



# The LEOD VOICE



CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES  
CANADA NATIONAL COUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER # 58  
SPRING, 2013



CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETIES OF CANADA CAN TAKE  
PRIDE IN THE WORK OF NORMAN G. MACLEOD,  
CMS GREATER VANCOUVER MEMBER WHO TEACHES  
FIRE/RESCUE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

# NORMAN MACLEOD HELPS OTHERS

*[Editor's Note: Norm is a member of CMS Greater Vancouver and served as its President several years ago while he was still training for his future profession. When I read this story of his participation in Firefighters Without Borders my heart swelled with pride. Some of you may have met Norm when he and his brother attended Parliament. Our best wishes to you and your young wife, Norm, please carry an image of the Fairy Flag to keep you safe.]*

## BY TIM FITZGERALD - MISSION CITY RECORD

The bond between firefighters extends well beyond the municipalities they serve.

The job itself requires one to be willing to make the ultimate sacrifice — to lay your life on the line to save others. It's a commitment that requires more than just showing up for work.



For Capt. Norm MacLeod of Mission Fire/Rescue Service, that dedication hardly stops at the borders he patrols. MacLeod will be part of a team of Canadian first responders heading to El Salvador to continue their work helping underdeveloped countries improve their fire rescue capabilities.

“They do so much with so little down there,” said MacLeod, who will leave for his 10-day mission on Feb. 14. “The will is there for sure. Unfortunately, it’s a lack of equipment and training.”

MacLeod has [worked with Firefighters Without Borders Canada in the past](#), collecting used equipment that’s no longer in service in Canada and putting it to use in countries in Central and South America. The Mission firefighter has travelled to Paraguay to help share his knowledge to the work of which he cares so passionately.

The timing of the trip comes on the heels of a tragedy in Brazil. The nation is in a state of mourning after 233 people were killed in a bar fire in the university town of Santa Maria. In a country where building codes are lax and equipment antiquated, the trip exemplifies the work that needs to be done.

MacLeod said while equipment and training are necessary for developing countries to improve their response time, in countries like Paraguay and El Salvador, economic restraints unfortunately force fire/rescue services to take a back seat to more pressing fiscal realities.

“It’s a great experience to be able to go and share knowledge, and experience the culture of these communities,” said MacLeod. “They

have a real need to improve their training. They just don't have the resources."

He points to an incident while in Paraguay when firefighters responded to a car accident, yet didn't have tools to get the victims out of the wreckage. He said most of the counties rely on a volunteer, so as much help as he and his Canadian counterparts can offer, the better.

"All the people I've met are so friendly and accommodating, that's what makes me want to go back and help," he said.

And in a note from Norm:

Firefighters Without Borders Canada (FWBC) provides Equipment and Training to countries requesting assistance. I have been involved with this organization since 2008 and have deployed three times to Asuncion, Paraguay, South America. We traveled extensively in Paraguay and I have seen a great deal of the countryside. I am not currently deploying with this organization but remain a member.

In 2012, I joined First Responders International Training Academy (FRITA) and deployed to San Salvador, El Salvador, Central America. FRITA's focus is on Firefighter training, and in El Salvador we taught a course on Firefighter Survival Skills, how to use Breathing Apparatus, Self Rescue, Ladder and Hose use. At the end of the week we created a live fire scenario in a unoccupied five story office building for the Bomberos (Spanish for firefighter) to practice their newly acquired skills.



This was the sixth deployment to El Salvador for the team and my first. Due to my previous experience in Paraguay, I have been selected to lead the team in 2014. In 2014 FRITA will also be deploying to Panama and several other counties. This past deployment to El Salvador was a truly Canadian team as we had a firefighter join us from St. John's, Newfoundland! For him, it was a shorter trip to El Salvador than it would have been to travel to Vancouver.



*Captain Norm MacLeod with his beautiful bride Stacey beside the Mission City Fire Engine*

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY JIM MACLEOD

Greetings fellow I truly hope that all winter – although as I look out a window at a mid wind storm and thus tense.

We have recently returned from our winter time in Portugal where I am often surprised at how frequently the name ‘MacLeod’ comes to the surface. It typically happens in a place (OK... usually a bar) where people gather for a social time and there is always a ‘meet and greet.’ On many occasions I was told: “Oh, my mother was a MacLeod”, or “Oh, my wife is a MacLeod” and would be promptly introduced. Many Brits and Canadians winter in the Algarve in southern Portugal and both groups run into each other on a regular basis.



Clansmen/Clanswomen. of you have had a great write this, I am looking April snow/freezing rain/question my use of the past

returned from our winter

## ACMS Meeting

The Associated Clan MacLeod Societies (ACMS) Management Council Meeting was held in Edinburgh, Scotland on February 16, 2013. The meeting was chaired by John Davidson Kelly, President ACMS. Dorna Caskie, Honourary Secretary ACMS was able to set up teleconferencing facilities for the meeting and I was pleased to be able to join the meeting using Skype Telephone Calling. The proceedings were both interesting and informative. The meeting convened at 10 AM and went well into the late afternoon with a one hour lunch break. I experienced a few minor technical ‘clitches’ but for the most part it went well.

