

# Clan MACDOUGALL Society of N.A.

[www.macdougall.org](http://www.macdougall.org)

Clan MacDougall Society of North America represents two clans: Clan MacDougall of Argyll and Clan MacDowall of Galloway. This page contains information for MacDougall. For information on Clan MacDowall, please see their page.

**CREST:** An arm in armour holding a cross.

**MOTTO:** Buaidh No Bas, Conquer or Die



Modern



Ancient

**NAME VARIANTS:** Associated With Clan MacDougall of Argyll: Carmichael (of Argyll only), Macgille michael, Coul, MacCoul, McCoul, Cool, MacCool, McCool, Macoual, MacCowl, Conacher, McConacher, MacConacher, MacConcher, Coyle, MacCoyle, McCoyle, Dole, MacDole, MacDill, McDill, McDoll, Doual, MacDoual, McDoual, Macdoual, MacDool, Dougal, Dougall, Dougald, MacDougal, McDougal, MacDougall, Mcdougal, MacDougald, McDougald, Dugal, Dugald, MacDugal, McDugald, MacDugle, MacDougle, Mcdougle, Dulothe, MacDulothe, Ewan, Ewen, MacEwan, Howell, MacHowell, McHowell, MacCowell, MacCowan, McCowan, McCown, Macowen, Livingston(e) (of Argyll only), MacKichan, McKichan, MacKickan, Lugash, MacLugash, MacLuke, MacLucas, Lulich, McLulich, MacCulich, MacCulloch, McCulloch, MacCullagh, MacClintock, McClintock, MacLinden, MacLintock, McLintock, M'Gowall, MacHale, McHale, MacNamell

## A SHORT HISTORY:

Clan MacDougall (Clann Mhic Dhùghail) means “the children of the son of Dugal”. The name Dugal derived from the Gaelic words “dubh” meaning dark or black and “gall” meaning foreigner or stranger. Hence Dugal translates as “Dark Foreigner” or “Black Stranger” which was a Gaelic term for persons of Norse descent. In 1164 Somerled died in the Battle of Renfrew fighting the forces of the King of Scots near the banks of the River Clyde. Dugal, his oldest living son, inherited the central portion of his father’s kingdom and became the founder and first Chief of Clan MacDougall. Our seagoing clan was based on the Hebrides isles of Mull, Coll, Tiree, Jura and Kerrera then owned by Norway, and on the Scottish mainland in Lorn and Argyll on the west coast of Scotland. In their twin roles of King of the Hebrides for Norway and ruler of Lorn for Scotland, Dugal and his successor Chiefs protected their islands and mainland territory with a ring of castles and a strong fleet of galleys. During the summer of 1249 King Alexander II of Scotland sailed to the Hebrides intent on taking these Norwegian owned isles for Scotland but he became sick and was forced to land on the island of Kerrera. He ordered Ewan the 3rd chief of clan MacDougall to surrender his Cairnburgh Castle in the Treshnish Isles (which was Norwegian property) to the Scottish Crown. Ewan refused and declared that he had already sworn feudal loyalty to King Haakon of Norway for his Norwegian lands. Alexander II exclaimed angrily – “No man can serve two masters!” to which Ewan calmly replied: – “One man can easily serve two masters if they are not enemies”. Alexander died on Kerrera shortly afterwards and Ewan then swore feudal allegiance for his territory on the mainland of Scotland to the new eight-year-old King Alexander III of Scots. When King Haakon of Norway gave Ewan the same choice in 1263, Ewan returned the Hebridean Isles to him and chose Scotland. King Haakon was defeated by the Scots at the Battle of Largs in 1263. When the Treaty of Perth of 1266 gave the Scots possession of the Hebrides, Alexander III then returned their old island possessions back to the MacDougalls. This was an early incident in the many struggles to come.

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## **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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