



# THE GREEN BANNER

## NEWSLETTER

Clan Macpherson Association Canadian Branch

Vol. 7 Number 2

July 2013

### NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

We welcome the following new annual members; John Cameron MacPherson & Pamela MacPherson of Waterloo ON, and Edie Mockford of Strathmore, AB, who hails from the Sydney NS MacPherson's. We look forward to meeting you in person in the near future.

There are still ten annual members who have not yet renewed for 2013. If you are not sure if you have renewed, please find a list of annual members in good standing below. If your name is not on this list, please send in your renewal with your cheque right away. If you have decided not to renew, please drop us a line and let us know why and you will help us do better for our members in the future:

John Audcent, Thomas Bannerman, Arthur Campbell, Shena Chisholm, Gerry Curry, Mary Fleming, Eleanore Gillies-Saliba, Ken Gillis, Edith Higgins, Jean Hill, John C. House, Sonja Lees, Warren Lees, Judy Lutes-MacPherson, Allan C. MacPherson, Arielle Macpherson, Britta Macpherson, Christiana Macpherson, Donald MacPherson, Helen Macpherson, Joanne Macpherson, Ken Macpherson, Robert MacPherson, Lois McLean, Alexander McPherson, Susan McPherson, Edie Mockford, James Place, Barbara Reyelts, Steve Reyelts, Issa Saliba, Edward Smith, Murray W. Smith, Tracy Sutton, Lois Urquhart-Musselman.

We now have 149 life members on our roll. Annual members can transfer to this classification at any time on remitting their life dues.

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Summer is here after an interesting spring. Storms and floods devastated many areas of the country while other areas enjoyed a quick end to winter, a short hiatus for spring and then right into summer. Our weather patterns are changing.

Changes seem to have become a way of life for most of us and many are not predictable, and often not welcome.

There is continuity and stability in one aspect of our life however. Summer brings a surge of activity for Clan Macpherson Association members all of which follows an annual, traditional pattern. Highland Games and Gatherings take place across the country on dates traditional to each event. There will be a Clan Macpherson presence at many of these events and you are encouraged to attend one in your area to meet and greet your cousins.

For many years, Clan Macpherson presence at many of these events has been because of the dedication of Bob and Marlene Archibald and a few others. More volunteers would be welcome. If you are interested, please contact Bob at [rarchiba@sympatico.ca](mailto:rarchiba@sympatico.ca) and offer your services.

A major traditional highlight of the summer is the Clan Macpherson Association Gathering in Badenoch Scotland from August 2 to 4. Members from all over the world gather to meet with our Chief, Sir William Macpherson, and to enjoy music, entertainment, good food and good fellowship. It is not too late to register and join us.

Information is available on our website, [www.clan-macpherson.org](http://www.clan-macpherson.org)

When fall comes, I hope you will join your Canadian cousins and our guests from afar at our gathering in Waterloo ON from September 27 to 29. More information will be found elsewhere in the Green Banner. At this meeting there will be changes as terms of service for some officers end and new ones will be elected. Please consider how you can contribute your skills to our association.

Much as change is inevitable, and often welcome, so too is the stability and continuity provided by tradition and custom. Take advantage of the many traditional ways of celebrating our Scottish heritage by participating in some of the many events on offer.

I hope to see many of you at the ones that I am able to attend.

Yours aye, John C. Gillies

## WE REMEMBER

**B**arbara Macpherson, a long-time life member of CMA, and wife of Hugh Macpherson of Burlington Ontario passed away on April 6 after a long illness. Barbara was very active in her community. She was an avid golfer and was ladies section president of her club. She also taught at the Sunday school in her church. We offer our deepest sympathy to Hugh. Barbara will be missed by her friends in CMA.

