

MACAULAY MATTERS

Bringing Our People Together

IT'S TRAVEL TIME!

Travel is one of my favorite things to do, and I have a few funny stories from Doug and my travels that I (or he) bring out at parties and other social gatherings. As I always tell the kids, it's the embarrassing things and the things that go wrong that make for some of the most memorable travel memories! This Summer 2021 issue of the MacAulay Matters newsletter contains the travel anecdotes of some of your fellow Clan members from trips to Scotland or Ireland, as well as accompanying photos. I hope you get a laugh from reading them!

The newsletter also contains some writeups of Clan MacAulay participation at assorted Celtic and Scottish festivals and some great photos of members representing in our Cranberry Pine tartan.

Remember that this is your newsletter too—feel free to answer the call for stories and updates and photos to share with other MacAulays of all spellings. And mark your calendar for the international gathering in Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, on August 11-13, 2022, to tour the island, participate in the Heavy(ish) Games, attend the ceilidh, and go home with some travel anecdotes all your own.

And hey—if you catch either Doug or I after a few drams, be sure to ask us about the “cornflake story.” He'll tell it complete with Scottish brogue.

Slàinte mhath!

Rachel L. MacAulay, MacAulay Matters Editor

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This is your newsletter. We welcome interesting stories and pictures. No limits to your creativity! It's about sharing everything MacAulay.

www.clanmacaulay.org.uk

Clan MacAulay
Association





CLAN MACAULAY ASSOCIATION NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Have your say!

Date: Saturday, September 18, 2021, 2 pm MST

Venue: Zoom

Registration: Required; link will be sent via email

Agenda items:

- Reports from Executive Committee, Ambassadors and Commissioners
- Updates to Constitution
- Elections
- Membership Dues

AMBASSADOR, UNITED KINGDOM

Christiane MacAulay Readhead, who has been an integral part of our Executive Committee, has decided to retire as Membership Secretary and will be taking on an exciting new role as our Ambassador for the United Kingdom. This is a critical role as we deepen our relationship with MacAulays across Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and England.

Please join us in congratulating Christiane on this exciting new adventure!





NO GOING BACKWARD

Doug & Rachel MacAulay

It was the second week of our two-week honeymoon trip to Ireland and Scotland, and Doug and I had only an hour or two before we picked up our rental car in Stornoway. We had tried a few years before to get to the Isle of Lewis, but only got as far as Oban because the ferry wasn't running. Our honeymoon was our first chance to step on Doug's ancestral homeland, and we were both eager to explore it all.

This, as any of you who have been there know, entailed driving a rental car with a manual transmission on the "wrong side" of the often-narrow roads. So, Doug was driving a stick shift with his (non-dominant) left hand.

We were headed to Great Bernera to stay at a bed & breakfast I'd found in a guidebook that was run by MacAulays—Donald and Katherine MacAulay. We got to a T on the road where you can either make a left or right and Doug turned right, but we needed to go left. Remember—these were the days before GPS, so I was navigating with a map (and mostly successfully, I'd like to add). Doug pulled over to the side of the road to try to maneuver a U-turn, but unfortunately there wasn't much room to turn around. The "U" turned into more of a "K," but as Doug went to shift into reverse, he couldn't find "R" on the gear shift. After much colorful language and self-berating, he thought the best thing to do would be to put the car in neutral, and then he would try to move the car in the direction we needed to go. I got into the driver's seat, and he started to push from the back.

Out of nowhere it seemed, two Highland women—one older and very sturdy and the other one younger and not quite as stout—appeared and offered us a hand. When I looked into the rearview, I was greeted by the sight of Doug and perhaps two of his far-distant family members pushing our car back onto the asphalt. We thanked them profusely for their help and went on our merry way, feeling somewhat sheepish.

Later on, we arrived at the MacAulay B&B and explained what had happened. At that point, Katherine looked at us askance and leaned into the car. She then proceeded to show Doug that if he'd merely pushed down on the head of the gear shift and pulled it back at the same time—voila! Reverse. Doug never made the mistake again, and luckily it didn't seem to ruin her opinion of the American MacAulay Clan.



BUNRATTY PARK ... A TALE OF 2 BROTHERS

Mike Macauley, Commissioner, Northern Missouri

It was our first full day in Ireland. The previous day, we had landed early in Dublin and in the afternoon completed the picturesque drive west to Limerick, the kicking-off point of our two-week journey around the Emerald Isle culminating in the MacAulay Clan gathering in Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland. That night, we enjoyed a special dinner with Bob's good friend, Tony Brazil, owner of Limerick Travel. At the end of dinner, Tony offered up four complimentary tickets for Bob, his wife Geri, myself, and my wife Janet, to visit Bunratty Castle and Folk Park on the outskirts of Limerick. We were thrilled and thankful for this thoughtful gift from Tony.

