

Remember Those From Whom You Came

Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

The Worldwide Organization For MacAlpines
4th Quarter 2021 ~ Volume 54



Kenneth
McAlpine



William
McAlpin



Michael
McAlpin



Finn
Alpin



Mark S.C.
McAlpin



Earl
McAlpine



Bruce
McAlpine

Commander's News

The Stone Mountain Games went very well, it almost felt like things were normal. The Games made some very effective changes to place more distance between the clan tents, and they relocated the vendors. It was a well-organized event, and a great opportunity to get out, enjoy our heritage, and tell our story. We had many members at the tent over the weekend

Through some generous special donations to the Society, we have sent £500 to the Kilmartin Community for the maintenance and upkeep of the Green area in front of the Kilmartin Church and graveyard. Thanks to those who generously donated to this project. We will continue to look for opportunities to support the local community.



Our local St Andrews Day dinner was canceled, so a few of us kilted up and celebrated Carolyn's birthday in grand style.

Reviewing our past newsletters, I saw again what had impressed me in the first place: a respect, even reverence, for the past and an acknowledgement of its living presence and the importance of our extended family.

We have a truly compelling story of where our ancestors were from, how they lived, and why they left. The hardships they were exposed to were incredible by today's standards. Perhaps that is why we are such sturdy stock.

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

Nollaig Chridheil
Merry Christmas

Michael T McAlpin
Commander, Name of MacAlpine

Cnuic `is uillt `is Ailpeinich
Hills and streams and MacAlpine

President's News

Greetings Family and Friends!

I trust you are all doing well and busy with family and friends during this holiday season. Robin and I were in MO for Thanksgiving and early December but will be heading back to warm FL before Christmas. We hope to see some of you at the AGM at the Central Florida Highland Games on January 15, 2022.



You may recognize this iconic symbol as the national flag of Scotland. The flag has a white saltire on a blue background and is one of the oldest flags from the Dark Ages. The Saltire, rather than the Royal Standard of Scotland, is the correct flag for all private individuals and corporate bodies to fly. It is also flown from Scottish Government buildings



every day from 8:00 am until sunset, with certain exceptions.

It is believed, that prior to a battle that took place in the year 832AD near East Linton, an army of Picts, under Angus mac Fergus, High King of Alba, with support by the Scots led by Eochaidh, grandfather to Kenneth mac Alpin, that King Angus led a prayer for victory.

The king was rewarded with the site of a cloud formation of a white, diagonal cross against a clear, blue sky. This reminded the king of St. Andrew, who had been crucified on a fallen cross. With his victory, King Angus named St. Andrew the patron saint of Scotland, and the Saint Andrews Cross became the national flag of Scotland.

Under the rule of Kenneth mac Alpin, the tradition continued as it does to this day.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Dale and Robin McAlpine



The Arms of Thomas William David McAlpin

Submitted by Robin McAlpine

This is the fourth in a series of articles relating to the MacAlpine arms.

Thomas William David McAlpin,
fourth son of Alexander McAlpin and Sarah, 1768 – 1850.

As his parents moved back and forth between South Carolina and Georgia, he could have been born in either location. By the early 1790's he was in Tennessee. He served in Tedford's Company of Knox Count., Tennessee as a Private. It appears he followed his older brother, Alexander Jr. to Tennessee.

In 1798 he shows on the tax roll in Oglethrope County, Georgia. In 1801 he served as power of attorney for his brother Alexander in order to sell some of his property in Georgia. He and his wife Agnes also sold their property in Georgia and prepared to move back to Tennessee.

Records indicate he was living in Lincoln County when Thomas served in the War of 1812. After a few years he moved again to McNairy, Tennessee where he resided until his death. He was the father of nine and a farmer in McNairy, Tennessee.



Blazon

Blazon Azure on a bend of Argent between two garbs Or a sword point upward Azure enfiled with an antique crown Or all within a bordure engrailed Or charged with three marlets Azure

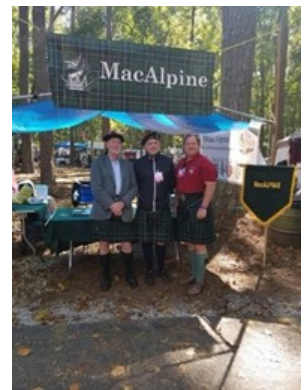
Page 107, of the 89th volume of the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland.



