



The Worldwide
Organization
For MacAlpines

Remember the Death of Alpin

Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

3rd Qtr 2012 ~ Volume 18



John McAlpine



William McAlpine



Sir William McAlpine



Michael McAlpine



Finn Alpin



Sidney Fay McAlpine

President's Message

Our Annual meeting was held in California this year, hosted at the Pleasanton Highland Games by West Coast Coordinator Renee Hensley-McAlpin Brasher.



Officers in attendance pictured are (left to right) Bruce McAlpin (Canada Coordinator), Renee Hensley-McAlpin (Vice President), Kenneth McAlpine (Treasurer), Michael McAlpin (President), Robin McAlpine (Secretary), and Dale McAlpine (Historian).

Our thanks go out to Renee who did a great job of setting up accommodations, dinners, and the Clan Tent.

As you can see from the pictures, we had a very good time. Our thanks to Robin McAlpine for so many of the pictures you will find on page 6. It was great to see the continued support of so many, and to spend time and kinship with folks from nine states from Maryland to California, and with a lively and growing contingent from Canada. It was gratifying that so many of our officers and four armigers were in attendance.

We were honored once again that the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs sent greetings to our meeting.

Additionally, it was a great pleasure to have Christine Harrison, Past President of the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations (COSCA) deliver greetings from the Council. COSCA's support is much appreciated, and I look forward to their Clan Caucus at Stone Mountain in October.



Christine Harrison addresses the Clan MacAlpine Society AGM.

We periodically send our newsletter to the Lyon Court, along with a brief update on our activities. Enclosed with the last newsletter was a letter that read in part ... "Our membership continues to grow, and our activities continue to expand. We are hopeful of a time when we might meet your requirements to hold a Family Meeting, under the Courts supervision for the purpose of recognizing a Commander. We recognize the high standards that the Court would require for our future efforts, and are taking several steps to address the requirements as we understand them."

In return correspondence, Lord Lyon has made note of our hope to hold a Family Convention in due course.

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UNITE! UNITE! UNITE!

Society Officers

President: Michael T. McAlpin
Vice President: Renee Hensley-McAlpin
Treasurer: Kenneth McAlpine
Secretary: Robin McAlpine
Historian: Dale McAlpine
Editor: Janet McAlpine

Coordinators

Canada: Bruce McAlpin
bdmacalpine@personainternet.com
Europe: Finn Alpin
finndane@gmail.com
United Kingdom: John Gilpin
j.gilpin1@brinternet.com
Eastern U.S.: Mary Ann Baker
wizad3@yahoo.com
Western U.S.: Renee Hensley-McAlpin
rhensley95@gmail.com

Commissioners

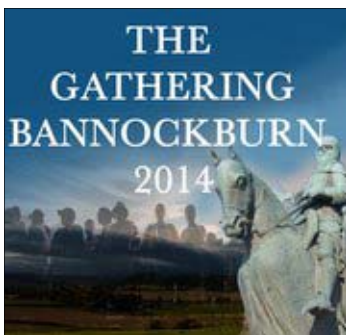
England: John Gilpin
j.gilpin1@brinternet.com
Sweden: Finn Alpin
finndane@gmail.com
USA
California (N): Renee Hensley-McAlpin
rhensley95@gmail.com
California (S): Kenneth McAlpine
kenneth@macalpineclan.com
Georgia: Michael T. McAlpin
mc539@aol.com
Idaho: Robert G. Winkle, Esq.
winkle@cableone.net
Kansas: Brian Garrett
atoz@grapevine.net
Michigan: Mary Ann Baker
wizad3@yahoo.com
North Carolina: Randy Madry
randymadry@comcast.net
Oregon: Warren McAlpine
wdmcalpine@comcast.net
Utah: Dodd Greer
doddgreer@hotmail.com

Bannockburn Tour Package 2014

submitted by Kenneth McAlpine

There have been several inquiries regarding a potential tour package at the 2014 Stirling Games.

For several days before and after our 2004 AGM in Oban Scotland, 25 of us enjoyed a tour through Scotland, which included visits to many areas of particular relevance to our Clan's history.



