



Remember the Death of Alpin

Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

The Worldwide Organization For MacAlpines

1st Qtr 2015 Volume 27



Kenneth McAlpine



William McAlpin



Michael McAlpin



Sir William McAlpine



Finn Alpin



Sidney Fay McAlpin



Earl Dale McAlpine



Bruce McAlpine

President's Message

Our 2015 AGM in Las Vegas will soon be here. It will be great to spend time together and to enjoy the Las Vegas Celtic Festival. Key agenda items will be an update on where we are in the process, and the ongoing search for our lineage. Many of the results of the DNA project are quite interesting.

Just prior to our AGM, I will be attending the COSCA (Council of Scottish Clans and Associations) Clan Caucus in Rural Hill, North Carolina. COSCA always hosts a meaningful meeting, and they bring in informative speakers.

In 2015 we are asking for the establishment of a Council comprised of those members who are interested in attending the Family Convention, to be held in Scotland, when one is granted by the Lyon Court. The broadest representation of as many branches of the MacAlpines is our goal.

The Council will screen potential candidates or Representatives for Interim Commander, and make a recommendation to the Lyon Court. If recognized by the Lyon Court, the Interim Commander will act as head of the Clan until a suitable Chief can be found or a new one is elected by the Council and approved by the Court.

Additionally, we continue to seek Representatives, those who have an interest in being considered by the Derbhfine to represent the Family as interim Commander.

We are particularly hopeful that someone living in Scotland should step forward.

In kinship
Michael T McAlpin
President



UNITE! UNITE! UNITE!

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Vice President: Dale McAlpine
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Clan MacAlpine Society - Annual General Meeting

The April 18 & 19, 2015 Las Vegas, 11th Celtic Gathering and Highland Games are just around the corner! It's getting closer to the Annual General Meeting in Las Vegas. If you haven't booked your room at the Excalibur Hotel by March 15th the Clan MacAlpine discount will end.

The games open at 9:00 am and the gate tickets are \$ 15.00 for adults, Seniors \$10 and \$5.00 for children 12 to 5 years old and under 5 are free each day.

To get there you take I-15 north and then US-95 north and get off at Exit 93 Durango Drive, north on Durango Drive to Brent Lane and continue onto Tule Springs Road and arriving at Floyd Lamb State Park, 9200 Tule Springs Rd, Las Vegas, NV. There are no buses or shuttles for the 26 mile trip and you will require your own transportation.

Make your way to the Clan MacAlpine Society tent for the time schedule for the Highland Games opening ceremony and clan march.



Dinner will be held at Buca de Beppo at the Excalibur beginning at 5:30 PM on Saturday.

Dinner menu \$50/pp (ea is responsible for their own alcoholic bevs)

Anitipasta- Bruschetta, Mozzarella Caprese

Insalate - Caesar Salad, Apple Gorgonzola

Pasta - Spaghetti with meat sauce, Chicken Cannelloni

Entree - Chicken Parmigiana, Salmon Sorrento

Sides - Green Beans, Meatballs

Dessert - Homemade Cheesecake, Tiramisu

Coffee, tea, soda included

Dale McAlpine,
Vice President of Clan MacAlpine Society
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Early Scotland



It was a descendant of the early kings of Ulster who, according to the testimony of the oldest Irish chronicler, Abbot Tigherac, led a body of these Dalraids or Scots from Antrim, across the channel, to find for them new homes amid the firths and mountains to the south of Loch Linnhe. The name of this chieftain, we have said, was Fergus Mor. Thus was founded a new Dalriada, and we now behold a Scotia on both sides of the Irish Channel.¹

The capital of the new Dalriada, or hither Scotland, was situated at the head of Loch Crinan. In the middle of what is now the great Moss of Crinan rises an isolated hill. On its top are the vestiges of former fortifications of great strength, while the wastes around are strewn with a miscellaneous debris of stones and cairns. These remains are supposed to mark the site of the earliest capital of the early Scotland. It stood on the banks of

the Add, a streamlet that still winds through the morass; hence its name Dunadd.