## Web Site

About four years ago, Ian C MacLeod (National President 2004 – 2008) of Richmond BC took the initiative to build a *Canadian* Clan MacLeod web site. Ian did a tremendous amount of work in putting together material for inclusion in the web site and for inclusion at a later date. Over the past winter months, Ian has passed the torch of responsibility for the web site to me in my capacity as National President. As part of this transition, Neil MacLeod (Almonte, Ontario) has assumed the responsibilities of Webmaster for the Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada web site. Ian and Neil have been burning up the e-mail lines over the

past few months collaboratively making the new refurbished web site a reality. I would invite everyone to take a look at the web site — same address as previously: [www.clanmacleod-canada.com](http://www.clanmacleod-canada.com) and please feel free to make comments on what you see using either the **Guest Book** or **Contact Us** tab, or if you prefer you can send your comments directly to me at: [glenelg.macleod@gmail.com](mailto:glenelg.macleod@gmail.com) or to Neil MacLeod (Webmaster) at: [neil\\_macleod@rogers.com](mailto:neil_macleod@rogers.com) .

The majority of the material that you will see on the web site is the work done by Ian who deserves an enormous thank you.

It's great to have this web site but the effort in its establishment will be for naught unless it is made to be 'alive' with an evolving source of Clan MacLeod information. The only way to achieve this is by continually adding current information — information that must come from the regional Clan MacLeod Societies across Canada and also from individual members. That means YOU. Please, don't be shy — submit anything MacLeod or Scottish related as a news item, a scheduled event (no matter how small), a birth, or a passing. Items about youth activities would be more than welcome.

### **DNA Study**

In 2004 a study was completed by University College London that sought to determine surname linkages between people with the surname 'MacLeod' and those of a Viking origin. This original study was sponsored by the Associated Clan MacLeod Societies (ACMS). Subsequently, a continuation of this original study was taken up by the commercial firm Family TreeDNA (FTDNA) of Houston Texas, USA. In 2006 I submitted a sample of my DNA to this renewed project and the results of DNA matches have been communicated to me from time to time ever since.

I have had the fun of receiving communications from some of the men with whom I am a perfect or near perfect DNA match, one of whom lives in South Carolina and was a Court Judge. We had the opportunity of joining this MacLeod and his wife for lunch while visiting Myrtle Beach on a holiday a few years ago. Perhaps the most interesting match, however, came in the form of an e-mail I received from a fellow from Brazil whose name was definitely not even close to MacLeod, and he told me that his great-great-grandfather had been born in Portugal. You just never know. Some of the other matches are a little closer to home (Canada and USA) and some of course are from Scotland.

It's an interesting project and one with which you can have some fun. Participants are still being accepted so if you are interested, go to

the FTDNA web site at: <http://www.familytreedna.com> and type in MacLeod in the **Search Your Last Name** field. You may also go to the Clan MacLeod Society USA web site's Genealogy page at: <https://clan-macleodusa.org/Genealogy.html> for more information on this project.

I hope that everyone will have a great summer and that you will have an opportunity to attend one or more of the many Highland Games and/or Scottish Festivals/Events that take place across Canada from early spring to late fall. Please consult the **Events** tab on the web site to find out what's happening – where and when. The contents of the **Events** tab can only be of use if it is populated with information – so please send in any and all events that you are aware of in your part of the country, or beyond.

Hold Fast & Shine Brightly

## PACIFIC REGION NEWS

BY KEN MACLEOD

The 2013 CMS Greater Vancouver held its annual Robbie Burns Luncheon at the Richmond Winter Club Sunday, January 20 with approximately 90 people enjoying the event. Bill G McLeod, who despite his 90 years, continues to put together a first class event, with the assistance of Edie MacLeod Kernighan and Mark MacLeod. ACMS Vice President Dr Don MacLeod and past CMSC President Neil R. McLeod, both of Merritt, BC were unable to attend this year.



Highlights of the afternoon included the Address to the Haggis by Ian MacLeod, who used a modern translation; a superb Toast to the Immortal Memory by Dr Roy Strang, the Toast to the Lassies by Neil McLeod, the response to the Toast to the Lassies by Judy Tipple, and entertainment supplied by the Richmond Highland Dancers and a very energetic group of young fiddlers.

# CELEBRATING BURNS - VANCOUVER



*Dr Roy Strang pipes in the haggis, Bill G toasts the haggis, Ian C gives the address to the haggis*



*Neil entertains us with his Toast to the Lassies followed by the delightful and energetic Richmond Highland Dancers*





*At the Burns event, CMS Greater Vancouver members and guests were entertained by a young and very enthusiastic group of fiddlers with a very broad musical repertoire*



*Congratulations to Ken MacLeod, here with his wife Cheryl, sister Edie (right) and Janet White*

Notable accomplishments by CMS Greater Vancouver members included Ken MacLeod's completion (after 12 years) of an 850-page book, *The Story of South Vancouver and John Oliver High School*. MacLeod's extensive research included more than 200 interviews of South Vancouver residents and former students and teachers of the high school. South Vancouver Municipality joined the City of Vancouver in 1929. At the time it was the third highest population centre in the Province of BC after Vancouver and Victoria and today makes up the largest area of Greater Vancouver. The high school was the largest in Canada in the 1950s. The book, a community book, has just completed its third printing. Clan MacLeod member Janet White is presently head of a committee and editor of a book on the history of Burnaby schools.

