

The Tartan

Clan MacDougall Society of North America

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SEPTEMBER 2012

The Board of Directors and the Annual General Meeting

As it has since our beginning, the Society's Board of Directors met at the Eseeola Lodge on a Friday afternoon, just prior to the Grandfather Mountain Games in July. The interim secretary, Nancy Van Valkenburgh, declared that a quorum was present and the meeting began. A summary of the minutes are included in this newsletter. The major developments

were a decision to communicate more consistently among Board members and to implement a membership development strategy proposed by Malcolm MacDougall.

A dinner in the Eseeola dining hall was a successful event, with a larger number attending than in the past several years. Following the dinner was a delightful group of songs by Richard Van Valkenburgh. Two brief but impassioned talks about our Scottish heritage and the singing of Auld Lang Syne concluded our evening.



A festive time for all at the Annual Founders Dinner.



Some of our members who attended the 2012 Founders Dinner at Eseeola.

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Despite torrential cloudbursts, the Grandfather Mountain Games were their usual success.

The Games on Saturday opened to clearing skies and improving weather. In the evening, the Porky Campbell barbecue, organized by Beacham McDougald, with music by the Chelsea Youth Orchestra, brought the day to a fitting close. Sunday was a glorious Scottish day. The MacDougalls won the "Clan of Excellence" award.

Chris MacDougall, our Ontario Provincial Representative, created a video of our activities, which was distributed electronically via Constant Contact to our membership. The festivities are all there, from Thursday's torchlight ceremony until the closing piping on Sunday evening, a beautiful professional job.



After the Parade of Tartans, our clan was awarded the prestigious Clan of Excellence honor at Grandfather Mountain games.

For the first time ever away from Grandfather Mountain, the Annual General Meeting took place at the Scottish Highland Games in Livonia, Michigan, on August 4. The Games were held in a beautiful municipal park, a restored farmstead. The clan tent, hosted by Kevin and Sandy Phelps, was outstanding for its size and attractive layout. A young person in attendance was one of our scholarship awardees, Perpetua Phelps, with her family.

At the AGM during the afternoon, Ashby McCown described his work last summer at Dunollie House. Scott MacDougald gave a progress report on his research into names of families affiliated with our clan.

The day concluded with an enjoyable dinner at the nearby Embassy Suites hotel.



The first national Annual General Meeting to be held in Livonia, Michigan.

The Clan MacDougall Society of North America

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From Our Editor /President



*President
Peter Clepper*

By the time this edition appears, our highland summer will be over. Besides all the Scottish games we attend, this was the summer when we held our Board meeting and our Annual General Meeting in two different places. For eight of us it meant additional traveling and days away from home,

but we all returned safely with new experiences to think about and new ideas to try out. Some of these ideas are described in other articles in this issue.

At dinners together after these meetings, and on the drive homeward, the old questions came up, as they always do. Who are we, and why are we doing all this, at all this expense of time and money? What are these ties that bind us so closely?

We know we are highland Scots, however long we have been among the Diaspora. We belong to a clan, with a chief, not a president or chairperson, but the head of our line, of all the families affiliated with MacDougall. From our chiefs we have a distinctive tartan, a badge, and a castle, our very own. Even the French are envious of that.

It is interesting that even after many generations the sense of Scottishness and clan attachment persists, naturally with some attenuation. It was fortunate that thoughtful MacDougalls and MacDowalls founded our Society over forty years ago and that dedicated members have fostered its growth since. It is also fortunate that our founders placed our origin at Grandfather Mountain Games, the great rallying place for all who cherish Scottish heritage. It is these traditions of music, athletics, and costume that keep the Diaspora vital and current. Two other traditions are the Gaelic language with its dedicated followers, and the writing of countless books. The Scots write in great profusion, they love to write about themselves, and we benefit from their talent.

The rallying point for the MacDougalls has always been Dunollie Castle. Although our chief owns it, somehow it has always belonged to the entire clan as well. The Dunollie House Preservation project that our chief has initiated in recent years will enhance this idea of belonging, as this house of treasures and memories emerges as a major Scottish cultural center. Exhibits and activities are available now and are increasing. For those MacDougalls who visit Dunollie House, questions of who we are and why quickly resolve.

For those of us who don't travel to Oban, we have our association among ourselves. We owe a debt of gratitude to those who organize our tents at highland games and to those who labor for our Society's goals.

