



The LEOD VOICE

CLAN M^{AC}LEOD SOCIETIES
CANADA NATIONAL COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER # 55
fall, 2011



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



BY DR DONALD MCLEOD

I have done the grand tour of Canada but unfortunately have missed the most important area of the Maritimes where most of our families started their expansion into Canada and many into the USA. Christine and I met with Alma in Calgary and had discussions about our contribution to the MacLeod Trail Monument in the Calgary area. We want a MacLeod Clan plaque attached and we will be fund raising for this and try for a Clan piper at the commemoration time next year. Alma is such a stalwart and dedicated clansperson and can prove it with a Hold Fast reminder tattooed onto her left shoulder.

Several stops before Winnipeg were done with visits and pictures everywhere. Janet Thompson was a great hostess, as she keeps the Scottish heritage alive in the Winnipeg area. Bob and Connie were visited and the their upcoming AGM with party and dance/dinner

arrangements were discussed. Our son, Dr. Malcolm McLeod was working in the emergency department at the Health Science Centre and coincidentally so was Bob's daughter-in-law. Connections everywhere you look.

Next was a flight to Toronto and phone calls to begin the trip to Ottawa. We were disappointed that MacIntosh's Ceramic Store in Lancaster has moved out of the Scottish inventories and gone generic for their sales.

We were treated like royalty by Doreen and Carm Howes in Dalkeith near the site of the Glengarry Highland Games. There were 160 Clan MacLeod folk in the parade into the fairgrounds. The tent arranged by Doreen and helped by all the terrific support was unparalleled for any event. The entertainment about piping, dancing, fashion featuring Roy MacLeod, dress, fiddling by Iain MacLeod's groups and history expounded by Madeleine MacCrimmon and special recognition of Barbara MacLeod Armstrong and her brothers for their family's contribution to Clan MacLeod in Glengarry. Brother Jim MacLeod was looking great and looking forward to all the excitement ahead in Washington, DC in June 2012. The Governor-General, David Johnston and his wife, Cheryl were

drawn to the MacLeod tent to join in the festivities and express their admiration of the Clan. Donaldson McLeod and his wife, Isobel did a superb job organizing the games as president for the term and they were great hosts at their home for a Ceilidh with endless Scottish treats and music to blend with the camaraderie and Scotch. The Kirkin of the Tartan in St. Columba Church was as moving as ever and the speeches, prayers, guitar, piping, dancing and the flurry of tartans made for a most memorable experience. Well done to Glengarry for keeping the spirit alive and the pride in our heritage.

Some meetings with Lesley McCrimmon and also with Beth Macleod were informative about the state of the clan. Ann and Karen McCrimmon were busy with all their duties and helping with all things clannish. It was so rewarding to see everyone again as they carry on with life's journey.

We attended the Montreal Highland Games and did our best to let everyone know 'en francais', that MacLeods were present and wanted to be included. The trip was concluded with a stopover and visit with Irene McCrimmon, Carol, Rick and David Pugliese. Sporting events, memories of Parliament, ales and snacking was done and plans for the next meeting established. Hats (berets) off to Doreen and Carm for their hospitality and

to all of you that continue on with promoting our heritage so that our next generation can experience the butterflies and total satisfaction of hearing our music and seeing our dance in tartan as it swirls around the dance floor.

The next Clan MacLeod gathering will be the North American Gathering in Alexandria VA, June 28 to July 1. Always a memorable gathering, mark your calendar and plan to enjoy the company of fellow clansfolk in the wonderful town that annually hosts the December Tartan Walk.

Think about joining Christine and me for a western Caribbean cruise with a Scottish flair. The Royal Caribbean Cruise leaves Port Canaveral, Florida, March 15, 2012. We will meet in the Library of the ship on March 16, 2012 at 9:00 am to outline the activities (piping music, Scotch, dancing, discussion topics and fun.) We hope to see as many of you as possible if you can break away from your routine to join us for Scottish Clan activities and fun organized by us. If information is needed call me via email (drdmcleod@telus.net) or through June McLeod (june60@telus.net)

Hold Fast and continue to Shine Brightly.

HELLO AGAIN, FROM
DR DONALD MCLEOD
(PRESIDENT CLAN
MACLEOD SOCIETIES
CANADA)

Cold again in Canada, the air is crisp and the homes are prepared for winter. My wife, Christine and I have returned from a trip touring the Black Sea by ship. The antiquity is impressive and the continuity of history is apparent as we travel to the neighbouring ruins from dozens of different eras and cultures. Each of these cultures had traditions and developments that spanned centuries. Many of them disappeared or were absorbed by others. The Roman Empire lasted over 800 years, as an example, before it softened with Christianity and was overtaken by Northern Hordes. Times were certainly different then; will our cultures last as long? Change occurs quickly now; languages, pastimes, dances, costumes and music all fade with the ages. Our Scottish heritage has endured better than most and we should all take pride in doing our part for the next generation.

What pattern of cloth is recognized around the world? What music is unique enough with a special instrument to be singled out to one area in the world? What dances stand out to be specialized to one country? All, of course, point to our heritage in our Scottish ancestry.

If the dances, bagpipes or tartan costumes don't stir something in your Gaelic soul then the image of a sunset over the heathered hills with a baronial castle in the distance will steal your breath. All of us have our favourite recollection of our ancient traditions inside us and when the setting is just right, the feeling of satisfaction overtakes us.

For two weeks we were traveling around Italy, Greece, Turkey and the Ukraine. Our MacLeod tartan outfits of course made us many friends and got us engaged in many conversations. My app on my smartphone allowed me to play bagpipes music anywhere and Scotch facts are only a keyboard away. "My brother-in-law in Texas is a MacLeod and I'm sure he would like to talk to you." "My commanding officer in the air force, General David MacLeod, died in a plane crash in Alaska, did you know of him?" "My mother was a MacLeod, so I recognized your tartan from when I was a child." "My daughter's roommate is a MacLeod, you need to meet her." These are all MacLeod conversations from one week on our cruise ship. We must all get these inquiries when we wear our tartan, so wear tartan frequently.

