



The Raven

Monthly Newsletter of the
Clan MacDougall Society of North America



From the President

Mo dheagh chairdean!

(Welcome my friends!)

November is a month of thanksgiving, counting your blessings, time with family and friends. I hope your November brings you many blessings to count and much to be thankful for.

For our November issue, I had asked to see your "guises" for Samhain (Halloween). I know that when I had asked, Halloween was a few days away yet, but some had already had parties and trunk-or-treat gatherings. Here are a couple from Oklahoma.

It's always lovely to see the joy our members have in their lives. Sharing photos with your clan, with our society, means a lot as I, personally, equate it to sharing your life and your memories with CMSNA. I hope you feel the same. Before Covid-19, it was a common thing in the month of November to share each day on social media something you were thankful for. In that spirit, I will be doing my best to keep that 30 days of thankfulness up on our social media pages. If you have something you want to share on our social media sites, please share (or you can email us)!



Games Recap:

October 11th - 13th - **Oklahoma Highland Gathering** - Choctaw, OK USA

Well, the weekend was thrilling! We ate meat pies, scotch eggs, and shortbread cookies and celebrated the Oklahoma Highland Games! We saw a few of the cutest Highland Coos ever (*which is good because I missed them when I visited Oban back in August*).

IF YOU visited the Oklahoma Highland Games in Choctaw OK, please send us an email telling us

what you loved about our tent and about the festival! **Your Feedback matters!** Where else do we need to be hosting a tent in Oklahoma? Let us know your favorite festivals as well!



Greetings clan family!!

I'd love to share with you about our enjoyable and busy festival season here in the North East!

We started our season on June 29th at the 1st annual games at Fort 4 in Charlestown, NH! The beautiful pasture was full of World renowned Highland games athletes and judges! We had members and friends stop by who brightened the rainy day with their smiles! Fireplaces were burning in the living history museum to provide us with some warmth! Music filled the air and multi weapon battles were had in a framed staged area! Fun, but cold and rainy day!

July 20th brought us to Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival at Look Park in N. Hampton, MA. If you love to hear multiple bands, this is the games for you! Over 600 pipe band members performed! Albannach was one of the bands that performed on stage, beautiful dancers were on another and the traditional games in another part of this expansive park! We had the pleasure of meeting many folks. We were also delighted to welcome our new member Alexander MacDougall!

August 17th brought us to beautiful Maine at Thomas Point! Clan village encircled the main event field this year! We had the joy of watching world renowned athletes again, with our own Matt Mac Dougall , Big Mac as he is known, competing!! Our team was joined by Ed and Sheila McDowell. We're always happy to be joined by old and new friends!

August 24th brought our younger team to Quechee, VT. Aaron, Eve, Ian and Sarah represented the Clan proudly in this smaller, more quaint Scottish Festival! They hold a passion for continuing to teach and welcome folks to Clan MacDougall/McDowell.

September, and the beginning of colors changing, brought the team to Lincoln, NH and the 3 day NH Scottish Highland Games and Festival!! This beautiful New Hampshire setting in the White Mts is considered the Scotland of the North East! Our team and visitors had 3 days to enjoy seminars, Scottish games, dancing, music, shopping, food, fellowship and companionship!! Our clan friend, The Hebridean Baker, was there giving a delightful and funny Q and A about his new 3rd book! He's always a joy to talk with. Music filled the air and stage by Albannach, Skerryvore and Syr! Beautiful



traditional Scottish harps, fiddles, violins, pipes and drums filled our souls. The reward of gathering at festivals is the bond you share with others and our tent team included Shelly (MacDougall) and Lance, Ian and Sarah Nason, Aaron, Eve, Ed and Sheila McDowell and myself! We greeted so many wonderful people and were happy to welcome a new member, John Smith Mac Dougall! Welcome to those that might have joined after our events!

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Madam Morag and family with the passing of Richard, dear husband, father and grandfather. I lifted his name as our Flower of the Forest, during The Kirkin of the Tartan. A beautiful prayer was said for he and the family!

Lastly, October brought the team to the former Scotland Connecticut games! Thank you to our visitors who stopped by to talk with Aaron and Eve. Sorry I couldn't be there to greet you. It was my granddaughter's birthday party day!!

Blessings to all of you until the next event!!

