

June 2024



The Raven

Monthly Newsletter of the
Clan MacDougall Society of North America



From the President



Mo dheagh chairdean! (Welcome my Friends.)

Wishing all the Fathers of Clan MacDougall Society of North America an early Happy Father's Day! We hope our Members had a wonderful weekend no matter how you celebrated. I want to wish our Chief's Husband, Richard Morely, a special Father's Day, a bit early, on behalf of all of us at Clan MacDougall Society of North America. Being a Father is a special "job" that not everyone takes up the mantle for, but each man who does only fills the hearts and souls of his family with guidance and inspiration for so much in life. It is a blessing and brings joy in abundance. I hope each of you feel the joy and the blessings all year long. Again, Happy Father's Day 2024!

The Gathering 2024: Oban or Bust!

GREAT NEWS!

Register for the Gathering in July/August 2024. *There is still time.* On that note, I want to let those of you who plan last minute that some of the events will be opened up to the public soon. *This is Great News!* It also means that spots for the events will fill up before the Gathering. Dunollie has said that the free events that were set up for the Gathering are still going to require registration. However, the paid ticket events will soon be open to the public. There has been another boat tour added to Dunollie's list of events! So if it was not available to book when you last visited the website, please check out the list of events still open and new ones added for all patrons visiting Dunollie Castle's International Gathering of 2024. I hope to see you there!

I am so very excited to see any and all of you who are going. IF you are planning to attend the Gathering in Oban and want to grab a chance to chat in person... email me and let's see what we can do about getting together. What memories we will make this summer! There are so many members and past officers and Board Members that I have yet to meet in person. It would be fabulous to know how many of our members are attending.

Feel free to let us know! YOU are the reason this Nonprofit thrives!



Visit: [Dunollie.org](https://dunollie.org) for tickets and MORE information

Volunteers Requested

Tanist

The Board of Directors currently has a vacancy for Tanist. The Tanist serves as the President Elect and is primarily responsible for assisting in the coordination of Regional and State Representatives. As a part of the Board of Directors, the Tanist would join the quarterly meetings and guide execution of the Society's mission. Any interested parties should email president@macdougall.org for more information.

Social Media Manager

The Communications Committee is looking for individuals interested in assisting with the management of CMSNA's social media platforms. If you're looking to gain social media marketing experience or looking to leverage your skills to help your Society, this is the position for you! Please email newseditor@macdougall.org if interested in volunteering.

Games Recap

Scottishfest in Costa Mesa, California

Had a very active 2 days at the scottishfest in Costa Mesa, CA over the memorial day weekend.

The weather was excellent and we had lots of new and returning people at the end of the day. We were well represented in the Clan march both days by two different sets of MacDougalls. I really enjoyed being able to help people discover that they are in fact connected to the Clan MacDougall.



Hopefully we can continue to grow our number of visiting members in the years to come.

Mark-David McCool
Life Member

2024 Eugene Scottish Festival

On May 25th, Clan MacDougall/MacDowall hosted a clan tent for the first time at the Eugene Scottish Festival in Eugene, Oregon. Coincidentally, VP of the Eugene Scottish

Festival, Joel Dougall, is a life member of CMSNA. Dougall, who also is founder of the Track Town Highland Throwers, was excited for Clan MacDougall/MacDowall to be a part of ESF this year. Current CMSNA Northwest Commissioner, Chris McDowell hosted the tent this year in an effort to greatly expand the presence of the clan in the NW region. McDowell also plans to host a tent at the Skagit Valley Highland Games in Mt. Vernon, Washington in mid-July as well as the Portland Highland Games. Another life member and previous NW commissioner, Martin McDougall of Seattle, donated some tent materials to CMSNA after passing away. Those materials were added to this year's tent in Eugene.



Christopher McDowell

Introducing Gayle Crosby MacDowell: Board of Directors Member

I must confess, in the beginning my intention for becoming a CMSNA member was strictly personal. I wanted to discover my heritage as a MacDowell of the Garthland line in order to understand the link between my ancestry and me. Were my ancestors' good leaders, contributors to chaos, bent on power and control whatever the cost, or intelligent and wise? The answers to my questions would begin with a warm welcome from our President Misha Lowther, her acknowledgement of my interests and talents and the question, "would you like to be on the Heritage Committee?" I had not thought to be put to work quite so quickly and wondered if I could be of real use with so little experience. However, Scott MacDougald, Chairman of the Heritage Committee immediately brought me into the fold by giving me a task; to write an article for the Tartan. I saw that my contribution to the Society was very much appreciated and so I began to take on more. Soon I found myself knee deep in my own ancestry, surprised and thrilled to be uncovering my own past. In the process however, I was amazed to discover how interwoven our lives were with other Scottish Clans, the English, Norse, Celts etc. Suddenly my vision expanded from just me and my family, to the broader Scottish Kinship of which I am... and we all are a part.