## LEGION OF THE LOST

**I**n previous issues we noted the following members need to be located:

Mr. Davis Smith	Toronto ON
Mr. Roderick Ian MacPherson	Kanata, ON
Mrs. Wallace C. MacPherson	Halifax, NS
Col. Glen W. McPherson	W. Vancouver, BC
Mr. John D. & Glenna McPherson	Vancouver, BC

If any member knows where any of these lost members is presently residing, please send an email or note to:

Chantal McPherson, Registrar  
991 Matheson E #13  
Mississauga ON, L4W 2V3  
Email: [chantal@mdsscanada.com](mailto:chantal@mdsscanada.com)

## DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE

**W**e are looking for interesting articles covering things that happened during the summer. Please submit your notes and captioned photos before September 1.

## THE GREEN BANNER

Published from time to time to bring news to the members of the Canadian Branch of the Clan Macpherson Association.

RGM Macpherson CM, KStJ, **Honorary Chairman**

### Officers:

John C Gillies, Chairman  
William Macpherson, Vice Chairman  
Ken Gillis, Honorary Treasurer  
Robert W Archibald PhD, Honorary Secretary  
Chantal McPherson, Registrar

### Councillors-at-Large:

Jacqueline Murdoch  
Lois Urquhart-Musselman

### Provincial Councillors:

John C House, Newfoundland and Labrador  
Bruce Gillis QC, Nova Scotia  
Major Myles G Macpherson CD, Quebec  
Rod Smith, Ontario  
Donald Pearson, Alberta  
Ian Gillies, British Columbia

Inquiries and articles may be addressed to Mark F Macpherson, Editor, by email, [markmacpherson009@sympatico.ca](mailto:markmacpherson009@sympatico.ca) or by post to PO Box 1005,

## CANADIAN GATHERING UPDATE

By Bill Macpherson and Rod Smith, Co-conveners



**A**rrangements are well underway for our Gathering in Waterloo from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September at the Waterloo Inn & Conference Hotel and we

hope to see as many of our members, their families and friends as possible. Please, if you are planning to attend return your Registration Form as soon as possible. Don't forget the hotel cut-off date for our special rate is August 16 so reserve now to avoid disappointment as our room block is fast dwindling and the hotel will be busy on our weekend.

Bill will be heading off to Scotland shortly to participate in the Newtonmore Gathering and will need to make any adjustments to the numbers for room reservations and catering before he goes. We will send frequent updates to all those that register with details of events and for meal selection in the next few weeks. If you are coming to the gathering but will not be staying at the hotel please let us know on the registration form. We are looking forward to a great weekend in Waterloo.

You will see the following members and guests at the Gathering and we would like to see you as well:

Robert J. and Marlene Archibald, Robert W. and Sondra Archibald, Ron and Dana Fitton, John and Wendy Gillies, Mary Margaret Gillies, Eleanore Gillies-Saliba and Rev Issa Saliba, Kevin and Tia Hall, Arielle Macpherson, Ewan Macpherson, Gordon and Nancy Macpherson, Bill and Irene Macpherson, Hugh Macpherson, John and Iris Macpherson of Montrose Scotland, Mark and June Macpherson, Myles and Linda Macpherson, Stuart G MacPherson, Stuart H MacPherson and Donna Rucks-McPherson from the USA, Chantal McPherson, James and Marlene McPherson, Jacqueline Murdoch, Peter Murray, Jamie Rogers, Rebekkah Rogers, Rod Smith and Dawn Roussell, Brendan Smith, Erica Smith, Megan Smith, Ed Smith, Jean Whitten

## TREASURER'S CORNER

By Ken Gillis



**T**he Canadian Branch is in good shape financially as of the end of June. We have almost \$10,500 in our current account and a little over \$9,900 in our Life Membership Fund.

I remitted our membership fees to Clan Macpherson Association in Scotland in July which will reduce our current account balance to around \$10,200. Two new members joined in July bringing the numbers to the same level as last year, with ten members in arrears not counted. This is very good as we are just beginning the highland games season and can expect some new members..

