

January 2023



The Raven

Monthly Newsletter of the
Clan MacDougall Society of North America



What does it mean to you to be a member of Clan MacDougall?

It may surprise many of you to know that most visitors to Dunollie Castle, Museum, and Grounds are *not* MacDougalls. They are often folks who have an interest in our Clan or what Clans are in general, but don't share our historical or genetic ties to the place. A new guidebook is being prepared to share with these people next season, which has prompted a moment of reflection and a desire to pose the question above to all of you.

I am sure your responses will likely hint at similar themes, such as community, heritage, kinship, belonging, place, and more. They will also likely be as subtly different and individual as you all. It will be absolutely fascinating to see what matters most to each.

The idea is to gather your responses into an archive and present them in some fun way at our 2024 Clan Gathering. There is no word limit. The direction your thoughts lead is entirely your own. Simply reflect on the question and let us hear where your spirit guides you.

You may send your completed essays to me at president@macdougall.org and I will see that they are delivered to the right people at Dunollie.

Kyle Jones
President, CMSNA

The John A. MacDougall Memorial Scholarship Program

Applications for the John A. McDougall Memorial Scholarships are now open.

The purpose of the scholarship program is to financially support learning endeavors that enhance

knowledge or appreciation of the Society and/or our cultural heritage.

Applications will be accepted **until April 1, 2023**.

We are so very proud to be able to support such talented, passionate students through the generosity of our members. Thank you for making a difference! To join in this effort, please consider making a donation using the button below.

[**Program Details**](#)

[**Application**](#)

[**Donate Here**](#)

Scholar Update from the Kraus Family



JOY

Dear Clan MacDougall,

We have had such an exciting year of dancing and wanted to share an update with you. All 3 children qualified to compete at Nationals this past summer in Madison, WI. Weston came in 5th overall for 12-13 year old dancers! Eilidh didn't have enough for a championship but came in 2nd for 9 and unders. Colten was one of 14 10-11 year olds to qualify for nationals but did not receive an overall title. We are excited to see what 2023 will bring!

We are grateful for the support we have received from Clan MacDougall. Without clans like you, it would be more difficult for us to do what we love and sharing our Scottish Heritage with others.

Warm winter wishes this holiday season

Love,

Weston, Colten and Eilidh Kraus



Colten, Eilidh and Weston Kraus at USA Nationals in Madison, WI. July 2022.



Colten, Eilidh and Weston Kraus at Caledonia Club of SF Highland Games in Pleasanton, CA. September 2022.

Central Florida Kicks Off Games Season



As we went to press, Brynn Brown was enjoying visiting with Florida tent host Beverly Mundt at the 45th Central Florida Highland Games on January 14th. As you know, Brynn is a highland dancer and recipient of the John A. McDougall Memorial Scholarship. Michelle Brown reports freakishly cool

weather during the competitions, where Brynn placed 4th on Saturday. Brynn is wonderful at keeping us abreast of her accomplishments and always makes us proud. Good luck on Sunday, Brynn!

NH Scots' Hogmanay Celebration at Labelle Winery

By Shelly MacDougall Tremblay

In going to our first Hogmanay this last New Year's Eve, we encountered many great activities to lure us in! Getting there early was part of the plan, finding the best parking. We were welcomed by the sight of many friendly attendees attired in their Scottish tartans. Labelle winery had the perfect set up for several different games and attractions including:

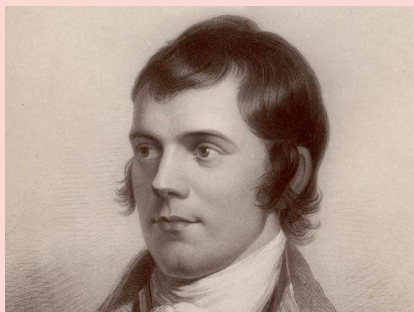


- Live Music from The Rebel Collective and the Pipes & Drums of NHSCOT
- Dancing on the terrace and patio
- S'mores by the fire
- Haggis Throw competition
- Scottish puzzles and board games
- Plated Scottish dinner
- Singing of Auld Lang Syne
- Cash bar

First off, we made our way up to the second floor to check out the games and puzzles laid out, where we found Scottish board game laid out on various tables around the room. Stramash is a classic chase game where you have to get your "Laddies" (or Lassies) round the board to the safety of your castle. We found it was similar to the game "Sorry" but was made of 4 or more wooden planks that fit together in which to move your marbles (aka Laddies) around the square. Using 2 decks of cards instead of dice. Alas the game is sold out everywhere!

