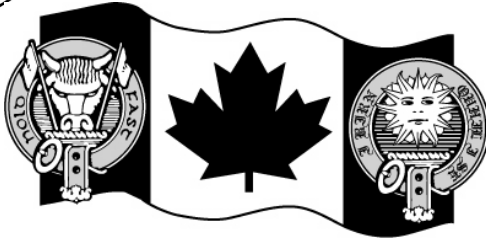




The LEOD VOICE

CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES CANADA
NATIONAL COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER # 49
FALL, 2008



CMSC President Don M. MacLeod, Past President Ian C. MacLeod flank Outstanding Clansperson Award recipients Barbara MacLeod Armstrong and Neil R. McLeod

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY DON M. MACLEOD



All of us are traveling a highway of life. We all suffer the tragedies of losing parents, partners, friends, spouses, lovers, pets, investments and finally our youth. There are many positives though. We get to cuddle with ones we love, make our parents proud, give to unfortunates, make others happy, help our elders, experience warm winds, smiling babies and perfect sunsets. We have seen the miracle of new babies, had happy birthdays and maybe won a prize.

There are many detours and side streets off this main highway of life. We have choices to make. The highway and adjoining roads can be rocky and often seem impossible to traverse.

But the travel can be exciting. It can be fast or slow and you can enjoy the trip or rush through it. We only travel this highway once so you should make the trip enjoyable. Most of us know in advance the difficult times ahead. The travelers often travel alone. The safest way with the most excitement is to travel with a group and the finest group is your own family. “Blood is thicker than water” and this highway of life is rampant with hazards that travelling companions can help you get through. We all need those travelling partners and the ones that won’t abandon you are your family, and remember, that we are your family.

The young members of the clan need to learn, belong and find their place in the scheme of things. They need role models and references. They need praise for their successes and encouragement to remain on the highway of life with the rest of us. We all need help. Most of us don’t ask for help but with our family heritage, we shouldn’t need to ask for it.

The senior MacLeods of the Clan deserve respect. They want to be mentors and they want to impart their experiences. Their energy may be waning but their wisdom is invaluable. The combination of young and old traveling together, makes for the strongest, wisest caravan, with everyone feeling safe, taken care of and never alone. Let’s travel this “Life Highway” together and bring more of our “Clan Family” along with us.

PAST PRESIDENT'S NOTES

BY IAN C. MACLEOD (2004 – 2008)

I promised Judy and Dr. Don that I would continue to contribute to the *Leod Voice*, even though my term had expired as CMSC President. This report flows somewhat naturally, as much of it covers the NAG and some transitional items. Later reports might be a bit more “academic”.



North American Gathering, Ottawa, 2008

I ended my four year term as National President of CMS-Canada at the Saturday night gala at the Ottawa NAG. It was an outstanding event – one of the best yet. Barbara MacLeod Armstrong and her team from Ottawa and Glengarry did a masterful job in putting together a great event, and we owe them a huge amount of gratitude.

So I took up the invitation, and came a few days early, to take in Canada Day on July 1, our 141st birthday as a Nation. On a magnificent summer day, about 75,000 people jammed Parliament Hill and took in the RCMP Musical Ride, the Changing of the Guard, many professional musicians and much more. I was one of them.

I was amazed with the large number of visitors speaking languages other than French or English, from all over the world. Ottawa is a city of about 812,000 (1.1 million in the region), but they had about 316,000 visitors that day! There was even a free jazz festival. It was quite a

party.

The day ended with a huge fireworks display. I highly recommend the experience for coming years.

I won't repeat much of what I said in my report in the *Clan MacLeod Magazine*. Peter from Australia and I each wrote reports on the NAG for the *Magazine*, which Heather, one of the co-editors, merged into one. I think that she did a great job of combining our reports.

However, there a few items that I would like to specifically highlight from a Canadian perspective.

Every MacLeod Parliament and other major gathering is fabulous in its own right, with each having its own “character”. All have had the “usual” camaraderie and stimulating workshops and events, and Ottawa was no different on those aspects.

In addition, however, NAG 2008 was outstanding, and one of my all-time favourites, for a few reasons – first, the truly outstanding musical performances by about 15

young MacLeods; second, the very active participation of the younger MacLeods in a number of events; and third, the spectacular setting for the final banquet. All of this is covered more fully in the *Magazine*.

Outstanding Clanspersons:

I had the honour of presenting Outstanding Clansperson Awards to both Past President Barbara and Past President Neil. While it is sometimes thought of as a “clansperson of the year award”, we don’t make the award every year, but only as merited. The last award was given posthumously to our *Leod Voice* Editor (and Judy’s husband), Rick Tipple, at Parliament 2006. In that both Barbara and Neil had done so much for the Clan over so many years, and in that we wouldn’t have so many Canadian MacLeods together again for another eight years, it seemed only appropriate to honour both of them in the same year. The service to the Clan MacLeod by each of them has been both wide and deep. Here are a few highlights.

Barbara served as co-chair of the first NAG in Glengarry & Ottawa in 1976 and again, 32 years later, as Chair of this NAG. She also worked on the organizing committee for the NAG in Guelph in 2000. She was the CMS Canada National President from 1994 to 2000, attended numerous Clan Parliaments and 8 of the 9 NAGs to date. To ensure some family transi-

tion, she even recruited her brother, Jim, of Woodlawn (near Ottawa) to serve as our current National Vice President. Many thanks Barb!

Neil also co-chaired a North American Gathering, 1992 in Vancouver, BC. He was CMS Canada President from 2000 to 2004. He attended every Clan Parliament since 1982 except 1988 (6 of 7) and every North American Gathering except 1984 (8 of 9). He has been the official photographer at most of those Parliaments and NAGs. He has also served on the Boards of both the Vancouver and the BC Interior Societies. He recruited his wife June, to serve CMS Canada as Secretary. Many thanks Neil!

I don’t know what the Clan MacLeod in Canada would have done without the long and faithful service of these two dedicated Clanspersons.

Other Outstanding Canadian MacLeods: Over the past few years, I have tried to write on MacLeods who had made outstanding contributions to Canada and beyond. For the NAG, I put together a small display highlighting 16 of them. Four I have written on before: Dr. Colin Munro MacLeod (co-discoverer of DNA and Nobel Prize nominee), Col. James F. Macleod (second full time Commissioner of the NWMP and Western Canadian pioneer), Dr. J.J.R. Macleod (co-discoverer of insulin and co-winner of a Nobel Prize)

and Lt. Alan Arnett McLeod (WWI Victoria Cross winner – aviation).

In addition, I briefly profiled the 11 MacLeods who have earned the Order of Canada since its creation in 1967. At least three of them have been involved with Clan MacLeod Societies in Canada: Innis (Halifax - constitutional advisor, husband to Enid and my uncle), Ron (Vancouver - fisheries) and Greg (Cape Breton - rural community development). Another, author Alastair, spoke to us at the NAG in Chicago in 2004. Three others, Dr. J. Wendell (MD and Professor at University of Saskatchewan), Thomas (lawyer and Dean of Commerce at U. Sask) and Thomas (Professor at U. Sask, a key public servant in the beginnings of Medicare) seem to have been key advisors to Tommy Douglas in the creation of Canada's Medicare. The 11 other Order of Canada recipients are filled out with Jean (Ashburn, ON - health care advocate), Joanne (Fredericton, NB - advocate for the disabled), Margaret (Toronto - advocate for the disabled and founder of Cheshire Homes), Norman (Eto-bicoke, ON - chemical engineer and asphalt road builder pioneer) and Robert (Charlottetown, PEI – community advocacy, especially in the arts).

Lastly, I added Annie L. MacLeod, the first woman PhD from McGill. She was the 2nd cousin of the father of Ron (Vancouver,

as above).

Education was certainly a cornerstone for most of those 16, with at least five lawyers, three MDs, six professors and one chemical engineer. So MacLeods have made a significant contribution to Canada and the world, over many years. We can all bask in their reflected glory!

If any of you would like to receive a copy of that eight page summary, let me know (email: icmacleod@telus.net) and I will forward it to you.

I encourage you to read the NAG report in the *Magazine*, where I also commented on the fairy flag cards and the “novel” swearing in ceremony of Dr. Don.

Rod Macleod: Before closing off on the NAG, I must recognize Rod. He very ably MC'd the gala banquet. He had been a stalwart of the Ottawa society for decades. Sadly, on Aug 9, only 35 days later, Rod passed away. Rod was fiercely loyal to his Scottish heritage and the Clan MacLeod and he made a huge contribution to the Clan MacLeod Societies in Canada, including serving on National Council as VP-Central Ontario in the late 1990s and as National Newsletter Editor (before it was renamed the *Leod Voice* by Rick Tipple). In 2002 he was awarded the Canadian Outstanding Clansperson Award. He will be sorely missed by Ann, his wife of 53 years, daughter Moira

(& John Dunn) and grandkids Ca-triona, Callum and Mackenzie, and his many MacLeod friends around the world. I expect that much more will be said about him elsewhere in the *Leod Voice*.