We began the next day by first visiting the castle. Bunratty Castle is classic in every way and even offers an opportunity to squeeze down a teeny tiny spiral staircase to visit the dungeon! From the castle we made our way to the Folk Park, a recreated Irish village featuring over 30 buildings set on 26 lush acres. Streets, farmhouses, shops, and village homes have all either been relocated to the Folk Park or meticulously and authentically recreated, thereby whisking visitors mentally and physically back to the Irish rural village life of the 1800s.

In one building an elderly woman (I can't recall her name), dressed in period costume and seated on a bench with a squeezebox in her hands, regaled visitors with stories of Irish life in the 19th century. There were about 12 people all told gathered in a semi-circle listening to her tales. I was standing next to Bob. The woman explained that back in the day, unlike the more egalitarian traditions of today, when parents passed away all the property of the family went to the oldest son (assuming there was a son.) Being Bob's younger brother, I took umbrage at this clearly unfair tradition and "playfully" punched him in the right shoulder. That elicited a chuckle from those gathered in the small room.

But not from Bob. As soon as my little jab landed, he winced noticeably and grabbed his shoulder. As the presenter was still in the middle of her storytelling, I whispered in Bob's ear, "Ha-ha, I barely touched you." But when he turned to me, I could see he wasn't kidding. The blood was rapidly draining from his face, and he was desperately rubbing his shoulder to try to gain some relief. I was incredulous. Again, I leaned close and whispered, "Gimme a break. There's no way I hurt you. It was just a tap!" But the reality was that he was in agony.

Bob continued to writhe, shifting his weight from one foot to the other in a desperate attempt to gain some relief. After several minutes of this, our sweet, charming, storytelling host broke from her memorized and polished presentation, paused, looked right at Bob, and uttered the famous words that would mark the entire rest of our trip. In a classic Irish brogue and dripping with disdain she said to Bob, "Why, yer a wee bit soft, aren't ya!" That too elicited a chuckle from the assembled group. I myself wanted to howl, but by this time I was worried that I might have sunk the whole trip for my dear, older, obviously frail brother.

Finally, we extricated ourselves from the little room and I offered to buy Bob a Guinness at the pub down the street to ease the pain. Well, the Guinness didn't do the trick, but later that evening he tried some physical therapy exercises that Geri recommended. His shoulder made a rapid recovery, and the trip was saved! We still don't know exactly what happened when I "tapped" him on the shoulder. We know now, however, that he has extensive arthritis in his shoulder and will unfortunately be facing surgery later this year.

So, the next time you see Bob, don't say "Hi Bob." Simply say, "Yer a wee bit soft, aren't ya!" But have some compassion and offer him a Guinness when you do.

TO TRUST THE IRISH?

Bob Macauley, Commissioner, Southern Missouri

I worked at Anheuser-Busch, Inc., for much of my career, and spent my early years in sports marketing. AB was beginning to sell Budweiser in Ireland, so the company decided to sponsor one of the great Irish horseracing events, the Irish Derby. I was part of the team that traveled from the U.S. to implement the event, and I landed in Ireland with a sense of wonder and excitement. My job was to identify activities and exhibits to place in the “infield” of the track and promote them as a means of attracting additional paid attendees who could watch the race from the infield.

Working for a large U.S. corporation that was very punctual, I found the easy, unburdened lifestyle of the Irish interesting and somewhat appealing. However, it also had its frustrations. I had a phone conversation with Sean, who was my contact with a group that was going to display their various model steam engines for the benefit of the attendees. I wanted to go over the actual locations on the infield, so I set up a meeting at the Curragh for 2:30 p.m. the following day. We agreed on the date and time, and I bid Sean a good day.

I arrived at the Curragh about 2:00 p.m. just to make sure I was there when Sean arrived. Well, 2:30 became 3:00, and then 3:30 became 4:00. We did not have cell phones at the time, so I finally gave up and headed back to the hotel.

The next day, I was attending a meeting, and Sean was also there. I approached him and said, “Sean, we had a meeting scheduled for 2:30 p.m. at the Curragh yesterday, and I waited until 4:00 p.m. before leaving.” To which he responded, “Did I tell ya that?” And I replied, “Well, yes you did.” He looked at me somewhat quizzically, and responded, “Well, sure now you didn’t believe me! Sorry, I went to the pub!”





THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED ...

Doug Doughty, Commissioner, Central Canada

I have often heard of stories about people who drove into lakes or deep into the woods when blindly following the guidance of their GPS. I always scoff when I hear such tales and say that no one would do that. But let me tell you, sometimes you may just find the road less travelled.

In 2017, when Joan and I were touring around Northern Ireland and Ireland, on one of our last legs we were journeying toward the Uragh Stone Circle, a ring of standing stones in County Kerry, when our GPS, whom we call Lily, took us from a beautiful four-lane highway to single-track road. We asked ourselves if this seemed reasonable and decided that a megalithic site might not be on the main road, so we thought we'd follow where Lily was trying to take us.

