



Clan MacDougall Society of North America

MONTHLY NEWS



February 2016

Welcome to our monthly report of events and activities of our Society. We are always looking for information to share with our members, so if you have a birth or wedding or know of a special event, please send a photo along with relevant information to president@macdougall.org.

Ashby's Reflections

Mo dheagh chairdean

Fhuair mi fios bho Dùn Ollaigh madainn Luain o faisg air cola-deug a thòisich: "Tha a' ghrian a' dearsadh air Dùn Ollaigh sa' mhadainn an-diugh agus tha clachairean ag obair gu math sgileil agus gu cridheil air a' chaisteal.

My Good Friends,

On a Monday morning nearly a fortnight ago I received a message from Dundlie that began "The sun is shining on Dundlie this morning and the stonemasons are getting on really well with the work - ahead of schedule and extremely cheerful.

Although Dundlie castle has not been occupied for over two and a half centuries, we are fortunate that a large collection of objects, textiles, and documents were carried from the castle when Alexander of Dundlie, our 23rd Chief, moved his residence down to Dundlie House and that a significant part of this collection has been preserved. These, along with oral and music traditions, contributed to making Dundlie Castle a culturally rich center of life for centuries prior to this move. As the physical castle is consolidated and the stones tell their story, work proceeds as well on elucidating other facets of the heritage of Dundlie and Lorn through an extensive community program, 'Telling the Castle Story', accompanying the castle conservation works. Some of the current activities running concurrent with the consolidation work:

- Two girls from Oban High School are collecting info from all elements of the project for a blog. The castle blog which will be found on the Dundlie website as well as social media pages and Dundlie Newsletters. Once the blog is properly started Gillian Campbell will begin posting information including pictures and recordings.
- Behind the scenes tours of castle consolidation work area have begun. There will be a tour every Wednesday throughout the castle works.
- Volunteer archivists are researching stories of our 23rd Chief, Iain Ciar, and his wife, Mary, for events and to

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New Members

Donald Doyle
Riverside, CA

Tents at Highland Games

Please notify our webmaster if you've signed up to host a tent at any games. We want as accurate a Games Calendar as possible. Games listed here are found on our website. We would be pleased to receive any report on a game, with photos of course.

April

2- **Dunedin Highland Games**
Dunedin, FL

30- **Celtic Festival of Southern Maryland**
St. Leonard, MD

May

14- **Mid-Maryland Celtic Festival**
Mount Airy, MD

21- **Colonial (Fair Hill) Highland Gathering**

produce a story board for the castle.

- A group of four volunteers (two of whom are from Oban High School), led by Kilmartin Field Archaeologist Roddy Regan, will assist in making measurements for the archaeological drawings that will be used in the final report of the project. The group will research building techniques and special archaeological features of the castle. Findings will be forwarded to the blog.

And the recesses of Dundlie House continue to yield treasure. The latest discovery is a set of Jacobite bed linen, once in the possession of Iain Ciar, found inside a pillow case in the attic. A February 29 article in the Scotsman, <http://www.scotsman.com/heritage/people-places/rare-jacobean-bed-linen-found-in-ruined-castle-restoration-1-4040098> contains a picture of the linen, an account by Jane Isaacson of its discovery, and an exciting explanation of its historical importance by Catherine Gillies.

With the help of your contributions we will continue to support projects furthering Dundlie development.

In this newsletter, we glance briefly at two other ancient structures connected to our Clans, Glenluce Abbey and the church at Kilbride. These were both involved in the 13th century struggle of the Scottish monarchy to increase its authority over lands around the borders of the kingdom.

We note, with sadness, the passing of our four of our members. We would like to express our condolences to their families, to honor their memories, and thank those stepping forward to carry on our traditions in their stead.

Tòmas MacCòmhghan // Thomas Ashby McCown
Ceann-suidhe // President

Elkton, MD

21-22 - Victoria Highland Games
Victoria, BC

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Clan MacDougall Society of North America

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Twitter

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Membership Year

Membership Dues are on a calendar year basis ending on 31 December. Dues may be paid, or prepaid, online for one or more calendar years through Paypal at:

<http://macdougall.org/membership-information/>

Submissions

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

The Editor of The Tartan at

editor@macdougall.org

or

The Editor of the Monthly Newsletter

at:

president@macdougall.org

Your Contact Information

Please send your email, telephone, or postal address changes to:

The Queen Mary Scots Festival and International Highland Games



The RMS Queen Mary was built in Clydebank, Scotland. She has, since 1967, been permanently moored in the port of Long Beach, California but returns to her Scottish roots each year in the Scots Festival and International Highland Games. This year the games were held February 13 and 14.

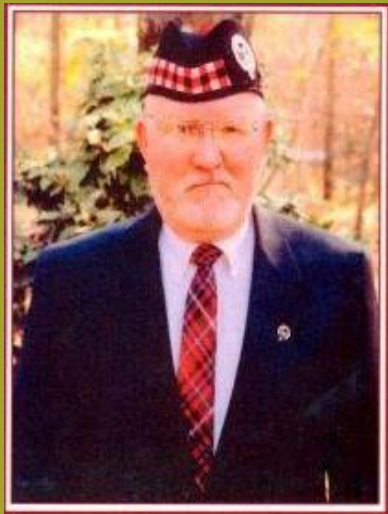
There were over 25 clans and societies in the exhibit hall on the ship. The Haggis was addressed each day in the hall (including samples of haggis and scotch), followed

by the parade of clans and pipe bands at noon each day. The music is fine at the Festival, the athletic competitions strong, and companionship grand.



Flowers of the Forest

Dr. Leslie Lee McDowell



Dr. Leslie Lee McDowell, 84, died Sunday, October 24, 2015 in Oxford, MS, after a brief illness.