If any of you would like to join Dr Donald and Christine McLeod for a week at sea, then please join us for a Royal Caribbean cruise on the ship *Freedom of the Seas*

leaving Port Canaveral, Florida on March 18, 2012 for a one-week cruise of the western Caribbean. We will meet in the main library March 19 at 9:00 am the morning after departure to arrange our itinerary of MacLeod and Scottish type social events. We hope this will be a week of meet and greet. We can't wait to meet those who decide to join us. We will be wearing summer tartan and will have Scottish activities arranged. Make your own flights and cruise booking and if you want to let us know in advance or if you would like more information, Chris' email is cldooley@hotmail.com and the cruise line is royalcaribbean.com for bookings. Δ



Dr Don & Chris at the MacLeod Vineyard in Napa Valley during CMS USA annual meeting

We'll be looking for you at the 2012 NAG June 28-July 1 in Alexandria, VA



Neil, June, Dr Dan (competed in piping), Phil & Pat at the Kamloops Highland Games

CMS HALIFAX – FINAL REPORT

BY BETTY MACLEAN

As of December 31, 2011 the AClan MacLeod Society of Halifax, regrettably, will no longer exist. Our memberships dropped, member support waned and it was apparent the Executive, Pat and I, could only deal with routine matters. We could not operate within our By-laws without member support, nor could we retain society status within Provincial requirements. In dissolving our CMS-H it was agreed dues would be paid up to the end of 2011 for current members.

It was suggested that members wishing to receive the *Clan Magazines* could join Clan MacLeod Society of Canada or another branch, by January, 2012 and become members-at-large. The decision to dissolve the CMS-H was reached after much consideration. CMS-H was dissolved in May.

This past winter I became a board member of the Federation for Scottish Culture in Nova Scotia (FSCNS). The FSCNS has a website that lists most Scottish events scheduled in areas around Nova Scotia. Also, FSCNS invites individual memberships. Annual dues are \$15.00 per person.

The 2011 International Gathering of the Clans (IGC) was held on June 25 at Annapolis Royal. After a parade, a luncheon was hosted

by the Legion, during which we enjoyed musical entertainment, a talk and slide presentation on the findings of the archaeological study at Charlesfort, the first British settlement in Nova Scotia. Scots were among those first settlers, and they stayed for several years before moving on. Later, French settlers moved in, built their houses on the Scots' foundations, and changed the name to Annapolis Royal. Her Honour, MayAnn Francis, Lt Governor of Nova Scotia, was guest speaker. The IGC flag was raised, the ceremonial cake was cut, and Her Honour officially declared open the 2011 International Gathering of the Clans. Events were scheduled for later in the afternoon; and, on Sunday, the Kirkin' of the Tartans, a reception, and a tree planting dedication were held.

In closing, on behalf of Pat and myself, may I say a heartfelt thank you to all who supported CMS-H in the past. Perhaps, one day, CMS-H will rise again. Until then, please continue to *Shine Bright(ly) and Hold Fast*.

May you have a very Merry Christmas, a New Year of Good Health, Love, Joy and, above all, may there be Peace throughout the World.

Pat Scallion, Secretary-Treasurer
Betty MacLean, President

CMS MANITOBA

BY BOB MCLEOD

Once again this year, the Manitoba Clan MacLeod Society had a table at the Scottish Pavilion, one venue of many in the annual two week Folklorama Festival in early August, a celebration of the large number of ethnic groups who make Winnipeg and Manitoba their home, with their music, dance, food and crafts. Some of our clan members take turns manning our table of tartan, books and crafts, then we visit the buffet to enjoy the different kinds of Scottish foods available, while watching the main stage of music and dance. Janet, Margaret and Roy, along with other members, spent many long hours at the venue and enjoyed meeting visitors from all over Canada and busloads of people who came up from the US to partake in the food and entertainment of the different Pavilions.

The Selkirk Settlers parade was held again in September to celebrate the 199th anniversary of Lord Selkirk's group who arrived by way of Hudson's Bay in 1812. There are many plans being made in this area for the 200th next year, to take place in Winnipeg and surrounding areas, including perhaps a visit from the current Lord Selkirk. I believe some of our members are involved in the planning.

We had a surprise visit in the

afternoon of July 25 from our national president, Dr Donald McLeod and his wife Chris, brought to our home by Janet Thompson, our MB past president. Apparently they came to Winnipeg to visit their son, Dr Malcolm and Alison. We had a very enjoyable get together and it was a great afternoon.



October 15 was the special 24th Annual Dinner of our Manitoba Clan MacLeod at the Victoria Inn, with 45 people enjoying a great buffet dinner, a 'Scottish' auction, wonderful music and jokes by our David McLeod and his group, and a young piper whom we all enjoyed. He also gave an extensive verbal explanation of how the bagpipes work and examples of different kinds of pipe music.

Because it was October and Halloween was coming, we placed a small plastic orange pumpkin on each table, with a home-made plaid tam on top, with a battery inside, which caused each of them to flash on and off all evening. Dorothy and Connie had fun putting them together.

David works so hard for us

as our resident musician, MC, past treasurer, etc., but he lost his sister Patricia (Dawson) in April this year, then his mother on Oct. 26, Nellie Verna McLeod, wife of Kenneth McLeod, long-time members of our Manitoba clan. Three other members of our group also attended the funeral in Neepawa, Manitoba. Sadly we also lost another member, Doreen Worden of Kenora, Ontario, who is a sister of Mervin Worden and Patricia in Winnipeg, all of whom have been members for 20 years or more.

We look forward to another positive year for our Clan MacLeod group, with a new executive already elected for 2012. One of our members who will be taking over from myself as treasurer and membership, John Sam McLeod, can't remember the last time he bought a bottle of wine. Quote from a local weekly paper: "That's because the engineer and project manager has spent the last 25 years perfecting the art of making wine." "The last time I went to buy wine was at least 10 years ago, probably closer to 20 years. Many wines are drinkable after a year, okay after two and fantastic after three." He produces mainly red, but also dabbles in white, rose, and even various types of non-fortified port. John also does a wonderful job of gathering articles, editing and printing our semi-annual Clan MacLeod Manitoba newsletter, and producing our

annual dinner menu and program.