Following the NAG, two of my daughters, Heather (*Magazine* Co-Editor) and Stephanie, and I spent a week visiting in Halifax and Cape Breton. We were hosted at a wonderful lobster feast at Baddeck during Lobsterfest by my cousin Harvey and his wife Ann Louise. I (along with Neil & June) even took part in helping at the Clan tent at the Halifax Highland Games. It was a wonderful, but far too short, visit.

RANDOM ITEMS OF INTEREST

Male Unbifurcated Garment (MUG), otherwise known as a kilt (yes, “bifurcated” is a real word!): I recently came across the following *London Times* article about kilts in the USA:

“American postmen get dressed to kilt - Scotland’s national dress becomes a uniform success state-side. To you and me it is a kilt. To the American postal service it is a Male Unbifurcated Garment (MUG) and it is about to become official uniform for thousands of mailmen who believe it will keep them cooler and more comfortable while they are on their rounds.

Kilts have already become

part of the uniform for postmen in Washington and Oregon and now a campaign is under way to introduce it in every other state.” July 27, 2008 <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/scotland/article4407120.ece>

Simon Fraser University Pipe Band: In August, the SFU Pipe band again won the World Pipe Band Championship, in Glasgow. This was their 5th world championship in 13 years (1995, 1996, 1999, 2001 and 2008). Congratulations!

Genealogy: For those of you attempting to research ancestors who were Roman Catholics, the job just became much more difficult. Last April the Vatican directed that parish records would no longer be made available to the Mormons (something along the lines of the Roman Catholic church having some sort of proprietary interest in the souls of their Catholic ancestors, and being concerned that some other church might, after the fact, be able to interfere with that interest). The long and short of it is, if you have Roman Catholic ancestors, you had better get as much information now as you can from living relatives before the information becomes excessively difficult to track down.

I’d encourage all of you who have not yet submitted your family tree forms to Leslie McCrimmon, head of the CMSC Genealogy

Project, to do so. As the records accumulate a broad base of information becomes available to anyone seeking connections.

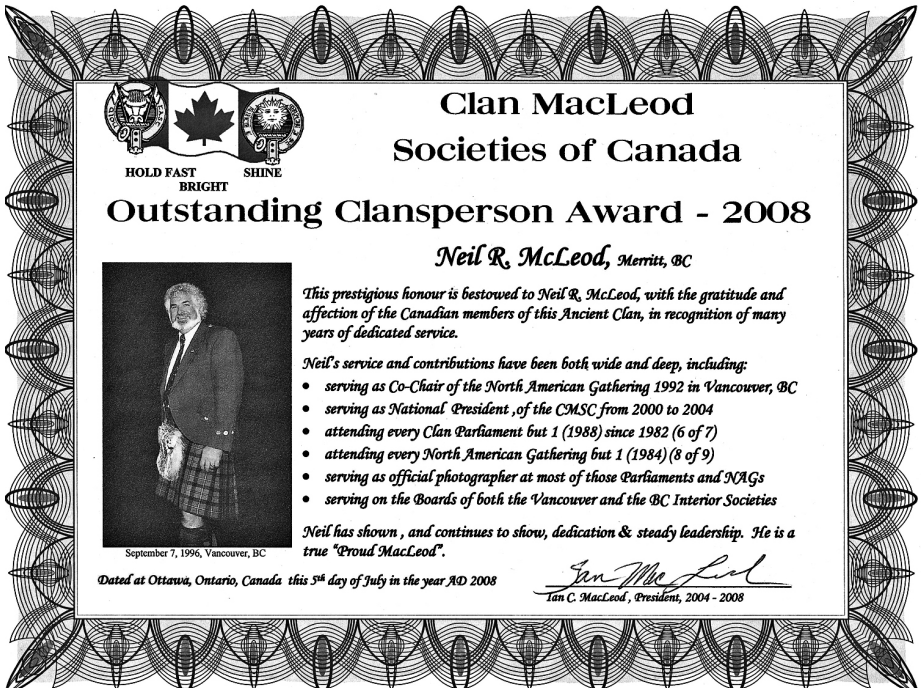
Thanks to Clan MacLeod Magazine Co-Editor Heather: As many of you know, my daughter, Heather (of Red Deer, Alberta), and Emma Halford-MacLeod (of Auchtermuchty, Scotland and daughter of Ruari & Anne) have been Co-Editors for the last five years. Due to changing job demands and a recent move to Edmonton, Heather has had to give up the role. Emma will carry on, on her own. I'm sure that you all agree that they have done a wonderful job. It is with no small portion of fatherly pride that I extend thanks and congratula-


tions to Heather from all Canadian MacLeods.

Robbie Burns – 250th Birthday Celebrations: Just a quick reminder that January 25, 2009 is the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robbie Burns. I'm sure that you will all commemorate it in fine fashion.

Thanks to all: Again, I thank all of you who made my term as National President such a rewarding and enjoyable experience. I know that you will all give Dr. Don the same MacLeod support and hospitality that was extended to me. I am certainly "on call" to help him with whatever I can.

Hold Fast and Shine Brightly




HOLD FAST BRIGHT SHINE

Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada

Outstanding Clansperson Award - 2008

Neil R. MacLeod, Merritt, BC

This prestigious honour is bestowed to Neil R. MacLeod, with the gratitude and affection of the Canadian members of this Ancient Clan, in recognition of many years of dedicated service.


Neil's service and contributions have been both wide and deep, including:

- serving as Co-Chair of the North American Gathering 1992 in Vancouver, BC
- serving as National President, of the CMSC from 2000 to 2004
- attending every Clan Parliament but 1 (1988) since 1982 (6 of 7)
- attending every North American Gathering but 1 (1984) (8 of 9)
- serving as official photographer at most of those Parliaments and NAGs
- serving on the Boards of both the Vancouver and the BC Interior Societies

Neil has shown, and continues to show, dedication & steady leadership. He is a true "Proud MacLeod".

September 7, 1996, Vancouver, BC

Dated at Ottawa, Ontario, Canada this 5th day of July in the year AD 2008


Ian C. MacLeod, President, 2004 - 2008



Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada

Outstanding Clansperson Award - 2008

Barbara MacLeod Armstrong

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada



August 13, 2000, Guelph, Ont

Dated at Ottawa, Ontario this 5th day of July in the year AD 2008

This prestigious honour is bestowed to Barbara MacLeod Armstrong, with the gratitude and affection of the Canadian members of this Ancient Clan, in recognition of many years of dedicated and outstanding service.

Barbara's service and contributions have been both wide and deep, including:

- *serving as Co-Chair of the first NAG in Glengarry & Ottawa in 1976*
- *working on the organizing committee for the NAG in Guelph in 2000*
- *serving as Chair of the North American Gathering in Ottawa in 2008*
- *serving as National President of the CMSC from 1994 - 2000*
- *attending numerous Clan Parliaments and 8 of the 9 NAGs to date*

Barb has shown, and continues to show, dedication & steady leadership. She is a true "Proud MacLeod".

Ian MacLeod
Ian C. MacLeod, President, 2004 - 2008

CMS MANITOBA

BY BOB McLEOD

A surprising fact about CMS Manitoba membership. There are three Bob McLeods in our group and another two who have not yet renewed. All are McLeods and not related!

Thanks to Janet Thompson for taking over the MacLeod booth at Folklorama this year, arranging the volunteers and being there the full seven days. Dedication put into action! David McLeod, a past president played guitar and sang with a group on stage, two shows a night (or was it three ?) Again seven nights in a row. Wow! Thanks to all for keeping Clan MacLeod to the fore.

Our 21st Annual Social Evening was held in early October.

Though attendance was down slightly due to illness, we still had 43 in attendance. David McLeod was master of ceremonies, and his jokes started the evening off well. Katherine MacLeod gave the dinner grace in both Gaelic and English. After the excellent buffet style meal a young piper played several numbers and was well received. His last piece was a tribute to William J. MacLeod who passed away on June 22, 2008. Bill was a patron of ours and recognized in 1992 with the Clan MacLeod Outstanding Clansperson Award. In 1991, William J. MacLeod was inducted into the Provincial Order of the Buffalo Hunt, the highest award given by the province.

CMS HALIFAX

BY PATRICIA SCALLION

The Clan MacLeod Society of Halifax participated in the Halifax Highland Games in July as the Clan of Honour. We had a good turnout of members to “man” the table and share clan information and Scottish history with visitors. We welcomed the presence of Past National President Ian MacLeod and his predecessor Neil McLeod with his wife June.

