kincaldrum had four sons, all men of distinction in the county. The oldest, David, the Sir David Guthrie mentioned above, began his career as a page to the Earl of Crawford and soon became captain of the bodyguard of James II of Scotland. David gained great prominence and influence in Scotland, was knighted in 1465, and was able to purchase the lands of Guthrie. The second son, James, was also knighted and was royal falconer in Angus. Another son, William, studied law, and Richard, the fourth son, became a clergyman and was twice Abbot of Arbroath Abbey. During the time of his prominence and fame, David purchased the church at Guthrie and restored it, it is said, in gratitude for "dangers escaped on the sea." In 1468, David built the original structure of Guthrie Castle. The square Norman tower of the structure built by David survives and is part of the present castle.

The eldest son of Sir David Guthrie, Alexander, inherited both Kincaldrum and the lands of Guthrie, but he and his oldest son, David, fell at Flodden in 1513. Kincaldrum and the Guthrie lands descended to different sons of Sir Alexander, but the Guthrie land, church and castle were continuously owned by the Guthrie family until 1983. Since these early beginnings, many Guthries migrated to America, some directly from Scotland, some by way of northern Ireland. Probably, however, the ancestors of everyone named Guthrie originated in Forfarshire (Angus) in the central-eastern part of Scotland.

The Guthries first appear in the records of the Virginia colony in 1656. Between the death of the first Alexander Guthrie in 1513 and the middle of the 17th century, the family of Guthrie became widespread in the county of Forfar and in eastern Scotland, and it would be difficult to identify the specific family from which the immigrant came. Guthries were merchants, maltmen, ministers, listers, apothecaries, wheelwrights, writers, mariners, clerks and advocates as well as farmers. Some Guthries gained prominence during this period. John Guthrie became Bishop of Moray and opposed the Covenanters. Another Guthrie, Henry, became bishop of Sterling and was suspected of Royalist sympathies during the time that Sir Harry Vane was trying to cement an alliance between the Covenanters of Scotland and the parliamentary party in England. Rev. James Guthrie, whom Cromwell called, "the little man who would not bow" was martyred by Charles II because Guthrie would not forsake his adherence to the Covenant. The Guthrie, or Guthries, who emigrated to Virginia during the mid-seventeenth century may have left Scotland for a number of reasons. They may have displeased the Covenanters, or the Parliamentary Party, or the Royalists. Or they may have tired of the disturbed conditions in Scotland and looked to America for a more settled existence.

## THE GUTHRIE TARTAN

Design of the tartan was commissioned to Alex Dalgety & Sons, Ltd. by Colonel Ivan D. Guthrie-of-Guthrie who was the last laird of the direct lineage from the year 1650.

The center portion of double red on black was taken from the Angus district tartan. The remainder of the Set was taken from the Davidson tartan to show colonel Guthrie's Highland connection with Clan Dea (or "Dey").

Originally the tartan was designed with a white line on the green square to tie in directly with the Chief of Pulloch. But, this was not accepted and the ordinary clan version of black on green was substituted.

Shortly after the Guthrie tartan was woven in the ancient dress colors of "green and blue," Colonel Guthrie asked for another version using faded battle colors. While he liked the standard blue grey shade, the olive or khaki brown was not to his liking and some time and effort was spent in blending yarns to find the ideal color. Finally the gold/green was dyed and approved as the hunting tartan.

The dress colors version may be copied in lesser quality yarns, but the hunting tartan demands special dyes, which imitators find hard to match. The dress tartan is normally worn for formal functions, the hunting tartan for more informal functions.