I am not expecting any large expenses until our Annual Gathering, which is typically self supporting with revenues equaling expenses.

## CMA CHAIRMAN REPORT

By John Macpherson of Montrose



It is now early July and Iris and I have been busy getting things ready for the 2013 Gathering.

Earlier this year there was a ceremony in Banff (Scotland) where a plaque, financed by the Banff Maritime and Heritage association and Clan Macpherson, was unveiled outside “The Broken Fiddle Café” in Banff. This was a very appropriate place as it was just across from the former old Tollbooth where the hanging of James Macpherson, Highland Freebooter took place in 1700.

James was born in 1675, the illegitimate son of a Macpherson Laird and a Gypsy girl. The tune Macpherson’s Farewell was composed by him and many years later was altered by Robert Burns, had words added and called Macpherson’s Rant which is very often played at Macpherson Gatherings. This café in Banff has a wall to wall mural depicting this event, which was the last hanging in Banff.

During the first weekend in April we held the Clan Museum Advisory committee and CMA Executive meetings where much of the Clan business for the ensuing year was covered. A report by Bill Taylor Associates was presented to the meeting with many ideas how the Museum can increase publicity and visitors. These proposals, are in some cases far reaching, and will be discussed at future meetings.

A new body has been formed in Inverness, called the Association of Highland Clan Societies and their constitution was adopted on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2013. Our Executive Committee will discuss our possible membership at the Inverness highland games that take place on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2013

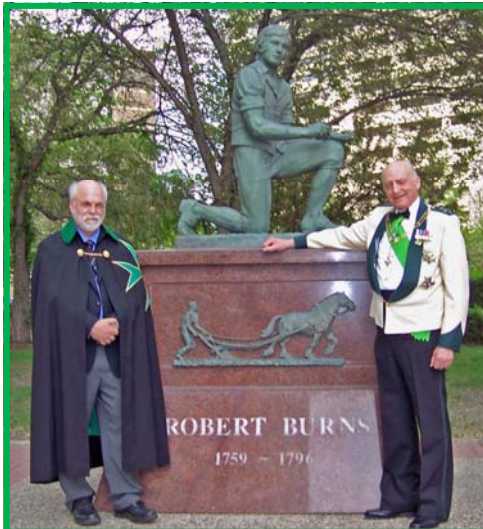
John L Macpherson, Chairman of the Australian Branch, asked for a cricket ball sized stone from Badenoch to be sent over to Australia. Rusheart, our curator, and I selected a nice round local stone which was sent to Australia via Will Macpherson and his wife who were planning a visit at the time. The stone is now installed in the wall of Clan Recognition at Glen Innes.

Iris and I will be attending an England and Wales Branch event in London on 13<sup>th</sup> July. The weather forecasts are promising and some of the time will involve a sail down the Thames to Greenwich. With sixty members and guests expected and Angus, the Branch Chairman, at the helm it should be a nice weekend.

This takes me back to where I started this article. Iris and I spent a large portion of the past week getting all the ball, supper, ceilidh tickets, gathering guides, and registration envelopes composed and printed. All the packages will be ready for when attendees visit the registration desk on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. There is a total of 160-170 expected at the 2013 Gathering – seventeen for the first time this year, which pleases me as it bodes well for the future of CMA.

## CMA AT THE ORDER OF ST LAZARUS

By Mark Macpherson



Rod on the left with Mark, in the uniform of a Knight Grand Cross of the Order, admiring a statue of the immortal bard located outside the Macdonald Hotel in Edmonton

During the first week of June, Rod Smith and the author, who are long-time members of the Military and Hospitalier Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem, were in Edmonton for the Chapter General of the Grand Priory in Canada. A Chapter General is equivalent to

our annual Gathering and in addition to an AGM, new members are invested in the Order, taking part in an ancient ceremony.