It wasn't long until the single track became very narrow, and the bushes on the sides of the road were hitting the car. It is a good thing that we didn't meet anyone coming the opposite way as there was nowhere to pull off. We did eventually meet a car, but thankfully, at that time there was an available pull out.

As we climbed, we started to realize that Lilly was taking us over a mountain. Near the top of the mountain, we met an ambitious cyclist. Some of the views that we saw were breathtaking. The sun was out at times, and the views into the valley were incredible.

We never did find the Uragh Stone Circle, but instead we had an adventure as I drove a standard transmission car (that is a story for another day) over a mountain for 17 kilometers, and through the woods. So, unless your GPS is telling you to turn into a lake, you may want to follow advice you'd otherwise skip, as you may fall in love with the road less travelled.



**CLAN MACAULAY
PRAYER
"LORD MAKE ME
RIGHT, FOR I CANNA
CHANGE MA MIND"**



GOLF ... AND LAUNDRY?

Bruce Cooper

In July 2002, Ruth, myself, and a friend, Geoff, travelled to Scotland to attend the swearing-in of the recently elected Chief, Iain McMillan MacAulay, at Rhu near Ardencaple Tower.

En route we went to Edinburgh to view the Open Golf at Muirfield. We had arranged a spacious apartment in central Edinburgh, from where we enjoyed four days of spectacular golf (which incidentally was won by Ernie Els from South Africa).

On the final day, Geoff stayed behind, as he was travelling by train to visit family in England later that day. When Ruth and I returned that evening, we were confronted with an apartment covered in drying towels. What had happened? There was no note or explanation, nothing!

It was not until several weeks later that we got the answer. Apparently, Geoff had decided to do his laundry and have a bath before he left. He ran the bath and went to clear his laundry from the drying machine. Quelle horreur—it wouldn't open! Now he had a real problem.

Geoff was quite a fixit man, so he set about solving the problem. In the meantime, the bath was still running. By the time he had salvaged his clothes, the bathroom was awash. It is not recorded whether Geoff had a bath or swam around the bathroom, but by the time he had cleaned up the mess using copious towels, he had missed his train. Fortunately for Geoff, the British were running extra trains, and he was able to get to his destination, albeit a bit late.

The apartment seemed no worse for wear with its unscheduled washing, but I bet the landlord wondered why so many towels were used.

This incident didn't deter Geoff, as the following year he returned to Scotland with us to meet up with Betty Ribble's husband Don and his golfing friend to play golf and attend the tree planting ceremony at Rhu.

We played five rounds of golf, including one at the prestigious Old Course at St Andrews—a truly memorable occasion.

Geoff was very careful how he did his laundry that trip.



MCAULEYS HOTEL AND PUB

Jim McAuley

Clan MacAulay Commissioner for Southwest USA

Following the fantastic clan gathering in Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland, in August 2017, Marty and Peggy McCauley and Pam and I took a road trip together up the east coast north of Glenarm.

One of the highlights was our stop at the McAuleys Hotel and Pub in Carnlough. The four of us walked in, to a less than warm reception. As we ordered our pints, the one lady in the pub left.

After enjoying a portion of our refreshments and being closely observed by those in the pub, I was asked if I spelled my name the same as the Clan Macaulay imprint on our shirts. I explained that I spell my name the same as the pub. Marty chimed in and said, "We blame the spelling on the English!" with a laugh.

That broke the ice, and we were welcomed with open arms. We were later told that we were in an IRA stronghold. I guess friendly Americans can spread our goodwill throughout the world!! Great experience and a great trip to the gathering.



REFLECTIONS

Colin McAulay, Revd

In November 1982, I found myself in Communist East Berlin. I was there at the invitation of my friend Peter. He lived in the district of Kopenic, which in 1982 still exhibited the bullet marks of the Second World War. As you can imagine, the whole district reflected poverty and deprivation.

Peter was only 12 years old when his father was taken by the Nazi regime to the former concentration camp at Sachsenhausen, on the outskirts of Berlin. That was the last time Peter saw or heard from his father. There were also around 20,000 women among the internees in the camp.



Understandably, Peter was devastated. He found it impossible to forgive the regime that had deprived him and his family of his father. It was many years before Peter could find it in his heart to forgive.

Several days following my arrival in East Berlin, Peter invited me to visit Sachsenhausen with him. It wasn't until we were on the train journey that he told me the harrowing story about his father. I felt compelled to ask Peter if he was sure he wanted to continue our journey. "Yes," he replied with determination.

When we arrived, we walked to the large memorial at the centre of the camp in memory of the 100,000 people who were put to death there. Peter then explained that had he refused to forgive the perpetrators of these heinous crimes, he would become a bitter and angry person.

Several years later, following the fall of the "Wall" on November 9, 1989, I met Peter in London. Standing on the platform of Kings Cross Tube Station, a huge poster read "FREEDOM." Peter repeated that word over and over. He now knew what freedom meant in Berlin, to travel from East to West without let or hindrance. More importantly, he knew freedom in his own spirit, by exercising forgiveness toward others. But just as important, he learned to forgive himself for refusing to forgive. Let's learn to forgive ourselves also and discover real "FREEDOM."

