

The Tartan



Clan MacDougall Society of the United States and Canada

VOLUME NO. 28

Wylie and Mary McDougall - Founding Editors

SPRING 1979



All sails set, the Annie Laurie slides past the ancient walls of Dunollie.

MACDOUGALLS SAIL TO SCOTLAND

For twenty years Bob and Thelma MacDougall had dreamed and planned of crossing the Atlantic on their own sailboat. Last summer their dream became a reality in an adventure to stir the blood and imagination of MacDougalls everywhere.

Setting sail from their home port of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Bob and Thelma along with their son, Robert Jr., navigated their forty-nine foot Ketch, the "Annie Laurie IV," first to Bermuda, then to the Azores where they set course for Falmouth, England. They arrived at that old place of ships twenty-one days after leaving Florida.

Cruising north, they sailed into those waters of Lorn which over the centuries have floated the fleets of Norway and Scotland and which have carried the galleys of the proud Clan MacDougall.

"We met with Madam MacDougall and had tea in her home - then had the privilege of having Madam MacDougall on our boat for a lovely visit. It surely was a highlight of our trip. Going back into our Scottish heritage has been a most interesting experience, and one that we thoroughly enjoyed."

Sailing from Oban Bay, our seafaring members of the Clan MacDougall Society headed north through the ancient passage between Mull and Morven to Tobermory and then to Skye and the Outer Hebrides. Arriving at Mallaig, they were in time for the Highland Games which they report were spectacular.

"It was then time to head south as the seas start to get fairly rough," Bob and Thelma write, "so down to Falmouth and across the English Channel to several ports in France. Then we sailed across the Bay of Biscay to ports in Spain and down to Lisbon."

Their adventure is still not over. Leaving the ketch moored for the winter in the Mediterranean, the Robert MacDougalls flew home with plans to return to their boat this spring. After a cruise of the Mediterranean, they will sail the "Annie Laurie" home.

Fair winds, Bob and Thelma!

1979 GATHERING OF MACDOUGALL SOCIETY Linville, North Carolina, July 13, 14, 15th.



Friday

3:00 P.M.

The Board of Directors of the Clan MacDougall Society meets at the Parvillion Building (by the swimming pool), Escola Lodge, Linville.

4:30 P.M.

General membership meeting of the Society at Pavillion Building, Escola Lodge, Linville.

6:00 P.M.

MacDougall Society Scotch Treat Cocktail and Dinner Party at Partee Room, Linville Golf Club, Club House (one block from the Parvillion).

Following our dinner party, members may attend the ever popular Ceilidh at the Hayes Auditorium, Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk, North Carolina (7 miles from Linville).

Saturday

10:00 A.M.

Informal get-together at MacDougall Tent on MacRae Meadow. On the track opposite reviewing stand (2 miles from Linville on U.S. 221).

9:00 P.M.

The Tartan Ball (formal dress) seated at MacDougall Tables in the Ball Room, Tennis Building, Grandfather Golf and Country Club. (4 miles from Linville on road to Boone, North Carolina on Route 105).

Sunday

10:00 A.M.

Worship service on McRae Meadow conducted by Society member The Rev. Dougald Lachlan MacLean, Chaplin of the Games. Kirkin of the Tartan.

11:00 A.M.

Men join Parade of the Tartans and massed bands, marching behind the MacDougall Banner.

Reservations for accommodations should be made as early as possible. Let us know if you need help. P.O. Box 90207, Nashville, Tenn. 37209.

MACDOUGALL TENT IN NOVA SCOTIA



There will be a MacDougall Tent and Clan Society display at the 116th Highland Games at Antigonish, Nova Scotia. The tent will be under the direction of D. Charles MacDougall and Walter M. Macdougall. The dates for the Games at Antigonish are July 9-15th and the MacDougall Tent will be in place on July 13, 14, and 15th.

The International gathering of Clans starts on June 18th, when the Queen Mother opens the festival at Halifax, and runs through August 12th with a wide variety of Scottish events taking place across the Province of Nova Scotia.

REPORT FROM STONE MOUNTAIN

John A. McDougall

The Sixth Annual Stone Mountain Scottish Festival and Highland Games was held October 21, 22, 1978 at Stone Mountain, Atlanta, Georgia. Clan MacDougall was well represented at the gala gathering with a tent on the meadow and enthusiastic marchers in the Parade of Tartans.

The honored guest this year was Air Commodore Aeneas Ranald MacDonnell, Chief of Glengarry. A very distinguished Scotsman.

The Stone Mountain Games have several features that I like. One is the Cultural Presentations. In these presentations you may attend an explanation and demonstration of highland dancing, or bagpipe playing. One is a lecture on Tartans and Highland dress by Mr. J.C. Thompson. Mr. Thompson is a real authority in this field. I have long been bothered by the ribbons hanging from the back of my Balmoral hat. They always catch between my back and back of the car seat or a chair. When Mr. Thompson said that it was improper for a man to have them hanging from his hat, that they should be tied up, mine were tied before he finished speaking.

