



The LEOD VOICE

CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES CANADA
NATIONAL COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER # 45
FALL, 2006



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY IAN C. MACLEOD

This has been an active and exciting year for the Clan MacLeod in Canada, with Parliament, anniversaries, and National Council and ACMS elections, to mention just a few items.



Parliament: Between July 26 and August 4, about 300 MacLeods from 10 countries (9 National Societies plus Poland) gathered, first on Lewis and Harris (July 26 to 29) then at Dunvegan on Skye with a day trip to Raasay. I was unable to make the Lewis and Harris part but by all accounts it was a tremendous addition to the Parliament experience.

The weather on Skye was dismal – cold, foggy (when not blowing) and rainy. However it did limit the midgies and didn't seem to slow us down too much, except that the MacLeod Tables climb was cancelled - just too muddy and foggy. Those who were there in 1998 will recall that some younger folks got lost in the fog and walked down the wrong side, miles out of the way.

I congratulate the team who worked so hard over many years to create a very successful Parliament. In particular, thank you to Anne Halford-MacLeod (Parliament Coordinator), Dorna Caskie (Manager), Malcolm (ACMS-EVP), Ruari Halford-MacLeod (CMS Scotland President), William and Christine (Registrars) and our “on the ground” kinsfolk in Scotland.



Opening Session with Organizer Anne, Chief Donald of the Lewes, Hugh Magnus, Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod, Dr. Alex, Chief John of Raasay, Treasurer Ewan and Secretary Stella.

The Chiefs: This was my first chance to meet all three Chiefs, although I believe that all three were together at the Christchurch, NZ gathering in 2003. Some have expressed some confusion on the origins of the third Chief. Following is an excerpt from the Clan MacLeod Scotland website:

“Torquil Roderick Macleod, 17th of Raasay, was the grandson of Loudoun Hector Macleod. He served in the Second World War and was farmer in Tasmania. He took an interest in the Clan and matriculated arms at the Lyon Court, as Macleod of Raasay. Torquil Roderick attended several Clan Parliaments at Dunvegan.

In 1988 Torquil Roderick Macleod, 17th of Raasay, was officially recognised, by Lord Lyon King of Arms, as Torquil Roderick Macleod of the Lewes and Chief and Head of the baronial House of Macleod of the Lewes.

Chief Roderick died in 2001 and was succeeded by his eldest son Torquil Donald Macleod of the Lewes and by his younger son Roderick John Macleod, 18th of Raasay.”



Chief John with son Hugh Magnus

Chiefs Donald of the Lewes and John of Raasay both live in Sandy Bay, Tasmania, Australia. Both are very personable and both had their lovely families with them at Parliament.

Of course, Chief John maintains his position as the senior or pre-eminent of the three Chiefs. He took a very active part in the business sessions of Parliament, and along with his lovely wife, Ulrica, was a regular participant at social events.

Hugh Magnus, Chief John's son and the heir apparent, was also at Parliament for a few days. Hugh has taken an active interest in the deliberations regarding the care and maintenance of the castle.

Youth: There were many youth at Parliament, including a full NRG group. Undoubtedly there will be much about them in the *Magazine*.

It was wonderful to see several of them now in Clan leadership. The Presidents of our Societies in Australia, Scotland and Canada (Ian D., Ruari and me, respectively) all have daughters (yes, it's the lassies!) who are now in leadership: Kirsteen (Australia) as ACMS Youth Membership Coordinator and Emma (Scotland) and my daughter Heather (Canada) as the *Magazine* Co-Editors. Our future is in good hands.



*Above: parents and future leaders of ACMS
Below: The keen and active young folk at 2006 Parliament*



Canadian Presence: Canada was well represented, with 48 of us from across Canada enjoying the MacLeod friendship and camaraderie. It was great to see 12 “younger” (under the age of 33 - the definition of young keeps going up!) Canadian MacLeods there. Only one, Callum (son of Karen and Malcolm MacLeod, the President of our Vancouver Island Society), was in the NRG group, but the others were able to get together enough that friendships were formed that should last a lifetime. Callum always seemed to have young lassies paying special attention to him (it may have been his good looks, charm or the fact that he is a piper – maybe all of the above).

There were many activities and day trips tying into our MacLeod heritage that will be more fully covered in the *Magazine*. However, I will mention just a few items that were very specific to Canada.

National Displays A new feature at this Parliament was the national displays, where, on one day, each of the 9 National Societies (Scotland, England, Canada, USA, Australia, NZ, South Africa, France and Germany) put together a profile of their respective countries. The displays were targeted at both the local Dunvegan community (especially the schools) and each other. Various businesses on Skye also had Show and Sell displays of their wares and services.

For Canada’s display, in addition to a map, some tourism type pictures and flags and pins, I prepared a 12 page, “bullet point” document profiling Canada. It contained a page each on geography and weather, demographics, outstanding Canadian successes, arts & entertainment, sports, political structure, international firsts or superlatives, history, “quick facts”, business and the economy, Scots in Canada and (after the fact), the list of the CBC’s 50 “Greatest Canadian Inventions”. I have distributed that Canadian profile quite widely, and it has been well received. I certainly learned a lot putting it together. If any of you would like a copy, I can email it to you.



Malcolm & Karen give President Ian a break from the CMSC display

North American Gathering 2008 Barbara MacLeod Armstrong (CMSC



Linda Crawford, Sarah Burnell and Barbara Armstrong give NAG 2008 presentation

event. They have a web site at www.macleodgathering2008.ca



Linda Crawford and grand-niece of Ed and Jean McKenna.

Fiddling Sarah Burnell, an accomplished young (age 18) fiddler from Ottawa, and on the NAG 2008 organizing committee, ran a couple of fiddling workshops and performed a couple of times. She was very well received. This summer she released a CD, *SARAH'NDIPIDY*, which was available for purchase at Parliament. I enjoy it immensely (see www.sarahfiddle.ca). She is the daughter of

National Society Banners Ruari Halford-MacLeod, CMS Scotland, designed and had produced banners for each National Society. Each banner is made of a durable plastic or rubber type material and is 70cm (28") x 200cm (79"). Each contains the national flag, the ACMS crest and motto, a heraldic emblem for the country and the name of the Society. The National Presidents were able to take their banner with them, to use as an "official" banner whenever the President is attending an event. Hopefully the banners will regularly be at Parliaments and NAGs.

CLAN MacLeod Societies of Canada

Outstanding Clansperson Award

Richard Vincent Tipple
(December 9, 1943 - June 4, 2005)

This prestigious honour is bestowed to Rick Tipple (posthumously, through his wife Judy), with the gratitude and affection of the Canadian members of this Ancient Clan, in recognition of many years of dedicated service.

