

The Tartan



The Clan MacDougall Society of North America

Volume 41, No. 3

Visit our webpage at: www.macdougall.org

Summer 2006

The Opening of Gylen Castle May 12th 2006



Early in the 1990's, my Mother, Jean, and my Aunt Hope MacDougall, decided to open an account in order to raise funds for the preservation of Gylen Castle. This was a brave venture considering the high costs of such activities, especially for building in such remote positions as Gylen was – perched at the southern tip of the Island of Kerrera with no proper road access.

It is with much pleasure that I can now say that their initial tentative seeds of thought have come fully to fruition in the opening of a conserved and preserved Gylen Castle as celebrated on May 12th 2006.

Invitations had been sent to all who had contacts with the Castle (limited by means of restricted Ferry numbers) and

all the residents on the Island. We had around 50 people in all.

The ceremony started with the cutting of a MacDougall Tartan Ribbon across the Castle gate, followed by a tour round the inside by the experts : Historic Scotland Architect, Martin Hadlington and specialist Mason, Duncan Strachan .

We had four North Americans with us who happened to be visiting Scotland at the time – we are grateful indeed for all the help Clansfolk in America have given and particularly to Richard MacDougall – Chairman of the Gylen Repair Fund, who has worked hard to bring in funds over many years. We also had U.K. Clan Society members.

Speeches were then made by a representative from Historic Scotland on the national importance of the Castle and its detailed historical structure; by Martin Hadlington on the conservation work that had been carried out, and by myself, from the point of view of the Castle's importance to the Clan, both in History and the present day.

A delicious buffet lunch was enjoyed by all at the marquee at Lower Gylen, arranged by the tea-room owners. This was followed by a few more speeches of thanks, after which people gradually made their journey homeward, either by Tractor, Land Rover or Foot.

It would have been a lovely touch if Hope, Jean and my Father, Stephen, could have been there. They would have been so pleased to see the work they started – they would have been even more surprised to know what went on later that evening – a dramatic fire-work display spilling out of the windows and roof of the Castle organized by some of the Islanders, complete with a full moon in the clear night sky!

Morag MacDougall of MacDougall 17/05/06



The Editor's Desk

by Pat McDougal

Historic Gylen Castle has now been restored; it rises dramatically on the windswept island of Kerrera at the southerly point. Sea going ships now can see and admire the castle facing the Firth of Lorn.

Over the years a lot of hard work and expense has gone into the restoration of this tower house. The Society and its members are delighted that Gylen Castle is restored and established as a historic clan site. Our sincere thanks go to all that contributed to the Restoration Fund and the staff who restored Gylen castle.

We are very happy to introduce to you the first of many color issues of *The Tartan*.

Yours aye,
Pat

The Clan MacDougall Society of North America

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for those living in the U.S.

For more information write to:

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Flowers of the Forest

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

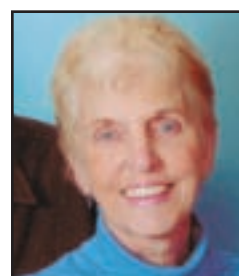


Hugh MacRae Morton died June 1, 2006 at the age of 85. He owned and operated Grandfather Mountain attraction and the MacRae Meadow where the Highland Games are held.

We, The Clan MacDougall Society of North America extend out sincere condolences to Hugh's wife, Julia Morton and her family. We also express our appreciation for Hugh's photography through the years. Hugh shared his 35-mm view of Grandfather Mountain, The Highland Games, and the beauty of North Carolina through the years. His photos gave us the sense of always being at the right place at the right time.



With heartfelt sorrow that we, the family of **Elizabeth Anne McDougal**



offer our farewells. Born December 9, 1937 in Salem, Oregon, she married LeRoy L. McDougal on March 25, 1955. You read of their 50th

anniversary in this publication last year. It was a happy day because the doctors had pronounced my mother "Betty" free of the cancer she had been so bravely fighting. We all celebrated for that, and of fifty years together.

The cancer returned shortly afterwards, and again she fought so valiantly that any Scotsman would be proud. On the evening of March 28, 2006, my mother passed into a better place. I had spent that evening sitting next to her singing *Amazing Grace*, and that is exactly what she showed all of us that have known and loved her — an amazing grace.

Betty McDougal is survived by her loving husband LeRoy McDougal, her three sons, and their families.

Mitch McDougal, Son



Annual General Meeting President's Message

by Don MacDougall



With the country in the grip of a heat wave, Clan MacDougall held its Annual General Meeting in the cool mountains of western North Carolina. Grandfather Mountain Highland Games formed the backdrop for our gathering.

Beginning Thursday night on the mountain the clans assembled, Clan MacDougalls presence was voiced by two dynamic women, Tammy Rondinaro and Kelly Wright. Their war cry gave fair warning to all assembled that Clan MacDougall's intentions were honorable but other clansmen could be at risk.

Early Friday morning Buzzy Bramble, Southeast Regional Commissioner and his wife Susan, had the Clan MacDougall tent area set up and ready for the guests. Everyone met Don Northcutt, our new VP for membership, for the first time. Many came from long distances to attend the Games and Annual Meeting. Among those were Beth and Bruce McClintock the Mid West Regional Commissioners from Missouri. Past Presidents and their wives were also in attendance: Wylie and Debbie McDougal, Jack and Nancy Kane, John A. and Pricilla McDougall. Although unable to make the meeting, Dick & Betsey MacDougall made it to the Barbeque on Saturday evening.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to Tammy and Steve Rondinaro, the Society's Public Relations team, for capturing so many special video moments during the weekend.

Friday also was full of meetings: The Board of Directors met in the Eseeola Pool Pavilion. It was a lively meeting and we managed to deal with all the issues on the table. The Board meeting was highlighted by the creation of a Membership Committee, chaired by Don Northcutt. Wylie McDougall challenged the committee to come up with a plan to expand the membership and pledged that the MacDougall Trust would support the plan. We are looking forward to the results of their deliberations.

Bill Leroy, the Treasure, couldn't attend the meeting but submitted a financial report that indicated the Clan MacDougall Society is sound fiscally and in the black for the year.

