

AUTUMN 2018



The Pine Tree Highlander

A Publication of the St. Andrews Society of Maine

A Clan's Eye View of the Maine Games

by George Newell, Clan Secretary

Well, the 40th Annual Maine Highland Games & Scottish Festival has come and gone. It seems to take forever for the Games to be upon us, and yet just a fleeting moment for the event to pass into memory. I would like to take a moment to thank Clan MacBean for being our Honored Clan for 2018. Honored guests included Col. J. Peter McIlwain (USA, Ret'd), President of Clan MacBean Association (Worldwide), Inc. and his wife, Beverly, who were up from North Carolina. They brought with them the piece of MacBean tartan cloth that the late astronaut Alan Bean took to the moon with him on Apollo 12. They also brought one of Alan's paintings with them, entitled "Clan MacBean Arrives On The Moon". It was a great honor to have these treasured items on display.

Another honored MacBean guest was Maine's own Linda Bean, who joined us for the festivities. Linda comes from one of the first MacBean families in the State of Maine as well as the United States, which included her grandfather Leon Leonwood Bean, founder of the L.L. Bean family of stores.

We actually started our celebration on Friday night, at our annual Céilidh. We enjoyed comradery and friendship, as we partook of camp stew and homemade bread, courtesy of the Argyll Highlanders 74th Regiment of Foot; haggis, donated by W. A. Bean and Sons of Bangor (piped in and "addressed" by George Pulkkinen); and even a wee bit (I do believe that 5 bottles qualifies as "a wee bit", doesn't it?) of whiskey. We then were successfully able to burn the castle to round out an evening of fun.

Saturday morning showed signs of rain, but once again, the Lord provided us with a mere sprinkle (just to remind us who's really in charge), and the day proceeded to warm up. The crowds began to form, and the clan tents were busy with visitors; especially the kids, who were all looking to get their passports stamped.

The Parade of Clans was led by Clan MacBean, and representatives from all 25 clans/organizations present were available to shout their battle cry. Due to various personal and family emergencies, a hand-

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1718-2018 Ulster Diaspora Reunion and Conference Smashing Success

by John Mann

Despite the occasional cooler evening, summer in Maine still clings on in September as does the incredible momentum generated by the 1718-2018 Ulster Diaspora Reunion and Conference, held just before the Maine Highland Games August 14-17.

Five days of activities, including the Games, lectures, presentations, and tours to important Ulster-Scots sites of significance, were on offer to the event's 120 attendees. One popular location was the site where Reverend MacGregor's ship the *Robert* was frozen into Casco Bay the winter before they left Maine to settle Londonderry, New Hampshire. Visits to the McClellan Mansion, and Simonton Cove, the McFadden archaeological site, the location of Rev. Woodside's first sermon in Maine, the 1740 Harpswell Meeting House, and the location of the former home of Declaration of

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A Message from President Roy Murdoch

As we look forward to the Fall and Winter events, it's fine to look to the recent past and reflect on our accomplishments.

The 40th Anniversary Highland Games and Scottish Festival took place, surprisingly, under nearly cloudless skies! As vast thunderheads rolled on, and the horizon filled with black, some hand cleaved the heavens sparing our gathering the rains and winds.

The Games Committee, led by Corey Fitzpatrick, organized a wonderful day of dancing, food, athletics, piping and more. We would love to have more of you join us in bringing this celebration of Gaelic culture to the State of Maine. Find us online, call one of the contact numbers, email one of us and see how you can help.

Visit the St. Andrews Society website (mainehighlandgames.org) and discover all the work our society does to educate and promote Scottish culture and heritage. Your support through memberships and through attendance at our sponsored events, helps provide scholarships and learning opportunities to those who share a passion for our culture,

Keep an eye on our schedule of events, join us, *gu tric is daonnan!*

Scottish Country Dancing Good for body...and Soul

There are not many things that can accomplish all of the above in one activity, but you will find all of these encompassed in Scottish Country Dancing.

