



## Scott's Reflections

October is a busy month for your Officers as we prepare for the 2019 AGM at Stone Mountain, GA on October 19, prepare for our regular Board of Directors meeting on the 4th Monday, and prepare our month end mail out of our annual letter to members. This is all on top of our day to day activities. But it is by accomplishing these extra things that we are making progress.

While incomplete, here are a few of the projects we are working on in the background:

1. Arranging further support for Phase III of the Dunollie Castle work
2. Creating a system to make online donations to Society Funds
3. Seeking a cost neutral option for electronic subscribers to elect to receive paper issues of The Tartan newsletter by postal delivery
4. Updating our Annual July events at Grandfather Mountain

There is something you can do to help us to save up a lot of time. Each month we spend hours searching for missing Members whose email or postal mail is returned to us.

- Often when we try to call the Member to obtain their proper address, we find their landline or cell number is out of service or they have moved.
- Many members are now using cell phones but still have their old landline number listed with us; others have moved to a new address, changed their email address, or changed their name but have forgotten to tell us.
- To ensure we can deliver the benefits and service that you should be receiving, please tell us of any changes in your email, telephone or postal information.
- It is easy to tell us of changes. Just send us an email to [records@macdougall.org](mailto:records@macdougall.org). Tell us your name, address, and any changes in your telephone or email addresses that you might not have mentioned to us.
- If you are not sure, please advise us anyway. We will be happy to verify whether we have your proper contact information and we will update our records for you.

In our August Special issue we posted a link to the updated 8 minute video which we showed to visitors to our Society Table in the Marquee Tent at the 2019 Gathering in Oban. It is posted on our [Facebook page](#). We created it so that Scots everywhere could enjoy it. If you wish to share it with others, we think they will enjoy it too.

*Cuimhnich air na daoine o'n d'fhàinig thu.  
Remember the men from which you came.*

Scott MacDougall  
President

## Dunollie Phase III Begins

On October 15 the first pre-work meeting will be held to begin Phase III of the work at Dunollie Castle. The work will concentrate on removing the ivy and repairing stone work on the North East and North West walls of Dunollie Castle in order to stabilize and preserve them. The work will also provide means for visitors to access the internal original stone stairs to go up into what was the common hall of the first floor. This includes installing a balustrade to create an internal viewing platform at Level 2.

Dunollie expects its entire Phase III work program to be completed by mid March 2020. The castle will then re-open to the public on April 1 with new access to the first floor and the second floor viewing point. Details are on the Dunollie [web site](#).



## Funding of Phase III

The Phase III project work is expected to cost £259,097 pounds. Dunollie has received a grant for £150,497 from Historic Environment Scotland. In addition, they have already raised £34,911.15 including the two prior contributions from our Society totalling £23,500 described in our March and August eNewsletters. This leaves Dunollie with £73,689 to fund raise but the Phase III work will be completed while the fund raising continues.

In the past year we have received some very generous donations from members designating their contributions to be used for Dunollie castle work. By using one of these large donations the Society will be providing a third contribution to support the Phase III project using funds donated to our Society's Dunollie Preservation Fund by our Members. Our Society is an IRS 501(c)3 organization and contributions may be tax deductible in the US. If you wish to support this Fund, or any of our other Funds, your donation may be sent to our Treasurer with an instruction specifying the Fund(s) you are donating to. Her postal address is:

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Treasurer Barbara Osgood  
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Scott MacDougald  
President

Kyle Jones  
President Elect

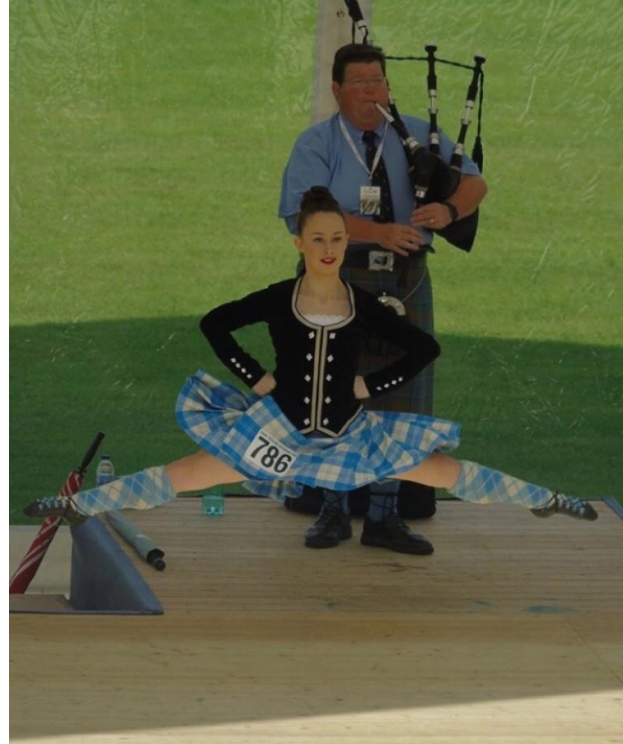
## News from the Dance World

I hope that this message finds you all well! I want to share some very exciting news with you...

