



Remember the Death of Alpin

Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

The Worldwide Organization For MacAlpines

2nd Qtr 2015 - Volume 28



Kenneth McAlpine



William McAlpine



Michael McAlpin



Sir William McAlpine



Finn Alpin



Sidney Fay McAlpin



Earl Dale McAlpine



Bruce McAlpine

President's Message

On April 16th, I had the honor of presenting our petition to Lord Lyon.



On May 6th, Lord Lyon assigned Mark Dennis, Esquire, Ormond Pursuivant to our case. Mr. Dennis will pick up our case later in June, and will provide direction regarding next steps.

This is a tipping point in our efforts.

Over the last sixteen years, we have met, discussed, held annual meetings in the US, Canada, and Scotland. We have hosted clan tents, distributed newsletters, developed a web presence, and a Facebook presence. Over 2,500 folks in twenty-two countries have signed our roll call. Our Facebook site has over 600 members. The efforts of our officers and members over fifteen years have brought us to this point. We have united our far dispersed kinfolk.

Our goal now is to follow the Courts legal procedure for recognition of the clan, and to ultimately have a chief. This will not be an easy task, and we should be cautious against haste or expectation of an imminent resolution; we must find a Representer(s) suitable to the Court, and suitable to the family, preferably residing in Scotland. We must assemble the Derbhfine in Scotland under the Court's supervision, and must nominate a Representer or Commander, and the Court must recognize that person.

We are hopeful of a positive outcome, and that we may elect a Commander in late 2016 or 2017.

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UNITE! UNITE! UNITE!

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2015 Clan MacAlpine Society - Annual General Meeting - Las Vegas, NV

We had a wonderful time together in Las Vegas at our annual Clan MacAlpine Society AGM. It was nice to visit a new location. The games were fun and well laid out. Unfortunately, I was not able to take full advantage as I spent much of the weekend not feeling well. I am happy to share with you what I recall from the weekend and specifically the business meeting.

Business Meeting Las Vegas Nevada, April 18, 2015 – Led by President Michael McAlpin

This is our sixteenth AGM. We have eight armigers, and about 2,600 folks who have signed our roll call, from 22 countries. We have published approximately 60 newsletters, established a McAlpine DNA project, and created Facebook presence with over 600 members. We maintain a website, we are members of the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations, and are joining the Scottish Australian Heritage Council. We have officers, and commissioners and have hosted Clan Tents and events in many locations in Canada, Scotland, Europe and the U.S.

Michael said we could wait until we have more members or more armigers, however, as discussed in Kilmartin, the time has come to put the question to the Lyon Court about establishing and recognizing the McAlpine Clan.

Michael did hand deliver our Petition to Lord Lyon on Friday, April 17th, just one day before our AGM. It contains the signatures of 28 MacAlpines:

- 7 from Scotland (including Joan McAlpine, Minister of Scottish Parliament)
- 2 from England (including Sir William)
- 2 from Canada
- 2 from Australia
- 1 from New Zealand,
- 1 from South Africa
- 1 from Sweden
- 12 from the U.S.
- All of our officers and Armigers

The Lord Lyon will review the petition, if it is found in order he will assign a Supervising Officer from the Court to oversee a Family Convention of Clan MacAlpine, not the Clan MacAlpine Society, but Clan MacAlpine. Once accepted, the legal process will be set in motion. We will begin by giving notice in Scotland and abroad that we are seeking Representers to come forward. The Family Council or Derbhfine will have the active role in the process going forward.

There will be many details that we will have to deal with, but we have worked on this as a group for quite some time and will continue in the same direction.

Going forward:

- Acceptance of our petition by Lyon Court and assignment of a Supervising Officer.
- Giving notice of a call for Representers to a broad audience, in Scotland and abroad.
- Putting structure behind the Family Council or Derbhfine. The criteria for attendance have been laid out by the Society, and a

call for attendees has been made. Many have answered and committed. We need to have broad representation from the many branches.

- This working group needs to be formalized, and introduced to each other.
- Developing a Facebook group for the Derbhfine members.
 - With supervision by the Court they will need to determine
 - ◆ How we go down this path,
 - ◆ What credentials are needed
 - ◆ Timing
 - ◆ The criteria for assessing Representers
 - ◆ Speak with a unified voice

As you can see, there is still much work ahead of us.

After the meeting we all met back at the Excalibur Hotel to have dinner together at Bucca di Beppo. I'm told it was delicious! I'm sorry I missed it.

Thank you to all who attended. We are sorry to have missed those who were unable to be there. We will be working now to determine where the next AGM will be held. You will see a survey in the months ahead.

Cheers!
Robin McAlpine
Secretary



UNTO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD LYON KING OF ARMS

APRIL 17, 2015

Petition of the Clan MacAlpine Society for a Family Convention.