# CMS USA VISIT



BY DR DON M. MCLEOD, PAST  
PRESIDENT CMS

The very hospitable Texan MacLeods treated Christine and me to a fabulous time at their AGM in San Antonio, Texas. The camaraderie was better than ever and the talent and ingenuity of Clan MacLeod continued to impress us. Doug Beaton was superb as he herded us through a Highland weekend of piping with Scott MacLeod, singing with the amazing Drambeauties, rock from Celtica, educational talks about Scottish culture, whisky tasting, MacCrimmon history, a memorable address from Andrew Morrison (Viscount Dunrossil), awards to James Blount, Don Mack, Gloria MacLeods and Ian Good. President John N. MacLeod demonstrated computer prowess and expertise with genealogist Ann McLeod.

There was a kilted dinner of Mexican food complete with dueling bagpipes outplaying the Mariachi band followed by a hospitality suite extraordinaire. There were young people learning the ways of the older generation and vice versa. The Haggis at the formal dinner was delectable in the setting of the famous, historical Menger Hotel. The contribution of the Scots was featured at a commemorative service at the Alamo complete with bagpipes and a reminder of a kin Mr. (Mc)Cloud that sacrificed his life for the freedom of Texas. The silent auction secured the business reputation of the Clan for a bargain and the after parties secured their reputation as eloquent purveyors of malt and intelligent, jovial debate.

We have now realized (from vice president Weedon Nicols) that our progenitor goes back to Harold the Ruthless (married to the Princess of Kiev) and by the benevolence of King Harold of England (before he was killed in 1066 by William the Conqueror), the son Godred Crovan Haroldson was spared after the Battle of Stamford Bridge and able to give us a great grandson, Leod Olafson, the progenitor of our Clan. The history binds us together and our identity creates a pride for our ancestors' struggles and survival.

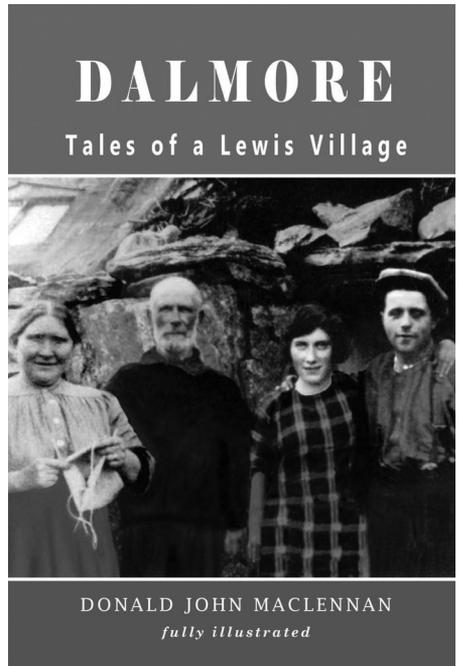
I can't wait for our next meeting since there is so much to learn from every conversation with every member of the clan. Hold Fast but more importantly, "Hold Fast to your money" until the next Clan Gathering. We hope to see everyone in Dunvegan for Parliament 2014 or else in the newsletter or electronically (the modern wave).

# WANT A GOOD READ?

Donald John MacLennan was born at 5 Dalmore on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides in a “modern” version of a traditional black house and was the only child to have been born in No 5. Although he returned to his parents’ home in Renfrewshire he spent much of his childhood visiting his grandparents and relatives “back home” in Dalmore.

Dalmore is known today for its picturesque tourist beach but has a rich history of its own and was once home to a vibrant village community. This book consists of a series of tales from that time together with personal reminiscences of growing up in Dalmore. A time of black houses and great stories, ghost stories, war stories, stories of the hills and stories of the seas. It records that thriving rural life and the characters and language inhabiting it. The old highland life, its food, the moors, the shepherds, the peat and the wild beauty all around all have their part to play in the story of Dalmore.

Donald retains fond memories of his life in Dalmore and is now, probably, the only person alive who can remember the “old” days. No 5 Dalmore was abandoned in 1974 and little remains of the old village today.



# HEAR O CANADA IN GAELIC

The Gaelic version of *O Canada* is available on iTunes for anyone who is interested. To hear the *O Canada* recording you can visit: <https://soundcloud.com/feis-mhabu>

Féis Mhàbu Gaelic Singers



O Canada (O Cheanada)

# CMS ALBERTA SOUTH NEWS

BY ALMA McLEOD

Thanks to a group of Calgary Artists and representatives from seven of the First Nations Tribes, Calgary is going to be able to enjoy a study and re-enactment of the famous Treaty Number 7 in September. The original Treaty Meeting lasted for 10 days, ending with the signing of the Treaty. It was an agreement that Colonel James Farquarson MacLeod organized between Queen Victoria and the Natives of Southern Alberta. Colonel MacLeod made it all possible by creating a feeling of trust with the Indian People.

This project has been in the works for a year now, a sense of trust and rapport had to be established with the First Nations involved. It is not to be strictly an historical enactment, but a chance to look back and to give the people an idea that things are the way they are now because of our past.

The enactment is going to be held at Heritage Park in Calgary, this summer, as part of the Park's 50th Anniversary Celebrations. There will also be further showings at Fort Calgary. and hopefully anyone visiting here this summer will make enquiries at Fort Calgary for a chance to view this enactment.

The idea for this project originated in one of the theatrical group attending an enactment in New Zealand in the 1980s when he attended a mask and mime show interpreting the reenactment of the signing of the Waitangi Treaty Agreement that basically organized the founding of New Zealand. These important happenings must be remembered and enjoyed by all of us. After all, our past is an important part of our future. Hopefully this will be televised, and we will all get a chance to enjoy the performance.

