

The Tartan



Clan MacDougall Society of North America

Volume 40, No. 1

Visit our webpage at: www.macdougall.org

Winter 2005

international gathering of clan macdougall held in oban, scotland, august 2004



Clan MacDougall
Gathering
Dunollie House
Oban Scotland 2004

by Walter M. Macdougall

The account of the International Gathering which has been prepared for the *Tartan* gives proper attention to the social aspects of this major event. Therefore, this report will focus on those aspects which have policy and program consequences for the Clan and its Clan Societies.

Precis

The International Gathering was greatly enjoyed by those attending. It gained special significance by being held at the center of our Clan's heritage, by the tours, the special dramatic program and the dance arranged by John Anderson MacDougall, President of UK Clan MacDougall Society, and by our Chief. It was further enhanced by being held at the time as the Argyllshire Gathering. While little in the way of future programmatic or organizational considerations was established, much communication, building of trust, establishment of understanding, and preliminary exploration of possible programs was accomplished. All of which seem necessary before anything long lasting can be achieved.

General Success

The International Gathering brought together members of the Clan from as far away as Australia. It is reported that some 200 persons registered and 103 were present at the time the group photograph was taken during the opening reception.

During the Gathering, there was a continual flow of informal communication and dialogue. As a result: misapprehensions were dispelled and a greater grasp of problems being confronted by those working for the good of the Clan and upon the preservation of artifacts and castles was developed. Michael Robertson, factor for the Chief and representing the MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust, was present at the reception and at the forum. Catherine Ann Gillis of the MacDougall Collection was also present with fascinating displays at a number of the events, and Martin Hadlington, the architect on the Gylen project and soon to

continued on page 4...



The Editor's Desk

by Pat McDougal

Happy New Year to all our MacDougall family around the world. The International Gathering held in Oban Scotland August of 2004 was a success and many attended, as you will read in this issue of *the Tartan*.

It is with sorrow that we've lain to rest Mary Marie MacDougall. At age 105, she was possibly the oldest member of our Society. Mary was a fine example of membership to her family as many are also society members.

A few items making a change in this publication are the listings of officers, the cost of membership and where to send your funds to join. Another big change is the photos we accept for publication. In order to have better photo quality in the future, we will accept only 35mm prints or high-resolution jpg file. We are trying to keep our quality as high as possible and ask that you help us in this area. Mail your news items and photos to my home address or email to:

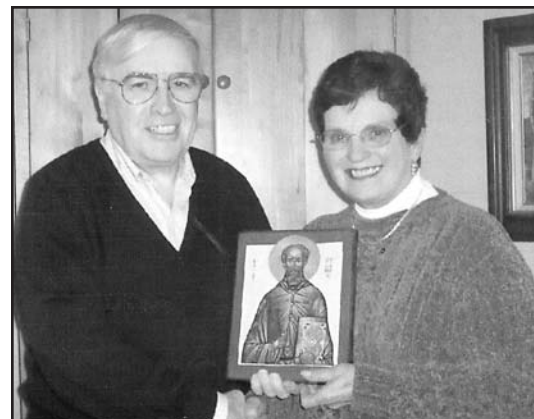
pa.mcdougal@comcast.net

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are using my old e-mail address I will not receive your message.

Yours aye,

Pat



The Icon of St. Columba, written, painted and donated by Dan MacDougall, as advertised for raffle was presented to the winner, Roberta (Robbie) Dunn of Falls Church, VA. Robbie is a member of clans McDuff and Buchanan; her husband Joe is a member of Clan Douglas. They thank the Mid-Atlantic Region for having the raffle so they could win. Dan MacDougall is shown presenting the Icon of St. Columba to Robbie Dunn. ☺

Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Inc.