Another feature of the Stone Mountain Games is instruction for the wee lads in highland games. They teach Caber tossing with a suitable size caber. The Tartan Ball was held at the Castle Ballroom of Dunfey's Royal Coach Hotel. The Castle Ballroom atmosphere fits very nicely with the formal Highland dress of a Tartan Ball. The MacDougalls were at the same table as the MacKintoshs. The Chief of Clan MacKintosh is also a Chief of a Cherokee Indian Tribe in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is equally proud of both titles, a very colorful character. On Sunday the Clan MacDougall tent was honored by a dance performed by kilned Indians.

We really enjoyed the Stone Mountain Highland Games, plan to attend next year, and hope that more MacDougalls will meet with us at the MacDougall tent.

CLAN HISTORIES

Our Society Secretary still has copies of the **Official Short History of the Clan MacDougall** at \$3.00 per copy. This book offers a scholarly and extremely interesting account of our Clan from the powerful Somerled to the present. No one interested in facts concerning our heritage should be without this work.

DUNOLLIE, A SEVENTH CENTURY SITE

One of the most successful digs in the Oban area, undertaken by a team from the University of Glasgow, proves that Dunollie was "an important defensive position long before the MacDougalls gained sway over the stretch of coast." Our Chief has offered to send a complete report when all the information gained by the exploration has been made known.



Dunollie and its magnificent view of islands, mountains and the sea. Alastair White, Dundee



The Alexander McDougall built in 1898 and named for her designer, builder, and proponent of Great Lake shipping. Photo: Richard Wright, Great Lakes Marine Collection.

CAPTAIN ALEXANDER MCDUGALL, SAILORMAN OF GENIUS

Alexander McDougall was born with the sea around him - not on a ship but on the Island of Islay, southern most of the Inner Hebrides. He was to be a man of many abilities - a seaman, inventor, designer, organizer and, to use his own words, an agitator. When he spoke before the National Rivers and Harbors Congress in 1907, he spoke as a prophet as well. He was introduced to the members of that congress as "a descendant of the old Vikings." The other side of Alexander's lineage was, of course, the seafaring and equally tenacious Scots. As it was for his ancestors, so it was to be for him a world of water and of ships.

He was born on the sixteenth of March, 1845, in Port Ellen. His mother was Ellen McDougall before she married a McDougall, Dougal McDougall, a carpenter and storekeeper. Alexander was their first child. By the time he was seven, his father found it necessary to move to Glasgow in an endeavor to support his growing family. Two years later, in 1854, they moved to Canada. The family settled in the Scottish conclave of Nottawa which lay close by Collingwood, Ontario.

But life was no easier at the McDougall's log home in Nottawa. Dougal's death in a grist mill accident, and at the age of nine Alexander's schooling came to an end. He went to work first as a farm hand and then as an apprentice to a blacksmith. At sixteen he sailed as deckhand on the *Edith*, a small vessel bound for Chicago. Ten years later he was captain of the *Thomas A. Scott*, the finest ship on the Great Lakes. The Anchor Line, which owned the *Scott*, was in the process of constructing three iron ships, and it was through their construction that Captain McDougall was introduced to the art and science of ship building.

Captain Alexander had begun his career on the Lakes in the days of wooden schooners and clipper rigged ships. He had seen as many as two hundred such vessels all on one horizon beating against a head wind. But ships of iron and steel were to take their place, and Alexander had his own ideas of how such ships should be built. Using his experience as a seaman and his knowledge gained in the shipyards, he designed a ship which was to become known as the "Whaleback" and by other epithets less complimentary. The "Whalebacks" were built for service not for looks. They were designed to take the strain of heavy cargo and to shed water from their rounded sides, but their bows reminded the lakemen of a pig's snout.

Captain Alexander built his first "Whaleback" barge in 1881. His wife, Emmeline Ross, watching the launching remarked, "there goes our last dollar." Her husband had faith. He was planning larger models. He found his financial backing in New York through the interest of Colgate Hoyt, an associate of John D. Rockefeller. The American Steel Barge Company was formed, and Alexander exchanged his "Whaleback" patents for stock in the new venture.

Under McDougall's management, the company began constructing a series of barges and steamers, ships assured of full holds through the company's association with financial powers which were then developing the wealth of the Mesabi ores. The first ships were built in Duluth, but soon Captain Alexander was building a new shipyard in the twin-city of Superior, Wisconsin. At the new yard, some four hundred skilled workmen and another eight hundred laborers worked under the cover of building cantilevered over the ways upon which McDougall's "Whalebacks" took form.

continued on page 8



Director John Robert McDougall

OUR NEW DIRECTOR FROM CANADA

John Robert McDougall is an enthusiastic member of our Clan Society having been both host and organizer of the reception and dinner party given in honor of our Chief's Toronto visit in 1975. He also represented our Society at the Edinburgh International Gathering of the Clans in 1977.

Six generations ago, John's ancestor, Archibald McDougall, born in Argyllshire, Scotland (1761) received Crown lands and immigrated to Hornby, Ontario, along with his son Allan. Allan's son, John Allan, was born in Milton, Ontario, in 1840, where three generations later John Robert was born in 1927.

John and Dianna McDougall have four children: Sussane McDougall LeRiche, Catherine McDougall Sharp, Stephen and Christopher.

John is general manager of S.H. Dellow, Ltd., a company which for forty years has been furnishing block and building materials to the people of Ontario. He is a past president of the Campbellville Lions Club.