[Editor's Note: Colonel James Faquarson MacLeod preformed a pivotal role in promoting peaceful relations between the Native population in western Canada and the government of the time. A full analysis of Treaty 7 can be obtained by searching the Internet under several headings, including a *Treaty Research Report* produced by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

Information regarding the Treaty 7 Pow Wow Celebration can be found at [www.treaty7.org/eventscalendar](http://www.treaty7.org/eventscalendar).]

# CMS OTTAWA

FROM LINDA CRAWFORD AND THE CMS OTTAWA NEWSLETTER

As are many members of CMS Ottawa, the Crawford-Burnells (Ottawa/Montreal) are enjoying a very busy and happy spring. Some of you will have met Linda and daughter Sarah at our Ottawa North American Gathering in 2000 and will remember Sarah playing fiddle and singing at many Clan Gatherings. Sarah now teaches music in Montreal, and is also very active in the Montreal choral and celtic music scene. Her celtic/folk band is preparing to record their third CD.

Sarah Burnell will be marrying Erick Braham July 27. The wedding plans include lots of Scottish touches! The groom (from Mexico City) will wear his new Mackenzie kilt, in honour of his Scottish heritage; his colleagues from the San Patricio Pipe Band (Mexico City) will pipe. Erick first came to Canada with the one and only pipe band in Mexico, the San Patricios to compete at Glengarry. Falling in love with Canada, he returned to live in Montreal and met Sarah when he joined Sarah's celtic choir, the Siamsa Singers. Erick is a guitarist and a piper, and currently plays with the Black Watch regiment band, in Montreal.

[Editors note: We will look for more details about Sarah and Erick, their wedding and future plans in the Fall *Leod Voice*.]



Sarah Burnell and her mother Linda Crawford at the 'Downton Abbey' theme wedding shower



Sarah's bridesmaid Alana with Aunt Jean McKenna at Sarah's shower

# THIS 'N THAT

BY JUDY TITTLE

*Scotland's Stories* is an exciting new project the National Trust for Scotland has developed using new media to bring Scotland's heritage to the widest possible audience. A total of twenty Stories are told using a mixture of sound-recording, photography, video and special effects. Each story will be told by Trust staff, enthusiasts or volunteers who work with the National Trust for Scotland. They aim to give an insight into the secret stories of Scotland — the behind the scenes activities that happen on a daily basis but with which the visitor might not come into direct contact. They share the personal enthusiasms and thoughts of those who work for the Trust and help to maintain its properties and estates. They tell Scotland's Stories online through two approaches: soundslides and vodcasts.

Soundslides are a new story-telling approach through a series of images and a spoken sound-track taken from on-site recordings, without a narrator. Soundslides have a broad appeal, both for existing members but also for those planning a visit to Scotland and to a property managed by the National Trust for Scotland. They provide individual insights which are not only visually sumptuous but through narrative and sound effects aim to capture a sense of place and purpose.

Vodcasts are the video equivalent of a podcast and will combine video with on-site interviews on contrasting subjects. *Scotland's Stories* will provide an engaging insight into the passion and commitment of the people who look after Scotland's heritage.

I looked at some of these stories and found them fascinating and very informative and detailed. <http://www.nts.org.uk/ScotlandsStories/VolunteersTale/>

## GAELIC PHRASES

*Coma leat* - Never mind

*Na bi fo churam!* - Don't worry!

Don't be concerned!

*Dé 'n diofar?* - What's the difference?

So What?

*Feumaidh gu bheil* - It must be so.

*Trobhad ort!* - Come here! (Listen here!)

*Suas an t-Earrach!* - Up with Spring!



# VICTORIA HIGHLAND GAMES

*The Victoria Highland Games celebrated their 150th Anniversary this year with HRH Prince Andrew, the Duke of York as Chief of the Games.*

*Malcolm MacLeod proudly presented himself as a member of Clan MacLeod at the torchlight parade in front of the BC Legislative Building and took time to explain the ceremony to cruise ship visitors to Victoria*



*HRH Prince Andrew enjoys chatting with representatives along the Avenue of the Clans before he declared the Games "truly and officially open."*



Clockwise: CMSC Past President Dr Don, Karen, Judy Tipple and Malcolm MacLeod carry the banner in the Parade of the Clans, A spinner instructs a young lad while his mother looks on, Massed bands parade, A plaque is dedicated to the 150th Games, and Malcolm and Judy chat with a visiting MacLeod from England



In 1864, settlers living in the newly incorporated City of Victoria held their first Highland Games to share and enjoy the sports, music, dance and culture of their homeland, Scotland. Today, 150 years later, we honour the memory of these early Scottish pioneers by continuing to celebrate and pass on this great tradition to future generations.

*Mountains divide us, and the waste of seas;  
Yet still the blood is strong,  
the heart is Highland...*

Dedicated this day, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
by  
HRH The Duke of York, KG  
and  
The Victoria Highland Games Association






SCENES  
FROM  
THE  
HEAVY  
EVENTS  
AT  
HIGHLAND  
GAMES

*Victoria Highland Games offer many scenes of interest as a competitor receives a deep message to relax hard-worked muscles while toe anchoring boots rest until needed for the heavy throwing events. The big question in the Caber Toss is always "will it flip and land at 12 o'clock position?"*



# CMSC CANADA WEB SITE

It is with a great deal of pleasure that your National Council wishes to formally announce the release to the general Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada membership, your refurbished and renewed Internet Web Site.