Rick's service and contributions were both wide and deep, including:

- serving as Editor of the *Leod Voice* from 1995 to 2005 (issues 23 to 41)
- creating the name "*Leod Voice*", an inspired choice – it links to our name, describes both the newsletter & MacLeod's & ties to the "*Leod MacLeod's*"
- attending numerous Clan Parliaments and North American Gatherings
- serving on the Boards of both the Vancouver Society & National Council

Rick showed dedication & steady leadership. He was a true "Prind MacLeod".

Dated at Dunrobin, Isle of Skye, Scotland this 2nd day of August in the year AD 2005

Presidents: Tom C. MacLeod, 2004 - present Neil R. McLeod, 2001-2004 Barbara MacL. Armstrong 1994 - 2000

Outstanding Clansperson Award As you know, our 10 year *Leod Voice* Editor, Rick Tipple, died suddenly in June 2005. Remembrances were published last year in both the *Leod Voice* and the *Magazine*. For the first time, CMSC awarded the Outstanding Clansperson Award posthumously. As you know, his wife Judy valiantly and ably took over the editorship of the *Leod Voice*. At the Wednesday night ceilidh, I presented the award to her. It was signed by each of the National Presidents covering the time of Rick's service – Barbara MacLeod Armstrong (1994-2000), Neil R. McLeod (2000 – 2004) and me. Again, I cannot say enough about the contribution that Rick made, and Judy continues to make, to the Clan MacLeod in Canada.



CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES CANADA

CMSC generally only meets in person every two years, at Parliaments and the NAGs. National Council meets, by teleconference, in every other “off” year. We had both an AGM of CMSC and a meeting of National Council at Parliament.

National Council meeting This dealt mostly with housekeeping type items, with the exception of the confirmation of appointments to the 6 non-elected positions. They are all listed elsewhere in this issue of the *Leod Voice*.

We owe a huge amount to each of them, because they are the clansfolk who keep our membership data and publish the *Leod Voice* (Judy Tipple), maintain our genealogical records (Lesley McCrimmon), liaise with our youth (David Pugliese), update our web site (Norman MacLeod) and give us legal advice, fortunately rarely needed (Brian MacLeod Rogers). Norman MacLeod Rogers oversees the small remaining funds in the Clan MacLeod Foundation, although it is no longer registered as a charity, given the small amounts on hand and the costs of maintaining it.

Special thanks to those Appointees who have retired: Heather MacLeod (Youth Contact, now the *Clan Magazine* Co-Editor) and Jenn & Rory McLeod (website).

CMSC Annual General Meeting There were three parts to this meeting: general housekeeping type items, election of the 9 CMSC officers for the next two years and discussion of, and guidance to me, on how Canada should vote in the ACMS elections.

CMSC Elections The Officers are all listed elsewhere in this issue of the *Leod Voice*. We welcome the new officers of Dr. Don (VP), Ken MacLeod (Pacific VP) and June Constantine (Secretary). All the others are returning to positions that they have held previously.

Since Parliament, I heard from Iain (VP-Central Canada) that he preferred to step aside, given his work and other commitments. Don McCrimmon, husband of our Coordinating Genealogist, Lesley McCrimmon, has been appointed to fill that position. A warm welcome to Don as well.

Again, special thanks to those on National Council who have retired: Isabelle Johnston (Secretary, for many years – Ottawa), Mark MacLeod (VP-Pacific – Vancouver) and, Iain MacLeod (VP-Central Canada).

ASSOCIATED CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES

ACMS Sessions The discussion as to our choices for new officers for the ACMS was a bit more involved. Many did not know the candidates nor their skill sets, experience, nationalities or view points on Clan direction. Our Canadian members gave me the guidance I needed in casting Canada's votes at the ACMS meeting.

Each of the 9 National Presidents and the Committee Chairs attended ACMS meetings for at least 2 hours each day. Much of the discussion was important, but probably too mundane for inclusion in this report. However, I will mention a few items specifically.

New Constitution After years of review, and broad input, the very comprehensive (about 20 pages) revised Constitution was ratified. Special thanks go to EVP Malcolm for years of work, and I am sure frustrating debate, in completing this document. As a lawyer, I had a fair bit of input into the process, and know how challenging that can be.

New Development Plan Complementary to the Constitution, Malcolm also led the creation of what is essentially a business plan for the ACMS. This too is very comprehensive (about 63 pages), and describes in detail the many activities of the ACMS. Again, thanks to Malcolm

Ratification of the German Society This Society, which had been provisionally chartered at Parliament 2002, was fully ratified this year. Many MacLeods in that part of Europe are known as Machleidt (Germany) or Machlejd (Poland). Congratulations to our German kinfolk!

Fund Raising Ewan MacLeod of England chairs the Rory Mor Fund Development Committee. He presented a proposal for an annual levy of £2.00 (about \$4.50) on every member in order to build up a permanent fund that would be left untouched, but for interest earned, to fund needed MacLeod projects. I corresponded on this with all Canadian Society Presidents and National Council. Canada will not support a levy of that size, particularly as it would harm memberships and as a clearer use of funds was needed. Most of the other National Societies agree. The issue will be dealt with further at upcoming ACMS Management Council meetings.

A *CMS Elections* This was probably the most difficult part of the meetings. There were multiple candidates for the positions of President (2) (under the ACMS Constitution, the Executive VP does not automatically advance), Executive VP (3) and Dame Flora Communications Committee (3).

The choices were difficult, because each candidate was well qualified and had worked hard on behalf of the Clan MacLeod for many years, and, personally, I viewed (and still view) each of them as a friend. There were also geographic considerations, with candidates from England, South Africa, Scotland and the USA. It is wonderful that so many were willing to serve, but the down side is that only a few can be elected and there is a risk that the others can feel rejected.

When one looks at the experience, education and breadth of travel of these candidates, and other members of our Clan leadership, one can only be humbled to see, but also comforted to know, that we have such able and qualified people willing and able to lead our great Clan.



Following those contested elections, Dr. Malcolm MacLeod (England) was elected President, Dr. Leonard McLeod (South Africa) as Executive Vice President and John Davidson Kelly (Scotland) as Chair of the Dame Flora Communications Committee.

I will give a very brief profile of each of the President and Executive Vice President.

Dr. Malcolm MacLeod, PhD, OBE,
President: Malcolm was a war baby, born in

England to a British sailor and American mother.