President	A. WYLIE McDOUGALL 615 Inquierer Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205
First Vice-President	P. DONALD MACDOUGALL 2471 Freetown Road, Reston, VA 20191-2527 pdmacdougall@aol.com
Membership Secretary-Treasurer	WALTER WILLIAM LEROY, JR. P.O. Box 1279, Frankfort, KY 40602-1279 billleroy@aol.com
Recording Secretary	SANDRA MACDOUGALL 2471 Freetown Road, Reston, VA 20191-2527 SingSan@aol.com
Tartan Editor	PAT McDOUGAL 8540 Rancho Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363 pa.mcdougal@comcast.net

Deadline for Spring Issue: April 1, 2005

Graphics and Printing by McDougal Design
Cleveland, TN (423) 479-3409 • www.mcdesign.com

Membership in Clan MacDougall Society is \$20.00 a year for those living in the U.S.

For more information write to:

Clan MacDougall Society, P.O. Box 1279, Frankfort KY 40602-1279

Or go to: macdougal.org

News from the family of Bill and Jean McDowell (W. Virginia State Rep) states they are experiencing health problems. It would be nice for the clan to remember them with a card to help cheer them up and to let them know we are thinking about them. The address is Jean McDowell, Heritage Center, 101 13th Street, Huntington, WV 25701. I know both would appreciate the joy your cards will bring. ☺





Flowers of the Forest

*Please accept our expression of sympathy
at the loss of your loved one...*



MacDOUGALL, Mary Maria - Born in Riverside Corner, Hants Co., September 20, 1899, she was the daughter of the late Esson M. MacDougall and Myrtle (Wallace) MacDougall (West Gore). She attended school at Riverside Corner until 1910 when the family moved to West Gore. She graduated from high school and then taught school for three years in Nova Scotia, then went to Boston City Hospital to train to be a nurse, graduating in 1924 with a gold medal for excellence. She worked at the Communicable Department of the Boston City Hospital from 1928 to 1960 as Instructor of Nurses and as an Assistant Superintendent of Nurses. She was past member of Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses, Boston Branch; Life member of the B. C. Hospital Alumnae Association, Honorary Member after 50 years of membership. She retired to Nova Scotia in 1962. She was a former member of Nova Scotia Women's Institute and member of the Church of Christ (Disciples) in West Gore, where she held offices of Secretary and Treasurer for 25 years. She was also member of the Golden Youth Seniors' Club, Rawdon, The Village Garden Club and the Christian Women's Fellowship Group of the West Gore Church of Christ (Disciples). She is survived by her sisters, Mabel Crockett, Maine; Marita Greenough, West Gore; nieces, Frances Brownell, California; Dorothy Stevens, New Hampshire; Gladys Carter, Florida; Barbara MacDougall, Maine; Eleanor Black, Massachusetts; Dorothy LaVoie, Maine; nephews, George Crockett, Maine; David May, North Carolina; Donald Greenough, Rawdon and Halifax; many, many grandnieces, grand-nephews, great great-grandnieces and great, great-grandnephews. She was predeceased by brother, Loney; sisters, Merle, Bernice, Mildred and Marion. Funeral service was held Tuesday, November 23, 2004 in Church of Christ (Disciples) in West Gore. Mary was a member of Clan MacDougall Society, member #927, and many of her family are also members. ☸



Photot by: Bill MacDougall, Ottawa ON

head the Dunollie consolidation endeavor, attended the reception and was readily available to explain what has and will be done

The Chief and her husband deserve the highest praise for their role as hosts throughout the gathering. The Chief welcomed the attendees at the reception, had arranged for the excellent refreshment served under a large tent, and organized the tour of Dunollie House which included a chance to view the Brooch of Lorn. As mentioned above, the Chief and her husband also provided the dance to a live orchestra on Saturday night. (They are accomplished Scottish Country dancers.) In all regards, the Chief and her husband created an atmosphere of gracious welcome.

The heads of the cadet family of Gallanach and Lunga showed the MacDougall colors. Charles Williamson MacDougall of Gallanach while busy with his work as well as being a steward of the Highland Games (held at the time of the gathering) was present to lead the procession up the avenue to the reception at Dunollie. He was also present at the "Farewell" which closed the gathering. Colin Lindsay MacDougall of Lunga marched with the Clan in the procession to the Highland games, was a fund of information for those touring the heritage tent, and, despite their busy schedule, he and Sarah hosted MacDougalls at Lunga.