**ALEXANDER  
GUTHRIE-OF-  
GUTHRIE  
CHIEF OF THE  
GU**

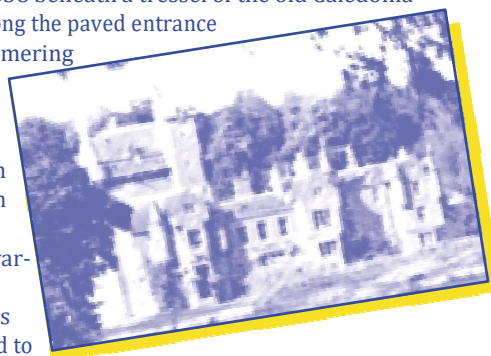
Alexander Guthrie-of-Guthrie matriculated as the 21st Chief of Guthrie in 1993. He is the great grandson of Colonel Ivan Guthrie-of-Guthrie. Alexander was born in London in 1967. His mother, Loetitia Dawn Philips married Leonardo Bedini Jacobini of the Roman "Black Aristocracy." Raised in Italy and educated in both Italy and the U.K., Alexander carries a dual nationality and is bilingual in English and Italian. As Chief of the Guthries, Alexander has vowed to serve the long neglected interests of the Guthrie family by promoting the formation of a worldwide organization that will provide a role model for Guthries who are interested in a return to family values. He seeks a renewed spirit of dedication to the family motto,

"Sto Pro Veritate" (I stand by the truth) and sees his leadership role as both a responsibility to establish direction and as a commitment to faithfully serve his Clan above and before his own personal interests.



**GUTHRIE  
CASTLE**

Guthrie Castle, home of the Guthrie family for over 500 years, is situated in Angus county, approximately 80 miles north of Edinburgh and about 7 miles east of Forfar along Route A932. The main entrance to the Castle grounds is through an ivy-covered arch, which was constructed in 1838 beneath a tressel of the old Caledonia Railway. As a visitor passes beneath the arch and continues along the paved entrance road, a spectacular view of the Castle emerges across a glimmering trout-stocked lake. The undergrowth quickly blocks one's view of the Castle as you continue, making one wonder if the vision was, indeed, an illusion. Soon, however, you round a bend and behold a closeup view of the towering fortress which is every bit as spectacular and impressive as was imagined from the initial glimpse across the lake. The Castle's original tower dominates the structure. It was constructed in 1468 under a warrant granted by King James III of Scotland to his Royal Treasurer, Sir David Guthrie. The east wing of the Castle was added as a separate living quarters in 1760 and later connected to the Tower in 1848. Today the Castle is privately owned. The Castle and grounds are not open to tourists.



(Contact: Timothy Greaves; Mill House; Forfar, Angus Scotland DD8 2TP; Ph: 01 241-828450.)

**GAGIE HOUSE**



Gagie House in Tealing, about 15-miles from Guthrie Castle toward Dundee, was the "dower house" of the Guthries. It was built around 1614 as a small fortress with 3-foot thick walls, which encompass the central part of the house. The heir apparent would reside at Gagie until his time came to move into the Guthrie Castle as head of the family. The beautifully constructed garden wall was for defensive purposes, and shot holes can still be seen in the south wall. Today Gagie House is privately owned by Mr. and Mrs. France Smoor, who are benevolent to the historic interests of Guthries. A collection of original Guthrie family paintings and other artifacts purchased at the Guthrie Castle auction by Friends of Guthrie Castle, Inc., are on display by advance appointment. Visitors should call in advance.

(Contact Mr. France Smoor, Gagie House by Dundee, Angus; Scotland DD4 0PR; Ph: 44-0(1) 382-380207; e-mail: gagiehouse@aol.com, for information.)

**CASTLE  
AT TOROSAY**

A more recent addition to the Guthrie family is the Castle at Torosay on the Isle of Mull.

Originally constructed and completed in 1858 by Captain John Campbell of Possil, Torosay passed into the hands of the Guthrie family in 1865 and since that time six generations of the family have lived in the Castle. David Bryce of Edinburgh designed Torosay in Scots baronial fashion with turrets and crowstepped gables. The Isle of Mull is accessible by ferry from the seaport town of Oban. A miniature railway provides transportation to the Castle from the pier at Craignure. A modest fee is charged to tour Torosay to help offset the cost of maintenance. The house is still redolent of its Victorian and Edwardian hey-day. Stags' heads look down upon the main staircase and family portraits line the walls. The Italianate formality of the gardens contrasts with the natural grandeur of the Highland setting.



(Contact Mr. Christopher Guthrie-James; Torosay Castle, Craignure, Argyl, Scotland PA65 6AY; Ph: 44-0(1) 680-812421; e-mail: torosay@aol.com, for information.)

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**CLAN GUTHRIE – U.S.A.**