



The Pippings

Clan MacLean Association in the United States Quarterly Newsletter

Sir Lachlan Hector Charles Maclean

CVO, 28th Chief and 12th Baronet of Duart and Morvern

2021 Clan Maclean Association Gathering

Dougie MacLean, famous for writing the Scottish folk ballad Caledonia, is to record a new music video for the Maclean Clan Virtual Gathering event in June.

The event, usually held on the Isle of Mull, will take place online between 22nd and 26th of June and will feature a wealth of talent. The event is FREE to attend, and registration opens on Tuesday, June 8 at:

www.macleangatherings.com

“We are delighted that Dougie MacLean is recording a new music video for our event. His famous Caledonia was written when he was homesick for Scotland. Our Clan Gathering is more important than ever in these difficult times, to come together to reinforce our common bond of family and fellowship. We have a superb line up of events celebrating the Clan’s history and heritage, music and traditions.”



Official group photo, Clan MacLean Gathering, Castle Duart, Mull, Scotland, 2012

A varied and interesting programme of events will provide entertainment for the hundreds planning to attend, including behind-the-scenes tours of Duart Castle, a virtual ghost walk, and talks from renowned whisky experts Charlie and Hector Maclean. Event-goers will also enjoy a selection of song and dance from talented Mull musicians and performers, and contributors from around the globe, including the famous Maclean Brothers who broke three world records in 2020 in a race rowing the Atlantic.

Clan Chief, Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart, said:

“Previous gatherings have attracted almost 1,000 people from around the globe. This year’s virtual event is set to be even bigger as many more clan family members will be able to attend from every corner of the world and we look forward to welcoming everyone.”



John Miles, Author and Speaker on Scottish History releases a new book of historical fiction, “Magnus Saga Beyond Vinland.”

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MacLean Author Releases New Book



Follow the adventures of Viking Warlord Magnus as he sails along the Niagara River and reaches the Niagara Falls. Along the way he forges an alliance with one Indian tribe but has to battle another!

“A wonderful, insightful, and riveting book on the vikings ... presents historical facts, but makes it enjoyable...” – *Audie Gibson, President NorthEast Florida Scottish Highland Games and Festival*

Author, John Miles, a member of Clan MacLean Association in the United States (CMAUS), is a retired US Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel and former college professor that now writes and delivers lectures about historical topics to groups. He has presented lectures to multiple Scottish Highland Games, Celtic Festivals, and military units throughout the Southeast.

In addition to highland games and military organizations, he also gives historical presentations at various retirement homes

and libraries in the Carolinas.

In addition to his novel Magnus Saga Beyond Vinland, John is a multiple-time published author in Marine Corps Gazette, the professional journal of the Marine Corps. He also writes articles for periodicals that cover history and has been published numerous times. These magazines include American frontiersman, The Highlander, Military History, Ireland's Own, Scotland Magazine, and Military History Quarterly.

He holds or has held membership in the following organizations; Clan Gillean USA, Clan Donnachaidh USA, The Scottish American Military Society (SAMS), Scottish American Society Palm Beach, FL, the St. Andrew's Society of Albany, NY, and the Scottish American Society of Tidewater, VA.

He received his Master of Arts degree in Military Studies from American Military University and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology with a minor in History from Texas A&M University.

Spring Announcements & Events

- **UPDATE: 2021 Games and Events** - We're watching closely for 2021 Games announcements/cancellations. The Grandfather Mountain Highland games is scheduled to go ahead though some travel restrictions may still be in place.
- **JOIN US: July 8-12, 2021 – Grandfather Mountain Highland Games (GMHG) and Clan MacLean General Meeting** - A Clan Dinner will be organized at the Daniel Boone Inn (if restrictions permit). **RSVP** to Les McLean (les8445@aol.com) to receive more information and updates about the event.
- **GMHG Online Tickets:** Are available until May 15, 2021 and thereafter must be purchased on site. Visit the website for more details: <https://gmhg.org/ticketing-and-registrations/>
- **CMAUS News:** Fort Dewart has been formally added to the National Register of Historic Places, in recognition of this achievement, CMAUS Executive board voted to make a contribution to the plaque that will be installed at Fort Dewart.
- **Call for Conveners:** For more information on convening contact Mary Sue Wyatt at bummerms56@gmail.com or Connie McLean Sutton at conniemcsutton@gmail.com. Be on the lookout for a future, fun video on convening!