Stone Mountain Highland Games October 15-17, 2021



The weather was perfect, and we had so much activity at the Clan Tent. Many new members were there, and all were made welcome. What a terrific opportunity to share something of our past.



Dunamuck Farm

Dunamuck Farm is a little less than one mile from Kilmichael Glassary.

As elsewhere in the Kilmartin Glen, there are standing stones at Dunamuck.



Dunamuck Farm with Dunadd in the background.



Whereas the MacAlpines may have been early landholders in the area, the lands passed through many hands.

In the 1570's Eáin Mac Donnchaidh Mhic Ailpeín (John Duncan MacAlpine) held the land as a vassal. Upon his death, the Earl of Argyll confirmed his son, Donnchadh Mac Ailpín (Duncan McAlpine) as the rightful heir on January 4th, 1608.

Dunamuck can be visited today, Parking is available on the A816 road, from here walk through a gate and head north across the field, you will need to cross a small burn. Follow the well-marked footpath entering the field containing the Dunamuck, South stone pair and then walk northwest alongside the field boundary. A farm track can then be taken to that heads towards the Northern standing stone visible some 350m to the northeast.



MacAlpine Burials

There are many MacAlpines buried in the churchyards of Kilmory, Kilmichael, Kilmartin and others, there are also many that are buried near the farm or village where they worked and lived. Some are unmarked, others marked with only a stone. Succeeding generations often repurposed the stones.

One such burial cairn lies south of Achahoish on the road towards Castle Sween. The cairn was originally placed in 1720 for John Wheat and his wife Isabel. It was later repurposed by Archibald and Duncan MacAlpine to memorialize their parents and is marked for John MacAlpine (died May 5th 1823), and his wife Catherine Whyte (died January 24th, 1823).

Iona and Saint Oran's Mound



Iona Abbey was founded by St Columba and his Irish followers in AD 563 and became the cradle of Christianity in Scotland.

Situated on the Isle of Iona on the West Coast of Scotland, the abbey is one of the oldest and most important religious centres in Western Europe. The abbey was a focal point for the spread of Christianity throughout Scotland and marks the foundation of a monastic community by St. Columba when Iona formed part of the Kingdom of Dál Riata.

An inventory taken in 1549 recorded 48 kings buried at St. Oran's Mound, a short distance from the Abby. A tradition of royal burial from Kenneth MacAlpin to MacBeth only broken twice, Constantine II, who was buried at St Andrews and then Malcolm Canmore who lies at Dunfermline. The last king to be buried on Iona was Malcolm III's brother, Donald Bane, before Malcolm's son, King Edgar, surrendered the island to Magnus, King of Norway in 1098 AD.

Above

The doorway of St. Oran's Chapel on Iona, where legend says that Oran, one of Columba's followers was buried alive in order to consecrate the ground for the building.

Right

Durart Castle on Mull
And
St. Orans Mound on Iona

Following our 2014 AGM in Kilmartin we took an excursion to Oban, Mull, and Iona.



Right

Natural wear, vandalism and souvenir hunting caused the tombstones to be relocated inside the Abby.

Below

1849 sketch of the burial ground at St. Oran's Mound before the tombstones were rearranged with some being placed in the Abby. The locations of the buried Kings have been lost.



The Ruins of the Wood Vinegar Factory at Crinan



The village of Crinan is about 7 miles south and west of Kilmartin on Loch Crinan, it overlooks the Sound of Jura, and from it you can see the island of Jura, just a short distance away.

Known as the "Vinegar Factory" the pyroligneous acid works was built at Crinan in 1824. Here they converted wood into charcoal and extracted acetic acid out of oak and birch, collecting the "wood vinegar" (mostly a watery acetic acid) for use as a mordant (colour fixer) in the dyeing of cloth, and as a preservative for bacon and herring.

Crinan was an ideal location for the factory, as boats could come and go with ease and the factory required large amounts of timber. Consequently, there were many employees carting timber in, and product out, and the factory was so successful that they used up all the local timber and had to bring timber in by boat.



Hugh McAlpine and his sister Jean worked there and lived in one of the two thatched cottages adjacent to the works. The tall brick chimney of the vinegar factory is still visible.



