

Remember Those From Whom You Came

Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

The Worldwide Organization For MacAlpines
2nd Quarter 2022 ~ Volume 56



Kenneth
McAlpine



William
McAlpin



Michael
McAlpin



Finn
Alpin



Mark S.C.
McAlpin



Earl
McAlpine



Bruce
McAlpine

Commander's News

Once again we were saddened to hear of the passing of another member of the Society. Matthew McAlpine was an engaging person, who I had come to know and respect. He will be missed.

Many Highland Games are on the horizon as people seek to get back to a degree of normalcy. I thought the Greenville Games held Memorial Day Weekend were very well done, and look forward to attending other games over the summer.

If you are interested in hosting a tent at one of the games, please reach out to Mark McAlpin at m_mcalpin@hotmail.com

It has been eight years since the MacAlpine petition for recognition was filed with the Court of Lord Lyon in Scotland. Six years ago we met in a Court supervised Family Convention in Roxburghshire, Scotland where I was honored to be recommended by the Family to be the Commander of the Name.

The Court granted that commission something just over five years ago. Our goal of having a recognized Chief, and a Crest is still some distance away, however, I am encouraged at the progress that has been made. Particularly satisfying, has been meeting many of the branches of the Family in Scotland, Canada, Sweden, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and of course, the United States.

I am also grateful for all of the work in identifying the many old MacAlpine homesites in the Kilmartin/Knapdale area. I have visited many of them, and am anxious to get back and do some more exploring. Our people were fishers and farmers and weavers and lime kiln tenders. They burned peat for fuel and went into battle when called. They endured wars and famine and disease, and they contributed to what we are today. Understanding where they lived, how they lived, and why they left is an important part of our legacy. Each one of them has a story to tell.



Le gach deagh dhùrachd
With every good wish

Michael T McAlpin
Commander, Name of MacAlpine



Commander: Michael T. McAlpin
Society Officers:

President: Earl Dale McAlpine

Vice President: Mark McAlpin

Treasurer: Janet McAlpine

Secretary: Sue Potter

Member at Large: Finn Stavnsbo Alpin

Newsletter Editor: Janet McAlpine

President's News

Greetings Family and Friends from Alaska!

I'm happy to report that my health is back on track and Robin and I are in the adventure of a lifetime in "The Last Frontier"; Alaska. This is a bucket list trip for us. The scenery here is beautiful.



I was encourage to hear from Commander Michael about the the Greenville, SC games and his visit with Lord Lyon. I'm hoping the world is getting back on track and we will be able to visit Scotland again soon.

Stay healthy family.

In kinship,

Dale

Congratulations to the new Chief of the Clan MacBean, Richard McBain of McBain, 23rd hereditary Chief succeeding his late father, James McBain of McBain

Richard was born in Tucson, Arizona in 1956. His father James McBain of McBain set a standard for highland games participation by the chief, wherein he visited each tent, no matter the number, welcoming the representatives of each clan and thanking them for their efforts to attend and support their clan and the event.

As Chief, James McBain of McBain carried on his duties until 2018, when he appointed his Tanist and son Richard to act as chief for him. James McBain of McBain died on 7th March 2022 at the great age of 93, making him the longest lived and longest serving Chief of his clan. In line with protocol, Richard McBain of McBain succeeded his father and became the 23rd Hereditary Chief of the Clan MacBean on the same day, 7th March 2022 – to paraphrase an old saying, it was a case of 'the Chief is dead, long live the Chief'.



Richard intends to carry on as his father did, keeping the Scottish history and games enjoyment alive, and dedicating himself to the service of his Clan, just as his forebears had done for more than 700 years. He looks forward to meeting many clansmen and women on his first trip to Scotland as Chief this summer, when he will lead a special gathering and events in the clan's old homelands, and will be formally inaugurated as Chief in a ceremony by the monument set up at the McBain Park by his grandfather in memory of the clan's history and its ancient chiefs.

Picture: Richard McBain of McBain, 23rd Chief of the Clan MacBean (holding Rex), with his partner Lisa McFarlane, among the famous saguaro cacti and mountains of their home in Arizona.

Penny Schools and The Education Act of 1872

Submitted by Mark S.C. McAlpin , Sennachie elect

Mary MacAlpine ran a penny school Kilmory Oib for the local children. She taught reading and writing in Gaelic, and for the young girls, needlework.



