



The Clishmaclaver

Newsletter of the Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest

October 2017 Issue

“Best Tent” Award and Busy Annual General Meeting Were Highlights of Quad City

By James Robertson Ward, Editor, *The Clishmaclaver*

Repeating the “Best Tent” Award from the Illinois Games, a hard working team of CDSUM members felt it was all worth the effort with a record number of visitors to the Sept. 16th event at Davenport’s Centennial Park. Led by President Emeritus Gordon Wilber the next day, the Annual General meeting at the Thunder Bay Grill produced a new slate of officers for the coming year, and a host of new ideas for the growth of the Society.

Sunny and warm weather prevailed through the weekend and Fest planners provided a full plate of entertainment, food and demonstrations. Concerts on the hour with the Blackhawk Pipes and Drums, and Heavy Athletics drew big crowds, plus Dance competition and children’s activities filled out the day.

Our double tent display featured Scottish battle equipment, as well as a library of reference materials to determine the visitors’ clan history. Members were quick to explain the variation of the Clan names and the several tartans on display. The detail of our exhibit made it easy for the judges to award the “Best Tent” rating. Thanks to all who contributed to the display items!

Details of the Annual General Meeting are covered by the minutes on the following pages, as well as a photo report of the event.



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Annual General Meeting

Minutes

Clan Donnachaidh Society – Upper Midwest September 17, 2017

The AGM was opened by President Emeritus Gordon Wilber at 9:45 AM. In addition to Gordon, others present at the meeting were: Kathy Hart, Bob Hart, Tiffany Kuhl, Ben Kuhl, Jesse Read, Russ Read, John Reid, Liz Reid, Brenda Robertson, Dick Robertson, Jim Ward, Patricia Wilber, Lynn Wood and Sally Robertson Olsen. Bill Reid, President for 2017, was absent due to illness. Gordon thanked everyone for attending.

Secretary's report

The minutes from the AGM October 16, 2016 were read. A motion was made by Russ Reid to accept the minutes as read and seconded by Jesse Read.

Treasurer's report

John Reid read the treasurers report. A motion was made by Patricia Wilber and seconded by Liz Reid to accept the treasurer's report. Motion approved. All accounts are in the black and members who would like a copy may send a request to the treasurer and a copy will be sent by e- mail.

Membership report

Patricia reported that we have 53 members and a distribution by states report was presented: Iowa 2; Illinois 22; Indiana 6; Michigan 11; Minnesota 1; Missouri 1; Ohio 1; and Wisconsin 9 . Automation of membership is in progress. Ben Kuhl is doing his best to meet our Spring of 2018 launch of this new tool.

Quartermaster report

Russ reported that three new flagpoles and an outdoor flag have been ordered. A new Solitaire is to replace the one we have. Rain gutters for the tents are under construction; material has been obtained and the work is in progress. Following a discussion it was decided to replace the existing hanging panels with a list of Septs by using a vinyl banner. Vista printing was also suggested.

Clishmaclaver report

Jim Ward reminded the group that the original printed newsletter started by Patricia Wilber over 30 years ago is now being published electronically thanks to webmaster Ben Kuhl.

Old business

There was no old business to report.

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New business and Election

Trustee Patricia Wilber presented a slate of Council nominees for the coming year. They are: Mary Jane Robertson, Jessie Read, Robbie Robertson, Lynn Wood, Russell Read, Mike Read, Patricia Wilber and Ben Kuhl.

The Officers nominated are: John Reid, President
Secretary, Lynn Wood
Treasurer, Mike Reid

Approval of the slate was given by voice vote by the membership.

Gordon handed the gavel to John and Congratulations were given to all.

A gift was purchased to outgoing president, William Reid, who was unable to attend because of illness.

It is a memorial gavel, which will be suitably engraved.

Other New business

President Elect John Reid thanked everyone for coming out and is looking forward to an exciting year.

John mentioned he would like to have the next Council meeting in January, February, or March in the Chicagoland area.

Russ made a suggestion regarding a new trailer to store clan items in and to take to the games. A committee was formed to look into this matter: Russ Read, Gordon Wilber, John Reid, and Mike Reid will be on the committee.

A committee was formed to look into a new spot to have the AGM next year. Committee members are: Lynn Wood, Russ Read, Liz Reid, and John Reid.

