

September 2019 An Drochaid



An Drochaid - The Bridge

Comhla ri Cheile - Together with Accord

Volume 47 - Issue 3
September Newsletter
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CASSOC

Founded in 1976, CASSOC is an organization for organizations. Our primary purpose is to provide coordination and communication between our member groups. We encourage the celebration of our

2018-2019 Board of Directors:

Chair: Karen Macleod McCrimmon

1st Vice-Chair: Vacant

2nd Vice-Chair: Vacant

Directors at Large:

Terry Myles

Scottish cultural heritage and the promotion of this Scottish culture in Canada in all its aspects. We seek to be the assembly of all groups in Canada who are pursuing Scottish interests.

AN DROCHAID – The Bridge is the newsletter of CASSOC and will be published in March, June, September and December. Items for publication should be submitted to the Editor, editor@cassoc.ca

Any member group of CASSOC may submit an advertisement to any issue at no cost.

Membership in CASSOC is open to any and all organizations which promote or encourage some aspect of Scottish tradition or culture, represent a link between the Scottish people and their descendants and relations in Canada, or seek to develop an understanding of the role Scotland and its culture has played in the development of Canada and its history.

Paul Elliot
John Duff
Past-Chair: Alene M. McNeill
Secretary: Jo Ann Tuskin Treasurer:
Kimberley Henwood

Patrons:

Charles Edward Bruce, Lord Bruce,
DL MA MSc FSA Scot
Major The Hon. Sir Lachlan MacLean
of Duart, Bt. CVO DL

Meetings 2019:

The Delegates' Assembly meeting was held on April 28, 2019, at the North York Central Library.

The General Assembly meeting will be on November 24, 2019, at the same location as above.

Website:

The website contains, among other things, a list of Scottish and Celtic Events in Canada, Canadian Regional tartans, and a list of our member groups with a link to their websites and other digital media, as well as their membership contact information. On the Events list, for each date, our member group events are highlighted with a link to their website.

www.cassoc.ca

[Read More](#)





Frae the Chair

Greetings

I hope that you all enjoyed your summer. I found the summer months, with courses, renovations, and camp for my children, to have flown by. I have just “survived” my first week back to school and am busy preparing for the next 10 months of creating lessons, marking and running extracurricular activities. I was able touch base with some of my Scottish Heritage at a number of Highland Games over the summer. Perhaps I met some of you at Georgetown in June or at Fergus which enjoyed near-perfect weather. This year, there was a new festival added to the Ontario Highland Games calendar. I had the pleasure of attending the first Caledonia Celtic Festival near Hamilton, Ontario in late June. It was a fabulous day, with great weather on a lovely site. With its pipe bands, heavy lifting events, Highland Dance competitions, children’s activities, a Highland Jacobite encampment, sheep, children’s activities, clan tents and a wide variety of interesting vendors, it had something for everyone.

Congratulations to John and Barb Duff and their committee for organizing the event and I look forward to going back next year. Here is the link for those who are interested in learning more about this exciting festival.

<https://www.caledoniacelticfestival.com/>

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chris MacDougall for his work in modernizing and re-inventing our newsletter, the An Drochaid. His work and effort are evident in this interesting and interactive publication and I wish him all the best as he turns his attention to his continued work in his own clan society.

We are looking for a new newsletter editor and Chris has generously offered to mentor the new editor with the program to help ease the transition. Please contact me if you are interested.

A quick reminder that CASSOC is a host of the annual Toronto Kilt Skate. We are in the process of picking a date in the early part of next year. We are hoping that this Kilt Skate will be the biggest yet. We will keep you posted.

This will be my last address to you as Chair. I believe in the importance of shared leadership and that change is not only good, but necessary in a group

such as CASSOC. We represent a large number of societies and groups, and this should be reflected in our executive. New leadership brings new initiatives, connections and directions. We are only as strong as our volunteers and I ask that you consider volunteering for one of our executive positions. Over the last 3 years, I have seen CASSOC evolve in order to stay current and relevant to our membership. We have co-hosted the Scottish North American Leadership Conference, helped to organize the annual Toronto Kilt Skate and have updated our newsletter and the way that we represent our members on the Highland Games circuit. While I will remain on the CASSOC executive, I am excited to see what the future brings. I invite you to join me as we continue to grow and share are the common love of our Scottish heritage.

Hold Fast,

Karen Macleod McCrimmon
Chair, Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada
chairperson@cassoc.ca



Reminder: The fiscal year for CASSOC starts on September 1st, so membership renewals are now due. For further information, please contact Jo Ann Tuskin, info@cassoc.ca



An Drochaid - The Bridge

The bridge picture used in our header was provided by CASSOC files. Each edition of the newsletter will feature a new image of a bridge submitted by our group members. This image is a bridge on the Isle of Skye.

Many thanks to all who have provided pictures, and we look forward to the editions ahead.

Scottish Highland Games & Celtic Festivals - Fall



List of Events

Member events are highlighted. Please Support Our Members

If your Clan, Association or Group will be represented at an event, Please consider representing CASSOC as well.

Information is provided for reference only. Please contact organizers of the event for up-to-date information.