Each child paid one penny per week to attend and was charged with providing a brick of peat for the fire.

19th century Scotland witnessed many changes in their educational establishments, from eliminating the penny schools, to the admittance and graduation of women from universities.

Perhaps one of the most influential and controversial changes was the Education Act of 1872.

The Education Act introduced compulsory schooling for children across Scotland. Under the act approximately 1,000 regional school boards were established and immediately took over the schools of the old and new kirks and were able to begin to enforce attendance

Some schools requested to be taken over by the boards, while others continued as Sunday schools. All children aged from 5 to 13 years were required to attend. Poverty was not accepted as an excuse and some help was supplied under the Poor laws. This was enforced by the School Attendance Committee

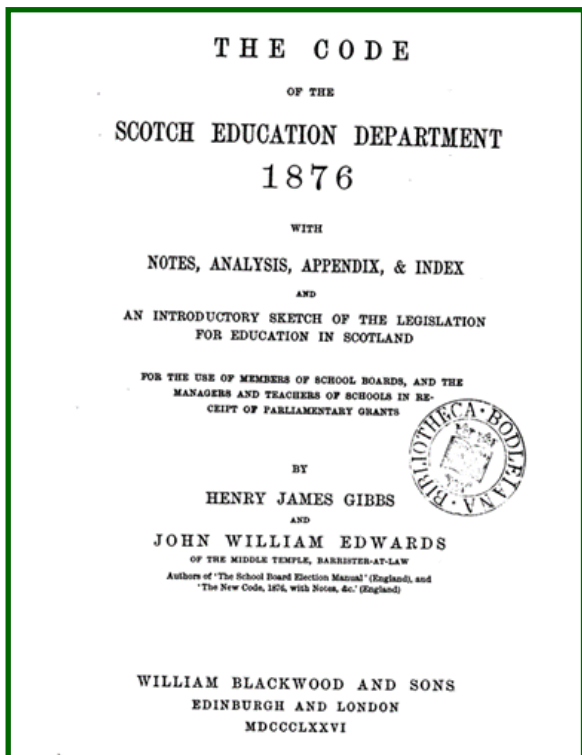
Overall administration was in the hands of the Scotch Education Department in London.

Demand for places was high and for a generation after the act there was overcrowding in many classrooms, with up to 70 children being taught in one room. The emphasis on a set number of passes at exams also led to much learning by rote and the system of inspection led to even the weakest children being drilled with certain facts. There was an extensive program of school building undertaken by the boards between 1872 and 1914.

While The Education Act of 1872 created many reforms in the education system it also became a continuation of a general policy by the British government which aimed at Anglicization. It repressed Scottish Gaelic education. Pupils were physically punished for speaking Gaelic and beaten again if they did not reveal the names of other students speaking Gaelic. Many parents decided not to pass on Gaelic to their children in fear of them being punished and as a result there was a language shift.

The effect of the Education Act upon the Gaelic language has been described as "disastrous" and by denying the value of Gaelic culture and language, contributed to destroying the self-respect of Gaelic communities.

Restoring Scottish Gaelic education did not occur until the 1980s, and the impact of the Act is still being felt in Gaelic communities today.



Flowers of the Forest

Matthew Patrick McAlpine

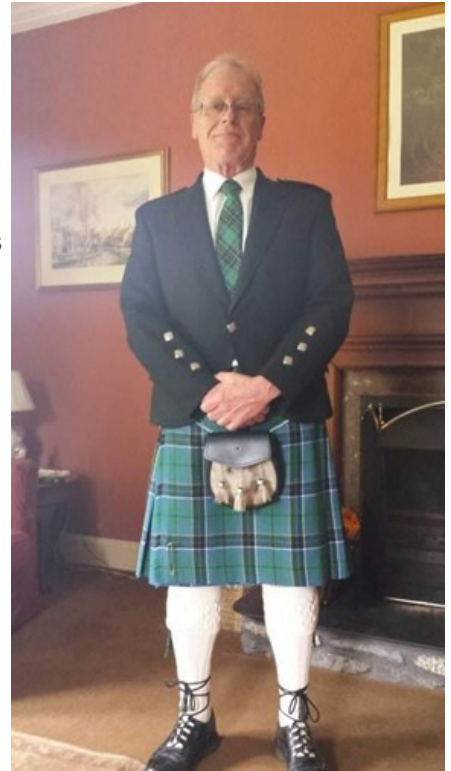
Matthew Patrick McAlpine was called out of this world to his eternal home on April 27th. Matthew was the 4th child of nine for Kenneth and Donna McAlpine and has been fighting the good fight since his first breath. Matt was a preemie and was a "blue baby" when he arrived, with a collapsed lung. Slow but sure, he was able to come home and lived up to his red-headed nature throughout his childhood years.