*The truth is,
unless you let go,
unless you forgive yourself,
unless you forgive the situation,
unless you realise that the situation is over,
you cannot move forward.*

~ Steve Maraboli

**REFLECTIONS WILL
BE A REGULARLY
RECURRING
SEGMENT OF
MACAULAY
MATTERS, WITH
THANKS TO COLIN
MCAULAY FOR
CONTRIBUTING**



Meet the Member (and MacAulay Matters Editor)

Rachel Lipetz MacAulay

Why did you become MacAulay Matters Editor? After getting to know some of the members in Cape Breton, including Joan, I couldn't say no when (now Chief) Joan reached out needing somebody to fill the editor role.

Birthplace? Red Bank, New Jersey, United States

Currently live? Old Bridge, New Jersey, United States

Your profession? Freelance editor and writer

Favourite pastime? I have a few—reading, writing, traveling. I also love eating good food and drink, and I'm fascinated by other people's stories, so I love talking to strangers. I also hope to return to cycling once I'm done with physical therapy on my leg.

Who do you admire? People in the younger generation who are doing the heavy lifting to make this world a better place in so many different ways—people like Greta Thurnberg, Malala Yousafzai, Emma Gonzalez, David Hogg, Darnella Frazier... They give me hope for the future; not just the one I'll enjoy, but the one that will exist long after I'm gone.

Most unique talent? I'm not sure this is a talent, but in recent years I've volunteered with a group that goes all over the U.S. to help people recover from hurricanes and floods. It's hard, hot work, but helping people recover after catastrophic disasters—when they have nobody else to turn to and no funds to do it themselves—is an indescribably good feeling.

Favourite beverage? A glass of pinot noir, merlot, or reserve Malbec.

Favourite music? I'm a fan of a multitude of music genres—raised on folk music and loving some classic jazz—but Aaron Copeland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" never fails to uplift me, and this Jersey Girl loves Bruce Springsteen (but not most of the commercial hits).

Favourite place to travel? So many wonderful places, and I've lived in both Bristol, England, and Tzfat, Israel, but Scotland has a special place in my heart, and especially the Highlands. The people, the landscape—places where mountains meet water speak to my soul, and I feel most at home in those places.

Your personal motto? This too shall pass.

Which branch of the MacAulays? The Lewis MacAulays (by marriage)

Oldest MacAulay ancestor? I think Doug has traced backward through to the arrival of his great-grandfather—who was born in 1862—to Nova Scotia.



Meet the Commissioner

Matthew Scott MacAulay

Position in Clan MacAulay: Commissioner for Atlantic Canada

Why did you become a Commissioner? I was intrigued by the thought of our family clan spread all over the world but still connected!

Birthplace? Sydney, Nova Scotia

Currently live? Baddeck, Nova Scotia

Profession? Hotel operator (Inverary Resort on Cape Breton Island, home of the 2018 MacAulay North American Gathering)

Favourite pastime? Hockey, boating, cooking, gardening/landscaping, spending time with friends and family

Who is someone you admire? I have a friend who is the kindest, most thoughtful person I know, yet is always outspoken and protective of those closest to him.

Most unique talent? I'm always asked to prepare the mashed potatoes at family dinners. Not certain if it's because they're really tasty or if nobody else wants to do them...

Favourite beverage? A crisp, flavourful, craft pale ale

Favourite music? '90s/early 2000s hip hop and pop

Favourite travel destination? My wife and I spent 7 days touring southern California before we had kids, and that was one of my most favourite 7 days ever while travelling!

Your personal motto? Leave something better than when you found it.

Branch of the MacAulays? Lewis MacAulays

Oldest MacAulay ancestor? Have yet to undertake this.



Meet the Executive

Doug Doughty

Position in Clan MacAulay: Clan Standard Bearer and Social Media Coordinator

Why did you become an executive member of Clan MacAulay? While at the gathering in Carrickfergus, I was helping out with committee, and I was approached by the previous standard bearer and was asked if I would mind doing the job. So, I accepted the nomination, and the rest is history.

Birthplace? Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

Currently live? Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Your profession? Engineering Specialist – EMI/HIRF/Lightning for Bombardier Aviation

Favourite pastime? Writing and Cosplay

Who do you admire? I admire talented people who can make things, whether it's music, literature, painting, or physical items. The ability to create is, to me, fascinating. (Bet you thought I was going to say Joan.)

Most unique talent? Cosplaying, which entails both sewing and crafting

Favourite beverage? Dalmore King Alexander III Whisky

Favourite music? Classic Rock, especially Led Zeppelin, Queen, The Who, Thin Lizzy, Rolling Stones

Favourite travel destination? Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland. Eventually Wales. There is so much history to experience there.

Your personal motto? The only person I compete with is myself.