Anne MacDougal Carine

Send in an experience with PHOTOS to newseditor@macdougall.org.

GMHG and CMSNA!



Come! Let's Celebrate!

It's our 60th Anniversary. Now THAT is something to celebrate. We hope you will join us in this important celebration. After all, we wouldn't still be here without our Donors. Thank You for helping us get this far. Check the next issue for further details

Celebration COMING in 2025!

The Founding of CMSNA:

Our organization began in 1965 in Linville, Avery County, North Carolina. As you know, Avery County has been hit by the hurricanes ravaging the Southeast this year. We find ourselves delayed in planning any event details due to property damage, road closures, and the uncertainty of what repairs will take place in Avery County, N.C. before July 2025.



We DO KNOW that the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games ARE scheduled to take place this 2025 season. Our games and events offer plenty of opportunities to

acknowledge our Society's 60th Anniversary. Let's Celebrate!

"Scotland's People" is a center located in Edinburgh.

National Records of Scotland
HM General Register House

If you are NOT visiting Scotland, you can still **use Scotland's People** and the records they have available. The ability to create an online account does exist and still makes this an important piece of information for your research. More links, tips, and Genealogy opportunities are available in the members only section of our website. Have YOU checked it out recently?

[illegible]

If the link in the article to the right didn't work for you, copy and paste this into your browser:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfr69XQIMUaD91NYu5xk-ZU6DptyeZdXJ3SmEmY-7p4L7ZJjw/viewform>

We would love to have you join us
for a good book!

The Clan MacDougall Society of North America is initiating its first ever Book Club! Starting in January 2025 and running through the calendar year, the Book Club will read one book per quarter (four books through the year) and meet once a month. In between meetings, active chats will be held for interested members to discuss the book in detail. If you are interested in receiving emails with additional information, please sign up using this [LINK](#). You will be able to opt in and out of each book as you please, so signing up does not immediately commit you to each book – choose those which interest you most! Books will be centered on Scottish history, culture, or themes and may be fictional or nonfictional in nature.

We hope to see you there!

ALEXANDRIA
Scottish Christmas
Walk Parade
SPONSORED BY
Wegmans

Dec 7th, 2024 - **Alexandria Christmas Walk** -
Alexandria, VA, USA

Volunteers: Don't forget to send in photos and festival stories for our readers!

Readers: If you visit a festival, let us know how we did and what you loved!

If you would like to walk in the parade, please **contact Jon MacLucas** for the



information and details needed.

anamsaormacd1@gmail.com

There will be a gathering afterwards so don't forget to **get in touch with Jon** about the details for that as well.

December 7th, 2024 in Alexandria, VA!

Board of Directors NEWS



Pictured above: Dick MacDougall (former President of CMSNA) and Daughter Anne MacDougall Carine.

**Congratulations and Thank You
Anne MacDougall!**

I would like to introduce you to one of our Board Members. She is a lovely woman who has been holding the position of Regional Commissioner for the Northeast Region for the last few years. She has graciously stepped up to be our Tanist. This puts her in the position to be the Society's next President. This is a Legacy in her family as her Dad is a former President as well. I know she will make Dick MacDougall very proud. I am excited to introduce Anne MacDougall Carine as your Tanist, effective immediately by Presidential appointment according to our By Laws and Standing Rules.

CMSNA Committees:

According to our Standing Rules:

"The Hospitality Committee is available to provide guidance to our Society Tent Sponsors and events organizers to help them make Society members, guests and visitors feel welcome at Society events and gatherings, thus enriching the experience of active membership. It continually seeks ways to establish the Society as an open and inclusive and welcoming organization, and is available to help coordinate major Society Social Events and gatherings. A key event is the Annual Founders Dinner held every July in conjunction with the Board of Directors meeting. The Committee provides assistance as needed by the temporary committee formed each year under

Hospitality

A CMSNA Committee

Our Hospitality Committee is an outreach department. Do you like to talk with people? share information? make a team better? Maybe you would like to know more about this Committee...

We need people who: 1.) are willing to make phone calls to members and donors as well as potential and past members; 2.) are able to plan and assist with event planning and gatherings (*This is not as complex as it sounds. Making reservations and researching venues and restaurants, coordinating information with team members - that kind of thing*); 3.) can work with other committees to share information with our Games Agents (*Regional Commissioners, State*

Standing Rule VI.5 to organize the Annual Founders Dinner. the Committee prepares an expenditures forecast as required for inclusion as an item in the annual budget."