Visiting the Web Site will give you a great deal of information about all things MacLeod, McLeod, McCloud.....or whatever the spelling, such as:

- The *History* of the Clan and its *Chiefs*, past and present;
- Learn about the *Septs* of the Clan;
- Trace your personal history from the *Genealogy* page;
- Be informed about *Clan News*;
- Be up-to-date on upcoming Clan MacLeod and other Scottish *Events*;
- Read some interesting *Stories*;
- Be interactive though the *Guest Book* and *Contact Us* functions.

For the benefit of those less conversant in the use of the internet – there are three ways in which you can access the web site:

Simply type the web site address in the field at the top of your search page; [www.clanmacleod-canada.com](http://www.clanmacleod-canada.com) , or

Type in Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada in the general web search field and then select the Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada – CMSC web site from the choices, (this method will also give you access to other MacLeod web sites, including some Regional Society sites), or

Ask your granddaughter or grandson to do it for you. (This by the way, is a win-win method as it gets them involved and gets you the web site.)

With comments, contact:

Jim MacLeod, President CMSC; [glenelg.macleod@gmail.com](mailto:glenelg.macleod@gmail.com)

Neil MacLeod, Webmaster; [neil\\_macleod@rogers.com](mailto:neil_macleod@rogers.com)



# THE BRANDON HILLS STORY

BY REV ALLAN MACLEOD AND JUDY TIPPLE

In the last issue of the *Leod Voice* # 57, I promised you a story about the Brandon Hills Settlement and asked for stories from readers whose ancestors were involved in this settlement. Receiving no replies and realizing that much of the text that my friend Rev. Allan MacLeod's article quoted was published by Murray McPherson in 1979 and compiled by the Brandon Hills Historical Committee, I looked up the reference to find that the book is available from Amazon.ca. Not wanting to violate the author's rights of publication, yet give you the fundamental information of the establishment of the Brandon Hills settlement, I am including a schematic of the story along with Allan's added research and comments (in italics.) Those of you who may be related to any of the original settlers I would hope will search out the original publication.

*It was the summer of 1997 and my wife Meryle, our granddaughter Cheryl and I were traveling from our home in Mission, BC to Nova Scotia to take part in a Clan MacLeod Gathering in Pictou. Stopping to visit friends in Brandon area we were directed to Wilbert and Ann Chapman, who told us about the Brandon Hills church and community, which Wilbert said had its origins in my home community of Durham, West River, NS. This we had to see.*

*A few miles south-east of Brandon we came to a church and a school house opposite each other. The church, always unlocked, and still used each Sunday, beckoned.*

*We were told that the church was built after the plan of the former Durham Presbyterian Church but on a smaller scale, by settlers from Pictou County. In the beautiful summer evening Cheryl pulled the rope that rang the bell in the steeple and a clear note echoed across the prairies. We were told that the first pastor had ordered the bell from Nova Scotia, so that it would always remind them of the hills and intervalles from which they had come.*

*There was much more here than met the eye at first glance and Mr Chapman was asked to explain the church, the bell and the settlers from Pictou County. With a smile he began to tell us the story, and it's one we shall never forget.*

*Between his story, the Centennial book The Brandon Hills Story, some additional facts from an old friend Stanley Graham of Rockfield, NS, and an article by George Shepherd in the prairie magazine Brave*

Heritage of 1967 and some additional information from Linda Willis concerning her great great grandfather's account I have put together the following story.

*For miles across the plains the men who follow the trail watch the steep outlying shoulder of the Brandon Hills as a landmark.  
Black Creek Stopping House, Nellie McClung, 1912.*

This is a very fitting quote to go with this story of early pioneer settlement of western Canada.

From 1857 to 1859 Captain John Palliser was assigned by the Government of Sir John A. MacDonald to study the wilderness to the west of Brandon and make a report. The government was fearful of the the Americans to the south moving in to settle the area. Palliser's report was not promising as the land was too dry for farming, however, on his several trips east he discovered a range of hills that looked good for farming and named the area the Brandon Hills as a remembrance of his homeland in Britain.

One of the responder to the ads placed in the eastern newspapers was Reverend George Roddick. Having ministered in his Presbyterian church in Durham, Pictou County for 21 years he saw an opportunity for his four sons and three daughters, having expressed an interest in farming and invited others of his congregations to accompany him.,

*These, according to George Shepherd, were: Henry Dunbar of Hopewill, Simon McKay of New Glasgow, Hugh McPherson of Watervale, Hugh Rice of Stellarton, also Gordon Halliday, Anderson McCabe, John Crawford, and Charles, John and Watson Sewart all of Pictou. Linda Willis' ancestor, Thomas Young, also accompanied the party west, and only later was mention "the Richards" family. Thomas Young's account, in his story An Early Settlement of Nova Scotians in Manitoba, names the following in his account: Robert, Edward and George Richards, George McLean, John Crawford, the McNulty family, Hugh McPherson, Henry Dunbar, Rev Roddick and family which included four sons, Melville, David, Robert and John and three daughters Mary, Helena and Georgina, Edward Smith and his two brothers Henry and John, and the Rice family, Sarah Richards, mother of James, George and Nan Richards.*

*Certainly it was quite a large group. Mrs Bessie Chapman of Brandon wrote in 1979 that her father William Henry Dunbar, was the son of Robert Dunbar of Hopewell, NS. Bessie claimed that the group consisted of "21 young men in the party, not counting Rev Roddick." Add to that the women and daughters in the group, it must have been a party of about thirty people.*

The party started their journey from Nova Scotia on April 9, 1879 and traveled via Montreal, Chicago and Minneapolis to St Boniface via rail, arriving April 17.