Mise le meas,

Peter

Testing a Growth Plan for Our Society

A strategic plan, proposed by Malcolm MacDougall, recognizes that declining membership is a serious issue. It undermines our mission, impacts budgets, and can diminish our presence in the Scottish community.

Although all clans are struggling with this problem, Clan MacDougall Society intends to take some actions that are designed to retain current members, reactivate lapsed members, and recruit new members through increased Internet activity and tests of tactics like direct mailings.

One area of special focus will be the increased use of electronic media. These include our website, Facebook page, and other internet sites. Another

effort is the more systematic use of database management to follow up with people who visit these internet sites and our tents at games (still our most successful method of recruitment). We will also test and evaluate a direct mailing program targeting people unknown to us, beginning with one or two regions with high concentrations of qualified surnames.

A generous grant from the MacDougall Foundation has made it possible to initiate this plan. We have made a start by contacting one group of lapsed members. It must be stressed that the success of this plan depends on the active participation of many of us, as might be expected.

Winners of the John A. McDougall Memorial Scholarships 2012

One of the most noteworthy purposes of the Clan MacDougall Society of N.A. is to provide "financial assistance...for deserving students." We are pleased to report on last year's winners of awards totaling \$1,900, as reported by our Scholarships and Awards Committee.



Perpetua Phelps

Perpetua Phelps, 5 years old, received \$100 to pursue Highland Dance lessons. She has a MacDougall connection through her father's family and they are active in Scottish events.

Isabella McDougall received \$300 to help pay college expenses at the University of St. Andrews, where she is currently a student, studying Art History and English. Her grandfather, who died in 2007, was a longtime member of the MacDougall Society.



Isabella McDougall

Waverly Noble, 11 years old, received \$100 to help pay expenses for attending the School of Scottish Arts dance camp before the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. She danced as an Intermediate level Highland Dancer in the afternoon at Grandfather. Her father is from Fife, Scotland.



Waverly Noble

Kathleen Brown received \$500 to help pay expenses for attending Invermark College of Piping and Drumming on the Isle of Skye this summer. Kathleen is the Pipe Major of the Rockville High School Pipe Band.



Kathleen Brown

While in Scotland she will compete in band and solo competitions. She is named for her maternal grandmother, Kathleen Marie MacDougall, and received a scholarship from us two years ago.

Maria Taylor received \$300 to help pay for in-depth Highland Dance instruction as she prepares this summer for the Judge's exam. She is a student at Alma College, a small Scottish college in central Michigan.

M. Stephen McNair received \$300 to help pay tuition fees and travel expenses associated with his studies at the University of Edinburgh in architectural history. Stephen is a repeat recipient of a scholarship.

The Gaelic Choir, Coisir Ghaidhlig Aimeireagaidh, received \$300 to assist with travel expenses and fees for members and music director to attend modan and workshops. These monies may also be used for coaching fees for the professional music director.

Highlights of 2012 Board Meeting

The Board of Directors held its annual meeting on Friday, July 13 at the Eseeola Lodge in Linville, North Carolina during the 2012 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. President Peter Clepper presided, with a quorum in attendance.



Board of Directors meet at Eseeola Lodge, July 2012.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Peter Clepper noted that last year it was agreed to hold the 2012 Annual General Meeting at the Highland Games in Livonia, Michigan. He and Suzanne McDougal had attended these games last year to meet with Kevin and Sandy Phelps, our hosts there.

Last September Peter visited Dunollie House in Oban. He presented the Society's check to Alastair Oates, a project trustee. The project director is developing an impressive cultural center. The Society's gift of a standard for the Chief had been stolen, shortly after its first display on the castle flagpole. We replaced the standard this year. Our Chief, Madame Morag MacDougall, sent a gracious letter of thanks.

We continue to make changes and improvements in printed and internet communications. Electronic publishing has been a success. We share newsletters with the United Kingdom (it's worth noting that our Chief, Morag, prefers electronic copies). Printed copies go to members without internet addresses, and several copies go for display in Dunollie House.