For the first time in a long while there was a large presence of MacDougall Tartan at the Argyllshire Gathering. The Chief had a clan tent (one of two) and her banner flew first in the row of heraldic flags before the main tent. The importance of this cannot be over estimated. The gathering was also enhanced by the attendance of Fergus Macdowall of Garthland, Chief of the Macdowalls and MacDowells of Galloway ancient allies of the MacDougalls of Lorn, and his gracious wife Sandra. His presence gave strength and solidarity to an old alliance while adding wisdom to our deliberations.

There was a high level of interest and enthusiasm on the part of the participants which cannot help but provide energy for future endeavors **if such efforts take on sufficient substance in the near future.**

The Clan Forum

The Clan Forum was attended by some eighty clanspeople. It was led by John Anderson MacDougall with Michelle MacDougall acting as recording secretary. Seated on the panel were Madam MacDougall of MacDougall, Fergus Macdowall of Garthland, Richard MacDougal, Scott MacDougald, and Walter Macdougall.

The agenda consisted of seven items which had been generated from John Anderson MacDougall's call for subjects to be discussed at this international meeting. There was enthusiastic participation, and the profitable discussion involving both the panel and the members present. While a majority opinion was sought on several items, the general goal of the forum was the collecting of ideas and a polling of participants to ascertain which of the items on the agenda should be pursued.

1. There was general agreement that international gatherings should be held every five years and that these were better held at Oban being the seat of our Chief and the center of so much early Clan history.
2. The creation of a Clan Center in conjunction with the Hope MacDougal Collection facilities was discussed and generally supported. Significantly the importance of genealogical sources was emphasized by several during this discussion.
3. Interest also was evident in the creation of youth programs and the utilization of youth in projects of preservation of our Scottish heritage and other services to the Clan. The international aspects of such a program were noted.
4. Modernizing our services, communication nets, internet sites and services to the Clan family were discussed at some length. Special mention was made of the need for providing information to our representatives on key items such as septs which would increase interest, answer persistent questions and increase membership. The suggestion was made that we should have qualified persons commissioned as Historians serving in Great Britain and America to help in disseminating information and answering questions.
5. The importance of continued assistance in the consolidation of Clan landmarks such as Gylen² and Dunollie was also stressed.
6. Although no direction was established apart from the importance of close cooperation, the subject of the organizational relationship between the Societies in Great Britain and in America was briefly discussed.
7. Finally, special mention should be made of a recurrent observation that knowing what members expect and wanted of their Clan Societies was of great importance.



Concluding Observations

The following observations seem clear and are supported by a number of those who attended the Gathering:

Future follow-up and progress as a result of this gathering depends upon the following:

1. The strength and depth of structure and membership which the Society in Great Britain can achieve and maintain.
2. The degree to which the Society in America wishes to actively join forces and work with its counterpart in Great Britain.
3. The extent to which the participation of the heads of the Cadet Families and other prominent people with MacDougall heritage close to the Oban area are welcomed and utilized. (It must be reported that in some instances success in this area on the part of the Gathering organizers was not evident)
4. The degree to which the present support, mutual understandings and cooperation between our Clan Chief and the leadership of the MacDougall Clan Societies can be maintain and fostered.
5. A clear development and achievement of those objectives which provide maximum service to the Chief, to our Clan family and especially to the generations to come.

The “Era of Trusts”

It has become abundantly evident from conversation during and after the gathering that we have entered into the “era of trusts.” The tax structure in Great Britain makes this inevitable. It is our great, good fortune that our Chief has seen fit to grant to the MacDougall of Dunollie Trust such treasures as Gylen, Dunollie and the famous Brooch of Lorn. Through this process, the line is being clearly drawn between the personal estate of our Chief and her immediate family and the holdings of the Dunollie Trust. Whatever is accomplished in the future must take place within this new situation. Figures such as Michael Robertson, David MacDougall, Martin Hadlington and others whose understanding of trusts, governmental agencies and cooperation law is of increasing importance to us.