Born in Bernie, MO, on June 17, 1931, Dr. McDowell held three degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Upon finishing his PhD in 1960, he and his wife, Mary Kay Stiles McDowell, moved to Oxford where he worked as a Research Soil Scientist at the USDA Sedimentation Laboratory for 29 years, holding the position of Senior Research Leader at retirement.

At the Sedimentation Laboratory, his research was widely appreciated, resulting in over 90 publications in scientific journals. Dr. McDowell was a member of several professional organizations, including the Missouri Chapters of Gamma Sigma Delta, Gamma Alpha and Sigma Xi. As a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, the Mississippi Chapter bestowed upon him the "Engineer of the Year" award in 1989.

He was a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge of Missouri and

a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Oxford. He was a duck hunter, a fisherman, a member of Ducks Unlimited, and a life member of the NRA. He served four years in the United States Air Force.

Both Dr. McDowell and his wife were avid genealogists. He traced one of his lines to Charlemagne and another to William the Conqueror. He was a Scot by ancestry and loved Scottish heritage, particularly the piping. He was a member of the Clan MacDougall Society of North America, joining in 1997, and of the Clan McKenzie in the Americas.

He is survived by his wife; a son, Peter Thomas McDowell and his partner, Bradley Keith Russell; a daughter, Linda McDowell Davis and her husband, Jeffrey Thomas Davis; and two grandchildren, Ryan McDowell Davis and Sarah Wellings Davis.

Robert R. McDougal



Robert R. McDougal of Cheyenne, Wyoming, passed away February 21, 2016. Robert was born March 14, 1954 in Reno, Nevada. Although he spent his youth in Georgia and Florida, he moved to Laramie, Wyoming, in 1979 and to Cheyenne in 1995. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Florida Technological University and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa at the University of Wyoming where he earned an MFA in Photography and later a Master of Science degree in Geology. He recently retired as a geologist for the US Geological Survey in Denver.

Robert joined the Clan MacDougall Society of North America in 1998. At the time of his death, he was serving as the Wyoming State Representative, the Rocky Mountain Regional Commissioner, and on the Board of Directors of the Society. He contributed greatly to sustaining the long tradition of MacDougall participation in Scottish events in the Rocky Mountain area, particularly our presence at the Longs Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival at Estes Park. His softly spoken, but incisive, contributions to our online Board meetings endeared him to everyone. On one occasion, he arranged to join our online Board meeting from his hospital bed.

It seems quite natural that he was a lifetime member of Trout Unlimited and an avid fly fisherman.

He is survived by his wife, Diana; two step-daughters, Jennifer and Jessica; sisters-in-law, Linda Kelley and Jill Robinson; cousins, Annette & Charles Sisson and Michael and Brian Thomas and his two beloved Golden Retrievers.

Robert's memorial service will be held Saturday afternoon, April 2, at 1 pm at St. Peter's Anglican Church, 252 Del Range Blvd. in Cheyenne. There will be piper at the service who will be paid with Oban 14 from Robert's quach. Following the service, a reception will be held in the church fellowship room. There is a page on the funeral home's website devoted to Robert: <http://m.wrcfuneral.com/obituaries/wall?obituaryId=779320>

Gary L.Short and Celia M. Wyman

We have received word that Celia Wyman of Yakima, Washington, and Gary Short of Supply, North Carolina, have passed away. We mourn the loss of these members. We offer thanks for their lives and send our sincere sympathy to their loved ones.

Glenluce and Kilbride

Glenluce Abbey was founded in 1192 by Roland, Lord of Galloway and brother of Duegald, from whom Macdowall of Garthland is descended. The arms of Galloway are carved into the ceiling of the Chapterhouse at Glenluce. These are the arms of Fergus Lord of Galloway's heirs, including the Macdowalls of Garthland. The Abbey ruins are under the care of Historic Environment Scotland.



Men loyal to Alexander II, King of Scots, plundered the Abbey in 1235 in a successful campaign to assert the king's authority over Galloway - an attempt that was strongly resisted by the people of that region. The steps into the Abbey were vitrified in the fire of that attack and can still be seen.

A decade later, in a move to further expand his authority, Alexander brought a large fleet and army to visit Ewan of Argyll, third chief of Clan MacDougall, anchoring in Horseshoe Bay off Kerrera. He demanded that Ewan give up his islands to the Scottish crown in exchange for lands on the Scottish mainland. (Ewan had been granted authority, at least formally, over the islands by the King of Norway.) Ewan refused. Catherine Gillies recounts a parallel strategy of Alexander at that time to bring Argyll, the cradle of his family and the Scottish Geal, under his sway. ("Medieval Kilbride" p. 21 in *Historic Argyll*, No. 16 published by the Lorn Archaeological and Historical Society.) Ewan's father, Duncan, had had the Bishopric of Argyll established on Lismore sometime between 1183 and 1189, although



its status was not terribly clear in 1249. In the struggle to gain influence over the Bishopric of Argyll, Alexander II had persuaded the Pope to order the ordination of a new bishop of Argyll and for the Cathedral to be transferred from Lismore to mainland Argyll. Alexander signed only two documents in his stay off (or on) Kerrera, one of which was to give an endowment to the church of Kilbride. Kilbride would have perhaps been made a cathedral, but Alexander died on Kerrera shortly thereafter.

Ewan was a strong supporter of Alexander II's son and successor Alexander III.

John A. McDougall Memorial Scholarships

MONTH/YEAR

Our Scholarship Program supports one of the key purposes of our Society. Access our website for the procedures for applying for a scholarship. Donations to our Scholarship Fund help defray the costs, are accepted year-round and are greatly appreciated by the Society and recipients. The Society is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions to its endeavors may be tax deductible in the U.S.