Beacham McDougald noted that a student exchange between Laurinburg, North Carolina, and Oban now celebrates its twentieth year.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Bill Leroy, Membership Secretary, reported a steady decline in membership. Sustaining membership is rising, however. There are seventeen persons currently buying life memberships.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Bill Leroy also presented the financial report. Expenses exceeded revenue by \$2,800. The deficit was met by drawing on cash reserves. The Life Dues Account now amounts to \$48,000. A proposed budget was to be finalized later this summer.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS:

Nancy Kane, Scholarship and Awards Chair, reported that the Somerled Award would be presented at the Livonia Games to Kevin and Sandy Phelps by Sandra MacDougall. At the Founders Dinner at

Sandra Mac-Dougall presents the Somerled Award to Kevin and Sandy Phelps.



Nancy Kane presents the special A. Wylie McDougall Award to Sibyl McDougald Wilkinson.



Gene McDougald receives the Appreciation Award.

Eseeola, Eugene McDougald of Texas received the Appreciation Award and Sibyl McDougald Wilkinson received the A. Wylie McDougall Award, which has not been presented since the 1970s.

Nancy Kane and Buzzy Bramble gave the Scholarships Report, reporting that we awarded \$1,900 in total scholarships. See separate article on the winners.

The scholarship recipients have expressed gratitude;



many are contributing to further our Scottish and MacDougall heritage.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS REPORT:

Peter Clepper read Richard MacDougall's report on International Relations. See separate article.

CANADA REPORT:

Scott MacDougald reported that he has contributed to *The Somerled*, the British newsletter for our clan. Hugh MacDougall in the UK wants to establish better connections with us. Scott will contact Canadian members who have lapsed in dues payments.

OLD BUSINESS:

Some years ago the Society sought to improve services to members as well as enhance its revenue by offering merchandise by mail order. This store arrangement has not done well; the task now is to recover the initial investment. Bill Leroy suggested selling at various games. Regional commissioners could buy items from the store and then distribute them to those hosting our tents at games in their regions. The Board agreed and asked Bill to implement this arrangement.

Jack Kane described an idea from Don and Sandra MacDougall. Presidents are often asked to continue their services by serving on the Board. Unfortunately, that leaves very few places for newer and younger members. The proposal is to establish an advisory council on which past presidents could continue to advise and serve, while leaving Board seats available to others. It was asked whether an officer could serve on each these groups simultaneously. An appropriate task for the

council would be to review the bylaws and propose changes where needed. It was agreed to develop this proposal further and submit it to the full Board for an electronic vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

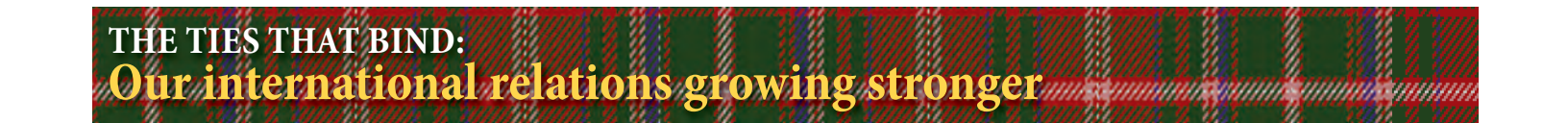
Malcolm MacDougall chairs the Communications Committee. He briefly reviewed our newsletter activity, our web page, and Facebook capability. Keith Place, who developed our Facebook page, noted that we have 452 "likes" on our page. Activity has steadily grown. Users tend to be under 35. We intend to find ways to use the page to attract new members.

David MacDougall, our webmaster, could not attend, but Malcolm noted that some website redesign will soon be in development to use this as another way to attract new members.

Malcolm presented a long-term strategic Membership Growth Plan to counter our membership decline, which is summarized in a separate article, and includes important uses of both Facebook and our web page. One particular technique worked out very well at two recent Games. Persons who were willing to join on the spot, and who paid in cash, were given a membership for half price. Seven new members took advantage of this arrangement.

Final Items:

Further action on a Council of Past Presidents and on a finalized budget will be referred to the Board electronically. Technologies such as email, WebEx and Skype will enable us to work together more quickly and effectively.



THE TIES THAT BIND:

Our international relations growing stronger

This article is based on the annual report submitted by Richard MacDougal, chair of our International Relations Committee.

I am confident in saying that the International Relations component of the work of the Clan MacDougall Society NA has had another very good year. And the best part is that I personally have had to do only a small fraction of the work. We have been in regular contact with Chief Morag as well as the hard working folks at Dunollie in Oban.

I am confident that both the Chief and the Administrator of the Trust, are comfortable that they have our support whenever needed.