Some of the highlights included a visit to see the Stone of Destiny (Stone of Scone) upon which the MacAlpine Kings were coronated, a visit to Dunadd Hillfort our ancient Clan seat, and a visit to the Isle of Iona where King Kenneth MacAlpin is buried.

In 2004 we arranged two Clan MacAlpine 2004 AGM "Cuimhnic Bàs Ailpein" tour packages (7 nights or 9 nights) with Alex Hood of Scottish Highland Trails which featured a "MacAlpine sites" emphasis.

(Email enquiries@highlandtrails.com or at +44 (0) 131-538-2979 (from USA 011-44-131-538-2979).

Prices **DID NOT** include airfare. Interested parties made a reservation and nonrefundable deposit (15%) six months prior.

Tour Highlights - August 21 - 27 or 29, 2004

- Three nights in Edinburgh in walking distance of the "Royal Mile" and Edinburgh Castle, the Palace of Holyrood House, the shops of Princes Street, and the new Museum of Scotland;
- Tickets to Edinburgh Castle, home to the "Stone of Scone" on which King Kenneth MacAlpin was coronated, and to the Edinburgh Military Tattoo;
- A visit to Stirling University and the (Sir William) Wallace Monument;
- Three nights (basic tour) or four nights (extended tour) in Oban in walking distance of the town center and all its amenities;
- Visits to the Dunadd Iron Age Fort (King Kenneth MacAlpin's early capital), one or two Standing Stones in Kilmartin, and Dunstaffnage Castle (lies on lands of our original Clan seat);
- Dinner from a traditional Highland Menu with Scottish Entertainment;
- The Society's AGM;
- March in the Parade to the festival grounds;
- The Argyllshire Gathering with games, piping, and other festivities;
- Tickets to the private Clan MacAlpine Dinner with entertainment, including: Pipe Major Peter MacInnes (a top

solo Piper in Scotland), a display of Highland Dancing, Patricia Roberts (a Clarsach Player of the Highest standard), a tribute to the Haggis with the address given by Alex Hood, (past President of the biggest Robert Burns Club in the Edinburgh area);

- A visit to Glencoe and the site of the notorious Massacre of MacDonald of Glencoe in 1692; one night in the vicinity of your departing airport.

Short Tour Only

- Also, drive along the west shore of Loch Lomond and visit the Scottish Wool Centre.

Extended Tour Only

- Also, travel on the Isle of Mull to the Isle of Iona (burial place of King Kenneth MacAlpin) and the Abbey founded by St Columba in 563AD;
- Visit "Dewars World of Whisky" and tour the Aberfeldy Single Malt Whisky Distillery;
- Stay one night in Dunkeld (King Kenneth MacAlpin's ecclesiastical center);
- Visit Scone Palace and the Moot Hill (King Kenneth MacAlpin moved his capital here in 843 AD and was crowned King of Scots and Picts on Moot Hill in a ceremony using the Stone of Scone);
- Visit St. Serf's Church in Dunning, home to the Dupplin Cross (said to have been erected by King Kenneth MacAlpin);
- Visit the Bannockburn Battlefield and Memorial.
- Guests returning to Glasgow will pass Loch Lomond while guests returning to Edinburgh will pass through the South Queensferry/Forth Bridges area.

The 2004 Basic Tour Cost: Adults, double occupancy - £ 985 BPS (approx. \$1,645 US) per person, Single Occupancy - £ 1,170 BPS (approx. \$1,955 US) per person; Children under 12 - 760 BPS (approx. \$1,270 US) per person.

Extended Tour Cost: Adults, double occupancy - £ 1,330 BPS (approx. \$2,220 US) per person, Single Occupancy - £ 1,510 BPS (approx. \$2,520 US) per person; Children under 12 - £ 940 BPS (approx. \$1,570 US) per person.

Prices have certainly increased since then, but if there is sufficient interest, inquiries will be made at several tour operators and a suggested package will be posted in the next newsletter..

Please notify michael@macalpineclan.com if you are interested, and the number in your party, or take the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/9QHFQX3

For those who are not interested in a tour package, the above highlights can be utilized as a reference of MacAlpine related sites for independent travel.