William Ermitinger, Recording Secretary, reported that he was successful in incorporating the Clan Society, which is a first step to becoming a bonafied charitable 501(c) 3 organization.

The other significant action taken by the Board was to nominate individuals for officer positions for the terms July 2007-June 2009: President: Beacham MacDougald; 1st VP President, Bill Leroy; VP of Membership, Don Northcutt, VP of Treasurer: Current President; P Donald MacDougall: Recording Secretary/Archivist: William C Ermitinger. The election will take place per the bylaws in the Month of April 2007. Individuals nominated may withdraw and the nominations are open prior to the elections.

The Editor of *The Tartan*, Pat McDougal, received Board approval to publish upcoming editions of *The Tartan* in color.

Suzanne McDougal reported on her efforts in working with Walter MacDougall on the revision of his book, "*Journeying in MacDougall Country*."

Beacham MacDougald, President Elect, reported on the

Laurenburg/Oban youth exchange and his plans to focus on getting young people interested in Scottish events and activities - specifically within the Clan MacDougall Society.

Another action taken by the board was to make our name officially, "The Clan MacDougall Society of North America."

After the meetings, all adjourned to the Eseeola Lodge for cocktails and dinner. Greg McDougall, composer and guitar player pleasantly entertained everyone as he strolled the grounds of the beautiful Lodge playing serenades during the cocktail hour. So, instead of being piped into dinner this year, the group was strummed in. (see: Vol. 41 #1 Pg. 5).

A hardy thanks goes to Ashby McCown, the new MidAtlantic Regional Commissioner, for his presentation of the "Address to the Haggis." Ashby graciously stepped in at the last minute to perform this important ritual.

The Awards Committee chaired by Sandra MacDougall presented Somerled Awards to Wylie McDougall and John W. McDougall. The Appreciation Awards presented by Debbie McDougall, Nancy Kane and Pat McDougal went to W. Troy McDougall, Mel & Nyla MacDougall, and Dr. Robert McDougall.

It was so nice to see John McDowell Moore and a large contingent of his family including several grandchildren this year.

After the dinner Greg's wonderful singing voice and original musical compositions were enjoyed by all. Our entertainment was pure Scots with William Ermatinger giving us a very interesting and historical presentation on the origin of the Celts. Ashby McCown assisted by Peter Clepper followed with an informative tutorial of the origins of the Gaelic language.

Joe Borneman and Tammy Rondinaro were responsible for the AGM and the wonderful dinner and entertainment. Our thanks to both of them. Thanks to Malcolm MacDougall for volunteering to be the new North Carolina State Rep as well as working on the AGM agenda for next year.

On Saturday, there was much activity at the tent visiting and signing up new members. Later on we had the 2nd annual family barbeque. A tradition started by Beacham to provide an opportunity for the members, friends and family to spend some time together in an informal setting. The 2nd annual barbeque was a success with over 50 of the clan and friends attending. There was little left of "Porky Campbell" when the evening came to a close at sundown. A big thanks to Beacham for all the time and effort he spent preparing a wonderful event. A good time was had by all.

The MacDougalls were well represented at the Parade of Tartans on Sunday. During the afternoon we all said our good byes and made arrangements to join each other at upcoming games all around the country. This was our 41st Annual General Meeting and we expect that the 42nd AGM will be even better.

Slainte,

Don MacDougall

Slaying Tourist, Not Mice

During his 24-year career at the Glenturret Distillery near Crieff, Towser the resident cat (pictured here) caught a staggering 28,899 mice - an average of three a day. He now has a place in the Guinness Book of Records for his feat. He eventually went to the great feline cat basket in the sky in 1988 and a new cat, named Amber, took his place. Either Towser had done too good a job or Amber was made of different stuff, because during her 16 year career at Glenturret she never produced a single mouse - though she did injure herself cornering one mouse, which escaped. Maybe she was just put off by the statue to Towser in the



forecourt - or the large number of souvenirs bearing Towser's portrait on sale in the distillery shop. When she passed on earlier this year, the distillery went looking for another replacement, but by this time the job description had changed. The distillery decided that vermin were no longer a problem (Towser must have been spinning in his grave at this concept) and decided to recruit a cat which (like Towser, after all) would capture the hearts of the many tourists who come to the distillery, home of the Famous Grouse brand. In the end, after "interviewing" nine applicants, they decided that no one cat could fill Towser's paw-prints and have appointed two cats instead. So Dylan, a ginger and white male from Forfar and Brooke, a semi-long-haired black and white female from Glasgow were selected. Any cat named Brooke must be a feisty feline to survive in Glasgow. 🐾

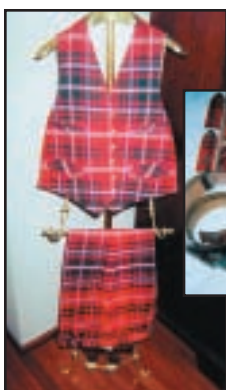
(Editor's Note: Special thanks to Scottie and 'Rampant Scotland' for permission to reprint this article.)

Available For Purchase...



An inventory of day and dress clothing and accessories, which includes many MacDougall tartan items, belonging to the late Captain Lestor L. McDowell is currently available for purchase. For many years Captain McDowell of the USNR was a director of Clan MacDougall Society. Several of the items for sale are pictured. For a complete list of clothing, descriptions, and prices please contact Captain McDowell's daughter, Heather Brownell, 21 W. Royal Palm

Road, Phoenix, AZ 85021 602-943-2138 or contact *The Tartan* editor at pa.mcdougall@comcast.net 🐾



Me... a MacDougall?

by Steve Rondinaro



The cheese and salami hanging in Grampa's backroom said a lot about the way I grew up... complete with barrels of home-made wine in the basement. (The stuff could power the space shuttle, by the way.) Quite different from the stories my wife, Tammy, would tell about her Great Grampa "Pop," Alan MacDougall, who came straight from Oban, Scotland.

When Tammy reestablished her MacDougall roots at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games a few years ago, I went along for grins. Little did I know that I'd be welcomed into the Clan MacDougall with open arms right along with her. With a name like Rondinaro?