Patricia Scallion represented the Clan on the podium at the opening ceremonies with the other guests, Gloria McCluskey, Councilor Dist 5 (Dartmouth Centre),

Nelson Ferguson, (President, The Scots and North British Society), Tom Wallace, (President, Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia). Also on stage was Marilyn Bonang, whose husband Doug Bonang was the former Chief Steward of the ACPBA and involved with Dartmouth Pipes and Drums. The Dartmouth played *Amazing Grace* in his memory.

Lois MacLeod, whose books were described in the previous *Leod Voice*, also joined us at our table and sold copies of her autobiography.



Lois, Ian C. and John MacLeod at the tent



Jim and Bert MacLeod at the tent



Ian C. MacLeod, Patricia Scallion, June and Neil McLeod enjoy greeting Games visitors at the Halifax Highland Games tent

CMS CAPE BRETON

BY LEE ANNE MACLEOD ARCHER

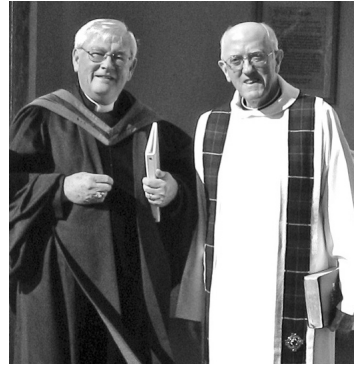
The Clan MacLeod Society of Cape Breton hosted its first annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Church Service on Oct 12, 2008 at the Ephraim Scott Memorial Presbyterian Church in South Haven, Cape Breton.

The event was timed to coincide with the opening of the International Celtic Colours festival in Cape Breton, which brings celtic music performers and followers from all over the world to our lovely island. Celtic Colours organizers were kind enough to include promotion of the service on the festival website, as well as in printed advertising.

we were also delighted to have a Clan MacDonald piper from Scotland, who took the time on route home after spending time in Cape Breton, to pipe guests into the church.



The service was presided over by Rev. Dr. Ian MacLeod with the assistance of Rev. Father Angus MacLeod, a member of CMSCB. Guest gaelic soloist was Seonaidh Beag MacMillan, a performer from the Isle of Lewis in Cape Breton for the Celtic Colours festival. We



Over 80 people attended the service, which was followed by a lunch and ceilidh in the community hall. Fiddle music was provided by Rachel Davis, and guests included

CMS CB members and family, Don and Eleanor MacLeod of Lower Sackville (CMS Atlantic VP), Gordon MacLeod (formerly President of Clan MacLeod Pictou) and visitors from Scotland, Ontario, and the USA (Michael & Susan Smith/McLeod from Idaho).

YOU NEVER KNOW

BY LESLIE MCCRIMMON

I had an inquiry from a gentleman from Texas who had a lot of information on Don's family. Not only did his information trace Don's family back to the Isle of Skye, but we were also able to verify that we are related to Madelaine and Kaye McCrimmon of Ottawa.

We had met Madelaine and Kaye on a trip to Ottawa, searching for family roots. We really felt we hit a genealogical gold mine with them as they were able to show us all around Glengarry Country. They even pointed out Don's great, great grandfather's original farm. Madeleine seems to know everyone involved in the clan and is an absolute fountain of information. *The MacLeods of Glengarry*, which she wrote, is a "must read" for anyone whose family roots come from this area.

Madelaine turned 90 while in Ottawa at the NAG and her niece, Ann McCrimmon, President of CMS Ottawa, had an impromptu birthday celebration for her.

For those of you who took genealogy forms from me in Ottawa, please fill them in and return them as we want to keep expanding this project.

This is just a small example of how exciting genealogy can be

as you find more family members from the past.

If you would like to get in on the fun, please send me what you know about your family's roots by e-mail: lmccrimmon@hotmail.com or snail mail: Lesley McCrimmon, 16619 Innis Lake Road, Caledon, ON L7C 3A4, so that we can add more "good news" stories to the MacLeod Clan.

BY DONALD MACLEOD

Recently, my cousin Susan (Smith/McLeod) and her husband Michael Costa (he's part McDuff) visited Nova Scotia, from Athol, Idaho, to attend the Cape Breton Celtic Colours celebrations and to seek out Susan's Smith/McLeod Boularderie Island family roots. They were pleasantly surprised by the friendliness, co-operation and hospitality of Cape Bretoners, during their quest for Smith and McLeod family information. Susan is the first of her family to return to Cape Breton since the 1880s. Our common ancestors were my paternal great grandparents, Captain Angus and Annabella (McKenzie) McLeod of Boularderie Centre. Susan's great-great grandfather, Murdock McLeod, also from Boularderie Island emigrated to Colorado in the early 1800s. Angus' daughter Dolina first emigrated to the Boston area before moving



west to join Murdock in Colorado. They were married on December 17th, 1884 in Del Norte County, Colorado. Susan's grandfather Smith migrated to California.

Susan was a teacher and Michael a policeman in the San Francisco area. They retired to Idaho a few years ago.

CMS CENTRAL ONTARIO

BY KAREN MCCRIMMON

In June Central Ontario members came together for our Clan Family BBQ. The theme for the evening was to thank Doug MacLeod for his generosity in arranging the venue for our ceilidhs for the last several years and also to thank him for being our resident piper. During those years he treated us to world class piping tunes for all occasions. He is being transferred by the Canadian Forces to the Ottawa region and I expect that he will be welcomed with open arms by our fellow clansfolk in that area. Our Highland Games presence in Georgetown, Orillia, Uxbridge, and Fergus, led by Cathie White, was very successful. Those of you who follow Canadian weather patterns will know that southern Ontario experienced one of the

wettest summers on record. This year, I think that the rain reserved itself for those Saturdays our inveterate crew were manning the tents at the Highland Games. Our thanks to them for their fortitude under trying conditions to stay the course and spread the word about our MacLeod Clan. The highlight of the summer was the Ottawa North American Gathering for many of our members. I expect because of its relative proximity, we had over 30 members and their families attend and I would like to thank Barbara Armstrong and all of the Planning Committee and volunteers for making our stay in Ottawa so memorable.



The newest member of the CMS Central Ontario is Colin Gordon McCrimmon, born October 20

to the proud parents Karen and Paul McCrimmon and weighing in at a hearty 9 pounds 14 ounces.

Congratulations to Karen and Paul and grandparents Don & Leslie McCrimmon and Beth Macleod

NORTH AMERICAN GATHERING 2008

Clan MacLeod Societies members from Canada and USA as well as Australia, England and Scotland met together in Canada's capital city of Ottawa July 2 to 6 to renew friendships, make new ones and celebrate our heritage. The wonders of this beautiful city were explored by day and night as we ventured out from the comfortable accommodations at the University of Ottawa.

Several articles and many photos record the thoughts and feelings of those who attended.

REFLECTIONS ON NAG 2008

BY DON & LESLEY
MCCRIMMON

We looked forward with anticipation to making the trip to our nations capital to visit with old friends and make new ones. Arriving one day early, we were able to experience the Canada Day festivities on Parliament Hill, a short half hour walk from the residence. The evening fireworks display was viewed from the common rooms at the top of the University of Ottawa residence and were spectacular. Accommodations were excellent and central to all activities.



CMS Canada President Ian C. greets CMS USA President John B. MacLeod in front of the NAG 2008 banner

Once the gathering officially started, we enjoyed attending a number of very informative workshops that were held in and around the campus. In particular, Don enjoyed the DNA project and hopes to follow up on his DNA.

The committee put together a number of excellent tours to go on, but still allowed everyone spare time to explore Ottawa on their own. We especially enjoyed the

Haunted Walking Tour we went on one evening. It gave us a real incite into the political intrigue at the turn of the century, as most of the tour involved the assassination of Dan McGrew. Another excellent tour was to the Canadian War Museum. It gave everyone a much better appreciation of the sacrifices made by those Canadians who went before us. Truly an emotional experience.

The ceilidh and silent auction were a treat with excellent, home grown performers. Sarah Burnell and Ashley McLeod and entourage gave truly amazing performances and both offered CDs to take home to relive the music. We also enjoyed some spell binding storytelling by Ruari Halford McLeod and some hilarious comedic relief by Rory McLeod (who will truly be missed).

The business side of the gathering was very informative allowing us the opportunity to say “thanks” and “good-bye” to Ian and welcome our new president “Don”. It also allowed us to spend some time with Ontario’s newest member and president of ACMC, Malcolm MacLeod of England.

The Tartan Ball, held at the Museum of Civilization, was spectacular. We were bused to the site overlooking the Ottawa River, with the parliament buildings in the background. It is difficult to describe the grandeur of the hall

with totem poles standing from one end to the other, facing a glass wall through which one could see magnificent scenery. The entertainment was provided by another home grown group “The Brigadoons” who provided us with an evening of fantastic Scottish music to dance to, or sit back and listen to. All in all a magical evening.