WHEREAS it has not been possible to establish an indisputable right to the Chiefship of Clan MacAlpine over a period of fifteen years or so.

WHEREAS it is suggested that a Derbhfine or Family Convention might be an appropriate way by which a Commander could be appointed as leader of Clan MacAlpine.

WE the undersigned as members of the Clan MacAlpine Society hereby Petition that you convene such a Family Convention with the aim of discovering if agreement can be reached regarding the nomination of such a Commander who might then be recognized by yourself as Commander of Clan MacAlpine for a period of 5 years.

The Hon. Sir William McAlpine Bt	Fawley	Henley on Thames	England	Armiger
Michael T McAlpin	Alpharetta	Georgia	U.S.	Armiger
Kenneth McAlpine	Trabuco Highlands	California	U.S.	Armiger
Finn Alpin	U.S. Embassy	Stockholm	Sweden	Armiger
Earl Dale McAlpine	Vista	California	U.S.	Armiger
William McAlpin	Paris	Kentucky	U.S.	Armiger
Sidney F McAlpin	Olympia	Washington	US	Armiger
Bruce Duncan McAlpine	Brighton	Ontario	Canada	Armiger
Joan McAlpine		Dumfries	Scotland	MSP
Alexander McAlpine	Auckland City	Auckland	New Zealand	
Ann McAlpin	Baltimore	Maryland	U.S.	
Calum Dalglish McAlpine	Newlandrig	Midlothian	Scotland	
Christopher Don MacAlpine	Tamworth	New South Wales	Australia	
Douglas McAlpine	Reno	Nevada	U.S.	
Dr. David MacAlpine	Durham	North Carolina	U.S.	
Francis McAlpin	Wantage	Oxfordshire	England	
Graham McAlpine	Muchea	Western Australia	Australia	
John Steele McAlpine	Newlandrig	Midlothian	Scotland	
Joseph Kenneth McAlpine	Kingswells	Aberdeenshire	Scotland	
Malcolm McAlpine	5 Place	Capetown	South Africa	
Margaret McAlpine	Newlandrig	Midlothian	Scotland	
Mark McAlpin	Seattle	Washington	U.S.	
Mary Ann McAlpine Baker	Lansing	Michigan	U.S.	
Mary McAlpine	Loanhead	Midlothian	Scotland	
Michael McAlpin Jr.	Milton	Georgia	U.S.	
Robert Bruce MacAlpine	Woodville	Ontario	Canada	
Robin McAlpine	Vista	California	U.S.	
Rory Dalglish McAlpine	Newlandrig	Midlothian	Scotland	

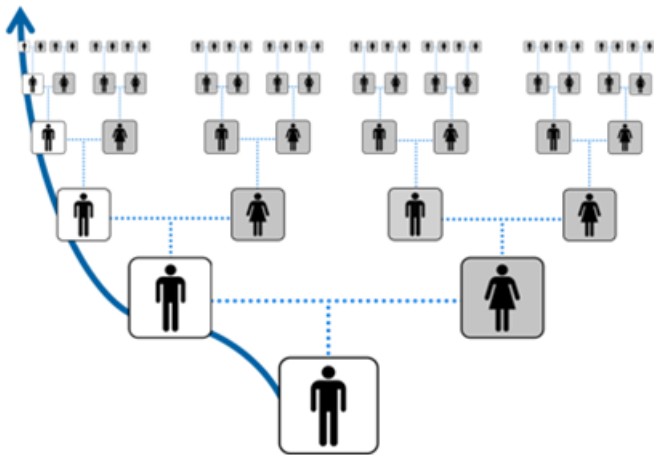
Update on the McAlpin DNA Project at Family Tree DNA



Submitted by David Hobbs, Project Administrator

In follow-up to the last edition of the Society's Newsletter, I wanted to discuss what it means when Family Tree DNA sends an email saying that you have a Y-DNA (paternal line) or mtDNA (maternal line) match.

Given the growing database of those who have had their DNA tested to assist in genealogical research (FTDNA says that "several thousand" are added to their database each month), and that the genetic evidence indicates that we are "all related" through a common ancestor at some time in genealogical past means that FTDNA enrollees will be receiving "matches" messages on a regular basis. Each match alert will contain a reference to the level of connection, a description as to what components of one's tested DNA record match up, with another individual in the FTDNA database.



The most common Y-DNA connections will be at the lowest number of tested "markers" (the locations on chromosomes where different addresses of the genetic code indicate hereditary connection). For example a "genetic distance" of "0" for 12 markers represents an exact match at this basic level. Before you send out a family reunion invitation to a 12-marker match you should consider that this level of connection represents a common ancestor (great grandfather) sometime in the last 29 generation (approximately 700 years) with a 95% probability.