In addition to the smooth and open communications across the pond, there have been significant contributions to our international relations by members of our Society leadership:

Ashby McCown spent several weeks at Dunollie House doing important and valuable research, as well as helping

with more mundane organizing tasks as needed. Also, little is mentioned of the quiet on-scene volunteer work of Margaret Karasic.

Our President, Peter Clepper, made a personal visit to Dunollie for a meeting with the Chief. This had to be very pleasing to her; this is the first time a sitting president of the Society has been to Dunollie since the last millennium!

Vice President for Canada Scott MacDougald and President Elect Malcolm MacDougall have revived an important exchange of newsletters between our Society and the EU Society. Past President Walter Macdougall has done another fine job of arranging for the replacement of the Chief's standard that we had presented to her at the Gathering in '09, but which was subsequently stolen.

A GASTRONOMICAL AND MUSICAL DELIGHT: Feast of Porky Campbell 2012

If you enter the Clachaig Inn in Glencoe in the western Highland of Scotland you will notice that the registration desk bears a sign that reads: "No Hawkers or Campbells." It reflects the memory of the 1692 murder of 38 MacDonald men at the hands of the Campbells and the deaths of 40 other MacDonald women and children who perished when their homes were destroyed and they were left to the raw elements.

Let's go fast forward to the 20th century when George Orwell settled on the Isle of Mull to pen his novel, "Animal Farm." There is no doubt that he modeled his villainous leaders – the pigs – after the boar's head on the Clan Campbell crest and on the Campbells themselves.

Later in 1969 a Canadian musical group wrote and performed the popular song, "One Tin Soldier," an anthem about a peaceful mountain people being slaughtered by a despicable valley people. Obviously, once more the musical group "Original Castle" recognized the Campbells for their swine-like behavior in 1692.

Pigs like Porky Campbell are revered in North Carolina. They make the best pork barbecue in the eastern part of the state. In 2002, building upon the prevailing sentiments that most other clans hold toward the Campbells, the first Clan MacDougall "Feast of Porky Campbell" was held following the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. Since the first day the barbecue pork has been prepared properly – like we do in eastern North Carolina.

This year the "Feast of Porky Campbell" was held at the huge Clan Chief's Tent on MacRae Meadows, Grandfather Mountain.

As the games came to a close at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, July 14, the Chelsea House Orchestra began arriving for their performance and dinner.

The Chelsea House Orchestra is a high school group from Chelsea, Michigan that plays Celtic music on



The talented youngsters of Chelsea House Orchestra perform during our Porky Campbell BBQ.

fiddles, cello, flutes, clarinet, guitar, drums and bass. They performed for over 20 minutes before the "Feast" and for another 25 minutes following. Also joining Clan MacDougall at the "Feast" were the chaperones for Chelsea House Orchestra, some invited guests, and Donald F. MacDonald, who along with Agnes MacRae Morton co-founded the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in 1956. Donald was also the honored special guest at the 2012 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

Donald is a native of Marlboro County, South Carolina, and graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill with a degree in journalism. He had a career with *The Charlotte Observer* before moving to Edinburgh, Scotland where he taught journalism at Napier University until his retirement.

Sharing a brief early history of the Games, Donald noted that the first Game was a one-day affair held on Sunday. They needed a church service

before they could begin and no minister could be found, so he became "The Reverend" Donald F. MacDonald for a brief time. In another story he noted that they had created 3 medals for each event, but only two dancers signed up for highland dancing. To complete the roster he was the third dancer. The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games have come far from their humble beginnings.

For the "Feast" we enjoyed a special order of barbecue prepared by the men at Boykin United Methodist Church in Donald's native Marlboro County, South Carolina, along with buns for sandwiches, boiled potatoes, corn bread and soft drinks. Over 85 people were present!

Before, during and after the "Feast" I spoke with Jed Fitzmeier, who founded the Chelsea House Orchestra 15 years ago. Jed shared their most interesting story. Training a group of mostly fiddlers was no small feat, but finding their genre was another until they were invited to play for a Scottish gathering in Michigan. Whilst playing a variety of music they were startled to see the crowd come to their feet and clap along with a Celtic song. They had found their niche!

This year, they drove down to North Carolina from Michigan using funds from an arts council grant. They also earn funds through the sale of CDs and donations, and they defray expenses by eating free food when available. Members of Clan MacDougall were happy to help them in all three ways.

