

The Tartan

Clan MacDougall Society of North America

VOLUME 48

VISIT OUR WEBPAGE AT: www.macdougall.org

SPRING 2011

From Our President



This will be my last message as President. I want to take this opportunity to thank so many of the wonderful supportive

members who keep this Society active and growing. There are numerous opportunities for members to serve by supporting the Games and Festivals, the Scholarship Program, and serving on the Board of Directors. Please don't hesitate to contact me or other members of the Board if you have suggestions or would like to get more involved in the Society overall.

I'd like to invite everyone to attend the Annual General Meeting this year, which takes place the second weekend in July at the Grandfather Mountain Games in Linville, NC. This is such a wonderful gathering and social opportunity to meet many members from all parts of the USA and Canada.

It has been an honor to serve the Clan MacDougall Society the past two years.

My best wishes to all!

Sandra



Membership Encouraged to Attend the Annual Meeting and Dinner

You do not have to serve on the Board of Directors to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Society, and you don't have to attend the Meeting to participate in the Annual Dinner. All members are encouraged to sit in on the Friday, July 8 meeting, which begins at 5 p.m. in the Pool Pavilion at Eseeola Lodge. It's your opportunity to hear first-hand a brief summary of Society business including budget discussions, committee and regional reports, and key activities planned for the next 12 months.

Our Annual Dinner is an evening of excellent dining and entertainment, beginning with cocktails at 6:00, accompanied by bagpipe entertainment. The 7:00 Dinner is an appropriately festive occasion with traditional piping and presentation of the haggis, followed by a four-course dinner. The dinner always concludes with special awards, singing and additional entertainment.

Greetings from the Clan Chaplain

Hello, lads and lassies of Clan MacDougall!

I'm The Reverend Father Matt MacDougall and I've been the chaplain for the Clan MacDougall Society of North America for over a year now. Much to my disappointment (and embarrassment!), life and church duties have distracted me from introducing myself and my role as our chaplain. While I've met a number of MacDougalls over the last several years at events such as the Annual Christmas Walk in Alexandria, VA, the Scottish Games at Grandfather Mountain, and the Scottish Games in Ligonier, PA, I thought I would take a few minutes to further introduce myself and my role as clan chaplain.

My grandfather, Malcolm P. MacDougall, was born in Glasgow and immigrated to the United States in his late teens. My memories of him are fond, although at times I struggled to understand him through his thick Scottish brogue. Although I didn't embrace my heritage during his lifetime, I had the opportunity to interview him about his immigration experience for a school project. Years later, while studying for the priesthood at the Protestant Episcopal Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, my own love for all things Scottish developed. After attending several other events in the following years, I had the opportunity last spring to travel to the Motherland for two weeks, spending time in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Largs, West Kilbride, Cumbrae, Oban, Mull, Iona, Roslyn, and St. Andrews. The pinnacle of the trip, of course, was Dunollie Castle!

My love for our heritage and my love for God are deeply joined. The existence of the Episcopal Church, the American province of the Church of England, was made possible through the support of several bishops in the Scottish Episcopal Church. I have led introductory forums on Celtic Christianity and am

growing in my knowledge of Celtic spirituality. Much of my "religious" time during my travel in Scotland was spent visiting Scottish Episcopal churches, but I couldn't help but notice the wide variety of denominations represented throughout the country.

So, recognizing and respecting the wide range of religious backgrounds of our members—from atheist to protestant Christian, from Catholic Christian to non-Christian—I seek to serve the members of Clan MacDougall in any way possible.

More on my role as chaplain will be forthcoming, but in the meantime feel free to email me at "RevMattMac@gmail.com" with prayer needs, religious questions, book suggestions, or any other thought, question or concern you might have—religious or not!

Beannachd Dia dhuit,

(The blessings of God be with you,)

Fr. Matt

An Editor's Note

—Peter Clepper

It has occurred to me that you may not know that The Tartan has become a team endeavor. Malcolm MacDougall has been my associate editor. He has brought us a fine printer who gives us a great deal of attention.

Dick MacDougall has assisted immensely with contacts with our Chief and her family, and has given us several other names, leaders of our Scottish society, who would like to be kept informed about our Society. Dick and Scott MacDougall have also been helpful in beginning an exchange with *The Somerled*, the U.K. MacDougall newsletter.

