



Clan MacDougall Society of North America

MONTHLY NEWS



May 2014

Welcome to our monthly report to you of happenings in our Society. We are always looking for information about YOU, so if you have a birth or wedding or special event, please send us a photo and information to president@macdougall.org. For more information, please check our website at www.MacDougall.org.

Malcolm's Meanderings -- Notes from our President

Happy springtime!

Meandering means wandering, often aimlessly, which I do when driving without a GPS. Ask family or friends. I admit I've spent a significant chunk of a lifetime driving in the wrong direction.

Well, this month's meander is more of a direct plea. We need volunteers. We're at a time of great transition, when many of the people who built our Society are ready to pass it forward.

To be clear, we're deeply grateful for your financial support. But we also need help with Society work from those who are able.

Thankfully, some members handle the grunt work of managing our business, finances, scholarships and donations, and staffing our clan tents. Some retirees work enthusiastically on the Board, proving again that 60 (or older) can be the new 40 (or younger). Past President and Membership Secretary Bill Leroy created this newsletter (and named this column). Now, we're happy to report, even a small cadre of thirty-somethings pitches in.

But overall, the trend is a changing of the guard--and too few are doing too much. We have a number of Regional and, most critically, State Representative vacancies. I won't list them because even those that are filled could use assistance. To entice you, though, I can't resist pointing out that the jobs are less demanding than back in the day because the Society provides guidance and resources.

Again, thank you for your financial support--but please contact me at president@MacDougall.org if you can help with time and talent. Yes, the pay is lousy. But the rewards are great...and greatly appreciated.

Yours Aye,

Malcolm MacDougall

In This Issue

[Malcolm's Meanderings](#)
[Grandfather Mountain](#)
[2014 Homecoming](#)
[Games Tents](#)
[Scholarship Winner](#)
[MacDougall Moments](#)
[New Members](#)

New Members

Rick McDougal
Barre VT
Al McDougald
Monroe NC
Edward J. McDougall, Jr.
Clearwater FL
James Ian McDougall
Clearwater FL
Melissa Savage McDougall
Charlotte NC
Elliott McDowall
Vancouver BC
Irene Todd Toth
Hilton Head SC
Emily Valdez
San Antonio TX
Allen J. Wood
North Little Rock AR

Board of Directors Election Results

Six members of the Society were recently elected or reelected to the Board of Directors:

Join Us at Grandfather Mountain -- July 11-13

We hope you can attend our Society events at Grandfather Mountain

Highland Games July 11 - 13. It's one of the largest gatherings of Scottish clans outside of Scotland and the site of the founding of our Society 49 years ago, our annual Founders Dinner, special BBQ feast and Annual General Meeting.

Watch for more details, but here is a quick glimpse:

Founders Dinner begins with a formal reception at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, July 11 at the Eseedla Lodge. A reservation form will be included in the spring issue of *The Tartan* and in special e-bulletins over the next two months.

Late Saturday afternoon July 12, both our BBQ and Annual General Meeting will be held nearby at the COSCA house on the campus of Lees-McRae College. The **Feast of Porky Campbell BBQ** begins at 4:30 p.m. The **2014 Annual General Meeting (AGM)** follows promptly at 5:30, providing an opportunity for all active members to participate.

Sarah Hereford (*Alabama*)
Bill Leroy (*Kentucky*)
Chris MacDougall (*Ontario*)
Don MacDougall (*Virginia*)
Ed McDougall (*Florida*)
John McDowall (*Virginia*)

Those eligible to vote were members of the Board, Regional Commissioners and Chairs of Standing Committees.

A full listing of Board members is available on our website www.macdougall.org and in the upcoming spring issue of *The Tartan*.

Due to heavy response, additional tours added to Homecoming 2014 -- August 24 - 28

An increasing number of Clan MacDougall Society members now plan to make the trip to the 2014 Gathering in Oban.

We've just been notified by Mary Freer, Dunollie Facilities Manager and Homecoming Coordinator, that the response has been so strong that an extra boat has been added to see the MacDougall Castles by sea.



If there is ever a time to consider visiting Scotland, this is it. The events will be held at Dunollie, which has been the Clan Seat for the 850 years of its existence. Gatherings are held roughly every five years and are an opportunity for kinsmen to come together and celebrate their heritage.

The 2014 Clan MacDougall Gathering will last five days, during which you have the opportunity to meet the 31st Clan Chief, Madam Morag MacDougall of MacDougall and her family, as well as enjoy a busy program of trips and events.

Purchase your event tickets online by accessing www.dunollie.org/clan-gathering/. For a more complete overview, click on [this article](#). For accommodations, click on [Oban Rooms](#).

Join Our Mailing List

Contact Us

Malcolm MacDougall, President
president@MacDougall.org

Nancy Van Valkenburgh,
V. P. Membership
info@MacDougall.org

Don MacDougall, Treasurer
treasurer@MacDougall.org

MacDougall Tents at Highland Games

Please notify us and our internet webmaster if you've signed up to host a tent at other games!

MAY

2-4 Texas Scottish Festival, Arlington, TX
17 Colonial Highland Gathering, Fair Hill, MD
17-18 Victoria Highland Games
24-25 ScotsFest: Orange County Fair & Exposition Center, Costa Mesa, CA

JUNE

28-29 San Diego Scottish Highland Games & Gathering: Brengle

JULY

5 Kincardine (Ontario) Scottish Festival
10-13 Grandfather Mountain, NC - Annual Meeting and Founders Dinner

AUGUST

9 Fergus Scottish Festival
16 Bracebridge Highland Games
23 California Celtic Classic: Dana Point, CA
24-28 MacDougall Homecoming, Oban Scotland
28 Oban Argyll Games

John A. McDougall Scholarship Winners

GINGER SOUTH AND ABIGAIL MOORE 2013 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Ginger South and Abigail Moore, Scottish Country Dancers from Charlotte, North Carolina, were each awarded a scholarship to visit St. Andrews and to study Scottish Country dancing for a week at the RSCDS summer school.

They attended classes with dancers from all over the world, taught by amazing teachers, including one from Japan and one from Australia. Every night following dinner there was a ball. "Summer School week was one of the best weeks of my life!"



If you donated to our scholarship program, you should feel proud and happy.

Events in the MacDougall Society History

1980 - Society celebrated Crystal Anniversary

President John W. McDougall in his *President's Message* stated that "As we pass our fifteen year milestone, we can boast of a membership nearing the 500 mark. Forty-five are Life Members. Sixty-six are new members that joined in 1979. They were from twenty states and eight Canadian provinces. We now have members in forty-five of the fifty states and in nine of the twelve Canadian provinces."

Later in his message, he quoted from a letter that the then Chief wrote in January 1965: "It is with very great pleasure that I hear of the successful start of the Clan MacDougall Society. It is sometimes said that the days of the Clan are over, that we must look forward to the future and not look into history, but this is overlooking the fact that there is a great deal of good in the past which can be carried forward into modern life."

Her words are as true today as they were fifty years ago.

-- From the Spring 1980 issue of *The Tartan*.