Flowers of the Forest



Immense sadness' as longest serving clan chief in Scots history passes after after 70- year reign as Chief of Clan Farquharson

War hero Captain Alwyne Farquharson's actions during the Second World War earned him the Military Cross - which at the time was the second highest honour next to the Victoria Cross - and he took part in the D-Day landings that helped liberate Europe from Nazi rule.

Following the war he moved to Aberdeenshire's Invercauld Estate and took up the role of Chieftain of the Clan Farquharson.

He was a well-known face on the Highland Games circuit in the north-east of Scotland and would appear dressed in full Highland regalia to watch the events and hobnob with Royals who often attend.

Even as he aged, Farquharson would still make trips north to Aberdeenshire - including the annual gathering at Braemar, home of Braemar Castle, the seat of Clan Farquharson.

If These Walls Could Talk

By Laura McAlpine

"We're going to the farm!" was often shrieked out when we were young. Being one of nine children, the farm was our family vacation taken yearly from Detroit, MI to Glencoe, Ontario Canada. I'm shocked to find out it's only a 90 mile distance when it seemed like we traveled forever on those trips. Now, what was so great about the farm, you ask? Let me tell you!



The farm was built in 1850 or so, and replaced a family farm that burnt to the ground. While I'm sure there are some better pictures among my family somewhere, this is the best I have to show. The first of my grandfather's siblings was born in 1877 and my grandfather, Robert Kinnon McAlpine was born in this house in 1893.

When my grandfather was a young man in his 20's he came to Detroit to look for a way to make a living. But the farm, which eventually became fully his, stayed in the family and as mentioned, was our family vacation destination for many years. This vacation home wasn't just for our family, but for 10 siblings in my Dad's generation. Often their families would go to the farm when we were there and we loved it. "What fun!" we thought but I honestly think it was twice the work for my mom with no running water, electricity or a grocery store within a reasonable distance.

But, if these walls could talk I imagine they would tell tales of endless Euchre games, board games, story telling and screams of laughter and fear. Cousins sleeping on the parlor floor from end to end and often someone would be getting up in the night, using a flashlight to tiptoe a child needing to go to the outhouse or use a make shift chamber pot in the screened porch.

Uncles would arrive in the dark of the evening and show up outside the windows with flashlights shining under their chins until an unsuspecting child would spot the creepy shadow, scream and then burst into laughter into the night. The good times in the 50's and 60's are a far cry from what's considered fun today but all was done in fun and love and each year we looked for these scary encounters to occur again! These walls would tell stories of children running in and out, playing in the crick, dodging cow pies in the fields (often unsuccessfully), and pumping water at the windmill. Over the years, aunts used to clean out the trough and scrub it with bleach so children could use it as a makeshift swimming pool, and swim we did! And in my minds eye, I still see myself having a stare off with a Bessie in the field looking at me as I sat in the outhouse staring at her! And oh, how the night sky was a theater of stars where we'd oohh and ahhh while constellations were pointed out and shooting stars raced across the sky much to our delight. An old rope swing hung from a large tree in the yard butting up to an old decrepit barn beckoning for attention and squeals from any number of children looking for something to do. Some years we would go to town as a family and get to have ice cream from the Dairy Bar or the little market across the street and in the 50's and 60's, that was a real treat! On another occasion my Dad thought it would be an adventure for us to visit the slaughter house. I'll never forget it!

Our memories run deep for this old house. I especially remember a bitterly cold day in February 1963, huddling inside the farm house that was heated only by a stove, as our family gathered to toast the memory of our grandfather laid to rest in the cemetery a few miles down the road.

As the years went by, somewhere in the 80's the farm eventually was sold off and was no longer in the family. But the buyer was so gracious that whenever the McAlpine's were in Glencoe for any reason, she welcomed the intruders that would drive up the lane and recollect every memory as if it were yesterday.