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CMAUS Presidential Pen

By Dr. Les McLean, CMAUS President

I don't know about you, but I suspect you feel as I do. I'm worn out and in need of some rejuvenation. I need to be out in the field, under the tent, at a Highland Games. I need to wash off this sticky cloak of anxiety, sadness, political fatigue, and over saturation of news. I need to just breathe the fresh air on a mountain top (Grandfather Mountain?) with my close and distant MacLean cousins and friends. With a wee dram or more, I'd like to toast fare thee well to this pandemic, remember, in honor of my dear friends who did not make it, and thank God the rest of us received our vaccinations in time.

I will say right here and now, if you have not, get your vaccination. Unless the doctor tells you otherwise, for the sake of

others, as well as yourself, get your shot(s). If most of us did, we could be back comfortably with others by mid-summer. If not, the virus has more chance to mutate to a more aggressive, immune form and this nightmare will continue. We MacLeans are known to be a strong lot, and maybe a little stubborn at times, but we are warrior poets who do what is needed, when it is needed. Please get your shots so we may get together again at the revived games. For now, we plan to hold our 2021 Annual General Meeting at Grandfather Mountain, and the MacLean Supper at the Daniel Boone Inn, Boone, North Carolina, the weekend of July 9-11. If not, we go Zoom again, same dates.

-Doc

Flowers of the Forest: Ridley McLean Ruth, Sr.



Ridley McLean Ruth, Sr., 1936-2021

Ridley McLean Ruth, Sr. passed away peacefully in College Station, TX on Friday, February 5, 2021 at the age of 84. Born in Nashville, TN, the son of the late George Wells Ruth and Henrietta Lindsley Ruth; Ridley is survived by his devoted wife Mary Katherine Clemmer Ruth of 60 years, sons

Ridley McLean Ruth, Jr. and wife Shannon Crosson Ruth of San Jose, CA; John Lindsley Ruth II, and wife Venessa Jarvis Ruth of Bryan College Station, TX.

Ridley enjoyed volunteering for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate), in Kingsport, TN and was awarded the East TN Social Workers' Volunteer of the Year in 2007. It was an honor for him to serve on the local East Tennessee Goodwill Board and the Business Advisory Council at Northeast State. In 2003, he was awarded the outstanding volunteer of the year by the Goodwill Association for his contributions in writing a training manual and in teaching management training courses.

Full text is available at: legacy.com

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The Piping Newsletter

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Visit us on the web: [https:// maclean.us.org](https://maclean.us.org) • www.facebook.com/groups/clanmaclean/

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CLAN MACLEAN ASSOCIATION



Another for Hector!

Do you know a family member interested in joining the Clan? Invite them to visit:
<https://maclean.us.org/membership/application>

Need to renew your membership? Visit:
<https://maclean.us.org/membership/renew>

Thank you for your continued membership and commitment to keeping our Clan active!

The Duart Appeal

Raising funds during a pandemic is no easy task and the Appeal is very grateful to donors who have found a way to contribute during this challenging time. While the restoration has been impacted by lockdowns, Phase 6 (£461,531) was completed mid-2020. The work included the Keep wall above the Searoom, East courtyard wall and Banquet Hall steel beams. Phase 7 is now underway (£267,000) and will focus on the wall facing the carpark. Another application for funding will be made to assist with the remaining three phases. Phase 8 is planned to get underway in April 2021.

How to Donate:

Visit www.duartappeal.org for details on donation and sponsorship levels. U.S. donors may make **tax-deductible donations** in USD online using PayPal via the website or by check made payable to **Clan Maclean Association – California** (mail to: 748 South Meadows Parkway, Suite A9, P. M. Box 144, Reno, NV 89521), which is a non-profit Section 501 (c)(3) corporation supporting Scottish cultural outreach. On the check Memo line note “CMAUS Member - Duart Appeal”.



Chief Sir Lachlan Maclean, Clan MacLean