And warm congratulations to our Chief, Morag MacDougall of MacDougall, on the arrival of their new baby granddaughter, Lyra Grace. Our Chief also sends sincere condolences to any U.S. Clansfolk who have been affected by the catastrophic tornados or flooding.

You will also have noticed that I have a bias toward the Gaelic. Gaelic is very much a major part of the history of Argyle, including its literary history. We are indeed fortunate that one of our longtime members, Ashby McCown, is a founding member of the Gaelic Society of America. I am sure you will enjoy his article in this issue.

Messages or news you have for our newsletter are gratefully received. But please send by e-mail to editor@macdougall.org.

Mise le meas,

Peter

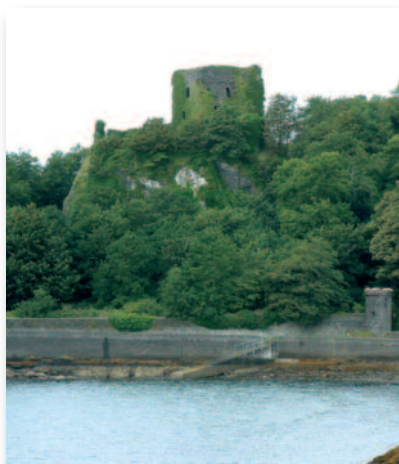
The Clan MacDougall Society of North America

President: Sandra MacDougall singsan@aol.com
President Elect: Peter Clepper peterclepper@verizon.net
Vice President: Scott Allan MacDougall
Canada smacdou102@aol.com
Tartan Editor: Peter Clepper editor@macdougall.org
Associate Editors: Malcolm MacDougall mpmacd@yahoo.com
Suzanne McDougal somcdougal@gmail.com

For more information email:

Jeanne MacDougall, Recording Secretary:
mingary1@myfairpoint.net or go to www.macdougall.org

Leader and U.S. Clan Society to Fund Dunollie Works



A grant of £8990 has been secured from the Leader scheme in the U.K. to help fund essential works to get The 1745 House open at Dunollie, and enable schools and other groups to be able to visit the Castle.

A new car park capable of taking 20 cars and one bus is to be created within the grounds, screened from the road and most vantage points. A path will connect to “The 1745 House,” and the old path up to the Castle is to be upgraded. For the first time, schools and other groups will be able to visit the Castle by arrangement with staff at Dunollie; until now it has been unsafe to disembark in the layby on the main road.

New interpretation boards funded in part by the North American Society of the Clan MacDougall will enhance the visitor experience at the Castle, including paintings by historic buildings artist Andrew Spratt showing how the Castle would have looked in its heyday around 1300. The boards are to be designed by Lynn Vesco, who has worked extensively for the Hope MacDougall Collection and also designed the permanent exhibition at Ionad Naomh Moluag on Lismore.

Due to the sensitive nature of the Dunollie site as a whole, Scheduled Monument Consent and Listed Building Consent are required for a range of the projects, and these are currently being pursued. It is hoped that all works will get properly underway in March, ready for opening in late spring or early summer.



After the Ball Was Over



Dear COSCA members and friends,

The Scottish government last week released a summary of their inquiry into the evolution of The Gathering 2009. As some of you know, it was not ultimately a financial success. On the other hand, how many of the Highland Games that we put on in the U.S. actually make money? The press release can be seen at the following link:

www.scottish.parliament.uk/nmCentre/news/news-comm-11/cpac11-s3-004.htm

If you want the full details, there is a link in the press release to the entire 32-page summary report. It's

fascinating reading, actually.

For those of us who were lucky enough to attend The Gathering 2009, and for those who missed it and are planning to attend the next Gathering, I suggest you watch the following video to reminisce about just how incredibly special the whole event was:

video.stv.tv/bc/scotland-gathering-20090725-gathering-colour

Let's not forget the wonderful—in some cases, life-changing—experiences we had.

The Scottish Government has announced that another Homecoming Year will be held over the course of 2014, in honor of the 700th anniversary of Bannockburn. I've been told that this has created a flurry of Internet activity amongst the international clan network, with the majority of us wondering if and where and when the next Clan Gathering will take place. To get a feel of what is being said, go to www.panalba.com/ "www.panalba.com," and look at the Forums.

And I just heard that there is a possibility that the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs might host another Clan Convention, similar to the inaugural convention that was held in 2009 at the Scottish Parliament, just prior to The Gathering. At that time the chiefs of the Standing Council—and those of us in attendance—made a commitment to become more proactive to strengthen the relationships between the Standing Council and the worldwide clan community.