During his 32 years (1962-94) with the Royal Marines, he completed three operational tours and participated in and planned 31 national and international training schemes. From 1980-94 he specialized in amphibious and combined operations. Highlights included the UK's Joint Force Headquarters where he was awarded the OBE; and Norfolk, Virginia, where he served for three years as Plans Officer for Amphibious and Special Warfare in the NATO Headquarters of the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic. He also served in Aden (counter terrorist and counter insurgency operations); commanded the Royal Marines detachment in the Falkland Islands and served as operations officer on the HMS Intrepid, one of the UK's amphibious ships, in the Falklands War in 1982.

When he left the Royal Marines he completed a PhD in Strategic Studies. He is also a Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute of UK. From 1996-2001, he was Chief Executive of an environmental charity and in 2001 moved to his present post of Chief Executive of a national charity that secures the homes of victims of domestic violence and burglary.

Since 1959 he has been at least 7 Parliaments. He became President of CMS England in 2004. He has been on the ACMS Management Council since 1999; chaired the committee that studied the feasibility of a Clan Centre; was elected Executive VP of ACMS in 2002; and headed the committee to do the Revised Constitution and Development Plan, both ratified at this Parliament.

He has two adult children, Julia and James, from his first marriage. He now lives in Dorset with his wife Caroline. She has three children, Jonathan, Antony and Melissa,

Dr. Leonard McLeod, PhD, Executive Vice-President: Leonard was born in London in 1940, and went through all the deprivations of WWII and post-war period. He earned degrees of B.Sc. (Zoology, Special Entomology) and M.Phil. from the University of London and a PhD from University College Cardiff. Insects and wildlife have been a focus of his career, which has spanned 40 years in eleven countries, mainly in the field of agricultural and horticultural pest control research, but sometimes involving domestic pests and insects of medical importance.

He has lived and worked, for extended periods of time, in England, Scotland (4 years), France (17 years) and South Africa, and is fluent in French. He has been active with the Clan MacLeod in each country. His research into the MacLeods of France led to the establishment of the first Clan society on continental Europe, l'Association Francaise du Clan MacLeod, alias CMS France. He was their Founding President. He was also President of the Clan MacLeod in South Africa in 1986, and again in 2006.

From about 1998 to 2002 he owned a croft at Waternish on Skye, living off the land, perhaps much as his ancestors had done. He has been semi-retired and back in South Africa since 2004.

He has four grown daughters, who were raised in France and South Africa.

Thanks and bon voyage Before closing off my comments about the ACMS, I must give a few words of thanks to some very special people, Dr. Alex & Dotsie (USA) and Dr Ian & Ruth (Australia). They have served the Clan MacLeod, both at the domestic and international levels for a very long time, but are now “retiring” to some less active roles.

Dr. Ian D MacLeod, PhD and Ruth MacLeod (Australia): Many of you will know Dr. Ian D. and Ruth. Ruth hales from Montreal, and her Mother, Blanche, is in PEI and her brother Doug in Central Ontario. Ian and Ruth met at a NRG about 30 years ago, and have been together ever since. Ian served as the Australian Coordinator (their version of National



President) for many years. He has been a major presence at Parliaments and NAGs, with his singing, story telling, chairing ceilidhs, dancing and good humour. Ruth has always been at his side, also always with her good humour. Ian has “passed the baton” on the National Coordinator position. I sincerely hope that they continue to play an active role in Clan Gatherings. Ian’s advice will be missed.

Dr. Alex McLeod, MD and Dotsie McLeod: After years with the CMS-USA, Alex served as ACMS President for 8 years. Much happened during his tenure, including the genetics study, Jim Hunter’s “Scottish Exodus”, the new Constitution and the creation of the new German Society. He held a difficult position, chairing a group of independent minded MacLeods (for most of us, that is a complement) from 9 countries. He will be continuing to serve through the DNA/genetics project. Again, many thanks to Alex (and Dotsie), for his many years of service.

CONGRATULATIONS

Turning now to some more domestic matters. We have a number of special events amongst our Canadian clansfolk that should be recognized.

60th Wedding Anniversary of Ed and Jean McKenna was celebrated on September 14. Many of you will know them from their involvement with Clan MacLeod, dating back decades. The Award of Merit was Ed’s idea. Ed & Jean were awarded the National Outstanding Clanspersons Award at Guelph in 2000. Jean was President of our Ottawa Society and was the start-up person for the MacLeod Internet Society. Ed, with Norman MacLeod Rogers, wrote the Canadian Clan MacLeod Constitution. They attended many NAGs and Parliaments. There is much more. In any case, on behalf of CMSC, I sent a congratulatory letter and certificate to them. It said, in part:

“You have been strong and loyal supporters of the Clan MacLeod for many decades, and your many friends in the broader and world-wide MacLeod family are so pleased to be able to share in this small way in your milestone event.

You truly personify our motto of “Hold Fast and Shine Bright”

Just as the *Leod Voice* was about to go to print I heard of the sad passing of Ed McKenna in Nepean ON November 11. When Sarah played her fiddle for him the previous evening Ed was still able to tap his toes to her lovely music; his Scottish spirit was strong even though his body failed him and now he is at peace.

We all will miss Ed’s wonderful enthusiasm and love of the clan and our condolences go to Jean and all the family at this sad time.

We share in your loss.

Wedding Bells #1 Past President Neil and current CMSC Secretary, June Constantine, became engaged during the Lewis and Harris portion of Parliament. They are a wonderful couple who both continue to contribute much to Clan MacLeod. My congratulations go out to them.

Wedding Bells #2 Mid-August will see Karen Macleod, President of CMS Central Ontario marry Paul McCrimmon son of Lesley (CMSC Coordinating Genealogist) and Don (CMSC VP-Central). Karen's parents are Beth (CMSC Treasurer) and Colin (Chair of the NAG 2000). What outstanding Clan MacLeod pedigrees. Congratulations Karen and Paul.

Vancouver Society's 50th Anniversary In the last *Leod Voice* I congratulated Central Ontario on its 50th Anniversary and Glengarry on its 70th. Our CMS Vancouver is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this fall. Congratulations to Vancouver!

PERSONAL NOTES

This has been a wonderful year for Ardie and I and our family, most importantly with the birth of our second granddaughter to Melanie and Johnny on October 20. Taylor Dawn Bolton was 9 lb 3 oz, so a very healthy size. The Boltons had moved to another house just 5 days earlier, so Chloe (age 3) is going through an adjustment period. I still try to take her with me to the pool about 4 times a week, so at least that routine stays constant, and she is a very good swimmer, for age 3.