The entire gathering was capped off by a beautiful Kirkin’ of the Tartan ceremony held at Tarbot Hall at the University. The speaker Rev. Kevin McLeod gave us a wonderful history lesson on the MacLeods’ participation on the Plains of Abraham, thus giving us all an opportunity to learn about what our Scottish heritage has meant to the building of this country. We also had time to say a fond farewell to our friends from all across Canada, the United States and beyond the sea. Hopefully, we will all meet again in 2010 in Skye.



Rev. Kevin McLeod of Hamilton, ON, conducted the Kirkin' of the Tartan Service

BY ALASTAIR MACLEOD

President CMS Cape Breton

The North American Gathering (NAG) in Ottawa was the first event of this nature that my wife, Susan, and I had attended. It was the same for LeeAnne MacLeod Archer, secretary of the Society of Cape Breton (CMSCB) and her husband, Simon.

We did not know what to expect. What did transpire was a series of surprises—all positive.

Firstly, the attendance was excellent. The American delegates impressed me with their deep understanding of their Scottish roots. It was better than mine, and I was born in Scotland!



Secondly, I observed a welcomed tilt in members' age towards youth, vital for the continued health of any group. For example, the age of our senior office holders is dropping and, better still, children of delegates attended and participated in the NAG's children's program. This bodes well for our Association's future.

Finally, selecting the Museum of Civilization as the venue for our closing banquet was a masterstroke. It's hard to imagine a more spectacular setting for a group function such as ours. In my opinion, the NAG in Ottawa, 2008, was a huge success.

KIDS RULE AT THE OTTAWA NAG 2008!

BY ROWAN GLADISH

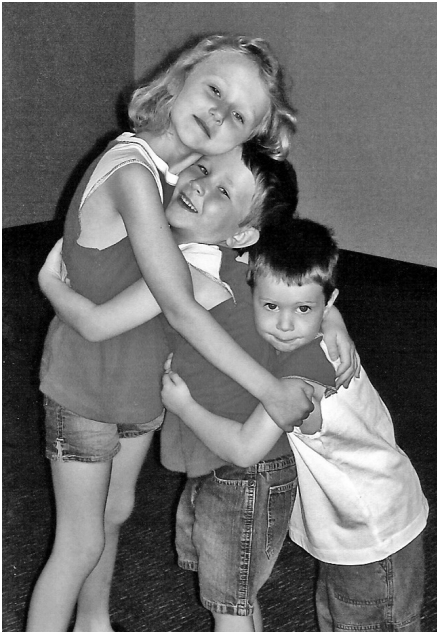
Iam 8 years old and my Mom, Christina Gladish, has been part of the Clan MacLeod Society since she was born a long time ago. This year I was really excited because Mom told us (me and my two brothers) that we could go to a North American Clan MacLeod Gathering. I had never really been to a large MacLeod gathering – not if you don't count Guelph in 2000 – I was in my Mom's tummy and didn't come out till the end of August!

I had the best family vacation this summer in Ottawa! My whole family, including Nanna, Auntie Karen and Uncle Paul and my Gladish family drove from our cool cottage in Haliburton to Ottawa a couple of days early. We arrived in Ottawa just in time for the Canada Day Celebrations. There were so many people, and they were all wearing red and white. Each of us kids had to hold an adult's hand because the crowds were so big! We lost my Mom and little brother

Wesley on Parliament Hill while everyone was watching the Mounties' Musical Ride but fortunately Wesley held onto Mom's hand so she didn't wander away. Wesley managed to get Mom back to the University residence in time for lunch.

That night we went up to the 15th floor of our building to watch the fireworks. They were amazing! My family shared a small apartment and I was squished into a room with my brothers, but that was okay. Aidan, Wesley and I played a lot of cards and we even had a TV in our bedroom!

The next day we met lots of MacLeods. I've never seen so much tartan in one place. I didn't know there were so many MacLeod tartans.



Rowan, Aidan and Wesley enjoy a group hug

There was tons of stuff to do every day of the Gathering. In the mornings I went to dancing lessons with my Mom and Dad led by Carol McCrimmon Pugliese. While the rest of my family had adult MacLeod stuff, my brothers and I had lots of fun with the other MacLeod kids. We made thistles and picture frames, and played games with other kids. We met a little boy named Max from Missouri and we played with him for the whole time. One morning we went to the Children's Museum. There were toys and stuff from older times. There were miniature houses from around the world – even pyramids! The MacLeod kids also got to go to the Museum of Nature. We got to see dinosaurs in a jungle and lots of birds! I even crawled through an ice tunnel and stuck my head through a hole to see polar bears and seals.

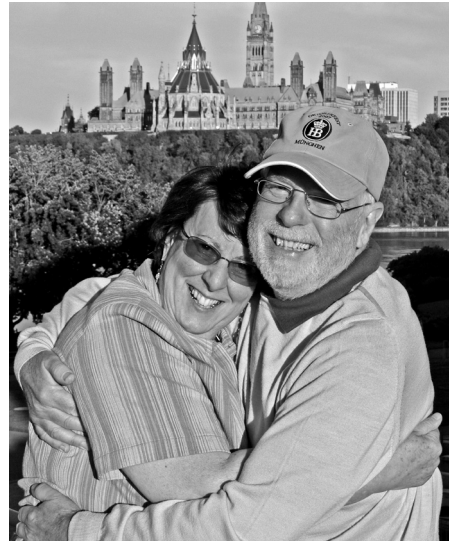
Every night we got to do fun stuff with all of the adults. We were invited to celebrate America's birthday and they had a really big colourful cake. It was yummy. There was something called an "auction" one night where people went around and wrote down how much they would pay for all the MacLeod stuff sitting on the tables. I got Mom to buy me a really cute teddy bear with a MacLeod ribbon around his neck. There was lots of entertainment too!! We got to see a concert with real bands and a lot

of fiddle players and dancers. We also got to see people playing the bagpipes and telling funny stories. One night we had a bus tour of Ottawa. We got to go upstairs and sit on the roof of the bus! That was neat. And we even managed not to fall out. Mom sat next to us with her eyes closed the whole time (she's afraid of heights). On the last night, we kids weren't allowed to go with Mommy and Daddy to the ball but that was fine because we had way more fun! We had a pizza and movie party in the residence with our new friends. Mom and Dad were back so late it was like a slumber party!

On the last morning of our vacation, we had a church service. There was a parade of tartans and I carried the McCrimmon tartan (because my Auntie Karen married a McCrimmon).

We had so much fun. I can't wait for the next MacLeod vacation.

Rowan is the daughter of Dar and Christina Gladish and the granddaughter of Beth and the late Colin Macleod.



And speaking of hugs, isn't that one of the hallmarks of a successful MacLeod Clan Gathering?

This great group of Proud MacLeods traveled from Australia to add their warm friendship to the Gathering



Young and old gather in many comfortable venues to chat about Clan MacLeod events, swap stories and generally enjoy each other's company throughout the Gathering



ACMS Business Manager Bill discusses Magazine distribution with Lee Anne and Simon Archer of Cape Breton



Longtime members Betty and Olive exchange activities of grandchildren and stories of past events such as this very successful Gathering. Even McCrimmon relatives have news to exchange



Ann and Rod MacLeod catch up on news of friends since their move to Bracebridge, as they lunch with longtime Ottawa friends, Ruth and George Toller,



Cutting, piecing, placing, pinning, sewing and finally quilting the banner designed by Ruari and shown here executed by Anne, Betty, Stella and many others over several days



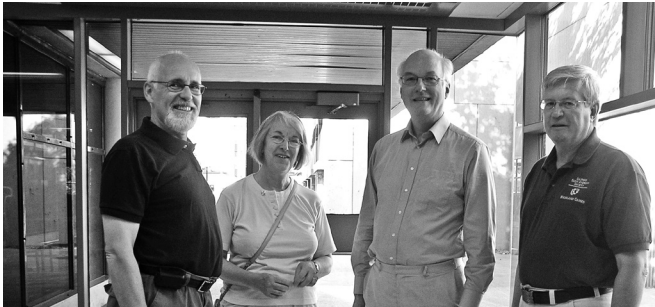
Many signed the back of the beautiful tartan banner as June is doing



Several of the planning and registration committee who made us all feel so welcome



Friends from Scotland, USA, England, Australia and Canada enjoy the many opportunities to renew friendships

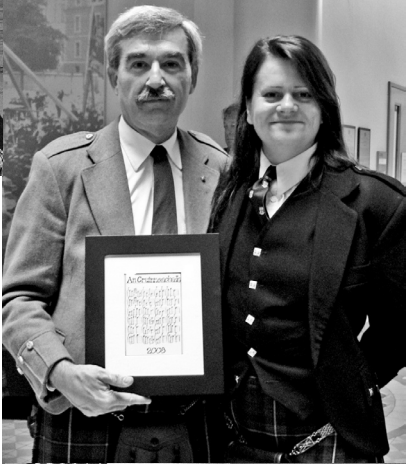


President CMS USA, John B. makes the first cut in the cake to celebrate July 4th at the "Good Neighbours" BBQ



