



Remember the Death of Alpin

Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

The Worldwide Organization For MacAlpines

3rd Qtr 2013 ~ Volume 21



John McAlpine



William McAlpin



Sir William McAlpine



Michael McAlpin



Finn Alpin



Sidney Fay McAlpin



Earl Dale McAlpine

President's Message

The Annual Meeting held at Grandfather Mountain brought kinsmen from eight different states and Canada. It was a pleasure to meet the first time attendees, and I believe everyone walked away with a good understanding of where we are, our next steps, and the areas we need to concentrate on.

At the meeting, a committee was drawn to develop the criteria for eligibility for a Derbhfine, or Family Meeting, when granted by the Court. The intention of the Derbhfine (if granted) would be to have the broadest representation of the various branches of the family, to petition for formal recognition, and to nominate an interim Commander of the Clan.

Initial plans for next years Annual Meeting, which will be in Scotland were developed, and the draft is included in this newsletter. I believe we will have an excellent turnout.. The meeting will be held in Kilmartin, and the timing will allow those who may be interested in attending Bannockburn Live to do so independently.

I believe that we are getting closer to our objective, and thank everyone for their efforts and contributions.

Renee McAlpin Hensley Brasher, who has carried our banner in California for over a decade is stepping down from her role as an officer in the Society. We wish Renee and her husband Tony all the best, and will be hoping to see them at future events.

In due course we will need to replace Renee's key role in the Society.

In Kinship

Michael T. McAlpin
President

UNITE! UNITE! UNITE!

Society Officers

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Vice President: Renee Hensley-McAlpin
Treasurer: Kenneth McAlpine
Secretary: Robin McAlpine
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Another Successful AGM for the Clan MacAlpine Society

By Robin McAlpine, Secretary

"It always rains on tents. Rainstorms will travel thousands of miles, against prevailing winds for the opportunity to rain on a tent." — [Dave Barry](#) And that it did...

Thank you to the many MacAlpine friends and family that came out to the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games despite the weather. As usual we had a wonderful time of fellowship, even though we were rained out for the whole day on Sunday. We did not waste any time though, as by Sunday, business had been taken care of, with just the proper amount of food and drink (yes, we drank a wee dram).

July 13, 2013 marked the day of the 14th Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the Clan MacAlpine Society. It was exciting to see so many familiar faces, the Bakers, Bruce, from Canada, Mark from Washington, Earl from California, Michael from Texas, Mike from Georgia, and the list goes on. After greetings and an opening prayer, we got right to business with reports.

Membership report - we have email addresses for 1004 representing 2657 household members. Approximately 45% of these bear some form of the MacAlpine name. We are pleased to report we are gaining numbers in Scotland.

Treasurer's report - For the year ending December 21, 2012, we had sufficient funds to pay our bills. We will need to start collecting membership dues once again to cover fees for upcoming events, Derbhfine, etc. (I'll let Michael explain this in further detail). Be assured we are using our funds responsibly for the furthering of our cause, to be recognized by the Lord Lyon as an official clan.

President's report - Armiger status. We currently have seven armigers granted. John Duncan McAlpine (represented by Kenneth McAlpine), CA, Bill McAlpine of Kentucky, Michael McAlpin of Georgia, Finn Alpin of Sweden, Sir William McAlpine of the UK (English Arms), Sid McAlpin of Washington, and Earl Dale McAlpine of California. We have one other in preparation and the possibility of more to come with new family members we just met at the games this year.

We currently maintain ads in the Scottish Banner (the largest Scottish publication), we hold memberships in Society of Scottish Armigers (SSA), Council of Scottish Clans and Associations (COSCA) and the Council of Armigerous Clans and Families.

New Business - There were several suggestions for the 2014 and 2015 for AGM locations. It has been decided that the 2014 AGM will be in Kilmartin Scotland on June 25, 2014. We will be releasing information as the plans are made. As for the



2015 location, we will have some discussion and voting for that location. Be sure to watch for Michael's reports on Hugh Peskitt. They are exciting and informative. I won't cover that here because it has been reported in previous newsletters.