The modern Order is international in scope with jurisdictions in several countries, including a Bailiwick in Scotland dating to the middle ages. The Order traces its origins to the first crusade in the 11th century. It was originally established by crusading knights who had contracted leprosy. These knights supported a hospital for lepers and care of the sick and dying in Jerusalem.

Currently there are 450 members in Canada, where the Order is a registered charitable not-for-profit corporation with its headquarters in Ottawa and commanderies (branches) in thirteen locations across Canada including Yellowknife in the Arctic.

The mission of the Order in Canada still supports care of those who have contracted leprosy but as there are few lepers in our country, and it is now curable if diagnosed early, the Canadian Grand Priory also provides funds to the medical field of palliative care, and true to its Christian roots, Christian unity, to the ecumenical movement in Canada. With our aging population, and 80% of people preferring to die in their homes, palliative care is an increasing challenge, as all aspects of this holistic treatment are not yet funded by the governments.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our Editor wishes to thank the following members for their excellent contributions to the March issue; John Gillies, Bill Macpherson (Mississauga), John Macpherson (Montrose Scotland), Rod Smith, Chantal McPherson, Robert J Archibald, and Ken Gillis

## 2013 COBOURG HIGHLAND GAMES

By Robert J Archibald



Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup> marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Cobourg Highland Games with Clan Macpherson and seven other clans there to help them celebrate. The Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band was invited over from Scotland and held a concert in Cobourg on Friday evening.

Thirty-one Pipe Bands from grade 5 to grade 1 competed at these games bringing back a tradition that had been discontinued in 1999. The venue was new this year with the games being held in Victoria Park in downtown Cobourg. Admission was free and the weather was sunny and mild all day.



Our granddaughter, Hilary Eves in the Highland Dance competition in Coburg

All the traditional heavy weight competitions were held right on the beautiful sand beach in Victoria Park. The Highland dancers danced in front of the Band Shell and the crowds had good volume all day long.

Chantal Macpherson dropped by after lunch and stayed for the afternoon giving Marlene and I a break from the tent. We met some old friends and hopefully made some new ones, with quite a few Macphersons dropping by. Everyone generally enjoyed the day.

## GEORGETOWN HIGHLAND GAMES 2013

By Robert J Archibald and Bill Macpherson

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of June the Georgetown Games kicked off the highland games season here in Ontario, with our weatherman predicting cloudy weather with a chance of showers. Fortunately the sun poked through during the opening ceremonies and good weather held for the rest of the day.

Clan Macpherson had a respectable four members were available to participate in the March of the Clans at Georgetown Highland Games. These included Bob Archibald, Bill Macpherson, Chantal McPherson and Susan Mcpherson. They carried the Green Banner, the Association Banner plus the Hunting Macpherson tartan which proudly displays our clan association name. In addition, we were pleased to recruit the services of the Archibald's Scottish Terrier "McDuff".

Poor McDuff got the fright of his life in front of our tent, when members of the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders Heritage Regiment fired a volley from their Brown Bess musket rifles to officially open the games.

McDuff's two front paws immediately clasped around the Association flagstaff and he had to be consoled by Bob before he would let it go



Leaving the field at Georgetown after the March of the Clans are our banner bearers; L to R are Susan Macpherson, McDuff, Chantal Macpherson, Bill Macpherson and Bob Archibald. Not shown but very busy minding our tent, were Marlene Archibald and Ed Smith

Lois Musselman stopped by the tent for a visit or two. She danced with the very large group of Scottish Country Dancers from the west end of the city who always put on a wonderful display of Scottish Country Dancing at Georgetown. There were also 330 Highland dancers at Georgetown. Bob's granddaughter, Hilary Eves, was among them and won several prizes for this event.

The Macpherson tent was busy most of the day and the weather just got better as the day progressed. We had one membership renewal. Sales were slow although there was considerable interest in Clan Macpherson displayed by the visitors. At the end of the day thirty-seven pipe bands assembled for a thrilling and spine tingling massed bands display.