We at COSCA would like to hear from you. If you want these events to happen again, let's start talking now. I look forward to your responses. Thanks!

Christie Harrison

President, Council of Scottish Clans & Associations

coscapresident@gmail.com
<http://www.cosca.net>

p: 970 708 1302

f: 970 497 4377

The MacDougall Gaelic Heritage

-Ashby McCown

Scottish Gaelic



Gaelic is the language of Scotland's founding fathers. The language, shared with the whole of Ireland, was the language of the settlers, colonizers, or long-time occupants (depending on your theory) of the western coast of Scotland in the early years of the first millennium AD. Although there were roughly six major languages spoken in Scotland during this period, Gaelic spread from its west coast base throughout Scotland supplanting or diminishing the other tongues, while Gaelic-speaking kings assembled Scotland, as we know it today, from the lands of its different population groups—Gaels, Picts, Norse, Bretons, and a few Angles.

Gaelic is part of the Celtic family of languages, which were once spoken over a large part of civilized Europe. In the last half millennium BC, it was spoken (and to a certain extent written) from what is now Britain to Galatia in what is now Turkey. The earliest evidence of Celtic writing is from the sixth or seventh century BC in the northern Italian Peninsula. The origin of the Celtic languages and the history of the people who spoke them are still the subject of lively scholarly discussion.



Scottish Gaelic along with Irish and Manx are descended from a common language and culture centered in Ireland for at least a millennium by the early centuries AD. The history and culture of Scotland, particularly of the Highlands, is part of this Gaelic culture.

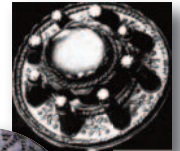
Gaelic place names are scattered throughout the country. Scottish Gaelic hero stories, family histories, and poetry have common roots with those of Ireland. Descriptions of traditions and indeed of everyday life of early clan societies have been handed down over centuries through oral Gaelic transmissions that

were fortunately written down now and again. The conflicting assertions of rights voiced during the Clearances reflect fundamental conflicts of views expressed in Gaelic Brehon law and that practiced by Norman legal practice. The Gaels on Scotland's west coast were seafaring peoples and their Gaelic would have encompassed astronomy, maritime technology, and trade. In recent centuries, Scotland has created a large body of lyric Gaelic poetry of extraordinary beauty of its own. Truly great Gaelic poetry has, in fact, been composed to bagpipe tunes.

Although Gaelic traditions were, in the main, transmitted orally there is valuable surviving written material as well; for example, 150 volumes of late medieval Gaelic manuscripts on many subjects in the National Library of Scotland. A great deal of earlier written material was lost in Viking raids. Among the manuscripts in the National Library is a large collection of Gaelic translations of Greek and Latin medical writings by such traditional medical families as the Beaton and the Conachers; some of these translations were done at Dunollie Castle.

MacDougall Heritage

Clan MacDougall and associated families were born and raised in and were an essential part of this milieu. Our genealogies, our stories, our poetry, our



Brooch of Lorne



17th century shield or "targe"

histories are part the larger Gaelic cultural fabric. Dunollie Castle, first built in or before the seventh century AD, was one among the line of forts including Dun Add used as defense of Gaelic Scotland. It overlooks the passage into the Great Glen, through which the Gael, or its language, streamed to the fertile lands on Scotland's East Coast. Loch Etive, a part of what Walter MacDougall calls "MacDougall Country" and probably "the most splendid and serene place in all Scotland," is closely associated with the story of Dierdire and the Laoidh Chlann Uisne (Lay of the Children of Uisne), one of the world's most beautiful poems. There are extant Gaelic laments to the Lords of Lorn, Gaelic descriptions of the court of MacDougall of Lorn, Gaelic poetry attributed to Ian Ciar, Gaelic hymns written by MacDougalls for the nineteenth century Baptist revival, Gaelic descriptions of MacDougall Clan gatherings, and Gaelic plays written by a well-known twentieth century MacDougall playwright.

At the turn of the twentieth century, 80 percent of the population of Lower Lorn and over half of Oban were Gaelic speakers. In the mid-nineteenth century, before the policy of English-only education was introduced, Gaelic was used for technical and other instruction in the region around Oban. An Comunn Gàidhealach, perhaps the oldest and most prominent institution supporting Gaelic culture in Scotland, was founded in Oban in 1891, and the first Gaelic Mòd was held in Oban in 1892. Hugh MacCowan, one-time Provost of Oban and a regular attendee at MacDougall Clan Gatherings, was instrumental in establishing both.