Studies have shown that Scottish Country Dancing has extensive physical fitness and psychosocial benefits. Research from the University of Cumbria, published in January 2014, suggests that participation in Scottish Country Dancing could reduce the aging process by keeping the mind active.

It also helps to prevent dementia through the complex interplay of cognitive skills needed to memorize steps and formations, interaction with other dancers, and the effect of dance music on the mind.

Physically it is very good for the cardiovascular system and reduces stress.

The social aspect of Scottish Country Dancing develops a sense of team work and enjoyment, and

is linked with good health, a positive attitude and longevity.

This excellent form of exercise brings men, women and children together socially, learning new and old dances in a friendly relaxed atmosphere. Come join us! Check out class information at RSCDSBoston.org.



Clan's Eye View

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ful of clans were unable to attend, or had to leave early, but their spirit remained with us throughout the games, and I hope we see them next year.

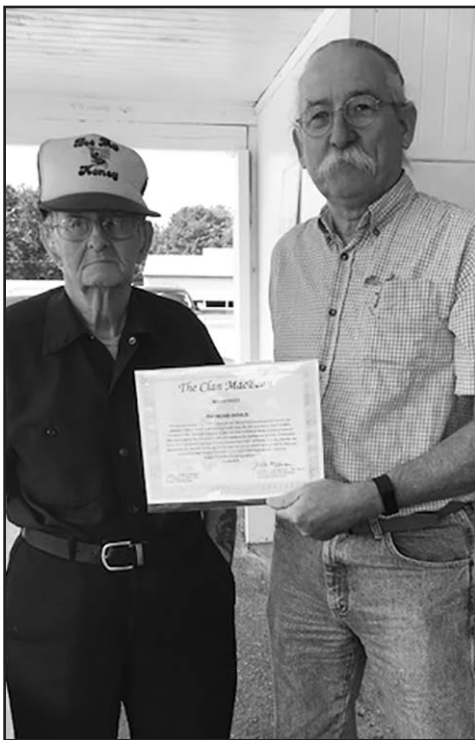
I got a moment to honor Evelyn Murray of the Murray Clan Society of North America, as this would be her last Maine Games, representing her clan. She has been a part of the Maine Highland Games & Scottish Festival for the entire 40 year history of our event, and she will be greatly missed. Hopefully, she will still join us as a guest at the Games in future years. Another celebratory presentation was planned for Ray Gould, who has represented Clan MacBean for many years. Due to a mixup at the Games itself, that presentation got delayed until the September 8th wrap-up meeting, but rest assured, we took time to honor

Ray for all of his hard work and dedication over the years.

We held our 2nd Annual Best Clan Tent contest, with the top honors going to Clan MacBean; 1st runner up to Clan Donnachaidh Society of North America; and 2nd runner up to Innes Clan Society. The winners will have their Maine Highland Games & Scottish Festival clan registration paid for 2019.

Come afternoon, the weather started to take on ominous

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Ray Gould, left, receives a Certificate of Recognition from the Clan MacBean Association for his years of work on behalf of the clan. SASME President Roy Murdoch made the presentation.



Linda Bean chats with SASME Past President Bill McKeen.

*The Saint Andrews Society of Maine and
Mid Coast Presbyterian Church
invite you to
Kirkin' o' the Tartan
Sunday, November 11, 2018
10:05 a.m.
Mid Coast Presbyterian Church
84 Main Street
Topsham, Maine*



Ulster Conference

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Independence signatory, Matthew Thornton, were also visited.

While the eastern frontier would have been a formidable wilderness, the Scots-Irish were not entirely without external support. In 1650, two dozen Scottish prisoners of war were brought to New England later establishing the oldest charitable organization in North America, The Scots Charitable Society, and the town of Berwick Maine. These descendants aided the Scots-Irish in Maine paying off court fines when the residents ran afoul of Puritan laws, supporting business ventures, and assisting with land purchases. Continuing on this mutually supportive theme, the St. Andrews Society of Maine, a long-time supporter of the Maine Ulster Scots Project, blended their annual Highland Games events with the conference. The Scottish Government also provided a special reception event hosted by Second Secretary for Scottish Affairs, Rory Hedderly, to round out the evening. In total, eleven of the 31 speakers and facilitators for the conference came from Northern Ireland or Scotland, with the remaining speakers presenting projects directly linked to Maine Scots-Irish research efforts.