Council of Scottish Clans & Associations

September 1, 2014

The Clan MacAlpine Society Members and Officers
Convened at Pleasanton, California

Greetings Clan MacAlpine:

On behalf of the COSCA Board of Trustees let me welcome you back to Pleasanton.

The western United States is very proud of a rich and diverse Scottish American heritage and a significant Scottish American population today. As everywhere, Scottish Americans have had an important and lasting impact on the American west. In fact, you are meeting in the shadow of one of the greatest Scottish Americans - JohnMuir.

You can thank John Muir when you visit those magnificent redwoods just to the north of Pleasanton or as you drive through Yosemite National Park on your way back home. It was John Muir, born in Dunbar, Scotland, that opened America's eyes and made conservation of these incredible places possible. In 2014, along with all of the festive celebrations in Scotland, we will note and commemorate here at home the passing of 100 years since Long John Muir's death on December 24, 1914. John Muir was a man who saw what was important and what needed to be done and then courageously set about doing it.

I am reminded of that when I consider the current circumstance of Clan MacAlpine. COSCA is quite aware and supportive of Clan MacAlpine's committed and difficult work toward gaining a clan Commander and then Chief for the first time in centuries. It is ironic and a little distressing that a family credited with originally uniting Scotland under one head and then ruling well for centuries thereafter is, and has been for so long, headless. We trust and hope that you will be successful in your important project and we offer COSCA's support.

Like Clan MacAlpine, COSCA is in the midst of changing its own landscape. Here is a sample of what COSCA is doing to serve its member clans:

-- We are hosting, together with the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, a clan caucus at the Stone Mountain Highland Games this year, where, among other matters, we will discuss, with a dozen Scottish Chiefs and Commanders, the issue of clans without chiefs and the unique challenges they face.

-- We will soon be launching an exciting, informative and really useful new web site that we hope will help clans do their jobs and achieve their missions better and more sustainably for the long term.

-- We are continuing our Clan Leader Boot camp series of webinars aimed at helping clan leaders cope with the dreary organizational responsibilities that must be addressed to keep a clan

organization healthy and growing. We are live webcasting the Stone Mountain Clan Caucus on October 19th and our second online workshop is set for December 8th and is entitled: Building and Sustaining Your Organization's Membership.

-- We have adopted and are pursuing a two-year Strategic Plan that outlines what COSCA aims to accomplish in clear and understandable projects and programs. You can read our Strategic Plan online at www.COSCA.net.

-- We have launched a great new social media presence at KILTR.com. KILTR is a fun and energetic startup social networking platform that maintains a Scotland only focus, including issues that affect the homeland as well as a place for the global Scottish Diaspora to connect, learn and grow. Come and join us at www.KILTR.com/COSCA.

-- We are working hard in Scotland to help make sure that Scotland's Second Year of Homecoming in 2014 will be even more awesome than the first and that Scottish American interests are well represented in the planning efforts.

Scottish Americans form the backbone of the vast global Scottish diaspora and it is important that we take a lead role in ensuring that the Scottish clan system remains a vibrant, relevant, youthful and growing system. We have a centuries long heritage and legacy in our hands. COSCA is determined to meet that challenge and to set the Scottish clan system on a smooth road for the next 700 years. We look forward to working with Clan MacAlpine to achieve that goal.

Yours aye,
Susan L. McIntosh, President

Greetings From The Standing Council of Chiefs

Dear Mr McAlpin,
May I, on behalf of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, send greetings from the Convenor Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor and all members of the Executive on the occasion of your Annual Meeting in 2012 at Pleasanton, California. We hope that you will enjoy a convivial and productive meeting in the Californian sunshine.
With regards from
Frank J Wherrett
Secretary
The Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs

**The Council of Scottish Clans & Associations
And
The Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs
Announce An Historic Gathering At Stone Mountain Highland Games 2012**

The Council of Scottish Clans & Associations (COSCA) and The Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs (SCSC), in association with the 40th anniversary of the Stone Mountain Highland Games are pleased to announce a joint seminar to be held on Friday October 19.