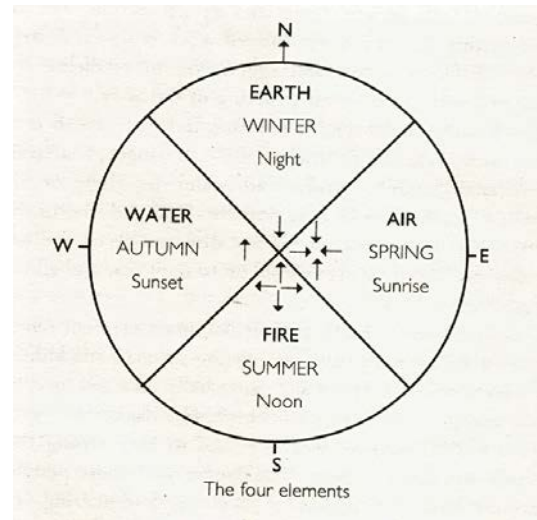
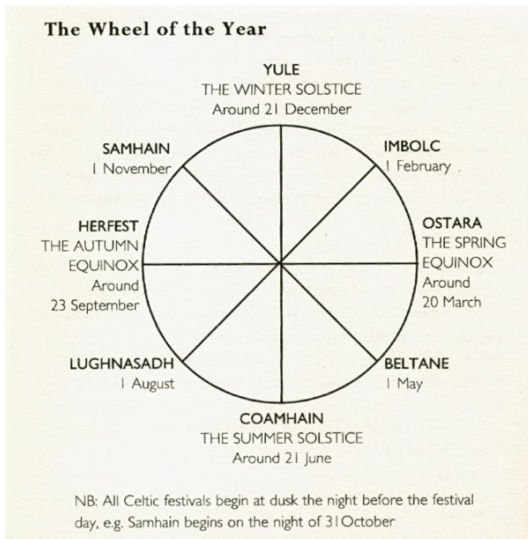
CASSOC cannot be held responsible for any errors that may occur.

2019			
Date	Name	Place/Information	Events
'Sep 21	RSCDS Family Ceilidh and Pizza party	 Toronto, ON	
'Oct 4-6	SNAL 2019 2019 Scottish North American Leadership Conference	 Detroit, MI	
'Oct 5	Scottish Studies Foundation Fall Colloquium	  Guelph, ON	
'Oct 11-19	Celtic Colours in Cape Breton	 Sydney, NS	

'Nov 16	Westman Scottish Association Taste of Scotland	 Brandon, MB	
'Nov 22	St Andrew's Society Montreal Ball	 Montreal, QC	
'Nov 30	St Andrew's Society Toronto Charity Ball	 Toronto, On	

Please let Jo Ann Tuskin know of any Burns events anywhere in Canada for January so that they can be published in the next newsletter and listed online.

The Celtic Elements - Autumn



Herfest

The Celtic festival of Herfest, around the time of the autumnal equinox, about 22-23 Sep, marks the end of the reaping or harvest time. The last sheaf of corn was cut, the huntsmen had returned with the quarry and everything would now be stored up

Autumn – West – Water:

The West is the place of autumn in the cycle of a year. The time when the fruits swell and ripen. It is the place of harvest and rejoicing in the bounty of Grandmother Earth. In the cycle of a day, the West is the early evening the time of relaxation after

for the winter. It was a festival of thanksgiving for another year's crops and sustenance. There would be feasting, story-telling, poetry reciting, and a thoroughly good time would be had by all. It marked the time when the dark becomes dominant and the time for introspection begins. It was the final festival of the year and brought to a close another cycle of sowing, tending and reaping.

From Celtic Wisdom by Andy Baggott, Published 1999 by Judy Piatkus (Publishers) Ltd

evening, the time of relaxation after the day's work, the time of the setting sun. The animals become less active, often resting at this time in the warmth of the late afternoon's sun before it sets. Everything becomes peaceful and relaxing. The power of the West is the power of Water. In the Autumn, the fruits are swollen with juice, everything feels buoyant and calm. The power of Water is upward, buoyant, uplifting. It is the place of rest and relaxation, of lifted spirits and loving energy. It is the place of home and nourishment, of feeling satisfied and well fed.

CASSOC on Display!

Many thanks to various members for these pictures





**Welcome to New Members
Family of Bruce International and the
Scotland Shop!**

Welcome to returning member Clan Maclellan of America!

Member Group News & Updates

Member Groups are encouraged to submit news to this regular column in **An Drochaid**. If there is no news about your group, it is probable that none was submitted to the Editor. Deadline for submissions is the 1st of the month of issue - March, June, September, and December.

Combla Rí Cheile

Together with Accord



Clan Bell North America

The Bell Family Convention held in June 2019 in Gretna, Scotland was supposed to lay this struggle and confusion to rest. The Convention was attended by 12 Bells with another 4 Bells voting remotely. Unfortunately, this number of participants did not demonstrate enough interest to the Lord Lyon to go forward with a Commander of the Bell name. This is a setback, but now we have three years to better prepare for success.

Lessons Learned:

In hindsight, the organization to coordinate the Family Convention in 2018 was too rigidly separated from the support available from Clan Bell North America. When our

rigidly separated from the support available from Clan Bell North America. When our Derbhfine Coordinator, Robert Bell, was diagnosed with cancer, having very separate organizations made it difficult for CBNA to assess the inner workings of the family convention and effectively participate in the preparations.

There was difficulty accessing critical information in 2018. The previous CBNA president sent a large dump of hundreds of documents in which was buried the one crucial document outlining the various expectations for a Family Convention. Although CBNA mobilized to help when this problem was discovered, there was not enough time to meet the expectations of Lord Lyon. In order to make more comprehensive plans going forward, I have requested a copy of this crucial document; it has not yet been sent to me.

Plans going forward:

It is most important for Clan Bell North America to stay focused on our mission to bring Bell families together in unity and friendship and to provide information on Bell family heritage, genealogy, and history.

If you believe that Clan Bell should move forward on electing a Commander and eventually on selecting a Chief, you can show it with donations at <http://www.clanbell.org/donate.html>. Because increasing our membership is essential, Clan Bell North America needs to purchase contact lists for people with Bell surnames. These lists will allow direct email contact in the U.S. and provide data for better targeting similar audiences of Bells living out-side of the US through Google ads and social media ads. Significant donations are required to purchase the contact list with over 248,000 Bell emails in the United States. Some generous pledges have already been made toward the \$9,605 cost, but additional donations are needed to enable CBNA to take this important step.

