



# The Carolina Piper

Volume 15, Issue 4

Donald C. McLeod, Editor Autumn 2021



## NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER



As President of the St. Andrew's Society, I have often wondered about the details of Saint Andrew's life, the first-called of Jesus' apostles. Andrew was born about 5-10 A.D. in Galilee. He and his brother, Simon Peter, were sons of Jonah and were fishermen, therefore the appellation by Jesus

that once they were disciples they were to be fishers of men. Andrew was closer to Jesus than some other disciples. Andrew preached as far as Kiev, now in Ukraine, and is the patron saint now of Ukraine, Russia, Romania and Barbados, as well as Scotland.

Andrew was martyred in Patras, Greece in 60 A.D. He chose an X-shaped cross for crucifixion since he felt unworthy of the traditional cross of Christ. The Declaration of Arbroath in 1320 cites the importance of St. Andrew to Christianity in Scotland. St. Andrew's name now appears as the name of universities, schools and numerous parish

churches in many countries. There are several hundred St. Andrew's societies in the world, wherever Scots have settled. The Scottish flag, the Saltire, depicts the St. Andrew cross. Our Society is honored to carry Andrew's name.

J. Robert Boykin III  
President

### SCOTLAND COUNTY HIGHLAND GAMES

Saturday October 2 was a perfect day for the SCHGs. It was sunny, 82 degrees and the large crowd was excited to be back to Scottish activities, and yes, shopping. The St. Andrew Society's tent was well attended and a dozen members entertained many guests. The McInnis clan was the honored clan and state senator Thomas McInnis the honored guest. Society member William Caudill was everywhere as usual and executed an excellent weekend. A Kirkin' o' the Tartans was held at Old Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, established 1797, on Sunday. Special thanks are extended to Steven and Allison McLean and Mac and Janet Fowler for food preparation and hosting the Society tent.

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*Color Guard*



*Mac Fowler, Steve McLean, Don McLeod, NC Senator Tom McInnis and Dale McInnis, president of Richmond Community College*



*Massed Pipe Bands*



*Kirkin' Old Laurel Hill*

**SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY AMERICAN TARTAN**

This plaid was created in 1974 and named the American Bicentennial Tartan to honor the bicentennial of the U.S. (1776-1976). It is now named the Saint Andrew's Society American Tartan to honor Saint Andrew's societies in the U.S., and is recorded by the Scottish Registry of Tartans. I acquired over 20 yards of a double-wide run in 1990 in Scotland. Look for my wife Sarah at a future SASNC event to appear in a kilted skirt of the tartan. I have extra material if anyone is interested.

Claude Snow, Jr., Chapel Hill  
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**SAINT ANDREW'S DAY ANNUAL DINNER**  
**SATURDAY DEC. 4**  
**PINE NEEDLES LODGE, SOUTHERN PINES**

## HONEYMOON IN NOVA SCOTIA 1967

After being married in Chapel Hill in 1967, Priscilla Hager McLeod and I headed for a driving trip through New England to Nova Scotia. I had become interested in my Highland roots and, I must confess, dragged my new bride along. She asked where is Nova Scotia? Canada Maritimes. Why there? It is filled with Scots. Lots of Macs just like the Sandhills of NC. Did you forget I am of German descent? No, but we cannot afford Germany. And a kilt is more charming than lederhosen!

The matter settled, we were soon at the harbor in Halifax enjoying azure skies and a great maritime scene. I struck up a conversation with a local who was a McLaurin. He said his ancestors, during the American Revolution, left NC from an area now named Laurinburg. They were Loyalists to the British Crown, and life had become so difficult with pillaging rebels that they left for New Brunswick and later Nova Scotia.

McLaurin's biography is not unusual. About 100,000 Loyalists fled the former 13 colonies for a new start in Canada, Jamaica, West Indies, Florida (Spanish territory), Britain, or west of the Appalachians. Numbers are a guess, but probably at least 2000 Highlanders left NC. Those with British military service often received land in Canada and some with confiscated businesses or plantations received partial compensation from the Crown. The case of Alexander McLeod of Glendale, Isle of Skye, is interesting. He immigrated to NC in 1774 and settled in present-day Moore County near Carthage. He was brother to Col. Donald McLeod who led the Loyalist charge and was killed at the battle of Moore's Creek Bridge. Alexander was married to Ann, the daughter of Allan and Flora MacDonald. He was a 22-year veteran of the British Army having served in India, the Philippines, and Canada in the French and Indian War. He escaped Moore's Creek and joined British forces in New York. His estate and property were seized and an award offered for the capture of his family. After a lengthy examination after the hostility ended, Alexander received partial restitution from the Crown for his NC losses, and he and Ann returned to Skye.

Donald C. McLeod

## LEWIS AND CLARK AND SCOTS IN CANADA

### Lewis and Clark Expedition

In May 1803 the U.S. purchased 828,000 square miles of territory, the Louisiana Purchase, from France. President Jefferson appointed Meriwether Lewis to lead the Corps of Discovery (1804-06) on an 8000 mile round-trip up the Missouri River and to the Pacific and back. Capt. Lewis chose Lt. William Clark as his co-commander. The Corps was financed by the government and soon consisted of about 33 persons, including soldiers, civilians and Clark's slave York. Toussaint Charbonneau and his Shoshone wife, Sacagawea, joined as interpreters and guides. The Pacific was sighted mid-November 1804 before the Corps went into winter quarters. British exploration was evident in latter parts of the trip.