Connie and I really enjoyed our three trips to Parliament in 1990, 1994 and 1998 with two of our granddaughters. Our first visit to Skye in 1990 with 14 Manitoba members also included a trip by ferry to Lewis. After Parliament in 1994, we visited Sutherland, and particularly Assynt Parish where Bob's ancestors lived [gr.grandfather Donald McLeod and Margaret (nee McIvor)] who emigrated to Ontario in 1848 shortly after their marriage. They homesteaded near Kincardine and went on to have 11 children. Their first son after five girls, Thomas, came to Manitoba in the 1870s, married, had 11 children also, the eldest John Alexander McLeod being my father. The wonderful articles in the last issue of the *Leod Voice* brought back some great memories of our trips to Scotland.

Hold Fast and Shine Brightly,
Prairie Dog Bob and wife Connie

CMS INTERNET BY IAN C. MACLEOD

There are many MacLeods, and MacLeod supporters, who are not fortunate enough to live close to an active local Clan MacLeod Society but who would still like to be informed on things MacLeod. For several years we have had the Clan MacLeod Internet Society, through which members can receive the *Leod Voice* and *Clan*

MacLeod Magazine and other timely MacLeod information, even if they can't physically get to local events.

Due to production and mailing costs and the desire to not compete for price-discounted memberships with active local societies, the dues in the Internet Society were set at \$35. However, looking forward, we have been able to reduce those costs to \$20, with a couple of conditions.

First, for Internet Society members, the *Leod Voice* will be delivered by email reducing the printing and mailing costs (it's not free - our Editor still has some expenses in production). Unfortunately, we can't do the same with the *Clan MacLeod Magazine*, due to British copyright laws and commitments to

contributors and advertisers.

Second, we would prefer not to accept Internet Society memberships from any household that is already a member of and located in the area with an active society. We do not want to compete with them for memberships through dues costs.

Anyone wanting a membership through the Internet Society, or wanting to give a gift membership in the Internet Society to a friend or family member, can do so by sending directly to me (Ian C. MacLeod, 10920 Seamount Rd, Richmond, BC, V7A4P6) a cheque for \$20.00, payable to "Clan MacLeod", together with the pertinent contact information - name, address, and email. Δ



Clan MacLeod Society, USA
Invites you to attend the 2012 North American Gathering
In
Alexandria, Virginia
June 28 - July 1, 2012

Visit our website for complete details:
www.wix.com/sdrakem/2012-NAG

At the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia
Enjoy an Evening Riverboat Cruise, Workshops and Speakers,
Genealogy, Scotch Tasting, Piping, Dancing
Group Photo and Banquet

CMSC Past President Ian C. MacLeod has put together a summary of annual dues, dates and remittance addresses to assist CMS Treasurers in dealing with this task. It is important that all members be prompt in paying their dues and informing the Membership Co-ordinator of any change of address.

2011 CHECK LIST for LOCAL SOCIETIES

ANNUAL DUES and MEMBER ADDRESSES

1. DUES – ASSOCIATED CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES (ACMS)

Use of Funds: Administrative expenses of ACMS / printing and distribution of *Magazine*

Amount: US \$1.91 per member plus US \$8.35 per Magazine subscription, per year

Send to: *ACMS Business Manager*

William R. McLeod

210 East Juan Linn Str

Victoria, Texas, USA, 77901

Date Due: March 1 each year

Form: US Dollars – by cheque or money order – *provide a breakdown of the number of members for whom you are paying the \$1.91 fee and the number of magazines being paid for; with the \$8.95 fee and also identify your Society*

New Members after March 1: No adjustment

2. DUES – CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES OF CANADA (CMSC)

Use of Funds: About 75% to producing and mailing the two issues of the *Leod Voice*
Balance to general operations of CMSC

Amount: Cdn \$8.00 per mailing address, per year

Send to: *Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada*

Beth Macleod, Treasurer, CMSC

6 Peace Court

Caledon, ON, L7E 3R7

Email: lochlann@routcom.com

Date Due: March 1 each year

New Members after March 1: October 1 - “top up” for new members during year

3. ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS & OFFICERS (FOR MAGAZINE & LEOD VOICE):

Advise: *Judy Tipple, Membership Coordinator*

P.O.Box 11

Saturna Island, BC, V0N 2Y0

Email: jmtipple@gmail.com

Due date: Promptly, as changes occur, or note the due dates shown on the last page of your *Leod Voice*.

FINDING ANSWERS

BY ALMA MACLEOD, CMS SOUTH ALBERTA

A few months ago, CMSC Past President Ian C. in Vancouver referred me to a lady in Estes Park, Colorado named Grace Nelms.



She was almost certain that her great grandfather was a close relative of our famous Colonel MacLeod.

I was able to put her in touch with some of the Colonel's relatives, including David Dover, who is Col. MacLeod's great grandson. David was able to help her establish the connection. But it was Dixie McCaskill, the Clan MacLeod USA Genealogist who was able to supply her with proof positive that she was directly related to Colonel MacLeod.

I was able to put together a package of everything I could gather that she might be interested in, including a copy of the famous "Treaty Number Seven" that the Colonel arranged through Queen Victoria and the Indian Tribes in Alberta. A relative of mine was one of the witnesses to the signing, a priest named Father Scollen. That made it even more interesting to Grace and myself.

I am submitting this story, in hopes that someone else will realize that if you want to find out something about the Clan and its people, just ask a few questions. You never know what you might come up with. I learned something about my family, and gained a new friend. Δ

DOWN MEMORY LANE – BLACK FRIDAY IN CAPE BRETON

BY BETTY MACLEAN, CMS-HALIFAX

This past June, I visited Ottawa to deliver a collection of WWII material to the War Museum. My niece, Dorrie, came up from Indiana and together we enjoyed our visit, meeting with cousins John and Jackie as well. When my sister Dody had made her visits home to Cape Breton, she had kept her Canadian pocket change, along

with commemorative medallions created for use as legal tender at local businesses, or for special events. Dorrie had found these souvenirs, and asked me about the history of the medallions among them. Having not lived in Cape Breton for many years, I had never seen them.