The second big event for us was, of course, Parliament, followed by about eight days in Italy. We had a wonderful time at Parliament, reconnecting with so many old friends. It was also great that our oldest daughter, Heather (the Magazine Co-Editor) and her boyfriend, Marcus, could join us. After Parliament the four of us flew to Rome, and met up with daughter Stephanie and son Cam and his girlfriend, Amanda. We then rented a house in Umbertide, Umbria (just west of Tuscany) from Ruari Halford-MacLeod (CMS Scotland). We were in Assisi when the terrorist threat hit Heathrow, so had some travel glitches coming home, but nothing too serious. This was probably my last overseas holiday, as my mobility is getting somewhat more impaired due to my MS, and travel is becoming too much of a challenge. All in all, we had a wonderful trip.

There has been so much on which to report that this report is already too long. I will have to save for future issues some things that I would have liked to included on some family history, the Septs of Clan MacLeod and my weak attempts at humour.

With that I will close off. I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. I look forward to seeing many of you over the next year, and if not then, then at the NAG in Ottawa in July 2008 (less than 20 months away).

Hold Fast and Shine Bright

Ian C. MacLeod, President, Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada



Parliament events always require a piper.

Top left, John Davidson Kelly at a formal event and below, Euan, at the Borreraig Cairn.

Above, ACMS President Dr. Alex makes a presentation to Dr. Jim Hunter, author of Scottish Exodus, The MacLeods: The Migration of a Clan.



SILVER CHANTER

BY LESLEY MCCRIMMON

For the first time in the forty-year history of the Silver Chanter Piping Competition, the Chief of the MacLeods had the honour of presenting the Silver Chanter to a MacCrimmon.

We had met the MacCrimmon Family at Parliament in 2004. Roddy, Ishbel, Peigi and Euan, though residing in Inverness, also continue to have their ancestral home just south of the MacCrimmon cairn at Borreraig. After Euan played a piobaireachd at the cairn on Borreraig Day of Parliament, the MacCrimmons in attendance were invited back to their home for tea, where we discovered that Euan has been competing in piping competitions for a number of years.

Again this year, Euan not only piped for us at the cairn, and, in conjunction with John Davidson Kelly, provided a piping seminar at Parliament.

Euan is a direct descendant of the famous MacCrimmon Piobaireachd composers. He won the Dunvegan medal at the Portree Highland Games in 1999 and in 2005 he won the Highland Society of London Gold Medal at the Argyllshire Gathering.

In order to compete for the Silver Chanter at Dunvegan Castle, the five invited competitors must have distinguished themselves by winning a major award for ceol mor, the classical music of the highland bagpipes within the previous twelve months. Euan, having won the Highland Society Gold Medal at Oban, was again invited to compete for the third time. As the saying goes “three times is a charm”. He played “The Lament for the Earl of Antrim” to everyone’s pleasure. We were delighted to hear that Euan won the Silver Chanter and also that it was presented to him by Chief John. Euan became the first MacCrimmon to receive the Silver Chanter since the fairy gave the original to that young apprentice who became the first of the MacCrimmon pipers to MacLeod.





*Top left: Janet Trotter reads from her newest book, *Beattles and Chiefs*, about her childhood with her parents Norman Suardal and Sheila and holidays at Dunvegan.*

Top left: Franklin Wyatt III receives Clansperson of the Year Award from CMS USA President Bill

Left: Piper Callum, NRG member from BC entertains at the Ball.

Facing page: Both tour guides Chief John on the Castle guncourt and our guide at the Church at Trumpan point out interesting features off to their left.





CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES CANADA

(All MacLeods in its various spellings, unless otherwise named)

Seated: Margery, June, Past President Neil R., President Ian C., Irene MacCrimmon, Mary, Allen

Middle Row: Sarah Burnell, Linda Crawford, Carol Pugliese, Judy Tipple, Ian, Secretary June Constantine, Treasurer Beth, Ardis, Lesley McCrimmon, Adrienne,



FIFTEENTH PARLIAMENT 2006

Gordon, Barbara, Barbara Armstrong, Eleanor
Back Row: Joyce Kelly, Bruce, Callum, Colin, Malcolm,
Don McCrimmon, Matthew-Rick-David Pugliese,
Donald R., Karen, Cathie White
Missing: VP Don M. & Chris, Kirstie MacLeod & Jason
Fong, Heather MacLeod & Marcus Hall, Clare Moncrieff,
DianaMacLeod & Jeff Smiley, Amy, Sheila (Diana and
Amy's mother)

REFLECTIONS ON MY TRIP TO RAASAY

BY TAMMIE VAWTER

Why would there be a comment in the CMS Canada newsletter from an American? Well, my mother was born in Salmon Arm, BC. This year was my first trip to Parliament and I was able to take my husband Brian and two children Ian (15) and Megan (13). During our trip we were able to meet with MacLeods (and septs) from around the world.

My family does MacLeod tent convening for the Central, Southern and some Northern California Highland Games. We routinely discuss the stories of the Clan and have display boards with pictures gleaned from old copies of the ACMS publication. The thrill of seeing places that before only existed as pictures (a very two dimensional exposure) brings a sense of pride in our rich history. Upon meeting Judy Tipple while on the ferry ride from Skye to Raasay, I was invited to send my reflections on my first Parliament. Here are my comments.

The visit to Raasay was quite a window into the ruggedness of life on the Isles. Arriving by ferry and walking up to the Outdoor Centre was a beautiful mile-long jaunt. We walked along the rocky coastline and accompanied by others of our Clan, dodged the ubiquitous sheep droppings, while the less

hale and hearty were transported in cars shuttling back and forth. You could imagine doing this every day of your life (what a wonderful cardiac workout!). As the road passes up alongside houses and a small playground, you get closer to Raasay House. We picked wild blackberries growing along the road and inspected an old water-powered mill wheel. As you travel about the Isles, it seems as though time slows. Because of the speed of our lives at home, taking time to just enjoy scenery is rare.

One thing we missed was an option to go to the ruins of Brochel Castle (another trip perhaps?). We toured the grounds of the House and saw the Pictish stone and chapel ruins on the Estate. St. Moluag's Chapel is the oldest surviving building on the Isle of Raasay, dating from the late 12th to early 13th century. It lacks a roof and has quite a bit of decay in the walls. There are a mix of ancient, illegible stones and upright stones marking recent internments. Next to it is a Memorial Chapel dating to 1839.

Brochel Castle was a defensive structure built in the 15th century. MacLeods of Raasay used this site until the late 1600s. Various historians have described the castle, unfortunately all of these accounts describe it only in terms of its

ruined state, there is no written record of life within its walls. It is believed to have been four stories tall in its heyday.