Use of these contact lists and online ad campaigns

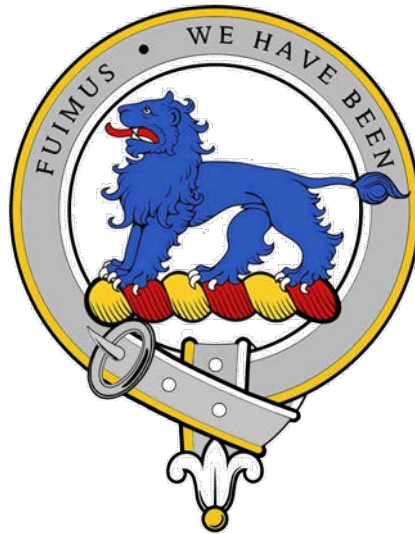
In order to be successful next time, Clan Bell needs to increase the number of people actively participating. The number of world-wide Bell representatives was not great enough to satisfy Lord Lyon, and their geographical representation was too narrow with 13 out of the 16 votes cast from North America. This called into question whether there was an inclusive enough canvas of Bells internationally regarding the appointment of a Commander. Because of this small number of participants, the Lyon concluded that the time may not have arrived when those who hold the name of Bell wish to move towards a Commander

- Selecting from multiple candidates for Commander during the Family Convention created the appearance of lack of unity. Bells need to select a single candidate for Commander prior to any future Family Convention. will also provide excellent proof that Clan Bell canvassed widely for participation and interest in a Commander for a future meeting.
- We need to develop an engaged group of International Advisers to CBNA in order to promote Bell history internationally and assure more international participation for a future convention. If you know any interested Bells who live outside of North America, please have them contact me at President@clanbell.org. We will also work on trans-lating our informational banners on Bell history into French, German and Spanish to help spread enth-u-siasm about Clan Bell.

I had the opportunity to discuss these plans with Lord Lyon face to face on August

I had the opportunity to discuss these plans with Lord Lyon face to face on August 10 and 11 at the 2019 Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games. Based on the strength of these plans, he said that Clan Bell might be able to petition for a Commander in two or fewer years.

Sláinte,
Joseph Lewis Bell



Family of Bruce International

Don Bruce, President of Family of Bruce International, and his wife, Kathy, along with William Bruce, Immediate Past President of FOBI, and his wife, Phyllis, attended the 20th Anniversary Kincardine Scottish Fair and Games in Kincardine, Ontario, Canada on July 5, 6 and 7. Charles, Lord Bruce, was the Grand Chieftain of the Games and officially opened the Fair and Games on Friday evening. Family of Bruce was the honored clan and had a tent provided by the Games staff. Lord Bruce led the parade of clans through town in a restored classic Rolls Royce. He awarded games, dancing, and pipe band trophies. He also participated in the Kirkin' of Tartans at the Presbyterian church in Kincardine on Sunday.





At the Bruce tent l to r: Kathy, President Don, Lord Bruce, Past President William, and Phyllis, all Bruces



Caledonia Celtic Festival







Clan Carruthers Society International (Canada)

Clan Carruthers Society International was represented at Fergus Scottish Festival by Graham Carruthers and Zelda Carruthers and their treatment by those they met was second to none. It was a joy for them to greet old friends and meet new ones, which is precisely what a gathering of this nature is all about. One of the highlights of their visitation was that they had the good fortune to meet and converse with the Lord Lyon, who they found to be exceptionally pleasant and informative.

We are therefore pleased to announce that as a Society and after 12 long years of hard work and research, a decision has been made by the Lyon Court regarding a Chief of our clan.

This was confirmed during the conversation with the Lord Lyon himself at Fergus and again by our Convenor when we last spoke. We currently only await the official proclamation, which we understand will be in the next few weeks.

The shield which constitutes the main part of the Carruthers Arms is the visual and heraldic signature of our Chief, which is officially registered and patented to him/her alone. The chief's shield is blazoned: Gules, two chevrons engrailed between three fleur de lis Or (a red shield on which sits three wavy chevrons with two fleur de lis above and one below, all in gold)

We thank those members we have spoken to and who have offered their support, it is much appreciated.

Please see the official announcement regarding our Chief below.

Clan Carruthers Society International
Promptus et Fidelis





CONFIRMATION OF A CHIEF OF



CARRUTHERS

After 12 long years of research and hard work, our society is pleased to announce that on August the 19th 2019, Dr Joseph J Morrow CBE, KStJ, QC, DL, Lord Lyon, King of Arms, after a full deliberation of the case and evidence presented to him, has confirmed

Dr. Simon Peter Carruthers of Holmains
Chief of the Name and Arms of Carruthers.

Dr Carruthers is the great-great-great grandson of the last recognised Chief, John Carruthers 12th of Holmains. John died 210 years ago in 1809, and his own descendancy can be traced back to the first chiefs of Mouswald in 1320.

The undifferenced Arms of Carruthers, registered to the chiefly line since 1672 by John 9th of Holmains and blazoned Gules, two chevrons engrailed between three fleur de lis Or, are now borne by our new chief and can be seen above. They remain his visual and heraldic signature and are only used legally with his permission.

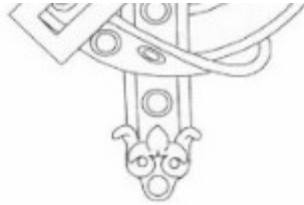
The **Clan Carruthers Society International** is the official representative of Clan Carruthers and derivatives of our name, the official clan tartan is displayed above, upon which sits the clan society crest.



Dr George Carruthers FSA Scot
Convenor, Clan Carruthers Society-International

www.clancarrutherssociety.org





Clan Hunter Association

Hello Clansfolk! My first comment is also a welcome and that is to Richard Wright of BC. Richard is a Royal Canadian Mountie and has already sent us two reports under the heading "Memoirs of a Mountie". The first regarding a very daring/dangerous photo shoot on a bridge and the second his report on his first engagement as a clan tent host in Lafarge Lake Park, Coquitlam, BC. Richard was very happy with the event and hopes to continue with it next year (read his report in this issue). In addition since I last reported in the Clan Officer's letter I have received offers to host tents in the following Provinces, Canmore Highland Games, Alberta - Judith Harrison, Fergus Highland Games, Ontario - Dale Hill, Regina Highland Games, Saskatchewan - JP Bautista-Hunter . This is very encouraging for me as (other than Fergus) we have never attended any of these Games before and Canada always felt too big to be able to include everyone as we would have liked. Christine and I have in past years been able to visit the West Coast to the Victoria Highland Games in BC and on the East coast, the Fredericton Highland Games and the Antigonish Highland Games in New Brunswick. However this is no longer possible for us and so we are all the more delighted that others can "carry the banner" so to speak. So a big THANK YOU to those folk mentioned above.