He was tough, challenging and hard-headed but also managed to show compassion, concern and humor along the way. He grew up in a great neighborhood in Northwest Detroit and still has many friends from that community in his circle of life. Matt also served in the US Army and was very proud of his time in the service.

Matt was a stand-up and straight forward guy and you knew where you stood with him. He needed those character qualities to battle cancer for 10+ years. Cancer didn't ever keep him down and he would always say that it was "not as bad as it could be." For as long as possible you would find him at Kensington Golf Course volunteering as a starter so he could play a round of golf. He took advantage of that as long as possible.

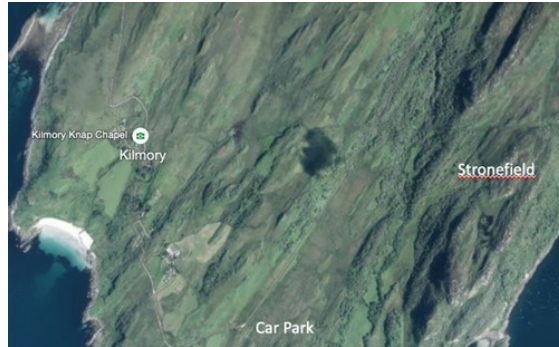
Matt was also known at some local eateries in Walled Lake, L George's and Lulu's where he will be sorely missed. We are thankful to both establishments for the years of "looking after" Matt by being sure he had something to eat when he was struggling with an appetite.

Matthew leaves behind his beloved daughters, Shannon (Chris) Swanson and Alyssa McAlpine. He also sadly leaves his twin grandchildren, Blythe and Wyatt along with his eight siblings: John, Nancy (Jim) Carano, Laura, Christine (Wayne), Donald, Andrew (Karen), Mary (Mike) Klumpp, and Kate. A huge host of family and friends will also grieve his passing. A service to Matt's liking was held Saturday May 28th.



The Homestead Project - The McAlpines of Stronefield

South of Kilmartin, in Knapdale, lies Kilmory Chapel, probably built in the 1200's, and the beautiful beach of Kilmory Bay. About a mile past the chapel, the road ends at the ruins of Balimore (also once occupied by MacAlpines), where there is a small car park. Stronefield is about a mile down a footpath to the east.



In the Argyll OS Name Books of 1868-1878, Stronefield is listed as part of the estate of Campbell of Inverneill, having "three small farm houses and outbuildings." A Map in 1900 shows sixteen buildings at Stronefield in various stages of decay.

Written records for Stronefield date back to 1567, noting "the four merkland of Stronefield" ("Merkland" was used to describe an amount of land in Scottish deeds and legal papers. It was based upon a common valuation of the land not on acreage).

The Statistical Accounts of Knapdale Parish were official Government reports written in 1791 and 1840 by the Church. The writer of the Statistical accounts of 1791 described the miserable existence of the inhabitants. "The population here labour under many disadvantages, which are great obstacles to their present happiness and improvement. The want of proper schools for the education of youth is none of the least. There is not a parochial school; and those established by the Society cannot accommodate all the children, many of whom, owing to local situations, have it not in their power to attend them. The distance from market towns, and the bad state of the roads, are complained of as very great hardships.

The scarcity of good fuel is severely felt by all the inhabitants; peat and turf are universally used; but when the season for casting them is wet. Which is not infrequently the case, the poor people suffer beyond description and even although the season is favorable, so much of their time is necessarily spent in preparing the peats, that many things of importance in agriculture must be omitted."



