

The Tartan



Clan MacDougall Society of North America

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Visit our webpage at: www.macdougall.org

Summer 2001



2001 REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

by W. Troy McDougal,
Recording Secretary/Archivist



The 37th Annual Meeting of the Membership of Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc. was called to order in the beautiful pool pavilion of the Eseeola Lodge in Linville, North Carolina on February 13, 2001. Following prayer by James McDougal, former Southeast Regional Commissioner, the group of some 60 members began to hear reports from the various officers and committees of the Society.

W. William Leroy, Treasurer, announced to the group that the Society is financially sound, having received more in income than we spent in expenses this year. He also announced that we received approximately \$1,300.00 and that amount has been added to the investment account to give added security in the future. He announced that the Clan MacDougall foundation also received about \$1,300.00 and members have donated an additional \$1,400.00 to the Gylen Castle Repair Fund. As membership Secretary, William Leroy reported that we have enrolled 161 new members and our current active totals are 1,104 members.

William Ermatinger, Clan Genealogist, reported that he has now transferred most of the records to our repository at the Odum Library in Moultrie, Georgia. He is currently working on a data base searching tool which will help him located information more accurately and quickly. He reminded the membership, however, that the Society genealogical records are limited to the direct ancestry of the member provided on membership applications. He can receive information electronically and will include any acceptable elec-

tronic additions to the database. His job is further limited by the fact that most people are inquiring about a specific person and we have no guarantee that a match on name, date of birth and location is the person the inquiry is seeking. According to his experience, the chances of an exact hit are very rare.

Pat McDougal, *Tartan* Editor, expressed her thanks for all donations she has received for *The Tartan* and reminded the members that she relies heavily on reports of games and other information from the members to be able to produce *The Tartan*. Pat has received a number of photographs from the membership which, for one reason or another, have not been published in *The Tartan*, and she has begun a series of photo albums of these photos which were made available at the Clan MacDougall Tent on Grandfather Mountain.

A. Wylie McDougal, President of the Clan MacDougall Foundation, reported that the foundation currently has over \$6,000.00 in its funds. The Foundation paid \$1,200 toward the MacDougall Scholarships and the donations to the Foundation are currently meeting that expense.

The Scholarship Committee reported that in the last two years they have awarded \$4,800.00 in scholarships and the committee has received a lot of feedback from the recipients. Most indicate that their scholarship has permitted them to take one more piping or dancing class. Others indicate that the scholarship was used to purchase much needed dancing shoes, costumes or piping and drumming equipment. The Scholarship application is advertised currently in several publi-

cation. Two of the recipients, Erin McDougal and Erin Hannigan, have done the Clan MacDougall Society very proud by consistently winning the dance competitions for their respective age groups.

The Gylen Castle Repair Fund committee reported that William L. MacDougall has written another book entitled "*The Kings in the West beside the Sea*". Proceeds above expenses for this book will benefit the repair fund. The first publication included 500 copies which will be available at the Clan MacDougall tent at some of the games.

President McDougal expressed an interest in getting the younger population of MacDougalls and MacDowalls interested in the Society. He warned that without keeping our children and grandchildren involved as we go, there might not be anyone to carry on the traditions of our heritage. He encouraged an emphasis at highland games to include the children in meetings, work at clan tents and anything else the children can do to get them interested in Scottish life.

President MacDougall congratulated Past President John A. McDougal on his marriage to Cherry Canup on Saturday, July 7, 2001. President McDougal also sadly noted the passing of Mary MacDougall Wolf, Heartland Regional Commissioner, John H. MacDougall, former Society Director from Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Kay MacNeil, Katherine MacLeod and the younger sister of Clan Champion Nathan Maxwell McDougald, III.

continued on page 2...



The Editor's Desk

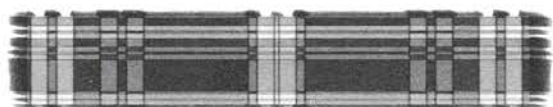
by Pat McDougal

Reading through the past *Tartan* newsletters for ideas from past editors, I began to understand the Clan MacDougall Society and its beginnings, especially the work that has gone before to make this a great society. It is the cooperation of the members which makes it all happen.

So many of those members are no longer mentioned in *The Tartan*, their work having been completed as others step forward to keep the clan going forward. Knowing this, we remember those who work diligently today to make us great.

Also, I noted the ones who continue to make us proud: the officers, the membership, the champions, award winners, pipers, drummers, athletes, dancers, runners, wrestlers, even those with great knees and even some who are able to throw the HAGGIS. *Thank You!*

Yours aye,
Pat



2001 REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

from the cover...