From there they proceeded to Emerson on the newly completed Canadian Railway. That was the easy part of the journey.

Now they needed a new and, I would think, a somewhat foreign means of transportation — oxen and wagons — as well as all the provisions needed to reach their destination and survive for the time it took to assemble shelter. Thankfully, Rev. Roddick's organ was among their possessions and later provided a great source of entertainment.

Not knowing anything about Indian customs they were fearful of a Pow Wow being held nearby — was it a prelude to a scalping event?

There were many hardships along the route; getting across rivers and creeks safely and through muskeg, among them. Losing the trail at one point they had a crucial decision to make. Since the land they had traveled over was uninhabited and of good farming quality they decided to stop there rather than retrace their path to take the correct branch in the trail.

During some preliminary exploration a small lake was spotted and it was decided that the winner of a footrace to the lake would be given the honour of naming the lake and consequently McPherson Lake can now be found on the map of the area.

Since the Roddick party decided to settle on the south bank of the Assiniboine River, a strong swimmer in the person of Simon McKay took a rope across the river and tied it to a tree. The rope then was used to guide their mud caulked wagon boxes across, landing their possessions on the south side where on May 24, they established Grand Valley which was to be their new home.

There is much more to tell: the building of the church; the arrival of the Bell from Durham, NS; establishing a school and Post Office; as well as what became of the first settlers and their descendents. Would they find safety in this wilderness? Would the climate and soil make their farms productive? Would they be able to reach markets for their produce?

I leave it to you to tell me how much more you wish to read. But, the main thing I want to receive are stories about your ancestors (or yourselves) and what prompted them (or you) to relocate from the Old Country, Eastern Canada, or wherever and what pioneer life was like.

# SCOTS IN BC PROJECT

Tartan Day, 2013 was celebrated at Simon Fraser University with the launch of our new interactive website, “Scots in BC,” created with a grant from the Department of English: <http://www.sfu.ca/scotsinbc/>

Another novel event sponsored by SFU was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Marathon Recitation of Burns’s Poetry and Song 2013.

Over 80 participants and an over-flow audience joined together on Burns Day, January 25, 2013 to celebrate in a way that is quickly becoming a tradition: a marathon performance of Burns’s work. The Centre for Scottish Studies organized the event, and it was a tremendous success! A real testament to Burns’s legacy and proof of the continuing power of face-to-face community.

The new record now stands at 5 hours, 41 minutes and 57 seconds!



The following articles have been taken from the Nova Scotia Government Gaelic Affairs Report Newsletter which I have mentioned numerous times. web site: [www.gov.ns.ca/oga](http://www.gov.ns.ca/oga)

## THE BATTLE OF CULLODEN COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

In Knoydart, Pictou County, Nova Scotia this commemorative ceremony has been a springtime event since 1982. This year on April 20 at 11 am, folks in attendance began the procession down from the highway to the cairn, near the shores of the Northumberland Strait.

At the top of the path, those in attendance had an opportunity to view an interpretive panel which includes information and history on the Battle of Culloden, information on the cairn and the artwork on the panel as well as the person it’s dedicated to, Karen Lynn MacDonald. The panel was unveiled during last year’s ceremony. MacDonald, a popular teacher and musician from the area, had an association with the committee who organizes the annual ceremony including playing music during the day, up until her mid-20s. She passed away in 2005 due to anaphylactic shock following an accidental ingestion of peanut oil and a society, set up in her name, dedicates themselves to providing as many as they can with EpiPens (see [www.karenlynnsociety.ca](http://www.karenlynnsociety.ca)).

*At Knoydart, this impressive cairn stands in remembrance of the three survivors of the Battle of Culloden who settled in this area of Pictou County and are buried nearby.*



***Battle recalled*** The ceremony remembers a battle between the Highland Scots and British Army near the Culloden Moor, in southern Scotland, 267 years ago. The raising took place on April 6, 1746 as an attempt by the Jacobites, as followers of James Edward Stuart were known, to return the Stuart dynasty to the throne of England. The battle was swift and brutal, resulting in the defeat of the Jacobian army and end of the rebellion. The ceremony also recognizes the many Scots who emigrated to the shores of Nova Scotia following the defeat. The cairn, a structure made entirely of stone, was built in memory of three survivors – Angus and Hugh MacDonald and John MacPherson – who settled in the area and are buried near where the cairn is situated. A book on the Culloden ceremony's more than 30 years was available to purchase.

## FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

**LOIS MARY MACLEOD – NOVEMBER 1,  
1931 – NOVEMBER 7, 2012**

**BY BETTY MACLEAN**

It was with deep sadness that we learned of the passing of Lois Mary MacLeod, a woman who faced many challenges in life, but who also attained many achievements in the literary world. Lois was born in 1931, in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, the daughter of the late August and Annie (Fraser) Theirman. At an early age, Lois adopted the motto Hold Fast, the Clan MacLeod motto of her grandparents. The faith of her ancestors served her well throughout her life. She became an academic, and her literary achievements and honours are many.