This committee needs a Chairperson, a vice-chair, and a secretary. The Tanist is your main contact for Games Agents.

Representatives, Tent Hosts, and people who are potential volunteers for these positions and more).

If you think this position would be of interest to you, or you would like to know MORE, contact Misha at president@macdougall.org.

Society Announcements & Awards



We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and honor the 50 year marriage of John and Lynn Cowen - October 26, 1974!!

John and Lynn are devoted members of our society and have taken on the responsibility and pleasure in coordinating the NYC Tartan Parade gathering of our clan and filling the role as tent sponsors for several games in the PA and WV areas!

John and Lynn began their journey of life together in Buffalo, NY, and since have lived an amazing, blessed, life with their beloved family all over the world while John served our country in the military and civilian work! They shared that they have lived in 19 homes in 6 states and 2 countries of England and Germany!

We are wishing John and Lynn a continued healthy and blessed life together making even more wonderful memories with your family. Your love for each other has been inspiring and your volunteer work for the Clan continues to be so appreciated! Congratulations!!

~CMSNA

As Regional Commissioner of the Mid-Atlantic Region, it is my pleasure to announce the gift of our Society's Appreciation Award for all the work you do, have done, and all the inspiration you have given to me, personally. Thank you! You're a great team to work with and I look forward to working with you in the future. I hope to see You at the Games in the coming 2025 season.

Thanks again for being friends and mentors.

~Jon MacLucas

Mid-Atlantic Regional Commissioner

As Regional Commissioner of the Mid-Atlantic Region, it is my pleasure to announce the gift of our Society's Appreciation Award for all the work you do, have done, and all the inspiration you have given to me. Thank you to:

John and Cynthia Dowdle!

John and Cynthia are devoted members of our society and have taken on the responsibility and pleasure in supporting our Mid-Atlantic Region in gathering our clan by volunteering as tent sponsors for several games in the Mid-Atlantic areas!

We, as a Society, are wishing John and Cynthia a continued healthy and blessed life and hope to see both at the Games and Events in 2025's coming season.

Your support to the Mid-Atlantic Region and to myself, as Regional Commissioner, has been inspiring and your volunteer work for the Clan has been and IS so appreciated! Looking forward to the future and working with great mentors. Thank You, again.

Congratulations!

(and Best Wishes)

Jon MacLucas

Mid-Atlantic Regional Commissioner



Great Teams do Great Things!

Thank you to All of our Games Volunteers and the jobs that you do for CMSNA.

The Draper's Shop

Support Dunollie by purchasing Gifts online at **The Draper's Shop!**

All international orders will need to be placed by midnight Tuesday, November 19th (US and Canada time) in order to make the holiday deadlines! Shop Now!

The US and Canada are considered "international orders" for The Draper Shop.

A festive advertisement for "The Draper's Shop" featuring a variety of gift ideas. On the left, a small dog wearing a Santa hat is next to a speech bubble that says "Visit The Draper's Shop at Dunollie for some great gifts this holiday season!". In the center, there is a list of gift categories: Robins, Buttons, Puzzles, Books, Tartan wear, and Heritage, Modern and Lorn Patterns. To the right, there are images of a puzzle box, a book, and a small figurine. The background is decorated with Christmas lights and a tree. The CMSNA logo is in the top left corner, and "The Draper's Shop" logo is in the bottom right corner.

The Clan MacDougall Society of North America **online store** with the Queensboro Company is your source for **official** CMSNA apparel. The designs you see here are just a taste of what you can purchase while at the same time Supporting your Clan Society. If there is something you WANT to see offered in our online store, please let us know by sending an e-mail. info@macdougall.org



CMSNA

Check out our
Online Store!



QUEENSBORO

There's much more offered
the online store!
Let's go Shopping!



Port Authority Embroidered Men's
Heathered Silk Touch Performance Polo
Product: A262-419-1465 - Style: 5176

Port Authority Embroidered Women's
SuperPro Oxford Shirt
Product: A248-616-7533 - Style: 3668
Left Chest Embroidery \$73.65

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We hope you will enjoy the latest issue,
courtesy of our friends at The Scottish Banner.



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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