

# Remember Those from Whom You Came

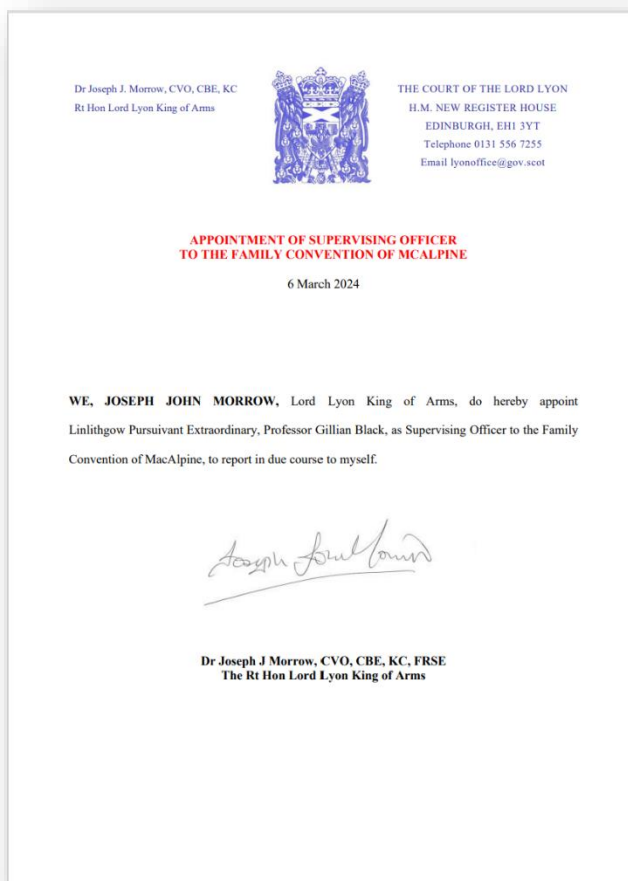
Newsletter for The House of MacAlpine

The Worldwide Organization for MacAlpine's



Second Quarter 2024 ~ Volume 64

## News Worth Repeating...



Women of the House of MacAlpine! How many times have you thought you'd like to be counted? So many historical moments were documented by the number of men in attendance or signatures of men to make the "thing" happen? Your chance to strengthen the Name of MacAlpin(e) as a formidable and true family of Scotland is merely a touch of your fingertip or ink pen. Much work has been done over the last many years and as you've read through the past newsletters, it's been a lengthy and painstaking process. And now, we need you.

As you may have heard, we have been working for many years to seat a Chief of the name MacAlpine and you all play an important role in this quest.

How? If you're a MacAlpine by marriage, then encourage your husband to be active and register to sign the petition and vote, once we send out the request for action.

If you were born a MacAlpine and have since married and changed your name to that of your husband, we need to add you to our roll call using both your maiden name and married name. While there can only be one vote per household (by address), being born a MacAlpine woman gives you a voice.

But registration must happen in order to sign the petition. It takes a bit of time to get everyone on board, so we're asking you now to get this completed so we're ready when the voting date comes along. Send your details please to [mclaura.248@gmail.com](mailto:mclaura.248@gmail.com). Note "House of MacAlpine" in the subject line.

So please, don't delay, and register today!

## Commander's Note

The games season is upon us, and MacAlpine's are at more locations than ever. Should you be interested in hosting a tent somewhere, our tent kit has been revised, with more materials, and so far, it has been very well received. Stop by and join in the festivities.

It is always encouraging to hear from our extended family. We receive messages on a regular basis from someone who has read the newsletter and was then incited to send in what they know of their family connections. It is genuinely surprising how many can document their ancestors to the Kilmartin area.

As noted last quarter, the Lyon Court will be supervising a MacAlpine Family Convention at a date yet to be determined in 2027 for the purpose of proposing a Chief of the Name. After twenty-five years of work, we are hopeful of a positive outcome.

We are following closely the several Court supervised Family Conventions currently underway.