The Homestead Project - The McAlpines of Stronefield

... Continued from page 5

Blood ties were strong, and strong community bonds helped fuse the family together and give them a firm sense of identity. The Inverneil Estate papers list John McAlpine as the agent for the Inverneil estate from 1792 to 1802 at Stronefield, with rentals to Donald MacAlpine and Alexander McAlpine, with continuing McAlpine tenancy for decades. There were three MacAlpine families at Stronefield numbering eighteen kinsmen, the John McAlpine family, the Alexander McAlpine family and the Archibald McAlpine family, in addition, there was one McKeller family, by 1881 there were none left.

The croft and mill were once bustling with activity, but if the sad history of this remote spot is true, the crofters were evicted, and their houses burned. Records show that the tenants were arrears in their rents, however, census records show that there was no sudden abandonment of Stronefield; the population just dwindled away after 1861. The older McAlpines passed, and the young folk left for work and did not return. There was no opportunity for them at Stronefield, it was remote, and had few prospects, even for marriage. It was common practice to remove the roofs from abandoned or evicted homes, often burning them to make them uninhabitable, and therefore not subject to tax.

Another interesting feature of Stronefield is a Jacobite Cave SSE of Stronefield overlooking Loch Caolisport where Jacobites hid out awaiting transport to France. It is marked on the Canmore map, with a brief description: Cave about 150' up cliff; concealed entrance, long ledge, hearth, stone seats, escape chute and cleft down which food is said to have been lowered from above by herdsmen. Traditionally used by refugees waiting for shipment to France.

(M Campbell and M Sandeman, 1964)



The Homestead Project MacAlpine Homestead at Drimvore Farm

Just north and west of Dunadd across the Moine Mhor and nestled by Ruidhill Burn is Drimvore Farm.

It is still a working farm today, with two cottages. Drimvore Cottage East, and Drimvore Cottage West. Drimvore Cottage East is the home and studio of weaving artist Louise Oppenheimer.



A MacAlpine tenancy for decades, the last patriarch, Donald, died in 1891 at age 81. He was preceded by his wife Isabella who died in 1882, their son Donald died at age 19 in 1864, his wife Ann passed in 1882.

Their remaining son Dugald the last of the family died in 1896. They are all buried in the Kilmartin Churchyard.

The Homestead Project - The McAlpines of Glenmoine

Behind the Kilmartin Museum, there is a path that accesses the Glebe through a gate.



A Glebe is plot of land that yields revenue to a parish church, in this case the Kilmartin Church just above it. The Church itself has been sold, but the Glebe is still owned by the Church of Scotland.

Located within the Glebe is an Early Bronze Age cairn or burial monument that dates back to perhaps 2000 BC.

There are five cairns stretching through the Kilmartin Valley, which have produced many treasures from the period such as necklaces, bracelets and pottery. Many items from this period are on display at the Kilmartin Museum.

A bit beyond the Glebe Cairn are the ruins of Glenmoine, another of the many old MacAlpine homesteads in the Kilmartin Glen.

It is a short walk, under a mile from the carpark from the Kilmartin Museum. The last MacAlpine living there was Isabella MacAlpine, who passed in 1867.

**JOIN US AT THE
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AUGUST 12 - 14, 2022**

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**LOOK FOR
THE MACALPINE TENT**

**JOIN US FOR
THE GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES
July 7 - 10, 2022**



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LOOK FOR THE MACALPINE TENT

**JOIN US FOR
THE STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES
October 14 - 16, 2022**



STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA

**LOOK FOR
THE MACALPINE TENT**

Bressuire Highland Games

Submitted by Marc Joyau MacAlpine



The Bressuire Highland Games were held June 11th and 12th. Five MacAlpines were present at the Highland Games in Bressuire (France) for this 11th edition, which honored women's sport (about ten athletes, several of whom won world titles), the major disciplines were of course present (stone, hammer, caber, etc.), but also more... local (!) disciplines, such as barrel throwing (which throwers must propel over a bar) or... cork throwing (12.7 kg all the same!).

Who knows, maybe one day there will be MacAlpine among the competitors?

The **Château de Bressuire** is an example of medieval military architecture. The visible remains date essentially from the end of the 12th and the start of the 13th century. The castle was acquired by the *commune* in 1975. It has been listed since 1996 as a *monument historique* by the **French Ministry of Culture**.