### Sir Alexander Mackenzie



Alexander Mckenzie (1764-1820) was born in Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, Scotland. In 1774 he and his father immigrated to New York. His father and an uncle joined the King's Royal Regiment of New York during the

American Revolution, and young Alexander was sent to Montreal for safety. As did many Highlanders in Canada, Alexander soon entered the fur trading business. He became a partner in Gregory, MacLeod and Co. which later merged with the North West Co. Alexander became a partner in the NWC, the major competitor of the Hudson Bay Co., and soon embarked on company expeditions to secure valuable trading routes.

In 1789 in a search for the fabled, hypothetical Northwest Passage, Mackenzie, along with a small crew, traveled the now-named Mackenzie River

1500 miles to the unexpected Arctic Ocean, not the long sought passage to the Pacific and a lucrative Asian market. Although he added significantly to Canadian geography, he was disappointed having not opened a trade route.

In 1791 he went to England to study celestial navigation and advances in the measurement of longitude. In 1793, along with two native guides, six Canadian voyageurs and his cousin Alexander MacKay, the undaunted Mackenzie set out again for trading routes and the elusive NW Passage. He left Fort Fork in present day Alberta and followed the Peace, Parsnip and McGregor Rivers to the now-named Fraser River, west of the continental divide. The Fraser is a rugged cascading river and natives advised a land route to the Pacific. The expedition traveled back up the Fraser and, by land, reaching the Bella Coola River and canoeing to the Pacific, arriving on July 22, 1793. Upon returning to Fort Fork, the party had traveled 2300 miles and Mackenzie is credited with being the first European to traverse the continent north of Mexico. This was 12 years before the Lewis and Clark expedition, which used Mackenzie's journal for guidance.

### **Simon Fraser**

Simon Fraser (1776-1862) was born in New York and descended from a younger brother of the 10th Chief of the Frasers of Lovat. His father, Capt. Simon Fraser, came over with the 84th Highland Regiment, was captured at the Battle of Bennington (1777) and died in a prison hospital near Albany NY. Similar to Mckenzie, the family moved to Canada and at the



age of 14 Simon entered the fur trade with the aid of his powerful kinsman, Simon McTavish. McTavish was the leading figure in the North West Company. In 1801 Fraser was made a partner in the NWC and put in charge of operations west of the Rockies. He built posts at Fort McLeod, Fraser Lake and others, and set out to explore the Columbia River. He instead entered the treacherous Fraser River, which subsequently was named for him. Assisted by James McDougall, John Stuart and Jules Quesnel, the group wintered over and established valuable fur trade routes. Local natives advised Fraser that the river was impassable and suggested a land route to the lower river. Led by natives and well-fed on salmon. Fraser reached the Pacific July 2, 1808. He took the latitude as 49 degrees and realized he had missed the Columbia at 46 degrees. The journey back to Fort George proved even more perilous than the trip down, due to hostile native encounters.

### **The Northwest Passage**

The Northwest passage is now described as 1200 miles below the North Pole and 500 miles above the Arctic Circle. The route extends 900 miles, east to west, from north of the Baffin Island to the Beaufort Sea above Alaska, through Canada's Arctic Archipelago. The sea is filled with flowing icebergs 300 ft. tall which can pack and entrap ships. Explorers since 1576 have sought this shortcut passage to the orient, including Henry Hudson, Juan de Fuca, James Cooke and George Vancouver. The most famous attempts were Sir John Franklin's tragic expedition and Sir Robert McClure's grand success.

Sir John Franklin in 1845 led a lavishly-equipped expedition of two ships, the *Erebus* and the *Terror*, with crews of 24 officers and 110 men and a three-year supply of provisions. The ships became trapped in ice in 1846 near Nunavut and never sailed again. Franklin died in June 1847 and the entire crew

perished of starvation, pneumonia, scurvy, lead poisoning and hypothermia. Eventually, more men were lost looking for Franklin than died in his expedition.

Sir Robert McClure was born in Ireland of Highland



Scot ancestry. He was the first person to confirm and transit the Northwest Passage by a combination of sea travel and sledging (heavy sleds). The crew numbered 66,

including a German Inuit interpreter. In January 1850 two ships sailed from England around South America with provisions for three years. McClure in the *Investigator* was separated from the *Enterprise* and proceeded alone entering the Arctic through the Bering Strait. McClure spent four difficult winters in the Arctic having to hunt for food and enduring several mishaps. The *Investigator* was abandoned in the ice pack and McClure finished the Passage on sledge. The crew was rescued by a party from the *Resolute*, who had entered the Arctic from the east. McClure was court marshaled for loss of his ship, a standard British Navy procedure, but was later knighted.

In 1903 Roald Amundsen of Norway led the first



expedition to successfully traverse the Northwest Passage by sea. He planned a small

expedition of six men in a small draft herring boat named the *Gjoa*. Leaving from Baffin Bay,

Admunsen spent two winters in an Inuit village, now named Gjoa Haven, in order to learn how to survive the Arctic. He learned how to use sled dogs for transportation and wear animal skins rather than heavy woolen clothing. The ship cleared the Arctic Archipelago on 17 August 1905 before wintering in Nome, Alaska. He skied 500miles to wire the news of the success to the new King of Norway, King Haaken VII. In 1910 Admunsen began his successful assault on the South Pole.

Enjoy the ballad *Northwest Passage*, by the late great Stan Rogers, a native of Nova Scotia.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVY8LoM47xl>

Note the dramatic arctic scenery in this 2nd video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FljFpwsXhuI>

This is considered the second national anthem of Canada.

Donald C. McLeod

**TARTAN DAY**

**ROBERT BURNS  
DINNER**

**APRIL 9, 2022  
RALEIGH**