



# 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



*Douglas McLean, contributing author and member of CMAUS*

## Naming Convention Reveals Family History

*By Douglas McLean*

This three-part article describes how, after years of research, I recently discovered the given name of my 6x great grandmother, confirmed the identity of two of her children and determined the namesakes of many of her 24 grandchildren.

### John and Margaret Dunlap McLean

My 6x great grandfather John McLean was born on Mull circa 1690, went with his family to County Antrim and 20 years later emigrated to the Pennsylvania colony. By the end of the 19th century his descendants, scattered throughout the West and Southeast U.S. had lost knowledge about most of John's family.

The traditional naming practice for children among the Scots and Scot's-Irish into the 19th century was to name first born sons after the paternal grandfather, second sons after the maternal grandfather, the first daughter after the maternal grandmother, the second daughter after the paternal grandmother, the third son after the father and the third daughter after the mother. It was, apparently, an early manifestation of the Christian commandment to "honor thy father and mother" by naming one's first children for the father and mother of the parents, after which the parents could name their children after themselves. Thus, a first or second born son who had the same name as his father, but also of a grandparent, was not necessarily "Junior", and in many families it was the third son, not the first, who had that suffix. (The advent of smaller families over the decades may be one reason parents have "jumped the gun" and started naming first born sons after their fathers.)

Family accounts could identify John's wife only as "a daughter of the widow Dunlap" and the step-daughter of Ephraim Moore. I learned John's father's name from the 1674 Antrim congregation session book - also John. His mother's name is unknown. His wife's father's name was probably Gawin (a precursor of Gavin) and the name of her mother (the widow Dunlap) was unknown. In addition, from family accounts only the names of two of John's several children were known, and with one limited exception, little is still known regarding their birth sequence, a requirement for using the naming convention reliably.

John had two children baptized in the Antrim Presbyterian congregation, Sara in 1716 and an unidentified child in 1721. John was survived by four "small" orphaned children in Pennsylvania for whom a guardian needed to be appointed when he died in 1741. Sara could not be one of them as, if she was alive and in Pennsylvania, she would be 25 years old and not in need of a guardian. Her Antrim sibling, if alive, was 20 and still a minor under Pennsylvania law but could hardly be described as "small", which no doubt meant "young".

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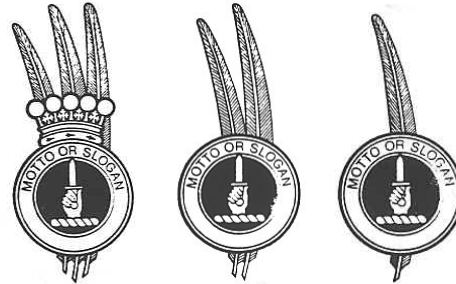
## MacLean Heraldry – Understanding Crest Badges

By Jason Wamsley

The previous articles discussed the Chief's Achievement, or Coat of Arms, and that series of articles may have left you wondering, "How do I show my support for Clan Maclean?" I'm glad you asked! Those who are not Chief and wish to display their loyalty to the clan use a device called the Crest Badge.

If you look back on the previous articles you'll find the Crest of Sir Lachlan's Achievement is the tower. The tower and motto in the form of a crest badge are how we show support or loyalty to the Clan Maclean. There are, however, four types of Crest Badges. The Crest Badge we are all used to seeing, whether for our clan or another, is the crest encircled by a belt. Before we discuss it let's look at the other forms first.

The Chief, although having his own Achievement, may wear a Crest Badge. It is the tower surrounded by a silver circlet inscribed with the clan motto and three silver eagle feathers behind it. Only the Chief's Crest Badge uses the tower with three eagle feathers. Chieftains, who are heads of large branches of a clan, officially recognized by the



Chief may wear their own crest (usually the battleaxe) encircled with a silver circlet, inscribed with the clan motto, with two eagle feathers behind it. Unless you are the Chieftain of a branch of any clan you should not wear two feathers behind your Crest Badge.

The third type of Crest Badge is one for armigers. An armiger is someone who have registered their own Coat of Arms, or inherited them according to the Laws of Arms in Scotland from ancestors who had theirs registered with the Lord Lyon. This badge is the tower surrounded by a silver circlet inscribed with the clan motto and a single eagle feather behind it. Only armigers should wear this badge. As there is no official heraldic authority in the U.S., many

individuals register it with entities such as the American College of Heraldry.

So what about the rest of us? This is where the Clansman Crest Badge comes into play. It is believed that historically, to show allegiance, Clansman would wear the Chief's Crest fixed to their belt. Therefore, today, we have the Crest encircled with a strap and buckle bearing the clan motto. This device is used by the Chief's relatives, all members of the Clan whether they bear the clan surname or one of its Septs, and all who profess an allegiance to the Chief and Clan. This Badge may be worn by all members of Clan Maclean US.