Two Somerled Awards were given by the president. Walter Macdougall, Past President and present Director was acknowledged for the extensive hard work and time he has given to the Society. Walter William Leroy, Treasurer and Membership Secretary, was acknowledged for the work he has done in those positions and for keeping our Society financially strong.

Following the meetings, the members adjourned to the Eseeola Lodge for refreshment. After a brief social hour, the piper led the members to dinner that began with a marvelous rendition of the "Address to a Haggis" given by W. Troy McDougal. Following dinner, the members were entertained by a program of Scottish songs by Richard Van Valkenburgh. He warmed the audience with several songs including the strains of "These Are My Mountains".

A wonderful time was had by all.

Flowers of

Please accept our expression of sympathy at the loss of your loved one...

Fort Wayne: **Mary L. McDougall Wolf**, 78, of Fort Wayne, a retired office manager, died Thursday, April 26, 2001, at Lutheran Hospital.



The Fort Wayne native retired in 1988 from Navistar International, was current secretary/treasurer of Scottish Cultural Society and was past director of Indiana Highland Games. She was the Heartland Regional Commissioner for the Clan MacDougall Society of North America. She was a member of Grace Presbyterian Church, three golf leagues and a bowling league. Surviving are sons Jon P. of Fort Wayne and Mark E. of Roanoke, VA; and four grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two brothers, a half-brother and a half-sister. Services were 11 a.m. Monday at Grace Presbyterian Church, 1811 Fairhill Road, burial at Eel River Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the church.



Katherine MacDougall MacLeod died January 18, 2001 in Hampton, NH. She was born in Inverness, (Cape Breton) Nova Scotia, Canada in 1914. Katherine immigrated to Boston in 1930 and married John A. MacLeod in 1933. Katherine and John were married for 51 years having lived in Dorchester, Natick, and Newton, Massachusetts. They moved to New Hampshire in 1974 after John retired from the Boston Globe. John A. MacLeod passed away in 1984.

Katherine and John had seven children. Living sons and daughters include John A. MacLeod of Apple Valley, MN, William C. MacLeod of Naperville, IL, Miriam Winston of Boston, Margaret Henry of Minagra, Nicaragua, Mary Helen Corcoran of Hampton, NH, Bonnie Jean MacLeod of Lonetree, CO. Another daughter, Sheila, died in 1946.

Katherine had seventeen grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren. She spoke Gaelic and was extremely proud of her Cape Breton heritage. She will be fondly remembered as a loving wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and great grandmother. *Beannachd leibh mathair.*



The Clan MacDougall Society has sadly lost one of its most enthusiastic and beloved members this winter. **Dorothy H. MacDougall**, mother of Past President, Richard T. MacDougall, passed away on January 30, 2001 following a struggle with cancer, at the age of 91. Born Dorothy Huber in Liberty, NY in 1909, she was married to Harry M. MacDougall, of Elizabethtown, NY until his death in 1963. She lived on in Arlington, MA for 56 years. Although she had no Scottish blood, she always thrilled to the sound of the pipes and was a familiar sight in the MacDougall tent at many of our highland games, which she loved to attend. She felt very honored and "dressed up" to wear her MacDougall tartan sash and brooch. We sometimes wondered if she would wear it to bed, if it wouldn't wrinkle.



In addition to Dick, Dorothy is survived by daughters, and society members, Jean Hutchinson, Carol Perkins, and Kathleen Simpson, as well as many friends in the NE Region.



the Forest

...Clan MacDougall Society

MacDOUGALL, John H. 81, Braemore Avenue, Antigonish, died June 10, 2001, in St. Martha's Regional Hospital, Antigonish. (Pictured at right in the center). Born in Antigonish, he was a son of the late Hugh and Mary Jane (Smith) MacDougall. John was a graduate of Morrison School, St. F. X. University and TUNS with a degree in Civil Engineering. He taught in the Engineering Department at St. F. X. University from 1952 until his retirement in 1989. He served on council for the Town of Antigonish and was mayor of Antigonish from 1968 to 1971. A sports enthusiast, he was active in hockey, golf and skating. He was goalie for the Antigonish Bulldogs, New Glasgow Bombers and St. F. X. X-Men. He was inducted in the Pictou County Sports Heritage Hall of Fame. He was a past board member of the Bergengren Credit Union. The R. K. MacDonald Nursing Home, Antigonish Highland Society, past president of Antigonish Clan MacDougall Society and St. Ninian's Parish Council. John was recognized as Antigonish Citizen of the Year in 1976. He is survived by his wife, the former Agnes Purcell; daughters, Donna (Jim) Clancy, Mass.; Paula (Tom) Wadden, Jo-Ann (Bob) Mahoney, Antigonish; Heather (Mike) Boyd, Brooks, Alta.; son, John (Fiona) Stewart, Ottawa; sister, Mary Belle (Rod) MacKinnon, Antigonish; grandchildren, Ian Clancy, Gillian, Thomas, Stephanie and Nicole Wadden, Matthew and Courtney Mahoney, Amy and Ryan Stewart. He was predeceased by brother, Daniel MacDougall; stepbrother, Joseph Smith.