There have been interesting results from DNA research that shows there is no link between the MacAlpine's and MacGregor's. Pretty amazing when all we have heard over the years is how the MacGregors are the line from the king and we fall under their clan. I thought this to be exciting news. DNA does not lie. Straight fact.

A committee was established to define the ground rules for the MacAlpine derbhfine attendance. This group consists of Earl Dale McAlpine, Mark McAlpine and Maryann McAlpine Baker. They will use models from other clans and seek input from our clan before finalizing the ground rules. Keep an eye out on Facebook for updates and information from them.

Elections for Clan MacAlpine Society officers will be held in 2014. If you are interested in serving in any capacity, please contact Michael for more information.

Mark McAlpine is seeking a silversmith to create a kilt pin designed just for us. Since we have no official badge, the design with the boar's head and crown is the best representation for us to use. Mark has posted the information on Facebook for this effort. When the die is made, orders will be taken.

Discussion was held on how to best thank families for their clan memberships. There was mention of sending a pdf file certificate that one can print and frame if so desired. If you have any suggestions, please contact Michael.

Door Prizes were given away at the end of our meeting. We had two beautiful banners made and donated by Carolyn McAlpin. She also donated embroidered fabric napkins.

Thanks so much Carolyn for your hard work on these wonderful keepsakes. Other donations were made by Mike McAlpin and Dale and Robin McAlpine. We appreciate all items donated. It makes for a fun end to our meetings to see folks leave with an item to remember their time spent with us.



Counsel of Scottish Clan Association (COSCA) ~ July 11, 2013 Caucus

By Earl (Dale) McAlpine

The annual caucus convened at Lees McRae College in Banner Elk, North Carolina. The Caucus was attended by nearly 100 leaders and active volunteers of the Scottish ancestral community from America, Canada and Scotland with written comment from Australia.



Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor Convener of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs presented a clan history with photos of the locations of first clan gatherings from over two hundred years ago for purposes of war. He shared that after the year 1745, clans began to gather for games rather than war. These games continue to this day all over the world.



Left to Right: Jamie Lord Sempil, Sir Malcolm MacGregor, Dr. Bruce Durie

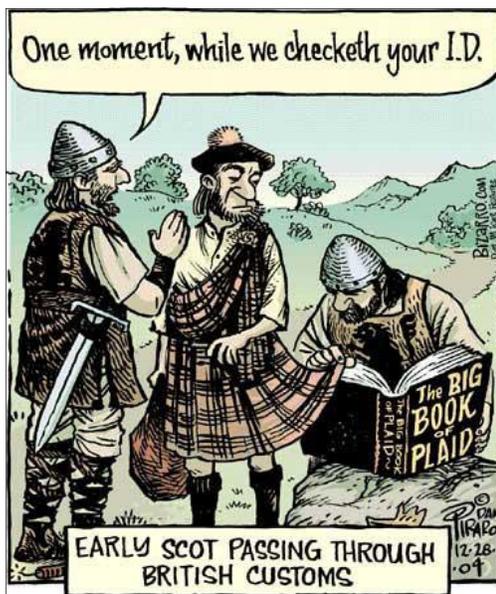
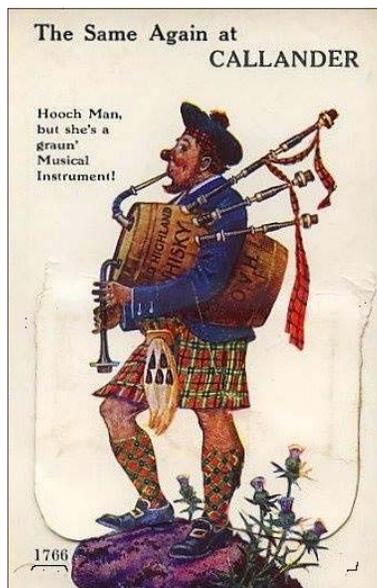
Jamie Lord Sempil spoke about the health and relation of the Clans of the United States and Scotland network. What makes the descendant Scots feel the need for a connection to our Scottish family home? The clan spirit of the members transcends the Scottish homelands. The inhabitants of Scotland do not understand our need to have a connection to our roots from our homeland and family. The Scots are asking why the Highland games in the United States are so successful and why the games in Scotland are more focused on local clan families and not of many clans meeting together like we do here in the USA. A good discussion was had on the differences between the games in the two nations, but no solutions were arrived at during this meeting.