A Facebook page was discussed for the clan by Tiffany Kuhl. Tiffany, Ben, and Jesse will be on the committee, with Jesse as the Committee chairperson.

Gordon Wilber moved and Liz seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion carried. The meeting was closed at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn F. Wood

Lynn F Wood
Secretary, Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest

Annual General Meeting Photo Report



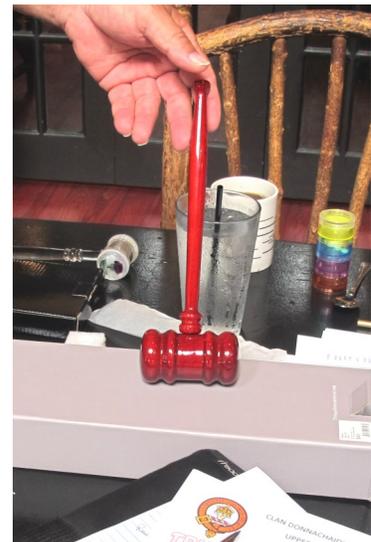
Members and guests pose in a private Dining room of the Thunder Bay Grill in Davenport for the Annual Business Meeting of the Society and Election of Officers, Trustees and Council.



Kathy Hart readies her bagpipe for a short concert to entertain the meeting.

President Emeritus Gordon Wilber (right) Passes the gavel to President Elect John Reid. John Previously served as Treasurer.

Gift gavel for presentation to retiring President, William Reid, in appreciation for his two years of service.



Games Photo Roundup



(at left) Ben Kuhl, wife Tiffany, son Braden and in-laws (Dick and Brenda Robertson) take lunch



Clan parade marchers with our flags



Blackhawk Pipe & Drum Concert



Liz Read helps guest sheath a sword.



Bob Hart and his Dulcimer



Russ Read explains tartans



Treas. Lynn Wood on break



Dancer 332 in performance

Presidents Message

Dear Clan Members :

Since this is my first message to you as the new president I feel I should tell you a little about myself. I live in Deerfield IL. with my lovely wife Liz. We have three grown sons, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. My eldest son Mike and his son Ian are both active in the clan. Mike is the newly appointed treasurer for the clan.

I would like to thank the clan council members who voted for me to be your new president. I am quite honored to be chosen for this position and will strive to continue the wonderful tradition of service in the upcoming 32nd year of our branch. My predecessors have set a high standard for me to follow and I will do my best to continue with that.

On behalf of the clan I want to extend a big thank you to Bill Reid for all the time and effort he has put in as our past – president . Thank you.

Also, a big thank you to Bob Hart for his wonderful dulcimer music at the clan tent at the Quad Cities games. His playing really makes our tent special and attracts a lot of listeners to stop at our tent.

According to the International Vice-chairman's report we are one of only 11 branches that has a "Facebook" page. In the coming year we will be enhancing and expanding the use of "Facebook" as a means of staying in closer touch with member to reach out to potential new members. Check in and see what's going on.

This past season we have had a great number of potential new members sign our registers at various games. We will be doing follow-up work to try and convert them to new members. You may be asked to help with some of this follow-up on those in an area near you.

In conclusion let me say that I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can this coming year. I hope to visit as many games as my schedule allows this coming year. My best to you all in the upcoming months.

Best Wishes,
John W. Reid
John W. Reid
Branch President



2017 International AGM and Tattoo Parade Put Clan Donnachaidh Society in the Spotlight

Editor's Note: This is a condensation of a six page report by the International Vice-Chair, Christy Duncan Lange, of this August's events in Scotland surrounding the AGM and Tattoo

An enthusiastic crowd of International and local members gathered in Pitlochry on August 10th to conduct the Annual General Meeting of the Society. Chief Gilbert Robertson of Struan was piped in by Bill Duncan, a guest piper from the Texas branch. Reports were presented by 14 overseas branches, including CDSUM, represented by Sally Robertson Olsen.

Many items of business were discussed, including the continuation of the Clan Annual in the U. S. under the editorship of Judy Harkin. Struan presented the issue of historic Struan Kirk being for sale and that there is a possibility it can be purchased by the Society. The Clan Secretary, Catriona Macaulay, presented the membership report of a current membership of 960. The DNA project coordinator, Stephanie Robertson reported a total of 1400 participants.