MacNEIL (MacDougall), Catherine Anne "Kay" - 86, Whitney Pier, died June 15, 2001, in Cape Breton Regional Hospital. Born in Dominion, she was a daughter of the late Mary B. and Alex D. MacDougall. Surviving are children, Loretta McNeil, Ron, John "J.R.," Sandra Smith, David, Paul, Cathy Urquhart; sisters, Lexie Lynch, Florence Camillieri; brother, Rod MacDougall; 18 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by husband, John James "J. J.": sisters, Lena, Mary, Margaret; brothers, Johnny, Bernie. Burial was in Resurrection Cemetery.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Mel E. McDougall

From the grounds of Grandfather Mt. Games

This has been the most beautiful weekend in our favor and so many clan members showing up at the tent to work and provide welcome to all of those passing in and near.

We held our annual meeting and dinner with 60 clan members present. our meeting was a great success with many of our families' children present, all dressed in the finest MacDougall attire. We have added 161 new members this year and we now have 1,104 active members.

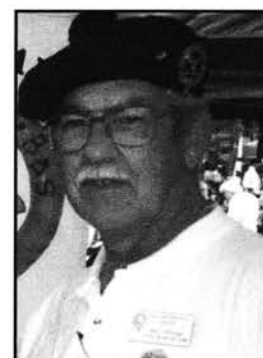
Those of you that were unable to attend the meeting and games missed out on the warm family gathering. They came from Alabama, Missouri, New York, Maryland, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ontario Canada, and we hope we did not miss any states.

Our clan is strong and active, taking in many new members this weekend. We hope throughout North America many of the other clan tents are doing the same. I would like to give my personal "Thanks" to the core of Officers, Directors, Regional Commissioners and State Representatives that make Nyla and I so welcome and comfortable. Also for all the work you do for Clan MacDougall Society of North America.

"Thank you" Carol and David McDougall, Commissioners of the Southeast Region, for the hard work in setting up the clan tent, keeping it in order and organizing us in the "Parade of Clans"; you did a great job. It would be appreciated if each member attending an area game would be willing to assist the representative in the game tent. Your help is needed out there.

We had several young people who won awards in their events and we are very proud of each of them. D. Todd McDougall is now a judge with the athletic events. "Mad Max" MacDougall was given an award for "20 years of service" to the games in recognition with the wrestling and his work with the children's games.

It is a pleasure to serve all of you and wish you all well. Nyla and I now travel to California and will deeply miss our family members who were at these Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.



Above: Nyla and President Mel McDougall at GMHG.

Far Right: "Mad Max" MacDougall in his Scottish regalia. Right: GMHG Service award given to "Mad Max".



Slanti,

Mel McDougall





Births



On December 18, 2000, **Aidan Shelow MacDougall** was born at home to Jeanette and Lonny MacDougall. She weighed 8 lbs. 6 ozs. and was 22½ inches long. In August, Aidan will be taking Mom, Dad, sister Heather, and brother Robin to a family reunion.

The gathering is of the descendents of Murdock and Celia MacDougall. This reunion will take place in PEI on the first weekend in August.



"McDougall Design" announces addition to family: **Martin Warren McDougal** was

born April 30, 2001 and into the hearts of his new parents on May 18, 2001. On May 19, Martin stole the hearts of grandparents Jim and Pat McDougal.



Terry & Jennifer hold their new son.

Gylen Castle Report

Dear Clan MacDougall Society members and friends of Gylen Castle,



I am very happy to report to you that due to your loyal support I now have more than enough orders for Bill MacDougall's new clan history, "*Kings in the West and Beyond the Sea*," to pay for the publishing and begin to accumulate profit to send to Oban for the Gylen Castle Repair Fund. In fact, by the time you read this I will have received the books and begun to send them out. They should be available at Clan Society tents for the rest of the season. Or of course you can continue to order them from me. A lot of folks are buying them for gifts. You can reach me at: macmendon@juno.com, or at 18 Teresa Drive, Mendon, MA. 01756. Thank you again for your continued support. The cost will be \$16.40 (US) including mailing.