I do want to just put in a plug for the International Clan Gathering to be held at Hunterston next year (September 2020). Please put this on your "Bucket List" I know you will not be disappointed. Be prepared to "walk with the Vikings" at the annual Largs Viking Festival. Did you know that the first Hunters who came to Scotland/Hunterston were Normans from Normandy who in turn were descended from the Vikings and leader Rollo. Walking in the footsteps of your ancestors is something special. Not many details are available yet but if you check the UK website you will get news as it is released.

<https://clanhunterscotland.com/>





Clan Kincaid Association International

Greetings to all those who endured the heat, crowds and parking challenges to revel in the ambience of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and Clan Kincaid Gathering 2019 with our Chief, Madam Arabella Kincaid of Kincaid and her sons, Angus and Dominic.

As predicted, things started out with the enormous glitch of getting our Chief to the event. As you may have heard, Madam Arabella's flight was first delayed several hours due to a mechanical situation then it was finally cancelled. She was able to re-book for the following day on a Lufthansa flight from London to Charlotte by way of Munich! That flight landed on time but clearing customs and immigration took more than an hour. This was a great disappointment to Dominic who was scheduled to run "The Bear" – a five mile uphill race to the top of Grandfather Mountain. But we did make it and thanks to Hugh for entertaining the "Meet and Greet" folk while you all waited patiently. The torch lighting ceremony was touching and entertaining. If you would like to see a video, please take a look at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKtvEhzUQj4> especially at 23:30.

Fortunately, the rain gods vented their fury on Thursday and departed for parts unknown for the rest of the weekend thus negating the need for umbrellas and wet weather gear – a good thing, eh? Kudos to the Grandfather Mountain staff who brought in mulch and straw to protect the feet of guests from the swamp created the day before.

Friday dawned bright and beautiful and hot. Your Clan Kincaid Gathering 2019 team was hard as work. Hugh did a wonderful job decorating the tents, Donna was on hand to sign up new members, stamp passports, sign up folks for souvenir albums and generally keep a calm head amid all the noise. She had wonderful help from Barbara and Charlene. (Gotta learn making sash rosettes from Barbara.) Kathi help avoid embarrassing moments trying to remember names with her lovely name tag lanyards that consistently flipped over in the wind showing generic Kincaids. LOL! Then there was Lance who seemed to be everywhere with his trusty camera. The 5 extra sashes we ordered were gone in a matter of minutes. Clan folk enjoyed many of the Games events, food and vendors during the day. Madam Arabella brought greetings from the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs to the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations of North America and hosted a Meeting of the Board and Commissioners present. We even learned of two or three potential new Commissioners. (The tea and shortbreads were delicious.)

Saturday dawned again bright and warm. Our members were kept hydrated with water and treats all day thanks to Barbara. Madam Arabella, President David and First Lady Barbara represented Clan Kincaid at the Opening Ceremonies. Clan

Kincaid sponsored prizes at the Gaelic Mod singing contest (in Gaelic). Did anyone attend?

Everyone began arriving at the Best Western Mountain Resort in Banner Elk dressed in their finest for the Gala Banquet honouring our Chief. Madam Arabella welcomed our guests with a glass of 'bubbly' ably served by her sons Angus and Dominic. We successfully 'herded cats' for a group photo in the garden. Drink tickets were generously provided by the Illinois Kincaids led by Commissioner Joseph Kincaid. Guests found their way to their assigned tables and the head table was piped into the banquet hall. Programmes for the evening were designed by our Communications Director, Emily Silverspaare who was unfortunately unable to attend due to health concerns. We were led in the invocation offered by our new Clan Chaplin, Pastor John Kinkead followed by toasts to Great Britain, Canada, the United States and of course our Chief. The ceremonial Haggis was piped in carried by Dominic. Heather Kincaid then gave a fabulous interpretation of Robert Burns' "Address to the Haggis". Heather earned everyone's praises for her tremendous award winning performance. Master of Ceremonies Hugh then invited everyone to partake in a meal featuring Scottish and Appalachian Mountain fare during which a number of the party had their pick of a variety of door prizes. Beverly Kincaid provided each Head of Family with a gift package that she generously donated. It contained a picture of our Chief, a Tartan decoration, a crest decal, a clansman print, a Kincaid pamphlet, a Kincaid decal and a Clan History in an attractive folder. Following dinner, the guests were entertained with Celtic music provided by "Roaring Jelly" group of Appalachian Studies students from East Tennessee State University. Do not be misled by the name, they were very good. President David Kincaid gave a "State of the Clan" address then introduced the special guest, Madam Arabella Kincaid of Kincaid who provided us with an inspirational address featuring notable Kincaids from several centuries and empathising the importance of Family. First lady Barbara Kincaid and Hugh Kincaid presented Madam Arabella and her sons with a variety of gifts from the Gathering. The evening concluded with everyone forming a grand circle and singing Auld Lang Sang. A very touching end to a wonderful experience.

Sunday brought another day of sun and fun with no rain. It was hot! Most of the Kincaids gathered for the Parade of the Clans and those who chose not to walk took front row seats to cheer the others on. We have yet to confirm the exact number but we had in excess of 100 leading the Parade as the Honoured Clan. We had children in prams and seniors in wheelchairs. We had singles and families with a dozen or more. We had Kincaids from Montana to Florida and even a token Canadian. We were later told by the new President of the Grandfather Games, Steve Quillin, that it was the largest clan representation in the history of the Games. Everyone was most impressed with our showing – especially Madam Arabella, President David and First Lady Barbara as they stood in the reviewing stand. That afternoon we had several Kincaid young people enter races. Dominic placed third in the kilted mile and received a pin for his accomplishment. An attempt to participate in the Clan Tug of War was curtailed after we saw that the competition was made up of huge professionals. It was a noble but futile attempt.

