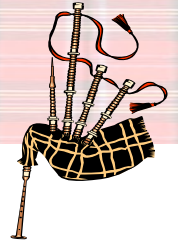


The Pippings

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

September 2012

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Inside This Issue

2012 Gathering at Duart Castle	1
Best Clan Tent	2
On Two Wheels	2
President's Message	3
Calendar of Events	6

2012 Gathering at Duart Castle

By Margaret McLean of Clan Gillean USA



Almost 2,000 MacLeans from all over the participate in the march to Duart Castle at the 2012 Gathering.

It was with pride and honor that almost 2,000 MacLean family and friends made the pilgrimage to the Isle of Mull and created the historical reenactment of knocking at the Oak Doors for the 2012 Gathering in June.

This hundred year celebration, since Sir Fitzroy MacLean began the restoration of Duart Castle and proudly welcomed the clan home in 1912, marks a major milestone for every person that has a drop of Maclean blood coursing through their veins or is touched and protected by the love and loyalty of the Clan.

It is a new era and a new generation of MacLeans that must be inspired by the accomplishments of their forbearers as well as a desire to establish a MacLean legacy of their own as they walk through the hallowed halls of Duart Castle.

During a Clan Congress at the Gathering, Bob McLean President of Clan Gillean USA and Vice President of MacLean International Association (CMIA) said, "We are just a generation away from extinction." "With more than 60% membership dropping out the first year." His emphasis was focus on programs for our youth.

CMIA President, Nigel Alington noted that there are MacLeans in 50 different countries. He felt that it was important to communicate and promote the accomplishments of what Clan members are doing. He said, "We want members to take pride in the Clan."

Professional Photographs of this event can be viewed and purchased at the official photographer's internet gallery at: www.photoboxgallery.com/macleanciangathering2012



Region 4 Board of Director Ephraim McLean of Georgia watches as Chief Opens Doors of



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Introducing Our Colorado Conveners

By —Nancy Hendreschke Clan Gillean USA



Barry and Kristi Maclean of Littleton, Colo., with son Lachlan.

Clan Gillean USA welcomes our newest conveners, Barry and Kristi Maclean of Littleton, Colorado. Barry was born in Port Angeles, Washington, while Kristi is a Colorado native.

Barry lived in Aberdeen, Scotland, working as an underwater welder for an international company in the North Sea. He was involved with Clan Maclean at that time, and rented a Moped to tour the Isle of Mull. He has a few memorable tales which include climbing the tower

Continued pg. 6

Best Clan Tent

The Quest For A Major Award

By —Betsy McLean of North Carolina



L-R Tom McLean, Connie McLean, Bob McLean, Patricia McLean, Betsy McLean and the Rev. Patrick Maclean of North Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in North Carolina.

I have been a member of Clan Gillean USA for 14 years, and for 13 of those years I have been either Deputy Convener or Convener for the state of North Carolina. Those who have spent oodles of time with me (let's say about 5 seconds) know that I am mildly competitive. I reiterate, MILDLY, just as a category 5 hurricane is mildly breezy. It may surprise the average person that there can actually be competition between conveners. While we conveners enjoy the fellowship that most volunteers share, most of us plan our tent displays, our attire, and even our hospitality in the hopes of winning that holy grail of the American Highland Games: **The Best Tent Award**. I must admit that my first Best Tent Award was thrilling. It confirmed that our efforts were not unnoticed, and quite honestly, it confirmed what those of us at the Maclean tent already knew...we are the BEST!!!

Continued pg. 5

On Two Wheels

286,000 in 24 Hours Driven for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

By —Donald McLean, Forfar, Scotland

Most visitors to Scotland take a leisurely tour of the beautiful countryside. Riding for a good cause, motorcycle enthusiast and native of Scotland, Donald McLean of Forfar offers an alternative to touring Scotland. He took to the roads on two wheels, sharing his 24 hour, 1,000 mile experience.

On Saturday 19th June 2010 I took part, on my 1999 Honda ST1100 Pan European, in a sponsored ride out organised by the Royal British Legion Riders Branch, in order to raise funds for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. The route to be followed started at Squires cafe in Sherburn in Elmet, near to Leeds, and went West along the M62 to join up with the M6 and then North to Fort William and onwards to Wick from where it returned to Squires Cafe via Edinburgh and Berwick on Tweed. A total of 1,018 miles must be covered in 24 hrs. Each rider was required to obtain a minimum of £50 sponsorship to go towards the Poppy Appeal.