Dick MacDougall



TARTAN MATERIAL FOR SALE:

The modern color MacDougall tartan is available for purchase. It is 54" wide and 100% cotton twill. This material is heavy enough for a kilt for summer wear. Also for a dress, suit, vest, or to upholster a chair. It makes beautiful pillows, drapes, table cloths, napkins and placemats. At **\$17.75 postage included per yard**, make your check or money order for the number of yards you wish to buy and mail it to: **Pat McDougal, 8540 Rancho Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363.**

VISITING SCOTLAND THIS YEAR?

A must have travel guide to all the events in and around Scotland (see www.visitscotland.com) who also provide advice and practical information about exploring Scotland. Ask for a copy of the "WHAT'S ON IN SCOTLAND" booklet. It's free and well worth the asking.

Gives the places to see with admission times and cost to enter. An example: August 26th is an Antique Fair in New Lanark Visitor Center 11.00 a.m. to 17.00 Admission is 60p. Map reference is F12 (map included.)

Used with permission Rosie Galloway, manager Central Information Dept.

Calling All Cooks



As readers of "The Tartan" are aware, the Mid-Atlantic Branch is gathering recipes for inclusion in a Clan MacDougall Society Cookbook. The Cookbook editor wishes to thank all the members of the Society who have submitted recipes for such mouth-watering treats. The taste-tempting recipes received so far are an excellent start to a cookbook that will be a splendid addition to anyone's kitchen. Our publisher tells us that to make a marketable book, however, we need to include at least 150 recipes. So far we have received fewer than half that number.

It is no secret that MacDougalls eat well. We know that there are more wonderful recipes in the files of the excellent cooks of Clan MacDougall, and we would greatly appreciate it if members of the Society from every region will unlock those files and share these treasures with the rest of Clan MacDougall and others through this cookbook. Members are encouraged to send up to five recipes. Mail to:

**Jeanne MacDougall,
3304 Gentle Court,
Alexandria, VA 22310.**

When submitting recipes, you may wish to reserve your copy of the cookbook at the pre-publication price of \$10.00 includes shipping. Make checks payable to Clan MacDougall Mid-Atlantic Branch. The post-publication cost of the book will be \$12.00 includes shipping. *The deadline for this submission is September 30, 2001.*

Alan Miles MacDougall
Alexandria, Virginia

News From Grandfather Mountain Highland Games



Engagement is announced for **Jamie Howell and Claudio Fuentes**. The wedding is planned for May 4, 2002.



John A. MacDougall and Cherry Canup, both of Atlanta Georgia, were united in marriage July 7, 2001. Members attending the annual meeting congratulated Mr. & Mrs. John A. McDougall on their marriage of 6 days.



The Somerled Award was presented to **Walter William Leroy, Jr.** at the annual meeting. He has served Clan MacDougall Society as Secretary/Treasurer since 1996. He has also served as Chairman of the Membership Committee and State Representative of Georgia and Kentucky. Bill is shown at left receiving the award from President Mel McDougall.

The Somerled Award was sent to **Walter M. Macdougall** for the contributions he has made to Clan MacDougall Society. In 1978 Walter was presented with the first "A. Wylie McDougall Memorial Award". He traveled to Scotland, walked the land and edited the book *Journeying in MacDougall Country* published in 1984. He and his wife, **Judith Ann**, were Editors of *The Tartan* newsletter from 1978 to 1984. He was President of the society from 1991 to 1994.



Carol and David McDougall of Charleston, SC won the high bid for a week at Gylen cabin, near Linville, NC, at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. The visit was offered to the highest bidder from owners Lynn and Beacham McDougall.

Clan MacDougall at Grandfather



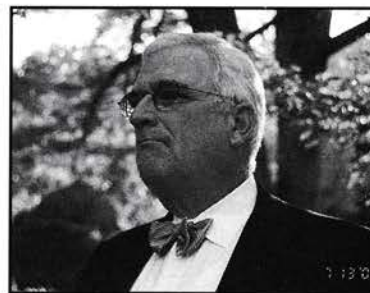
Mary Jean & William Ermitinger



Bill Leroy



Sally & John W. McDougall, Jr.



