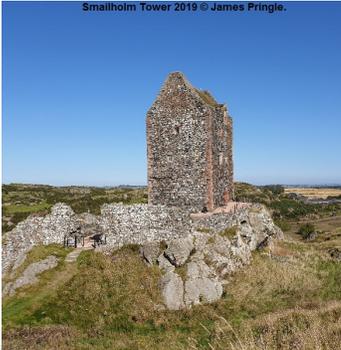




# Clan Pringle Newsletter

October 2021, Issue 7



Smallholm Tower 2019 © James Pringle

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## Editorial Team



Derek



Erika



James M



Pam

### From the Editorial Team:

### News from Clan Pringle A.G.M

Dear friends:

The official date of our A.G.M. this year was July 31<sup>st</sup>. We did not have a meeting in the normal sense, in person, zoom, or phone. Rather those responsible for reports sent them by email to the secretary, who in turn mailed them out to the membership as one package. Nine members only, returned their votes. There were no elections this year.

There are currently a total of 36 paid-up members of CPA. Member fees are due on the first of April each year (£15UK or \$20US). Current account cash balance is \$4,132.00. One hundred and twenty men have participated in the Pringle Y-DNA, currently managed by Family Tree DNA. The ethnic origin of the Pringles is Germanic, descending from the Northumbrian Angles.

The CPA website is having some upgrades. The new website is [www.pringle.info](http://www.pringle.info). We can also still use [www.clanpringle.com](http://www.clanpringle.com). Visits to the Clan Pringle related websites were down in 2020 to nearly half that of 2019, while the Pringle Facebook pages and ancestry.com message board saw slight increases.

The North American CPA Trustees reported they had their bi-annual Pringle Gathering on November 7, 2020 with 21 people participating via Zoom. Along with their North American friends they had 2 visitors from New Zealand and 2 from Scotland (including CPA Chairman James W. Pringle)

The NACPA Trustees and Steering Committee indicated their disappointment with not being able to have a Zoom AGM. Their report states “We were disappointed when that meeting was substituted by a simple submission of written official reports. Our only participation then was in Bill and Derek’s written report. We question whether this approach is the most fruitful. We wonder if this is a lost opportunity? – to meet together, share as a Pringle family, discuss issues and possible future plans, along with the opportunity to get more members involved and expand our base? We invite the Trustees to consider further this concern.”

The Quarterly Pringle Newsletter began in April 2020 and has been produced each quarter since then. The editorial Team appreciate those who have written articles however, they “hope for wider participation and interactions in its future editions”.