Pictured to the left are Marc Joyau and Barnabé MacAlpine



Greenville Highland Games



Presented by the
Greenville Scottish Games
at Furman University



The Greenville Games provided a great location, every Clan Tent had a perfect view of the field where pipers, athletes and a terrific tribute to the military was performed.



A special tribute for this Memorial Day Event included US military and members of the Royal Highland Fusiliers. With flyovers and parachute drops.



We were fortunate to have spent time with The Reverend Canon Joseph Morrow CBE KStJ QC DL FRSE Lord Lyon, King of Arms; and the ever-delightful George Way of Plean, Baron of Plean in the County of Stirlingshire and Carrick Pursuivant of the Court of the Lord Lyon



Mark J.Harden
Baron of
Cowdenknowes

McAlpine Cemetery, Whitehall Texas

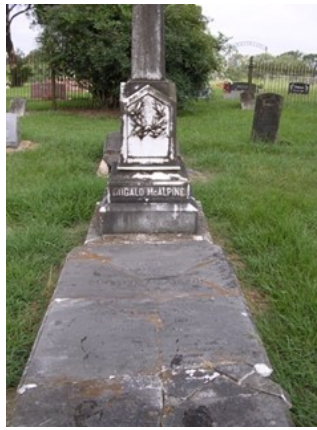


Malcolm McAlpine was born in Kilmartin about 1755. He emigrated to the Gaelic community of Cross Creek and Campbelltown North Carolina prior to the American Revolution. He and his wife Mary had nine children. He died there in 1827.

About 1851 his son Dugald McAlpine (1795-1876) moved to the pioneer community of Wallace's Prairie Texas (about 62 miles north and west of Houston) and purchased a large tract of land.

Adjacent to his property was "Alta Vista" (Spanish for Fair View) a large farm and farmhouse. McAlpine eventually bought Alta Vista and in 1866 his relative, Malcom McAlpine, was the first of many McAlpines to be buried here. In 1873 the community's name was changed to Whitehall for George White, the postmaster at that time.

Before his burial here in 1876, McAlpine fenced an area around the grave sites for use as a family graveyard. In 1886 descendants of McAlpine deeded three acres containing the graveyard for cemetery purposes. There are 31 MacAlpines buried there



Greenville Highland Games . . . Continued from page 11

Always a delight to be able to cheer on our own Dan Halpin competing in the Heavies



Clan MacAlpine Information



We invite you to learn more about Clan MacAlpine Society by going to our website <https://macailpein.com/> and reviewing the wealth of information found there.

We hope you enjoy receiving your quarterly issues of this newsletter, *Remember Those From Whom You Claim*, that contains articles of interest and activities our members participate in. For those of you on Facebook, check us out. We have many contributors to that site.

On our website you will find the store where you can order the clan items shown on this page, get membership information, find information on the Clan MacAlpine DNA project, and a variety of other sections about MacAlpine history and the history of Clan MacAlpine Society.

Also on the website you have the opportunity to support your Society by checking out the page on "Funding Projects" to discover ways you can make a donation to Clan MacAlpine Society. It is through your donations that we are able to participate in or support heritage activities. You can earmark your donation for:

- ◆ General Society Operations
- ◆ Society Clan Tent Fund
- ◆ Kilmartin Museum Fund
- ◆ Pipe and Drum Band Fund
- ◆ Scottish Dancing Fund

Watch for Highland Games in your locale. Look for a Clan MacAlpine Society tent and celebrate your heritage by meeting fellow MacAlpines.



Clan MacAlpine Challenge Coin



\$20.00 + 4.95 Shipping
Available in store on Society website at www.macailpein.com
Contact drscotmac@yahoo.com for further information

Clan MacAlpine Lapel Pin



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Contact drscotmac@yahoo.com for further information

Clan MacAlpine Society Kilt Pin



Custom designed by Mark McAlpin, incorporating elements of the boar's head, pine tree, crown, and sword, all of which are linked to the MacAlpines, and appear prominently in MacAlpine Heraldry.

The pins are made of silver weighing approximately 1 ounce - Dimensions are 4"x 1 1/8"

\$75 USD payable by PayPal or check
Please contact

NotCommonKiltPins@outlook.com for questions or purchase

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