New "cousin" William Ermatinger explained how this clan thing worked in the days of ancient Scotland and how I'm part of the MacDougall Clan because I married smart. Works for me!

I have yet to acquire a taste for haggis but I'm enjoying my Scottish acculturation, courtesy of MacDougall "brethren." My Clan MacDougall t-shirt is ready to go for the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games next July. It truly is as much fun as an Italian wedding. 🐾

Meet the New 'Kilts' on the Block

New Board of Directors Member



Todd McDougal is the Director of Information Technologies at Blue Ridge Community College in Flat Rock, NC. Todd and his wife, Renita, have been Life members of Clan MacDougall Society for nearly 25 years. Having competed at over 200 Highland Games, Todd has been involved with Scottish Heavy Events as an athlete and judge for 19 years. He has been the Athletic Director at

Loch Norman for the past 4 years. Todd and Renita live in Hendersonville, NC with their 2 Maine Coon cats, Argyll and Fiona.

New Vice President of Membership



Don Northcutt came to Clan MacDougall because his wife Anna is a McDowell. His own Scottish ancestors were Watsons, but there are Stewarts in there as well. In 1995 he began setting up the MacDougall tent at games in southern California and publishing a newsletter for California MacDougalls. Don is a past-president of the St Andrew Society of Southern California. Now

living in Chattanooga, TN, he was recently elected to Vice President for Membership and, when not busy in the real estate business, he is active in the Shriners and Vietnam Veterans of America. Don, Anna and daughter Jane enjoy traveling to Scotland and look forward to the Oban gathering in 2007.

New Public Relations Chair



Tammy Rondinaro. My background, as far back as I can remember, has been in art or medical non-profit organizations. I started out with my mom going door to door with the Mother's March Against Polio/Birth Defects for the March of Dimes Foundation. After years of volunteering, I became employed by MOD and eventually worked my way up to the New York

Headquarters as the publicist for the National Poster Child. We traveled nationwide promoting the only organization allowed into the White House. (We met with President Reagan twice!) A move to Miami afforded some time promoting Villa Vizcaya (as Director of Development), the beautiful, famous museum and national historic landmark built by American industrialist, James Deering. I also was Director of Development for Gusman Center for the Performing Arts, created in the 1920's and reminiscent of a Mediterranean amphitheater. (The likes of Jackie Gleason, Elvis, and Luciano Pavarotti have all performed there!) I also met my husband, Steve, in Miami and our daughter, Katelyn, was born there in 1986.

Although motherhood was paramount, after our move to Orlando, I went back to school and dabbled in Interior Design for a while...and son Brooks was born in 1989. Our family's move to the mountains of North Carolina in 1995 had us opening a bed & breakfast and building a radio station from the ground up. Eight years later, our three stations were sold and my husband and I became owners of the local television station here in Boone. It was the same year I discovered the Clan MacDougall Society's tent at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games!



Question 1: Your initial email has prompted me to do some research on the Clans and in particular McDougall and McDonald. This research has raised what appears to me to be inconsistent situations. First if a Clan is a family and a Sept is a child of the family how can MacKichan be a Sept in both McDougall and McDonald clans.

Answer: Sept is actually an Irish term rather poorly adapted to Scottish clans in the 19th century. As adopted it means that the Sept is part of the clan but bears a different name from the mainstream clan names - which in our case were the related words MacDougall and MacDowell in many spellings. In fact the "Sept" names such as MacKichan were people who agreed to follow and support the clan Chief. Depending where these people lived they were within the territories of different clans and it was quite wise to declare their allegiance to that local clan. Thereafter they became full clan members just like the mainstream names of that clan. A MacKichan saved our Chief's charter chest and its pre-

cious papers from Dunollie castle in 1647 before the Covenanters' army captured Dunollie castle - that army under General Leslie was acting under the direction of Argyle the Campbell Chief then in political power and rebellion against King Charles 1 to whom the MacDougall clan had remained loyal.

Question 2: When surfing the sites I see two different tartans for the McDougalls - one mainly red and a second Green & yellowish-orange color.

Answer: I am attaching a paper on MacDougall tartan which should tell you all you want to know. The bottom line is that it is the thread pattern which defines the tartan more than the colour. However the orangish red one is the one our chief wears. I scanned the page as a photo in .jpg to give better definition to the tartan graphics.

Question 3: And there also seems to be two different mottos - 'To conquer or die' and 'Victory or death'. Could you to enlighten a clueless McDougall?

Answer: One is the verb form and one is the noun form. I have been told that the true Gaelic translation is the noun form "Victory or Death". I can only go by the Gaelic grammarians on that one.



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**Little Nadia
Fuentes, held by
her mom, Jamie,
was a happy
wee bairn as
they sat by the
Agnes Macrae
Morton Memorial
Marker at Macrae
Meadows during
the 2006 GMHG.**



To love, honor and cherish from this day forward...

MACDOUGALL-HORNER BEACH WEDDING

Doreen MacDougall and Gordon Horner, both from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, exchanged rings and vowed to live together and respect each other on April 27, 2006. The ceremony took place on Redington Beach in South West Florida. Redington Beach is North of St. Pete Beach and west of Tampa on the Gulf of Mexico.

It was another lovely day in SW Florida and the scene was illuminated by the bright afternoon sun. A fresh breeze from the North cooled the assembled throng. The bride and groom stood on the beach sand inside a heart made of fresh flowers. The bride was radiant in her white silk full length dress. Seed pearl straps resisted the stress of gravity. A beautiful sight in the eyes of her engineer relations.

The Maid of Honor was Jeannette Donovan, sister of the groom. The Best man was Jeannette's husband, Stephen Donovan.



The wedding ceremony was conducted by Tom Erickson, a friend of the bride and groom, from Wisconsin.

A large group of over 40 relatives, friends, and admirers from far-away places helped the bride and groom celebrate their good fortune. Some of the places are Houston TX, Wisconsin, Yarmouth, NS, Dartmouth, NS, Naples, FL and many other locations. A reception with music, food and libations, was held in the social center of the Redington Beach Towers.