*The images of the Crest Badges used in this article are done so with the permission of Electric Scotland [electricscotland.com]*

## Clan MacLean Announcements & Events

### • UPCOMING GAMES & EVENTS:

- April 8-9, 2023 – Colorado Tartan Day Festival, Longmont, CO ([coloradotartanday.com](http://coloradotartanday.com))
- April 15-16, 2023 – Lock Norman Highland Games, Huntersville, NC ([ruralhill.net](http://ruralhill.net))
- April 29, 2023 – Celtic Festival of Southern Maryland, St. Leonard, MD ([cssm.org/celtic-festival](http://cssm.org/celtic-festival))
- May 6, 2023 – Savannah Scottish Games, Savannah, GA ([savannahscottishgames.com](http://savannahscottishgames.com))

- **April 14-16, 2023 – NYC Tartan Week and Tartan Day Parade** ([nyctartanweek.org](http://nyctartanweek.org))
- **June 19-23, 2023 – International Clan Gathering, Isle of Mull, Scotland** ([www.maclean.org](http://www.maclean.org))
- **CALL FOR CONVENERS:** Convener kits now available to help you get started! For more information on convening contact Mary Sue Wyatt at [bummerms56@gmail.com](mailto:bummerms56@gmail.com)



# Clan MacLean Executive Committee



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## Presidential Pen

*By Dr. Les McLean, CMAUS President*

Spring is upon us and we are entering the very busy Highland Games season! There are too many games to list so if you are looking for an event to attend locally, please reach out to our lead convener, Mary Sue Wyatt or post to our Facebook page.

We are also always looking for conveners to help us grow our presence at more games across our regions – if you are interested or even just curious we'd love to give you more information.

For those who are planning to attend the International Gathering on Mull, June 19-23, 2023 you can now order your 2023 Gathering shirts and hats from the MacLean shop website and pick them up when you check-in. We are told you may soon be able to place orders for other items in the Duart Gift Shop also for pick up – no shipping fees!

Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> you can also attend the free Clan Maclean Shindig hosted by Macgochans in Tobermory following the Welcome Reception at Aros Hall.

Additional event information is available at the [maclean.org](http://maclean.org) website.

Now, I am pleased to welcome our new member of the CMAUS Executive Committee, Vice President Jason Wamsley. Jason was elected at last summer's Annual Meeting and is stepping in for outgoing Vice President, Nancy Hendreschke.

Jason became involved with CMAUS during his very first visit to the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.

"I knew I had MacLean ancestry on my maternal side and sought out the tent to find out more. Feeling welcomed and at home I joined that same day."

Jason has since taken a Y Chromosome DNA test and found MacLeans on his paternal side as well. He is also a bagpiper with the Jericho Highlanders.

A warm welcome to Jason and a huge "Thank You!" to Nancy for her many years of service to our organization.

## Clan MacLean Board of Directors

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Rep: Vacant

## Naming Convention (continued from pg. 1)

Nothing is known of the two Antrim children. Family accounts tell us that two of the four orphans were boys named Charles and Ephraim, and that Ephraim was born in 1730 and Charles was around three years older. The identity of their two Pennsylvania siblings was lost to later generations of the family, in part because Charles and Ephraim left Pennsylvania when young in the 1750s and their siblings were thought to have possibly died or were girls who married and took their husband's names. Reliable circumstantial evidence, including what follows, shows them to be Rebecca McLean Murray and Jane McLean Bell.

How I was able to discover them using the naming convention is discussed in part three of this article. (To be continued.)

### About the Author:

Douglas McLean resides in Madison, Wisconsin and has been conducting genealogical research on the family of John and Margaret McLean in Scotland, Ulster and America for nearly half a century. He intends to publish a definitive history of the family soon and welcomes comments, corrections and questions. He can be reached at [douglasleemclean@aol.com](mailto:douglasleemclean@aol.com).

### The Piping Newsletter

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### Donor Levels:

**Guardians:** £200 GBP (\$244 USD) & above will receive a Duart Castle Guardian badge and certificate.

**Life Guardians:** £1,000 GBP (\$1,219 USD) & above will receive Guardians' gifts, a signed photograph of the chief and be granted lifetime access to the public areas of the Castle during opening hours.

**Patrons:** £5,000 GBP (\$6,096 USD) & above will receive all of the recognition of Life Guardians and a Clan Maclean Crest.

**Chief's Circle:** £25,000 GBP (\$30,480 USD) & above will receive all of the recognition of Life Guardians and an engraved Quaich.

## 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

The immense task of repairing and conserving Duart continues, despite a number of setbacks and challenges. All of the work on both the East and South Elevations was very hard for a small team of hard working dedicated craftspeople. We also faced a setback in grant funding from Historic Environment Scotland which reduced the amount of work possible in Phase 8. This work has, however, been able to continue due to the generosity of the Clan and determination of Sir Lachlan. The Castle has now been revealed with all the scaffolding removed from the Sound of Mull elevation, and everyone is enjoying how magnificent Duart now looks!

### How to Donate:

Visit [duartappeal.org](http://duartappeal.org) for details on donation and sponsorship levels. U.S. donors may make **tax-deductible donations** 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