Tigh., 502-574. *Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 130. Adam., *Vit. Colum.* (Reeves), App. 2, p. 435. Bed., *Eccl. Hist.*, lib. iii., c. 3.

Council of Scottish Clans and Associations 4th Annual Scottish Clan & Family Caucus



The 4th Annual Scottish Clan & Family Caucus promises to be the very best Caucus so far.

The Caucus will be held at Historic Rural Hill near Charlotte, North Carolina from April 17 – April 19, 2015 to coincide with the Loch Norman Highland Games. Scotland's Lord Lyon Dr. Joseph Morrow will be attending the Caucus and Workshop Weekend.

The Morning session on Friday April 17th will focus on greetings and updates from our very Special Guests from across the globe, exploration and discussion of COSCA's new strategic plan as well as exciting developments concerning a greater Scottish and COSCA presence at Historic Rural Hill.

The Afternoon Educational Theme explores some of the lasting Scottish outcomes of various interactions between Scottish Gaelic people and Norse, English and British North American cultures.

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor, Convenor of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs plans to attend and participate in the Caucus.

Lady Fiona MacGregor will join the Caucus in part to discuss her fascinating research and work into the Victorian era phenomenon of "Highlandism" as the Caucus explores a few of the outcomes of Gael/British interaction. Lady Fiona has generously agreed to share her insights with the Caucus and we look forward to hearing more about Highlanders and Highlandism and a few surprising players that influenced both.

The Caucus will also hear the fascinating and very timely story of Norse – Gaelic interactions and how those interactions have left their mark on Scotland throughout history and to today. Professor Donna Heddle MA (Hons), PhD, FHEA; Director of the Centre for Nordic Studies, Orkney and Shetland College, UHI will be heading over from Orkney to bring the Caucus up to date on the fast moving world of Norse – Gaelic research and archaeology. Professor Heddle is a dynamic speaker with a passion for her work.

Prof. Heddle will be joined by Thor Ewing, Viking and Norse historian, author and expert story teller to help decipher this ancient story. Thor released his most recent book "Viking Myths: Stories of the Norse Gods and Goddesses" in April this year. In the 'it's a small world' category, Thor was also named Commander of the Ewing family by the Lord Lyon just this year as well.

Caucus Workshops Over The Weekend At Rural Hill Highland Games April 18 – 19, 2015.

COSCA's Seannachaidh Dr. Bruce Durie and friends such as Lord Lyon Dr. Joseph Morrow, Chairman of the Society of Scottish Armigers Andrew Morrison, Viscount Dunrossil and others will answer questions and present awesome workshops on Scottish and Celtic genealogy, heraldry and history. It would be very difficult to find three more intriguing, fascinating or knowledgeable individuals brought together to hangout and banter about Scotland and Scotland's people's past.

Make your plans to be at Historic Rural Hill April 17 – 19, 2015.

All over the world Scots celebrated the birthday of Robert Burns in January. Here are a few pictures of some of our MacAlpines who had the pleasure of celebrating their Scottish heritage at these events.



Pictures are the Finn Alpin family (Finn, Sofie, Fredrik, Lotta, Ronny & Tommy) in Stockholm, Sweden; our Clan MacAlpine Society President Michael McAlpin in Georgia; and in Reno, Nevada, Cameron, Heather and Ian McAlpine who all helped with a variety of aspects of the celebration (reservation table, photography, and raffle).

Update on the McAlpin DNA Project at Family Tree DNA

Submitted by: David Hobbs – Project Co-Administrator



Genealogy research in the not so distant past began and ended with a review of the “paper trail” of one’s ancestors. This research met with varying degrees of success depending on the availability of records, their level of accuracy, and the researcher’s commitment and resources for finding this information.

Those conducting genealogical research now have the benefit of DNA testing which, when paired with traditional research methods, in the new field of genetic genealogy can greatly expand one’s understanding of ancestral connections. To assist anyone embarking on such a search is the “barcode” that each of us carries of our heredity. It’s the DNA contributed to us by an impressively long, and wide list of great grandparents. DNA information can help validate paper connections with genetic support and point the way for additional research when a researcher encounters blocks in the paper trail. It also can open up the world of understanding a deeper genetic ancestry by giving us a window into the migration of our great grandmothers and grandfathers in time before surnames and written history began.