One such medal represented

the infamous Black Friday in Sydney, Cape Breton. In October 1967 (Canada's Centennial Year) the steel plant owners and managers announced that at the end of April 1968, Sydney's great Steel Plant would cease operating. The plant, built in 1900, had been the bread and butter for thousands of steelworkers for nearly three-quarters of the century. Sydney Steel played a great role, through both World Wars in support of Canada's military. The plant made parts for military armament and machinery, and gave up thousands of steel and coal workers who enlisted in all forces to fight for Canada on foreign shores.

The plant depended on Cape Breton coal. The mines of the towns around Sydney were producing coal; their motto was 'coal is king'; coalminers, their families and local businesses depended on the coal industry. With planned closing of the steel plant, however, also came news that in some areas where "coal had been king", mines would also close, and more jobs lost. Little by little, citizens realized that other spin-off effects were coming: the Sydney & Louisburg Railway (S & L) had carried coal to the plant and to the piers; ships carried the coal, coke, steel, and rails to other countries. With the closures, trains and ships would not be needed with the resulting loss of jobs.

The news of these devastating plans hit Cape Breton Island like an emotional tsunami. The two World Wars certainly had had a drastic effect on families of every community; those Wars, however, were fought in faraway lands. In 1967, the forthcoming loss of employment brought a different kind of war, right to the doorsteps of every Cape Breton household. If one did not work at the Steel Plant or in a mine, or another related industry, there was someone who did: a family member, neighbour or friend. Many businesses also would feel the affects of the spin-offs. Cape Breton's economy was at stake. The announcements created fear and, with fear, came the protests.

I learned of this devastating news through the media. My dad and three uncles worked at Sydney Steel; my heart went out to all the steelworkers and miners who, on November 19, 1967 took their protests to the streets. Over 20,000 steelworkers and miners, along with parents, and families, and with business people, clergy, students and retirees, united to march over two miles through the streets of Sydney.

I am still not fully aware of all the politics involved in how and why decisions for closures came to be made; it was a very convoluted and highly political mess not to mention an extremely frustrating and devastating time for the people

of Cape Breton Island. I do know that the Steel Plant, on a somewhat smaller scale, did remain operational until 2001, staving off mine closures for a time. Millions were spent to keep the plant open and on modernization of equipment in an effort to entice a buyer to take over. For years, and through many changes in government, no one wanted to be named as the destroyer of Cape Breton's major industries. Finally, however, in 2001 with no buyer the equipment was sold to overseas interests. A small workforce was kept on to dismantle and prepare the equipment for shipping and Sydney Steel became a thing of the past.

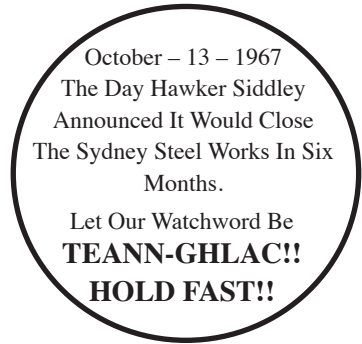
Forgive me. I certainly have strayed away from my reason for going down memory lane and the Black Friday medallion. This medallion represents a very crucial part of Cape Breton's history. I do recall the events that prompted this medallion being struck, but I did not know of its existence.

The medallion seems to be made of a shiny aluminum alloy, lighter than silver in weight; it is 1½ inch in diameter, (size of a silver dollar or larger)?

On the front is the inscription:

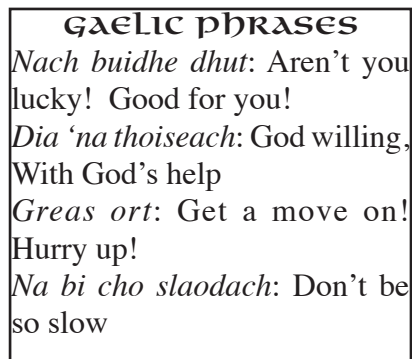


Much to my surprise, however, when I turned the medal over, I found the following inscription:



Now, I don't know any more about this medallion than what I have written here. How it came to bear the Clan MacLeod Motto, I don't know. I am sure there is someone who, upon reading this article, will have the answer to the mystery, and can shed more light on this part of Cape Breton's history. If I have erred in my few memories, I apologize and am certainly open to correction.

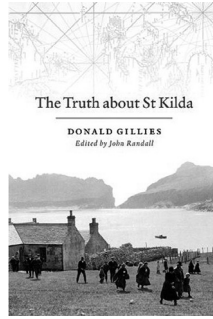
I am amazed how this medalion went from Sydney to Indiana in 1968 with Dody, and, thanks to Dorrie, came back to Nova Scotia in June 2011. Δ



THE TRUTH ABOUT ST. KILDA

Reverend Donald Gillies was born on St. Kilda in 1901 and died in 1994 in Vancouver, BC.

The discovery of Gillie's seven handwritten notebooks containing reminiscences of childhood on the island of Hirta, part-memoir, part historical artifact, led to the publication of *The Truth About St. of Kilda*, edited by John Randal. This resulted in a lasting tribute to the adaptability and courage of a small, remote Gaelic-speaking society that endured through two



millennia on the cluster of islands, until their way of life could no longer be sustained and all remaining residents were evacuated in 1930. Examining the resident's lifestyle, including their diet, economy, and social structure, this intimate account reveals how their practice of a puritanical form of religion commonly perceived by outsiders as being austere and draconian, clearly reflected the source of spiritual stamina for these early inhabitants. Δ

MY VISIT TO SCOTLAND

BY MARY DAVIDSON

The article in the Spring *Leod Voice* about *My Love of Scotland* really moved me, as I also retain a great love for the homeland of my ancestors.

In May 2011, I took my sister Jean, to Scotland to introduce her to the wonders of that beloved and magical place. She had never been there, or even been in a plane before, so I wanted her to have the experience of a lifetime.