Conclusions

The International Gathering of 2004 showed the value and energy that can be created by our Clan family meeting together and celebrating our heritage. It also exposed the full range of complex problems which face us all. Only through full cooperation between all MacDougall Societies, Clan cadets and all those interested in furthering our heritage, enriching the Scottish community, and supporting our Chief can we preserve our rich heritage in this complex world.

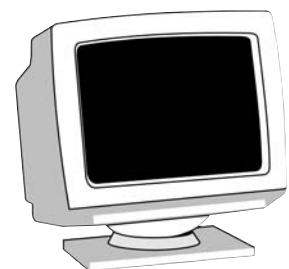
In conclusion, we as a clan family owe a very great deal to our Clan Chief and her family, to John Anderson MacDougall, and to all those who labored to orchestrate and bring to fruition the International Gathering of Clan MacDougall in the year 2004. 🍷

¹See appendix I

²While consolidation work has been completed at Gylen with the exception of stairs and second story floor, there are many opportunities for our Clan Society to contribute to provide informational signs (with the approval of the proper authorities) and to improve access to both Gylen and Dunollie. Considering that we have been able to contribute only a small percentage of the total consolidation costs, such projects may be especially feasible and productive.



International Gathering
Clan Forum
Meeting Notes
are on web site -
www.macdougall.org



The MacDougall International Gathering - 2004

Judith Macdougall

On Sunday, August 22, 2004, we left for Scotland and the MacDougall International Gathering. First a flight to Newark, NJ where we were to meet our fifteen year old grandson who would join us on his first trip to Scotland. Arriving at Glasgow without incident and without much sleep, we met by arrangement my husband's great grand niece, Aubrie Greenwood and her traveling companion and then took a taxi to Queen Street Station. From there we were off on the three hour train trip to Oban. What a splendid sight to see the heather in bloom on the hills! We had never chanced to be in Scotland before at this time of year.

At Oban we stayed at *Don Muir*, a B & B near the top of Pulpit Hill, with Richard (Dick) MacDougal and his wife Betsey along with Edwin and Sheila McDowell; so it was great to see old friends again. After a short rest, we all piled into Dick's rented van and were driven to the Manor House Restaurant on Oban bay. There we met Colin MacDougall of Lunga and Sarah (both of whom had been at Grandfather Mountain in July). A wonderful visit, a great meal, a fine view across to Dunollie Castle, and a chance to discuss plans. But I began to sag at 8:30. Thankfully, Dick soon took us back to Don Muir.

The first, official event of the MacDougall gathering came on Wednesday afternoon. We had all received packets with the itinerary, name tags, tickets, etc, and we knew that we were to meet at the Oban War memorial at 4:00 p.m. From there nearly 100 of us in kilts and tartan scarves and our colors followed the piper up the avenue to Dunollie House to meet the Chief of the MacDougalls. What an excited group we were as we marched behind the piper. For many it was their first passage past the Dog Stone, the Dunollie fields and then around the bend to Dunollie House where we were greeted by Madam MacDougall of MacDougall, her husband Richard Morley, her son Robin and other relatives. A professional picture was taken of our group as we stood on the hillside beside the old residence of our chiefs. The chief welcomed us to the gathering and to Dunollie House with a brief address. She invited us to tour the gardens, the castle above us, Hope MacDougall's collection, the large refreshment tent and Dunollie House itself where - she stressed - a surprise awaited us. The surprise was a chance to see the treasured Brooch of Lorn. For nearly all of us this was our first look at this historic heirloom.