The current Raasay House in Clachan is built on the site where a second smaller tower had existed. The old tower was dismantled and the stone recycled into the current structure. Malcolm MacLeod of Raasay started construction. Unfortunately, in 1746, the house was burnt and the windows removed and sent off to be sold. A relative of the Raasay MacLeods bought the current oak framed windows and returned them to the Isle. In 1747 the House was reconstructed and remodeling has continued for over 50 years. Sadly, Raasay House passed out of MacLeod ownership in 1846.

*Chief John of Raasay welcomes
MacLeods and clan friends to Raasay
House where local folk fed and
entertained us.*



ARE YOU A DESCENDANT?

BY LESLEY MCCRIMMON CO-ORDINATOR GENEALOGY

On a tour of the Isle of Lewis and Harris, just prior to the opening of Parliament this summer, Don and I visited the Tomb of Alexander MacLeod (1528) (the 8th Chief of MacLeod of MacLeod), in St. Clements Church at Rodel. The tomb was made to house the mortal remains of Alexander MacLeod, also known as Alisdair Crotach (or 'humpback' as a result of a sword wound that he had received in a skirmish with the MacDonalds in Skye.) As he did not die until c.1545-7 it appears that he commissioned the work for himself, placing it in a prestigious position (in the south wall of the nave) within the sanctuary of the church that he himself had had built. It carries the best collection of medieval sculpture in the Western Isles.

The arch surmounting the tomb is surrounded by biblical designs while within it are some truly spectacular carvings, one of a hunting scene in which a knight pursues two stags, and another rare depiction of a sailing galley of the 1500s. Also shown is a castle, presumably Dunvegan. At the bottom is the stone figure of a reclining knight in armour on top of the chest in

which Alexander was laid to rest. The work is signed off with this inscription in Latin: "This tomb was prepared by Lord Alexander, son William MacLeod, Lord of Dunvegan, in the year of our lord 1528".



We also met Bill Lawson who does genealogy investigations for many MacLeods from the Isle of Harris. One thing he said was that 'oral' is sometimes a more reliable source of information than written as people tended

to tell family stories and some did not learn to write. Whatever way your family history has been passed down it can be a very exciting and very personal journey for you to travel back in time and find out where you came from. If you have any recorded family history may I encourage you to forward it to me and I will not only include it in our MacLeod database (currently over 17,000 names) but also see if I can hook you up with family you never knew you had.

Please forward your family genealogy charts so that we can expand our database of MacLeods and septs to Lesley McCrimmon, 16619 Innis Lake Road, Caledon, ON, L7C 3A4 or e-mail me at lmccrimmon@hotmail.com.

CLAN MACLEOD PARLIAMENT

SOME FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF THIS WORLD-WIDE GATHERING.

BY DONALD & ELEANOR MACLEOD, CMS-HALIFAX

This was a family gathering of clansfolk from nine wide-spread countries. A sense of genuine friendliness and warmth prevailed throughout our week at Dunvegan. Clansfolk from past Parliaments and North American Gatherings, greeted one another as friends, not mere acquaintances. They set the tone by extending their warmth and hospitality toward first timers such as Eleanor and me.

We were impressed by the considerable organizational skills required to host this event. Anne Halford-MacLeod, Dorna Caskie and their team deserve high praise. President Alex and Executive Vice-President Malcolm demonstrated strong individual personalities and different management styles.

However, their mutual respect they held kept ACMS council meetings on track and on time.

We had fun. We enjoyed meeting old friends and making new ones. We learned more about our Clan MacLeod, enjoyed the various bus tours to Rassay, Waternish and Borreraig and our guided tour of Dunvegan Castle and the wine tasting hosted by the witty and delighted in wine-smart John D.K. While I had fun at the Gaelic lessons and attending ACMS and CMSC meetings, Eleanor enjoyed the craft sessions and walking around the village. But, most of all, I enjoyed sharing all of this time with my wife Eleanor.

Before Parliament we made a 1,000-mile driving tour of



Eleanor viewing the ruins of Ardvreck Castle, Donald reflecting on life in his ancestral home

the Highlands and “near-Highlands” (Newtonmore, Banff and Culloden). Other than destroying a “tyre” and wheel, when I struck a “kerb” whilst negotiating the third roundabout after departing Glasgow Airport on our first day, it was a great tour.

Eleanor was the first of her immediate family, in six generations, to visit her MacPherson roots in the Newtonmore/Banff areas. She especially enjoyed visiting the Clan MacPherson House and Museum in Newtonmore and a nearby castle which had MacPherson connections. We then drove northwest to Stoer Point in Assynt.

We thoroughly enjoyed a guided tour of the Battlefield at Culloden. Enroute to Stoer Point we visited the ruins of Ardvreck Castle, the ancient MacLeod of Assynt stronghold and also the Clan MacKenzie’s Calda House, both on

Loch Assynt near Inchnadamph. We also stopped at the Town of Ullapool, on Loch Broom. It was from here that my McLeod ancestors emigrated to Nova Scotia in 1820. We also visited the Village of Lochinver.

Some regrets. The combined delays in leaving Halifax and waiting for a new wheel and tire, required changes in our itinerary. We did not have time to visit Rosslyn Chapel and the museum at Kilwinning Masonic Lodge #0 as we had planned and our tight schedule did not allow for a visit to the villages of Applecross and Torridon from where my paternal grandmother’s (nee MacKenzie) clansfolk hailed. Due to our airline schedule we could not attend the final ACMS meeting and the closing Ball but we thoroughly enjoyed our first trip (of many, we hope) to Parliament and our homeland.

Oh well, more next time!



TREASURES DISCOVERED

BY MALCOLM E. MACLEOD (CMS VAN IS)

Apparently my grandfather Donald MacLeod, who was born in 1883 and left Berneray around the turn of the century, was quite a bard. He traveled to America and ended up in the centre of Alaska working as a gold miner. It was here that my dad was born.

They spoke nothing but Gaelic at home and Grandad's partners were also Hebridean so dad only spoke English at school. The family left there when dad was eight, so he had three years of schooling in English in the town called Flat, or Flat Creek, Alaska.

My grandfather Donald and grandmother MaryAnn (MacLean) from Lochport in North Uist were married in Victoria and it seems to me that we have a newspaper clipping of the event somewhere.

Grandad's poetry was lost to us here in Canada but when Karen

and I went to Berneray and were talking to the cousins there, they dug into their archives and found some of Pa's work.