Unfortunately, the areas of interest, Skye and Kintail, have either sketchy or almost non-existent transportation services and we were without wheels. Both of us drive at home, but to take on driving on the 'other' side in a car with a gear

shift, also on the other side, was too much to consider, so we hired a car and driver for our two days of exploration. Our driver and also owner of the company, Kyle Taxis, was Kenny MacLeod, a very knowledgeable and most congenial gentleman, who took us wherever we planned to visit and suggested other sites we hadn't thought of. We were picked up at the door of our B&B, taken to good places for lunch, shown sights that we would have missed if on our own and told interesting stories not found in tourist brochures. Jean has some disability problems and Kenny was always there to assist her in and out of the car and over any rough

terrain we encountered.

One of our main destinations was Dunvegan Castle - very difficult to get to by bus - but so easy to reach by car. We enjoyed a lovely couple of hours going through the Castle and wandering in the gardens. I was particularly interested in seeing the actual bedroom of my direct line ancestor, the ancient Chief Sir Rory and his wife Isabella of the Glengarry MacDonalds. I had recently read an historical novel of the pair with fairly graphic bedroom scenes, so to actually see the place where these scenes took place was a great thrill.

Other places we had on our agenda for Skye was Sliggachan Inn, where our ancestor, Roderick MacLennan was victualler in 1851, later taken over by his son Alexander, who is listed in the book of former innkeepers. We also enjoyed seeing the model village at the top end of Skye's longer arm, with fabulous sea views. It is well done and we thought it too bad that it didn't have more guests. While we were there, we were the only visitors.

Skye was Day One of our car hire. On Day Two, we went to Eilean Donan Castle, where many of our MacRae ancestors were Constables and then we went on to Clachan Duich where both MacRae and

MacLennan ancestors are buried. On our way along the shores of Loch Duich, we were treated to many lovely vistas of the Loch with the mountains, Five Sisters of Kintail, in the distance.

Our final destination was Glenelg and the Glenelg Brochs, Dun Telve and Dun Troddan, those ancient stone towers that housed Highland people of the Iron Age.

For two elderly women, hiring Kenny MacLeod and his Kyle Taxi was a wise decision. We could not have managed the trip on our own or visited the places of greatest interest. A tourist bus might have taken us to some of our desired destinations, but would have been a much less enjoyable time. We were picked up by Kenny, as we alighted from the bus from Glasgow, in Kyle of Lochalsh and taken to our B&B. We were picked up at the B&B by Kenny, and taken to the



Jean with driver extraordinaire Kenny MacLeod

Kyle-Inverness train station, when we left Kyle of Lochalsh. Those extra services were not part of the contract, but given by a company that cares about its clients.

Our B&B in Kyle of Lochalsh was comfortable with most delightful hosts. The Piper's Lodge is actually that, as our host was a bagpiper and taught bagpiping to children in all the local schools. The restaurants in such a little place were as good as any you would find in larger centres.

After leaving Kyle of Lochalsh, Jean and I lamented frequently that we would be having a much better time if we were still in the care of Kenny MacLeod.

While busing is not the ideal way to travel, we managed to see

quite a bit of Scotland. We next went to Inverness, on the train rather than the bus, for a bit of variety. We stayed four days in Inverness and travelled, again by bus, to MacDuff one day, to Thurso the next day and to Culloden the third day. On our final day, we went out to the new Highland Archives and Genealogical Centre.

On leaving Inverness, we went to Aberfeldy, then Arbroath and finally, Edinburgh, so Jean saw a pretty broad spectrum of Scotland in the two weeks we were there. It took a lot of planning, but turned out well. We are too old to do it again, so it had to be pretty comprehensive for a once-only trip.

So, Judy, that is my story of a recent trip to Skye.

BERNERAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BY PETER KERR

I am a professional researcher working for Berneray Historical Society in the Western Isles (Outer Hebrides) of Scotland.

We are at the start of an exciting new project, **A' tilleadh ar n-eachdraidh dhachaigh (Bringing Our History Home)**, exploring the historical & cultural impact of emigration from the Isle of Berneray (Harris).

We have positively identified 95 MacLeod individuals who left here for known destinations and my purpose in contacting you is to aid me in researching the Berneray

diaspora. The spreadsheet, available from Peter, lists these people by the date when they emigrated and also includes their date of birth if known.

I would like to exchange information regarding our people in the hope that, with your assistance, we are able to make contact with their descendants. One purpose of our project is to examine the aspects of Berneray's culture that were exported, and subsequently maintained, by our emigrants and their descendants.

We wish to learn of their an-

cestors stories and experiences and examine how aspects of the culture have fared (not only poems, songs and music but also artefacts, designs, practices, traditions, festivals, etc.) thus investigating the influence that Bearnaraich have had on their new communities whilst bringing their memories, such as this one, home:

“This is the finest country that I have seen yet but it is all taken up by people”

(From a letter to his sister in Berneray sent from Dakota in 1887 by one of our emigrants.)

I should explain that, although we have compiled a database identifying many of the emigrants from Berneray in the late 18th and 19th Centuries, our knowledge of those who left in the 20th Century is less comprehensive so we are also very keen to learn of these more recent emigrants and their families.

The Society is particularly keen to hear from individuals whose ancestors once lived on Berneray before emigrating from these shores to make a new life elsewhere.

I am contacting Gaelic societies, Clan societies, archives, libraries and various specialists in Gaelic culture in my quest and the results will eventually become widely accessible, both on the island and on the internet, and via events publicising our findings.

My involvement with the



project stems from my established body of research into the islands which focuses particularly upon the social history of the Parish & Estates of Harris in the 19th Century. My own Harris ancestry stretches back at least 220 years to Strond and very likely earlier from across the Sound of Harris to Berneray itself. Δ

Contact Peter Kerr at Nurse’s Cottage, Backhill, Berneray, Isle of North Uist, HS6 5BD. Email: peterkerr@hebrides.net

Bringing Our History Home is part-financed by the Scottish Government and the European Community LEADER Innse Gall 2007-2013 programme.

All images copyright Comunn Eachdraidh Bheàrnaraigh.

However they may be used to publicise the project on our behalf.