*The Editorial Team*

# AGM

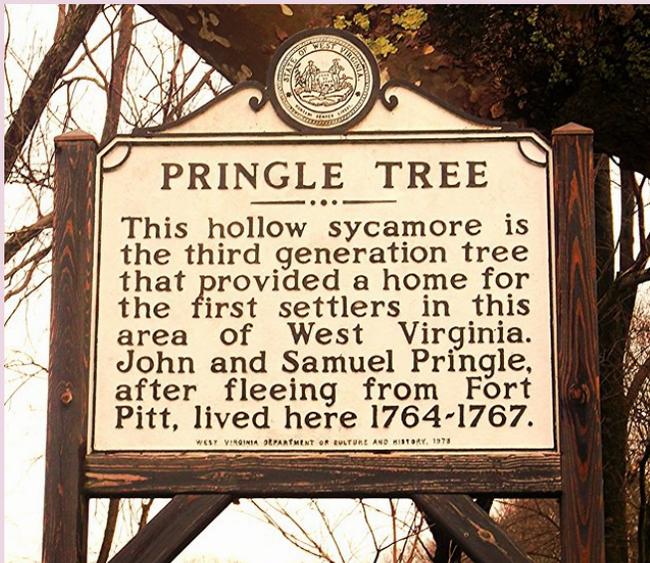
Annual General Meeting



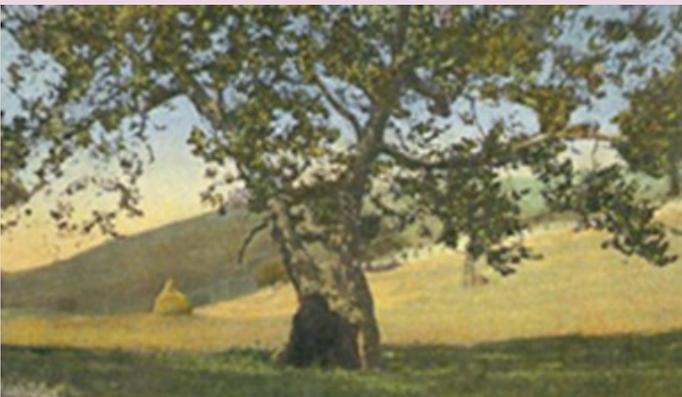
### CPA Board of Trustees

<b>Chairman</b> - James W. Pringle of Torwoodlee, 14th Laird, Scotland	Alastair Pringle , England
<b>Secretary</b> - Sir Murray Pringle, 10th Bart. , England	Andrew Pringle, England
<b>Treasurer</b> - Mrs Priscilla Dorman (nee Pringle), England	William Pringle III, NA Rep. USA
James M. Pringle, CPA Website Administrator	Derek Pringle, NA Rep. USA

## The Pringle Tree



About a decade prior to the American Revolution, John and Samuel Pringle became British Army deserters of the French and Indian War. The brothers escaped Fort Pitt, located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and found the wilderness along the banks of a river the perfect place to hide. They settled in the hollow of an exceptionally large Sycamore tree, at the mouth of Turkey Run on the Buckhannon River from 1764 through 1767. They took shelter inside of this enormous tree and found safety in its 11-foot-deep cavity. In order to survive the harsh, frigid winters along the river, they hunted rabbits, turkey, fish, and the at one-time plentiful, American Bison. In the autumn of 1767, the brothers found themselves low of supplies. As they were dangerously low in ammunition, just two charges of powder left, John decided he must risk capture and trekked 200 miles away to the closest settlement, which was along the South Bank of the Potomac River. There, he learned that peace had been declared between the French and the Indians and neither of the brothers were wanted



any more by any military authorities. By 1768, John had returned from his visit to the trading post with the news. In the following year, John and Samuel decided to leave the river valley and moved to the South Branch settlement. Eventually, John moved to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Samuel and his wife, Charity Pringle, moved back to where the old Sycamore was located and settled there. They brought a small group of settlers with them, including Charity's brother, John Cutright, jr. By 1770, a permanent settlement was finally established, including a fortified structure known as Bush's Fort.

It was not uncommon in that time for hunters to take shelter in large Sycamore trees. These trees typically develop hollows during maturity. Sycamores are among the largest native trees in West Virginia. They are capable of growing to a height of more than 100 feet high. The current Sycamore tree is the third generation of the original Pringle Tree.

*Erika*

### Family Connections—Pringles in PA and MD

Several years ago, my daughter, Susan Murphy Sliwa, started to investigate our family origins. On my mother's side it led us to the Pringle Family around our original home area of Blair, Bedford and Cambria Counties of Western Pennsylvania. It seems, that my grandmother, Hattie Knipple Corle, was a great grandchild to Catherine Pringle.

Below is the story of William Pringle Sr. grandfather to Catherine Pringle. Especially interesting for us is the fact that he settled for a while after the American Revolution about 10 miles from where we live now in Maryland. Then they moved to Pennsylvania, and eventually his family moved near where I grew up. Pringle Hill was about 10 miles from my home in Johnstown Pa.

I signed up for the Pringle Newsletter and received the April issue and I thought some of the things we found might be of interest to other readers.

This history was written by William Pringle, Jr., March 12, 1809, and later presented to Christian Shaffer. "William Pringle, Sr. was born in Scotland, January 22, 1745. His wife Mary Wertz was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, October 6, 1746. They were married December 20, 1765, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. They had ten children. The first child, was born November 27, 1766, and died January 5, 1767. George was born 12/06/1767; Christina 06/19/1770; Philip 10/20/1772; Mary 12/25/1776; Susannah 02/08/1778; Elizabeth 02/09/1781; Caty 04/17/1783; Elba 08/06/1785; William Jr. 03/19/1790.

