

THE CLAN PIPER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Meet the New Secre-</i>	2
<i>Chief's Message</i>	2
<i>President's Message</i>	2
<i>DNA Project</i>	3
<i>Changes</i>	3
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	3
<i>List of Upcoming</i>	4

Special points of interest:

- DNA Project
- Chief's message
- Facebook
- Event listing



NEW SECRETARY:

Hello everyone! My name is Eileen MacLennan Johnson and I wanted to introduce myself. I am married to Steven and we have two young boys, Brian and James. Both our boys are showing an interest in Scottish heritage. My oldest son, Brian, is interested in heavy athletics and James is showing an interest in learning the pipes or drum.

My connection to Clan MacLennan is through my father. I have been interested in my family history for a while now, but had never been to a Scottish Highland Game or festival. Then in 2006 I went to my first event in Campbell, CA. I was starting to get hooked. In 2007 we went to a larger event closer to my home in Woodland, CA. I was disappointed not to see a Clan MacLennan tent. When 2008 rolled around again, I noticed that there would not be a Clan MacLennan representation at the Sacramento Valley Games in Woodland. I did some checking, contacted the Clan via the website and got permission to represent the Clan.

That was my first event. Thanks to the support I received from our former Secretary Colleen, and our President David I jumped in with both feet. The other Clans were very welcoming, supportive and filled me in on what I needed to know. Fortunately, I was blessed with a lot of visitors to the tent that first event and I was hooked.

Since then I have expanded to host Clan tents throughout California, Washington and Nevada. This will be my third year as Games Convener in the Western US and I look forward to being at events. I would love to have additional help in order to do more in WA and to venture into OR and AZ.

I really enjoy soaking up the atmosphere, meeting up with old friends, and greeting new ones. Meeting other MacLennans from all



over is always a plus. I have even had a MacLennan visiting from Texas (MacLennan County no less) show up at our Clan tent at a Celtic Faire in Sonora, CA. My father, Tom, is retired and attends many of the games with me. This has allowed us to spend some wonderful time together.

As my involvement increased with the festivals, so did my involvement with Clan MacLennan activities. When Colleen was no longer available to continue her duties as Secretary, David asked if I would be interested. So here I am.

I do need your help however, to make the newsletter interesting and exciting. Please submit stories, pictures, questions, anything. I plan to have regular sections of the newsletter devoted to Clan history, genealogy information, web site links, listing of upcoming events, and a short piece on events we attend. I would like information for this Newsletter as well for the "Official" Clan MacLennan USA Facebook page and the Clan web site.

Please feel free to contact me anytime. And if you are interested in hosting a Clan tent at a festival near you, I can help. It really is a lot of fun. (Note: see page 4 for my contact information and the website addresses.)

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHEIF



Dear Clansfolk

I wish to congratulate the Clan MacLennan USA for the recent work that has been put into both getting this newsletter issued as well as to promote the Clan through the social networking site facebook. These things all take time, dedication and considerable enthusiasm and I wish to express my own thanks to those of you who have helped to make this happen. The Clan MacLennan is not a big Clan and often particular areas struggle to find adequate support but I am encouraged by the recent interest that has been clearly displayed by a number of people within Clan MacLennan USA and wish you all every success. Please ensure that you let me know if I can be of any help and know that I will support your Association in any way that I can.

The Clan Gathering held in Scotland last year was a great success and we are currently working on developing a number of action points including improving communication between the Clan Associations, improving the Clan website, holding more regular Clan Gatherings and promoting the Clan and membership by various means. We look forward to working more closely with Clan MacLennan USA in furthering our mutual aim of promoting our Clan.

I wish Clan MacLennan USA every success and look forward to developing a close working relationship with your members over the coming months.

Yours aye

Chief Ruairidh



FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK: A MESSAGE FROM DAVID JONES

We welcome Eileen MacLennan-Johnson of California—our new Secretary, who has also agreed to be our Newsletter Editor. But keeping up a regular newsletter is a challenging task, so I invite and encourage you to share your MacLennan heritage and anecdotes. Don’t worry about how to write or present your stories - just contact Eileen or myself—we’ll be glad to help with the technical details for getting published in the Newsletter or on the web site. We’d LOVE to have stories from the younger MacLennans as well as those of us who are more chronologically challenged. Pictures, too! Let us know what you’re doing. For instance, I currently play the bass drum with The Villages Sounds of Scotland pipe bank here in Florida. Last October, our Concert Band invited us to join them for a small segment of their Fall Concert. It was quite

You can watch a video of the performance on YouTube. The link is [TVSS_in_concert_October_2009.mpeg](#)

In closing, I sincerely thank Jim, Dale, Marilyn, Don, and Eileen for their support and counsel and look forward to the coming year with renewed focus on communication.

David Jones, President



MACLENNAN DNA PROJECT

I have been in contact with individuals associated with Family Tree DNA. They are requesting an increase in the number of individuals doing DNA testing with the Clan MacLennan project. In addition to a general Scottish DNA project, Family Tree DNA has a specific project working for Clan MacLennan. The value in testing is two fold. First, when there are roadblocks in the traditional genealogy paths, the DNA testing can assist with making family heritage matches. Secondly, it assists in making connections with our Scottish roots and helps us to understand the connections between Clans.