After I had a very satisfying win, we adjourned out the courtyard where the band was playing and enjoyed some time sitting by the fire, entertained by a huge lit up color changing Unicorn, because ... Scotland.

The weather felt like a late October night, so the fire pit and s'mores were a perfect addition. We will definitely make this a yearly family tradition, and highly recommend this to one and all!



Happy 264th Birthday!

The Scottish Poetry Library collection will help you celebrate the birth of our beloved bard, Robert Burns.

There is plenty of his work to take in as well as a special section devoted **Burns Night festivities**.

Clan MacDougall Gathering 2024

Dunollie Castle

Oban Scotland

July 30th Through August 4th!

Watch the Newsletters & website for details as they become available

Although the Gathering is still more than a year away, dreaming up the itinerary for your trip of a lifetime can never begin too soon. Below are two places to get you started.



29 Things to do in Oban Scotland - Our Complete Guide



14 Amazing Things to do in Oban, the Gateway to the Isles

Happy Hogmanay!

We want to thank everyone who has supported The Draper's Shop this year, especially in 2022, when we were able to open our doors to visitors at Dunollie Museum Castle & Grounds in Oban.



We were delighted to see many visitors this year, many of whom stopped by the shop and bought a small memento to take home or on their next trip.

Read More and Visit the Shop



QUEENSBORO



The Clan MacDougall Society of North America **online store** with the Queensboro Company is your source for *official* CMSNA apparel. A portion of each purchase you make directly benefits the Society's budget and our ability to keep doing all the things you care about.

Thank you for your continued support!

New Members

Patrick MacDougall
Dorval, QC

Edward McCool
Gallup, NM

Barbara Peatie
Holliston, MA

Sandra Gautreau
Sun City Center, FL

Betsy Ross
South Portland, ME

Robert Baker
Lansdale, PA

Pam McDowell
Columbus, OH

Sandra Robinson
Asheville, NC

Kim Burck
Orchard Park, NY

Flowers of the Forest

Donald G. McDougald

Donald G. McDougald of Winnipeg, Manitoba grew up in a small town in Saskatchewan before joining the Royal Canadian Airforce. His postings included the High Arctic and Winnipeg, followed by four years in France before returning home to work for the City of Winnipeg. More than 50 years later he retired as Inspector of Street Maintenance in 2016. Our Society VP for Canada, Scott MacDougald, recalls first meeting Don in 1995 at the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville while Don was on a trip east to research his family roots in the Cornwall area of eastern Ontario.



“Don and I talked that day about our shared interests in genealogy, history and our clan. I could tell he knew his subject. It was because of that first encounter at our clan table that Don later decided to become a member of the Society. Later, as his interest in reaching out to our clansmen in western

Canada increased, he became our Manitoba Provincial Representative as well. We lost a fine member of our clan when Don passed away on June 3, 2022, at age 85.”

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Free Scottish Banner

The Scottish Banner is the Scottish community's largest international newspaper. See the links below for the December 2022 and January 2023 issues!



amazon smile

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Society programs every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as regular Amazon, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the Clan MacDougall Society of North America. Below are some suggested items you may wish to add to your collection, but many of your typical household purchases qualify for the AmazonSmile program.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you're prompted to select a charitable organization from our list of eligible organizations. You can change your selection at any time.

To change your charitable organization:

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. From your desktop, go to **Your Account** and select the option to **Change your Charity**. Or, from your mobile browser, select **Change your Charity** from the options at the bottom of the page.
3. Select a new charitable organization to support. **Note:** You can also hover over the Supporting notice in the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the **Change** link next to the name of the charity you're currently supporting.

For more information about the AmazonSmile program, go to <http://smile.amazon.com/about>.

This month... A Scottish Tea



Persons wishing to submit articles, photos, or items of interest may contact:

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Clan MacDougall Society of North America is a registered 501(c)(3) Nonprofit.

OUR NONPROFIT MISSION

To perpetuate Scottish culture through the collection, preservation, and distribution of literary, historical, and genealogical materials, especially those related to Clan MacDougall and Clan MacDowall. Preservation of heritage sites and relics is of particular importance, as is the education of our kin through learning opportunities and scholarships. Donations in support of these causes is tax deductible in the U.S. Membership is open to all.

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