While at Parliament, we missed Anne Lorne Gillies' session but heard about it and I wanted to meet her. Lo and behold, one day when I stopped in at the Village Hall, the only people there were two NRGs young folk setting up and Dorna meeting with Ann and her partner. I asked Ann if she would be interested in seeing this poetry and she was very enthusiastic about it. I ran to the camper in the car park and fetched it. She sat there and sang the two songs to the tune that was written at the top of the poem and also recorded them. Grandad had written the poetry and also written the name of a familiar tune that it should be sung to. Ann sang beautifully and I was very moved. Dorna told me later that that was the most moving experience she had during the whole of Parliament.

I am trying to track down some more of my Grandad's writings. I know a fellow on Berneray that can recite several of the poems by heart. Of course they are in Gaelic so we can't understand the words but they sound very beautiful to the ear and can be translated loosely. We will have to work on our knowledge of Gaelic.



GRANDAD'S GAELIC POEM: A TREASURE DISCOVERED

*The Bodach leaned against the pier,
With red and angry eye
And said to me, "It's very clear
There's madmen loose on Skye".*

*They got a boat, the very best
That's famed both near and far,
Beloved by the folks in all the west,
The dear old "Lochinvar".*

*"For fifty years in surge and swell,
Her trim and sturdy hull
Brought friends and food, aye, drink
as well
To grateful folks in Mull".*

*"And, listen, man, I chust as sure
As my name's Chon MacKay
What's good enough for our
Craignure,
Is far too good for Skye".*

*But this Dame Flora shrieks in pain,
-- You know what weemen are--
And urges on my Lord MacBrayne
To scrap the "Lochinvar".*

*"The tourist trade will surely fail",
Is now her angry cry,
"For visitors will not sail
Across the sea to Skye".*

*Her Clansmen, loyal, proud and
staunch,
Join in the fume and fret,
I can't but smile -- my wee bit launch
Could carry all they'll get.*

*You do not need much schooling
I'm certain on this score,
To know the bare, bleak Cuillin
Can never match Ben More.*

*The Great Seas, number seven,
An' I've sailed them in my day
But there's no place nearer Heaven
Than Tobermory Bay.*

*Now Captain Black an' all his crew
For manners were renowned,
And glad am I to say to you
They are not Skyeward bound.*

*Because, my friend, the facts let's
face,
however hard they'd try,
They might have lost their charm and
grace,
But there in Heathen Skye.*

*With all this loud abusing
The fact is clear to see,
Dame Flora is confusing
Southampton and Portree.*

[Editors Note: Malcolm's parents Neil & Francis have been long-time members of CMS Vancouver and now live in Duncan on Vancouver Island. He submitted an article printed in an earlier issue of the *Leod Voice* about life of his Scottish family in Alaska. This article ties in with that one and I hope that there will have more to follow.]

ATLANTIC REPORT

BY DONALD R. MACLEOD



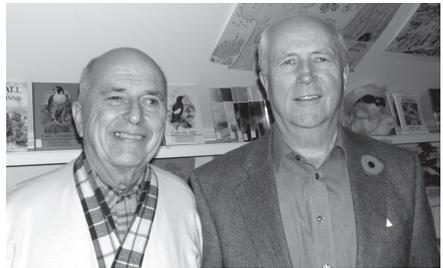
CMS-CapeBre-
ton held their
fall meeting at the
Gaelic College in
St. Ann's on Nov.

4. Retiring President Father Greg MacLeod dressed in his new bath robe, a gift from his sister, to announce that he was "putting his Presidency to bed" at the meeting. The new executive of CMS-CB, President - Dr. Alastair MacLeod, pictured with Father Greg, Vice-President - Margaret MacLeod, Secretary/Treasurer - Lee-Ann MacLeod-Archer

CMS-CB future events planned are a Robbie Burns Dinner to be held at the Gaelic College, St. Ann's January 20 (rain date to be January 22). The 2007 Spring Social will be held in Sydney in May, date to be announced.

They continue to consider pe-
rusing the project to build a replica
of Rev. Norman MacLeod's ship

Margaret. which carried him and others to Australia from whence he later moved on to New Zealand. They have set up a website for CMS-CB at: <http://www.clanmacleodcb.com>. They are currently contacting someone to take over the building of that site. Their genealogy project is also coming along and they hope to encourage all Cape Breton MacLeods, wherever situated, to prepare and submit their family tree to this project. They will also continue with their Robbie Burns Dinner, at the Gaelic College, which was attended by 100 people last year.



Retiring President Greg and new President Alastair



CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETY OF HALIFAX

BY BETTY MACLEAN, PRESIDENT

The summer of 2006 has come and gone and a busy one it was. In the spring we agreed that Clan MacLeod Society of Halifax would set up our tent at the Halifax Highland Games. The official Games schedule began July 6th with flag raising and reception at Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) Parade Square, attended by Mayor Peter Kelly, Mrs. Jean Watson, President, Federation of Scottish Clans of Nova Scotia, along with Clan Society representatives and HRM councillors. Following the flag raising, Mayor Kelly hosted a wine and cheese reception. The Games began at 8 am on Saturday and, thanks to Don and Bert, our tent was situated in the middle of the line of Clan tents, giving us a lovely view of the various competitions, the traditional Scottish games and, late afternoon, individual pipe bands. As the finale, all were treated to the sounds and sights of the massed bands—about 130 pipers. It was spectacular. On Sunday, the Kirkin' of the Tartans was held at St. Matthews United Church, Halifax.

Following Scottish traditions, a Gaelic service was held August 6th at the Historic Log Church, Loch Broom, Pictou County, N. S. The Log Church was built in 1973, a replica of the church originally built by the settlers in 1787. The service was conducted in English and Gaelic, anthem and hymns were led

by a Gaelic Choir. To honour the memory of the settlers, Mrs. Betty Tilsley unveiled a picture of the Log Church in the form of a wall hanging, which she had designed and hooked. The gift was received with thanks by the congregation, and dedicated to the Church.

The Gaelic language is alive and thriving in classes held in Nova Scotia communities. Although I do attend and enjoy these classes, I wish I had taken advantage of learning of our Scottish roots and speaking Gaelic when, as a child, my grandparents were living. Years pass and often when we begin to seek out our heritage those who could have taught us are gone taking with them the history and language.

CMS-Halifax has invited CMS-CB and CMS-PEI to attend an Ecumenical Church Service at the Log Church in Loch Broom, Pictou County in July 2007 followed by a luncheon at one of the local halls. The event will be organized by our Gordon McLeod of Pictou.

CMS Halifax Executive members Vice President Bert, Secretary Pat Scallion, Treasurer Eleanor, Past President Don and President Betty MacLean wish clan members everywhere—

Greetings and Best Wishes for a Healthy and Happy Christmas, and may 2007 bring you Peace, Good Health, Joy and Prosperity.

CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETY OF GLENGARRY 70TH ANNIVERSARY SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2006 BY LESLEY MCCRIMMON

As we drove down a country road in the pouring rain, I wondered what it would have been like travelling from all over North America to attend the first Glengarry gathering of the Clan MacLeod. Some would have come on foot from the surrounding farms, some by car and some by train I imagine. All proud MacLeods uniting for the first time.

On November 5, 1935, under the leadership of John D. MacLeod, a committee of MacLeods and McCrimmons formed the Clan MacLeod Society of Glengarry, the first Clan MacLeod Society outside Scotland.

Their ancestors had left Scotland between 1786 and 1853 looking for land and a better life; in Glengarry County they established their own distinct Gaelic-speaking community. However, by the 1930s their language and unique culture were disappearing. John D. MacLeod saw the importance of maintaining family ties to preserve Glengarry's history and traditions; therefore, the first project of the newly formed clan society was a giant family reunion, a Clan MacLeod Gathering.

On Saturday, July 4th, 1936, in the maple grove of D. D. MacLeod (L25 C9 Kenyon), just north of

Dunvegan, this first Clan Gathering attracted over 1,000 MacLeod descendants from across Canada and the U.S.

The success of this gathering inspired Dame Flora, Chief of the MacLeods of MacLeod, to promote the formation of Clan MacLeod societies throughout North America and the Commonwealth.



As we approached the four corners in Dunvegan, we saw cars lining the road and knew we were at the right location. After parking at the end of the line, grabbing our umbrellas, we started walking toward the Pioneer Museum where we could see four people sitting in a circle with their umbrellas held high, having a grand chat. Further along was a tent where people were gathering. Bad weather would never stop the Clan from gathering, especially on such an historic occasion.

There was an excellent program of singing and dancing performed by the Ian MacLeod Fiddlers and the Lori MacMaster Dancers, as well as some reverberating tunes played by the Quigley Highlanders Pipes and Drums, followed by the cutting of three delicious celebration cakes.



There were a number of excellent speakers including Madelaine McCrimmon who gave us all a very interesting history lesson on the founding of the first Clan MacLeod Society outside of Great Britain. Barbara Armstrong (Past President



of CMSC and a direct descendant of John D. MacLeod) spoke about the great success of the Canadian Societies and the upcoming North American Gathering in Ottawa in 2008.

Because of the inclement weather (this was a Scottish occasion) the official unveiling of a commemorative plaque was done under the tent by one of the original 1935 attendees. The permanent new plaque erected to honour the 70th anniversary is situated just beyond the tent, on the museum grounds.

We had an opportunity to speak at length with Madeleine and Kay McCrimmon who are always so gracious and welcoming. We also met their niece Ann McCrimmon, who is the current President of the Ottawa Society.

It was a wonderful experience to be part of this historic gathering and to meet clansfolk from as far away as Alberta and Quebec.



PRAIRIE REPORT

BY BOB MCLEOD

Clan MacLeod was well represented at both the July 1st Manitoba Highland Games in Selkirk, and at Folklorama August 6th to 12th at the Heather Curling Club in St. Boniface. Thanks to Roy McLeod for arranging the volunteers and schedule, setting up and taking down the MacLeod display and being there for a full week. The new MacLeod T-shirts sold fairly well and we thank Alma MacLeod, secretary of CMS Southern Alberta for her help in ordering for us and shipping to Winnipeg. Most appreciated.

Our 19th Annual Clan MacLeod Dinner was held October 14th at the Victoria Inn, with fifty people attending. The food was great and the Matchstalk Men, our entertainment as in past years, the, was well received. David McLeod, a past president of CMS Manitoba, is a member of the three-piece band, and served as Master of Ceremonies as well. After dinner, Katharine MacLeod, a 17-year member,

shared some of the highlights of her recent three-week trip to Scotland. A Scottish auction and a 50/50 draw rounded out the evening. Next year will be our 20th Anniversary and we'll have to do something special.



Expanding our memberships and collecting renewals early in the year are our current challenges. Usually membership renewals trickle in over 6 or 8 months and some not at all leaving us in a poor financial situation as we have to commit and prepay for the Clan Magazines and membership in ACMS. This happens in February. In our Manitoba Newsletter in October it was explained that renewals must be received by February 1st or members could expect to miss some publications. For further explanation, phone Bob at 204-832- 5013.

OUR FIRST TRIP 'HOME'

BY MALCOLM E. MCLEOD (CMS VANCOUVER ISLAND)

Our plans to attend Parliament started when we attended a clan picnic last year at Judy Tipple's on Saturna Island. Talk of parliament was going round and we stated that we would like to attend one day. Neil R stated that we should do it this year and "Thank you, Neil, you were right". Our son

Callum was very enthused when we invited him along, but was apprehensive about becoming part of the North Room Group. We also invited our daughter Kirstie and her boyfriend, Jason to attend but for a shorter period of time. Finances you know.

Karen, Callum and I arrived in Glasgow on July 19 and made our way by rented caravan via Mallaig ferry to Skye where we stayed at Uig. The next day we crossed to Lochmaddy and drove to Berneray to visit my ancestral home and visit with relatives. Cousin Fred and his family had a BBQ. for us that night followed by a Ceilidh celebrating Berneray Days, which started at 11 pm and finished after 3 am. The youngsters didn't get home till 6:30. On the 22nd. (Callum's birthday was on the 23rd) we caught the ferry to Harris and drove to Scaladale to drop him off to join the North Room Group.

Karen and I returned south for more visiting and we also traveled as far south as Eriskay. We missed Barra only because we stayed in bed too long and couldn't make proper connections. "Damn". We were quite taken with the differences in the landscape, flora and fauna on the various Islands. The Island of Berneray is especially lush, has no peat but was at one time heavily inhabited (750 people on a 3 mile diameter Island) as is evident by the extent of the "Lazy Beds". The beginning of Parliament in Stornoway was a very moving event, made all the more so for us with Callum piping in the dignitaries, banners and the NRG.

The next day's activities were historically awesome as we explored Dun Carloway Broch, which is a circular double-walled many chambered fortress-type of dwelling, over 2000 years old.

Our next stop was at Callinish to see the standing stones, reminiscent of Stonehenge. There are two rows of stones arranged in the shape of a cross with a small central cairn and a very tall stone (about 14 to 16 Feet) adjacent to it. We then proceeded to the church of Ui at Aignish where the Chiefs of the Lewes were buried. The next day we traveled to Tarbert Harris, stopping on the way at the Scaladale center to have tea with the NRG.