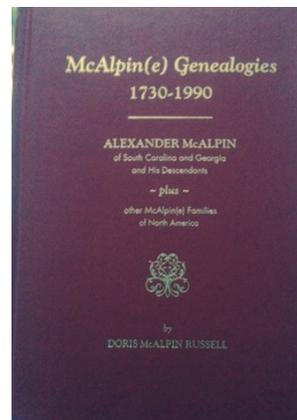
The three most commonly used DNA tests for genealogical research are Y-DNA (patrilateral), mtDNA (matrilateral), and Autosomal (combination of maternal and paternal genetic information). Of these tests the one of most use in developing a greater understanding of the specific ancestral connection of M(a)cAlpin(e)s to Scotland is the Y-DNA test. The McAlpin Surname Project has been growing, but in order to achieve its potential to better describe the genetic history of the Clan it needs the addition of more McAlpin hereditary

lines in the database. To achieve this end we’d like to encourage MacAlpine’s (and those with one of the 80+ variant spellings detailed on the Home page of the Society) to have a male in their patrilineal line tested.

A description of the project and current pricing for genetic tests can be reviewed at: <https://www.familytreedna.com/group-join.aspx?Group=McAlpin>. Given the limitations of the useful inferences that can be derived from the matches with others in the extensive FTDNA database it is recommended that those new to DNA genetic testing consider at least a Y-DNA37 test (a Y-DNA 67 test has been required in the guidelines prepared by the Lord Lyon for those MacAlpine’s wishing to be considered as a possible Chief when the Clan recognition process reaches that step).

If you follow the above link to the McAlpin surname site at Family Tree DNA you will notice other surnames listed in the results. This is explained by the fact that the project is also open to those who have, or want to explore, their hereditary connection to the MacAlpine line. As the project grows subgrouping will automatically be put in place to sort those with genetic connections leading to a clearer picture of the connections of the MacAlpine family tree.

For those interested in learning more about genetic testing for ancestry may I suggest “Understanding genetic ancestry testing” from the International of Society of Genetic Genealogy at: (http://www.isogg.org/wiki/Understanding_genetic_ancestry_testing). I’d also like to recommend a couple of excellent books on the subject with a special focus on Scottish ancestry: Scottish Genealogy, by Brue Durie (who was a presenter at last summer’s AGM in Kilmartin) and The Scots: A Genetic Journey, by Alistair Moffat and James F. Wilson.



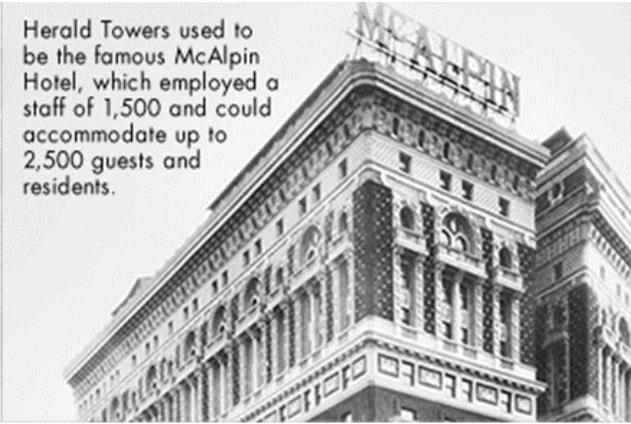
Doris McAlpin Russell has done so much for all the MacAlpines, first, with her years of research on McAlpin(e) Genealogy, published over twenty five years ago, and then by starting off the McAlpin DNA project.

At her recent birthday, thirty of her immediate family were able to gather.

Doris has transitioned the administration of the DNA project on, and we wish her all the happiness. Thank you Doris for all that you do.

The McAlpin Hotel of New York

Herald Towers used to be the famous McAlpin Hotel, which employed a staff of 1,500 and could accommodate up to 2,500 guests and residents.



The McAlpin was the largest hotel in the world, with a Turkish bath, its own orchestra, and more telephones than any other building.