I began to apply the knowledge I had gained working for the Walt Disney Company in tourism, public relations and marketing to CMSNA. As an author of historical-fiction-suspense novels, I decided to weave together the MacDougall and MacDowell Clans (as does our society) both past and present by creating a fictional tale, *When Destinies Collide*, based on historic foundations to be published early 2025.

I will be attending the MacDougall Gathering in Oban this July followed by two weeks of experiential research on the MacDowall lines in South West Scotland for the book and the Society. Dunskey Estate will be my base of operation and its owners are happy to give their

permission to use the estate as the backdrop of the book. Likewise, Lord Buddulph, owner of Makerstoun House has extended an invitation for me to do the same as much of the story takes place there.

As a member of the CMSNA Board, I look forward to serving each of you individually and our Society collectively. I acknowledge and toast the tremendous work and ceaseless efforts of those members who have labored to create a strong foundation upon which, we in the present, are honored to build.

A Father's Day Note from Anne Carine

On this Fathers Day addition of the Raven, I would like to take this opportunity to honor my father, Richard T MacDougal. Many of you know him as one of our past presidents, but, I would like to honor him as our loving, generous and thoughtful father, who gave us a life time of treasured memories and lessons.

I felt loved and special as his only daughter. He is a proud father of five; Dave, Rich, Rob, Doug and myself. He is a natural father who loves to teach and guide. Memories flood in of quality time learning to garden fruits, veggies and flowers. The smell of home made spaghetti sauce resonates with me or picking strawberries to put on ice-cream. He taught us to trout fish in the Adirondacks, where our Alexander MacDougal made a home in America. I have treasured memories of playing cards, battle ship, completing puzzles and doing homework on dad's hand made table. As we got older he taught us to drive, how to change the oil and how to change a tire.



We appreciated dad teaching us about our Scottish heritage. Doug had the opportunity to travel with dad to Nova Scotia in 1979. I so enjoyed bringing the boys, as they grew, to visit grandpa at Highland games that he would be hosting! The family now has the joy to continue his work in New England and I have the pleasure of traveling to Oban, with dad, this summer. We will hold dear all our special memories and look forward to making more memories with you .Thank you for everything. Happy Father's Day!

With loving hearts,
Anne Carine



Games Calendar

June 2024

- June 22 - **Red Deer Highland Games** - Spingbrook, Alberta, Canada
- June 22 - **Kingsville Highland Games** - Kingsville, Ontario, Canada
- June 22 - **San Diego Scottish Highland Games** - Vista, CA, USA
- June 23 - **Edmonton Highland Games** - Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- June 29 - **Festival at Fort 4** - Charlestown, NH, USA

July 2024

- July 1 - **Embro Highland Games** - Zorro, Ontario, Canada
- July 5 - **Kincardine Scottish Festival Highland Games** - Kincardine, Ontario, Canada
- July 11 - **Grandfather Mountain Highland Games** - Linville, NC, USA
- July 13 - **Skagit Valley Highland Games** - Mount Vernon, WA, USA

Contact Us

Misha Lowther

President

president@macdougall.org

VACANT

Tanist

tanist@macdougall.org

Valerie McDougall

Kids Corner

Enjoy an activity all about Scottish castles,
straight from Scotland!

V.P. for Membership
membership@macdougall.org

Scott MacDougald
V.P. for Canada
vpcanada@macdougall.org

Dana Chandler
Treasurer
treasurer@macdougall.org

Lindsay Davis
Secretary
secretary@macdougall.org

Kyle Jones
Archivist
archivist@macdougall.org
Website
www.macdougall.org



Kids Corner

BY SCOTLAND IN THE CLASS

TRAVEL TO SCOTLAND Castles of Scotland

SCOTLAND WAS HOME TO OVER 2000 CASTLES! MANY OF THEM NO LONGER EXIST, BUT WE CAN VISIT THE ONES THAT ARE STILL AROUND!

Castles are fortified structures made in Europe and the middle East during the Middle Ages. Castles come in many different shapes and sizes. They were built as a place to stay, not a place to protect the community.

Famous Scottish CASTLES

- Eilean Donan
- Edinburgh Castle
- Stirling Castle
- Culzean Castle

Search the castles listed above online to see if you can match the castle name to the photos on the left.

Castles normally had a main defensive wall to block anyone from breaking in. If someone did try to break in many castles had small holes cut into the walls so that soldiers could fire out through them without being hit.

SCOTTISHCULTURALOUTREACHFOUNDATION.ORG



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!

Persons wishing to submit articles, photos, or items of interest may contact:
Lindsay Davis, Editor
newseditor@macdougall.org

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.



Clan MacDougall Society of N. A., Inc. | 1701 S. Main Street P. O. Box 1185 | Broken Arrow,
OK 74013 US

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