Our new director writes that he was pleased and honored to be elected to the Board of our Society. We are equally pleased, for John has proven himself both an able and dedicated kinsman.



Robert and Thelma MacDougall whose dream of sailing their own boat to Scotland came true.

THEY WILL BE MISSED

We offer our apology to Society member Mrs. Ida K. Paterson of Seattle, Washington, for not having expressed our sympathy on the death of her brother and our kinsman, GORDON S. MCDUGALL. Gordon, a long time member of our Society died on July 27, 1975. We deeply lament the loss to Clan MacDougall.

We also express our sorrow to the family and friends of the following members of our Clan Family: MR. ROLAND E. MACDOUGALD FOUNTAIN of Tarboro, North Carolina, who passed away on August 15, 1977; and MR. ANGUS MCDUGALL of Durham, North Carolina. Our thoughts are also with Society member Jeremiah MacDougall of Gregory, Michigan, who lost his wife on July 20, 1978.

Scots around the world were saddened by the death of John McFadyen (age 52). Mr. McFadyen was a master of piobaireachd. His family home was the Island of Mull. Among his many students was our own Society Piper, Harvey Ritch.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to HUGH and MARIE MACDOUGALL. Marie recently suffered a shock and on last word was confined to the hospital.

TIPS OF OUR TAMS

Congratulations to kinsman JOHN MACDOUGALL of Aberdeen, Scotland, who won the World Championship Piping Contest held in Inverness last September.

ELLIS MACDOUGALL, long time leader in the field of correction systems (see TARTAN, Fall 1971) and member of the criminal justice faculty at South Carolina University has been appointed Director of the Department of Corrections in the State of Arizona.

Our Secretary-Treasurer, JOHN A. MCDUGALL, is a silent Scot when it comes to his own accomplishments. He is presently the representative of the Westinghouse Corporation on an installation project in Indiantown, Florida. The installation represents a fifty million dollar investment.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The direct kinsmen of Society member FREDERICK MACDOUGALL of Milwaukee have established a record for the greatest number of family memberships in our Society. By rapid count, we make the number ten from this one, very healthy branch of our Clan.

Bad and good news note from Society Piper HARVEY RITCH. He reports that the ancient looking tollbooth at Linville where Harvey has had his fascinating "Everything Scottish" shop has been sold and turned into a pizza parlor! Now for the good news. Harvey has located his shop four miles up the road from Linville and Boone, North Carolina. Mail still gets through via the old address.

HUGH and ELEANORE MACDOUGALL, whose various positions in the U.S. State Department have often taken them away from home, report that they are now settled in Washington, D.C., where Hugh is on the staff of the International Communications Agency.



Charles MacDougall receives a Life Membership in the Antigonish Highland Society at the December St. Andrews Night Banquet. Presenting the award was Chief of the Clans, Donnie Beaton. Charles has been associated with the Antigonish Highland Society for thirty years. He is a past president and was especially honored for his work with the piping contest at the Games in Antigonish. MacLellan Photo.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the twenty-eighth time I have taken my pen in hand to write My Message for the Tartan. It covers a fifteen year period and today I am addressing 425 members in 42 states and 7 Canadian provinces.

Through the years it has been my great fortune to meet and know many members that have come to Linville, North Carolina for our meetings and Clan Gathering. I regret very much that I do not know you all. So many live so far away.

We have selected Linville for our gatherings because the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games are held there and this is the foremost Scottish event held annually in the United States or Canada. The location is in the beautiful scenic area of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. It is not unlike the Highlands of Scotland. The games offer events over the weekend that we can all enjoy together and it makes a trip to Linville very much worthwhile.

Not very long ago there were only three or four Highland Games held in the United States. Those of Scottish descent in the United States and Canada are becoming very much aware of their wonderful heritage, and Highland Games are being organized and held in half our states and provinces.

We have taken advantage of recently organized games and with the help of members that live in the vicinity of these games, Clan MacDougall tents have been set up and regional gatherings organized. John and Marie MacDougall have manned our tent at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in Atlanta. Alex and Linda Majors and Alan MacDougall have done the same at the Virginia Scottish Games at Alexandria. Walter and Judy MacDougall traveled from Milo, Maine to Antigonish, Nova Scotia to assist Donald Charles MacDougall at the Antigonish Games. Besides being a fun get-together for our members, these regional events have given us an opportunity to solicit new members from the inquiring MacDougalls that visit our tents. A large percent of our new members join our Society after their visit to our tent.

The Arizona Highland Games will be held in Phoenix. Nancy MacDougall, an enthusiastic member of Phoenix, has volunteered to set up a tent on clan row. Ellis MacDougall has offered to assist Nancy. Other MacDougalls have been invited to join them and I hope from this first meeting the establishment of a Regional Chapter of the Clan MacDougall Society of the United States and Canada will be organized.

Regional Chapters are the next growth step I envision for our Society. We are so widely scattered, regional gatherings are the only way all of us can experience the warm clansmanship that comes from meeting and knowing those of our same name and common heritage. We are indebted to those that I have named above for their initiative in establishing beach heads for the Clan MacDougall Society. Our congratulations and best wishes go to Nancy MacDougall for her efforts in establishing an Arizona Chapter.