During the week, MUSP received two very special gifts from international visitors including a map drawn by Dr. John Mitchell in 1755. The map was used in Boundary Waters Treaty case of 1909 between Maine and Canada. This wall sized map, together with a bound volume of other historic maps, was presented by his descendant David Mitchell, to President Emeritus, John M1718-20189ann, at the special opening dinner hosted by Northern Irish Ambassador to North America, Norman Houston, OBE. On the closing of the conference, a full set of the out of print T.H. Mullin histories of Coleraine gifted by the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council signed by the current mayor Councillor Brenda Chivers was presented by Helen Perry to current President, Rebecca Graham.

The Ulster Scots Agency also unveiled a 10-panel exhibition of the 1718 migration to New England that was on display for the duration of the conference. The exhibit was well received by conference delegates and provided an introduction to the agency's efforts to promote understanding of the history of the Ulster-Scots. The panel display

was provided to MUSP for future use on public programs.

The wider significance of 1718-2018 Conference became evident as the week provided a wide variety of topics on Ulster-Scots studies begging for greater attention. Each local story revealed how intimately these stories are connected to the bedrock experience that formed New England and the United States. At the end of the conference, a commitment to delving deeper into these local stories of regional and national significance was made by speakers, delegates and the organizations involved. Leading the way with this effort, in conjunction with Tourism Ireland, The Ulster Scots Agency sent Macmillan Media representatives, Jane Veitch and Matthew Gould to New Hampshire and Maine to capture Scots-Irish historic sites and interviews that will assist the Agency's educational and promotional efforts laying the foundation for future projects and to visually illustrate the breadth of New England's Scots-Irish influence on the construction of the United States.

Post-conference, delegates commented that all presenters were engaging and informative, and remarked that the spirit of celebration and kinship was uplifting throughout week. The energy and attention ignited by the conference will be carried forward into New Hampshire next year and hopefully lead to greater links between Northern Ireland and New England. MUSP believes that by broadening the scope of participants to include delegates from Northern Ireland and Scotland our research efforts may provide a welcomed unexplored platform for Ulster-Scots research on both sides of the Atlantic. What is clear is that the connections made in August could easily be the beginning of much stronger mutually beneficial transatlantic partnerships. For this, and all our friends in Northern Ireland and Scotland, and the members and leadership of the St. Andrews Society of Maine, we are very grateful!



Clan's Eye View

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overtones, and dark clouds with rumblings of thunder, rushed in from the north. There were reports coming out of Lewiston/Auburn that rain was coming down so hard, you couldn't see three feet in front of you; and it was heading our way. Perhaps storm clouds and rain showers would affect mere normal folks, but Scots aren't easily intimidated. As the clouds took a bead on the event, someone must have channelled their inner Robert the Bruce, William Wallace, and perhaps even a bit of Moses. The clouds suddenly parted like the Red Sea, and went completely around us to the East and West; leaving us cool and dry.

I'm already gearing up for the 2019 Maine Highland Games & Scottish Festival, and am starting a search for the next Honored Clan. If you think that the time is right for your clan to claim that honor for 2019, send me an email or letter, telling me why. Feel free to include any ideas you may have for special events, activities or presentations at the Games, that will showcase your clan, if selected.

Sue Richards leads harpers at Maine Highland Games

Internationally acclaimed harper Sue Richards led the harp ensemble workshop for the third time at the Maine Highland Games this year.

Harpers from around the New England area attended and worked on learning a few new tunes and refining some old favorites.

Following the workshop the group performed a concert, which was well attended. Audience members were invited to try their hand at the harp. In addition, Sue Richards performed at Fiddlers Glen. It was a great day of Scottish harp music for all.