A cousin of the bride from Inverness, Nova Scotia proposed a toast to the bride and groom in Scottish gaelic. John A. MacDougall said, "Gu meal sibh bhur naid-heachd," which in English means, "Congratulations to both of you." 🍷

WANTED-DEAD OR ALIVE- PORKY CAMPBELL, III

By Beacham McDougald

Behind most treasured events is a lovely legend. The story of Porky Campbell is no exception.

Most likely singer Joni Mitchell was thinking about Porky and the Campbell clan in the early 1970's when she composed "One Tin Soldier," the story of peaceful mountain people who hold the world's greatest treasure and the greedy valley people who want the treasure for their own. The mountain people invited the valley people to share their treasure, but the valley people had other ideas. They slaughtered the mountain people to get the treasure for their very own. Underneath the rock hiding the treasure were the words, "Peace on Earth."

On February 13, 1697 in the haunting, yet beautiful Glen Coe on the western coast of Scotland the peaceful MacDonalds invited the visiting Campbells into their homes for a feast. By morning 28 of the MacDonald men had been slaughtered and an additional 40 women and children died after their shelters were destroyed.

The Campbells continued their plunder of peaceful Highland clans. Through bribery, graft, and corruption, the Campbells stole land and livestock from the MacDonalds, MacGregors, MacDougalls, MacNeills, MacLeans, Stewarts, and other highland clans. Appropriately, they made Porky Campbell the centerpiece of the Clan Campbell crest, owing to their swine nature.

Porky's status began to grow. Political cartoonists to this day continue to use him and his family to signify graft and corruption. Probably most notably, George Orwell in 1949 was on the Isle of Jura when he wrote his haunting novel, "1984." For the corrupt leaders of his depicted totalitarian society the author chose the likes of Porky Campbell.

Meanwhile, Porky had long since left Scotland. In 1739 he arrived at Campbelltown on the banks of the Cape Fear River in North Carolina. A few years later Flora and Allan Macdonald arrived in North Carolina to search for Porky. After several years, their attempts were in vain and they returned to Scotland.

Porky's legacy grew in the Cape Fear and Lumber River regions of North Carolina; then the largest Scottish settlement in the North America. Numerous unsolved crimes were blamed on Porky and his large family in colonial Campbelltown. To add insult to other

clans, the Campbells named their county after Lord or "Butcher" Cumberland, the brutal victor over the Scots at the Battle of Colloden in 1746.

Following the American Revolution, Porky and his clan lost power and were morally shattered after the American victory in 1783. The new government changed the name of Campbelltown to Fayetteville in honor of General La Fayette.

The seemingly immortal Porky continued to live with clan members throughout southeastern North Carolina. Although wanted by the authorities, the Campbells showed that they were more than willing to shield and offer safe haven for the likes of Porky.

In 2005 while boar hunting near the Lumber River, Iain MacBubba shot and killed Porky Campbell. He soon realized the significance of his victim and took his remains to Colin McArthur, owner of General McArthur's Barbecue in Scotland County. Once more, Colin felt that he was unworthy to dispose of Porky and took him to the nearby 125 year old McDougald Funeral Home and Crematorium in Laurinburg. Owner Beacham McDougald prepared a special sacred ointment to prepare Porky. (One gallon of apple cider vinegar, 40 ounces of ketchup, 3 cups of brown sugar or molasses, ¼ cup red pepper, 1 tablespoon black pepper, ¼ cup of minced garlic, ¼ cup of minced onions, and ½ tablespoon of minced cloves.) Porky's remains were prepared and taken to the Ford Banner, Jr. Memorial Shelter near Linville, North Carolina. Following the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on Saturday, July 9, 2005, members of Clan MacDougall gathered for Porky's final rites. Baked beans, cole slaw, bread, cake, and soft drinks were additional tributes made for the ceremony.

In June, 2006 Porky's son, Porky Campbell, Jr. was found hiding among family members near Fayetteville. Porky, Jr. had been an accessory to many of his father's crimes. Due to their inability to find 12 unrelated jurors, the trial was moved to nearby Scotland County, NC and presided over by the Honorable William McIlwain. Once more Porky, Jr. received the ultimate sentence. Dismal Trader, Beacham McDougald was once more called upon to handle last rites for Porky, Jr.

Porky's remains were prepared at the McDougald's cabin, Gylen, just up the road from the Banner Memorial Shelter on Saturday, July 8. Once more members of Clan MacDougall and several members of

other clans gathered for his last rites.

Judge McIlwain of Clan MacBean even joined in to insure that the sentence had been consumed.

Additional offerings included green beans, new potatoes, fried corn bread, cake, and soft drinks.

As seven o'clock approached, the Banner Memorial Shelter was cleaned and bags of trash were left on the table for collection the following day.

Shortly after 8 a.m. the following day trash bags had been vandalized and all of the bones had been taken. Plates, napkins, and cans littered the landscape. Crime scene investigators from the High Country Bureau of Investigators collected physical evidence of hoof prints and hairs. DNA comparison from the hairs determined that the crime had been committed by Porky Campbell, III.

Iain MacBubba was also an eyewitness to the crime. He was out Saturday night haggis hunting and reportedly saw Porky Campbell, III and John Barleycorn at the crime scene. Hot on the trail of a fleeing haggis, Iain was not able to interfere with the crime in progress.

Avery Banner, criminologist of the High Country Bureau of Investigation, stated that Porky, III collected the bones for some sinister ritual often performed by Clan Campbell. The rituals are outlawed and punishable by death. It is also believed that Porky, III and John Barleycorn have fled back to the Cape Fear and Lumber River regions of North Carolina for safe haven amongst clan members. If and when they are caught, they will be brought before Judge McIlwain for trial.