Between 1952 and 1964 Lois attended several universities, receiving her Bachelor of Arts, Great Distinction; and Bachelor of Arts, High Hon-

ours in French and English at the University of Saskatchewan; her Master of Arts in Romance Languages and Literatures: French, at the University of Michigan, followed by teaching there several semesters. She was a summer school instructor for the University of Saskatchewan. Through continued studies at the University of Paris, in 1958 Lois achieved high honours in French Literature. Upon returning to Canada, she taught at Queen's University, lecturing in French, and at Acadia University, as Assistant and later as Associate Professor of French over a period of several years. Lois went on to attain Bachelor of Library Science at the University of British Columbia in 1967.

While studying at various universities, Lois also joined and served societies in a variety of roles. At Acadia University she served on the Debating Directorate; Canadian Federation of University Women (Wolfville Branch) as Vice-President, President, and as Provincial Director, Nova Scotia; and the Humanities Association of Canada (Wolfville Branch). As well, her affiliations included the Bibliographical Society of Canada – Index Committee; and, the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild. In 1977 Lois was a member of the France-Canada Society and served as delegate to their conference in Toulon, France. Lois became Regina Public Library's reference librarian, a position she held for several years.

During her years in the university communities, Lois never ceased being involved in studies, research and in writing. Among her publications are: *Working Mothers in Regina and Their Child Care Arrangements* – a 57 page booklet and brochure written by Lois but published under the name of the University Women's Club, of which she was a member. She also wrote: *A Laboratory Manual for Advanced French Course by Whitmarsh and Jukes* (Wolfville); *Index to Vernon Blair Rhodenizer's Canadian Literature in English* (Edmonton); *A Study in the Indexing of Newspapers and Local History Materials* (Swift Current). These are but a few of her publications. In more recent years, Lois completed and published three books, outlined in the *Leod Voice*, Spring 2008. These are *Hold Fast*, her early life on the prairies after her family moved there from Minnesota; *Blowing in the Wind*, an insight into the lives of four pioneer families; and *An Unofficial Person of History: Winthrop Pickard Bell*, the history of the Bell family and Mount Allison University.

Lois was recognized for her dedication, expertise and research toward publishing historical documents, booklets, and books. The foregoing is but a portion of Lois's literary life and work. Many awards and honours were bestowed upon her, too numerous to recount in this article.

Lois's memory will live on through her written work.

# ROSALIND (BIGGERSTAFF) MCLEOD

BY BRUCE MCLEOD

To all those who knew and loved her, I have to tell you that my Mother died March 4 in her 94th year. In her last few days, she got to see all four of her sons, which made her happy. The hospital staff were wonderful in their care for her, and in making sure she was not in distress. All of us got to say anything that was necessary and we are all comfortable that she is at peace. She had a long, full life, and was appreciative of it. She was always interested in her extended family all over the country in addition to her four sons, ten grandchildren and five great grandchildren.



Mother traveled extensively accompanying her economist husband of more than 65 years, the late Professor Alex N. McLeod. She was very involved in church life and traveled on her own as a founding member of the Division of World Outreach of the United Church of Canada. In 1986, she was a candidate for Moderator of the United Church of Canada, the first candidate that was not an ordained minister. She embraced her husband Alex's interest in things McLeod and will be very much missed by her friends in the Clan MacLeod Societies.

# SHEILA ALEXANDER 1928-2013

BY JUDY TIPPLE

Born in Vancouver, Sheila lived and worked her whole life in the city she loved, for many years as a legal secretary then in the chemistry lab of Vancouver General Hospital. Following retirement Sheila kept active in the community volunteering with the Lady Vancouver Club and enjoying her weekly swim. She will be dearly missed by her family Sharon Talbot, Moira (Rob) Boyd, Colin (Cathy) Alexander, Glenys Morgan, great nephew, great neices and their families, as well as many dear friends. We will miss her warm and caring company at gatherings of the Clan MacLeod Society of Greater Vancouver.



# JAMES GILLESPIE MACLEOD

BY DONALD R. MACLEOD (HALIFAX)

A member of the former Clan MacLeod Society of Halifax, James Gillespie MacLeod, passed away on February 7, 2013 in Halifax. Jim was a great guy who regularly attended the meetings of CMS-H and was highly respected and admired by all who knew him. We also remember Jim as a highly respected teacher, here at Sackville High School, where our children had the privilege of being in his classes. He will be missed by all who knew him.



Born in Sydney, he was a son of the late Albert and Margaret (Gillespie) MacLeod. After graduating from Mount Allison University with a BEd, Jim assumed his first position, teaching history at Harrison Turnbull School in Moncton, NB. Having served as a UNTD Naval Reservist throughout university, he opted to join the Royal Canadian Navy as an Instructor Officer at HMCS *Stadacona's* Electrical School in 1965. In 1971, he transitioned to the Naval Reserve and to teaching high school again full time.

Over his 30-year teaching career he taught physics, chemistry and oceanography at Sackville and John A. MacDonald High Schools. As a Naval reservist, he served at HMCS *Scotian's* Commanding Officer retiring with the rank of Captain (Navy). Jim was a force to be reckoned with, both in his family's lives and in t

he lives of his friends. He had a highly curious nature, fiercely held beliefs, and an inscrutable memory; he was a tenacious intellect.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, Suzanne (Archambault), daughters, Jeanne Marie MacLeod, Gatineau, Quebec; Katherine MacLeod, Naples, Italy; son Albert MacLeod, Victoria, BC; brothers, Charles, Halifax and Tom; sister, Joan-Nanette MacLeod both of Baddeck; four grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.