G. Simms MacDowall, III



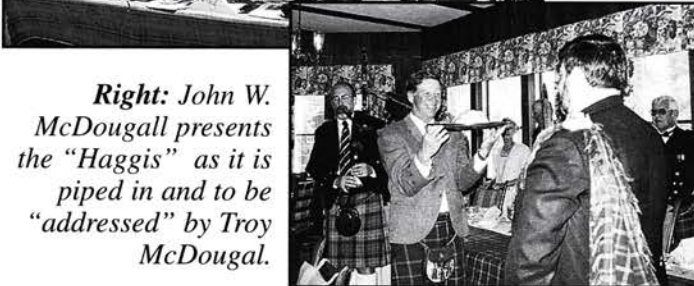
Above: Clan MacDougall in The Parade of Tartans



Left: Taking Care of Business at the Clan Tent



Above: MacDougall ladies reviewing the GMHG events at our clan tent.



Right: John W. McDougall presents the "Haggis" as it is piped in and to be "addressed" by Troy McDougal.



Above: Clan MacDougall at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games



John & Nancy McDowell Moore



Nancy & Jack Kane



Sandy Roper & Joseph Roberts



Marsh, Karen & Laura Dark



Alex & Monica McDougall



Bruce & Elizabeth McClintock



William MacDougall, Author



The Tartan Parade

Mountain Highland Games 2001



Donald & Sandra MacDougall



Lynn & Beacham MacDougald



Phillips & Pam McDowell



Carol & David McDougall



Clan members assembled at the games before the Parade of Tartans.

Right: Sara Hereford, Mel McDougall, Sybil MacDougald Wilkinson and Nancy Van Valkenburg



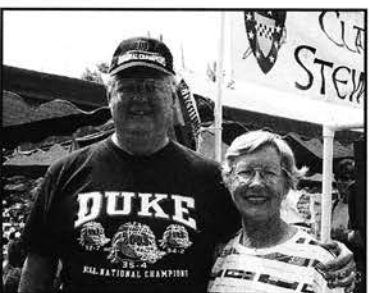
Above: Diane, Chris, Earl & George Prevost & Barbara MacDougall.



Left: Lt. Col. & Mrs. Earls and Marge & Stan Porter



Above: Clan MacDougall Information Central and wee dram to wet ya' whistle!



Marshall & Barbara McD. Dark, Jr.



Kirby McKibben



Sam & Jeff Howell



Richard Van Valkenburg



passes in review.



Suzanne McDougal & Peter Clepper



Terry & Jennifer McDougal present 10 week old Martin Warren McDougal in his MacDougall kilt.



Barbie & Troy McDougal



From Orkney to the Little Bighorn



The letter arrived out of the blue and turned to the attention of one of America's greatest heroes to a corner of

faraway Scotland. A few weeks later, George Armstrong Custer rode to his death, by then convinced by the few lines that his family roots lay in Orkney.

The letter, from an Orcadian businessman, was read by General Custer two months before his legendary Last Stand at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. Custer and more than 200 officers and men of the 7th US Cavalry died at the hands of an overwhelming force of Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne Indians.

As historians gather on Monday to mark the 125th anniversary of the fateful confrontation, they will be debating the facts surrounding his heritage.

Many historians believe Custer's ancestors emigrated from the German Rhineland to the American colony of Pennsylvania during the 17th century. However, the letter from Orkney has added to the evidence and the mystery.

Peter Russell, the membership secretary of the Custer Association of Great Britain, says the Orkney connections cannot be ruled out.

In an article for the association's website, he said that, on 23 April 1876, during the time Custer was appearing as a witness at the Belknap impeachment trial in Washington, he wrote to his wife, Elizabeth, mentioning the surprise letter.

"I received a letter from a gentleman at Kirkwall, in the Orkneys, by the name of Custer," wrote the General. "He traces our relationship to the family back to 1647, and gives the several changes the name has undergone - Cursetter, Cursider, Cusiter, Custer, all belonging to the same parish.

"He writes, 'I have been established in business here for 33 years. I have noted your name, conspicuous as a general, and occasionally as an author, and from descriptions of you I am convinced we are of the same stock'."

Although searches of Custer archives have failed to uncover the letter, Mr. Russell has identified the author as John Cursiter, who was born in Kirkwall on 7 June 1819. He became a shoemaker and worked for a firm in Edinburgh

and London before returning to Orkney and setting up his own general merchant's business in the 1850s.

He was involved in many public bodies and became best known for setting up a bakery which was the first commercial business in Orkney to use machine power.

He died on 23 April 1886, ten years to the day after General Custer wrote to his wife about his Orkney heritage.