I had booked into a hotel close to Squires for three nights and drove the 300 miles down on Friday 18th arriving about 4 o'clock. Registration and briefing took place at Squires at 8 o'clock and then back to the hotel for a meal and an early night. Riders were allowed to start as early as 05.30 and at the latest 08.30. I opted to start at about 06.30 to try to avoid the initial rush, there were about 300 starters to be sent off. I was officially logged out at 06.23 and headed for the M62 and Birch services near Manchester, the first receipt point.

About one hour later, 7.18 am, I was in a line of about ten bikes waiting to get fuel and the compulsory receipt to prove time and location. Receipt duly gained and details entered into my fuel log I set off for the M6 North and my next stop at Gretna services. The key to long distance riding is to maintain a comfortable cruising speed, in order to reduce fatigue on the body, and to keep stops to the minimum and as short as possible. The M6 was virtually deserted with only a handful of fellow riders to be seen and progress was good, a short break to stretch my legs at Gretna and I was on my way again. A fuel stop was required at Abington Services and then onwards to Stirling Services, for a 10 minute break, where I arrived at 11.30am. I had decided to go via Stirling and Callander to get to Crianlarich in order to avoid Glasgow and the tourist rat run that is the A82 alongside Loch Lomond. Fort William at 12.57pm and a compulsory receipt point, roadworks on the A82 before Glencoe caused a bit of a log jam of cars and busses but it was soon overcome. I followed some other participants, one on a Honda Fireblade, all the way. The run up to Inverness was very enjoyable with only light traffic but the town itself was very busy. A stop for a meal at Evanton gave me a break from riding for about an hour since I had been on the go for nearly nine hours by then. The next part of the journey North to Wick was blighted by very strong blustery winds which made riding very difficult. I find it is always windy up in this corner of Scotland. Wick 5.18pm and another compulsory receipt, fill up with fuel and turn round and head South. At Inverness I had a ten minute break where I met a couple, her on a Harley Davidson V Rod and him on a Honda Goldwing 1800, who had travelled from Brighton to Squires to start the run. Onwards down the A9 to Perth for petrol stop and a warming cup of coffee



Donald McLean

Continued pg. 5

President's Message
Robert McLean
Clan Gillean U.S.A.



Hello to all Clansmen and Clanswomen,

At this time of the year and it being leap year, I guess I could be called a lame duck. Well, maybe not a duck, but I have to admit the joints are not what they used to be. The last three years have taken a little out of my stride, but they have gone by very fast and they have been a very special time for me.

Congratulations to Rev. Patrick Maclean on his election as our new President. We have a lot of exciting projects coming in the future and Patrick is definitely the man for the job. Also elected at Grandfather Mountain was Connie Sutton. Connie is our new treasurer and she is already in complete control of our finances. We need to thank Mark Lane for his service as treasurer for the last four years. He has done a great job.

2013 will be a landmark year for Clan Gillean. The dedication of the memorial at Ft. Dewart will be held in conjunction with The Ligonier Highland Games at Ligonier, PA, on the weekend of September 20-22, 2013. The Chief will be in attendance and many members of other Clan Maclean associations are planning to make the trip. There are still many plans to put together, but we will keep everyone informed via the website, The Pippings and any other means that we can think of. Put the date on your calendar and let's make a real good showing.

Finally, welcome to all of our new members who have joined in the past year and thank all of our members for your support of Clan Gillean and for me as your president. Hope to see y'all at the games and festivals this year and in 2013.

Sláinte mhór agad,

President (but with a limp)

Death Notice For Lt. Col. Donald MacLean MBE JP

It is with regret that we announce the death of Lt. Col. Donald Maclean on Sept. 22, 2012.

Like his great grandfather, Andrew Bruce MacLean who helped found the Clan Maclean Association and was part of the famous Clan Maclean Gathering in 1912, Donald has taken a similar leading position in the clan, not least in the six International Gatherings; he has also organised the last 30 annual Maclean Gatherings in Scotland. His book on The Pipe Music of the Clan Maclean was published in June.

In addition to his sterling work for the Clan Maclean Association, he served as trustee of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust for the past eight years. A great stalwart of the Clan, he with Donald H. MacLean, was one of the founding fathers of the International Association and established its Constitution. He was President of the Association for five years, from 2003 until 2007.

Donald had a distinguished military career, he was past President of the Rotary Club of Glasgow. A keen yachtsman, he sailed across the Atlantic and back twenty years ago.