One area of interest specific to Clan MacLennan is trying to find the connections with the Logans. Many more Logans have tested and would also like to find what connections might truly exist between the Clans. However, very few MacLennans have actually submitted DNA samples to Family Tree DNA. Other areas of interest include the inter-connections between the MacLennans, MacRaes and MacKenzies. Interestingly, some of these family names, as well as a MacDonald, show a DNA/genealogy line that can be

traced all the way back to the Royal House of Dalriada in 4th Century Scotland.

Only by having many individuals tested will we be able to determine the true relationship between the MacLennan and Logan names and find out how many of us can trace our ancestry back to a 4th century king. By far, DNA allows us to trace our heritage back further than traditional genealogy records alone.

For the surname project we need males of the MacLennan line (or associated names) to test. However, females may also test. With the new tests that are coming out all the time, gender may soon not matter in testing. I will have more information available shortly, including the fliers for ordering. I will also soon have the DNA information available through the web site as well. This project is for all of Clan MacLennan, regardless of what part of the world you live in. This project is very important and we have been strongly encouraged to participate. Our Clan is one of the few Clans which has very little participation in this huge overall project. Please con-



“In The Shade of the Family Tree”

“No better heritage can a father bequeath to his children than a good name; nor is there in a family any richer heirloom than the memory of a noble ancestor.” – Hamilton

REASONS TO CELEBRATE BEING SCOTTISH

Some Tartan Day facts (April 6th):

- The world's first color photograph was of a tartan ribbon in 1861?
- The top five exports of Scotland are: food and drink; office machinery and computers; business services; chemicals; and telecommunications.
- Scottish inventions include: television, ATM cash machines, RADAR, fingerprinting, ultrasound and MRI scanners.

- Scotland's long-tradition of excellent record keeping makes it relatively easy to trace Scottish ancestors—give it a try!
- Tartan Day festivals are now held in America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and yes even in Scotland now.

Source: www.tartandayscotland.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report

October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009

Submitted by Dale Young at the 2009 AGM

Opening Balance	\$3111.36	Disbursements	
		Highlander	\$ 175.00
		Scottish Banner	\$ 150.00
		Gathering Don.	<u>\$ 249.50</u>
			\$ 574.50
Deposits		Closing Balance	\$3157.36
Membership	\$ 235.00		
Fabric	\$ 349.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 36.50</u>		
	<u>\$ 620.50</u>		

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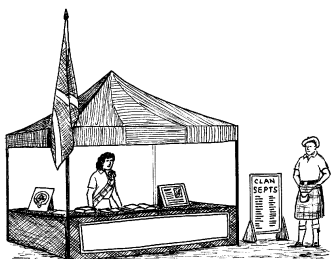
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We're on the web a
[www.clanmaclennan-
worldwide.com/usa](http://www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com/usa)

*Dum Spiro Spero -
While I Breathe, I
Hope*

*We need your help to
grow our
Association!*

*Please stay tuned for
new and exciting
things to come!!!*



FINAL THOUGHTS”:

Online

Catch up with Clan MacLennan by checking in with us via the “Official” Clan MacLennan, USA page on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Official-Clan-MacLennan-USA/273332573419?ref=mfWe>). We will have upcoming event information available as well as pictures posted from various Scottish Games and Festivals.

Have you joined the Clan MacLennan Yahoo group yet? Sign into your Yahoo account or go to Yahoo.com and sign up for a free account. Click on the Groups tab and search for “clanmaclennan” .

Membership: Support your Clan Association— Memberships are now due. Still a bargain at \$20/ year for Adults. Your membership supports clan tents at events and other activities. Please remember that this is a volunteer organization. Those who host Clan tents at Highland games are paying the registration fee for the booth plus their own travel expenses. Part of the membership fees you pay go to give a stipend to off set the registration fees for those volunteering their time.

Open Board Positions: There are several committee positions in available. Please contact a Board member if you are interested.

Look for up coming information regarding the return of a Youth section, merchandise, Scottish links, resources, and what is happening with Clan MacLennan around the world.

This is your Association, if you have something for the newsletter, pictures from an event , or a Clan

UPCOMING EVENT LIST AND ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CLAN TENT AT YOUR GAMES?

Have you ever wondered where your clan was as you wandered around the Clan area at a festival? Well I did. Now I host a tent and have an absolute blast doing it. We can help you get started with planning your booth to getting someone to help you. We are looking for games conveners all over. Take a look at the events in your area, and see if there is one you might want to attend. A good resource for a listing of games and festivals by state or month is Keltic Nations. (http://www.kelticnations.com/events_main.htm) Just drop me a note if you are interested.

The list contains upcoming events which will have a Clan MacLennan tent. Additional games will be listed as soon as we have confirmation of details and Clan MacLennan participation.

Sept 18: 33rd Annual Highland Games & Gathering at Pioneer Village in Selma, CA. (Formerly the Fresno Games) www.scottishsociety.org Come meet our new Games Conveners Michael & Tara MacLennan and their family.

October 9 & 10th: Seaside Games held in Ventura at Seaside Park. www.seaside-games.com (maybe if Eileen’s move is completed)

Mark your calendars for the Annual General Meeting at the Stone Mountain Games in Atlanta Oct. 15-17 www.smhg.org.

Please look for information from David Jones for the Annual General Meeting.

Even if there will not be MacLennan tent at an event near you. I know that you would enjoy soaking up your Scottish heritage. Please contact me if you are interested in hosting a Clan tent at a Highland Games in your area. I would love to help you get started. My contact information is located above.

We have done booths at approximately 8 games a year on the West Coast and at least 1-2 in the Southeast. We would love to see more involvement at events. Please contact Eileen if you are interested in helping at an event. Thank you!