Clan MacDougall once more is preparing for Porky Campbell, III's final rites along with those of John Barleycorn. Other clan members are invited to join in the celebration . . . err ceremony next year following the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on Saturday, July 14, 2007. Porky Campbell, III is expected to follow his predecessors as the main attraction and the blood of John Barleycorn may be available at Gylen for those willing to make the trip. 🍷



Clan MacDougall at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games 2006



Tammy & Steve Rondinaro



Don Northcutt,
New Vice President
Membership



The Greg
MacDougall
family



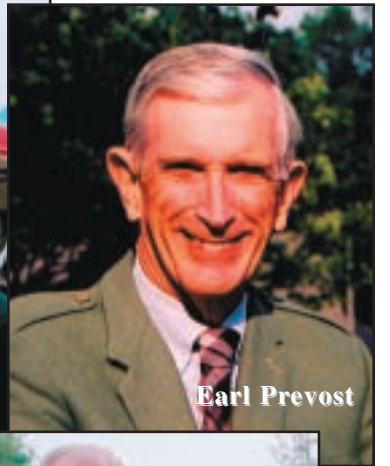
Buzzy & Susan
Bramble



Peter Clepper



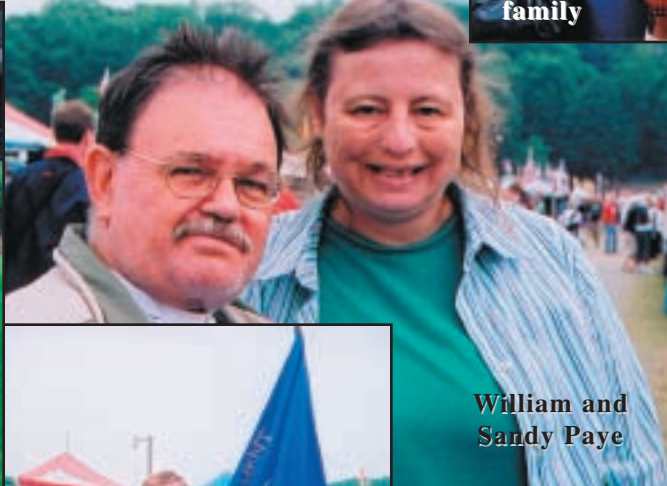
Libba & Elizabeth Glenn -
daughter and granddaughter of
John McDowell Moore



Earl Prevost



Greg MacDougall
serenaded clan members
at Esceola Lodge.



William and
Sandy Paye



The John McDowell
Moore family



Susanne



Chris & George
Prevost



Jack & Nancy Kane



Beacham McDougall,
First Vice President



Clan MacDougall President
P. Don MacDougall
proudly holding
the President's Banner.



Kelly & William
Ermitinger



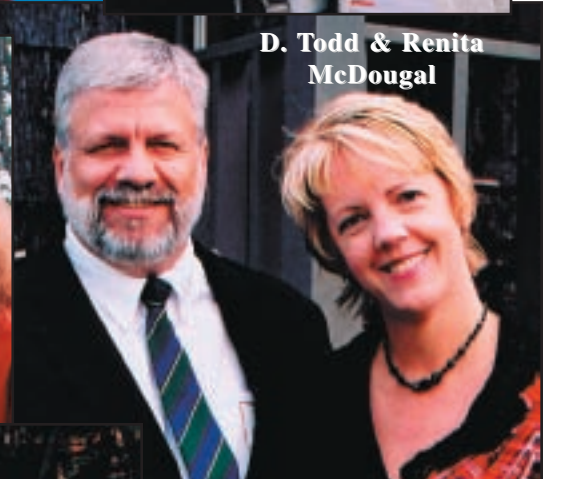
John
McDowell
Moore



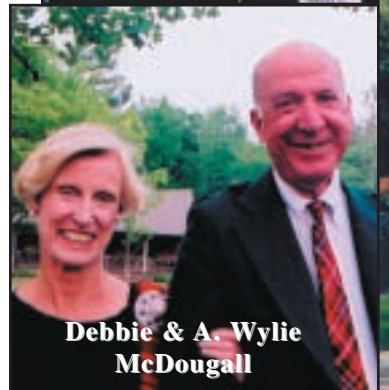
Thomas
Ashby
McCowan



John A. McDougall & Priscilla &
Dona Jones



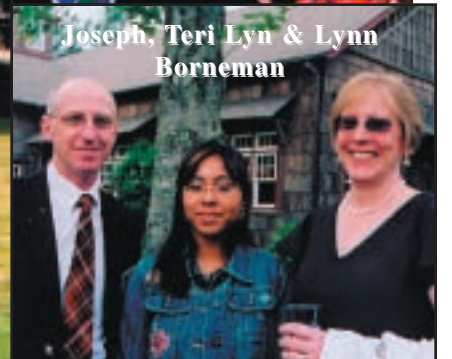
D. Todd & Renita
McDougal



Debbie & A. Wylie
McDougall



Members of The Clan MacDougall Society of North America
enjoy the fellowship at the cocktail hour at Esceola Lodge.



Joseph, Teri Lyn & Lynn
Borneman

Clan MacDougall News

FROM HIGHLAND GAMES & GATHERINGS



north alabama games

North Alabama Scottish Festival and Highland Games at Madison's Dublin Park near Huntsville was held June 16-18. This is a small game with 18 clan and society tents. A full venue of activities with athletes competing in both pro and amateur.

Entertainment stage with John Dall, Master of Ceremonies, Flora M. Gammon, Skip Jig, Colin Grant-Adams and Richard Van Valkenburgh. The Alabama Pipes and Drums of Birmingham, wearing ancient MacDougall tartan kilts with Pipe Major Jack Grant and the Heritage Pipes and Drums of Birmingham were also in attendance. For things to see and do to make a full day, the harp tent, the Pet Parade, the children's activities tent and the sheep dog herding.

Sibyl McDougald Wilkinson was the lady in charge of the MacDougall tent and did a splendid job. Several of the Jim McDougal family came from Ooltewah TN and Hendersonville NC to enjoy the little corner of Scotland.



2007 International Gathering of the Clans in Nova Scotia

Dear Scots: On behalf of the Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia I would like to extend an invitation to you all to come to Nova Scotia in 2007. The International Gathering is held here every four years and the Federation will again host it in 2007, the main events starting as of July. Please visit our Web Site at <http://scotsns.chebucto.org/>. As events are being confirmed we are posting them up under The International Gathering page. Many plans are in the works, ceilidhas, displays, etc. in various towns from one end of the province to the other.