Branch of the MacAulays? Lewis MacAulays (by marriage)

DNA testing? FTDNA



The Chief's Corner

Joan McAulay

When traveling, you often come across signs that make you go hmmm. In 2015, Doug and I were traveling through the Highlands on our way up to Ullapool to cross the Minch to Stornoway. We passed a sign that said *Beware of Feral Goats*. Now, not having had goats on our farm in Saskatchewan, and not having seen any goats, feral or otherwise, on our travels through Scotland, we wondered why such a sign would be needed.

After our time on Lewis, we spent a week in Ballachulish in the Glencoe valley. We hiked (guided, of course) into the Hidden Valley (also known as the Lost Valley), where the MacDonalds hid rustled cattle and where those that could fled after the Glencoe Massacre. We also did a photography safari, which was amazing and inadvertently led us to our first feral goat. A day or so after the photography safari, we returned to the charming village of Kinlochleven to again visit The Aluminium Story, a most charming shop. Alas, it was closed.

On the return to Ballachulish, we stopped here and there to try out my new photography skills (still a work in progress), and while Doug held the umbrella, I took photos. Shocker, it was raining in Scotland! Back in the car with the dull skies and rain, we became aware of something on the road ahead of us. We slowed, and to our shock it was—you guessed it—a feral goat.

He was hilarious. With his stumpy little body, he stood there and dared us to pass. It seemed like he was channeling Gandalf in Lord of the Rings thundering at the Balrog “You Shall Not Pass!” Of course, he didn’t yell at us, but his stance and attitude spoke volumes. Fortunately, we didn’t have to fall through fire and ice to pass. Just some careful maneuvering around him.

So, that’s the story of the feral goat. Unfortunately, any pictures of the little guy have been lost in virtual limbo.

Slàinte Mhath,
Joan

CLAN MACAULAY HERITAGE FUND

Treasurer Sean McAuley

Would making a gift to the Clan Heritage Fund be something that fits with your sense of your family's place in the history and heritage of Scotland, Ireland and its wider diaspora?

The Clan is dedicated to offering support to projects that directly relate to MacAulay heritage and history and maintains a dedicated fund for this purpose. The Zachary MacAulay Memorial and restoration of the Conan Pictish Stone are examples of the projects Clan MacAulay has supported.

Your support could be in the form of a financial donation or perhaps a small legacy gift. Join us in the journey to discover and preserve our MacAulay heritage for today's Clan and our future generations.

To discuss making a gift, please email Sean at clantreasurer@clanmacaulay.org.uk. Look forward to hearing from you.

CLAN MACAULAY MOTTO
DULCE PERICULUM
"DANGER IS SWEET"



Clan MacAulay Heritage Fund



THE AUSTRALIAN CELTIC FESTIVAL ~ 1-2 MAY 2021

Geoff Derrick, Ambassador, Australia

Picture a region with rolling hills and names of towns and localities such as Glencoe, Glen Innes, Llangothlin, Dundee, Glen Elgin, Ben Lomond, and Shannon Vale, and you would be excused for thinking you are in a Celtic microcosm. Add a circle of standing stones amongst the gum trees and you have the site of the Australian Celtic Festival, held each year in the town of Glen Innes on the northern tablelands of New South Wales, Australia.

2021 was the first year that Clan MacAulay had a presence at the Festival, and whilst this year celebrated the origins from Ireland and the Isle of Man, all people of Celtic origins are always welcome.

The Festival was a weekend affair on 1-2 May 2021, with Celtic singing and dancing continually in the entertainment area (separate from the rest of the festival because of COVID-19 precautions), and pipe and drum bands continuously playing in the standing stone circle. This year the heavy games were cancelled, and the festival was one of bands, dancing, Celtic fashion, and Celtic cultural markets.

The Clan MacAulay tent was manned by Geoff Derrick, Lyn Worsnop, and Robert and Kate Macauley, and was well patronised by people wanting guidelines on tracing their family tree in Ireland and Scotland.

The Festival kicked off with two pipers and two drummers playing outside the Town Hall in the main street of Glen Innes at noon on Friday, 30 April. Unfortunately, COVID-19 rules did not allow for the usual street parade this year, but the small band gathered a crowd interested to sit and listen. (Incidentally, if ever you visit Glen Innes, be sure to visit the Town Hall at midday on weekdays when Paul of the Glen Innes Pipe Band is the lone piper who plays the national anthem and follows it with about 30 minutes of Scottish traditional music.)



THE AUSTRALIAN CELTIC FESTIVAL ~ 1-2 MAY 2021

Geoff Derrick, Ambassador, Australia

The official opening ceremony and flag raising at 6:00 a.m. on 1 May was well attended by the clans, despite the cold, foggy, and occasionally raining morning. Apart from the gum trees, you could have been in the Scottish Highlands.

Saturday continued with the Armidale, Glen Innes, and Queensland Irish Association Pipe Bands and the Murrumba Pipes and Drums performing in the circle of the Australian Standing Stones. The Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band provided the guard for the Guardian's Ceremony at midday in the circle where all Guardians of the Stones are honoured, and new Guardians installed.