Continued on Page 9

If These Walls Could Talk . . . *Continued from Page 8*



These are our great grandparents - Violet McIntyre McAlpine and Duncan McAlpine. They were born in Canada but Duncan's parents, Donald and Catherine Leitch McAlpine, emigrated from the Auld Sod - Lochgilphead Scotland around 1832. An original farm was built and as mentioned before, burned to the ground around 1850. Duncan, with other family members, rebuilt the farm that we grew up knowing and loving. After my grandfather came to the US in the early 20's, he married my grandmother Florence Riddell, whose own family was also from the Glencoe area. Children followed in short order and after my father, Kenneth George was born on October 8th, 1929, the stock market crash altered the whole world and so grandpa loaded up my grandmother and 4 young children to reside at the farm. Grandpa would go back to Detroit during the week to work and return to the farm most weekends to be with his family. Can you imagine my young grandmother with 4 very young children, all alone on the farm? Using lanterns to see, a wood stove to cook and a pot belly stove for heat - how did she do it all? I'm amazed at her tenacity, but something tells me that was the order of the day for most women during the depression. Through the next few years, one or maybe 2 of my uncles began school in the 1-room schoolhouse on Townline Rd, at the same school I believe that my grandfather attended. So many generations of family lived in that old farm house that we loved and I'm sure there are many stories in the rafters that will never be known. Sadly, in the mid-70's there was a string of break-ins occurring in the surrounding area and our farm did not escape the violation. The old mantle was torn off the wall, and the pot belly stove was torn out from under the pipes which were left hanging from the ceiling. Many pieces of sentimental family furniture disappeared too. A picture that hung on the

wall for years of our great-grandmother as a beautiful young woman was taken in the melee and Dad and I often wondered as we traveled to and from Florida each year, if we'd find her photo on a wall of a Cracker Barrel Restaurant.



The decrepit barn that we were forbidden to enter is shown in the background of this picture (right) of my Aunt Violet and cousins Rob and Craig, and to the right is the tree where a rope swing hung calling out to children asking to be played in again.

This is a picture (left) of my grandparents with Aunt Violet and Aunt Janet as toddlers standing in the lane of the farm in the early 40's. Look how dressed up my grandparents were! Maybe they'd been to church or to another event that was dress worthy. Or maybe, they dressed up for a picture! I'll never know.



Finally, the farm we dearly loved, was loved by it's new owner so much, that she carefully restored it to a year round livable structure and carefully landscaped the yard into a beautiful setting. That yard never looked so pretty! The old barn went down but the farm still stands and it's one of the last two structures still standing of it's type in Ontario Canada. The last time I was there was in 2010 or so as we bid adieu to another beloved uncle and once again we paraded up the lane for a moment of drinking in the scents, sounds and memories that forever are mine.



Society Member Joins Prestigious Fellowship



Finn Stavnsbo Alpin FSA Scot

Finn has been elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (FSA Scot)



Finn is a member of our Executive Board as Member at Large

The *Society of Antiquaries* of SCOTLAND was founded in 1780 and it was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1783. It is the second oldest antiquarian society in Britain. The purpose of the *Society* is set out in the first of its Laws '*...the Study of the Antiquities and History of Scotland, more especially by means of Archaeological Research*'; the *Society* today is concerned with every aspect of the human past in Scotland.

The *Society* is an active body. Members have, from the beginning, been known as *Fellows of the Society*, and there are now some three thousand *Fellows* around the world, as well as twenty-five *Honorary Fellows* elected for their outstanding scholarship. Membership is by election, held annually on St Andrew's day, 30th November; it is open to all with an interest in the history and archaeology of Scotland.

As the senior antiquarian body in Scotland, the *Society* has an important role in the cultural life and heritage of Scotland. It draws on a wide range of experience through the *Fellowship*, and provides an impartial voice independent of the opinions of Government, University, or Agency. The *Society* is often consulted on different matters relating to the heritage, and it is represented on many committees and councils including the Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland. Membership of the *Society* enables *Fellows* to play a part in safeguarding the Scottish past.

Admission to the *Society* is by election. Elections are held annually on St Andrew's Day, 30th November. The names of those seeking admission are circulated to the *Fellowship* before that meeting, and candidates are advised of the outcome of the election shortly after the ballot.

The society was founded in 1780 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1783, with the aim of investigating antiquities and natural and civil history in general with the intention that "the talents of mankind should be cultivated" and that the study of "natural and useful sciences should be promoted". Past illustrious fellows of the society include Sir Walter Scott and Dr John Alexander Smith.

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.



Merry Christmas
Nollaig Chridheil

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



\$10.00 + 4.95 Shipping
Available in store on Society website at www.macailpein.com
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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