Everywhere there were conversations going on and the sharing of information and interests. Catherine Ann Gillis representing the Hope MacDougall Collection had a video display in the refreshment tent, Martin Hadlington, the architect for the Gylen and now the Dunollie projects, was on hand to describe his experiences and Michael Robertson, the Chief's factor, was available for questions on the trusts and programs. Meanwhile, for almost three hours, MacDougalls toured their Chief's ancestral home, viewed the castle and made new clan friends. The weather was absolutely perfect, and the gathering had begun.

Thursday, we MacDougalls and MacDowells gathered in Argyll Square for the traditional march to Moss Field and the Highland games. There was a mounted police escort, the pipers, then the Stewards of the Argyllshire Gathering (which included Charles Williamson MacDougall of Gallanach) followed, in a place of honor, by Madam MacDougall, her husband and son. Following the chief marched Colin Lindsay MacDougall of Lunga, Fergus Macdowall of Garthland with his own banner and pinsel as Chief of the Macdowalls and MacDowells, and a crowd of people which grew larger and larger as many towns people and visitors joined the parade. Unfortunately as we were walking along, I felt the first drops of rain on what would turn out to be a very damp day. Raincoats came out and the festivities continued.

The Oban Highland Games were different than any Highland games we had attended in the states. There were no clan tents except for Clan MacDougall and Clan Stewart who were both having special gatherings. Instead there were games of chance and kiddy rides, an inflated slide and other types of children's entertainment. They did have souvenir and food vendors and a very large heritage tent (where my husband and Colin of Lunga spent time). We were so proud to see our Chief's banner flying on the right of a long line of clan chief banners to proclaim that she was present at the event. There were racers, dancers, pipers (the Oban Games are a premier piping event) and caber tossers. There were also porta-potties, or *port-loos*, but these, too, were very different from our versions and much nicer. The toilet was flushed by foot and a little sink was equipped with water produced by a foot pump. How neat!

The MacDougall tent was busy as many MacDougalls came by to meet with their Chief and her husband and to find cover from the many rain showers. The conversations that had begun at the reception continued. Among the MacDougalls from Scotland were Nancy MacDougall Black, trustee of the MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust; John Anderson MacDougall, president of the Clan society in Great Britain, Hamish MacDougall who arranged and conducted tours for the gathering, and Ian MacDougall with his two handsome sons in ancient MacDougall tartan. The MacDougall Society of North America was well represented including two past presidents, and two Regional Commissioners, Scott MacDougall of Quebec and Martin MacDougall of the Northwest Region.

That evening Dick MacDougal kindly ferried the seven of us in the van through the rain from the B & B to McTavish's Kitchen for supper. The Inglis brothers who own McTavish's Kitchen are also MacDougalls on their mothers side and gave those attending the gathering a generous discount. From there we went to Corran Hall in downtown Oban to attend the Clan forum led by John Anderson MacDougall and five other members; Madam MacDougall, Fergus Macdowall of Garthland, Dick MacDougal, Walter Macdougall and Michelle MacDougall who was kept very busy taking notes. Topics for a lively discussion included: future international gatherings (great enthusiasm for such important Clan meetings), a

Clan Center at our near Dunollie House, youth activities, what benefits members seek from their society, services to members and to the Clan which our societies can provide, and the relationship between the American and Great Britain Societies.

Friday and the weather was lovely again though the wind and choppy seas bothered the boat tours. While the tours to historic MacDougall sites and to the famed Oban distillery along with the boat adventures around Kerrera and along the coast were taking place, our party along with Fergus of Garthland joined the group traveling to the sacred Island of Iona. It was such a beautiful day to cross the Firth of Lorn to the island of Mull. We glided out of Oban Harbor, past Dunollie standing high on its headland of rock, passed the white shaft of Musdile Light off the island of Lismore, passed the great bulk of Duart Castle to the long steamer pier at Craignuire. A scramble for the right bus, and we were off across the Mull. Our bus driver was knowledgeable and kept us informed of local history as well as present day events within the island community. As he was speaking of the wildlife, he suddenly exclaimed, "To your left is a sea eagle - a rare sight!" We all craned our necks to see it, and then it was on the other side of the bus soaring beside us as we drove along the coast. A tip of its wings made us all gasp as we saw the full extent of its seven foot wingspan. How thrilling! Our driver said he had rarely seen a sea eagle and never one flying so close. He was awestruck as was his bus load of passengers.