Maine Highland Games Piping Competition Results

The music of the Great Highland Bagpipes is one of the first things people think of when you talk highland games, and this year our competitions had a full schedule. Pipers competed in a number of musical genres, from piobaireachd, jigs, strathspeys and reels, to 2/4, 4/4, 6/8 marches observed carefully by our judges: Nancy Tunnecliffe, Amy Garson, and Gordon Peters.

Drummers competed in 2/4 and 4/4 under Norman McLeod's keen adjudication.

Ken Garson of Canada took the Grade 1 Piper of the Day with first place finishes in Hornpipe & Jig, 6/8 March, March - March-Strathspey-Reel. Sebastian Benedetto won the Grade 2 Piper of the Day with 1st place finishes in the Piobaireachd, Hornpipe & Jig, and 6/8 March.

Grade 3 Piper of the Day was Kathleen Lindsey with first place finishes in the 6/8 March and 2/4 March.

In the band competitions the Colum Cille Pipes and Drums from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, under Pipe Major Leo-Paul Pelletier, took first place in Grade 4, while Maine St. Andrews Pipes & Drums under Pipe Major Scott Heney, took first place in Grade 5 with a quick march medley consisting of the marches: Jimmy Findlater, Pipe Major Bob Stobie, The Hills of Alva, and The Road to Passchendaele.

SASME ELECTION NOTICE

St. Andrews Society elections will take place in November. Ballots will be sent separate from the *Pine Tree Highlander* so members should watch for their ballots to arrive in the mail later this month. All ballots will need be returned to the Society no later than November 30th.



*All Games Photos
in the
Pine Tree
Highlander
are by Steve and
Dottie Edmondson*



Highland Dance Numbers Down but Future Bright

Competitor registrations for the Highland Games were low this year, but there were many new names on the list from all around New England and Canada. There's good potential for growth when new dancers are coming up to compete. They danced a variety of dances including three of the oldest and most traditional: Highland Fling, Sword Dance and Seann Truibhas. Each age group danced a fourth dance from the "national" dances category. National dances tend to be newer, more balletic, or character-based (like the Sailor's Hornpipe). Each of the dancers listed won the trophy for their age group. There's no overall winner from the whole event. We also had primary dancers compete. Primary dancers are age 6 and under, and the Maine Games doesn't award an overall winner for those youngest dancers.

Here are the trophy winners by category from the dance competition: Beginner 7 & Under, Hayley McGarry, Mansfield, CT; Beginner 8 & Over, Dagne Pippenger, South Duxbury, VT; Novice: Ashley Corey, North Windham, CT; Intermediate: George Thomson, North Haven, CT; Premiere: Maiah Seul, Portsmouth, NH.



Current News from Auld Scotia

Dispatches from Glasgow's
The Herald

Scots battle to win MP's right to halt Brexit 'likely to succeed'

A dramatic legal bid to win the UK Parliament a right to revoke Article 50 which is to be heard by the highest court in Europe is likely to succeed – raising the prospect of Brexit being halted before March next year, one of the nation's leading experts on EU law insists.

Dr. Tobias Lock, Director of European law post graduate study at the Edinburgh Law School and author of *The European Court of Justice and International Courts*, said the case due to call within weeks could be decided by Christmas.

The legal action has been brought in a rare show of co-operation between Labour, Green and SNP politicians and involves MEP David Martin, MEP Catherine Stihler, MP Joanna Cherry, MSP Andy Wightman and MSP Ross Greer.

Their previous attempts were rejected by government lawyers as "hypothetical and academic" and initially dismissed. Now Dr. Tobias says it is his considered opinion, the European Court will most likely rule in their favour. That would open the door, in theory, to MPs being able to cancel Brexit and stay in the EU if no deal is reached or they are left dissatisfied with the proposed terms.

The core of the argument is whether the UK could revoke Article 50 without requiring the assent of the other 27 EU members, and allow the UK Parliament the right to withdraw Article 50 – even if the UK Government itself still wanted to press ahead.