Cursiter, pronounced "Custer" in Orkney, is a historic island name which is still found locally today. Mr. Russell's research shows that the main branch of the family lived for centuries in the parish of Firth and is recorded as having owned land as far back as 1587.

He said tradition has it that two men from the family went to the US, where they ran a business in New York until it was ruined by fire.

This prompted them to move west and one of the brothers is believed to be the ancestor of General Custer, who, was born in December 1839 in New Romley, Ohio to Emanuel Henry Custer and Maria Kirkpatrick Custer.

Mr. Russell said: "While it must be conceded that John Cursiter did not produce any specific evidence to substantiate his claim that Custer's ancestors came from the Northern Isles, there is equally nothing to prove that he did not.

"Until such time, therefore, as further information is forthcoming, Orkney will proudly continue to include General George Armstrong Custer among its most distinguished descendants."

A spokesman for Orkney Tourist Board said very little has been written about Custer's Orkney connection and few people locally are aware of the possible link to such a well-known historical character. ☺

William McDougal Genealogy Available

Rev. Harold McDougal is in the process of making his extensive 250,000 name genealogy database available on the McDougal Publishing WEB site.

<http://mcdougal.org/familyheritage/default.cfm>

It only includes the descendents of William McDougal and related families in and around West Virginia. This includes families from Virginia/West Virginia/Pennsylvania in Marion/Monongalia/Harrison counties.



Our Son, John graduated from Army Ranger school at Fort Benning on May 18, 2001. It is a highly coveted accomplishment for an Army Infantry career. It is a 62 day course with survival levels of sleep and food. Only about 40% complete the course. He has left for his post in Vicenza, Italy.

Mack and Ruth Macdougall

Congratulations, John, from Clan MacDougall Society. We also are very proud of your "job well done."

Clan MacDougall Represented as Decatur Alabama Police Department Honors those Officers who lost their lives while protecting ours....

Decatur, Alabama

By Lt. Danny Dutton, Clan MacDougall Society of North America

The week of May 15 is National Police Memorial week. This is a time when we honor those law enforcement officers who have paid the ultimate price just to keep all of us safe.

Historically 15,400 law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty since 1792. During the past decade a total of 1,549 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty. During 2000, the first year of the new millennium, 150 officers were killed. This is a 12 percent increase over 1999 and reverses a trend of several years when we had declining numbers. We cannot, however, allow ourselves to get caught up in the mere numbers lest we forget the sacrifice of our fallen brothers and sisters. It is fitting that we routinely take time to honor these officers.

On Tuesday, May 15, Police Memorial Day, a brief memorial service was conducted at Decatur City Hall to honor all the men and women in law enforcement who have paid the ultimate price. An Honor Roll of the names of local officers slain while on duty, as well as the circumstances of their death was read and a wreath was laid in the lobby of the police department, where it will remain for the duration of the week. The Honor Guard Unit raised colors in front of city hall, which included the Police Memorial Flag. All these colors, National, State and Police Memorial were drawn to half-mast. The Police Honor Guard Rifle Team fired a salute to these officers and as is the pleasure of the unit piper, the pipes sang out Amazing Grace in their honor. Further, we must continue to embrace survivors as members of the law enforcement family, just as we would expect our families or Clan members to be embraced.

The list read was much too long but lets all pray that it has not grown longer at next year's service. Just as the Sergeant used to say on "Hill Street Blues" before sending the squad out, "Let's be careful out there" ...Buaidh No Bas



Playing of the Pipes, Lt. Danny Dutton



Decatur Police Honor Guard Elements

Front Row (L-R): Off. Ellie Green, Off. Proncey Robertson, Off. Charles Draper, Off. Chris DelGado, Off. Jeremy Hayes, Honor Guard Sergeant, Jim Tilley, Honor Guard Piper, Lt. Danny Dutton.

Honor Guard Rifle Team

Second Row (L-R): Commander, Sgt. Bill Darby, Off. Steve Hames, Off. Bill LePradd, Off. Chris Jones, Off. Mike Johnson, Off. Brad Haggard, Off. Tony Shivers, Off. David Williams.