The MacEwens, seeking to nominate a Chief of the Name, will hold their meeting in June this year, the Ewings, also seeking a Chief of the Name will meet in September this year. The Logans will be nominating a Commander in April 2025. We wish all of them success in their efforts.

As Commander of the Name of MacAlpine, I encourage anyone who considers him or herself a suitable candidate for Chief to make themselves known to the Society as soon as possible so that we can get everything sorted before our Family Convention in 2027.

Please contact our Secretary Laura McAlpine at [mclaura.248@gmail.com](mailto:mclaura.248@gmail.com) or Laura McAlpine 02/15 Erboll Place Glasgow Scotland G226PA0/2

We will continue awarding scholarships/grants to help further studies in the Scottish Arts, including but not limited to piping, highland drumming, highland dance, fiddle, and Gaelic language study. If you are aware of a qualified applicant, please let us know by September 1st. Notify our Secretary Laura McAlpine at [mclaura.248@gmail.com](mailto:mclaura.248@gmail.com) or Laura McAlpine 02/15 Erboll Place Glasgow Scotland G226PA0/2



Le gach deagh dhùrachd

With every good wish,

Michael T McAlpin

Commander

Name of MacAlpine



## President's Letter

It has been a great opening for the Highland Games season. We have hosted several tents already and have been happy to greet old and new members of our family. Make sure you mark your calendars to visit us at events listed further down in the newsletter.

We have much going on in the background with the board in planning our family convention for 2027. **MacAlpine born women**, make sure you get registered with our secretary Laura, as requested on the first page of the newsletter. This is an important time for us as a family and every vote counts and EVERY vote matters. Please reach out to Laura with your contact information as soon as you are able. DO IT NOW! PLEASE..

Many thanks to those who have stepped up to support the family by volunteering in multiple areas. Hosting of tents, newsletter articles, behind the scenes work. Every single one of you is so important in the furthering of our mission to educate folks about our Scottish history. If you have any ideas you'd like to share, we are open to hear them and consider them.

In Kinship,

Dale



Commander: Michael T. McAlpin  
Society Board Members:  
President: Earl Dale McAlpine  
Vice President: Mark SC McAlpin  
Secretary: Laura McAlpine  
Treasurer: Teala Pennel  
Membership: Robin McAlpine  
Member At Large: Fin Stavnsbo Alpin  
Newsletter Editor: Robin McAlpine

## The Homestead Project –

### Duncan McAlpine Schoolmaster at Laphroaig

Submitted by  
Mark S.C. McAlpin  
Sennachie elect

#### **Another good reason to savor an Island malt!**

If your taste runs to Laphroig Single Malt, with its tastes of smoked paprika, some mango and freshly dug peat, with a generous taste of bitter smoke, maybe there is a deep seated connection.

Behind the Laphroig Distillery, is the Bleak House, where Schoolmaster Duncan McAlpine held classes at Laphroaig

Duncan was the brother Neil McAlpine of Gaelic Dictionary fame, who also taught school at Kilmeny.



The Bleak House at Laphroaig, Islay

## The Homestead Project – McAlpins at Poltalloch Farm

Submitted by  
Mark S.C. McAlpin  
Sennachie elect

Poltalloch Farm is located about five miles west of Kilmartin around Duntrune Castle. The farm is part of the Old Poltalloch estate, which includes a country house and pavilion dating back to the 18th century. The house, unfortunately, is now in ruins. The farm and the surrounding estate were the principal residence of the MacCallum or Malcolm family from the 16th century until they purchased Duntrune Castle from the Campbells in 1796.

The Poltalloch House, about two and a half miles south and west of Kilmartin is part of the estate. Now in ruins, it is a large Jacobean mansion of two storeys, designed by William Burn in the 1830s. Although it was stripped and unroofed in the 1950s and is now a shell, it remains a testament to the architectural style of the period.

Many MacAlpines lived and worked on the Poltalloch Estate, amongst them was Donald McAlpin. He was born in 1796 at Poltalloch Farm. He was the son of Malcom Hugh McAlpine and Mary Curry. Donald's father, Malcom, was born in Lochgilphead and christened in Kilmartin on June 17, 1753.