# ELIZABETH LANGHORNE MACLEOD



Elizabeth Langhorne MacLeod passed away, in her sleep, on Saturday, April 20, 2013, at age 90, in Vancouver, BC. Born in Toronto, ON, Jan. 27, 1923. Daughter of Rev Charles and Jean (Ferguson) MacGillivray, she was God-daughter of Lady Nancy Astor, Britain's first female MP; raised in church manses in Ladner, Revelstoke and Penticton, BC; she earned a BA in Math and English at U of Toronto in 1945 and United Church of Canada Training School certificate and commission as a Deaconess in 1946. Elizabeth went by herself as a teacher missionary to Trinidad and Tobago where she met Rev Alastair MacLeod of Sydney, NS and they married in San Fernando, 1948. Back in Canada, she again lived in United Church manses — Noel and Westville NS, Waterville QU, Victoria and Vancouver in BC. Returning to teaching math (adult-ed) at King Edward Campus of Vancouver Community College, she served as head of the Math Department.

She and Alastair loved to travel, especially to the Holy Land, Nova Scotia and Trinidad. She and Alastair were a team, and both stressed education and independent thinking to their children (a teacher and three lawyers). Elizabeth will be remembered as a person who never stopped learning, taking creative writing classes in her last month and oil painting in her 80s and tutoring grade 11 Math until last year. She was fearless (if not rash) in taking on new challenges, never intimidated by position or authority and deeply devoted to church, students and family.

Elizabeth will be lovingly remembered by her children Ian (Richmond), David (Victoria), Donald (Calgary) and Jean (Burnaby); their spouses (Ardis, Peggy, Mary and Don Wade); and seven MacLeod grandchildren, Heather (Edmonton), Melanie (Johnny Bolton - Richmond) and Stephanie and Cameron (Vancouver); Alison (Victoria); and Paula and Alastair (Calgary); three great-granddaughters - Chloe, Taylor and Sadie Bolton; and step-great-granddaughter, Danica Lum (Johnny Bol-

ton) and many other relatives, friends and former students. Predeceased by Alastair in 2000 she is survived by her only sister, Marianne (Mrs Colin) Robertson.

Elizabeth will be missed by all who knew her gentle nature and our condolences are extended to her family from the Clan MacLeod Society.

## BILL MACLEOD (SAN DIEGO) 1924-2013



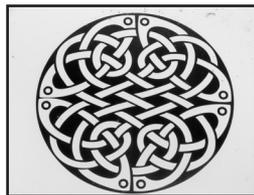
W. F. (Bill) MacLeod, died on January 23, 2013, at his home in San Diego, California. Bill was born in Haverhill, Massachusetts on June 13, 1924, the son of late William F. MacLeod, and Margaret T. Linnehan. An alumnus of Butler University, he was employed by the Bell System for 31 years, with service in the Michigan Bell Telephone Company, and at ATT headquarters in NY, from which he retired as a Division Manager in 1985.

He served in the US Army during World War II as an Infantry officer from 1943 until 1947, and also during the Korean War from 1951 until 1953.

Survivors include his loving wife of 59 years, Mary L. Sawyer; two sons: Paul, of Billings, Montana; Andrew, of Sparta, Michigan; and three daughters: Mrs. Mark (Catherine) Kocher, of Raleigh, North Carolina; Margaret MacLeod, of Lakeside, California; Elizabeth MacLeod, of Bene Vagienna, Italy; fourteen grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Many will remember meeting Bill and Mary MacLeod at various Clan MacLeod Parliaments and North American Gatherings, especially the NAG 1992 held in Vancouver followed by the bus adventure to Fort MacLeod in Alberta.

It is very sad news for Clan MacLeod to have lost so active and joyful a member as Bill. His attendance always added exuberance and comedy to any gathering. Our condolences go out to Bill's dear wife Mary and all of their family. Bill will be greatly missed.



# THE EDITOR'S PAGE

It's that time again and the Spring issue of the *Leod Voice* is almost into summer. Even though the days are getting longer I don't really feel that I'm getting more time to get things done. Anyone with techniques for putting an expanding number of activities into a fixed number of hours, please enlighten me.



Those of you who have sent in articles, I thank you so very much. Those of you who have not yet, why not? Send it along, and it doesn't have to be by email if that's still a mystery to you.

A first installment of the Brandon Hills Settlement story has been included as promised. Unfortunately, I have found no MacLeod connections but it is an interesting story, often repeated by adventurers seeking new opportunities and areas in which to homestead. For many, Eastern Canada was a stepping stone. They were attracted by the newspaper ads offering cheap land with great opportunities out west. Some sought the gold of the rivers, while others sought fresh farm land, a new start or simply a challenging adventure. A branch of my own family joined the Overlanders of 1862 seeking the gold of the Fraser River in British Columbia. Such stories increase our understanding of the life and hardships which were the making of the strong character of our ancestors.

How do you like the new Web Site? Photos taken at Highland Games, Scottish Festivals and local Clan MacLeod Gatherings could be sent to our Webmaster to demonstrate the activities of clan members.

Let's remember that a newsletter is a means of communication and that communication is a two-way activity. Send me your family remembrances and anecdotes, reflections on your time in your Clan MacLeod Society, what you like about it and why you have stayed connected.

Let's broaden the source of material in our clan newsletter.

Have a peaceful and refreshing summer.  
Holding Fast and Shining Brightly as ever.

## Newsletter Timelines:

*Spring—May 1*  
*Fall—October 1*

**Membership and  
Executive Changes:**

*March 1*  
*and September 1*

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