On to Fionnphort and the ferry across to Iona that important seat of early Christianity. The blue-green and wine colored waters around Iona are always so beautiful. While on the island, amidst the pink stones of Nunnery, the remaining wheel crosses, and the restored Abbey, there is a palpable sense of sanctity.

Saturday was again a beautiful day with only occasional showers sweeping in from Mull and the Atlantic Ocean beyond. It was a free day for us, so the B & B seven plus Richard and Robin Morley hiked across the island of Kerrera nearly all of which is still owned by our Chief and which lies opposite Oban harbor. There are five farms on the island and lots of sheep and cattle, but the island is still unspoiled, lovely bays, rolling hills, cliffs and everywhere stupendous scenery. My husband, our grandson, Ed McDowell, Richard and Robin Morley took "the high road" up over the highest point on Kerrera, while the rest of us followed the lower road two miles to Gylen. Our grandson, Alex, told me later that this climb was one of the highlights of his trip. It was a tremendous thrill for all of us to come around a rocky ledge and to see Gylen Castle rising up from its high promontory and overlooking the sea. It still has some scaffolding remaining as the crew from the National Trust completes the stabilization process which has saved this magnificent little fortress. We explored, took pictures, sheltered from a passing shower, and ate our lunch. On the walk back to the ferry the sun shown even warmer than before.

After a rest at our most comfortable B & B we were off again to dinner and then an evening of entertainment and dancing at Corran Hall. Everyone was in their fanciest attire. Fergus Macdowall of Garthland wore his three eagle feathers in his bonnet and Madam MacDougall of MacDougall wore that same chief's insignia in the form of a silver pin. Robin, the chief's son, was dressed magnificently in an heirloom, green velvet jacket with lace cuffs setting off his kilt. The musical, woven around the memory of the great Somerled and the spreading of his descendants around the world, combined video, professional dancers in brilliant costumes and impressive pantomimes. Following this an ensemble of musicians provided by our Chief took the stage and the floor filled with those groups and couples led by Madam MacDougall and her husband in Scottish country dances. It was a lovely evening of entertainment for all present.

Sunday was the final day of the Gathering with a farewell at 4:30 again held in Corran Hall. It was an opportunity to say "good-by" and for a final visit to friends, old and new. Madam MacDougall thanked John Anderson MacDougall for the work and effort which had gone into making this Gathering a wonderful, informative and exciting time, and he thanked the Chief and family for all the preparations they had made to welcome the people of the Clan so warmly. We all left that Sunday evening truly glad we had been able to attend and sad that it was now over. 🍷



*Sheila & Ed MacDowell,
Betsy & Dick MacDougal,
Judy & Walter Macdougall*



Charles Williamson MacDougall of Gallanach & John Anderson McDougall president of the UK Society.



Walter Macdougall, Martin Huntington (architect on Gylen project) & Richard MacDougall



Scott MacDougald, RC for Quebec, & Walter Macdougall



Sandra Macdowall, wife of Fergus, Ruth & Martin McDougall, North West RC



Saturday night: Madam MacDougall dancing with Fergus Macdowall of Garthland



John Anderson McDougall, Richard MacDougall, Fergus Macdowall and Walter Macdougall



*On the Kerrara Ferry:
Ed, Sheila, Dick, Richard,
Judy & Walter, Alex, Robin
& Betsy.*



*Nancy MacDougall Black
of Oban, Scott
MacDougald, Fiona &
Raymond Hutchison*



The Etiquette of Scottish Country Dancing

Aye, there is an etiquette to Scottish Country Dancing and one that dates back many, many years. Those of you who like to spin, twirl and reel your way through an evening should well remember the following rules. Although written for the 19th century, if you have a vivid enough imagination, you can conjure up all sorts of situations that made it necessary to write such unusual rules of etiquette.