Dr. Tobias explained: "The pursuers will argue that a ruling which states that members can revoke Article 50 at any time – so that Brexit is stopped with no conditions attached – would change the conversation in Britain and it is therefore relevant. There might be 'no deal' looming in March and people might get cold feet, and if we know that we can change our mind and revoke Article 50 we might do it.

"If the UK can abandon Brexit before March 2019 that would kill off the argument that Britain would lose its opt-outs and budget rebate if it wants to remain."

Labour MEP Catherine Stihler is among those behind

the action. She said: "If we go ahead with leaving the EU next year, it will be the poorest in society who will suffer. For the sake of the workers of this country, and the generations to come, I am not prepared to sit back and accept that Brexit is inevitable."

Glasgow provides backdrop to Fast and Furious spin off movie

Glasgow is to provide the backdrop to the shooting of a spin-off of *The Fast and Furious* movie franchise.

The Rock, also known as Dwayne Johnson, and Jason Statham are starring in the movie which will be shot for a week in late October in the city.

The Universal Pictures production is believed to be 'Hobbs + Shaw', which will consist of a secondary film unit of 200 crew, will film on a number of city centre streets including George Square and St. Vincent Street. It is understood most of the shooting will be around the historic City Chambers. Glasgow last week reported its economy had benefitted from a £15m boost to its economy because of films being shot in the city.



The Rock

Given the nature of the films, it is expected that the streets will become home to cars travelling at high speeds. The *Fast and Furious* series of films have made billions of dollars since the first film was made in 2001.

Councillor David McDonald, depute Leader of the Glasgow City Council, said: "It is great to see another major film production coming to Glasgow, another example of the confidence the industry has in the city's ability to host shoots of this size."

McDonald added: "Glasgow loves cinema, and it is good to know that we will see the streets of the city shown all over the world when this film is released."

St. Andrews Society of Maine 2019 Robert Burns Luncheon



Sat, Jan. 26, 2019 -- 11:30 Social Hour, 12:00 Opening

BRUNSWICK HOTEL & TAVERN

4 Noble Street, Brunswick, ME

*A Celebration Honoring Scotland's most-famous Poet
Enjoy either Beef or Chicken entree, Burns's Poetry,
a Raffle, the Haggis and more.*

(Donated Raffle Items appreciated.) Tartan Attire Encouraged.

BONUS: 10 free raffle tickets for bringing a friend to the Event for the first time!
PLUS: New members get a **FREE** 2019 membership by joining at the banquet.

**This year's entertainment includes a variety of musicians
including pipes, drums, dance and other traditional
Scottish activities.**

Reservations
limited to the
first 100!

Reservations Required: \$30.00 per person. Deadline January 18, 2019.
You may pay through PayPal or send checks, payable to the St. Andrews Society of Maine, to: Val Mann, 42 Magee Rd., Bowdoin, ME 04287. Raffle will follow with all proceeds going to our Scholarship Fund.



Please reserve _____ places at \$30.00 per person
Name(s) _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____
Amount Enclosed: _____

Make check payable to St. Andrews Society of Maine
Mail to Val Mann, 42 Magee Road, Bowdoin, ME 04287

Tickets may be picked up at the door.

SAINT ANDREWS SOCIETY OF MAINE
P.O. BOX 2810
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04338-2810

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
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Saint Andrews Society of Maine

Complete Schedule of Upcoming Events

Sunday November 11-

Kirkin 'O' the Tartan
Mid Coast Presbyterian Church
84 Main Street, Topsham, Maine 10:10 am

Friday, November 30

St. Andrews Day.
St. Andrew is Scotland's patron saint. Scots around the world celebrate their culture with dancing, food and music on this national holiday.

Saturday, January 26

Robbie Burns Luncheon
Brunswick Hotel & Tavern, Noble St, Brunswick
11:30 Gathering; Opening Ceremonies 12 Noon