Newly named "Royal" by HRH Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, "The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo" a yearly even, will start events for July. July 6th will be "Clans" night, the Tattoo and visiting Clan Chiefs and Clan Representatives will be invited to the Mayors Reception prior to the Tattoo...You must register with the Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia if you have a Representative wishing to attend the Mayor's Reception. (This is invitation only)...Please send, NAME, TITLE, ADDRESS, AND HOW MANY TO: Mr. Thomas Brown, 140 Zinck Ave., Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia, Canada B4C1W3. E-mail: thomasandbarbbrown@hfx.eastlink.ca ...The Halifax Highland Games will be held on July 7th, the Kirking on July 8th with the Tall Ships arriving on July 13, 14, 15. The Antigonish Highland Games will be held on July 21-22, and we are lining up events for all summer in different towns...all good wishes from Nova Scotia...

Yours truly,
Jean MacKaracher-Watson, President
Federation of Scottish Clans In Nova Scotia
jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca

**September 23, 2006
Dixon Highland Games,
Dixon Fairgrounds, Dixon, CA
jacobite@netzero.net**

**October 7, 2006
Loch Lomond Highland Games,
Highlands Park,
Ben Lomon, CA
lcs95@lochlomonceltic.org**





CLAN MACDOUGALL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES: JULY 7, 2006

Present: Don MacDougall Pres., Beacham McDougald VP Elect, Don Northcutt VP Membership, William Ermatinger, Secretary, Sandra MacDougall, John A MacDougall, D. Todd McDougal, John Kent Kane II, John McDowell Moore, Pat McDougal, Wylie McDougall (*Observers:* Tammy Rondinaro, Bruce and Elizabeth McClintock).

- 1 Meeting called to order by President MacDougall at 2:09 PM.
- 2 A quorum was present.
- 3 It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the last meeting as distributed: Passed.
- 4 The election of the six directors was announced for the term 2006-2009: Scott A MacDougall, John A MacDougall, D. Todd McDougal, Phillips McDowell, Donald McDougal, and Don Northcutt.
- 5 Bylaw changes were reviewed – no objections.
- 6 President MacDougall announced the resignation of Bill Leroy as VP for Membership.
- 7 Don Northcutt was nominated and elected as the VP for Membership for the remainder of the term 2005-2007
- 8 President named the new Regional Commissions: Mid-Atlantic: Thomas Ashby McCown; South-East: Buzzy Bramble; Canada-West: George McDougall; Pacific Crescent: Cuff Burrell. Their 3 year terms end June 30, 2009.
- 9 President announced his emphasis for the remainder of his term will be to increase membership.
- 10 A written Treasurers report was received. It was moved and seconded to accept it. Passed
- 11 The VP for membership reported he too was concerned with the decline in membership and will submit a more detailed report in the near future.
- 12 The Secretary/Archivist reported:
 - a We incorporated on Nov 18 2005 in the state of Delaware. We have a resident agent to keep us on board as to filing requirement among other items and will give us continuity.
 - b A 501(c)(3) application was filed and is pending a response to their questions. Don MacDougall, Beacham McDougald, Bill Leroy, and William Ermatinger will attempt to answer.
 - c We will continue internet voting with the following safeguard: When such an email ballot is sent the Secretary will ask for an email return receipt. If one is not received then a snail mail ballot will be sent with a request for a signed receipt. If a ballot is still not received or acknowledged we will assume the Board member is not voting.
- 13 Sandra MacDougall - Awards committee stated they have historically stayed under their \$200 budget amount. They request names for future nominees.
- 14 Beacham McDougald – Youth Committee outlined his plans for the committee.
- 15 International Relations – President MacDougall announced that the plans for the Oban gathering are well underway and more info will be forthcoming.
- 16 Tammy Rondinaro – PR reported she is in contact with the appropriate publications and is making necessary corrections. She will be sending out more brochures. DVDs have been made for use by the Clan.
- 17 Pat McDougal – *Tartan* reported that we have the opportunity to have the newsletter in color for an additional cost of \$400 per issue. The consensus was to accept the offer.
- 18 There was no old business.
- 19 New business:
 - a It was moved and seconded to add a Membership Committee to the Standing Committees in the bylaws. Passed.
 - b It was moved and seconded to change the name of the Society from “Clan MacDougall Society” to “Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.” Passed.
 - c It was moved and seconded that the previously distributed “Conflict of Interest Policy” be adopted. Passed. President MacDougall stipulated that all present and future Members of the Board must accept and sign the policy.
 - d In honor of Hugh McRae Morton’s passing it was proposed to investigate the wisdom and feasibility of joining with other clans in creating some memorial. Todd McDougal was given the task to explore this. (Todd subsequently reported that most everyone agreed this should not be done.)
 - e It was moved and seconded that the President be given the authority to change the Regional Commissioners boundaries. Passed.
- 20 The following individuals were nominated for the officer positions for the terms July 2007-June 2009: President: Current President Elect: Beacham MacDougald President Elect: Current Treasurer/1st VP: Bill Leroy VP Membership: Incumbent: Don Northcutt VP Treasurer: Current President: P Donald MacDougall Recording Secretary/Archivist: Incumbent: William C. Ermatinger. The election will take place per the bylaws in the Month of April 2007. Individuals nominated may withdraw and the nominations are open prior to the elections.
- 21 The President announced we are in the process of creating a budget.
- 22 The meeting adjourned at 3:49 PM.

'Oh! - What A Day!!' or **THE OFFICIAL RE-OPENING OF GYLEN CASTLE. May 12, 2006.**

Introduction. Many attended this splendid event, which took place on the Island of Kerrera, near the town of Oban, on the West Coast of Scotland. All will have their own particular, fascinating, tales to tell, and all will recall the sheer joy of this wonderful occasion. So this is but one contribution, as seen from the eyes of Richard Morley, the husband of Morag MacDougall of MacDougall, 31st Chief of this ancient Scottish Clan.