Our fabulous young people found many opportunities to hang out together

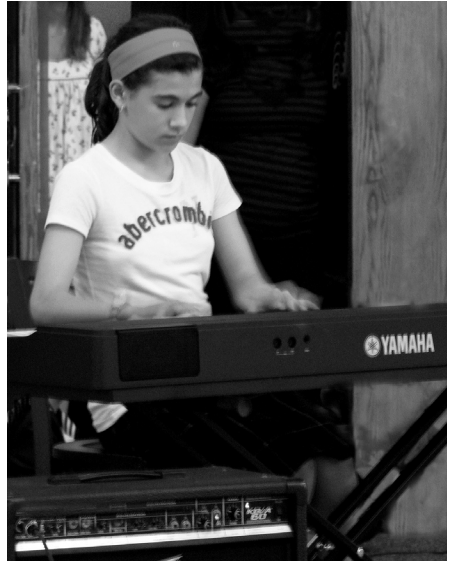




Opening ceremonies featured a pipe tune played and written especially for the event by Bethany Bisailon, greetings from MP Lisa MacLeod, Kevin MacLeod holding a framed copy of the NAG tune presented to Piper Bethany, and fiddling by Sarah Burnell



Dr. Peter McLeod presented *The Colin MacLeod Memorial Lecture* entitled "MacLeods and other Scots in Warfare" followed by a tour of the Canadian War Museum



Story tellers, piano player, dancers, pipers and many others entertain at the Kitchen Ceilidh



HON. FLORA MACDONALD'S STANLEY MACLEOD MEMORIAL LECTURE: (HER NOTES)

SCOTTISH SETTLEMENT IN GLENGARRY AND CAPE BRETON

If my father were here, he would probably have done a complete reconnaissance of both the building and those in attendance, to make sure that it wasn't packed beforehand with Campbells. He would have wanted to make sure that all of you went home with your heads and limbs intact. The MacDonalds and the Campbells have a history of feuding that goes back over many centuries and we take our differences very seriously. Even today there are no other clans that so delight in retelling the tales of ancient battles. Or so I thought.

It wasn't until I opened my copy of the *History of Scotland* and followed that up with a Google search that I discovered to my horror that the clan battles between the MacLeods and the MacDonalds, through much of the Hebrides and the Northwest Highlands, were every bit as bloody, with every detail recorded in storied tales and song.

But those two great clans did come together in 1745 and fought valiantly for the individual they considered to be the rightful King of Scotland – Bonnie Prince Charlie.



I want to thank Kevin MacLeod for his gracious introduction and I will do my best to live up to his billing, but my intent today is to tell you something from my own experiences in two parts of Canada that I dearly love, Cape Breton and Glengarry-Stormont, both of which became home to so many Highland Scots at a time when they faced almost insurmountable difficulties in their native mountains and glens in Scotland.

Cape Breton and Glengarry-Stormont. Two quite distinct geographic locales, but remarkably similar in their past experiences and present practices. I shan't try to detail the way in which Glengarry-Stormont has developed over the years – it is not my birthplace – but I do travel and visit there quite frequently. For many years I have attended the Glengarry High-

land Games, (the largest in North America) and particularly their outdoor Ceilidh on the evening preceding the Games.

On such evenings it's very emotional to join the local singing group, The Brigadoons, in singing "Glengarry My Home", which is very similar to the song I grew up with "Cape Breton My Home." The friendly welcome, the music, the skirl of the pipes, the lilt of the fiddle – these are the things that trigger the heartbeat of any Highlander.

And yet there are differences. Glengarry-Stormont, located as it is on the crossroads radiating out to some of Canada's greatest cities – Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa – has a history of looking outward, even to the days of the Nor'Westers when hardy and brave souls set out to explore and conquer the vast reaches of the western and northern seas, and within close reach of our southern neighbour.

For much of its history, the people of Glengarry have seen and been an intimate part of the development of this great country.

Many of the Nor'West Fur Trading partners thought of Glengarry as their Canadian home – David Thomson, Alexander MacKenzie, Simon Fraser, the great explorers – all spent time there. If you have never visited the historic old St. Andrew's Presbyterian (now United) Church and its

fabled cemetery in Williamstown, I urge you to do so.

Some of the Nor-West explorers lie buried there. The church itself celebrated its 210th anniversary two years ago and it does have a story to tell, a story of how its people did so much to open up the vast western and northern reaches of Canada.

Cape Breton, on the other hand, has been geographically and physically isolated. We always refer to it as "the last of the Outer Hebrides", having drifted just a few (hundred) miles further west. Our local neighbours were aboriginal people and French-speaking settlers. We got along with them very well, but we each maintained our separate societies, spoke our own languages, followed our own traditions, and seldom left home to venture elsewhere. (Exception – my grandfather).

(And here I want to interject my own version of history – coming out of my time as Foreign Minister and the plight of the Vietnamese Boat People in the late 1970's – 80,000 eventually came to Canada.)

I have always regarded Scottish Highlanders as being the first boat people. At the Battle of Culloden in 1746, the army of Bonnie Prince Charlie (Charles Edward Stuart, the Jacobite claimant to the thrones of England, Scotland and Ireland) was routed, and his followers were systematically slaughtered

by “Butcher Cumberland”. With their clan organization and leadership effectively destroyed by the debacle at Culloden, the brave Highlanders were then subjected to an early version of ethnic cleansing in a two-generation-long process of pacification and resettlement that came to be known, infamously, as the Highland Clearances. Abetted by some of our own Scottish chieftains, the victorious English drove Highland farmers, most of whom raised cattle on land leased from absentee landlords, from their farms by force or by imposing huge rent increases. The land was then leased to Lowland Scots and to farmers from England who turned the Scottish economy on its ear by introducing sheep to replace the cattle that had been the traditional mainstay of the economy of the Highlands.

The sheep’s wool was shipped to supply the wool market in Manchester, which in those days was fighting competition from imported silks.

Our Scottish ancestors had few options. They could resettle on barren plots along the Scottish coasts and try to eke out a living by fishing, kelping (harvesting seaweed) or growing potatoes, or they could take their chances on the North Atlantic. They could set sail in one of the dozens of small ships that left from Scottish ports, crammed with impoverished High-

landers bound for the New World where they hoped that enterprise and hard work would produce a better life for themselves and their families.

Tens of thousands of Highland Scot took the gamble on the New World. They dispersed along the Atlantic seaboard of North America. Thousands upon thousands of Highlanders settled in present-day Canada – in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, parts of Quebec, and Eastern Ontario.

No place on this side of the Atlantic was more profoundly affected by the influx of Highlanders than my native Cape Breton Island, where more than 25,000 Highlanders put down roots between 1780 and 1820. The culture they brought with them still thrives.

Our lives, to an even greater extent than that of Eastern Ontario, were dominated by our history and by religion. Like the Glengarians, Cape Bretoners were fiercely independent, hard-working people. We had to be to survive. Examples of that existed everywhere.

One of my father’s near neighbours was a gentleman by the name of John Rory MacNeil. John Rory was given to insufferable boasting about the merits of the MacNeil clan, something which didn’t go down too well with my father, a staunch defender of the greatest of the Clans, the MacDonalds. One

day, exasperated with the blathering of John Rory, he interrupted his boasting to say, “John Rory, John Rory, the next thing you’ll be telling me is that the MacNeils had a place in the Ark, along with Noah. “No, no,” retorted John Rory, “the MacNeils always had a boat of their own.”

But it was religion that chiefly determined the lives and the outlooks of Cape Bretoners and the stories of an earlier period persist to this day. For instance:

There is the story of Inverness some years ago. There were two hospitals, St. Mary’s Hospital which held about eight beds, for those of the Roman Catholic persuasion, and the Inverness General Hospital, for the Protestants, with a total of six beds. This division reflected the sectarian breakdown of the population in that community — St. Mary’s for the Catholics, the Inverness General for the Protestants. One night the Inverness General caught fire, only a slight one to be sure, but the patients were moved out of the way of the smoke, most of them to the houses of friendly neighbours. There was one old Presbyterian lady in her advanced years who was bed ridden, and as she was being carried out she sat up and demanded, “Where are you taking me?” She was given assurances, “It’s all right dear,” was the soothing reply, “We’re just taking you down to St. Mary’s.”

“St. Mary’s”, the old lady screamed, “Put me back in the fire.”

Then there is the story of the Presbyterian church on the North Shore (of Cape Breton), which after thirty years had lost their minister.