The afternoon ground to a close amid many hugs, clasped hands and even a few tears as we bid good bye, so long and farewell to old and new friends with promises

of getting together at another event in the future if not sooner. Over 200 people signed the Guest Book. We signed 24 new members including at least one new life member. We generated a possible three new Commissioners and secured the interest of many in helping organize and host future events – great accomplishments. Most of all, we enhanced the pride of all our Kincaids in their family and Scottish heritage. A goal accomplished!

Get your Souvenir Photo Album. Our intrepid photographer, Lance Knauss, has agreed to put together a souvenir photo album of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and Clan Kincaid Gathering 2019. He has successfully created souvenir albums for the Clan Gathering in 2014 and again in 2016. The cost is \$40.00 and includes delivery. The albums should be available by October 1st. If you would like to reserve this keepsake memory of a fabulous weekend, please contact Donna Knauss at onlymussi@hotmail.com or call her at 541-412-8565. Don't miss out on this opportunity.

In kinship and with love to all;
James Brisbin – Co-chair



Clan MacDougall Society of North America

From Tuesday 30th July to Sunday 4th August, over 300 MacDougalls from all over the world descended on Dunollie to celebrate their heritage as part of the International Clan MacDougall Gathering 2019.

Attendees travelled from countries as far as Australia, North & South America, South Africa, Europe, England, Ireland and Wales. There was even the joy of a surprise wedding, with a lovely young Swedish couple who were married in secret in Oban whilst joining the festivities.

Dunollie hosted a range of over 80 activities for attendees to enjoy, including Whisky Tasting, day trips to Kerrera, Lismore and Kilbride, Boat Trips, Gaelic, Clarsach and Art Workshops, Historical Talks, Re-Enactment Events and a Scottish music performance inspired by the iconic Brooch of Lorn. In keeping with tradition, attendees donned their finest apparel for the Clan Dinner dance on the Saturday evening. The Gathering drew to a close with the Farewell March along the stunning coastline to Dunollie on Sunday afternoon, led by the Isle of Mull & Iona Pipe Band.

After the success of the 2019 Gathering, Madam MacDougall and the committee are due to meet next month to discuss future plans for the event, and how we can continue to bring together MacDougall's from all corners of the globe to connect, discover and celebrate their roots.

If you would like to keep up to date with news on the next International Clan MacDougall Gathering, make sure to sign up for free to Dunollie's Worldwide Clan MacDougall at <https://www.dunollie.org/worldwide-clan-macdougall> to receive information as it is announced.

Gillian Campbell
Marketing & Promotions Manager, Dunollie



Clan MacLachlan Society

Greetings Clan Members,

This has been a hot summer to remember. Unfortunately, I have been largely confined indoors.

Your Council in Scotland faces decisions on the future of the Society which has declined in membership by 50% since 2005. We do not know which Branches of the Society will survive. If the 5% decline per year continues, we will have effectively one world-wide branch with world-wide communications. Individuals will look to the Society for information on the Clan, its families and traditions. There is one icon of the Clan which will survive, and that is the Old Castle Lachlan.

Preservation of Old Castle Lachlan

The castle has been the center of the clan since at least the 14th century. After the successful preservation of Kilmorie Chapel, the burial place of the Chiefs, the Council decided to preserve the iconic Castle Lachlan.

The urgent priority was to stabilize the surviving walls, otherwise the castle would be reduced to a jumble of rocks. This has been a major project which required raising £650,000. The Clan Lachlan Association of Canada played a key role by providing donations from a source of "ancestral" tourists whose donations were multiplied many times by funds from government resources whose policy was to encourage "ancestral" tourists.

Plans have been drawn up for the final stage of securing the Old Castle's future. Improvements to be made include:

Removing the ivy and tree shoots from the walls followed by stabilization works. Providing internal stairs to the first-floor level and access to the west and east viewing floors where the outer walls have collapsed, but with the appropriate safety barriers.

Provide access to the top of the main castle wall by an internal stairway to offer a further viewing point.

The work is estimated to cost about £1.6 million

In addition to major contributions from Heritage and Lottery funds, the target of the Lachlan Trust is to attract large donations from individuals and companies with the offer of some permanent recognition of their generous help.

Once funds are available it would require about 2 years to complete the project. There is an urgent need to have a regular source of donations from individual members to demonstrate to Funding sources that there is an ongoing population of "ancestral" tourists who support this project.

In Canada we will have the Save Old Castle Lachlan Fund [SOCL].

We plan to contact all existing and past members and welcome all donations.

We will offer:

\$25.00 CA21. One-year membership in Clan Society, Canadian Branch and Lachlan Library.

\$100.00 CA19. Five-year membership in Clan Society, Canadian Branch and Lachlan Library.

Donations and Membership

Cheques to Lachlan Trust

David MacLachlan , PO Box1380, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6A 6N2

Cheques to Clan MacLachlan Society

James MacLachlan, 1639 Bateau Lane, RR#3, Gananoque. ON, K7G 2V5

Lachlan Library

This has PDF copies of the past issues of "Clan Lachlan" magazine; family histories, clan traditions and history, genealogy articles, classics of Scottish literature. For Canadian Members it also has copies of the "Rowan Tree".

I take this opportunity of welcoming Brenda and Rick McLauchlan as CLA Membership Secretaries.

The Branch and Society needs more volunteers.

I wish you all well for the Fall and Winter

Duncan MacLachlan - #41



Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada

President's Report

by Judy Tipple

Greetings fellow MacLeods and friends. It is my hope that all are in good health and enjoying this season of Highland Games and Festivals. You will find a very comprehensive list of such events on the CASSOC web site www.cassoc.ca along with other interesting information.

As I look back on the end of 2018 when I last sent out The Leod Voice I am at a loss to know where the time has gone. Like most active volunteers the list of things to be done seems to far exceed the time available in which to do them.