Sunday morning saw the presentation of clan banners to the crowd, with each Celtic country taking it in turns to announce to the crowd that they were present at the Festival. Scotland's turn came at 11:30 a.m. when all clan banner holders and those willing to march with their clan assembled in alphabetical order in the standing stone circle and followed the Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band (well, after all, Ireland was a host country) to the top of Tynwald Hill. Each clan member proudly and loudly announced the presence of the clan. Geoff Derrick and Robert Macauley were the banner holders for this presentation, and I reckon we did the MacAulay Clan proud with the presentation of the banner and war cry.

About 4:00 p.m. the Festival closed, tents were packed away, and we started the 650-kilometer trek back home to Camden, and Robert and Kate started the 800-kilometer trip back to Temora, content that we had struck a blow for Clan MacAulay and with the request from the organisers that we make it back to Glen Innes in 2022. That will not be a hard decision to make.



SMOKY MOUNTAIN SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND GAMES, TENNESSEE ~ 15-16 MAY 2021

Pat Curley, Commissioner, Tennessee

Commissioner Pat was joined by members Susan Caldwell, Shari Brummer and Jan Perry (pictured below). The weekend included athletics, Highland Dance, Celtic Food, Pipes & Drums Bands, Celtic Entertainers, Dogs, Sheep, Highland Coos, clan tents and vendors.





MOUNTAIN STATE SCOTTISH AND CELTIC GATHERING, WEST VIRGINIA ~ 29 MAY 2021

Patricia Ware, Commissioner, Maryland & West Virginia

On Friday, the 28th of May, we drove to Doddridge County to put up the tent to be ready for the 1st Annual Mountain State Scottish and Celtic Gathering on Saturday. Anyone seeing us pass would have known who we were: Clan MacAulay of West Virginia. The weather was wet but not unbearably cold. The cold was biding its time until Saturday.

Early Saturday came with a foggy morning, and it was in the high forties to low fifties - COLD! It was too cold to be sitting outside all day, especially if it rained. It rained, but not in downpours. It misted and pitter-pattered to the ground, not interfering, too much, with the days scheduled events.

But it stayed cold! Scottish weather everyone was saying and grinning. At the end of May, there some of us were, zipped and buttoned into winter coats (mine with a hood). Some were wrapped in blankets, and some were wishing they had them.

The men wearing kilts had their hose to keep their legs warm. A couple of women in Scottish dress pulled the fabric up over their shoulders and heads to stay warm. (Maybe they had thermals underneath.)

I made use of the Tell Me About the West Virginia Tartan binder I had made about the history of the WV Tartan. I remarked that most people do not know that West Virginia has a tartan.

Although it stayed cold and damp all day, it was a wonderful experience. We met interesting people and a few we already knew from Clan Ferguson.

To read the full story and see more photos, visit Pat's blog [here](#).

Pat, staying warm in her hoodie!





MOUNTAIN STATE SCOTTISH AND CELTIC GATHERING, WEST VIRGINIA ~ 29 MAY 2021

Patricia Ware, Commissioner, Maryland & West Virginia

Clan McDowell/McDougal, Clan Ferguson and Clan MacAulay were too tough to stay home and represented the Clans. Clan McDowell/McDougal, from Virginia, stopped by to talk and share some knowledge. In their tent, they had weapons to demonstrate, and the lady was in Scottish dress. Clan Bell stopped by with an invitation to join the Scottish Heritage Society of North Central West Virginia.

When the hunger pangs struck, we ate some good Scots/Irish style food: Guinness Stew in an enormous bread bowl, bangers and mash, Colcannon, and Scotch eggs. What! The potatoes were instant! The bangers and mash had no gravy! The sausage was Italian, not haggis! That's what happens to food when it comes to the fair.

When approaching the tents, people act in different ways. Some come right in and start looking around. There is no small talk and not even a nod from them. Others stand on the outside looking in. They have to be invited inside, like entering on their own would be intruding into your home.

Several people took advantage of the maps and books to locate their clan and wanted to talk about what they knew of their heritage. Some were not sure if their ancestors were Irish or Scottish. We were able to sort some of it. We found a Baird whose ancestor was likely a bard (poet). We found the Craigs, who might have been a Sept of the MacDonald Clan. Some came back to say "good-bye" as they were leaving.

"You would win the prize for best clan tent," we were told. WOW! to that. "You have a great tent." Another WOW! We'll do things a little differently, next time, though. Adding more space will be the first thing to do. Eventually, we will add more "Tell Me About" books and flip cards, too. So many projects and so little time!



Pat's very cool car magnet.



GARRETT COUNTY CELTIC FESTIVAL, MARYLAND ~ 5 JUNE 2021

Patricia Ware, Commissioner, Maryland & West Virginia

Saturday, June 5, was a much different day than the Saturday of a week before had been. Going outside, it was clear that layering and a hooded winter coat would not be necessary. It was already a very warm morning with a bright sun overhead.