A succession of preachers was invited to present themselves and, by way of a sermon, were judged to see if they would qualify to assume the pulpit. In the end, the choice came down to just two of the applicants. At the congregational meeting called to make the decision, the presenter stood up and intoned, “We have the first applicant who is a very strong preacher with the word of God, but unfortunately he doesn’t have the Gaelic. The second one is a so-so preacher, but he does have the Gaelic. At that point an old covenanter in the back of the pews shouted, “To hell with God, give us the Gaelic.”

Finally, there is the story about the young Presbyterian minister at Lake Ainslie. His church was on the other side of the lake and a heavy snowfall had blocked the roads. Fortunately, the wind had swept the ice on the lake clear so, come Sunday, the young minister buckled on his skates and went across the lake to church where he delivered his sermon and outlined how he had been able to make it to church that morning.

Immediately afterwards a

special meeting of the church elders was called. They were about to move for the minister's dismissal owing to the fact that he had broken the Sabbath. But they didn't really want to lose this young preacher, until finally one long-headed elder came up with an acceptable alternative to dismissal. Turning to the Minister he posed the important question: "But did you enjoy it?"

Story re my grandfather (Catholic) and my grandmother (Methodist). He took her to sea with him (three of her children were born at sea and she was the only woman aboard ship.) Years later, when

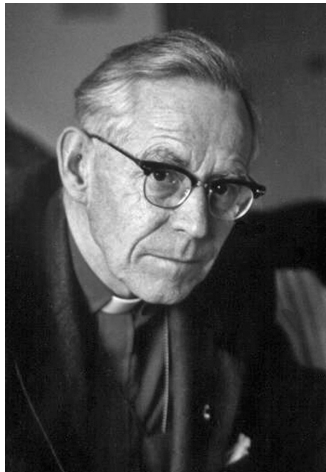
finally back on land for the birth of her fourth child, my father, my very disciplined grandmother applied for membership in the Methodist church in North Sydney. Application considered by the elders and verdict rendered: Application rejected – married to a Catholic.

Scottish settlers in Canada faced hard times, but they persevered and prospered in all parts of the country. Is it any wonder that Paul Cowan would write about these adventurous, hardworking, sometimes outrageous people in *How the Scots Created Canada*.

THE WHISTLING BISHOP

BY EMILY-JANE HILLS ORFORD, AUTHOR

If I could conjure up one image of Bishop James Charles MacLeod Clarke (1920-2006), a close family friend whom I lovingly called Uncle Jamie, I would see a medium built man with a big smile, one that surrounded all who were near him with lots of love. If I could hear Uncle Jamie, it would be his laugh and his whistle. He had a great sense of humor, a great love of life and he loved to whistle. He whistled hymns and popular songs. He whistled as he walked.



He whistled as he did just about anything. His whistling tunes filled the air with the joy of music, the joy of life and the joy of all that was part of God's great creation.

For thirty-five years, James Clarke (Jamie to his friends and family) toted a military-issue rifle and a Bible as he sledged, walked, boat-ed, and flew across thousands of miles of northern tundra to minister to his scattered congregation. He slept in whatever shelter was available: tents, snowhouses,

and poorly insulated houses. Most important to his service in the North, Jamie was loved and trusted by the Inuit and all who lived in the North. Fluent in Eskimo (Inuktitut), German, and several other languages, he is best remembered for his mischievous smile, quick wit, and his glorious whistle.

I knew Uncle Jamie as my Dad's friend, the man who lived way up north. Whenever he visited the south, he often stayed with us. He was very much a part of our family. When I decided to get married, it was Uncle Jamie who performed the ceremony. When he became Bishop of the Armed Forces, he often visited me and my young family on one coast or the other, chuckling at the raised eyebrows when I, the wife of a lower ranking officer, greeted the Bishop fondly as 'uncle'. Uncle Jamie christened my son at the Royal Military College of Canada chapel. He confirmed my daughter at St. Matthias Anglican Church in Ottawa. Whenever there was a great Hills family occasion, Uncle Jamie was there with his smile, his sense of humor and, of course, his whistle.

The Clarke family was very much a part of our family. I learned a lot about the North from Uncle Jamie. He told wonderful stories and he made the North come alive. When I finally had my opportunity to visit the North in 2006, I relished the many stories that prepared me

for what I saw and experienced in Iqaluit (formerly Frobisher Bay). Jamie also taught me a lot about the simple pleasures of life, that time was only relative and that any time was a good time. Even now, I cannot think of Uncle Jamie without myself smiling at the memories, wishing I could once again hear his cheerful whistling.

Uncle Jamie was many things to many people; but best of all, next to his whistling, he was a great storyteller. In this new age of high tech entertainment, it difficult for young people to appreciate the simple pleasures of just listening to someone tell their story. That is exactly what Uncle Jamie did whenever he visited us. He told us his story. When I decided to write a book about Uncle Jamie, I decided to write a story, not a biography, because to me, Uncle Jamie's life was a story, his-story. *The Whistling Bishop* is my story of James C. M. Clarke, missionary to the North, Bishop Suffragan of The Arctic, Bishop Ordinary of the Canadian Armed Forces. Jamie Clarke, Uncle Jamie to many, the Pied Piper to others, was a man of many talents, a man with a great love of life and a love of whistling. He whistled through his youth. He whistled through basic training and overseas as a secret service personnel in Germany during the aftermath of the Second World War. He whistled across the tundra and he whistled his way into many hearts as he set

about his task of ministering to a scattered northern community. Jamie spoke the language of many peoples and he had a special way of making connections. He translated much of the Anglican service into Eskimo (Inuktitut) and he helped create the first Eskimo typewriter, the layout which is still used on computer keyboards today.

The Whistling Bishop is my second novel about northern bishops. My very successful first novel, *Ukulele Yukon* (Baico Publishing, 2006), tells the story of Bishop Henry Marsh of Yukon (who is also mentioned in *The Whistling Bishop*). Both books present life in the far north at a time when the North was still very isolated from the rest of the world, a time when the North was still a very rugged frontier. Both books provide a bit of history not found in the history books and are presented in story-format to entice the reader to want to learn more on the subject. *The Whistling Bishop* is, furthermore, a story of deep and profound love for God's great white North and all that God created. *The Whistling Bishop* is a story of love and courage. It is also the story of how the power of music (even in the form of whistling) can transcend the many language and cultural barriers to win hearts and bring all humans together.

The Whistling Bishop was launched at The Glen Scottish Res-

taurant in honor of Jamie Clarke's ancestry and long connection to the MacLeod Clan as Clan Chaplain for Central Ontario.

For more information, write Emily-Jean Hills Oxford, 11 Stradwick Ave., Nepean, ON K2J 2X3, check out the author's website www.sympatico.ca/mistymo or email: ejomusic@sympatico.ca

IS THIS YOUR FAMILY? BY BOB TANNER CMS GV

John McLeod was hired to work for the Hudson Bay Company while still living in Stornaway on the Isle of Lewis. He joined the Selkirk Settlers of 1812 and traveled to the Red River area of Manitoba where he set up the first HBC store.

His descendants (McLeod and McCall families) are gathering once again at Oakbank, MB, August 7-9, 2009. A Reunion of this pioneer group is attempted every decade and this is the next one.

Do any of the details of this bit of history echo stories your family have passed on down through the generations? This reunion is not to be missed. Family, friends and friends of the family, all are welcome.

More information is available from Verna-Dawn Arndt, Box 32, Group 317, RR#3, Selkirk, MB, R1A 2A8 or email Melanie Thomas at mthochay@mts.net

A CHÀIRDEAN, HELLO FRIENDS,

BY SUSAN MACKINNON

email: gaelic@ns.sympatico.ca

We are happy to report Lewis MacKinnon's Gaelic Poetry book "Famhair agus dàin Ghàidhlig eile" *Giant and other Gaelic Poems*, is now in print and available from Lewis or me directly. It is the first complete volume of contemporary Gaelic poetry printed in NS.



This was a huge effort on Lewis' part with over 200 poems that were not just written but translated with tremendous assistance from Catriona Parsons and much patience on all fronts.

The cost is \$15.95 plus tax (\$18.02).

You will also be able to listen to some of the poems on the Internet soon. The nice part about this is that

he recorded different speakers so you can hear different dialects.

It would also make a great Christmas present because it will have the English Translation for Gaelic Learners and for people who just like poetry and are interested in the supporting the culture.

I have quite a few copies on hand and we really appreciate you buying directly from us. If it is too hard to connect you should be able to also buy it from Little Mysteries on Barrington St., Halifax, NS. Lewis is in Scotland on a book tour right now but I thought some of you might want to get one before he gets back. You can, of course get him to autograph it when you see him.