It would be a rewarding experience to hear from members from other parts of our country and Canada who would be willing to spend a few hours time to bring our members and other MacDougalls in their area together to investigate the possibilities of establishing a Regional Chapter. I can promise full co-operation from our officers and Board of Directors. Back issues of the Tartan, Clan MacDougall History books, Rosters, By-Laws, etc. are available for distribution.

I am hopeful that I will hear from some of you.

Yours Sincerely,
John W. MacDougall, Sr.
High Commissioner

SPECIAL THANKS

To Society Director, DONALD A. MACDOUGALL, for his four years of excellent service to the Clan MacDougall Society as our Genealogist. Thank you for the great amount of work and for the most informative reports in the TARTAN. We hope that we may still have the pleasure of reading your articles from time to time.



Dewitt McDougall Patterson

OUR NEW SOCIETY GENEALOGIST

Dewitt McDougall Patterson was born in Savannah, Tennessee, the son of Archibald McDougal and Marie Keeney Patterson. His youth was enriched by the presence, in his home town, of the McDougal family headed by Dr. William E. McDougal.

Having attended the U.S. Naval Academy, December 7, 1941, found Dewitt fitting out the new battleship USS NORTH CAROLINA. He served aboard this ship through the Solomon Island Campaign and then commanded a destroyer escort during the assault on the Philippines and Leyte.

Commanding the USS STAFFORD, Dewitt saw arduous service at Okinawa, where his ship received attacks from small boats, shore batteries, and torpedo planes.

In 1952, Dewitt was stationed at the Pentagon for service in the Logistic Committee Staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under General Omar Bradley. After serving as Plans Officer on the staff of Amphibious Group Four (Marine Corps), Dewitt returned to the Pentagon to act as Navy Department Communication Officer in which post he was one of the first to hear that the NAUTILUS had reached the North Pole and the TRITON had circumnavigated the globe while submerged.

In 1944, Dewitt married Ensign Nancy Jane Schetky. Nancy had the honor of christening the USS SCABBARDFISH and is a past president of The Society of Sponsors of the U.S. Navy. She is presently a member of the National Board of the Herb Society of America. Their son, Malcolm, is an engineering watch and division officer on the new nuclear powered cruiser TEXAS. Dewitt and Nancy also have three daughters, Elizabeth and Barbara, who live near them in Bethesda, Maryland, and Margaret who has accompanied her parents to our Society's annual meeting for the past three years.

Dewitt is a member of the Episcopal Church, the Saint Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C., the genealogical committee of the Montgomery County Historical Society, and a member of a number of USNA Alumni and veteran organizations.

Our Society is fortunate, indeed, to have a man so well trained in systems and operations in charge of coordinating our genealogical activities.

Address: 9422 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland, 20014.

GENEALOGICAL REPORT - 1978-79

By Commander Dewitt Patterson

Since our last annual meeting on July 7, 1978, we have received forty-two applications for membership. One of these came from as far away as Australia. Michigan with four applications is the state most represented. Three of the applications from Michigan came from kinsmen in Grosse Pointe.

The immigrant ancestor was named by almost half of our new members, but only six gave the locale in Scotland from which their ancestor came.

Four applicants listed one Allen MacDonald as their immigrant ancestor, an interesting statistic upon which we hope to have more to say.

Including spouses and children under eighteen, sixty-nine persons are named on these applications. Two of the families represented have children who are twins.

CRAFT COLUMN

By this time we suspect a MacDougall Clan crest in counted cross stitch hangs proudly in the Korean office of Society member Alex Major. Linda Major wrote us months ago that she was working hard to finish the crest before her husband's departure for his new post.

The pattern and kit for the counted cross stitch crest can be ordered from Cat Designs, P.O. Box 328, Williamsburg, Virginia. There are two sizes available - 2.5 x 4.75 inches and 5.5 x 7.5 inches. Be sure to be specific that you want the MacDougall Clan crest - supposing, of course, that is the crest you are after.



Our call for craft ideas in the last issue of THE TARTAN brought a most welcome response from one of the most active and capable Scots in the United States, Dr. Herbert MacNeal of Convent Station, New Jersey. Dr. MacNeal is president of the Council of Scottish Clan Associations and editor of the important inter-clan society communicator, THE CLAYMORE. Dr. MacNeal has taken time from his busy schedule to share with us one of his hobbies; the making of rubber stamps.

He writes, "I have enjoyed the use of rubber stamps to produce letters and designs which are carved from the well known 'art-gum' erasers - the yellowish ones in a block 1 x 1 x 2 inches. With a scalpel (our craftsman is an M.D.) or a sharp Exacto blade one cuts away what is not desired to print, leaving the design outstanding. The erasures cut easily and the rubber is quite durable. Used with rubber stamp ink pads of different colors, considerable variety is possible. Single imprints are useful on letterheads, envelopes or table place cards. Designs readily suggest themselves such as thistles, bagpipes, castles, attire, or devices peculiar to a certain clan."



Dr. MacNeal continues with more excellent ideas. "Two separate stamps can be used on a single design to produce a two or three color result. 'Reverse' or negative designs may be made cutting away the pattern leaving a solid block or form around the design. The imprints may be used as an overprint on personal cards, repeated around the margin of a poster, or used alternately on a sheet of paper to make a checkerboard effect of contrasting colors."