Arriving in Friendsville, Maryland, the Garrett County Celtic Festival had prepared well for their visitors. Right away, there were signs leading the way to the Friendsville Community Park, our destination for the festival.

Choosing a spot near a tree, thinking shade, and a bench, thinking rest, we began to unload and set up. By the time visitors started arriving, we were still getting the map display ready.

A young boy, about ten or eleven, came by, at the very beginning, with a card to be stamped by the clans. The card had already been stamped a couple of times, in different colors, by different clans. It just so happened that we had a red, round stamp for Clan MacAulay that we could add to his others. When his card got stamped, he was on his way to find other clan stamps for his collection. That is an inexpensive way to have a nice souvenir, I thought.

Two ladies from the Morgantown area, our home base, too, were interested in their Irish heritage and spent a large amount of time looking over the Ireland maps. They stayed a long while talking about their family history. Most of the time, all you have to do, if you are not a good conversationalist, is listen and add a thought or two, even if you only have just a little bit of knowledge to share.

To read the
full story and
see more
photos, visit
Pat's blog
[here.](#)





Little Miss

GARRETT COUNTY CELTIC FESTIVAL, MARYLAND ~ 5 JUNE 2021

Patricia Ware, Commissioner, Maryland & West Virginia

While we contended with cold and rain the week before, on this Saturday one of the challenges was the wind. The unanchored tri-folds kept falling over without any support, and the maps swung back and forth where they hung. Not planning for all circumstances can lead you into trouble with an unruly tent display. Thankfully, there was a roll of heavy tape in the ready-for-anything box.

I had packets prepared for youngsters: Scottish flag, coloring pages, bubbles, crayons, pencil and snacks. Then, into our life came Little Miss. Her family had stopped outside the tent to talk with some people they knew. She, on the other hand, diddy-bopped inside, juice jug in hand, and took a quick look around at the tables. Giving a glance at the remaining kiddie packet, her eyes rested on it, just briefly, with no attempt at touching it. Then, she turned around toward me and started talking. Did she ever talk!

Talking on, a mile a minute, hardly taking breath, she was an enjoyable part of the afternoon. "You know what? You have won the prize, today," I finally told her. "If you turn around, you can have whatever is behind you." A little unsure, because of all the maps and books and papers behind her, she touched the packet and inquired of me, "This?" "That's it. That's the prize. You've been so nice and so friendly to me, today. You won the prize." She picked up the packet and hugged it to her chest. "I won the prize! I won the prize!" she repeated. Her mother noticed what was happening, so Little Miss repeated it for her mother. "I won the prize!" "Thank you!" she said, with great enthusiasm. "I won the prize."

Pulling the flag from the packet, she exclaimed, "I've never had a flag before!" I tried to explain that it was the Scottish flag, but that concept might have been a bit too much. One day, some later time in her life, she will see that flag and remember. She never stopped smiling from the time the packet was in her hands. Her mother allowed me to take a picture, and they left soon afterward. I could hear her as they walked down the row of clan tents, still repeating, "I won the prize! I won the prize!"

On this particular day, the end came, and we were glad. Another good experience, with interesting people, but the sun, the wind and the heat had not been friends. Tucking things away is not the difficult part. But, breaking down the tent can be tricky for one person. Clan MacDougall stepped in, and the tent came down. The distance home was less than an hour. For the interstate we are thankful. Next time out, we expect more manpower will be along for the ride.

ST. LOUIS SCOTTISH FESTIVAL, MISSOURI ~ 6 JUNE 2021

Mike Macauley, Commissioner, Northern Missouri

Mike Macauley, Commissioner of Northern Missouri, and his wife Janet attended a picnic on Sunday, June 6. The picnic was sponsored by the Scottish Society of St. Andrew's-Greater St. Louis Area Chapter. This was the first post-COVID-19 in-person Scottish event that has been held in the St. Louis region, and spirits were running high. Over 100 participants signed up, and a good time was had by all. The event was held from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Stacy Park, located in west St. Louis County.

In addition to a wonderful face-to-face social time, the society arranged for several enjoyable activities suitable for kids and adults alike. There was a coloring station for the wee ones as well as yard games such as corn hole, washers, and croquet. All attendees had the opportunity to win attendance prizes. There was a silent auction and raffle for exciting gear and gifts from Scotland. A scotch whisky tasting was offered, and the event concluded with some excellent pipe and drum playing.

What a thrill it was to don the MacAulay tartan and once again enjoy the company of other clans and guests in the celebration of all things Scottish!





Photo courtesy of Ruth Cooper

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

A very special welcome to our newest members!

Anya & Christopher Macaulay
Caden McCauley Clodfelter

LIFE MEMBER WELCOME

A special thank you to our current members who have made the commitment to upgrade to Life Member status!

Bill O'Reilly & Becky Layne O'Reilly, United States

CLAN MACAULAY CONTEST

What better way to let the MacAulays in your life know you love them than by buying them a Clan MacAulay Membership. They'll receive a lovely certificate and all the latest news from Clan MacAulay.