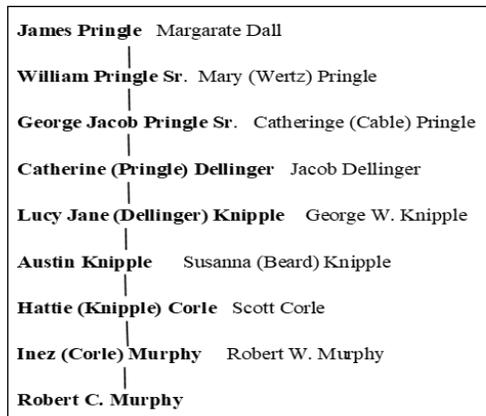
The first four children of William and Mary were born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. They then moved westward and settled in the Conococheague Valley, Maryland. It was here Mary was born and it was here they resided when William Sr. joined the 7th Maryland Regiment under the command of Captain Morris as a private in the Revolutionary War. He was a prisoner of war and later received a pension from the Government. After his return from the war William and his family trekked north and settled in Frankstown in the Juniata Valley in Pennsylvania (then in Huntingdon County but now in Blair County). Here Susannah, Elizabeth, Caty, Elba, and William, Jr. were born. This is where William, Sr. and Mary finally settled and lived out their remaining days. William is listed in the tax rolls of Huntingdon County in 1788 as having 2 horses, 2 cattle, 200 acres of land - 50 acres by warrant and 150 acres by location. Value of property assessment 201 pounds. State tax 9 Shillings. County tax 4 Shillings 7 Pence.

Mr. Pringle was a very large man. He farmed, hunted and scouted. He was extremely light footed and crafty for one so large as he covered the territory still inhabited by native Americans.

It was his ability as a scout that led to his being hired in 1790 to guide Samuel McClay, Timothy Matlock and John Adlum, who were appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania to survey a road from Frankstown to the Conemaugh Valley, where in 1880 Joseph Johns laid out town lots and made a map of Conemaugh Old

Town, as early Johnstown was first named. It was over this trail that his sons, George and Philip, with their wives and two small children, travelled in April of 1796 to the Conemaugh Valley, where they founded a small settlement named "Pringle Hill" in Cambria County, 11 miles east of Johnstown. This trail, now a paved highway some 180 years later, has been travelled over by eight generations of Pringle descendants, including myself, my children and my grandchildren. Mary Wertz Pringle died September 5, 1822, at the age of 76. Her husband, William, lived to be 84 years of age and died June 22, 1829. They are buried in Old Frankstown Cemetery in Blair County, Pennsylvania.

Robert C. Murphy  
Sharpsburg, Maryland



## Comments and Questions

Share your comments, questions or responses [here](#) for publication in the next issue. Ancestry questions are a great way to help each other extend family tree history.

### Comments:

- Many Thanks for a Great July Newsletter. Well Done!  
Cheers Peter
- Many thanks for your latest newsletter - much appreciated. It was interesting to read about the 'Braw Lads' ceremony and to hear Laird James being interviewed - he spoke well.

You also asked: "Give us your suggestions of how we might do better in showing that Friendship to one another, whether on the phone, in our emails, by our actions, or other."

Here's mine: Designate one day in the year as 'ARH Day', invite Pringles worldwide to carry out one charitable act along with their family, and send a photo with caption to be posted in a dedicated section of the website. Hamish

- Thank you for the last issue of CPA newsletter. Once again # 6 was great reading and I believe is a great link among PRINGLES. At a meeting of Scottish Heritage Council held here in Christchurch last Wednesday I tabled a few copies for those present to look at/read. I also made available " Auchentoshan" ( a lowland malt) for an " after meeting " dram to toast our Clan Chief. Have been thinking of our CPA AGM today- 31st July for Scotland. Regards Dave

