



# The Pippings

OF MACLEAN



NEWSLETTER OF THE MACLEANS, MACLAINES & RELATED FAMILIES  
SIR LACHLAN HECTOR MACLEAN OF DUART AND MORVERN BT., CVO,  
TWENTY-EIGHTH CHIEF OF CLAN GILLEAN

June 2012

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## Raising Funds For Oak Gates To The Threshold of Duart Castle

By Margaret McLean of Clan Gillean USA



Historical Photo of Gathering at Duart Castle in 1912 with Sir Fitzroy Maclean welcoming members of Clan Maclean.



A 100 years ago the Chief-tain of Ardgour with 700 Macleans from all over the world stood outside the gates of the ruined castle and announced, "Chief of Duart! The Clan Maclean is waiting to give you welcome in the castle of your ancestors."

(In Gaelic) *Fhir Dhubhairt tha clan Illeathain a feitheamh a mach gu cur failte*

*cirbh aim an luchairt ur Si-onnsaireachd.*

Sir Fitzroy Maclean, 26<sup>th</sup> Chief, appeared and welcomed the clan and the Maclean flag rose for the first time at Duart Castle in 221 years.

History will repeat itself as Macleans attend the 2012 Centenary Gathering for the celebration of the restoration of Duart Castle from June

18th to June 24th and 28th Chief, Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern, Bt., CVO, DL., Duart Castle, of the Isle of Mull, Scotland, and Lady Rosemary will welcome the clanspeople from all over the world.

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## Important Membership Notice

### Clan Gillean USA Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Clan Gillean USA will be at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on Saturday, July 14, 2012. We encourage you to attend and participate in planning and promoting our heritage through education, networking and fun activities that keep us connected with family and friends of Clan Gillean globally through out the centuries. The meeting time is not definite yet, but will be posted on our website before the games begin. One of the items of business this year is the election of a new president. We look forward to your attendance.



# Scottish Gaelic

By —Anne Landin

Note that the verb goes first in a sentence. Nouns are either feminine or masculine. Emphasis is always on the first syllable.

A Celtic language native to Scotland, the Scottish Gaelic can be traced back as far as the 4th century continuing to grow in popularity until the 13th century.

Put in perspective to the mid-13th century walls of Duart Castle, that still stand, today, it is speculated that there was a previous castle on the current site known as Dubh Ard, Gaelic for Black Point.

Scottish Gaelic is a challenge to the untrained American ear and tongue, but practice and familiarity brings not only understanding, but the beauty of its background and influence the language has had through the history of the Highlanders.

### Pronunciation

Accents: All accents in modern Scottish Gaelic are grave accents (i.e. è) over the vowels. An accent may change the pronunciation of the word but also lengthens the sound. There are some words in Gaelic that are spelled the same, but one will have an accent and one won't. The meanings of these words are entirely different, depending on whether the vowel is accented or not.

You can tell the difference between Scottish and Irish Gaelic in that the accents used in Irish are acute accents (i.e. é). In older manuscripts and publications that you might see, Scottish Gaelic used both types of accent.

It is difficult to write a good phonetic pronunciation. Different people may give different interpretations to the sounds of words, but this is my version. Since there are sounds in Gaelic that don't occur in English, I can only approximate the pronunciation in writing in some cases. A "ch" in Gaelic is not like a "ck" in English but is softer. The ending "chd" sounds like the "ch" but with a "k" at the end of it.