1. Loud conversation, profanity, stamping feet, hissing, clapping, writing on the wall, smoking tobacco, spitting or throwing anything on the floor, are strictly forbidden.
2. Gentlemen are not allowed to enter the ballroom in boots, spurs, gaiters, trowsers or with canes or sticks; nor are loose pantaloons considered proper for a Full Dress Ball!
3. The practice of chewing tobacco and spitting on the floor is not only nauseous to ladies, but is injurious to their dresses. Ladies must wear dresses becoming to their figure, yet not revealing enough to distract the gentlemen.
4. A gentleman should not address a lady unless properly introduced. he may ask for an introduction from one of his friends. No lady should be forward enough to introduce herself to a gentleman.
5. Persons who have no ear for music ought to refrain from dancing.
6. Persons who dislike a dance that is called, instead of interrupting the performance or doing a reel or another figure in an attempt to have the dance altered, should retire to their seats.
7. Married or young ladies cannot leave a ballroom or any other party alone. The former should be accompanied by one or two other married ladies; and by their mother or by a lady to represent her.
8. Ladies should avoid talking too much; it will occasion remarks. it has also a bad appearance to whisper continually in the ear of your partner. Thus change partners often during the evening in order that all may enjoy themselves and no rumors may precipitate.
9. A lady may decline an invitation to dance, and then change her mind when asked by another. Gentlemen do not feel rejected, seem not to notice it, for in these matters ladies are exempt from all explanations. Believe that a lady's happiness surely comes before the preservation of male pride.

MidAtlantic Region News - 2004 Year in Review

The MidAtlantic enjoyed attendance at many games throughout the region in 2004. A special thanks to all the committed members and supporters for the time and energy they give to these events and activities.



The Anne Arundel Scottish Games in Crownsville, MD., Oct 8th. Left to right - William Ermatinger holding the new Banner he created this year, Sarah, William's granddaughter, Don McHoul, and Mary Jean Ermatinger.



James McDowell presenting a wooden Banner that he designed and carved for Don & Sandra MacDougall and the MidAtlantic Region.



Dennis McDowell (left) presenting the 2004 Raven Award to James McDowell (right), Pennsylvania State Representative. James has been an ardent supporter of the Society and has also given many hours to various philanthropic efforts and community outreach.



Alan & Jeanne MacDougall traveled from their new home in Wilmington, VT to join in the festivities at the Alexandria Scottish Games in July. We wish Jeanne a healthier 2005. She had many physical challenges in 2004.



2004 Christmas Walk - Alexandria, VA.
A lovely day Dec. 4th - warmer than usual!



Tuscon Games

Janet G. Wimer; Lifetime Member; Clan MacDougall (Former Midwest Regional Commissioner)

I was extremely proud to host the Clan MacDougall tent at the 18th Annual Tucson Celtic Festival and Scottish Highland Games held on Saturday, November 6, 2004.

My husband, Steve, and I arrived in Tucson the afternoon before so we could attend the Ceilidh and buffet dinner held on Friday evening, November 5th. We had a wonderful time visiting with the people sharing our table, and enjoyed the food and the entertainment that followed later in the evening.

Saturday morning dawned with "fine Scottish weather" - very unusual for Arizona, but appropriate for the day's activities nonetheless. Throughout the day we had a variety of cool air, light rain, strong breezes, and by the end of the day, bright Arizona sunshine! Steve and I set up our clan tent and were ready for business by 9 a.m., the official start time for the Games. The crowd was light in the morning hours, but definitely picked up from noontime until the end of the day.

We had many visitors to our tent, lured no doubt by the free basket of shortbread bites to be sampled by anyone passing by. We had two actual MacDougalls stop by our table, and we made sure they did not leave without a brochure and a membership application.