Last month I spent 3 weeks in Scotland to compete in four championships, culminating in the World Highland Dancing Championships at the Cowal Highland Gathering. I won all four of

these internationally attended competitions, and claimed my second consecutive World Champion title!! I am very honored to be only the third American ever to win multiple World titles! I am attaching some pictures of myself with the World Junior Championship trophy. This historic award has names on it dating back to 1961. There is also an action shot taken at Cowal.

In addition to the very exciting dancing part of our trip, I also had an amazing time just being in Scotland. We stayed in Dunblane, (a small town just north of Stirling) for the first two weeks. This gave us easy access to everywhere in Scotland, using the amazing train service. We visited Edinburgh and Glasgow, as we do every year, but I also got to see some new things that I haven't seen before, like the Kelpies in Falkirk!



We stayed in Dunoon for the final week to prepare for the World Championships. Dunoon, where the Cowal Gathering is held, is easily my favorite place in the world. It's a very quiet, small town, and with gorgeous views of Holy Loch and beautiful mountains our time there is a very relaxing experience before such an important event.

All in all, it was a great 3 weeks, and of course, finishing it off with another World Championship title was simply amazing!! I can't wait for next year's trip; I am already counting down the days!

This trip truly wouldn't have been possible without your scholarship support! Spending 3 weeks overseas on top of all of the trips we do around the US and Canada to compete costs quite a lot, so we greatly appreciate the financial support Clan MacDougall has provided. The scholarship funds take care of my dancing lessons throughout the year, which frees up family funds to pay for international competition expenses.

Of course, it always helps to have a great fan base back home in the USA cheering me on!! It is a great boost to know that I have you all rooting for me!

I have a couple of more trips planned for the rest of this year, including Alexandria, VA at the end of September, where I have been invited to perform at the BATD North American Scholarships as the current World Champion. I will also be able to take classes and workshops at this event from international Highland Dancing professionals to prepare for next year's competitions. In October, I will be traveling to Ventura, CA for the Seaside Highland Games--I hope that I will see your clan tent there so I can stop by to say hello!

All the best, and thank you sincerely for your scholarship this year!!

Beret Dernbach



## Upcoming Events

**October 12 & 13**  
Seaside Highland Games  
Ventura, CA

**October 13**  
Tyler Scottish Festival  
Tyler, TX

**November 10 & 11**  
Salado Highland Games  
Salado, TX

### **Annual General Meeting** **Sat.-Sun. 19-20 Oct. 2019**

We rotate our AGM locations in order to meet more of our members. In 2019 our AGM will be held on Saturday, October 19 during the Stone Mountain Highland Games near Atlanta, GA. An informal dinner is planned for the evening. The Stone Mountain Games web site is <http://www.smhg.org/>



Misha's Traveling Companion

## Contact Us

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**Twitter**  
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**Submissions**  
Persons wishing to submit articles, photos, or items of interest to our newsletters may contact:

**The Tartan Editor**  
[editor@macdougall.org](mailto:editor@macdougall.org)  
or  
**Newsletter Editor**  
[newseditor@macdougall.org](mailto:newseditor@macdougall.org)

**Your Contact Information**  
Please help us keep our records up to date by sending your email, telephone, or postal address changes to:  
[records@macdougall.org](mailto:records@macdougall.org)

**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 by clicking the image below.



## Introducing New Oklahoma Representative



Hello. My name is Michael Lowther. You can call me "Misha".

I am a relatively new member of the Clan MacDougall Society of North America and have jumped in with both feet, taking on the role of State Representative for the state of Oklahoma. I have read the entire website, ordered a few books and worked with President Elect Kyle Jones to build up a display for my first clan tent. I am really looking forward to working with the other Society officers in this new adventure!

I have a husband of 28 1/2 years, a son, a daughter and a dog. I am an animal lover and nature enthusiast. I have a passion for life and work as a photographer in my day-to-day life. In the early 1990's, I got my first taste of photography working for a studio in the mall. I was able to expand my imagination and creativity through my love of photos. Adobe Photoshop wasn't at the top of the market or even heard of (by me) when I started playing on the computer. I created images for birthday cards, memorials, church slide shows and anything else I could have fun with. I did it on a computer because my artistic desire didn't meet with the actual talents needed for working on paper!

Later, I got into sports photography in the early part of the new millennium. That led to location and lifestyle portrait photography... then to wedding and event photography. One thing leads to another... an adventurous mix that keeps growing, as do I.

When Kyle contacted me, I could see the opportunity to use my talents to help communicate our shared heritage. I believe fun and adventure are the building blocks of an enjoyable life and so are the people around us that make the journey possible. So, here's to the start of a brand new adventure that will encompass all of the things that are dear to me. I look forward to meeting and working with as many of you as possible. Thank you for including me!

## New Members

**Catherine Booker**  
Delhi, ON

**Christian Adamcik, Sr.**  
Helena, MT

**Erin S. Lattanze**  
Bristow, VA

**Brenda McLennan**  
North Bay, ON

**Amy McDougal**  
Brambleton, VA

**Stephen M. Howell, Jr.**  
Stafford, VA

**Jeff King**  
Wanenton, VA

**Elizabeth A. Garrison**  
Brevard, NC



## Volunteer Opportunities

There are numerous opportunities to become actively involved in the work of your Society.

Our interactive Volunteer Form can be downloaded below to be filled it out on your computer or tablet.  
Choose the items that interest you most and we'll be in touch to guide you.

[Get Volunteer Form](#)