Donald married Mary McKellar on January 24, 1817, in Lochgilphead. At that time, Donald was employed at Clachan Farm, which is now known as the Loch Fyne Oyster Bar. Over the years, Donald farmed at various locations, including Achnasellach farm near present-day Lochgilphead, Culintrach farm in Skipness, and Strandour farm.

Donald and Mary had a daughter, Margaret, born in 1817 at Achriah Farm, Kilmorich, Argyll, and a son, Malcom, born in 1834 at Strandour farm. The family lived in Skipness in 1841, where Donald worked as a laborer on the Oragaig farm.

After their time in Skipness, Donald and Mary embarked on a new journey. They emigrated to Canada, appearing on the 1851 census in Southwold Township, Ontario.



Poltalloch House, General view of house in gutted state

# The Homestead Project – McAlpins at Poltalloch Farm continued



## Congratulations to Clan McEwen

Borrowed from Facebook as submitted by Ross McEwen

Sir John McEwen of Marchmont & Bardrochat was nominated as the new Chief of MacEwen via a unanimous vote at the Clan's Family Convention which took place at Otter Ferry on Saturday 8th June, and was Chaired by The Hon. Adam Bruce, Marchmont Herald at the Court of the Lord Lyon.

The matter has now been passed to Lord Lyon for approval.

Clan MacEwen has been without a Chief for 575 years.

(Pictured here with Lady McEwen, during the Gathering dinner)



## Savannah Scottish Games – May 4th, 2024

Submitted by  
Charles McAlpine  
Coastal Carolina

As we started to kick off the spring season with games around the southeast, we added a new venue to expand our reach and exposure. This year we hosted a tent in Savannah, the oldest and second largest city in the state of Georgia. What a wonderful experience! If you have never visited Savannah before, you should put it on your list! It is unique, and the city has done an excellent job of preserving the history and beauty of pre-Colonial days with town squares, parks, Spanish moss, carriage rides etc. Side note: The MacAlpine name is famous in the city, as most of the bricks and decorative wrought iron works you see were manufactured by a famous MacAlpine! (Henry McAlpin 1777-1851).

The Highland Games in Savannah are rapidly growing and has *doubled* their attendance from last year. I can see why. The venue for the games is on the campus of historic Bethesda Academy, founded in 1740. It's difficult to accurately describe this beautiful setting. It is surrounded by majestic oak trees that are hundreds of years old. Their branches extend out in all directions covered with Spanish moss. As you enter the campus, you walk through a brick archway and down the main entrance under an incredible canopy of oak tree branches. Every walkway throughout the campus is like walking through a tunnel with the majestic trees providing their shade. The games are in an open area in the middle of a large circle pathway also surrounded by trees, and the clan tents are set up under the canopy. As you walk further down the pathways to the entertainment, food, and vendor sections, you walk through a hedge row to the stage where the highland dancers compete. The stage is constructed on the bank of the historic Moon River, made famous by the song sung by Audrey Hepburn in the movie "Breakfast at Tiffany's." Everywhere you turn, you will find yourself saying "OMG, I can't believe this place!"

Our tent was hosted by Charles McAlpine with wife Sheryl McAlpine and daughter Keelin McAlpine. We were also joined by Michael Crooms who traveled up from Tallahassee FL. We were in an awesome spot right next to the border collie exhibition and the pipe band competition. Directly in front of us was the heavy athletics, and tug of war (a crowd favorite). We could see it all from both sides of our site! Our tent was configured so you could walk through and see everything. It was well decorated and really looked great. We received a lot of compliments from the game's administrators on the professional and classy presentation. (Thank you, Michael McAlpin, for sending me the starter kit.)

As we continue to grow and expand our exposure over on the southeastern US coast, I am proud to see us include the great cities of Savannah and Charleston. This area has a very rich Scottish heritage with many of its founders originating from Scotland (and Ireland). Celtic pride is strong in the area as evidenced by Savannah's famous St. Patrick's Day celebration, and rapidly expanding Scottish Games and festival immediately after. It is an incredible event to put on your bucket list next year! I hope to see you there!