The odds of closer ancestral connection go up as the number of markers tested increases. At the Y-DNA67 level, a "0" genetic distance result would indicate a common ancestor within 7 generations at the 95% probability level. For a more complete table on Y-DNA common ancestor connection analysis go to the "[Paternal Lineages](#)" information page in FT DNA "Beginner's Guide" (not necessary to be registered participant to view these information pages).

For those checking on their maternal ancestry a different type of genetic material is analyzed. To look at the continuous line of grandmothers in one's past the analysis is of DNA in the mitochondria (the "energy factories") of the cells that make up much of our bodies. Matching for mtDNA also proceeds through stages of connection based on the number of the markers reviewed with a matching full sequence representing a common great grandmother at the 95% confidence level within the last 22 generation (550 years). For a more complete review of mtDNA common ancestor connections go to the "[Maternal Lineages](#)" info page in the "Beginner's Guide."

The thousands of individuals joining the FTDNA database each month will be adding to and clarifying the picture of ancestry in both the short (last 5 or so generations) and longer term going back to the time before last names were in use. It's an exciting time for genealogical research for both family tree analysis and for the larger story of human migration and cultural history.

For those interested in the global picture of human relations the National Geographic film "The Journey of Man" is a nice introduction. It is available for on-line viewing at youtube.com.

Note: current number of participants in McAlpin surname project is 41. If you're thinking about participating and thereby helping to "flesh out" the McAlpin/MacAlpine ancestral tree but you have questions about genetic genealogical feel free to drop me an email (dhobbsmw@pacbell.net) as I'd be happy to try to answer or to direct you to where you can get more information.

**Mark D. Dennis, Esquire,
BA, JD, LL M (Cantab.), FSA Scot, FHSS,
Advocate, Ormond Pursuivant of Arms**



Mr. Dennis was born in California in 1950 with dual citizenship in the US and the UK, he is today an Immigration Judge & Mental Health Convener in Scotland, Chairman of the Heraldry Society of Scotland, President of the Permanent Bureau of the Congreses Internationaux de la Sciences Genealogique et Heraldique, a very distinguished Scots heraldist and artist, Member of the Royal Scottish Pipers Society and Trustee of the St. Andrews Preservation Trust. He was appointed to the post of Ormond Pursuivant in 2009. Mr. Dennis is the author of a number of heraldic texts and a frequent lecturer in the topic, He is also the Chair of the Heraldry Society of Scotland, winner of the de Moffarts Prize for Heraldic Art and Chair of the St Andrews Fund for Scots Heraldry.

The Ormond Pursuivant is one of six officers of arms who assist the Lord Lyon in jurisdiction over heraldic matters in Scotland as well as on ceremonial occasions. The Ormond Pursuivant takes his name from the Castle of Ormond.

Although the position was probably created around 1475 when King James III of Scotland made his second son, James, Marquess of Ormond, the first mention of an Ormond Pursuivant doesn't occur until 1488. Since that time there have been 23 Ormond Pursuivants, but the office became vacant in 1879 and was not filled again until 1971.

**President's Message
(Continues From Page 1)**

Our Annual General Meeting was held at the Las Vegas Celtic Gathering and Highland Games at Floyd Lamb State Park in Las Vegas on April 18th. This continues our tradition of moving the location around from year to year to distribute the opportunity to attend. We had kinsmen from six states taking time to attend, notably; four of our eight armigers were in attendance. The weather was perfect. A special thanks to our host Robin McAlpine who did a great job with the arrangements.

I am also quite pleased to announce that Christopher McAlpine is our new Commissioner for Australia and New Zealand, and that the Society has joined the Scottish Australian Heritage Council, which is similar to COSCA in the United States.

Also, Gary McAlpine is our new Commissioner for Texas and Oklahoma. It is good to see all the momentum in the Society.

Our thanks go out to our UK Commissioner, John Gilpin for his generous donation to our efforts.

On a sad note Doris McAlpin Russell passed on June 2nd. Doris was a champion of McAlpin(e) genealogy, and had been the administrator of our DNA project. She will be missed.

In kinship,
Michael T McAlpin
President

Dr. Bruce Durie

Dr. Durie has been assisting us in our efforts; many of our members met him in Scotland when he came to speak at our 2014 AGM. Our heartiest Congratulations to him.



For immediate release: 12 May 2015

SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS FULBRIGHT AWARD TO THE USA

Fulbright Scottish Studies Scholar Award announced Dr. Bruce Durie, internationally recognized as one of Scotland's top genealogists, has been granted the prestigious Fulbright Scottish Studies Scholar Award. This will enable him to spend seven months researching and teaching at an American University, on one of the most prestigious and selective scholarship programmes



The 48th Annual Alma Celtic Festival and Highland Games were held May 23rd and 24th in Alma Michigan.



This year, as always, the tent is very well appointed, and our Michigan contingent was well represented. We held our AGM there in 2008.