We thank Dr. MacNeal for sharing this fascinating craft with us. Regrettably, we can't produce some of his striking designs in color, but the examples featured in this issue of THE TARTAN give some indication of the results of his skill and scalpel.

Note: The editors of your TARTAN hope to hear from more of you who are willing to share with us the crafts which you enjoy. We refrain from saying that we are anxious to hear from "crafty" Scots but that would be enjoyable to our readers as well.



SCOTTISH BOOKSHELF

By Margaret MacDougall Allen

Three interesting books that I received from Betty and John McDougall were *The Wallace*, *Black Douglas*, and *The Young Montrose* all written by Nigel Tranter. Nigel Tranter, considered an excellent researcher and historian, is the author of the trilogy about Robert the Bruce (see Bookshelf, TARTAN, Vol. 17).

The Wallace is a story of the life of William Wallace - the Wallace of "Scots, Wha Ha'e." Taking place at the end of the 13th Century, the book relates how Wallace ignited the Scots to win their freedom from England. His great effort finally resulted in Robert the Bruce deciding to claim the throne of Scotland. Wallace's tremendous effort, the intrigues among the great names of Scotland, and the betrayal of Wallace followed by his execution are all pictured in this historical novel.

Black Douglas is the story of Will Douglas, the 8th Earl, a powerful and influential personage, who supported James IV, the young heir to the throne, Douglas, who only wanted the best for his King and country, struggled against the unscrupulous leaders of Scotland, who sought to gain power. His endeavors were further complicated by demands of vengeance against his own family's enemies. Finally Douglas himself was betrayed.

The Young Montrose relates the story of another great Scottish leader and a strong believer in the rights of the Scottish people. The book opens with the rebellion of the Kirk in Scotland against the decree of Charles I insisting that all churches adopt the bishops, the prayer books and the liturgy of the Church of England. Montrose, strongly feeling that each man should have the privilege of worshiping as he wished and being deeply religious himself, backs the Coventers. As time goes on, the English parliament begins to take power from Charles I. In Scotland the nobles strive for power against the king. Under these conditions, Montrose comes to believe that he owes his allegiance to the King. This era also marks the beginning of Cromwell's influence.

Scotland did go through so much turmoil in its history. The books will be especially interesting to anyone who enjoys Scottish History. I really learned a lot.

Boswell and Son by Donald McDougall is a 1978 publication by the author of *Davie* which so many members found interesting. Like *Davie*, this new book is about the Scottish-born game of golf, a game that captured the imagination of the Scot as it would, years later, capture the imagination of the world.

Jimmie Boswell, a blacksmith, could only think of designing golf clubs. This was his dream and the novel tells of his struggle to make that dream come true. The story is set in the same location as *Davie*.

Non-fiction and non-fiction on Scottish themes constantly appear. I would greatly appreciate hearing from any member who has discovered a book which he or she think would be of special interest to our kinsmen and fellow Scots.



OUR HERITAGE

"But clans far afield . . . can find in their history those roots that give identity and distinguish them from being merely ants in some enormous, though enormously useful, urban ant hill." (Moncreiffe) In too many countries the great historic families are separated from the mass of the people, but in Scotland we have been fortunate in that the pride of Name has never depended on wealth and rank . . . all the bearers of great Scottish names share alike in their ancient traditions. It is this brotherhood within Clan or Name which links all Scots together and is so marked a feature of our countrymen wherever they may be." (Countess of Erroll) (From *The Highland Clans* - reprinted by permission of Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk)



A TARTAN SPECIAL

OUR CHIEF'S FIRST VISIT TO AMERICA - By Ed McDougal

(Editor's Note: Our thanks to Edward McDougal for this excellent account. Not only is this account of historical importance to Society and Clan, it also rings with Ed's genuine enthusiasm and with his warm admiration for our Chief, Madam MacDougall of MacDougall and Dunollie, and her late husband, Leslie Grahame MacDougall, who was most respected and loved by our Clan family.)

Edward Dickenson McDougal was one of the principal founders of our Society, and over the years, as one of our vice presidents, has been a pillar of wisdom and strength.

The members of the Clan MacDougall Society join in expressing their gratitude to Ed and his lovely wife, Kate, for their faithful and inspired service to our Clan.)

On September 30, 1962, the following communication was read before forty persons gathered for a most happy occasion in the annals of Clan Mac Dougall:

To the descendants of John McDougal of Peoria, Illinois, in meeting assembled, c/o the Onwentsia Club, Lake Forest, Illinois, U.S.A.

Office of Scottish Heraldry takes note with dismay your attempt, apparently successful, to lure Chief Clan MacDougall and her distinguished husband to North America for undisclosed purposes. You are hereby officially warned Scottish clans will resist and oppose to the last man any effort to indoctrinate either or both with neoteric or new-fangled ideas anent clan administration, design of castles, design or cut of Highland dress (male or female), recipes for porridge or haggis or other meddling with ancient customs deemed by this office innovative or untraditional. The persons referred to are much beloved here and all clans-including Campbells-insist they be returned to our borders promptly in as good native condition as on departure, reasonable wear and tear excepted.

Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, Lord Lyon King at Arms.

The assembly which heard this communication represented four generations of the descendants of John McDougal of Peoria, Illinois, ranging in age from eighty-six to two and a half years. Present also were McDougalls who would play most important roles in the founding of our Society: John W. McDougall of Nashville, Tennessee, destined three years later to become the illustrious and beloved President of the Clan MacDougall Society; his charming wife, Betty; and A. Wylie McDougall who for twelve years with the invaluable assistance of his brilliant wife, Mary, was to edit THE TARTAN now firmly established as the leading organ of clan societies in America. All eyes and hearts were centered on the special guests of honor, our Chief and her husband Leslie.

It all came about in this wise.

In 1952, Donald McDougal, a successful Chicago banker and our

Society's efficient and devoted first Secretary-Treasurer, undertook as a labor of love a genealogy of his family including the ancestry of his and my grandfather, John McDougal of Peoria. During his research, he corresponded with the Scots Ancestry Research Society in Edinburgh along with other sources of information including Sir Thomas, the author of the epistle quoted above. From Sir Thomas, he learned the name and address of our Chief. "The resultant correspondence," he noted, "was most interesting and informative, and I might add, thrilling."

Inspired by Donald's excellent volume, *The Known Descendants in the United States of America of Robert MacDougall of Western*

Scotland (1758-1832), Kate and I assembled a small group of McDougalls residing in and near Chicago for Thanksgiving dinner in 1954 at Everleigh, our home in the woods near Libertyville, thirty-seven miles north of the city. This assembly became a pleasant annual reunion with steadily growing attendance. With a few omissions, it continued for twenty-two years.

In July, 1957, Kate and I attended a meeting of the American Bar Association in London, then flew to Glasgow, rented a car and drove along the westerly shores of Loch Lomond toward Oban. We arrived there in the evening and registered at the Great Western Hotel occupying a pleasant room overlooking the waterfront. After dinner, we thumbed through a telephone directory with page after page of MacDougalls and found our Chief's number. We introduced ourselves over the wire as cousins of the noted Chicago genealogist, Donald McDougal. This proved an "open sesame," and we were graciously invited to call the next morning.

She received us cordially with a small, yellow Chow at her heels and devoted the morning to showing us through the Manor House with its

fascinating relics of past generations of leaders of the Clan. We climbed the slope to the vine covered ruin that is Dunollie Castle with its thick walls, formidable keep, and magnificent view of the Firth of Lorn.

We mounted the ancient stairway built within the thickness of the walls, marveled at the keep, and admired the memorial to the Chief's father, Colonel Alexander MacDougall the twenty-ninth Chief. The memorial is a beautiful, Celtic cross designed by Leslie and set into the stones of the old fortress.

Our Chief introduced us to her sister, Miss Hope MacDougall, whom we were delighted to meet. Seated at a great loom in the spacious attic work-room, she was engaged in weaving a broad width of MacDougall Tartan, "for new curtains," she said. Leslie was out of town. We did not meet him until four years later. As we parted, the Chief brought us heather from her garden, and with her permission, I

continued on page 7



Seated: Leslie Grahame MacDougall, distinguished architect and member of the Royal Scottish Academy and Madam MacDougall of MacDougall, Thirtieth Chief of our Clan. Standing: Two very happy descendants of John of Peoria, Edward (left) and Donald McDougal.



Our Chief addressing those gathered to celebrate her first visit to America.

scooped a double handful of pebbles from the driveway to distribute as souvenirs at our next family Thanksgiving assembly.

Early in 1961, Kate and I enrolled for a Swan Hellenic Cruise. When we embarked the ship at Venice, what was our surprise and delight to discover the Chief and Leslie among the passengers. For two weeks we were together visiting ancient places in Greece and Turkey.

On our last day at sea we had tea with our Chief and her husband on the upper deck, aft, in a sheltered corner. We invited them to visit us in Illinois and according to my diary "they seemed receptive."

When spring came around, we dispatched to Dunollie Castle, with apologies to Lewis Carrol, a cryptic message:

The time has come, the walrus said, to talk of many things; of ships and shoes and sealing wax, of cabbages and Kings; of crossing the Atlantic west in aeroplanes with wings.

The message struck home. We were delighted to receive a gracious acceptance. We suggested Thanksgiving time for a visit, but changed it to September at their request to provide warmer weather and a smoother crossing by ship - a conveyance which our Chief chose in preference to aircraft.

On September 19th, they sailed from Grennock on the S.S. Empress of Britain. Arriving in Montreal on the 25th, they entrained the same day for Chicago. We met them the next day with joy, took them to dinner, and whisked them off to Everleigh.

Sightseeing and visiting filled the following days. There was a trip to the Chicago Art Institute under the escort of one of its trustees, Mr. Alfred Shaw, who like Leslie was an accomplished architect. Then Leslie, Mr. Shaw, and I went across Michigan Avenue to the Chicago Club for a luncheon with architects of note who were known to Leslie by reputation including R. Ogden Hanaford, Professor of Architecture at Illinois Institute of Technology and our esteemed son-in-law.

The ladies, who had lunched at the Art Institute, joined us, and we drove to the Illinois Institute of Technology where Ogden Hanaford took us through the galleries and workrooms of the Department of Architecture.