FROM HIGHLAND GAMES & GATHERINGS

The Pacific Crescent Clan Tent Cavaliers

by Diane MacDougall

Once again the western MacDougalls have hosted their tents and played together across the Region. In Northern California, Rep. Victor MacDowell Kottinger greeted the Clan at Ardenwood in Fremont and at the 23rd Campbell Games, and he has his plans in place for the big one - the Pleasanton Games that draw over 50,000 visitors annually over Labor Day weekend. Our Rep. and Commissioner Cuff Burrell made the rounds in central California, thawing out at Angel's Camp in March, braving the wind and rain at the Bakersfield Games, winning third place in the Bonniest Knees contest in May at the Mariposa Games, and basking in the warmth of friendships at the Modesto gathering in June. Rep. Darleen Weisz, with the help of many stalwart MacDougalls, manned the Clan tables at the Queen Mary in Long Beach in February, then set up the tent at Loch Prado and at Costa Mesa in May, as well as the San Diego Games in June. She was in attendance with twin sister Diane McDowell and the dancing MacDougall twins, Hannah and Chanel, at San Diego. (Can any other Region outdo ours for twin MacDougall members?) We're looking forward now to the Reno Games at the end of the month, then on to join Vic in Pleasanton in September. Scots wha hae! 🍷

SF Caledonia Club's Games and Gatherings

by Victor Kottinger



The SF Caledonia Club's Games and Gatherings at Pleasanton on Labor Day weekend were again a highlight of the year, being the oldest continuous and probably the largest in North America. Move over, Grandfather Mountain!

Along with Mel and Nyla McDougall, Leslye Howell and Sabrina Wuertenberger, we welcomed dozens of MacDougalls, new and old. The weather, fortunately, was cooler than usual which made everything from hanging out in the tent to marching in heavy kilts past the grandstand more fun. We'll be looking for you this September. 🍷



The 35th Annual Dunedin Highland Games and Festival

We had a perfect weekend, weather-wise and the bands, dancers and athletes helped make it most enjoyable.



L. to R.: Cindy Kruse, Barry Marler, Mimi Leroy-Marler (our Florida Rep.), Margaret Stirling Copland, Hamish MacDowell Copland, Wayne McDowell (between the Coplands), Bob Smith, Rusti Smith.

Colorado Games & Gatherings

The MacDougall Clan was represented at the Celtic Festival in Kiowa, Colorado on May 12 and 13 of this year.

We will also attend the Games at Long's Peak Festival in Estes Park, Colorado on September 7, 8 and 9 (this year).

by Diane MacDougall

Love blooms among Scots on Clan Row at the Highland games in Estes Park. Marta MacDougall (the new Regional Commissioner for the Clan in the Rocky Mtn. Region) met Victor Gibson three years ago at the Highlands Ranch Scottish Festival. The Johnston/e tent was of interest to Marta because her mother is a Johnstone. The Johnstone's were held in great esteem as they were continually being awarded prizes for Best Clan in Parade, Best Clan tent, Best Overall Clan, etc. Friendship grew as various games came and went, and Marta and Victor kept getting to know each other better. Sharing their Scottish heritage, the love of the music and culture is a wonderful basis for friendships. Victor's aunts and cousins and others worked hard on their GMA this last year and won Best Clan AGAIN. Marta attended their banquet and she and Victor shared the joy of this great accomplishment. He is the tent "chief." They have barely let another 24 hours go by without spending it together, and will be married with bagpipes, kilts and Scottish traditions on July 15th. They are planning their Scottish Honeymoon for after the Estes Park Festival in September. From now on, they will be requesting (begging for!) neighboring tents at all the Festivals!!

Marta MacDougall adds: As you can see, I've been a "little" distracted. I plan to remain Commissioner for now. Vic and I have been helping each other with our clan stuff. It's wonderful to have someone who shares my love of my heritage! I told him I was going to weasel some of his clan secrets out of him, so the MacDougalls could win something too! He said he would tell me anything I wanted to know!! 🍷



Hamish MacDowell Copland

Lane Burgeoning Distance Star

MATT Lane had a bittersweet summer last year. After finishing 4th in the Olympic Trials 5000 he was tentatively on the team until 3rd-placer Nick Rogers got his Games qualifier a couple of weeks later.

Then, as the leading alternate, for the next month he was left the task of keeping both his hopes and fitness at an Olympic level, never really knowing what to expect, while being pretty sure he wouldn't get to go.

While he didn't get a chance to show his wares in Australia, Lane has already thrown the gauntlet down for the '01 indoor season, starting with a solo 13:47.48 win at Virginia Tech. Two weeks later he anchored William & Mary's distance medley with a 3:59.7.

"He's running this well off of almost no speed training," says William & Mary coach Andrew Gerard. "He's been building back steadily since the fall. He ran a quick 5X mile workout, with the last few around 4:20. But that was about it. Before that DMR, he never even cracked 2:00 for a half in practice."