Moran Taing, Thanks,

SCOTTISH STUDIES CENTRE

BY J. RON MACLEOD (CMS GVAN)

Scottish Studies Centre of Simon Fraser University has appointed Leith Davis as its new Director. Leith has been on the Steering Committee of the Centre from its inception. She is the author of *Acts of Union: Scotland and the Literary Negotiation of the British Nation, 1707-1830* and co-editor of *Scotland and the Borders of*

Romanticism, as well as numerous articles on Robert Burns and other Scottish writers from the eighteenth century. Leith is very excited about assuming her new role and is looking forward to working hard to help the Centre grow and develop.

The Scottish Studies Centre is once again hosting a series of public talks on things Scottish.

This year the focus will be on “Scotland Around the Globe.” The talks are free of charge, but please email leith@sfu.ca to register.



Burns 250th Birthday Party

2009 marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns. The Centre for Scottish Studies is in the process of organizing a major international academic workshop during Tartan Week in

2009, bringing Burns experts from around the world to Vancouver. The workshop will be funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. A number of public events are also being planned, sponsored in part by the Burns Club of Vancouver.

For more information on these events or on the Centre for Scottish Studies in general, email Leith Davis at: leith@sfu.ca

WORLD PIPING CHAMPIONS

BY J. RON MACLEOD

For the fifth time in 13 years the Simon Fraser Pipe Band has won the World’s Piping Championship. On Saturday, August 16th, 2008 the Band competed against the world’s best Pipe Bands at Glasgow, Scotland, and came away the winner.

Pipe Major Terry Lee and his brother Pipe Sergeant Jack Lee founded the Band with Simon Fraser University as their primary sponsor. They proudly wear the ancient Clan Fraser tartan. Lead Drummer Reid Maxwell later joined the Band to provide top professional direction for the drum section. In 1982, the Band began to shine on the international stage when it won the North American Piping Championship. In 1995, the Band won its first World Piping Championship in Scotland. Com-

peting and winning in Scotland against the world’s best bands fired up the Lee brothers and the lads and lassies in the Band. They won again in 1996, 1999, 2001 and now in 2008. In the intervening years, the Band was always a formidable contender, for the most part earning 2nd or 3rd place rankings. The Band is probably better known in Scotland, the ancient home of Clan Fraser, than in Canada.

In 1998 the Band played in concert at Carnegie Hall, New York City, to a packed house. They have played with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in Ogden, Utah, and put on piping and drumming seminars at Brigham Young University. They have thrilled audiences in concert at the Sydney Opera House, Australia. They have performed before enthusiastic audiences in Melbourne, Australia, and

Christchurch, New Zealand. They have given recitals in 13 Canadian cities from Halifax to Victoria and in 17 American states. The Band has been one of Canada's top goodwill ambassadors over the past two decades.

The Simon Fraser Pipe Band is not just a single Band. A core of 30 pipers and drummers form the nucleus of the senior Band. In all, there are six levels of bands, ranging from raw beginners to the senior Band. The Band's pipers and drummers teach 150 or more children year in and year out. Their ethic is work, work, work, learn, learn, learn. Their purpose is to refine skills and to develop the discipline it takes to produce a harmonious band. One of the SFU Juvenile Pipe Bands, the Robert Malcolm, has won their division in Scotland four times.

Every two years, the Band presents a Highland Arts Festival at Simon Fraser University. Instruction is given in piping, drumming and Highland dancing. As part of the 1988 Festival the Band piped

for the world's largest Scottish Country dance where 256 danced their way into the Guinness Book of World Records.

In 1999, Pipe Major Terry and brother Jack Lee were each awarded Canada's Meritorious Service Award. Jack Lee, one of the piping world's great soloists, was further honoured in 2004 when he was among the first British Columbians to be presented with the BC Community Achievement Award by Premier Campbell. This award recognizes "those exceptional individuals whose personal contributions to the good of their communities has the effect of enriching all of us as citizens of this fortunate province".

The Simon Fraser University Pipe Band is more than just another band. It is both a community and an international role model.

The SFU Pipe Band's website is www.sfupipeband.com

An interesting video clip can be seen at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15NoXr0Q_D8

RAASAY HOUSE

The restoration of Raasay House and the surrounding area is wonderful to see. John, Chief of MacLeods of Raasay must be quite encouraged by the progress being made and the development program being set up. A unique opportunity is presented to young travelers wanting to work on a



project in Scotland.

An interesting newsletter is available on the internet by

Googling Raasay House Community Committee Newsletter.



ACROSS THE CONTINENT

BY JUDY TIPPLE

MacAskills are a sept of the Clan MacLeod. As the MacCrimmons were pipers to the MacLeod Chiefs, the MacAskills, being of above average height and expert swordsmen, were warriors to the Chiefs. But unique to the MacAskills, they have formed The MacAskill Sept Society and hold regular annual meetings. The 2008 Gathering was held in Laurinburg, North Carolina October 3 to 5.

Olive Bell of Albuquerque, NM was one of the founders of the Society and asked me to accompany her to the MacAskill Gathering. I was pleased to be able to drive her from Albuquerque to Laurinburg NC and back and in the process to not only meet 30 or so keen members at the gathering but also to hear many of the stories of Olive's MacAskill ancestors.

The gathering took place at Saint Andrew's Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, a beautiful campus celebrating its 50th An-

niversary. We were given a tour of the Scottish Heritage Center by the director Bill Caudill who is also the Pipe Major of the college's pipe band. Since the students were on fall break regrettably we didn't get a sampling of the national level pipe band's sweet sounds.

A talk by Rev. Dr. Doug Kelly set the stage of the emigration around 1739-1776 of MacAskills from Skye and neighbouring areas of Scotland to the Carolinas and Nova Scotia. Some 5,000 Scots came up the Cape Fear valley of the Carolina area. A second wave of 40-50,000 more Scots followed the American Civil War.

Bill Caudill, director of the Scottish Heritage Centre of the College and Pipe Major of their renowned band, gave us a tour of the Heritage Centre and with its many artifacts. He also spoke of the very satisfying growth of the Heritage Centre which will be moving into larger facilities on campus. They

hold a Scottish weekend each year in March, a well attended and much enjoyed event. (Information can be obtained from www.sapc.edu or email bagpipe@sapc.edu)

Dr. Alex McLeod of Nashville, a Past President of Clan Macleod Society USA and of ACMS, has donated his sizable collection of volumes mainly dealing with Highland history. This collection had just arrived prior to my visit to the

Centre and was the subject of much enthusiasm among the staff.

My knowledge of Scottish emigration has been further enhanced by this enjoyable trip. Now I have three locations at which to study the arrival of Scots to North America: Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC; St. Ann's College in Cape Breton Island, NS and St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, NC.



Donald kept us equipped, informed and on schedule

Presentation of tartans at the Kirkin' Service, expertly organized by Linda Crawford of CMS Ottawa and Rev. Kevin McLeod

It seems that most early clans have had their crests and symbols





*Dancing at the Ball,
Barb & Bob enjoy music
by The Brigadoons
along with the crowd*

*CMSC President Don
is installed in Royal
(Navy) style*

*Jean McKenna with
Rod and Ann MacLeod*



*A gathering
at Glengarry
MacLeod
Monument after the
NAG*



FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

ALICE MACLEOD 1915-2008

A much loved and dedicated ACMS member, Alice MacLeod of Richmond, BC passed away peacefully on August 13, 2008.

Many of us will remember Alice and Rod MacLeod and their many years of devoted support for CMS-GV. Alice created and handed out the tartan-decorated name tags used at CMS Greater Vancouver gatherings for many years.

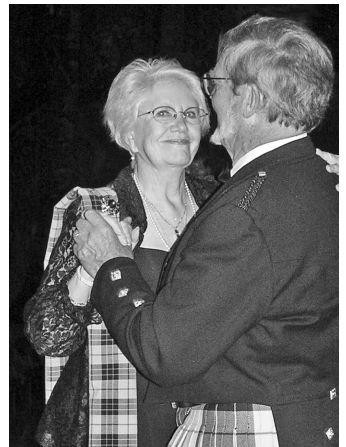
After her husband Rod passed away, Alice moved into assisted living in Richmond but still enjoyed attending Burns Luncheon each year. Alice donated a fine Clan reversible blanket with Harris and Lewis tartans which was raffled with money raised going to our piping fund.

Alice will be missed and our sympathy is extended to all of her family.

DIXIE MACLEOD LEWIS 1941-2008

BY JUDY TIPPLE

Sadly Dixie succumbed to the cancer which she fought so courageously for several years. She leaves a legacy of inspiration and tireless assistance to many folk in their genealogical search for their ancestors and roots. Her attendance at the NAG Ottawa with her husband Gordon was to be our last meeting. Bless you, Dixie, you will be missed.