Outstanding Clansperson Pin

We would like to include a pin with the Outstanding Clansperson Award and so I am asking for your thoughts regarding its design. One thought is that it could contain the CMSC crest as seen on the front cover of this newsletter. The Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada (CMSC) honours an Outstanding Clansperson(s) with a certificate usually once every two years at Parliament and North

American Gatherings (NAG.) You will have read that Cathie White of CMS Central Ontario was the 2018 recipient and she was very much deserving of the honour. You will find the list of past recipients of the Award on the CMSC web site www.clanmacleodcanada.com.

CMSC Tartan

It is a great splash of colour that so well reflects our Scottish heritage. Items and yardage are still available from Carol MacCrimmon Pugliese as you will see elsewhere in this issue.

Touring Scotland

The Shetland Islands were voted the Lonely Planet's Best in Europe 2019 destination. It is one area of Scotland which I have yet to visit and I will put it on my Bucket List with hopes of a trip, perhaps involving a cruise, in a few years time. There is a tour of some of the sights of the Shetlands produced by VisitScotland you might find interesting. There must be areas of the homeland which many of you have on your Bucket List; I encourage you to share your dreams and also recount your memorable travel experiences with us all. It is always enjoyable to travel vicariously through the eyes of others, especially for those whose health restricts their ability to get around.

ACMS News

Associated Clan MacLeod Societies (ACMS) is our international parent body and has a new web site under construction. Content of the old site is being examined and new content developed by Emma Halford-Forbes, David MacLeod and others. The Facebook page is updated on a regular basis. The next meeting of ACMS Council will be held in Rouge, Belgium on October 19, 2019, in conjunction with CMS Germany's Annual General Meeting and Highland Games.

Young MacLeods

A world gathering of Young MacLeods is hoped to be held in September 2020 in Australia. I would love to hear from any of our young folks who would like to attend that gathering. CMSC may well be able to give you assistance for your travel.

Celtic Colours

Concerts and cultural events in over 300 communities on Cape Breton Island, NS, from October 11 to 19, amid the fall colours of this beautiful province, is not to be missed at least once in a lifetime. Add it to your Bucket List if it is not already on it. View the lineup of guests on <https://celticcolours.com> and listen to the stirring music.

Hold Fast and Shine Brightly,
Judy Tipple



Clan Munro Association of Canada

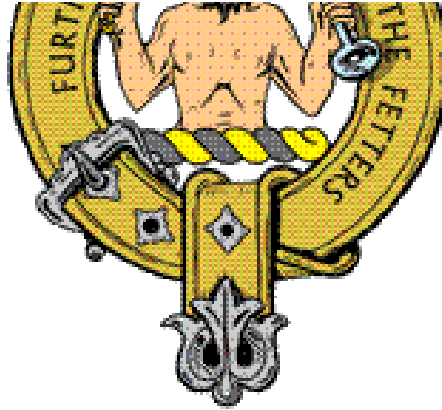
CMAC participated in the Gathering of Clan Munro (Association) 9 – 11 Aug 2019 in Scotland. We were part of the International Gathering that included Munros from the U.S., Canada, Australia, France, Switzerland, England and the Highlands. On Fri 9 Aug, we toured Eilean Donan castle (part of the 'Little Rising' in 1719) and then gathered for the 300th commemoration of the Battle of Glen Shiel, which took place in June 1719. Hector Munro of Foulis, Chief of Clan Munro, laid a wreath in honour of those who died at that battle and his son, Finnian Munro, Younger, of Foulis, carried the Chief's banner up the hill to the remains of a redoubt build by the Spaniards and Willie Fraser (NTS Ranger) carried the Union Flag. In the evening, Clan Munro was welcomed to the Inverness City Hall by the Inverness Deputy Provost Bet MacAllister at a Civic Reception for the Clan in the magnificently refurbished Town House.

Following that, the eight Canadians present held the Annual Meeting at the Royal Highland Hotel.

On Sat 10 Aug, we visited the Eagle Stone, once said to mark the grave of Munros killed in a 15th Century Clan fight and part of the Brahan Seer's prophecies. For dinner, we gathered in the Strathpeffer pavilion where we were joined by The Earl & Countess of Cromartie and his son Lord Tarbat. John Cromartie, the Chief of Clan Mackenzie gave a short talk on looking after his ancient Clan seat Castle Leod.

On Sun 11 Aug, the clan gathered at Foulis Castle, historic home of the chiefs of Clan Munro and were warmly welcomed by the Chief and his family. All present enjoyed the many activities and presentations that had been arranged. It was all over too soon, but everyone left with a renewed sense of kinship and the lasting bond of being members of a close knit Highland Clan. The whole weekend was a wonderful, enjoyable, exciting Gathering! This was a family reunion at its best. What stands out is the immense amount of planning and work that went into this weekend by all members of the Chief's family as well as the hosts from CMA-USA and we thank them for all their time and effort on our behalf. What we will always remember is the warmth and friendship of all the Munros from around the world and we look forward to the next Gathering with pleasure!





Murray Clan Society of North America - Canadian Branch

The Murray Clan Society of North America Canadian branch attended 6 gatherings and Highland games and festivals in Canada this Spring and Summer. In Ontario we were at the Fergus Highland games in August. In BC we were at the Victoria Highland games and Celtic Festival on the May long weekend, In June we were at the BC highland games. July saw us at the Kamloops and Penticton highland games. August saw our tent at the Campbell River Highland gathering. Thank you to all who manned the tents and for all of you who dropped into our tents and talked to our clan folk.

Bill Murray
Region 1 Representative
Murray Clan Society of North America



The Ontario Genealogical Society

Ontario Ancestors (The Ontario Genealogical Society) was excited to be asked to operate a genealogy tent at the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games in August in the Heritage Village, just behind the Avenue of the Clans. We are looking forward already to 2020, the Fergus games 75th anniversary.