Gaelic Commonly Used Words	Pro-nounced	English Translation
abhainn	Oween	River (F)
achadh	ahkug	Field (M)
acras	Ahkрус	Hunger (M)
adhar	Ah-ur	Air (M)
Sgoinneil	sgunyul	Cool!/Splendid
Aig	Eck	At
Ainm	Anum	Name (M)
Àite		Place (M)
Alba	Aluhbuh	Scotland
Aodach	Eudock	Clothes (M)
Athair	Ah-her	Father (M)

Gaelic Pronouns	Pro-nounced	English Translation
Mi	Mee	I, me
Thu	Oo	You, singular and familiar

Gaelic Verbs	Pro-nounced	English Translation
Tha	Ha	Am, is, are Present tense
Am bheil	Um veil	"Is" as a question

Today, no matter where you live, because of the internet, it is possible to participate in Gaelic classes online through Skype and read and hear Gaelic every day via the BBC-Alba website and Radio nan Gàidheal broadcasts. We are hoping these little lessons will interest you and perhaps some of you will pursue the study of this beautiful and expressive language of your ancestors

Gaelic Useful Phrases	Pronunciation	English Translation
Madainn mhath	mahding vah	Good Morning
Ciamar a tha thu?	kimmer a ha oo	How Are You
Tha mi gu math	Ha mi goo mah	I am fine
Glè mhath	glay vah	Very Well
Sgoinneil	sgunyul	Cool!/Splendid
Tha mi fuar	Ha mee-foo-uhr	I am cold
Tha thu trang	Ha oo trang	You are busy
Am bheil thu sgith?	Um veil oo skee	Are you tired?

Two excellent sources for Gaelic language learners can be found at: [www.acgamerica.org](http://www.acgamerica.org) and at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/alba/> Look near the top left corner and you will see "Learn Gaelic" with some choices of materials and other internet sites.

### About Anne Landin

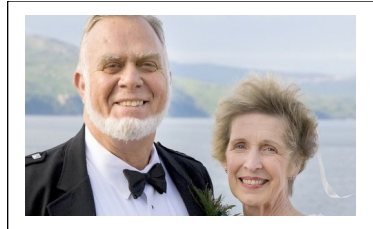
Anne Landin began learning Gaelic at age 50 (and you can do it too!). Beag air bheag (little by little) beginning with books and tapes at home and then attending classes and workshops sponsored by An Comunn Gaidhealach America – The Gaelic Society of America – and eventually taking courses at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College on the Isle of Skye, and at St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, she continued to improve her Gaelic skills. In 2002, after having attended several summer short courses at the Gaelic College at St. Anns, Cape Breton, she began a major project of digitizing old reel to reel tapes of Gaelic songs from the 1950's and 1960's in Cape Breton, and making new recordings there which resulted in the book and accompanying CD, Guthan Prìseil (Precious Voices) published by the Centre for Cape Breton Studies at the University of Cape Breton in 2009. (Incidentally, several McLeans are featured in this book.) Anne now teaches occasional classes and workshops at highland games and Celtic festivals in North Carolina.



# President's Message

## Robert McLean

### Clan Gillean U.S.A.



#### Hello to all Clansmen and Clanswomen,

As I prepare for our family's visit to Scotland for the 2012 Maclean Gathering, I can't help looking back to 12 years ago and my introduction to Clan Gillean U.S.A. Johnnie and I had attended The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games to watch our daughter, Marla, run in The Bear. As many of you may know, that is the distance run up the mountain. The day after, we went to the games and walked up to the Clan Gillean tent. We were welcomed, literally, with open arms by Betsy and Patricia McLean. That began the trip that has taken my family and me to many games and festivals in the U.S.A. and to the Maclean Gathering in 2007. My membership application eventually led to a nomination for President of the Association three years ago and now the honor to have been nominated for vice-president of Clan Maclean International Association.

It has been a very exciting journey and I look forward to the many challenges that lie ahead. Although I will not leave the office of president until the first of 2013, I wanted to express my thanks to all of you for the opportunity to serve you. Johnnie and I and all of the family will still attend the games and we will still see everyone as much as we do

now. My wish is that everyone will support my successor as they have me. Clan Gillean and Clan Maclean are planning new things for the future and it is only with your support that these plans can succeed. All of you have something to contribute to Clan Gillean. We always need assistance at the games and are always looking for articles for The Pipings. By the way, if you are an attorney, we desperately need assistance with filing the 501C3 application.