Next year, the Chelsea House Orchestra once more plans to be at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, and Clan MacDougall plans to host them for another and even bigger "Feast of Porky Campbell."

— Beacham McDougall

What was the design of Somerled's Raven Banner?

We are grateful to Keith Place, Board member and Facebook administrator, for this interesting piece of research.

It has long been Clan MacDougall's oral tradition, especially with the Lunga MacDougalls, that Somerled flew a "Raven Banner" from the prow of his ships in battle. According to such oral traditions, Somerled was gifted a Raven Banner by his bride on their wedding day. For Ragnhild, the daughter of Olav, the Norse King of Mann to gift Somerled such a banner makes complete and logical sense.

According to Norse Mythology the Raven was considered a mighty omen. A sign that Odin was on their side. As legend states, when on the field of battle, the flag would display a raven flapping its wings which would signify a victory to come. Should the flag hang limp, it would signify certain defeat. So yes, it makes perfect sense, for Ragnhild would want her husband to be victorious in battle and want Odin on his side to aid him. (The Annals of St. Neots; Lukman, p. 141)

What would that banner have looked like? Let's look at the historical evidence to shed some light on the subject. According to contemporary depictions of The Raven Banner that have survived, it was not a flag as we would know it today. At least not in its shape. There are two very distinct depictions of the Raven Banner. The first on a coin minted in 924 A.D. called the Anlaf Coin. The second on the Bayeux Tapestry which was meant to document the Norman conquest of England under William, Duke of Normandy.



Image 1



Image 2



Image 3

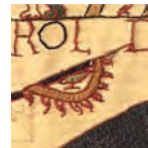


Image 4

As we can see in these depictions of the Anlaf Coin [Images 1 and 2], at the center is a roughly triangular flag extending from a vertical pole. At the center of the flag is a shape thought to depict a raven and along one edge of the flag hang tassels. We also see a strikingly similar depiction in the Bayeux Tapestry [Image 3] of a mounted Norman Knight carrying a lance that has a semi-circular flag bearing a depiction of a bird and having tassels along the bottom edge [Image 4].



Image 5



Image 6

Again in the Bayeux Tapestry [Image 5] we see a depiction of two men being killed. Where do we find the banner? Below the horse, hanging limp and without the prophetic raven [Image 6].

To explain this we should look to the Gesta Cnutonis Regis (written ca. 1043), which says:

"For the Danes had a banner possessed of a wonderful property, which although I believe it will seem incredible to the reader, nevertheless, because it is true, I will insert it for him for the sake of truth. For although it was woven of a very plain bright silk and had no figure embroidered on it yet always in time of war a raven seemed as it were to appear on it, in victory opening its beak and beating its wings, restless in its feet, but very quiet and drooping in its whole body in defeat." (Hrafnhildur Bodvarsdottir, p.111)

So the question remains, how would we accurately represent The Raven Banner today? I offer two examples:

One from a lance type weapon [Image 7] and one from a flag pole, guidon or prow [Image 8].



Image 7



Image 8

Both of these examples are open to interpretation, of course, but according to the evidence historically accurate. Lacking a direct and exact description of Somerled's banner in our Clan's records and oral tradition, I think it imperative that we seek the most authoritative historical examples. With one last graphic [Image 9], a design from a carved stick from 13th Century Bryggen showing ships with prow ornaments, I think the evidence overwhelmingly supports a semi-triangular flag as Somerled's Raven Banner.

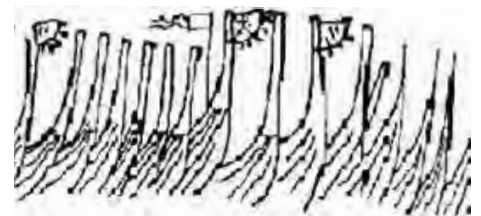


Image 9

JUST SO YOU KNOW: Books for every member's library

--by Peter Clepper

Being Scottish is a source of pride, especially when we wear our own tartan kilt or skirt, bonnet or sash. What we actually know about Scotland or its culture, however, is often pretty sketchy, in spite of internet pages, magazines, and the little brochures we pick up at highland games. Surely an evening or two with a few good books would be just the solution. But what books? In this issue of the Tartan, and the next issues, three of us are going to recommend some choices, enough for a small collection, no more than eight or ten, that are pleasantly instructive and worth retaining as references. We will give you a rationale for our recommendations and will indicate their availability. In most cases, that will be through Amazon or Barnes and Noble. Of the two that I recommend, one is about Scotland in general, the other is about our clan in particular.