ROD MACLEOD 1923-2008

BY BARBARA MACLEOD ARMSTRONG

Last July 5th, the Clan MacLeod Society of Ottawa hosted a Banquet and Ball at the Museum of Civilization for 250 members of worldwide Clan MacLeod. In choosing the Master of Ceremonies for this very special occasion, we wanted to honour someone who had filled an important role in Canadian Clan MacLeod, both in the local society and nationally, who would be well-known to the majority of attendees and whose contribution to the evening would be well appreciated. There was no doubt that person should be Rod MacLeod.

Rod and Ann were long-time members of the Ottawa Clan MacLeod Society, helping to build the Society in many ways. Both served on the executive: Rod was our President for a term and Ann worked on social events and kept track of members by phone. Rod and Ann, along with Tom and Marg MacLeod hosted wonderful Ceilidhs and Pot-Luck suppers utilizing the church hall. When I think of Ann's role in our Clan, I'm reminded of the final lines of Susan Davidson-Kelly's poem, "Married to a MacLeod": "And of my MacLeod connection, I'm secretly quite proud, If you can't beat them, join them, when you've married a MacLeod".



Rod and Ann were wonderful hosts as well, welcoming MacLeods from around the world, ensuring that our Chief and our fellow clansfolk were hospitably received both in their home and in our Capital City.

When they moved to Bracebridge four years ago, our Society and its members felt their going, deeply.

Rod also served the CMSC in two very important ways. The first was as VP of the Central Region where he supported local societies and their presidents and gave great support to me as CMSC President, he attended special functions and greatly enjoyed Highland Games.

The second was as the first Canadian Newsletter Editor. He created a newsletter that was relevant right across the country and helped Rick Tipple establish the *Leod Voice*, as we know it today, continuing to contribute excellent articles.

How Rod loved to meet and get to know people and how they enjoyed getting to know him! At Clan MacLeod Parliaments, held every four years on the Isle of Skye, or at North American Gatherings, every four years in between (which is what we just hosted in Ottawa) old and new stories and jokes would be shared and appreciated with old

friends and new ones from around the world. Everyone enjoyed getting together with Rod.

He had such a wonderful sense of humour! When we were preparing for the Banquet and Ball- via email, mostly, (when Rod's worked to his satisfaction), I remarked that it probably wasn't the occasion for stories or jokes.

Then, on the night, it came time for the Chef to present the Haggis to the guests. The piper started up, then stopped. The Chef and the Haggis weren't there! With a twinkle in his eye, our wonderful MC stepped right up to the microphone, said, "There seems to be just time for a story..." and way he went!

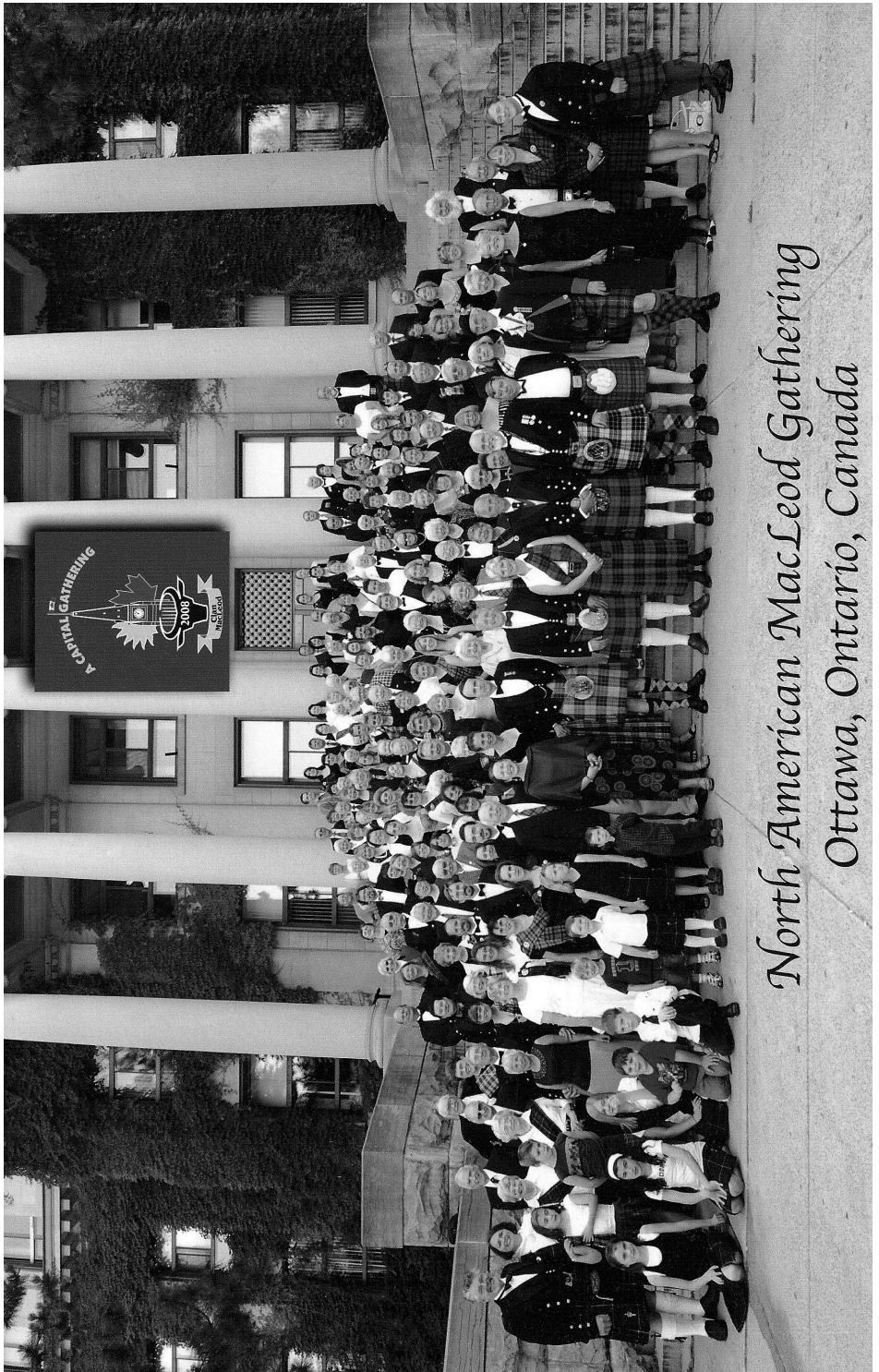
Then there are his two names. How many of you knew Roderick MacLeod as Rory? How many as Rod? It seems to me that both names are reflections of parts of his personality: strong, confident, tremendously supportive, caring, humorous, whimsical, eloquent.... all facets we appreciated and enjoyed.

Ian C. MacLeod, Past-President of the Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada, expressed it so well, on hearing of Rod's passing:

"He was always a most engaging and hospitable individual, and fiercely loyal to his Scottish heritage and the Clan MacLeod. He will be sorely missed."

Hold Fast and Shine Brightly, Rod





*North American MacLeod Gathering
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*

THE EDITOR'S PAGE



Welcome Don M. MacLeod as our new President of CMSC. I look forward to working with you.

It's my dream as editor to receive articles and photos covering the various activities of our Societies even before the deadline. Such was the case for this issue of the *Leod Voice*; I almost forgot to send out my usual reminder and plea.

It was especially exciting for me to receive Rowan Gladish's *Kids Rule at the Ottawa NAG 2008*. Her enthusiasm was contagious when I came to putting this issue together and her excited anticipation of the next MacLeod gathering reminded me of why I enjoy being part of the Clan MacLeod Societies. Many thanks, Rowan. You are setting a great example for your brothers, Aidan and Wesley and new cousin, Colin Gordon.

The scenic beauty of Ottawa left me wanting to return soon to see more. My main focus this trip was to enjoy the excitement of greeting old friends (too numerous to mention) and making new friends (such as Sheila, Linda and Donald, my hugging buddy), to catch the enthusiasm of "first timers" (such as Lee Anne and Simon, Alastair and Susan and Barbara Jean) and to bask in the comradery of the cool young adults and the keenness of the children. In short, for me *The Capital Affair* was a smash hit. Barbara and your committee, I applaud you.

Dear friends I was privileged to spend time with were Rory and Ann MacLeod. Rory has left us now but his spirit, dedication and humour will never leave us.

Looking ahead, our next large gathering will be at Parliament 2010 but there will be many opportunities for each of us to bring new members into our societies. I challenge each member to recruit one new member by 2010. Give a membership to someone for Christmas and then take them to an event. Let's show growth and enthusiasm.

That leaves it up to the treasurer or membership contact person to notify me of the names and addresses of all the new members. Updated lists are due March 1, 2009.

Till the Spring issue,
Hold Fast and Shine Brightly

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Revised Newsletter Timelines:

Spring—May 1

Fall—October 1

**Membership and
Executive Changes:**

March 1

and September 1