The terrain changes dramatically on the way from rolling grassland in Lewis to mountainous terrain that is half rocky outcrops heavily populated with sheep in Harris. You zoom by these sheep as they graze by the side of the road and they seldom take notice. We only saw one dead one.

After a stop at the Tarbert Community Center for lunch and a visit with some of the locals we boarded our two coaches and proceeded to St Clement's Church at Rodel via the most rollercoaster-like narrow track road imaginable. This church has been restored to its 15th century glory by the Clan MacLeod's Alistair Crotach Committee. No heat, natural light, and pretty much the way it was then; a wedding had been held there not long before we arrived. Again, our guide and historian Ruari Halford MacLeod (who has written books on the building of this church and of Dunvegan Castle) gave a very interesting and informative tour.

It was in the cemetery attached to the church that I recognized the

graves of Sir Norman of Berneray and his grandson Donald, known as the 'Old Trojan', from my reading of the history of Berneray. After stopping at Bill Lawson's Genealogy Center called Seallam, we had a lovely dinner at the Harris Hotel during which we toasted Ruari and Ann on their wedding anniversary. This was followed by a wonderful ceilidh to round out the day.

The next morning we visited Angus Alec and Ina Morrison at their house where they have a 10' x 15' shed with their old pedal-driven hand loom. For years Archie drove school bus and when not driving operated this loom making their living this way. During our visit we mentioned that we had been visiting relatives on Berneray and Archie said that he had relations there, so I showed him some pictures dad had taken in 1983 and there was dad sitting next to a lady who had been Archie's mother's best friend. He figured that we would certainly be distantly related.

After a good look around Tarbert we went back to Skye via Berneray and North Uist since the direct ferry from Tarbert was full.

Parliament at Dunvegan was a whirlwind of social gatherings, castle tours, Gaelic lessons, wine tasting, whisky tasting, historic site tours, piping and fiddling, Gaelic singing, jam sessions in the pub and fellowship all round. The girl who conducted the Gaelic lessons was from Nova Scotia. The expert on Scottish Whisky was Gunter of the German Society and John Davidson

Kelly was the expert on wine. We had Ann Lorne Gillis there singing in Gaelic and Sarah Burnell from Ottawa with her wicked fiddling and glorious singing accompanied by a lady on the Clairsach (harp). John Davidson Kelly, Callum and David and Matthew MacCrimmon entertained with their pipes. Euan MacCrimmon, the holder of the Silver Chanter (the trophy for the best piobaireachd playing in the world) gave us some very stirring music at Trumpan Church and at the Cairn at Borreraig where for several centuries MacCrimmons had a Piping College.

Kirstie felt that this was "The was a most awe-inspiring historical event with enchanting melodies and incredible scenery". There was also the serious part with formal introductions, a few meetings, lectures and displays by our International Societies and Skye businesses.

Something that greatly impressed me was the number of enthusiastic young people in attendance. The NRG (18 to 28 yrs) had lads and lassies from Australia, New Zealand, USA, England, Scotland, and Canada; many had traveled there on their own hook. Two sisters from Adelaide (Tess and Meeghen) flew 24 hours both ways to attend. The kids were also impressed by the way that everyone was accepted as family, regardless of their ethnic origin.

We are looking forward to attending the North American Gathering in Ottawa in 2008.

CMSC Executive 2006-2008

[Contact President Ian or the *Leod Voice* for more details]

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Leod Voice Editor & Membership Registrar: Judy Tipple, Saturna, BC

CONGRATULATIONS CMS VANCOUVER ON YOUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY



In President Ian's congratulatory certificate he wrote
In the broad scope of MacLeod history, 50 years may seem but a speck of time, but in the lives of those you touch and serve, 50 years is a very significant milestone. Congratulations.

May you continue to HOLD FAST and SHINE BRIGHT.

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST



Cathrine Johanna Wilson 1918-2006

Cay was born July 29th, 1918 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, to a couple of Scot's from Stornaway, Lewis, Scotland. She passed through the veil we call death, to be greeted by her parents and brother Neil, on

September 29th, 2006.

Her working life was spent at Purdy's Chocolates, the C.N.R. and Canada Packers.

After retirement, she traveled extensively throughout Europe and the British Isles, but her heart belonged to Scotland and it beat the hardest when she spoke of Stornaway, on the Isle of Lewis. Relatives still live there today.

Cay loved time with her family and friends, and spent a considerable amount of time with the "Clan MacLeod Society", "Vancouver Gaelic Society", "Moray, Nairn and Banff Association" and "Daughters of the Nile" (affiliated with the Shriners).

A celebration of the life of Cay was held on Thursday, October 5th. The service was attended to overflowing by family and friends including son Ken and Lennine and brother Donald and Angela. Several Leaders of Cay's associations paid tribute to her devotion and cheerful presence at their gatherings.

Ian C. MacLeod, National President of Clan MacLeod Society, Canada, wearing his MacLeod of Lewis tartan kilt, spoke of Cay's important contribution to all levels of the Society and the many friendships she had made throughout the "MacLeod World".

It is with sadness and fond remembrance that we extend our condolence to Cay's family; may we ever remember her bright smile and her delicious shortbread.

THE EDITOR'S PAGE



I want to express my sincere thanks to the CMSC for the recognition given to Rick's contribution to our organization. The *Outstanding Clansperson Award* has a position of pride and prominence in my home.

Thanks also go to the several members who have responded to my request for articles. You have contributed greatly to our newsletter. I have neglected to attribute photo credits in this issue. Among those who have added to my own photos are Neil R., Ian C., Lesley McCrimmon, Karen & Malcolm, Donald R., USA Bill G., I thank them for their generosity.

In looking forward to the Spring issue of the *Leod Voice*, I encourage you to send me your articles about our clan and particularly tributes to our dear friend Ed McKenna who passed away recently.

You will notice that the Newsletter Deadlines have been revised and brought forward by one month. I welcome your comments on doing this.

The size of this issue of the *Leod Voice* is also a reflection of the enthusiasm of the 300 or so clan members attending the 15th Parliament. In spite of the Scottish weather, the warmth of fellowship was felt wherever clansfolk gathered together. Was that the reason why we had made the trek to Dunvegan? I think so. I've attempted to bring to all of you a sampling of those feelings of clanship as well as to share the news of activities throughout our organization. This sharing, whether sad or happy news, contributes to our 'feeling of family'.

Clan gatherings for me have always been opportunities to create and strengthen bonds of friendship. Make your plans now to join me at the North American Gathering in July 2008 in Ottawa.

Revised Newsletter Timelines:

Spring—May 1

Fall—October 1

**Member and
Executive Changes:**

March 1

and September 1

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