Google Berneray and enjoy visual tours of a fascinating Island in the Sound of Harris



GENEALOGY REPORT

by Lesley McCrimmon

On Sunday, after the Glengarry Highland Games, I was asked to read this at the Kirkin' O' the Tartan at St. Columba Presbyterian Church. I thought this might be of interest to all. It was a spectacular service, from the youth marching in with the tartan colours, to the prayers, history, music (singing, guitar solo and violins) to leaving the church under an honourguard of tartans with the pipe band playing in the background.

This piece was to commemorate the Battle of Culloden and the persecutions which followed, that the service of the Kirkin' O' the Tartan was first held.

Charles Edward Stuart, *Bonnie Prince Charlie*, had returned to Scotland from France to invade England, with the express purpose of taking over the throne. Many of the Highland Clans flocked to his banner, but after the defeat of the Scottish army on the cold drizzly morning of April 16, 1746 at Culloden Moor, there began the persecution and destruction of a proud people - the Highlanders of Scotland.

One of the first actions of King George and the English government after that defeat was to outlaw all signs of the Highland culture. Although it was decreed that the kilt was forbidden dress, many people,

continued to wear bits of tartan under their clothes and next to their hearts. The soft musical Gaelic language and the glorious music of the bagpipes were suppressed, restrictions bitterly resented by the proud Highlanders, and they did everything they could to circumvent the law.

It became the custom in many Highland churches to set aside one service each year for the blessing of the tartan. On that day, each clan member secretly wore a piece of tartan, and during the service, the minister would offer a prayer of thanks for the heritage for which it stood.

And so today, we offer our thanks to God for the faith of our highland ancestors and for these tartans - the symbol of their faithfulness to the land and culture of their ancestors. Δ



JOY'S STORY

BY JOY TARRANT CMS
SOUTH ALBERTA

The only grandparent I ever knew was my dad's mother, Grace Glendenning Macleod. Born in 1893, Grace was one of what I believe were eight children born and adopted to Alexander Macleod and Bertha Amelia Cann in Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia.

In 1923 Grace had married Herbert Strickland and had two sons, my dad Allister Mcleod and Glenn Archibald, both born in Springhill, NS.



Nanny Grace MacLeod Stricklane and her son Glen 1958

One of my earliest childhood memories is of making a chocolate pudding with Nanny as we called her, on an old wood-burning stove in the small CPR house my parents lived in during the early 1960s. Dad worked for CP Rail, we lived

in Port Coquitlam and Nanny, living in Burnaby, came for frequent weekend visits.

My parents built a house about then and Nanny came often, bringing us the most exquisite little Barbie doll clothes and other doll clothes, never mind that mom admonished her not to spoil us. My Uncle Glenn also lived in the lower mainland area but was a less frequent visitor, although I do remember him. By the time I was 10 we moved to Cranbrook, BC and Nanny went back east to be closer to her sisters and retire near where she grew up.

We had a little ritual of making tea for Nanny and dad, warming the pot and of course then covering it with one of the many tea cosies she or mom had made. I was lucky enough to see her once again when we took a family trip back east in 1974, a couple of years before she passed away.

Nanny always smelled wonderful, I can still recall the talcum powder scent and the feel of her silky Sunday dress. It was unfortunate that none of our extensive family photo collection survived and I had searched since my father passed away in 1999 for pictures of Nanny or other relatives.

I was thrilled late last year to come across a relative of great grandmother Bertha Amelia Cann, daughter of George Cann, one of the lighthouse keepers on Flint



Three Cann cousins

Nita MacLeod Wilson (Bertha Cann's daughter), Myrtle Dickey, Lois Cann (Fred's daughters) 1964

Island, NS and Sarah Ann Moffatt. This lady lives here in Calgary and was kind enough to provide a couple of photographs and I was stunned and thrilled when she pulled out three photos that I remember having when we were growing up.

I know very little of Nanny Grace's life in Nova Scotia. Great grandfather Alexander was, I believe, a blacksmith and I have scraped together some of the ancestry records.

I am searching for more information, if anyone recognises any of these relationships. Ironically I always thought I had a small family on my father's side but between the large eastern families of Strickland, Cann and Macleod, it's actually gigantic. Δ.

GLENGARRY HIGHLAND GAMES

July 29, 2011 Maxville, Ontario

The theme of this years games was **“Celebrating the Year of the Clans”** which was very appropriate as this was the 75th anniversary of the **Glengarry Clan MacLeod Society** which was the first Clan MacLeod Society outside the UK.

The initial Clan Gathering was held in D.D. MacLeod's grove at Dunvegan, ON. As this was the first gathering of any Clan in Glengarry, those in charge were determined to make it a huge success. The result was a Clan Picnic on July 4, 1936 when One Thousand descendants of the Old Clan” gathered from all over North America to meet former friends and new Kith and Kin.

This was the first of many projects of the Society. Notable achievements include the publishing of two books on the genealogy of the Clan in Glengarry, four visits from Chief Dame Flora MacLeod, who opened the Glengarry Highland Games in 1961, her daughter Alice MacNab who opened the games in 1976 and four visits from Chief John MacLeod, and the organization of the first **North American Clan MacLeod Gathering**.

The Clan Society has been instrumental in the preservation and advancement of Highland Heritage in Glengarry including the formation of the Glengarry Pipe Band, (celebrating their 50th year) the construction of the Cairn at Spring Creek in Lochiel Township celebrating the arrival of the first MacLeod settlers, the promotion of highland dancing and many ceilidhs and reunions over the years.

As part of their 75th anniversary, the Clan MacLeod Society hosted the Glengarry Games “**Welcome to the Clans**” tent. Throughout the games the tent hosted many presentations including “Kilt wearing for Men and Sash wearing for Ladies, Genealogy do’s and don’ts and how to get started, as many Glengarrians can trace their roots to the MacLeod immigration to Glengarry in 1740, and Piobaireachd and Fiddle demonstrations.

The **Glengarry Highland Games** are the largest Highland

Games in North America and the main reason is the deep rooted Scottish heritage in the area.