An unprecedented number of Scottish Chiefs, Commanders and heirs will gather at Stone Mountain as Honored Guests of the Games. This presents a unique opportunity for COSCA and SCSC to host a Scottish clan leadership caucus to convene the day before the games official opening.

This collaborative event will bring together American clan leaders, leaders of the American Scottish diaspora, Scottish Chiefs and heirs and invited special Scottish guests to discuss some of the most important issues facing the American Scottish diaspora.

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor, Convener of the SCSC remarked, "the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs fully acknowledges the importance of our American kith and kin within the clan network. So it is more than appropriate to work with COSCA at our first joint seminar at Stone Mountain." MacGregor continued, "The clan convention in 2009 in Edinburgh successfully laid the framework for developing our common goals and relationships. This seminar means that we can continue that work right here in the United States. For chiefs it is an opportunity to deepen relationships and to learn more of the expectations of our American clans folk. For Americans, it is a chance to bring issues to the chiefs."

At press time, the following Scottish Chiefs, Commanders and heirs will participate in the Stone Mountain clan caucus (many will be accompanied by their North American clan leaders):

The Marquess of Ailsa, Chief Clan Kennedy
The Earl of Caithness, Chief Clan Sinclair
Iain Gunn of Banniskirk, Commander Clan Gunn
James McBain of McBain, Chief Clan McBain
Ranald MacDonell of Glengarry, Chief Clan MacDonell of Glengarry
Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor Bt., Chief Clan Gregor
Lorne MacLaine of Lochbuie, Chief of Clan MacLaine of Lochbuie
Donald MacLaren of MacLaren, Chief Clan MacLaren
Ruairi Morrison of Ruichdi, Chief Clan Morrison
The Lord Sempill (Jamie), Chief Clan Sempill
Kenneth Urquhart of Urquhart, Chief Clan Urquhart
The Lord Montgomerie (Hugh), Heir Clan Montgomerie
David Rose younger of Kilravock, Heir Clan Rose
Wilkins Urquhart younger of Urquhart, Heir Clan Urquhart

MacAlpine Photo Gallery from the AGM in Pleasanton, California



President's Message

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At the meeting, we reviewed the size of our Roll Call, which is slightly over 2,650, with about 45% bearing some form of MacAlpine name. We periodically need to update the information on our Roll Call, and at a future date will be sending an email asking for a response to the number of family members represented and other details.

Our Treasurer, Kenneth gave a brief treasury report, and it was noted that we will need to start building up our account for our future endeavors with research and other things needed to reach our goal of becoming a recognized clan.

PayPal has been used by many to contribute to the Societies effort. It is important to note that many set their contributions up as an auto renewal, if that was not your desire, let me know, and we will correct it.

IMPORTANT SURVEYS

At our Annual Meeting, Dale McAlpine reported on four potential locations for our 2013 AGM, Grandfather Mountain, North Carolina July 11-14 (<http://www.gmhg.org/>), Arlington, Texas May 3-5 (<http://www.texasscottishfestival.com/>), Glasgow, Kentucky May 30-June 2 (<http://glasgowhighlandgames.com/>), and Alma, Michigan May 25-27 (<http://mfea.org/event/alma-highland-festival-games-2013/>). Please look over the following locations, and respond which one you would like to see the AGM held at. Please take the survey at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9RXBWYQ>



Our 2014 Meeting will be July 11 – 13 at the International Clan Gathering and Highland Games in Stirling, Scotland. Several have asked if there will be a tour set up as we had in 2004. If there is sufficient interest, we will look into it. Kenneth McAlpine has provided us with the details from the 2004 tour on page 2. Please review the 2004 information and take the survey at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9QHFX3>

There are many Bed and Breakfasts in and near Sterling, but they will go fast, and it is not too early to consider booking. If you have thoughts on locations, please share.

In kinship,
Michael T McAlpin

Clan MacAlpine Society Information

Website: www.macalpineclan.com

Mail: Clan MacAlpine Society
2380 Saddlesprings Drive
Alpharetta, GA 30004
USA

Contributions: Can be made payable to:

Clan MacAlpine Society
c/o Kenneth McAlpine, Treasurer
32682 Rosemont Drive
Trabuco Highlands, CA 92679-3386
USA