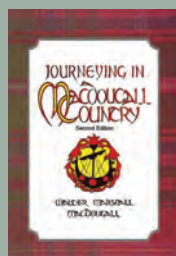
The first is **Scotland: An Intimate Portrait** by Geddes MacGregor. The book first appeared in 1980, so it is not strictly contemporary, but it does get to the fundamental nature of Scotland and its people in a readable style that keeps one turning page after page. Fourteen brief chapters and nine appendixes cover almost every aspect of Scotland, in succinct description and apt commentary. The style is very

accessible; it is as if a fond visiting uncle were quietly describing his native country.

This fond uncle was a brilliant philosopher and theologian who came to this country with a well-established reputation. He taught at Bryn Mawr and at UCLA. His native Scotland must have been his serious avocation because he so intimately knows its history, literature, and institutions. In this country, he took keen interest in Scottish organizations and came to regard us as fellow Scots, in a Diaspora. Many of his American friends urged him to write this book. Gratifyingly, it has remained in print all these years, a modern Scottish classic. In his introduction, he points out that this is "...an elementary book all about the Scottish Homeland, introducing it to Scots of the Diaspora. It is on the whole kindly, for how else does one treat the mother one loves, even when she infuriates you?"

During my visits to Scotland, I have of course noticed the numerous changes in Scotland since this book appeared. There is the Scottish Parliament building in Edinburgh, the renovation of Glasgow, and the faster pace of modern life. A lot remains, however, as he describes it: the sights, the festivals, the renascent national spirit. For learning about the real Scotland, this is a great start.

Geddes MacGregor, *Scotland: An Intimate Portrait*, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1990. \$17.95.



The second recommendation, **Walter Macdougall's** book, *Journeying in Macdougall Country*, second edition, is the definitive book on our clan in its territory of Argyle. It is the result of twenty-five years close study, frequent visits to Scotland, and extensive personal consultation. This professionally edited and published edition is available from Amazon.

The following is a review by Scott MacDougald that appeared in *The Tartan* several years ago, shortly after the book came out:

Of all our storytellers, Walter Macdougall, Past President of the Clan MacDougall Society, is one of our best. The old Gaelic admonition says: "Cuimhnich air na daoine o'n d' thàinig thu"—"Remember the men from whom you sprang." Accordingly, in 1981 Walter journeyed to our land of Lorn where past and present intertwine in humble ruins and proud estates. In clear and colorful prose, his journal recorded a very readable account of his travels. The resulting book *Journeying in MacDougall Country* is a treasury of clan knowledge illustrated with diagrams and sketches, clear footnotes and an extensive bibliography. Now with the very able assistance of editor Suzanne O. McDougal, Walter has brought out a second edition of his book that preserves the original material and includes new content from subsequent travels in Argyll. The profits will be donated to the Dunollie Preservation Trust.

The book opens with the trip by train from Glasgow to Oban. The richly descriptive Gaelic place names have stories waiting to be told. Then the narrative softly transitions to how those rugged hills, glens, and lochs form a part of clan history. At Dunollie Manor we meet Coline MacDougall of MacDougall, then our 30th Chief. We hear of her family, and the old family manor house, before climbing the upward path to Dunollie Castle. Guided by old maps as we learn the old names, Walter takes us along ancient footpaths and we walk the cattle drove roads, the highways of yesteryear.

The next day we sail to Iona, past isles whose names ring of history—Kerrera, Lismore, Mull, and Staffa. These were Hebrides stepping stones for the high prowed galleys of our seagoing clan. On another day we sail Loch Awe. We journey

northward to Ardchattan Priory where a parliament of Scotland was conducted in Gaelic. Later we visit Glen Etive's isolated grandeur and hear of the old Celtic tales that linger there. We travel circuitously through Southern Lorn, where bloody clan warfare flared for centuries. Here the old MacDougall families of Raera, Corriellorne, Degnish and others once ruled, and some yet remain. Here lie stone circles and ancient forts. We see the isle of Kerrera as Walter describes it as it was. Picture the drovers from the now vanished ferries arriving from the isles. Visit Gylen, the little gem of a castle watching the sea while

guarding the drove road and its revenue.