McDuff being unwrapped from the staff of the Association banner

# KEN MACPHERSON RECOGNIZED BY THE NAVY

By Robert J Archibald

In Good Friday 2013, an article appeared in the Globe & Mail and other papers in Canada that had a connection with one of our clansmen. It was about a treasure trove of formerly top-secret naval records, as well as thousands of books, photos and documents that had been donated by the Naval Museum of Alberta Society to the University of Calgary. The University now boasts a military archive that rivals the Canadian War Museum.

While the donation for this material comes from the Naval Museum of Alberta, the newspapers stated the real credit goes to two nautical enthusiasts: John Burgess, a deceased Calgary oilman who never served in the Navy but was fascinated with warships, and our very own Kenneth Ross Macpherson! Ken has been a member of the CMA for several years, following his late father and uncle who were also early members. He presently resides in Port Hope Ontario.

Ken was born in Toronto in 1926 and enlisted with the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve after graduating from Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute in 1944. He served as a telegraphist special operator in Newfoundland and Labrador, covertly listening in on wireless transmissions from German U-boats until the end of the war in 1945. This experience sparked an interest in warships that lasts to this day.



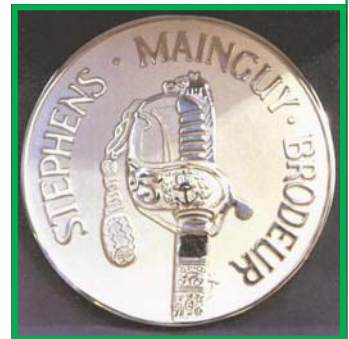
Ken (left) with Rear-Admiral Mark Norman

He is a well-known author, editor, and historian, has written and collaborated on several books about the ships of the Royal Canadian Navy and Maritime Command. Some of these works include: *The Ships of Canada's Naval Forces 1910-1985* (with updates 2002); *The River Class Destroyers of the Royal Canadian Navy*; *Corvettes of the Royal Canadian Navy 1939-1945*; and most recently *Cadillac of Destroyers: HMCS St Laurent and Her Successors*.

On October 12<sup>th</sup> 2011, at The Waddell Hotel in downtown Port Hope, Ken was presented with The Admirals' Medal by Rear-Admiral Mark Norman CD, Deputy Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy. "For his contributions as author and editor of numerous histories of ships of the Royal Canadian Navy, which have added enormously to our maritime heritage."



Obverse



Reverse

The Admirals' Medal was established in 1985 on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Canadian Navy and is awarded annually for outstanding achievements in the areas of maritime-related science, technology and academic studies, or for the application of practical maritime skills warranting special recognition.

The solid silver medal presented to Ken, displays the names of Rear Admirals; George Stephens CB, CBE, Victor Brodeur CB, CBE, and Vice Admiral Rollo Mainguy OBE, who were early officers in the Royal Canadian Navy and served as senior leaders during World War II

Fellow Clansmen in the CMA say "Well Done Ken!" and we wish you "Fair Winds and Following Seas".

#### References:

*Northumberland Today* Nov 14, 2011  
*Canadian Naval Review* Vol. 7 No. 2  
*RCN News* Sep 14, 2011

## HELP WANTED

Bob Archibald advises that he and Marlene intend to take the "coach" and the tent to the following games this summer.

Highlands of Durham Games	Uxbridge ON	July 27
Glengarry Highland Games	Maxville ON	August 3
Fergus Scottish Festival	Fergus ON	August 10

Bob is hoping for CMA members to help staff the tent and appear for the marches of the Clans on each occasion, so we can have a significant presence at each of these games. Remember if we are visible, others will want to join CMA.

If you can be in the area for any of these games, contact Bob at [rarchiba@sympatico.ca](mailto:rarchiba@sympatico.ca) and let him know that you will be there.

