



The Clishmaclaver



Newsletter of the Clan Donnachaidh Society, UpperMidwest

Spring Issue 2009

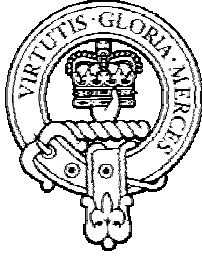
Well, the Games dates are known. The calendar is marked. We've got plans started for attending the earlier Games. It's nice to see that the Springfield Games are back after having their venue shutdown for repairs last year. It will also be interesting to see the new venue for the Milwaukee Games this year. The Minnesota Games in Farmington have changed their date forward this year. The Waukesha Games have been moved back to their normal Labor Day weekend. I'm feeling in fine fettle as I write this just before St. Patrick's Day – it never hurts to acknowledge our Celtic cousins.

Late winter is the time to plan for the Spring Games as well as the garden. I've spent some time over the winter researching the Clan in more detail and hope to share that with folks. In the garden we're planning on using more heritage varieties. This grows, in part, from our love of our personal heritage as well as the wonderful range of possibilities these seeds and plants offer. We can better image how our ancestors lived and ate, what they harvested, what they preserved and what they depended upon for their livelihood.

Aside from the friendship and camaraderie, one of the draws of the Clan is the opportunity to learn more about ourselves and our heritage. There are many avenues to this education. There are many areas upon which to focus. This year, for me, it's food. I've been reading my Scottish cookbooks. I've been researching the modern cuisine. I've been looking at vintage species of foodstuffs. It makes maintaining ones weight something of a challenge, but that's part of the joy of looking at what we eat and how it sustains us. I think I'll bring some treats to the Games this year and share. Hopefully you'll enjoy them as well. Until then...

Yours, Aye

Russ Read
President, CDSUM



Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest

Greetings, True Scots of Heart and Soul!

While we move forward into 2009 our road may seem uncertain in these rocky financial times. But as True Scots we know that when we face adversity and challenges, we also look for opportunities to overcome such challenges. And we are assured that family – kith and kin – will stand beside us as we navigate the rough waters. Let's stand together, supporting one another, and enjoy true Scottish hospitality at the Highland Games this summer.

Be sure to look for the clan tent this season at the following games: **Farmington MN - May 9, Springfield IL – May 16, Alma MI - May 23-24, Milwaukee WI - June 6, Ft. Wayne IN - June 13, Oakbrook (Chicago) IL - June 20, Quad Cities IA - August 22, and Waukesha WI - September 5-6.** Plan to attend at least one of these events this year and stop by the clan tent for True Scottish hospitality!

Your membership dues are what we use to fund the cost of clan tent spaces at the Games. Please return the membership application form with your dues. I ask that you **send your dues directly to our treasurer, Marian Robertson** (see address below in the application form).

Because of rising publication and postage costs we post *The Clishmaclaver* (our newsletter) in electronic form on our website [www.clandonnachaidh.org] for those of you who have access to the Internet. **Please provide us with your email address if you have one.** We respect your privacy and would only send email messages a few times per year to let you know of upcoming events or when *The Clishmaclaver* will be posted on the Internet.

Yours aye,

Jessie Reid Read, Membership Chair

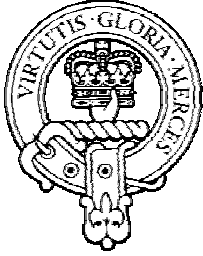
One-year dues:

Individual \$20.00
Family \$35.00

Three-year dues:

Individual \$50.00
Family \$90.00

Dues have been at this level since 2001 – what a deal!



Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest

Membership Application Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Make check payable to CDSUM

Send membership form and payment to:

**CDSUM
Marian Robertson
Treasurer
4406 Four Winds
Northbrook IL 60062**

NEWS FROM THE CLAN CENTRE

2009 ANNUAL CLAN GATHERING

Clan Donnachaidh is pleased to announce our provisional event schedule for the 2009 Clan Gathering, week of July 21st to 24th, 2009. We have included a balance of scheduled events with free time for Clan members. Come and enjoy a real piece of our Scottish heritage in the lovely Scottish Highlands. The exact time and price for each activity will be announced.

Tuesday, July 21st. Coach tour of Clan Donnachaidh Country, including Loch Rannoch, the Black Wood of Rannoch (one of the few remaining pieces of the original Caledonian Forest), Glen Errochty (the Robertson homeland), Bruar, and Aberfeldy. There will be a lunch break at House of Bruar, but the cost of lunch will not be included in the price of the tour. The provisional estimated cost for the coach is expected to be about £7 per person.