The Olympic Trials, Lane says, were a very important step for his racing confidence: "You learn very fast what kind of head games go on in a race like that."

"Like, Kennedy started out running 63s, and I didn't think he would be able to hold it--and I knew I couldn't, and he didn't--so it was tough to decide what to do through the race. At first, it was very daunting and I was nervous. But I learned a lot from the mistakes I made, and it gave me a lot more confidence."

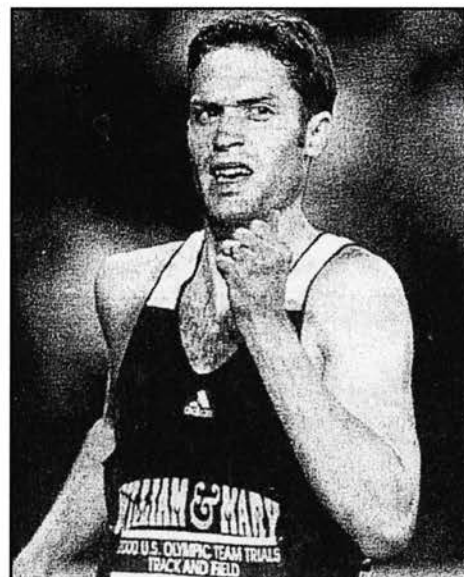
Gerard says he credits Lane's improvement to his work ethic and an ability to withstand an exceptionally high volume of training: "Matt has improved every year. His consistency is tremendous. I can count on one hand the number of bad races he's had."

Gerard says Lane, with a PR of 13:27.24, will be shooting for a sub-13:20 in the outdoor season.

The 5-10/140 Lane made a huge--and sudden--improvement in '00, winning the Duke Invitational 5K by more than 30 seconds in 13:38.19, before placing 2nd in the NCAA 5K. He also lowered his 1500 PR to 3:43.60.

Still, thinking of an Olympic possibility was all new to Lane. Coming out of Yarmouth, Maine, he first attracted notice in high school when he finished 4th in the Foot Locker cross country, but he was still only a 4:22 miler on the track.

After the Olympic wait-out, Lane took a month off training, for the first



Olympic alternate Lane has come a long way from his 4:22 prep days.

time not running cross country in the fall.

"It was interesting being at school and not running," he says, "having run all summer and then stopping to watch everyone else start their season. But that's more of the schedule I need to get used to if I'm going to concentrate on track."

"When I first started running, cross country was my favorite. But now I like track better. There are a lot more opportunities to grow."

Matt is the grandson of Jean MacDougall-Horr, Maine Representative.

W&Ms Lane Ranked Fifth in U.S. in 5,000 m

William and Mary senior Matt Lane (Yarmouth, Maine) added yet another honor to his list shortly after being named the Eastern Track Male Collegiate Athlete of the Year, as Track and Field News ranked Lane fifth nationally in the 5,000 meters for the year 2000.



A MacDougall Piper

Christian Obremski was born February 15, 1977 in Newburgh, NY and grew up in nearby Cornwall, NY. He started playing the pipes around 10 years of age, and played about 5 years with a local band, "The MacLeods of Cornwall". About 8 years later renewed his interest in the pipes after a trip overseas and a week in Scotland. Since that time he has played with the "Tara Hall Pipe Band" in Troy, NY and currently playing solo and competing.

He graduated from Hamilton College in

1998 with a BA with Honors in Philosophy, and then again in 2000 from State University of New York at Albany, with a concentration in Russian Language. He joined the Navy in the autumn of 2000, went to officer Candidate School in Pensacola, FL, and received his commission as an Ensign in the Navy Supply Corps on December 8, 2000. Currently he is under instruction in Athens, GA and expects to graduate this December.

His connection to the MacDougall's is through his mother, who is a Howell.

How You Spend Your Dash —

I read of a man who stood to speak
At the funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates
on his tombstone
From the beginning...to the end.
He noted that first came
his date of birth
And spoke the following
date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the dash between those years.
(For example 1907-1999)

For that dash represents all the time
That he spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved him
Know what that little line is worth.
For it matters not,
how much we own;
The cars...the house...the cash,
That matters is how we live and love
And how we spend our dash.

So think about this land and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know
how much time is left,
That can still be rearranged.
If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real,
And always try to understand
The way other people feel.
And be less quick to anger,
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.
If we treat each other with respect,
And more often wear a smile...
Remembering that this special dash
Might only last a little while.
So when your eulogy's being read
With your life's actions to rehash...
Would you be proud
of the things they say
About how you spent your dash?

-- Author Unknown

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