### Questions:

- Q. The July Newsletter indicated there would be an Autumn Pringle Zoom Gathering. Is there a date for this?
- R. Because the July AGM did not give the opportunity for members to meet and discuss together, the suggestion was made to hold an Autumn Zoom event. This has not been arranged yet, and no specific dates have been decided by the Trustees

- Q. Is the Board of Trustees planning any big events for the upcoming season?
- R. The Board of Trustees have not met or had planning sessions during the past 2 years. Their last meeting was July 31, 2019. Some thought has been given to the possibility of an International Pringle Gathering in Scotland in June 2022. However, due to Covid 19 no definite plans yet.
- Q. Will there to be a NACPA Gathering sometime soon?
- R. The NACPA Gatherings are every 2 years. We met via zoom November 2020. Our next gathering will be Fall '22.
- Q. Is anyone related to Robert Hunter (Bob) Pringle, b. July 23 1890 Bexley Heath, Kent, d. Dec 7 1974 Bantry, Cork, Ireland. Julie Milner, niece

### Congratulations:

- Sir Murray and Trish Pringle moved to a new home in September. We wish them happiness and enjoyment in their new residence.
- Bill Pringle (US Trustee) is now serving as Commodore to his Yacht Club in Michigan, US. Well done! It is good to see the Pringle name being recognized in a leadership role.

## The Clan Pringle Motto

In the last Pringle Newsletter, July 2021, the Editorial Team focused their letter on the Pringle family motto "Amicitia Reddit Honores". We discussed the worth and value of its emphasis on "Friendship" and posed some questions. A few of us got together to do a little more research on the meaning of our motto. This prompted Hamish Pringle to produce the following article. Many thanks Hamish. Derek

The Pringle Clan is fortunate to have a motto: "Amicitia Reddit Honores" translated as "Friendship gives honours".

This question was asked by the Editors in their editorial in the July issue of the Pringle Newsletter.

"Can we work together to make our family motto become more meaningful? Why sure we can! Let's embrace this family motto theme, and as the Clan Cameron man put it, "wear it as a badge of honor".



My immediate response was equivocal. Since my school days at Glenalmond in Perthshire, I have always found the translation of "Amicitia Reddit Honores" somewhat lacking in import and awkward in language.

Prompted by the editors' question I wondered if our current translation of the original is as faithful to or as forceful as its true meaning? So, I replied suggesting some primary research.

In the USA Derek Pringle picked up the gauntlet. He enlisted Beverly Foot, previously of Norfolk Academy. Her Latin scholarship and historical sleuthing revealed fascinating insights into the origins of our motto.

"The word "amicitia" means friendship. It can apply to friendship between persons and friendship between states as in politics. With regard to inanimate things, it means sympathy. My initial translation of "reddit" would be "gives back". Honores can mean honor, a mark of honor or respect, distinction. It can

also mean an office of dignity, awards, an offering. Poetically it can mean beauty and grace. When I check online, several postings concur with the definition “friendship gives honors”. Technically, that would be “amicitia dat honores” whereas “amicitia reddit honores” has more to do with giving back, restoring, or reproducing than simply giving. Options for translation then might be:

Friendship gives rewards. Friendship offers rewards. Friendship brings about or produces rewards. (More loosely), Friendship offers beautiful rewards.”

Meanwhile in the UK James M Pringle pointed out that there’s not just one but two mottos on our coat of arms as recorded on the Clan Pringle website: <http://www.clanpringle.org> (click ‘site map’ tab, scroll to Pringle Heraldry to link “Pringle Arms in Book Nisbet...”)