Head of his branch of the Macleans, he gave much of himself to the Clan and we all owe him a great deal. Our condolences go to Vera, and to Hamish, Sandy and Sara, and their families.

For those of you who may wish to write a letter of condolence to Vera and don't have her address, it is:

Mrs. Vera MacLean
 2 Fullerton Dr.
 Seamill
 Ayershire
 KA23 9HT
 United Kingdom

Photo Album from Gathering 2012 & Travels in Scotland - From Clan Gillean USA Attendees



Lady Rosemary , Fiona Maclean, Vera MacLean, Robin Maclean of Ardgour, Chief, Ian Maclean at the Castle Gates.

L-R, Ian McLean, , 28th Chief Sir Lachlan , Nigel Alington, Alasdair White, Bob McLean at the Clan Congress in Tobermory, discussing the future of the Clan.



Composer Dougie McLean noted songwriter of Caledonia and The Gael.

Dancing at the Grand Clan Ceilidh at Duart Castle.



President Bob McLean pays his respect to ancestors at the Maclean graveyard in Aros.



Malcolm The Younger Maclean, Robin Maclean of Ardgour prepare to march to the Castle Gates.



Challenged by small roads & different lanes, Marla Braswell gets directions from her father, Bob McLean.



Neil McLean (r), returning to native Scotland to join brother Donald at Duart, felt the Maclean past reach out to the core of their sons' & daughters' souls.



Original photo of Crofter is in the lobby of the Isle of Mull hotel at Craignure. Some resemblance to our own Bob McLean, president of Clan Gillean USA .



Leaving the Isle of Mull and Duart Castle by the McBryne Ferry Boat.



Fish 'N Chips from the Chippie Shop.



Johnnie McLean of North Carolina finds a Bolt of MacLean plaid at a shop in Edinburgh, Scotland.



MacLean Heritage Trust marks the Battle of Inverkeithing led by Hector of the Battleaxe.

Best From pg. 2

The North Carolina contingency has won quite a few Best Tent Awards. We have so many that when we display them at various Highland Games, we have to have a table dedicated to the awards. (We quietly call the awards table the "damn we're good" table.) There is one game, however, where The Best Tent Award (which, in deference to that godawful lamp in the classic movie "A Christmas Story", shall now be called **THE MAJOR AWARD**) has eluded us. Grandfather Mountain Highland Games (GMHG) is without a doubt the most prestigious Highland Game in the USA. GMHG actually has two **MAJOR AWARDS** for clans. We decided years ago that we would probably never win The Clan of Excellence Award. For this award, clans are judged during the Parade of Tartans. The criteria dictates that everyone is kilted and marching in formation (and I have observed wearing matching tartan and offering up your firstborn on bended knee). We Macleans proudly choose to be all inclusive. If a Maclean walks up wearing jeans and wants to march with the Macleans, we will pin a piece of tartan on him (or her), and ask if he'd like to carry a banner! So, there is only one other award we could possibly win. However, over the years, we have modestly judged ourselves and proclaimed that we have had the best tent, but when it was time to receive **THE MAJOR AWARD**, it somehow would end up in another tent. After 13 years of crushed hopes and dreams, I had decided that the Macleans would never receive this **MAJOR AWARD**.

This year, the hope was renewed just like every other year. The anticipation of the GMHG is unlike all other games I have attended. Anticipation can be dampened, however, literally. The weather at Grandfather is like Scotland. When the weather is beautiful, everything is perfect with comfortably warm sunny days and clear, cool, starlit nights. When it rains, the rain permeates every pore in your body. President Bob McLean, Cindy Walker, and Cindy's nephews Kaleb Tate and Daniel and Nicolas Nelums arrived with Bob's Clan Maclean trailer at about the same time Connie McLean Sutton (my sister), Pat McLean (my mother) and I got there. As we were unloading, Kathie and Bob Forsman arrived with Bob's vast display of weapons. This year it was raining so hard on the first day of the games that we had already grown webs between our toes and were working on mutated gills by the time we had unloaded our display at our two tents. We wrapped the goods in tarps, battened down the hatches, and decided that this time, we just couldn't tolerate the rain any longer! This would be one Calling of the Clans we'd have to miss. The monsoon had already dissolved my hopes of **THE MAJOR AWARD** as we left the field and headed for warmth and dry clothing.

Two From pg. 2 as it was evening now, 9.30pm, and the sun was going down and with it the air temperature.