If your clan was present at Fergus, check out our photo gallery at <https://scottishsig.ogs.on.ca/fergus-scottish-festival-highland-games/> . The scrolling photos will pause any time the cursor is held over a photo, and click each photo will take you to each clan's website (if we have any sites wrong, please sent a correction to David.Thompson@ogs.on.ca. Also, if you have a clan event or clan news you would like promoted, please send me a note.

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SCOTLANDSHOP

TAILORED TARTAN CLOTHING & INTERIORS

Scotland Shop

We love all things tartan and specialise in creating made to order tailored tartan garments & interior products in a range of over 500 tartans, using fabric woven in Scotland. Our headquarters are in the Scottish Borders and our Flagship store is based in the West End of Edinburgh. We have been operating online since 2002, with our Edinburgh store opening in 2017. Our business was founded on not only a love of fashion, fabric and Scottish culture but also a desire to contribute to the development of the local rural economy in the Scottish Borders. Having sold online for many years we already have a large customer base in Canada and in August we made our first trip to tour three Highland Games and to host a Pop-Up store & measuring service. This year the games that we visited were; Glengarry, Montreal & Fergus and our Pop-Up store was held in Toronto at MacKenzie House museum. We hope to expand upon our successful Highland Games tour next year and to host more frequent Pop-Up stores in Canada going forward. You can find out more about our story, locations, & events on this page of our website - <https://www.scotlandshop.com/about-us>

Our Social Media Links are:

- <https://twitter.com/scotlandshop>
- <https://www.facebook.com/ScotlandShopcom/>

- <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/scotlandshop/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/scotlandshop/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5uf9gGiJ4AuqLsPIF4NmxQ>



Scottish Australian Heritage Council

Saturday 21 September Clans on the Coast Celtic Festival, Nelson Bay, NSW
www.clansonthecoast.com.au

Sunday 6 October 2019 Armadale Highland Gathering and Perth Kilt Run,
Armadale, WA
<https://perthkilt.run.com.au/>
<https://www.armadale.wa.gov.au/events/highland-gathering-and-perth-kilt-run>

Saturday 12 October 2019 Canberra Highland Gathering, Kambah, ACT
We understand that The MacLaren and The Buchanan Clan Chiefs will be there.
canberragathering.com.au

Saturday 12 October 2019 Collie Clan Gathering, Collie, WA
www.collieclan.org

REVIVING THE HIGHLAND GAMES IN THE 19TH CENTURY

Notes supplied by Professor Sybil Jack

Highland Games had started in 1781 at Falkirk in Scotland. They were followed by other communities and in 1830 in the USA. As Queen Victoria and Prince Albert became interested after 1842 the games became more and more popular.

The big noble families became patrons of the games in their areas. The Dukes of Argyll, hereditary chieftains of the Clan Campbell sponsored the Inveraray Highland Games. The Lord Aberdeen was traditionally the Chieftain of the Aberdeen Games, the Earl of Huntly is still the Chieftain of the Aboyne Highland Games and the present Chief of the Colquhouns, Sir Malcolm Colquhoun of Luss, is the patron at Luss.

In 1849 a Scottish Society was founded in London (the Scottish Society of London)

with patrons who included -- as the Argus newspaper noted in Australia -- the Dukes of Montrose and Sutherland, the Marquises of Breadalbane and Huntley, the Earls of Eglinton, Haddington, Airlie, and Zetland, Viscount Drumlanrig, Lord Saltoun, Lord Kinnaid, &c. The Marquis of Breadalbane was the president of the new Society and Viscount Drumlanrig vice-president. The arbiters included Mr. Fox Maule, Sheriff Alison, The Chisholm, Lochiel, Cluny Macpherson, and a number of other Highland gentlemen.

Interest in games events was created by Scottish Highland army regiments when stationed in various towns. They provided examples of the Highland games to amuse the locals and so people saw soldiers tossing the caber, putting a 32 lb ball, throwing the hammer, cutting a bar of lead with one stroke of a cutlass, and other such amusements requiring a display of strength. The popularity grew rapidly as did that of the game of shinty.

On 1 January 1857 there was a Highland Games in Ballarat, the first to be held in Australia. The advertisement declared, "THE FIRST Grand Annual Ballarat Gathering For the Royal Scottish HIGHLAND GAMES, WILL take place in a Paddock at the rear of the RED LION HOTEL, Near the Hospital, ON SATURDAY, 10TH INST., At 12 O'Clock, noon."

Substantial prizes were offered for the many events including the Best Dressed Person in Highland Costume. For tossing caber, the prize was a Gold Watch.

The Competition was open to all the Colonies and the Entrance Fee was a substantial 5s. for adults, boys, 2s. 6d. but the prizes were also large – several pounds. A Band was in attendance.

Nearby Maryborough claims that its Highland Games also started in 1857 and except for the war have run annually ever since.

Highland games rapidly became popular throughout Australia alongside Highland dancing. Victoria seems to have taken the lead with a Grand Caledonian Gathering in 1860 but in 1869 NSW had a Highland Gathering which was organised by the Duke of Edinburgh's Highland Rifle Brigade in Redfern.

Today, the Ballarat Highland Gathering is hosted by Pipe Bands Victoria and the Maryborough Highland Gathering by the Maryborough Highland Society.



The Scottish Studies Foundation

Scottish Studies Fall Colloquium

The Fall Colloquium will take on Saturday, October 5, to be held in the Robert Whitelaw Room, McLaughlin Library at the University of Guelph. Registration will begin at 9 am with the conference kicking off at 9:30 am.

This year's topic is entitled "Representing the Scottish Past in Film, Text, and Media." Topics will include Race and Representation, Myth and Legend and the ever popular (or infamous!) Mary Queen of Scots, with papers by Dr. Sylvia Bryce-Wunder of Wilfrid Laurier University, Dr. Marian Toledo of Wilfrid Laurier University Press, Kathryn Comper, currently pursuing her MA in Scottish History at the University of Guelph, Dr. Katie McCullough of Simon Fraser University, Dr. Dave Nelson of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Emma Flynn, currently pursuing her MA in Literature at the University of Glasgow, and Dr. Lucy Hinnie, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the University of Saskatchewan.