Wednesday, July 22nd. Hike around Blair Atholl and Old Blair with interpretive talk., distance 2-3 miles. Time & more information TBA.

Thursday, July 23rd. AGM at Killiecrankie Village Hall at 2.00 pm. Chief's Reception and Dinner at Scotland's Hotel (approximately 7.30 pm start). Tickets for the Reception and Dinner will be available from the Clan Centre.

Friday, July 24th. Clan Service at Struan Kirk. Time 10.30 am. Clan Donnachaidh DNA Project presentation at Westlands Hotel, 2.00 pm. Also, this is a special year with the "HOMECOMING SCOTLAND 2009" and International Gathering of the Clans and Highland Games on Saturday, July 25th, and Sunday, July 26th, in Edinburgh at Holyrood Park, visit: <http://www.clangathering.org/> Clan Donnachaidh will have a tent at the Games for all to visit and participate.

Saturday, July 25th. Highland Games & Parade of the Clans along the Royal Mile to Edinburgh Castle and Historic Pageant on the Castle Esplanade. See the website for details.

Sunday, July 26th. Highland Games continue.

NOTE: There are two types of ticket for the Gathering 2009.

1. Standard ticket for admission to the Highland Games only.
2. Three grades of Passport ticket to include access to the Highland Games, Parade of the Clans, and Historic Pageant.

Lodging in Edinburgh may be tight. The Clan is considering hiring a coach to transport members from Pitlochry to Edinburgh and return on the Saturday, if there is sufficient demand. We expect tickets to cost about £11 per person. If we do run this coach, remember that the pageant does not finish until about 10.30 pm, so you will not be back in Pitlochry until about 1.30 am.

Also, there is the Pitlochry Theatre which is a nice venue to visit for a play.

Come along and be a part of your Clan in the beautiful Scottish Highlands.

Thanks to Christy Lange of the Florida Clan Society for this report.

2009 CDSUM Council Meeting Minutes

The 2009 Council meeting was convened on Jan 24, 2009 following the 22nd AGM. Council members present were Jon and Sherrill Carlson, Bob and MaryJane Robertson, Marian Robertson, Jim Ward, Gordon and Patricia Wilber, Bill Reid, Russ and Jessie Read, and Kathy Hart.

New Business

Jon will attend the games in Aberdeen, SD representing the Clan on Sept 19th, 2009. There is no cost to the Clan.

A motion was made to come up with ways of cutting costs at the games, such as re-evaluating number of tent spaces and tables and chairs needed.

A reminder was given to get pictures and games recap to the web mistress for update of the website.

Members are asked to update their email address with the membership chair.

The following games schedule was approved:

May 9th Farmington, MN
May 16th Springfield, IL
May 23rd Alma, MI
June 6th Milwaukee, WI
June 13th Fort Wayne, IN
June 20th Oakbrook, IL
Aug 22nd Quad Cities, Davenport, IA
Sept 6-7th Waukesha, WI

A motion was made and approved for the treasurer to dispense funds as needed for the games.

The 2009 Council meeting was adjourned and was followed by a wonderful potluck meal and fellowship. A big thanks to Bob and MaryJane for hosting.

Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest Minutes from the 22st Annual General Meeting January 24, 2009

The 22nd Annual General Meeting was convened at the home of Bob and MaryJane Robertson on January 24, 2009 at 3:45 PM.

The meeting agenda was distributed and approved as presented.

Secretary's Report

The previous AGM minutes were approved as posted.

President's Report

Russ expressed gratitude for all who filled in during his absence. He commented that the 2008 Games attended were a success. CDSUM won the Best Clan award in the Parade of Tartans at the Waukesha games.

Thanks to Jon and Sherrill Carlson for maintaining an active membership for the Clan in the Minnesota Coalition of Scottish Clans.

Thanks to Jim Ward for sending a Clan report to international.

Thanks to Jon Carlson for the outstanding planning and hard work he did for the 2008 AGM in Sept 2008, that unfortunately did not take place due to scheduling issues.

Treasurer's Report

Marian reviewed the Treasurer's report.

A Visa card in the name of the Clan was taken out to avoid monthly bank charges on the account.

The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Membership Chair's Report

Jessie handed out the membership reports. We gained four new memberships in 2008.

As of Jan 2009, we were only at 36% paid memberships.

2008 was not a stellar year.

The membership chair's report was approved as presented.

Ways and Means Committee Report

Bill announced that the Clan CD progress had been on hold due to illness.