On Saturday, the 29th, our Chief and Leslie spent the night with our cousins, C. Bouton and Winifred McDougall in Winnetka. The



Madam MacDougall and Kate at Dunollie.

four attended the Congregational Church next morning and then proceeded to the Onwentsia Club at Lake Forest where the descendants of John of Peoria and a few descendants of his brother William along with other kinsmen and kinswomen eagerly awaited our guests of honor.

Robert Simms, Pipe Major of a famous Chicago pipe band, was also waiting, having been posted on a balcony overlooking the club entrance. He piped our Chief and her husband into the building with "Scotland Forever." Then with appropriate marches, skirls, and flourishes, Pipe Major Simms led us all single file with our guests at the head into the large dining room and in a parade around the tables. All standing behind our chairs, we joined in singing a blessing - Kremser's Hymn "We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing."

As duly elected Chieftain of the descendants of John of Peoria, a rank subordinate in every respect to that of Chief of the Clan, I had the privilege of presiding and of expressing our warmest welcome to the Chief and Leslie.

The feast was appropriate to the occasion, but as W. C. Fields once remarked, "At a banquet it is not so much what is on the table that counts as what is on the chairs." There is no question in my mind that all present would agree the situation in that respect could not have been improved.

The time arrived for toasts and speeches. Our guests were superb. The Chief's grace, composure, facility as a public speaker, and charm enchanted us all. We were engrossed by her account of the long, stirring history of Dunollie and its occupants during seven centuries, by her narratives of old triumphs won and hardships endured in by-gone days by men and women of our name.

At the conclusion of her remarks, our Chief presented Kate with



Madam MacDougall and Leslie at the banquet.

a beautiful, silk scarf of the Clan Tartan. To me, she gave a silver clan crest pin, a replica of the one she wears on her own Highland bonnet. We shall always treasure these gifts. With mine she handed me a bunch of heather brought from Scotland. I have it before me as I write. It is dry and withered, but there is still a plainly visible tint of purple in the tiny blossoms.

Leslie with scholarly authority spoke on the early history of the Highlands and of the many conflicts between the clans and with the English which preceded peace between the inhabitants north and south of the border.

I am confident we all shared admiration for these two people who managed to receive with equanimity and grace the many MacDougalls (however spelled) who make the journey to our clan shrine from all over the world.

Our meeting closed with "Old Lang Syne" sung with zest and gusto as each of us clasped his neighbor's hands with interlaced arms-all of us excepting the two and a half year old who long before had gone to sleep in an adjoining room.

That evening, the Chief and Leslie drove to Madison, Wisconsin, with Donald and Marjory, our genealogist and wife, for a four day visit at their lovely home on Lake Monona. Kate and I drove thither and picked them up on October 4th returning to Everleigh. That evening we four were guests of my brother, David and his wife, Madeleine, at the Mid-America Club atop the Prudential Building, one of Chicago's architectural landmarks with a marvelous view of Lake Michigan. Then we repaired to Orchestra Hall for a concert by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Leopold

continued on page 8

Stokowski. Our guests spent the night with clansmen on the south side, cousins Robert and Helen McDougal.

The next day our Chief and Leslie returned to Everleigh, and the four of us spent a quiet and peaceful day in the sun by the pool. We discussed the possibility of a Clan MacDougall Society of the United States, and I volunteered to explore the subject with other clansmen. The upshot, of course, was the founding of our Society in 1965, largely through the energy, hard work, and remarkable ability of John W. McDougall, whose inspiring leadership has led the organization to its present eminence.

That evening our Chief inscribed in our guest book, "Oh happy time in an enchanted wood." Leslie filled a page with one of his fine pen and ink sketches - Dunollie with the Highlands in the distance and the Firth of Lorn lapping its waters on the pebbled beach in the foreground.

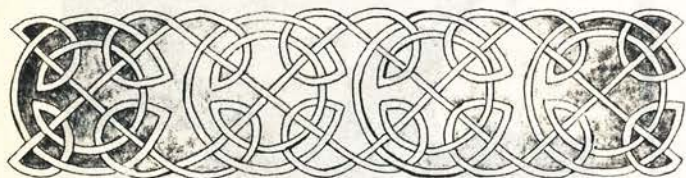
For two days our Chief and her husband toured historic landmarks in and near Washington, D.C., before going to Montreal for a visit with old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Everson. A great Ceilidh was arranged on October 11th in Ottawa by Mr. A.R. McDougall. This was a gala affair with over one hundred MacDougalls in attendance. There was Highland dancing, Scottish songs, and a rousing "sing-song" so our Chief wrote.

On October 19th, they embarked at Quebec on the Empress of Britian for the return voyage. For the descendants of John of Peoria and for many other MacDougalls, a bond of friendship and good will had been forged with two admirable and lovable human beings causing greater pride than ever in Scottish ancestry and the name MacDougall, however it might be spelled.

My father was very proud of his ancestry. There was a book, Brown's *History of the Highlands*, in his library which fell to me. The following passage from that book seems relevant indeed:

The authority which a Chief exercised among his Clan was truly paternal . . . We cannot account for the warm attachment and incorruptible and unshaken fidelity toward their Chief on any other ground than the kind and conciliatory system which they must have adopted toward their people.