In the coming years we must keep our young clansmen and clanswomen interested and involved with Clan Gillean. They are our future. Many facts and legends will only be carried forward through your interaction with them. Tell them what you know and keep them proud to be a Maclean.



Sir Lachlan and Lady Rosemary Maclean

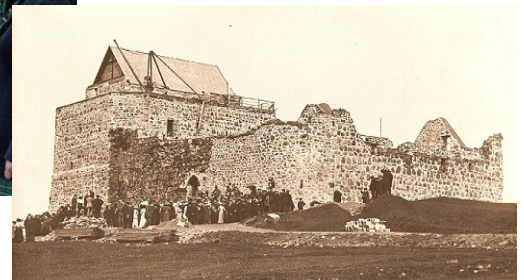
## Oak Gates for Duart Castle

(Continued pg. 1)

For this 100 year celebration, clan members wanted to give a tangible gift. Approved by our Chief, the historical significance of the Oak Gates to Duart brings the following appeal from The very Rev. Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, president of the Clan Maclean Association for raising funds.

Scottish-grown, seasoned oak will be used and a craftsman brought up on Mull, now based in Dumfries-shire, was commissioned to build the commemorative Gates that guard the threshold of the mighty Maclean fortress. The goal of this fund raising effort is £5,000.

If you wish to make a donation, please either (a) send a check made payable to Clan Gillean U.S.A, Inc., P.O. Box 1280, Lenoir City, TN 37771-1280 (Please write Chief's fund on check) or use PayPal on the clan website <http://www.clangilleanusa.org> as the names of all donors (but not the individual amounts) will be given to the Chief, please make your donation as soon as possible. We shall then forward everyone's name, and the total amount to the Clan Maclean Association in Scotland.





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# Calendar of Events 2012

<b><u>Greenville Scottish Games and Festival</u></b> 	Greenville, South Carolina	Bob McLean Clayton, NC	May 25 - 27, 2012
<b><u>Glasgow Highland Games</u></b> 	Glasgow, Kentucky	Mark Lane Lenoir City, TN	June 1 - 3, 2012
<b><u>Blairsville Scottish Games</u></b>	Blairsville, GA	Volunteer Needed	June 9 - 10, 2012
<b><u>Western North Carolina Highland Celtic Festival</u></b>	Black Mountain, NC	Mark Lane Lenoir City, TN	June 15 - 16, 2012
<b><u>Grandfather Mountain Highland Games</u></b> 	Linville, North Carolina	Betsy McLean Raleigh, NC	July 12 - 15, 2012
<b><u>Maine Highland Games</u></b> 	Brunswick, Maine	Ralph MacLean South Portland, ME	August 18, 2012
<b><u>Virginia Scottish Games &amp; Festival</u></b>	The Plains, VA	Volunteer Needed	Sept 1-2, 2012
<b><u>Capital District Scottish Games</u></b>	Altamont, NY	Shawn Noonan	Sept 1-2, 2012
<b><u>Sycamore Shoals Celtic Festival</u></b> 	Elizabethton, Tennessee	Mark Lane Lenoir City, TN	Sept 7 - 9, 2012
<b><u>New Hampshire Highland Games</u></b>	Loon Mountain, New Hampshire	Greg McLean Fitchburg, MA	Sept 21-23, 2012
<b><u>McPherson Scottish Festival</u></b> 	McPherson, Kansas	Lottie McLean Herod Burdick, KS	Sept 22, 2012
<b><u>Ligonier Highland Games</u></b>	Bethel Park, Pennsylvania	Volunteer Needed	Sept 22, 2012
<b><u>St. Louis Scottish Games &amp; Cultural Festival</u></b> 	St. Louis, MO	Herb McLain Lake St Louis, MO	Sept 28 - 29, 2012