There is comfort in reading the "Lore of Lorn" section with its supporting notes, details and maps. Here you can search out details of omens, lamps, saints, septs and more. To learn more of geography, or Chiefs, or flowers, or architecture, or family branches, this is where to look. Over the centuries many people have left the Highlands, but the fortunate do come back. Whether you are returning or just remembering from where you sprang, you would be well served to have this book in your hand to read and to guide your journeys.

[One final endorsement: Ashby McCown, our long time member and Gaelic expert who frequently goes to Scotland, always takes along Walter's book.]

Walter Marshall Macdougall, *Journeying in MacDougall Country*, second edition, Clan MacDougall Society of North America, 2008. \$24.95.

* * * * *

So there are two books I would not be without. Try them and you will surely agree.

FROM THE MacDowall Newsletter...

Dear Clanspersons,

Welcome to all participants in our Clan MacDowall Newsletter.

On behalf of our extended Family associated together as Clan MacDowall, I congratulate Charlotte McDowell Baker on her initiative, foresight, planning, design and first email production of "VINCERE VEL MORI", Clan MacDowall Newsletter, Vol. 1, No. 1. Charlotte, the organizing manager of the McDowell DNA Project, is co-editing her Newsletter with the prominent news journalist, author and international MacDougall recruiter William (Bill) MacDougall of the Makerstoun line of Macdowalls in Roxburghshire, the instigator, editor and co-author of our book *The MacDowalls*.

This Newsletter was preceded 27 years ago by the first entitled *The Macdowalls of Galloway* with family histories, heraldry, pedigrees and letters from kinsmen. It was co-authored and edited by my avowed fellow armigerous clansman the late Strome Carmichael-Galloway, Colonel of The Canadian Guards Regiment and President of The (now Royal) Heraldry Society of Canada.

Prior to that, at the request of President Prof. Walter M. Macdougall of The Clan MacDougall Society of The United States and Canada, (now of North America) three articles on the Macdowall of Garthland history were published in consecutive issues of their colorful newsletter *The Tartan* which continues to carry some of our information for the joint MacDougall-MacDowall



Chief Fergus Macdowall

society. In the book *The MacDowalls* we referred to the several stirps (branches) of the Family in Galloway whose feudal freedom from Clan dependence has developed into the great diversity of surname spellings that have appeared through the past six centuries.

As an example, I recently heard from an American McDill seeking any information on two of his name who were executed in Edinburgh after an incident in 1526, for a book he is preparing on his family history. I knew nothing about it, but from the date it was possible to deduce that the McDills were probably in the parliamentary cortege of Fergus M'Douall of Freuch who faced a party at feud with them on the narrow Royal Mile that precipitated a lethal riot engulfing the public.

We need the collaboration of clansmen having historical information from anywhere to contact the MacDowall Newsletter together with any current news to help to weave a Clan network of mutual interest and benefit..... Each of us is a piece of the jigsaw puzzle important in the whole picture of the MacDowalls. Can you contribute what information you have before your records are lost as has often happened in our Family?

With all best wishes,

Fergus (D.H.) Macdowall,
Ph.D., Baron of Garthland,
Chief of the Name and
Arms of MacDowall

Some Items for Sale

Past President Richard MacDougal still has two popular Clan MacDougal items for sale:

The wonderful, most recent history of Clan MacDougal by our own William L. MacDougal:
Kings in the West Beyond the Sea.
Proceeds go to the Dunollie Preservation Trust.
Price: \$17.00, includes postage.

Handsome, comfortable Clan MacDougal sport shirts with our clan crest embroidered on the chest.

In sizes: M - L - XL - XX.

Price: \$30.00.
Quantity discounts available for resale at Highland Games.

Contact: Dick MacDougal
63 Murray Hill Dr.
Bluffton, SC 29909
dnbmacdougal@juno.com

Kilt for Sale

An anonymous donor has contributed a man's kilt to the Society.

It is in Modern MacDougal tartan, 44-inch waist, 23-1/2 inches long.

The kilt is fairly new and in excellent condition.

We are selling it for the best offer over \$200,

with proceeds going to the
Dunollie House Preservation Fund.

If interested, contact Peter Clepper at editor@macdougal.org or 301-907-4823.



The Clan MacDougal Society of North America

131 Bank Barn Lane
Lancaster, PA 17602

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