Standing L to R: Guy Baker, Emmajean Baker, Don McDonald, Jackie McAlpine McDonald, Mary Ann McAlpine Baker, Jeff Baker. Seated: Laura McAlpine, Ken G. McAlpine



Hawaiian Scottish Festival . . . Submitted by Dave Stevens



The 34th Annual Hawaiian Scottish Festival was held April 11th and 12th, 2015 at McCoy Pavilion at Ala Moana Beach Park in Honolulu. The pavilion is right on the beach, and the weekend activities were complimented by perfect 85 degree weather.

The Clan MacAlpine was well represented, and helped visitors find their family names on the clan map and look up some of their history on the internet.



Pleasanton Highland Games September 5-6



The Caledonian Club of San Francisco's Sesquicentennial Scottish Highland Gathering & Games takes place at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton on September 5 - 6, 2015

Tickets, souvenir Shirts and Games Pins for the 150th Pleasanton Games are now available on their website at www.thescottishgames.com.

If you are coming to the Games, which I hope you will, you are strongly urged to buy your tickets and merchandise NOW rather than waiting until the last minute.

The Clan MacAlpine Society Tent will be in space 180. Hope to see you there



Flowers of the Forest

Doris Sue McAlpin Russell
December 24, 1934 – June 2, 2015

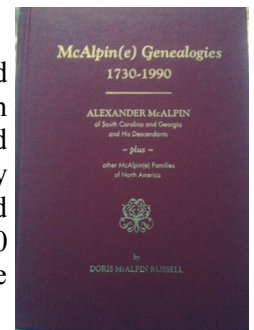
Submitted by her cousin, Earl (Dale) McAlpine Jr., Vice President, Clan MacAlpine Society

We are saddened with the news of Doris Sue McAlpin Russell passing.

Doris was born in rural Cleburne County, Alabama and moved to Huntsville Alabama in 1957. She was the daughter of Bruce E. and Thelma Whitley McAlpin.

She met and married her husband, James, while a student at Jacksonville State University where she was a Business major and a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Fraternity. She and James moved to Huntsville in 1957 where both were employed by the Army Ballistic Missile Agency. James and Doris started their family later that year. As a devoted mother, Doris spent much of her time volunteering for activities such as School First Aid Worker, PTA, Girl Scout mother and Huntsville Hospital Senior Horizons. She also served for a number of years as the Director of Senior Adult Activities for Calvary Bible Church and was a member of the Gideon's Auxiliary.

She researched and published "McAlpin(e) Genealogies 1730 to 1990", a history of the life and descendants of the Alexander McAlpin(e) of South Carolina and most other McAlpin families in the US. The book is recognized as an authoritative source for historical records. It was sold throughout the US and many other countries. With over twenty years of research on the family lines of McAlpin(e)s, she was helpful in bringing many scattered families together. I first found out about Doris on ancestry.com and emailed her back in April of 2007. Since then we had over 60 emails and many phone conversations that were instrumental in helping me find my McAlpine roots and achieving the approval and granting of my Arms from the Lord Lyon of Scotland.



Doris also began the McAlpin(e) DNA project on Family Tree DNA and was the administrator until last year.

In addition, Doris researched and established her lineage for membership in several patriotic organizations such as Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Colonial Dames of XVII Century, United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC), Descendants of the War of 1812 and Magna Carta Dames. She was active and held responsible leadership positions in all those organizations.

Doris was best known for her love of family and of God. She also had a heart for the underprivileged and actively supported the Downtown Rescue Mission and Salvation Army activities for the needy.

Survivors include her husband of 60 years, James W. Russell; children, Susan Russell Dove (Michael), Linda Russell McAllister (Michael), and Sherri Russell Brown; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Doris will be greatly missed, however her contributions to our family will go on for generations.



Clan MacAlpine Society 2016 AGM, What to do, what to do...

Hello folks! It's been five years since we last held AGM in Canada and in keeping with our five-year rotation in Canada, it would be time to go back in 2016.

We have two recommendations from our Canadian Commissioner Bruce McAlpine. We had a wonderful time in Fergus in 2011 but Uxbridge would be a new adventure. So we'll put it up for a vote, along with some non-Canadian locations.

We will set up a survey and post it on Facebook. If you have additional suggestions for locations please contact Dale at earlmc Alpine@yahoo.com

Elgin Park, Uxbridge, Canada, Highlands of Durham Games, July 23th & 24th 2016

Drive time 1 hour from Toronto Airport to Uxbridge or 53 miles. Hotels & BB's within ½ hour drive.



Fergus, Canada, Scottish Festival and Highland Games, August 6 & 7th of 2016.

Drive time 1-1/4 hour from Toronto Airport to Fergus or 67 miles. Hotels & BB's with in ½ hour drive.



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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