Next stop was Dreg horn Services on the Edinburgh bypass for a compulsory receipt, 10.29pm. A short run down to Pencaitland for a warm meal and a rest at a friend's house. Half past midnight and I'm back on the bike for the run down to the next compulsory receipt point, Berwick on Tweed. All went well till I got to Berwick where the petrol station I was going to use, Morrisons, was closed. This was a big problem as I had to get a receipt in Berwick and it was the middle of the night. I decided to drive into town and see if anywhere was open, fortunately another petrol station just down the road was open 24hrs, problem solved. Just as I had finished filling up another participant pulled in and I asked him if I could accompany him back to Squires, I had been riding in the dark on my own since Edinburgh and it seemed like a good idea to have some company should anything untoward happen, he agreed. We set off down the A1 for Squires, 165 miles and five hours to go before the time limit of 24hrs expired. Fifteen miles down the road with me in the lead I had a very close encounter with a roe deer which had jumped into the middle of the road but a combination of ABS and some gymnastics from the deer meant that we both survived. Further on the headlight of my riding buddy disappeared so I stopped and waited for a while, after a minute or two still no light so I decided to backtrack to see where he was. As I was on a dual carriageway I had to go south to the next exit and then go off and under the road to get onto the north carriageway and then off at the next exit north so that I could come back on the south-bound carriageway to look for him. I could not find him, so I just carried on by myself again which was not such a worry now as I was approaching Newcastle and the A1 (M). Later on I found out that he had to stop for a "comfort break" so I guess we must have passed as I was backtracking to find him. The final leg to Squires was a lot colder but towards the end daylight was breaking and I was officially clocked in at 4.10am. Paperwork completed and handed in and then off back to the hotel for a well earned sleep. Total starters was 297 of which 11 failed to complete the run due to mechanical or tyre problems or were beaten by the clock leaving 286 riders who rode 1000mils in 24 hours to raise a minimum of £14,250 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Completing 1,000 miles in under 24 hours (Saddlesore1000) also entitles me to become a member of the Iron Butt Association which regulates long distance motorcycle riding. s

Race Stats	
Oldest bike to complete run	1987 BMW R80
Smallest bike to complete run	Kawasaki 250 Ninja (Female Rider)
Youngest rider	20 year old
Oldest Rider	63 years young



Calendar of Events 2012

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<u>North Alabama Highland Games</u> 	Scottsboro, AL	Mark Lane, Lenoir City, TN	Oct 6 - 7, 2012
Virginia Celtic Gathering and Highland Games 	Williamsburg, VA	Joseph Schaub, Richmond, VA	Oct 5 - 6, 2012
<u>Scotland County Highland Games</u>	Laurensburg, NC	Betsy McLean, Raleigh, NC	Oct 6, 2012
<u>West Kentucky Highland Festival</u>	Murray, KY	Mark Lane, Lenoir City, TN	Oct 27, 2012
<u>Stone Mountain Highland Games & Scottish Festival</u> 	Atlanta, GA	Betsy McLean, Raleigh, NC	Oct 19 - 21, 2012
<u>Allison Woods Celtic Highland Games</u> NEW GAME	Statesville, NC	Betsy McLean, Raleigh, NC	Nov 2 - 3, 2012

at Moy Castle "because the door was locked, and I wanted to see in the upper window"! Needless to say, the caretaker put an end to the climbing. He also visited Duart, and was in the process of leaving when one of the tour guides ran out to tell him that the Laird was home if Barry wanted to meet him. Barry got a personalized tour of Duart from Sir Charles (father of our current chief), and had a lively conversation. When Barry remarked how honored he was to have met his Chief, Sir Charles said, "I only came out of the kitchen; you came across the ocean".

Barry and Kristi kept in touch through college, later married and moved to New Orleans. They made a joint decision to find a new career path for Barry, since underwater welding on oil rigs has a rather high degree of risk. Kristi is currently in sales with International Paper, while Barry is a private contractor specializing in custom kitchens. Kristi's hobbies include running, cooking, and eating. Barry has so many interests that he never completes his "want to do" list. They have two great kids: Rylee (who composes music and loves open mikes), and Lachlan, who enjoys entertaining.

This family is a fine representation of Clan Maclean in Colorado, and convenes tents at both Rocky Mtn. Highland Games in suburban Denver, and the Longs Peak Scottish/Irish Festival in Estes Park, Colorado. WE DEFINITELY HAVE A MACLEAN PRESENCE IN COLORADO!