It is easy to do and makes for a good outing for you and your family. If you have Macpherson day wear, or a kilt with any accoutrements at all, or even if you don't, please think about coming along and supporting Bob/

For those of you in Ottawa and Montreal areas, Maxville is an hour drive and a very impressive games well worth while

## MARTIAL ARTS AND CMA

By Chantal McPherson



What has martial arts got to do with CMA?

Well, I have been involved in Taekwondo for 27 years which started at the “Oh Jang Taekwondo Club” on St. Catherine St. W., downtown Montreal, training with Master Yoon, a World Taekwondo Federation (WTF)

9<sup>th</sup> Dan black belt. I am a WTF 4<sup>th</sup> Dan. In my twenties I took part in Provincial & National competitions.

Master Yoon, now my husband, had an international career, travelling all over the world as “Team Leader” for our national team and took care of sport politics. He retired from his duties at Taekwondo Canada in 2010.

Modern Taekwondo is a Korean martial art and is also South Korea’s national sport. It differs from other martial arts such as Karate from Japan and Kung Fu from China in that Taekwondo is also an Olympic Sport. and is the only martial art offering an electronic scoring system and instant video replay. The World Taekwondo Peace Corps offers youth programs around the world.

At present I am operating our family business in Mississauga Ontario, as an exclusive importer and wholesaler for the Daedo brand of martial arts equipment. Our product line covers World Taekwondo Federation approved equipment, including the Daedo TK-Strike electronic scoring system which I have been actively marketing across Canada.

This system was featured at the 2012 Olympics in London. It uses wireless technology to allow athletes to score points by wearing E-Foot gloves that have rare earth magnets and also chest protectors with transmitters that communicate to a base station that measure speed & impact of kicks. Head shots, punches and technical bonus points are scored by judges that use a set of wireless triggers.



*Installing a wireless transmitter in a young contestant's equipment*

My job is to set up each competition ring before the tournament to ensure clear & fast communication of all electronics and to be on site during matches in case “all hell breaks loose” If I do my job well, I just watch the matches!

This work is keeping me pretty busy, travelling and helping local Taekwondo organizations set up and operate the new scoring system. I enjoy the challenge of this activity as I meet lots of people and provide technical support to their organizations. So far our system has run flawlessly once set up. It is most interesting to me to see anywhere from two to eight Taekwondo competition rings in Canada working simultaneously with my scoring equipment.

In February 2012 and 2013 I was invited by my American colleagues from TrueScore, the small engineering firm that developed this product, to work at the US Taekwondo Open in Las Vegas. We had 16 competition rings operating which was quite an accomplishment.

I have found Taekwondo a great modern sport and can recommend it to our younger members. It will certainly keep you fit while also giving you the opportunity to practice the patience and discipline needed for “the way of fist & foot” -Tae Kwon Do!

What started as an avocation has become an exciting successful business.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Gordon Macpherson, Honorary Chairman and Chair of the Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for elected positions on the Branch Council for the year 2014. The following positions are vacant at this time and need to be filled:

- Provincial Councilor, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.
- Provincial Councilor, Manitoba.
- Provincial Councilor, Saskatchewan
- Provincial Councilor, British Columbia

The role of the Provincial Councilor is to advise the Chairman on ways to increase the presence of the CMA in the province, to assist with recruiting new members, and to maintain contacts with members.

Nominations will also be accepted for any position on the Council including appointments. See the Officers tab on the Canadian Branch page of the Clan Macpherson Website at <http://www.clan-macpherson.org/> for a list of Branch Officers and key appointments.

Members in good standing who wish to nominate themselves or another member to any position on Council must submit the nomination in writing before September 1, 2013 by email, subject: Nominations 2014, to [rgmmacp@sympatico.ca](mailto:rgmmacp@sympatico.ca) or by post to;

Chairman of the Nominating Committee  
193 Waldoncroft Cres  
Burlington ON, L7L 3A6.

The nomination should state the name of the nominee, the position being sought, and the agreement of the nominee to serve. It is advisable to include a short CV of the candidate and what they will bring to the position if elected.