North America

Gaelic was brought to America in several locations, the two best known being the Cape Fear River in North Carolina during the eighteenth century and Northern Nova Scotia during the nineteenth. MacDougalls participated in both. Although Gaelic effectively disappeared from North Carolina after the

Civil War, there is still a vibrant, if diminished, Gaelic culture in Nova Scotia. The songs are still sung, stories told, and families remembered. New Fenian Cycle stories are being collected from Nova Scotian songs. Gaelic books are being published. Some of the flavor of this culture can be found on the Caint mo Mhathar web page www.caintmomhathar.com, including recollections of Alasdair James MacDougall of Judiac. The recollections of A.J. MacDougall, on this web page and elsewhere, are a valuable contribution of insight into twentieth century Gaelic culture in Nova Scotia.

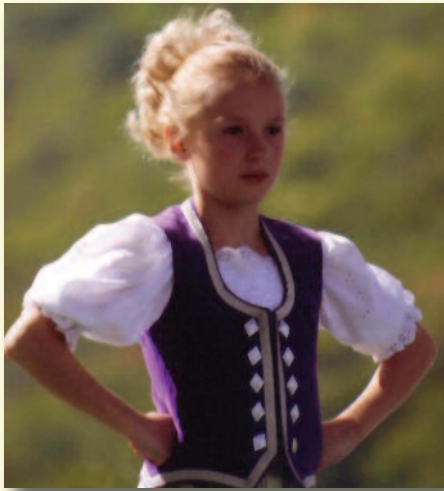
Resurgence

Scottish Gaelic, receding through most of the twentieth century, is now in resurgence both in Scotland and in Nova Scotia, where the first official support in centuries is being provided. In Scotland, more Gaelic classes are being offered (in fact, demanded by parents), Gaelic medium schools and a Gaelic television channel have been established, and the publication rate of Gaelic literature has exploded. Public bodies are required to submit plans for promoting Gaelic in their areas of responsibility. In Nova Scotia, a wide band of programs is now being promoted by the Office of Gaelic Affairs www.gov.ns.ca/oga, which also provides information on Gaelic developments and events in the Province and worldwide. MacDougalls in Antigonish as well as in other places in Nova Scotia are firmly committed supporters of these efforts. Our chief, Madame Morag MacDougall of MacDougall and Dunollie, has expressed her appreciation for the work of the Gaelic College at Saint Anns on Cape Breton in supporting Gaelic.

Le Tòmas MacCòmhghan

Betesda, Tìr-Mhàiri

¹ The Fenian Cycle (Irish: an Fhiannaíocht) is a body of prose and verse centering on the exploits of the mythical hero Fionn mac Cumhaill and his warriors the Fianna. It is one of the four major cycles of http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_mythology Irish mythology along with the Mythological Cycle, the Ulster Cycle, and the http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Historical_Cycle Historical Cycle. Put in chronological order, the Fenian cycle is the third cycle, between the Ulster and Historical cycles. The cycle also contains stories about other Fianna members, including Cailte, Diarmuid, Oisín's son Oscar, and Fionn's enemy, Goll mac Morna. (Wikipedia)



Two More of Our Scholarship Winners



These two sisters **Maren Seul**, 11 years old, and **Mariah Seul**, 9, are daughters of Sharon Hartford and Martin Seul. They live in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. They are highland dancers who compete and take lessons and come in well ahead of most others. They sent us these photos with two very graceful thank you letters.

From Our Commissioner in Russia

Dear Sandra and Donald, a charaidean,

Last week I received the winter issue of The Tartan. I was very glad and much honoured to find the article about my recent visit to America by William MacDougall of Arlington, VA. But what I liked most were the Gaelic proverbs published in The Tartan. Thank you very much for not forgetting Gaelic and her culture and for including the Gaelic proverbs!

Sandra, also I enjoyed "The New Year Address" to our clans folk! Thank you for that!

Also I would like to ask you, my cousins, to include me to the list of our clansfolk who receive The Tartan via e-mail.