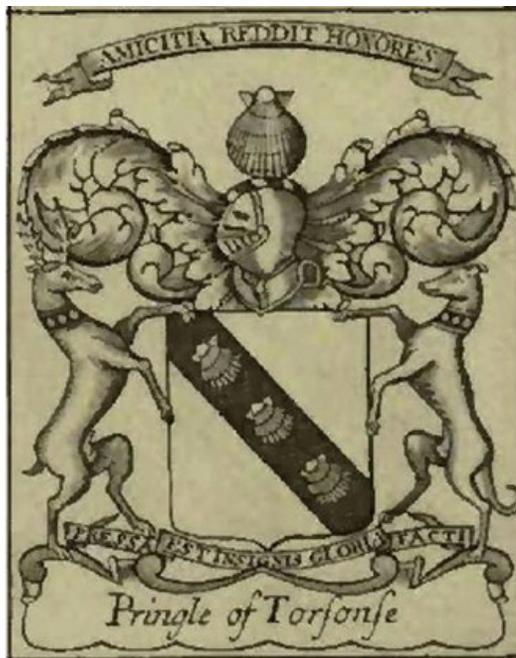
“The only thing is that the Pringles of that Ilk had two mottos, which I believe must relate to one another. The second motto is: “Pressa est insignis gloria facti”, which I have seen translated as: ‘Suppressed or kept secret is the glory of the remarkable deed or feat’ or as ‘The fame of that high deed lay locked from sight’.

James M Pringle

This second challenge was put to Beverly who replied: “I’m laughing at the thought of being inspector Morse of family mottos”! She continued:

“I went to this site to get a look at the Pringle coat of arms, where the motto appears. It is the first one at the top of the page, labeled “Hoppringle of that Ilk, now designed of Torsonce”. The translation on that page is “The glory of his noble deed is recorded in writing.” She then focused on the Latin words.

Premo, premere, prerssi, pressum: to press, and “pressus” when talking about a writer or his style can mean compressed or concise. “Gloria” means fame, renown, glory. “Facti” refers to things done



or brought about. “Insignis” means distinguished, remarkable, notable, extraordinary.

The following from the Clan Pringle entry on Wikipedia suggests to me that the amazing deeds were connected to keeping the peace, which gives new insight on “amicitia” which has been translated as friendship but could be extended to peacekeeping:

“As In 1592 various Pringles appeared before the King, with other Border lairds, giving an oath to faithfully serve the Wardens of the East and Middle Marches, and evidence of their extended land-holdings is shown by no less than six cadet families standing surety, one for the other, in keeping the peace. Five years later, Pringle of that Ilk and Pringle of Smailholm subscribed to a Bond of Manrent, taking it upon themselves the burden of ensuring the good behavior of Pringles in general.” [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clan\\_Pringle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clan_Pringle)

This leads me to think that the Pringle coat of arms is a reminder that striving for peace is a noble deed.”

Beverly Foote

I’ve found Beverly’s research most illuminating, and it provides real insight into the meaning of our mottos. In particular the word ‘amicitia’ which has been translated as friendship but could be extended to peacekeeping. This seems to have the ring of truth and has more meaning than our current translation “Friendship gives/brings honours”.

The primary reason for the awarding of our motto by the King was in recognition of our forefathers’ role in mitigating conflict and maintaining law and order. In this historical and linguistic context, a more pertinent and relevant translation of “Amicitia Reddit Honores” would be “Peace brings rewards”. This translation is also timely given the fractious societies we live amongst.

A motto or slogan can give its community a sense of purpose. “Who dares wins”. “In God we trust”. “Be prepared”. “Just do it”. “Peace brings rewards.”

Hamish Pringle



Print a copy of the Newsletter to share, or forward to a friend

## Share Your Stories

- \* You have a story to tell; how you found a family contact, a fun incident, a surprise find.
- \* A unique Pringle man/woman – their noted accomplishments, good character, scandal.
- \* Tell us about your primary interest in the overall Pringle story?
- \* Offer ideas or suggestions about how to prevail with ancestry research.
- \* You’ve got a question – perhaps some other Pringle reader has the answer.

Next Issue: January 2022. Please submit your article (500 words or less) by January 13 to the email below as a Word doc or within the body of your email

[pringlenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:pringlenewsletter@gmail.com)

Some of you may feel you are not authors

But we say:

“Why not give it a whirl”.  
Share your Pringle story.

The Editorial Team is ready to help/edit wherever it is needed.

Click [here](#) to have Newsletter sent to your email