## Savannah Scottish Games – May 4th, 2024 continued



McAlpine family in Savannah Ga. Charles and Sheryl McAlpine with daughter Keelin McAlpine. Ready to march in the parade. We were joined by Michael Croom who came up from Tallahassee Fl. to hang out with us.



## The 63<sup>rd</sup> Fair Hill Scottish Games May 18, 2024

For over 60 years the Fairview Games have celebrated Scottish heritage in the Delaware and Maryland area. Originally

Held at the Fairgrounds in Elkton, Maryland we had typically Scottish weather, which dampened those attending, but not their enthusiasm.



The MacAlpine Tent was hosted by Donald Ross McAlpine, Donald McAlpine and Kayla McAlpine.



## Greenville Highland Games

Held on the grounds at Furman University, the Greenville Games have a great location, every Clan Tent has a perfect view of the field where pipers, athletes and a terrific tribute to the military is performed.

A special tribute for this Memorial Day Event included US military and members of the Royal Highland Fusiliers, with flyovers and parachute drops.



# Greenville Highland Games (continued)



## Loch Norman Highland Games

The Loch Norman Highland Games, held at historic Rural Hill outside of Huntersville North Carolina just celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the MacAlpine's were well represented at the games. Saturday was a beautiful day, and although mother nature wasn't cooperative on Sunday, a good time was had by all.



It was delightful to meet up with Iain Donald MacGillivray, Commander of Clan MacGillivray. I had last met with him at the Inverness Highland Games in Scotland. Not often are there two Commanders on the same field. Iain was there in conjunction with his band the Tannahill Weavers. (Iain is on the right). Their music is great.



## Bressuire Highland Games (France) – 2024

Submitted by Marc Joyau MacAlpine

Every two years (Cf. CMS\_2022\_2nd\_Qtr), Scottish games take place at the Château de Bressuire (France). This year, the 12th edition was held on June 15 and 16, and House of MacAlpine was well represented there.



Marc and Barnabé Joyau MacAlpine

A vibrant poster for the 'WEEK-END CELTIQUE - 15-16 JUN 2024' Highland Games. The main title 'HIGHLAND GAMES' is in large, bold, blue letters. Below it, the location 'CHÂTEAU DE BRESSUIRE (79)' is written. The poster features a central image of a man in a kilt holding a large wooden staff, with other people in kilts and a Scottish flag in the background. At the bottom, it lists activities: 'SPORT', 'MUSIQUE', and 'DANSE'. A circular logo for 'SAMEDI SOIR @ CELTIC SOCIAL CLUB' is also present. The bottom of the poster has a blue banner with 'CHAMPIONNAT DU MONDE MIXTE IHGF' and various sponsor logos including 'www.highlandgames-france.fr', 'B', 'ooolo', '75', 'COUNTRY', 'Région Nouvelle République', and 'Celtic Club'. A QR code is in the bottom left corner.

## Bressuire Highland Games (France) – 2024 continued

As with each edition, many classic events: pipe bands, dances, stone, hammer, caber...



But also, more original: throwing barrels of Coreff beer (!) and, this year, haggis hurling (660 gr, between the 3 orange arrows in the photo)!



## UPCOMING HIGHLAND GAMES

Mark your calendar &  
Look for the MacAlpine Tent



**Grandfather Highland Games**

**July 11 - 14, 2024**

**4210 Mitchell Avenue, Suite 2  
Linville, NC 28646**



**Fergus Highland Games**

**August 9 – 11, 2024**

**550 Belsyde Ave E, Fergus,  
ON N1M 2W5, Canada**



**Scotland County Highland Games**

**October 5, 2024**

**North Carolina Rural Heritage Center**

**13043 X Way Rd**

**Laurinburg, SC**



**Stone Mountain Highland Games**

**October 19 - 20, 2024**

**Stone Mountain Park  
1000 Robert E Lee Blvd  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083**



**UPCOMING HIGHLAND GAMES** (continued)



**Charleston Highland Games**  
**November 2, 2024**  
**Riverfront Park, Charleston, SC**