Late in the 1700s Highlanders fleeing the American Revolution in the United States made their way north to what was to become the Glengarry settlement. In 1786 these United Empire Loyalists were soon followed by a second and larger immigration that brought settlers from the Glengarry estates in the western Highlands of Scotland. In 1794 some forty families under the leadership of Captain Alexander MacLeod came to Glengarry county to the vicinity of Kirkhill. Captain Alexander MacLeod is buried in the Columbian Presbyterian Church in Kirkhill, and a number of his descendants still live in the area.

These existing Glengarry settlements were joined in 1803 and 1804 by disbanded regiments of Highland soldiers led by Father Alexander Macdonell.

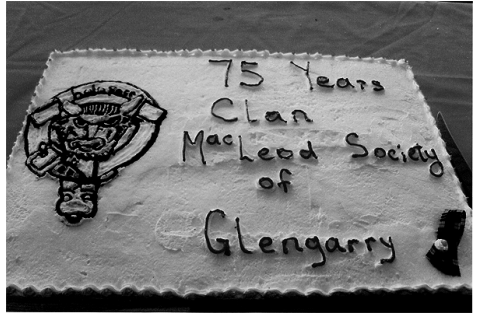
By 1806, over 2,500 Scots had left their native Glengarry for the new community of the same name in Upper Canada – and Gaelic was the third most commonly spoken European language in Canada, after English and French.

Travelling around Glengarry County today, it is easy to see the Scottish influence in the names of communities such as Dunvegan, Dalkeith, Lochiel, McCrimmon, and of course Maxville, which was

CMS GLENGARRY 75TH
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION AT THE
GLENGARRY HIGHLAND
GAMES



Genealogist Madeleine McCrimmon



Doreen Howes, Pres. Glengarry CMS; Madeleine McCrimmon, Historian Glengarry and Ottawa CMS; Donaldson MacLeod, Pres Glengarry Highland Games; guest, Heather Oakley, Ottawa Branch ON Genealogical Society; and Lesley McCrimmon, Genealogist CMSC

named for the Macs who settled there. The 1852 census lists the main clans as MacDonald, MacMillan, MacDougall, MacRae, **MacLeod**, Grant and Cameron, many of whom are still found in the abundance in the county today.

The Games still continue to attract many special guests and this year was no exception as we were honoured to have His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston Governor General of Canada and his wife as the official Guests of Honour to Officially Open the Games. The **Clan MacLeod** was equally honoured as Mr Johnston took time out of his busy schedule to come and speak to us at the Clan tent. We were also honoured to have Dr Donald MacLeod, president Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada, and Vice President of the Associated Clan MacLeod Societies, and his wife Chris.

As this was the Year of the Clan, the Glengarry Society was determined to equal the MacLeod turnout at the Fergus Games in 2002 during the parade of the Clans. While they did have a large turnout it paled in comparison to the over 400 who marched in Fergus, and they also did not have the two horses.

All in all, if there is only one Highland Games you can attend, let it be this one. Δ

DURHAM HIGHLAND GAMES

BY LESLEY MCCRIMMON

As the Macleod's were the featured Clan at the Games in Durham the Macleod/McCrimmon contingent packed their kilts, kids, lunches and even a tent and headed off to the games to represent the Clan as best we could. It was a very hot, sunny day, but fortunately we were able to find some shade to pitch our Clan tents and open the booth for visitors to meet us and learn more about the MacLeods. No matter how hard we all tried to get there early (8:00 am) Cathie White and Diane Sankey had already put one of the tents up and were waiting patiently for the rest of us to arrive. As one of the youngest marchers in the parade of the clans, Colin McCrimmon (2.5 yrs) was given the honour of holding one end of the MacLeod banner. Unfortunately, as the featured Clan we were positioned right behind the Pipe Band. When the "music" of the pipes started up, Colin immediately dropped the banner and covered both his ears!

In walking around the grounds we discovered many different breeds of Scottish dogs. The kids were really taken by the collie puppies and were really hoping to take one home. I don't think so!



Cathie White CMS Central Ontario

The Scottish Wolfhound had a cape around him to keep him cool.

There were sword, shield and pottery making demonstrations and the younger kids were encouraged to make some of their own. They even had a Caber tossing demonstration and encouraged some of the older kids to give it a try.

Needless to say the audience stayed well back as no one was quite sure where the end of the caber would end up.

We all got the opportunity to see some huge Clydesdale horses up close and personal. They were part of the opening ceremonies pulling a huge wagon; unfortunately it was not a beer wagon! A great way to advertise your business was a green Smart car entitled the Spudster. It had fish eyes in the front next to the lights and a fin on top advertising the Halibut and Chips for sale.

It was a busy day for all. Packing up was easy with so many helpers. We even had a gentleman asking about genealogy. He was given forms and we hope he fills his in and submits them to our Clan Project of finding MacLeods/Septs who have ever lived in Canada. Δ



FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

JEAN MCLEOD

Remembering Jean McLeod
Jean, along with her publisher husband, Douglas McLeod, were members of the Clan MacLeod Society of Central Ontario since the 1960s.

In the early days they participated in the programming committee and arranged for speakers for ceilidhs held at the Prince Arthur House in Central Toronto. One such memorable speaker was Walter Thompson, bodyguard to Winston Churchill and a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

They were members of the Toronto Cricket, Skating and Curling Club and as such Jean was gracious enough to arrange for the Central Ontario Society to use these lovely facilities for a number of ceilidhs and MacLeod functions. There, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Clan MacLeod in Central Ontario in 1995 and again we were privileged to enjoy a wonderful formal evening of food and entertainment on our 50th anniversary, in the fall of 2005. We were also well represented at the Club when Jean celebrated her 90th and later her 95th birthday.

In the year 2000, the Clan MacLeod Society of Central Ontario hosted the North American



Gathering of the Clan MacLeod Societies. This was a big undertaking on an international scale and Jean was a member of the organization committee. At the actual Gathering Jean was a tireless worker at many of the events. She was also a member of the Choir and sang at the opening ceremonies as well as the Kirkin' of the Tartan.