Even better, you could win a prize! We're having a contest and you could win your registration to the 2022 Clan MacAulay International Gathering in Stornoway! Here are the rules ...

- For every new Adult Membership (£10), the person entering them (the "referring person") will get one entry in the pool.
- For every new Family Membership (£20), the referring person will get two entries in the pool.
- For every Life Membership (£200), the referring person will get 10 entries in the pool.
- A draw will be held and the winner will receive a free registration* for our Gathering in 2022.
- The more entries you have, the more chance to win!
- The contest ends January 1, 2022.

Visit the [Membership](https://clanmacaulay.org.uk/membership) page at clanmacaulay.org.uk.

* The registration is non-transferable and not redeemable for cash. If the winner is unable to attend, a second draw will take place.



**WANT TO CATCH
UP ON PAST
ISSUES OF
MACAULAY
MATTERS?
CLICK [HERE](#) FOR
THE LINK TO THE
ARCHIVES**



MACAULAY 2022 INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

We're excited to have you join your fellow MacAulays 11-13 August 2022. Our International Gathering will be held in Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis. The MacAulays have a large presence in the Western Isles and the Caladh Inn in Stornoway will be the MacAulays' home base for three days as we gather our people together and explore historical points of interest on Lewis. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

The Gathering will kick off with a welcome buffet Thursday evening, an opportunity to get to know each other and perhaps a showcase of your fellow members' musical talent.

Friday we explore the beautiful Isle of Lewis (*check out [Other Sites of Interest on Lewis and Harris](#)*). You'll visit Clach an truishal, the purported last battle site of the MacAulays and Morrisons and Dun Carloway, an amazing broch with a rather disturbing MacAulay connection. No visit to Lewis is complete without a visit to the Callanish Standing Stones. Then it's off to the heart of MacAulay country, Uig. You can visit the Uig Museum or just sit back and enjoy lunch before a leisurely walk to the Uig Sands, where the infamous Lewis Chessmen were found. Back at the hotel, get ready for our formal banquet and an evening of food, fun and beverages with your fellow MacAulays.

Saturday morning kicks off with the ever-exciting Annual General Meeting where you have the opportunity to have your voice heard and elect your Executive Committee. Even more exciting is the chance to compete in the MacAulay Heavy(ish) Games where much laughter and frivolity ensues. After lunch on your own, you will have the chance to dig into genealogy. If genealogy isn't your thing, we'll provide another option or you may want to explore Stornoway. Saturday evening means it's time to ceilidh! Our last evening together is always a great time.

We truly hope you will find time before and/or after the Gathering to explore other regions of Scotland.

Registration and hotel booking information will follow this late summer/early fall and will be available to members first. Your hotel registration for 11-13 August 2022 will include dinner, bed and breakfast.

To learn more about the Gathering, we encourage you to visit the [International Gathering](#) pages at clanmacaulay.org.uk website. And keep checking back as we'll be adding more information as the Gathering draws closer.

Clan MacAulay Ambassadors and Commissioners

Australia

- Geoff Derrick, Ambassador

Canada

- Doug Doughty, Commissioner, Central Canada
- Joan McAulay, Commissioner, Western Canada
- Matt MacAulay, Commissioner, Atlantic Canada

New Zealand

- Ruth Cooper, Ambassador

North America

- Marty McCauley, Ambassador

United Kingdom

- Christiane Macaulay Readhead, Ambassador

United States

- Bill O'Reilly, Commissioner, Michigan
- Bob Macauley, Commissioner, So. Missouri
- Chris Carpenter, Commissioner, New Jersey and Delaware
- Colin McCawley, Commissioner, Washington State
- Cyndi MacAulay, Commissioner, Pennsylvania
- James McCauley, Commissioner, New York
- Jim McAuley, Commissioner, Southwestern US
- Mike Macauley, Commissioner, No. Missouri
- Pat Curley, Commissioner, Tennessee
- Patricia Ware, Commissioner, Maryland and West Virginia
- Worth MacAulay, Commissioner, Massachusetts



Clan MacAulay Executive

Chief Joan McAulay

Secretary Marianne Kelly

Treasurer Sean McAuley

Membership Christiane Readhead

Organiser Bill O'Reilly

Heritage Lucas McCaw

Standard Bearer Doug Doughty

Committee

- **Bob Macauley, Marketing Coordinator**
- **Colin McCawley, Historical Coordinator**
- **Geoff Derrick, Idea Mentor**
- **Kathy McCauley, Genealogy Coordinator**
- **Susan Caldwell, Technology Director**

MacAulay Matters Editor

Rachel L. MacAulay

Email me your ideas and photos

clannewsletter@clanmacaulay.org.uk

Clan MacAulay Association:

Celebrate traditions and connect with your culture, heritage, and history.

Discover your Scottish or Irish MacAulay roots.

Engage in the world-wide community of Clan MacAulay.