The new production date was looked into to shoot for release by the Milwaukee games in June 2009.

Jon Carlson made a proposal to make puzzles in the shape of the Clan badge for sale at the 2009 games to recoup the cost of \$150.00 incurred due to cancelled reservations for the Sept 2008 AGM and also as a fundraiser. Jon volunteered to donate 15 adult size and 15 child size puzzles and will work with the council on reimbursement for future puzzles. A suggestion was also made to send a puzzle to Struan.

The ways and means committee minutes were approved as presented.

Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest Minutes from the 22st Annual General Meeting January 24, 2009 (Cont.)

25th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee Report

Gordon suggested that committee look into additional options as alternatives for the trip to Scotland for anniversary celebration. Report was approved as presented.

Trustee's Report

The trustees reported that the Clan has maintained legal non profit status with the State of Illinois.

Nominating Committee

Patricia listed the officers that were up for re-election.

Presiding over the elections was President Emeritus Gordon Wilber.

The following officers were re-elected:

Russ Read- President.

Marian Robertson- Treasurer

Kathy Hart- Secretary

Old Business

A motion was made to approve funds for website upkeep. The motion was approved.

New Business

Patricia will look into possible venues for social outing for the Clan.

A decision was made to have three tents instead of four at the Oakbrook Games as a cost saving measure.

Motion was made and approved to have 2009 AGM following the Quad Cities games.

Approval was given for \$25.00 to be donated for a dancer trophy at the Farmington, MN games and \$10.00 to be donated to the Scottish American Center.

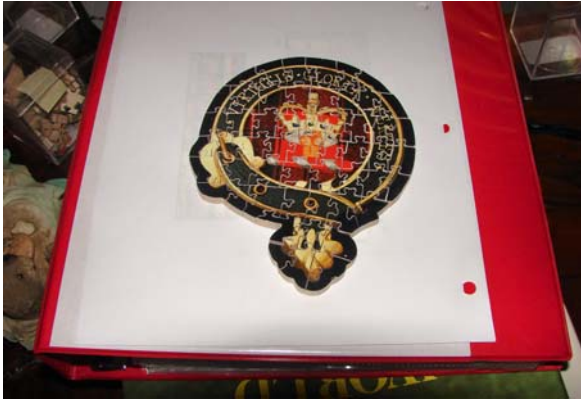
The Clan Centre in Scotland is rerouting funds to remodel the current office space to display of donated cultural items and moving the offices to a new building. They are asking for donations from then Clan branches for this project.

The 22nd Annual General Meeting was adjourned followed by a wonderful potluck meal and fellowship. A big thanks to Bob and MaryJane for hosting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

October 31, 2008 through March 11, 2009

<u>Checking Account</u>	<u>Balance Forward</u>	10/31/08	\$ 424.02
Income	Dues	295.00	
			Total Income \$ 295.00
Expenses	2008 Non-Profit Reg.	10.00	
	Website Fee '08	150.00	
	Game Spaces	72.50	
	Minn. Dues - Coalition	25.00	
			Total Expenses 257.50
			<hr/>
	Balance	3/11/08	\$461.52
<u>Savings Account</u>	<u>Balance Forward</u>	10/31/08	\$1725.88
Income	Interest	.48	
			Total Income .48
Expense		0	
			Total Expense 0.00
	Balance	10/31/08	\$1726.36
<hr/>			
Grand Total (Checking and Savings)			\$2187.88



Close-up of the unique Clan Emblem
Jigsaw Puzzle



Creator Jon Carlson's hand shows puzzle
size



Jigsaw puzzle maker Jon Carlson holding
one of his puzzles



Hostess Mary Jane and "Robbie"
Robertson



Membership Secretary Jess Read hands
2009 renewals to Treasurer Marian
Robertson as Bill Reid looks on.



Bill Reid and Sherrill Carlson look over
some pictures from the 2008 Games
season.



JoAnn Ward shows off pictures of her Great Grandson Reed Hudson Smith, born January 20th, 2009. His first name gives him a head start for Clan membership!



Founding members Patricia and Gordon Wilber

FLOWERS OF THE FIELD...

Jo Ann Hickey Ward, long time Clan member, and wife of Jim Robertson Ward, passed away on the evening of March 23rd, at the RML Specialty Hospital in Hinsdale, IL. She leaves behind a host of family members, including a recently born great-grandson (see photo page). She succumbed after a long battle with pulmonary and arterial difficulties. Condolences to her family from fellow Clansfolk.