Steve and I participated in the Opening Ceremonies and Clan Parade at noon, bearing the MacDougall banner and tartan proudly, where the attending clans were announced and presented to the crowd.

All in all, it was a wonderful day, we were able to chat with so many nice people, and got acquainted with the Clan representatives in nearby tents. Steve and I look forward to representing Clan MacDougall at other games in Arizona in the year ahead. ☺

DUNOLLIE, YESTERDAY AND FOREVER

by Frances Greiff

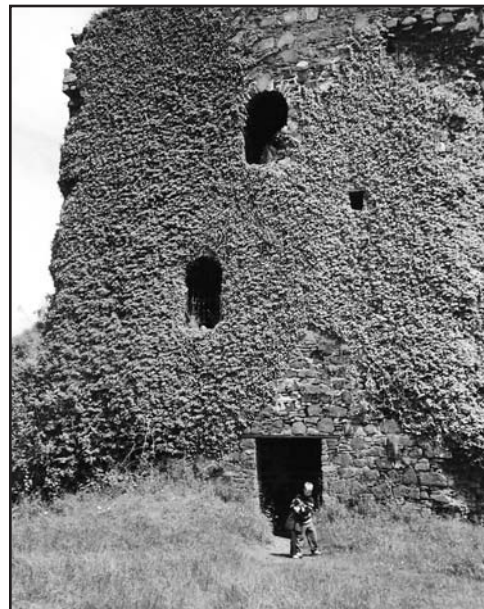
I am a lucky MacDougall descendant. On July 4, 2004, I climbed the precipitous cliff on which perches Dunollie Castle. My daughter and son-in-law treated me to a trip to Oban. The rocky, mud path was almost vertical. My daughter Mary went ahead and constantly gripped my hand to prevent my falling. At the top, the castle was the beautiful stone, green, vine-covered ruin I remembered. Call "Dun Ollaigh" in 686, it was a stronghold of the Kings of Scots.

Now go back in time with me 53 years: I visited Dunollie Castle with my bridegroom who had fallen in love with the Scottish and English people during World War II when he was stationed there with the 8th U.S. Air Force. He wanted to return, and the pilgrimage was meaningful to me because my grandmother, Mary Tyrie, was an Edinburgh citizen, my great-grandmother Jessie MacDougall, and great-great grandparents Hugh and Janet MacDougall, were Fortingall citizens. I have Oban cousins.

We entered the Dunollie property in 1951 from a lane where we met a man in plus fours and a woman in a MacDougall kilt. They were pruning trees on a splendid, sunshiny December day. We told them that we'd like to meet the clan chief, and the lady introduced the man and herself as Colonel and Mrs. MacDougall, the chief and his lady. She said, "Go ahead and look at the castle. The key is in the entry to our home. Dunollie is the oldest castle in Scotland. It dates back to the 600's." To her husband she said, "These people are clanspeople. They want to meet you." We got the heavy key, went up a steep hillside to the castle, and unlocked the gate. The castle and views from it of the blue sea were glorious. We went down the hill trail, replaced the key in the mansion entry, and just then

Col. and Mrs. MacDougall returned and invited us inside. They showed us old letters, gave us candy, introduced us to their daughter and her husband, showed us a wood-paneled dining room, beautiful paintings, and 200-year-old unfaded tartan curtains. "They wash like a rag," said Mrs. MacDougall.

That was 53 years ago. The MacDougalls and my husband are gone. But Dunollie Castle is a treasure. I am a lucky woman to see this gorgeous place one more time. ☺



Right: Grandchildren Tyrie and Malcolm Mehaffey hug in front of Dunollie Castle.

Left: Daughter Mary Mehaffey, M.D., stands by the Celtic cross at Dunollie Castle. The inscription in memory of the clan chief and his wife says: "Alexander James MacDougall, 29th chief, born 1872, died 1953. Colina Edith, born 1874, died 1963."

Clan MacDougall Society
of North America, Inc.

P.O. BOX 1279
FRANKFORT, KY 40602-1279

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