For many years Jean worked on the Social or Hospitality Committee for the Clan Ceilidhs. She always proudly wore a Harris or Lewis tartan skirt or jacket. Our Ceilidhs would not have been as successful were it not for quiet, faithful workers like Jean preparing and organizing the food behind the scenes and greeting the MacLeods

attending the ceilidhs. In 2010, although not as agile as she once was, Jean insisted on playing her part and helped to fold the napkins and arrange the plates for the fall Ceilidh, the last one she was able to attend.

Jean was a faithful and dedicated member of the Clan MacLeod Society of Central Ontario for many decades, the grand dame of our family and we shall miss her greatly. Δ

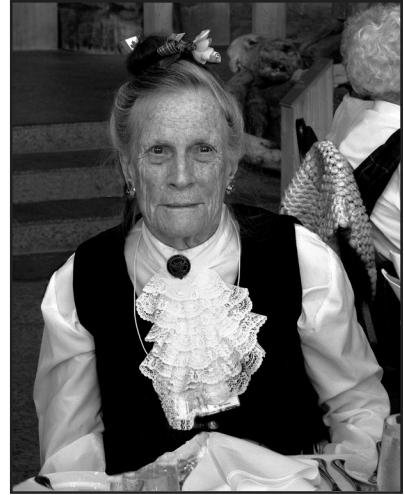
OLIVE MCCASKILL BELL

DECEMBER 22, 1915 –

JULY 26, 2011

Born in Greenville, Mississippi, Olive studied journalism at Southeastern Louisiana University and worked as the society reporter in California, MO where she was sent to interview Saul Bell (who became her husband in August 1937.) They headed for California on their honeymoon but when they reached the mountains of New Mexico Olive insisted that they stop and settle there. They made their home in Albuquerque, where they raised nine children and shared 59 happy years of marriage.

Olive was a gifted and captivating storyteller, an avid reader, and a lifelong learner with an unquenchable thirst for adventure. Her love of life extended to many creative pursuits: she was an accomplished seamstress and knitter, ceramic artist, woodcarver, glassworker, and gardener. She inspired her loved ones with her passionate approach to living: In 1949, she graduated from the Gemological Institute of America—the only woman in



her class. For her 60th birthday, she took flying lessons, pursuing a lifelong desire to be a pilot.

In her eighties, she built a cottage in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, where she spent ten happy summers.

She was co-founder and chairman of the Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games, which is still going strong 23 years later. She founded the MacAskill Sept Society of the US and Canada and co-founded the Clan MacLaren Society of North America. She has been an officer and very active

member of the Clan MacLeod Society for more than 30 years attending many Parliaments and North American Gatherings, her last being the Ottawa NAG in 2008.



At 95, she began planning the MacAskill Sept Society AGM for September 16-18, 2011. Organization of the event was completed by her daughter Betsy along with other family members and included a well attended Celebration of Olive's Life.

Olive marveled at the world and modeled an attitude of curiosity and passion for her children and grandchildren. She embodied a spirit of adventure and boldness, and gave each of her descendants a deep appreciation for their family history.

Olive was preceded in death by her husband Saul Bell and her son Mandel Bell. She leaves behind a nephew, Jamie McCaskill, and 36 direct descendants including her eight living children: Elizabeth, Hugh (Margaret), Eddie (Pam), Neil, Alan (Audrey), Martin (Paula Crevoshay), Molly (Charles Springer), Bruce (Darcel), 13 grandchildren, 11 great

grandchildren, and 3 great-great grandchildren.

We cherish our memories of Olive and her stories will be told for many years to come. Δ

REMEMBERING OLIVE BY JUDY TIPPLE

Olive celebrated her Scottish heritage and was in her element wearing her tartans and trading stories with all who wanted to know more about Scottish tradition and history.

When Olive's eyesight failed she still wanted to travel to Cape Breton and clan functions, so needed a travel companion and driver. Friends and members of her family enabled her to attend Parliaments and NAGs, and Scottish events in varied locations.

It was my privilege to accompany her on several occasions: driving her home to Albuquerque from Cape Breton after enjoying seven concerts of the Celtic Colours, flying to Alexandria to take part in the Tartan Walk and the CMS-USA Council meeting, and driving to a MacAskill Sept Society gathering in Laurinburg, NC.

When Olive decided on a project not much could deter her. Her enthusiasm was contagious and she accomplished a great deal in her long and interesting life. She will be missed by those she touched and her stories will continue to be told. Δ

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

First, my apologies for the lateness of this issue of the *Leod Voice*.

A highlight event of this year was the gathering of clansfolk to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Glengarry Clan MacLeod Society. This joyful event was held in conjunction with the Glengarry Highland Games, opened by the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, shown with CMS Glengarry President Doreen Howes on the front cover.



Sadly, we also lost several dear friends. Among them are Jean McLeod of CMS Central Ontario, Nellie McLeod and Doreen Worden of CMS Manitoba, and Olive Bell of Albuquerque, NM. Olive was well known to many Canadian members through her travels to many North American Gatherings and Clan Parliaments. We wish to pay our respects to all the dear friends who are no longer with us and express our condolences to their families.

The North American Gathering 2012 in Alexandria, Virginia is the next opportunity for us to share our friendship and clan spirit. To be held June 28 to July 1, it presents an opportunity to visit areas of New England and Washington DC that are steeped in history.

Communication is a vital part of linking members of our various societies. Through this newsletter and the *Clan MacLeod Magazine* we are able to come together, to share our present and our past. Our National Council is faced with the challenge of making this exchange happen at a reasonable cost and with convenience to its members. It has been suggested that some members may wish to receive the *Leod Voice* by email. Perhaps the format could be changed to make it easier for individuals to

print their copy. To this end, I want to hear from you, the readers and members of CMSC, either individually or by indicating your feelings to your local society executive.

Many thanks to the contributors to this issue; please keep your stories and articles coming.

Hold Fast and Shine Brightly.

My address: Judy Tipple, P.O. Box 111
Saturna Island, BC Canada V0N 2Y0

Phone: 250-539-5475

E-mail: jmtipple@gmail.com

leodvoice@gmail.com

Newsletter Timelines:

Spring—May 1

Fall—October 1

**Membership and
Executive Changes:**

March 1

and September 1