Prelude. Many of us had looked forward to this day. The day when the scaffolding had been finally removed from this ancient ruin, and the whole site made safer, and more interesting for the visiting public by the provision of improved information notices. Many of the Island residents will hope that the publicity of the event will attract more visitors to Kerrera and, thus, enhance their prosperity.

Morag and I had travelled to Oban a few days earlier, and had been joined by our son, Robin; our daughter, Fiona and Morag's cousin, Jill. Most of us must have been a bit anxious about the 'Big Day' – Gales, Lightning and Rain could have so easily severely spoiled things – 101 things could have gone wrong!

In a sense, the Celebrations had started the previous day, when David Calder, from BBC's 'Good Morning Scotland' radio programme, interviewed Morag in the grounds of Dunollie House on a sunny afternoon.

The 'Big Day'. There was no way that I would be sleeping deeply on dawn of May 12th, and, as was to be expected, I was out in my canoe before 6:00 a.m., paddling across the placid waters to Maiden Island and then back along the coast, below the other Clan Castle of Dunollie.

We breakfasted, and generally prepared for the day. However, in the excitement/tension of the moment, we all contrived to miss hearing Morag's first ever Radio broadcast, which was 'aired' (I think!) at about 7:15 a.m.! Our first task was to greet a Canadian Clans-woman – Louise MacDougall – from the 9:30 ferry from Mull – she was

doing a historical research project over there. This rendezvous worked out O.K.: there was even one of favorite Black Guillemots on the Quay also waiting for the boat!

And then, post haste, to the Kerrera Ferry. This we reached at 9:45 and, already, many of our friends had arrived. Mike Robertson our Factor, Martin Hadlington

who has been the prime mover of the Castle's restoration, the tireless Alison McNab, Catherine Gillies, as well as the Television Crew, folk from Historic Scotland and those who had been working on the Castle during the last ten years. The few rain drops that fell were a 'blessing in disguise' because they encouraged us to don our coats, which would subsequently protect us from the wind, if not the rain!

The T.V. folk had to do their filming early, so that the event could be shown on the evening's edition of 'Reporting Scotland'. As I was the Chief's husband, I was allowed to join the select few who took the first Ferry to the Island. Mike stayed back, explaining to the excited crowds that they would be relayed to the Island as soon as possible – only

12 are allowed on the open craft at a time. On board our small Ferry were Catherine Gillies, her Daughter, Clare, who played the violin for the event, and her friend, Heather, who played the Bagpipes.

On reaching the Island, we were met by Duncan MacEachan, who normally operates the Ferry. We crammed some of us into his Range Rover which bore us (slowly) along the heavily pot-holed track towards Lower Gylen. However, on encountering a vehicle coming in the opposite direction, he made one fine diversion, driving swiftly between sheep, grazing on the adjacent grassland – this being a far smoother passage than the orthodox route!

We now disembarked and walked along the familiar path towards the Castle. It was still a bit bleak and cloudy, and, when exposed, the wind felt quite cold. With the Camera crew were Martin, Alison and repre-



sentatives from Historic Scotland. Morag was now ushered to a convenient place for her TV interview, a process which must have taken half an hour or so. She can far better relate what actually happened than I. The Castle, now thankfully cleared of its scaffolding formed an impressive back-drop.

We now had to return to Lower Gylen tea-rooms for light refreshments and an introduction to the main events of the day. As we walked towards the buildings, streaks of blue sky in the north, gave promise of brighter weather to come.

By now, a crowd of perhaps about 80 – 100 had gathered at Lower Gylen. They had come from many parts of Britain and four were from North America.. There was generally an air of excitement and expectancy . A marquee had been erected for shelter.

We were now gathered at this Marquee, where Alistair Oatts took over as M.C. Dr John Raven, of Historic Scotland, gave a fairly long talk, most of which (with my deafness), I failed to hear. I believe that Martin Hadlington also said a few well-chosen words, as did my wife (as I'd partly typed out her speech earlier, at least I knew some of what she said!).

Then we all gathered and to the skirl of the pipes set off to again stride 2 miles back to the Castle. With us was the brave Nancy Black, now with serious 'leg problems', and who did very well to reach our destination. We assembled on the little rise, just north of the Castle and admired the new information boards. There may have been more speeches – I cannot remember! Morag then went down to the Castle Gate, where she cut the Tartan ribbon and the Castle had, at last, been re-opened! We chatted. Cameras clicked everywhere. We entered the restored tower and talked to the experts who knew all about the Castle's (sad) history and architecture. We chatted away as the sunshine (and wind!) strengthened. By now I had run out of pictures on my camera, but, by now, I had probably photographed the most significant happenings of the day.

Eventually (it was now about 1:30), we wandered

back to Lower Gylen where more refreshments were available – mostly vegetarian-style salads; delicious for those who enjoy that sort of food. There were a few more concluding words, and I briefly contributed a tribute to Janice Kincaid who could not be with us as she was undergoing health tests at the Hospital today.

By 3:30 most of us were making our way back to the Ferry. A few took the rough Farm vehicles, but I think the majority of us preferred to walk in the lovely sunshine. Before we got on the boat, many of us went up to the old School building, where pictures painted by children for an art competition were on display.

The return crossing was far windier than that of the outward one, We bid our farewells, but the day was not yet over for us.

We entertained Louise at Port-na-Mairt for a meal and saw Morag on 'Reporting Scotland' at about 6:45. She did very well! We had a meal and engaged in more congenial conversation .

Alison (next door) then asked Robin and Fiona if they would like to join her in her sailing boat and ran off to see the firework display at Gylen Castle that had been primarily arranged by, and for, the Kerrera residents. Gamely they did so, but I must confess that the strong wind and increasing age meant that their trip did not appeal to me. Even more brave were Martin Hadlington, his partner, Carol, and several of their friends who made a similar expedition by Canoe! It seems that everyone had a Good time with Andy Crabb, tenant of Lower Gylen, being one of the principal organizers. Robin brought back some excellent pictures of that firework display.

And so that was, more or less, that! What a day!

Richard Morley 16/05/06



Above: TV interview at Gylen Castle.