The Hotel McAlpin was constructed in 1912 by General Edwin A. McAlpin, son of David Hunter McAlpin. When opened it was the largest hotel in the world. The New York Times commented that it was so tall at 25 stories that it “seems isolated from other buildings”.

Boasting a staff of 1,500, the hotel could accommodate 2,500 guests. It was built at a cost of \$13.5 million (nearly 300 million in 2010 dollars). The top floor had a Turkish bath and there were two gender-specific floors; women checking into the hotel could reserve a room on the women's only floor and bypass the lobby and check in directly at their own floor. One floor, dubbed the “sleepy 16th” was designed for night workers so that it was kept quiet during the day. It also hosted a travel agency.



The hotel underwent an expansion half a decade later. The owners had purchased an additional 50 feet of frontage on 34th street two years early and proceeded to dismantle those properties. The new addition was the same height as the original 25-story building, and was expected to provide an additional 200 rooms, four more elevators, and a large ballroom. A major refurbishment costing \$2.1 million was completed in 1928 re-



freshing the rooms, installing modern bathrooms and updating the elevators.

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The McAlpin family sold the hotel in 1938 to Jamlee Hotels, for \$5,400,000. Jamlee reportedly invested an additional \$1,760,000 in renovations.

In 1954 Jamlee sold the hotel to Sheraton Hotels for \$9,000,000 and it was renamed the Sheraton-McAlpin, then later the Sheraton-Atlantic Hotel.

It is currently a 700-unit apartment building with spacious residences rental

Thank You For The Donation

Donation to the Society: A McAlpine Family reunion took place in July 2014 in Michigan and raised money for the Society through the purchase of T-shirts.

This is the family of our Treasurer, Kenneth McAlpine, and the event was coordinated by his cousin, John McAlpine. A total of \$275 was donated to the Society for the purpose of furthering our effort to gain recognition of our Clan by Lyon Court in Scotland. The Society extends its appreciation and thanks to all those who made this donation possible.

Flowers of the Forest

John Donald McAlpine, BA, CPA

August 6, 1926 - October 1, 2014



John Donald McAlpine, born August 6, 1926, passed away peacefully in his La Habra home on October 1, 2014, surrounded by family, friends, and his parish priest. A native of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, he earned his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Ontario.

John held title to the first MacAlpine Coat of Arms ever granted in Scotland. The Arms were granted by the Lord Lyon King of Arms in memory of John's father, John Duncan; the Society's Treasurer, Kenneth McAlpine, is heir to the Arms.

The family motto of "Honour-Tradition-Loyalty" served as an ethic to which he personally subscribed throughout his life. The only son of John Duncan and Marie McAlpine, he met and married Theresa Joy Perrault in 1951. With two sets of twins and another son on the way, the family immigrated to Whittier, California, where two more sons followed.

John McAlpine worked in the iconic Capitol Records tower, heading the Royalty and License Department. After fifteen years in the record industry, he went on to make his career as a Certified Public Accountant, becoming a Partner with Gelfand, Rennert and Feldman where he certified "Gold" and "Platinum" record sales for the Recording Industry Association of America and performed royalty audits on behalf of many notable entertainment industry where his business travels took him all across the globe.

He leaves behind his wife of 63 years, Theresa, his twin daughters Joanne McAlpine and Diane McAlpine, and his sons John McAlpine; Kenneth McAlpine and wife Lynn; and David McAlpine and wife Stacy. His grandchildren are John McAlpine Jr, Douglas McAlpine, Alexander McAlpine, Christina Jones, Ralf Schinarl, Riley McAlpine, and Brooke McAlpine. John was a music lover; had early training in piano; and had a beautiful singing voice, ranging from a clear tenor to a respectable bass. He sang with the Chorales, the Whittier chapter of SPEBSQSA, (Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America). He enjoyed deep-sea fishing, stamp and coin collecting. He was a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, (AICPA), and the California Society of CPA's. He will be deeply missed by family and friends, and his memory cherished as a devoted husband; a dedicated father to seven children; a loving grandfather to seven grandchildren; and a devout Catholic.



Clan MacAlpine Society Kilt Pins

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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