Also with the help of Michael Suhomlin and Eugeniy Rodionov, my Russian students in Krasnodar, and with the help of Christopher Scott Thompson, President of the Ceteran Society and the Ceteran Society Broadsword Academy and a friend of mine in America, my new video of Celtic Wrestling Lessons is on YouTube now. You can watch it here:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2j8S_d9RdA

Now, more than 50 students of the Ceteran Society Broadsword Academy around the world can use the video as a tutorial in their learning of Celtic Wrestling. I think this can add more to the pride of our Clan and my family.

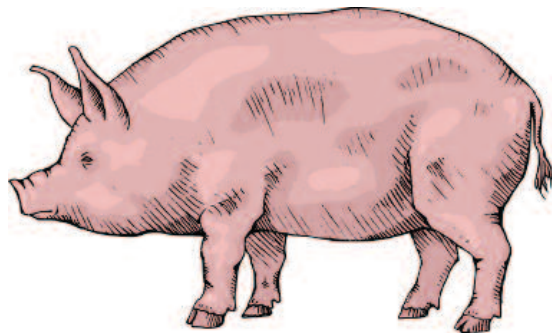
Beannachd leibh!

*Le meas is miadh,
ur caraid*

Vitaliy



The Annual Feast: Porky VI Captured in SC



Another reason to attend Grandfather Games!

Beacham McDougald reports that Beacham McPorky Campbell VI has been captured in Marlboro County, South Carolina, and is awaiting a hearing before the Honorable Hubbard W. "Donnie"

McDonald. Totally impartial and a fair judge of character and crimes, Judge McDonald will undoubtedly have the memories of his ancestors at Glencoe clearly in his mind at the trial. Quite simply, it will be a fair trial on MacDonald standards.

The speedy trial is expected to start in June with a verdict handed down within minutes...er, an hour of the trial's beginning. His capital crime: being a Campbell! Using special sauces that originated in colonial Marlboro County, Porky VI is expected to be well prepared when his sentence is consumed.

Once again, the Feast of Porky Campbell will be held at the Clan Chief's tent, MacRae Meadows, Grandfather Mountain, beginning at 5 p.m., Saturday, July 9, 2011. Members of Clan MacDougall and other peaceful Highland Clans are invited to bring a covered dish and enjoy the celebration (feast) and great fellowship in a beautiful, serene setting.

A Letter to the Editor From Prince Edward Island: PEI MacDougalls Reunion

Hi,

I recently was doing research in preparation for a "MacDougall" family reunion this summer in Prince Edward Island, Canada, and found your website. I see many MacDougall descendants from all over North America on the site, however cannot locate anyone who references Prince Edward Island.

My family has lived here for many generations and we have traced them back to Scotland. I am the granddaughter of Charles and Mary Jane (MacEachern) MacDougall, who had 13 children. Some of their daughters migrated to the eastern United States and Ontario. Their four sons married and remained on Prince Edward Island. Our immediate family has remained in contact; however, we know that many of my Grandfather's family (MacDougalls) left PEI in the mid to late 1800s for USA and central Canada. I'm sure that many of your members may be descendants of those PEI MacDougalls.

This summer on Prince Edward Island from August 12 to 15, 2011, we will hold the first family reunion of the PEI MacDougalls. All of the descendants of Charles and Mary Jane will be notified and invited to this event. However, I would like to invite other members of Clan MacDougall who can trace their roots back to Prince Edward Island, as well.

If anyone would like more information, or just wants to contact me, please email me at jpitts@bellaliant.net.

Thank you
Jeannie "MacDougall" Pitts-



The
Clan MacDougall Society
of North America

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Clan MacDougall Society

Annual Dinner Reservation Form



Please fill out and return the registration form by **June 19th, 2011**

Please print

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ Email _____

____ Number of adults attending Dinner (\$48.00 each) ____ Children (\$12.00 each)

____ Number of adults attending Dinner staying at the Eseeola Lodge (\$8.00 each)

Send your completed form and check payable to Clan MacDougall Society to:

Joseph & Lynne Borneman

47560 Anchorage Circle, Potomac Falls, VA 20165

Tel: 703 430 7686 Email: oban14slainte@aol.com

Gaelic Proverbs

Cha charaid ach caraid na h-airce.
The friend in need is the only friend.

Cha diol 'toileach' fiach.
'Willing' pays no debt.

Cha d'fhuaradh buaidh air fear na
moch-èirigh.
The early riser was never overcome.

Na tog mi gus an tuit mi.
Don't lift me till I fall.

Na tog trògbhail air an aineol.
Don't quarrel with a stranger.