Left: Folk at Lower Gylen, including Robin, Morag, Louise and Margaret.



MACDOUGALL CHIEF'S SPEECH AT GYLEN CASTLE. May 12th 2006.



“ Gyleen Castle was built by our MacDougall ancestors in 1582 and is a Valuable Monument of History, both to our Clan and the Scottish Nation. Apart from Dunollie, it is the only castle which survives with its walls (if not its roof) in the possession of the present day MacDougalls.

“ Many of our other castles were taken from us in earlier centuries – these included Dunstaffnage, Coffin castle on Lismore, Aros on Mull and others as a result of wayfaring English forces, or other Scottish Clans and Covenanters.

“ Gyleen was besieged by a section of the Covenanter army in 1647 and was tragically burnt out with huge loss of life. However, the land and partial ruin was given back to the MacDougalls in 1660, immediately after the restoration, and has been owned by the family ever since.

“ In the early 1990's, my late Mother, Jean, and her sister Hope MacDougall, decided to set up a restoration/conservation venture for the Castle to keep it from gradual decay and had the good fortune to obtain the skills of Historic Buildings Architect, Martin Hadlington, who has stayed working on the Castle for more than a decade. I would like to thank him personally for what he has persevered with, and completed, over the years, often in the wet and stormy conditions typical of the West Highlands.

“ Along with his skills, I would like to thank his Contractor, Duncan Strachan and all the numerous workers who have brought their skills to the preservation of Gyleen. I will not mention names, personally, as I do not wish to inadvertently miss anyone out.

“ The work on the Castle could not have been done at all if it were not for the financial support of the MacDougall friends, and family, both here and across the Ocean in the United States and Canada via the clan societies Further support, of a variety of kinds, has come from The MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust and other working alongside them, who manage the Castle for the MacDougalls.

“ Most certainly, the work on the Castle could not have been done without the extremely generous support of Historic Scotland and the Scottish Lottery Fund for which we shall be forever grateful.

“ The fact that we are standing here today, safe in the knowledge that this Castle is not going to crumble into a heap of stones on the ground, but hopefully stand as a proud monument, along with other coastal castles, looking out over the Western seas and the Islands of Lorn for a long time to come, is a lasting tribute to all of your efforts.



Morag MacDougall of MacDougall



The happy throng at newly restored Gyleen Castle!



GYLEN CASTLE DEDICATION

On Friday, May 12, 2006 an event took place which was of great interest and significance to all MacDougall clan folk who are concerned with clan history and treasures. Chief Morag MacDougall of MacDougall cut the ribbon officially reopening Gylen Castle to visitors. It has been 11 years since the mother and aunt of Chief Morag created the Gylen Castle Repair Fund and commenced the process of applying for grants and making plans for the careful reconstruction and repair of this beautiful clan treasure. It has suffered from more than 350 years of ravage and deterioration from weather, at its high perch on the southern end of Kerrera Island in Oban Bay, on the northwestern shore of Scotland. I am greatly indebted to Chief Morag, her husband, Richard Morley, our good friend Hamish MacDougall of Appin and Bridge of Weir, and friends at the Oban Times for providing us with details of the dedication ceremony. More than 80 interested clan folk and media attended the dedication - some of whom walked and some of whom rode the two miles from the ferry dock to the castle. Prior to and after the official ribbon cutting at the castle, there were interesting and informative speeches back at the Gylen Teahouse by a number of the official representatives, most of whom are well known to many of you: Mike Robertson (Factor of the MacDougall estates and interests), Catherine Gillies (of the Friends of MacDougall Collection), Dr. John Raven of Historic Scotland, Martin Hadlington (Chief architect of the Gylen Repair Project), and, of course, the official speech of Chief Morag herself. Unavoidable conflicts kept me from going over to represent our NA Society, but we were ably represented by Mr. Gary MacDougall of Chicago, who gave an excellent speech on our behalf. There was very good coverage by local and national Scottish news agencies. To put the significance of the completion of this extensive repair work in historical context, let me fill you in on some of the history of this architectural treasure. Gylen Castle was built during ca. 1582-1587 by Duncan MacDougall, who was either the brother or the son of the chief at that time. It was clearly constructed as a fortified residence. Its design is obviously defensive, with heavy walls, guarded entrances, gun loops and ports, and observation outlooks on all sides. However its design was not entirely for utility or defense. Not only is it surrounded by glorious scenery on all sides, but, clearly, great care, artistry and craftsmanship went into its construction. You will see many interesting features such as: crowstep gables, corbled cornices, romanesque carvings, and sculptures of faces and figures. Sadly, no amount of repair work or money will restore Gylen to its original condition, because in 1647 (after only 60 years) a detachment of the army of the fanatic Covenanters captured and burned the castle and killed all who resided and defended therein, either on the spot or taken to Inverary Castle and hanged. To add to this tragedy, it was on this occasion that the great family treasure, the Brooch of Lorne, disappeared. It had been captured by MacDougalls from Robert the Bruce in 1306. The brooch of Lorne has since been returned to the MacDougalls and remains in the possession of the Chief. Gylen Castle was returned to the Chief of the MacDougalls in 1660, after the restoration. Even though the repair work on Gylen is finished, important planning continues for repair and preservation of Clan MacDougall treasures: Dunollie Castle, Dunollie House and estates, in the interests of visiting Clan folks. The "Gylen Castle Repair Fund" was some time ago converted into the "MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust", and this continues to be a primary vehicle for funding continuing preservation work. Donations to this fund can be made through the Clan Society Treasurer or directly to Scotland. In addition, I will continue to sell copies of Bill MacDougall's clan history "Kings in the West, and Beyond the Seas", with proceeds going to the Preservation Trust.

Respectfully submitted, June, 2006 Richard MacDougall, Past President
Chairman, International Relations Committee



Far Left: Morag with David Calder of BBC 'Good Morning Scotland' at Dunollie.

Upper Left: We meet at the Ferry.

Lower Left: Catherine and the Musicians on the Kerrera Ferry

Above: We gather at Lower Gylen for introduction.

The
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of North America

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