Our Chief's first visit to America left us with the attachment and fidelity, so well expressed by Mr. Brown, which have grown over the years.



Capt. Alexander McDougall
continued from page 2

In 1892 the passenger steamer *Christopher Columbus* was launched. She had been designed to run at twenty miles per hour and to load one thousand passengers per minute. Intended for the World's Fair in Chicago, she became an attraction as much for her odd looks as for her superior characteristics. She carried 2,000,000 passengers during that gala year of 1893 in Chicago, and then went on for another forty-four years competing with the fastest ships on the Lakes.

Not all of McDougall's "Whalebacks" were restricted to inland waters. The Captain, himself, piloted the steamer *Charles W. Wetmore* down the Lachine Rapids to Montreal from where, after a coaling stop at Sidney, Nova Scotia, she made an eleven day passage to Liverpool. From Liverpool, loaded with machinery, the *Wetmore* rounded the Horn for Everett in the State of Washington. The machinery was bound for another McDougall enterprise, the yards of the Pacific Steel Barge Company.

Captain Alexander's business associates had large holdings in the Pacific Northwest. He saw the chance for his steamers to join the growing trade along the west coast and to carry freight, lumber, and ore to the east coast should the Nicaragua Canal become a reality. Choosing Snohomish Peninsular as his base of operations, he built the first steel shipyard in the northwest.

Dr. Richard Wright in his most interesting and valuable book *Freshwater Whales* writes, "Alexander McDougall was on the verge of creating an empire, with Rockefeller as king and McDougall as prince of the northern provinces of that realm." The Panic of 1893 put an end to any McDougall empire. During the worst of his financial

problems, he refused to side against his old friend Colgate Hoyt in a power play within the Rockefeller corporate structure though he knew that such loyalty might bring his total ruin.

Remaining manager of the Superior Shipyard but losing his equity in the American Steel Barge Company, Alexander weathered out the gale of lost stocks and failing investments. In 1898, the last of the steamers, built on the "whaleback" design but with a conventional bow, slid down the ways. She was four hundred and thirty-one feet long, and her name was the *Alexander McDougall*.

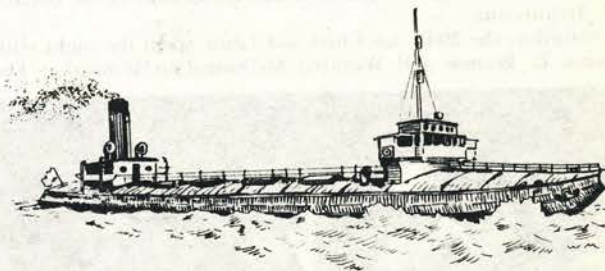
Society Director, Donald MacDougall wisely suggests that we may be doing Captain Alexander a disservice by basing his fame upon the "Whaleback." Donald's father left his family's farm in Nottawassaga County, Ontario, to join the Anchor Line's engineering department. Donald writes that his father knew Alexander and admired him, but that he never thought the "whaleback" design would become popular. McDougall's radical design was less expensive to build than other models and carried impressive pay loads, but it gave way to improvements and accelerating progress.

Without the "Whalebacks" Captain Alexander's record in business, in championing the cause of Great Lake shipping, and in invention stands well by itself.

Larger ships meant deeper harbors and canals. Alexander McDougall took an active part in designing new dredging equipment and in making his forceful presentations before the governments of two nations urging their participation in the making of canals. In search of more efficient means of loading and unloading ships, he contributed new machinery and methods. During the period of 1888-1900, he patented forty inventions including a process for washing the sand ores of the western Mesabi Range.

He was a prime mover in the building of the Duluth Great Northern Hydro-electric Power Station, was involved in developing the Duluth Mesabi Iron Range Railway, and was sent to the Baltic as a consultant on grain elevators and river canals. During the First World War, his McDougall-Duluth Ship Building Company launched a large fleet of freighters while the Captain, himself, came up with a device for destroying submarines. Just months before he died in 1923, he patented a peat fuel machine - the fuel which must have burned on the hearth of his first home in far off Islay.

If he did not build an empire, Captain Alexander did produce what one would consider the contribution of a dozen unusual men. His vision was sound. When he died, the commerce of two nations steamed over a thousand miles and more of lake and waterway, at the cities of Duluth and Superior, which had become his home and his pride, were second in tonnage only to the Port of New York. (Acknowledgements: To member Margaret Allan for having brought Captain McDougall to our attention. To member Richard A. Edwards, Vice President of Bowling Green State University, for providing our contact with source material. To member Donald MacDougall for his helpful notes and to Dr. Richard Wright, Director of the Bowling Green University Center for Archival Collections whose book *Freshwater Whales: The History of the American Shipbuilding Company and Its Predecessors* provided much of the information in this account. Dr. Wright is interested in hearing from any person who may have special information concerning the life of Alexander McDougall.)



CLAN MACDOUGALL SOCIETY

President: Mr. John W. McDougall
P. O. Box 90207
Nashville, Tenn. 37209
Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. John A. McDougall
P. O. Box 295
Debarry, Florida 32713
TARTAN Editor: Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Macdougall
R.F.D. #2
Milo, Maine 04463