Henry McLeish (pictured right), former First Minister of Scotland discussed how we can bring Scotland, America and the global Scots much closer together as we continue to move into the 21st century. How can we grow closer to Scotland? Scotland will remain as supportive and protective of its ancestral traditions, sites, culture and language as it is today. We need to understand what Scotland needs from us and how we can best meet those needs and how we can best communicate what we need from Scotland. Open communication with COSCA will help make this happen.



Dr. Bruce Durie, genealogist, author, broadcaster, lecturer and chairman of the Ancestral Tourism Steering Group for Scotland spoke about the connection of the clans and Scotland. This connection is so crucial to the tourism industry. We can work together by letting the Tourism Steering Group know what we are interested in when we tour and visit Scotland.

Some Chuckles For You As Found on the Clan MacAlpine Society's Face Book Page



Clan MacAlpine Society's Derbhfine

Submitted by Dale McAlpine

At Grandfather Mountain, a committee was tasked to develop the qualifications for the Clan MacAlpine Society's 'Derbhfine' or Family Convention in Scotland. This is a draft copy for discussion and debate to work out a final copy. Then we can present it to the Clan Board members for a vote...

Derbhfine (Family Convention) in Scotland

Qualifications to Attend (The number of attendees participating in a Family Convention will be relatively small, of the order of 10 to 25 people maximum.)

Men and Women must be born a MacAlpine (or derivative thereof) and in good standing (e.g. no felony convictions) and at least one or more of the following:

1. Scottish Armigers properly granted or matriculated Scottish Armorial Bearings.
2. Landowners in Scotland with five acres or more without lien.
3. Men or women who are prominent individuals such as academics, judges, barristers/solicitors/attorneys, doctors, politicians, successful business persons, and others who are leaders in their profession or field.
4. Current and past members of the MacAlpine Clan Society.
5. Overseas participants out with the jurisdiction (outside Scotland) may participate by video link or similar if unable to attend in person.
6. No more than two members per family branch, within the degree of first cousin.

NOTE: Attendees may be required documentation supporting any claims by the Court of the Lord Lyon. Decisions to be determined by the Officer of Arms, Court of the Lord Lyon.

All MacAlpines are urged to review these guidelines and make suggestions, or comments to the Committee. The objective is to have the broadest representation of the various branches of the family.

Please direct comments to the Committee: Mark McAlpin, Dale McAlpine, and Mary Ann McAlpine Baker. They can be contacted at marmca@microsoft.com, earlmc Alpine@yahoo.com, wizad3@yahoo.com

CMU Students Dig the Real-World Archaeology Experience



<http://media.cmich.edu/pr/cmu-students-dig-the-real-world-247027.aspx>

Anthropology summer course takes students to Emmet County

June 24, 2013 — Central Michigan University anthropology students

spent last week driving their shovels into the ground to unearth the past in Emmet County. As part of their Archaeological Field Methods summer course, approximately 10 students traveled to the historic McGulpin Point Lighthouse to dig up the building's storied history.

The McGulpin Point Lighthouse, built in 1869, operated as a beacon in the Straits of Mackinac for ships carrying lumber and ore to Chicago until its light was extinguished in 1906.

During their stay in Emmet County, CMU students received hands-on archaeology experience digging at the site of a former barn. Students utilized excavation practices, such as removing 10-centimeter layers of dirt within established boundaries, sifting the dirt and examining its contents. The class was careful to keep extensive journals on its research activity and draw detailed maps.

During their excavation, students discovered several artifacts, including a pocketknife and the remains of a child's toy. "The artifacts tell us a little bit more about the rich story of the personalities and the people who lived here," says Sarah Surface-Evans, CMU anthropology faculty member leading the summer course.

After a period of cleaning and analysis at CMU, the artifacts are sent back to the lighthouse to be displayed and offer visitors a look into the past.