We are delighted that the Jill Mackenzie lecture will be delivered by Professor Graeme Morton from the University of Dundee who will be presenting on the theme of representation, tying together the day's proceedings.

Preliminary details are on the Scottish Studies Foundation's website which will be updated it as time goes on. See www.scottishstudies.com



Clan Sinclair Association of Canada

Dear all

"A time of pure Sinclair 'magic'" are the words written to me by Dorothy McCallum to

A time of pure Sinclair magic are the words written to me by Dorothy McCallum to describe the recent Clan Gathering in Winnipeg. She couldn't be more accurate. This was a Gathering unlike any that have been held before. In Caithness and Edinburgh we have looked at places relevant to Sinclair history; in Canada and the USA we have celebrated a possible 600th anniversary of Henry Sinclair voyaging to the New World; in Norway we commemorated a battle and in Italy we remembered our Stuart connections. This time it was all about people and a group of cousins, many of whom had never met each other before.

The marriage of William Sinclair to Nahoway, soon after his return to York Factory on Hudson Bay in 1792, was both unusual and the start of a great dynasty. It was lovely to meet some of the great-great-great-great-(great) grandchildren of this couple to whom I, and many others in the Clan, are related. Their male DNA corresponds to over 95% with that of the Roslin/Caithness line. However, William also signposted us a clue in that he called his eldest son William 'Credo' Sinclair. Although 'Commit Thy Work to God' is the motto all Sinclairs can use, registered heads of families within the Clan can have their own motto and for Sinclairs of Rosslyn (now headed by the Earl of Rosslyn) it was 'Credo'.

The family crest of the St. Clairs of Rosslyn from c.1500, as depicted in a carving or moulding in the ceiling of the withdrawing or dining room at Rosslyn Castle when building work was being completed by Sir William St. Clair of Pentland in 1622. (Copied from the Rosslyn Chapel Website)



It is important to remember that William, Nahoway and their children had made their mark, and thus were instrumental in creating a new social fabric, before Confederation and the formation of Canada in 1867. That is something of which we can all be proud.

The Gathering would not have been possible without the work of Luke Settee, who did so much to bring to fruition. Roger, your President and George your Secretary also played huge roles. George could never have researched the history and genealogical connections in such depth that he has become a walking

genealogical connections in such depth that he has become a walking encyclopaedia of the dynasty without the help of his wife, Pat. She, so sadly, 'was gathered in' a week after the Gathering ended and we shall all miss her. We had a very full three and a half days, culminating in a farewell dinner after the Manitoba Highland Games where we marched in behind our own pipers who were preceded by some of the Pipes and Drums of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. There are so many happy memories to treasure. Brilliant though Niigaan's speech was at the farewell dinner, the two short ceremonies at the graves of Nahoway and her daughter Catherine stand out for me.

Before we arrived in Winnipeg, Penny and I saw some more of Canada by paying quick visits to Montreal and Quebec. In Quebec City we met up with two clan members, Ted and Louise Gunn, who kindly gave us lunch in the Legislative Assembly Building and showed us parts of the city that we would not have otherwise seen. As I write this letter they are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary – many congratulations to them.

Next year will see another Clan Gathering in Scotland which is being organised by John Thurso. There has been a bigger than expected response by people wanting to attend, so John and I are looking at what can be done. As those who have been before will know one of the problems is accommodation, but we will see what we can do. I am sorry if some people become disappointed if they cannot join us so please ensure you have registered your interest with your Association Secretary or President.

I am delighted to write that Rory has completed a huge tome of work. Some time ago he told me he was putting together all the Sinclair related Pipe tunes. He completed that in May and he has fifty-three of them in one compilation. Well done and thank you. Now all he has to do is to put them on some form of media so that we can all listen to them!

Whilst on piping, at the recent Gathering, Tom Robinson announced the good news that Keith Sinclair has been appointed piper to the Clan in the USA. We are fortunate to have such talented musicians to play for us and, of course, Abigail and Isla St Clair to sing.

Best wishes

Malcolm, Clan Chief





St. Andrew's Charity Ball
Saturday, November 30th 2019 - on St. Andrew's Day!

This year we are excited to host the Ball at our new venue:

The Carlu
444 Yonge Street, Toronto, M5B 2H4

The Carlu is a historic event space in Toronto which opened in 1930. It was known as the eponymous "Eaton's Seventh Floor". The venue was restored and reopened in 2003 and is one of Toronto's best examples of Art Moderne architecture. For more information click [here](#).

Tickets on sale soon!

For more information go to our website: www.standrews-society.ca

Scottish Humour

Shortly after take-off on an outbound evening Air Canada flight from Glasgow

Shortly after take off on an outbound, evening Air Canada flight from Glasgow Airport to Toronto, the lead flight attendant nervously made the following painful announcement in her lovely Scottish brogue: "Ladies and gentlemen, I'm so very sorry, but it appears that there has been a terrible mix-up by our catering service. I don't know how this has happened, but we have 103 passengers on board, and unfortunately, we received only 40 dinner meals. I truly apologize for this mistake and inconvenience."

When the muttering of the passengers had died down, she continued, "Anyone who is kind enough to give up their meal so that someone else can eat, will receive free and unlimited drinks for the duration of our 10 hour flight."

Her next announcement came about 2 hours later: "If anyone is hungry, we still have 40 dinners available."



Castle Duart, seat of Clan MacLean (whose Chief is a patron of CASSOC)

Help Wanted!

CASSOC needs help!
We need volunteers NOW for:

Chair

Bookkeeper

Directors-at-Large

Editor

For information contact

chairperson@cassoc.ca

info@cassoc.ca

An Drochaid is published quarterly.

Submissions are extraordinarily welcome, though articles may be edited for length or content

content.

The next issue of **An Drochaid** will be the December issue.
The deadline for submissions is Sunday, December 8th.
Submissions can be emailed to editor@cassoc.ca



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