Eleven of the 21 officially Affiliated Clan Donnachaidh Branches worldwide have Facebook pages, including Upper Midwest. It is suggested that each Branch designate a user Member who can make contact with someone who inquires about your Branch.

Several tours and receptions were arranged during the week for AGM visitors, capped by a Chief's Dinner on Friday evening in the Ballroom of the Atholl Palace Hotel, with photos, music and dancing. Photo at the right is of the "Three Chiefs" (Struan, son and grandson)

On Saturday, our Group of 70 Donnachaidhs boarded two motor coaches for the ride to Edinburgh and our participation in the Tattoo. The city was bursting at the seams with the Royal Mile lined with street fair performers. Our coaches parked and we spent an hour making the long uphill walk to the Castle. Finally as our cue came, we stepped out with Struan and Bridget in the lead.



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Photo below of the Clan Members on parade with Struan and Bridget in the lead.



Following our entry, Struan was honored to be presented to the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon (center in photo) and to share a toast with her and the Chief of the Oliphant Clan.



On Sunday we attended the church services at Struan Kirk, our chapel built in 1828 led by Chaplain James Reid. It was followed by our gathering in the church yard for a blessing and memorial at the graves of the Chief's parents.

Homeward bound, thoughts turned to next year's special gathering, August 10-19, 2018, to honor Struan on his 35th year as Chief and his 80th birthday. Thank you for your work in the Branch and dedication to the Clan Donnachaidh Society.

CLAN OFFICERS

JOHN REID, PRESIDENT
MIKE REID, TREASURER , V.P.-ILLINOIS
PATRICIA WILBER, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
LYNN WOOD, SECRETARY
BOB ROBERTSON, V.P.-ILLINOIS
KATHY HART, V.P.- INDIANA
BOB DUNCAN, V.P.- IOWA
RUSS READ, V.P.- WISCONSIN
LUKE ROBERTSON, V.P.- MICHIGAN
JON CARLSON, V.P.- MINNESOTA
GORDON WILBER, PRES. EMERITUS
BEN KUHL, PUBLICISIT & WEBMASTER
JAMES ROBERTSON WARD , NEWSLETTER EDITOR

CLAN TRUSTEES

JESSIE READ
TIFFANY KUHL
PATRICIA WILBER

CLAN COUNCIL

CLAN OFFICERS & TRUSTEES, PLUS
DICK & BRENDA ROBERTSON
MARY JANE ROBERTSON
LIZ REID

Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest History

Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest (CDSUM) was established in 1986 by Gordon and Patricia Wilber along with Joanne Reid and Phillis Anderson. They initially gathered about 12 people the Wilber's town house in Hoffman Estates to begin the task creating Clan Donnachaidh Upper Midwest.

The first thing they did was man a table at the Scottish Fair in the Irish American Center in Chicago. There more people signed up. By the end of 1986 the by-laws were written and Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest was officially established!

Clan Donnachaidh Society, Pacific Northwest donated 3 dirks, which were raffled to raise funds for the newly established society. Since that time, the clan created the Clishmaclaver for all Clan members to keep up to date with Clan activities. Gordon and Patricia also began the "Taste of Scotland" at their home. This gave everyone a reason to get together, sample authentic Scottish foods, and of course, a dram or two of single malt scotch.

In February 1990, Gordon and Patricia along with Marge Hale and the rest of the CDSUM members hosted the North American Conference of Clan Donnachaidh Presidents in Chicago. Alexander Gilbert Haldane Robertson of Struan (Chief of Clan Donnachaidh) found out about the event and wished to participate, which he did. Struan also returned in February 1993 for a 5 branch tour to kick off the centenary year. Our members represented CDSUM well during the Celebration in Pitlochry Scotland.

CDSUM turned twenty five in 2011 with a celebration dinner on the Milwaukee River. The event was arranged by Russ and Jessie Read. This year we celebrated our Thirtieth anniversary with a luncheon cruise on the Illinois River at Peoria.

Since its founding, CDSUM has continued to grow. We have active members in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. We currently man CDSUM tents at nine games across our territory.

Clan Donnachaidh Society Upper Midwest
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