Senior Steven Smendzuik of Beulah says Surface-Evans emphasizes the importance of excavating systematically and with respect. "I think I'll be walking away with a lot of skills that I can take forward into a career in cultural resources management," Smendzuik said, speaking to his career goals of conducting archaeological work for the U.S. government. "It's very important work."

In addition to the excavation at McGulpin Point Lighthouse, students also had the opportunity to work with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe at the former Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School site. Surface-Evans says conducting the course at the Boarding School is unique because most field schools do not have the opportunity to work directly with their community like CMU's course allows them to.

Draft Agenda

6/24/2014, Tuesday

Arrive Kilmartin Area

Check in to hotel of your selection.



6/25/2014, Wednesday

0900 - Tour of Kilmartin Glen, Dunnadd Fort, Standing Stones, and Cairns

Lunch

1300 - Meet in the church at Kilmartin. Historian Bill Potter will speak on the history of the Scottish Reformation, and tour the church and graveyard.



1500 – Carnasserie Castle Tour - Carnasserie is a ruined 16th century [tower house](#), noted for its unusual plan and renaissance detailing. It is located around 2km to the north of [Kilmartin](#). Historian Bill Potter will speak on History program on the 1685 West Country Rebellion (the Monmouth Rebellion). During the rebellion, John McAlpin of Kilmartin was convicted of participating in the rebellion.



1600 – AGM Kilmartin House Museum

1700 – Social Time Kilmartin House Museum

1900 – Dinner and Entertainment at Kilmartin House Museum. Patricia Roberts will play the Scottish Harp (Clarsach), and sing traditional songs (Patricia played for us in 2004 in Oban)



06/26, Thursday

Tour to Iona including a history of Iona where St. Columbo brought Christianity to Scotland in 563, and where 25 kings are buried, including the MacAlpine Dynasty. We will stay the night on the Island of Mull.

Tobermory Distillery tour

Dinner



07/28, Friday

Self-directed travel of Scotland

MacAlpines Participate at the AGM at Grandfather Mountain ~ Were Your There?



Column 1: The MacAlpine ladies. Dale, Lord Jamie Sempill, Chief of Clan Sempill, and Mike. The Dale McAlpine family. Jeff Baker.
 Column 2: The MacAlpine men. Mary Ann and Mike. Mary Ann and Bruce. Dr. David MacAlpine, Mike, Jeff Baker, and Dale.
 Column 3: Michael McAlpin. Michael McAlpin and Mark McAlpin. Stephanie Albin.. Dale.

**Patricia Roberts to Entertain
at the Clan MacAlpine Society's
2014 AGM in Scotland**

On June 25, 2014, Patricia Roberts will be the dinner entertainment at Kilmartin House Museum during the Clan MacAlpine Society's 2014 AGM in Scotland. She will play the Scottish Harp (Clarsach), and sing traditional songs. Patricia entertained the MacAlpine Gathering in 2004 in Oban. We look forward to have her enchant us at Kilmartin.

For the past decade she has been entertaining throughout Scotland, playing the clarsach and singing traditional songs.

It is said of Ms. Roberts: "Patricia has the most delightful speaking voice I have heard in a long time. But it's when she sings that her voice is pure joy. High in tone, clear as a bell, think sparkling frost on a sunny day, think clear tinkling water in a highland burn and you're only half way there. This lady has the voice of an angel".



**MacAlpine Gathering Supper Menu
at the Kilmartin House Museum**

- Venison Stew
- Tarts (Greek, Scottish cheese etc)
- Roasted Vegetables
- Rosemary Roast potatoes
- Gardeners Pie
- A Pasta Dish
- Salad Bowls
- Mixed Olives
- Cheese and Meat Platters
- Homemade Special Bread
- Vegetarian Soup
- Red Pepper Pate
- Smoked Salmon Pate
- Melon and Parma Ham
- Nibbles

- Lemon Bread and Butter Pudding
- Treacle Tart
- Chocolate Pots
- Fruit Salad
- Meringues
- Apple Dutch Cake

The above served with choice of ice cream, custard or cream.

- Tea, coffee or mints
- Also available are wines, lagers, and ales
- Spirits, if requested in advance.

Editors Note: Oh boy! Just a look at the menu makes one want to be there to partake!



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