MINUTES
Clan Macpherson Association, United States Branch
Annual General Meeting
Dunedin City Library, Dunedin, Florida
Saturday, October 25, 2025

A quorum of Members was present.

Called to Order
The Annual General Meeting was called to order at 9:45 AM EST.
The meeting was recorded for the purpose of a transcript.

Flowers of the Forest: as read by Kathy McPherson
- Frances Holladay Archibald, Richmond, VA
- Robert W. Curington, Selma, CA
- Annette L.P. Gentile, Charlton, NY
- Irene Meta Herman (nee McPherson), Williamsville, NY
- Paul E. Puebla III, Longmont, CO
- Barbara Jean Smith, Pocola, OK
- Catherine Margaret Dalgliesh Moyes Macpherson, Scotland
- Lady Jean Henrietta Stewart Macpherson, Scotland
- Alan Mackie of Atlanta, Georgia and Scotland

US Branch Chairman Opening Remarks (Dave McPherson)



Dave thanked all the members that were present for supporting the AGM.

The Canadian Branch of the CMC extends its best wishes for a fun and productive Gathering and AGM to the United States branch

We need to look at ways of streamlining our processes for bringing in new members.

Thank you all for making the trip.

CMA Chairman's Remarks (Angus Macpherson)



Angus thanked everyone for the invitation to him and Valerie.

We are all volunteers. We are very grateful that you contribute time on behalf of the Association.

Angus is trying to visit all the Branches in the Association. He extended an invitation to all US members to come to Newtonmore for the Association Gathering the first weekend of August.

He looks forward to the rest of the weekend.

Approval of 2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes (as published in the Winter 2024 *Urlar*)

Issue # 194 of The Urlar. No amendments or comments to the minutes. Bonnie McPherson motioned to approve the 2024 US Annual General Meeting Minutes. George McPherson seconded. All voted in favor. Motion approved.

Membership Secretary report (Kathy McPherson)



Kathy thanked everyone who stepped in to assist when we needed it.

Kathy has been very busy, but she now has help with Joyce Newport.

We are down by 71 US Branch members since last year. About 13 or 14 members passed away and were deleted from the membership file.

Total Members 664. 437 Life. 16 Term. 157 Annual. 3 Young Adults. 51 Juniors. This time last year, we had 734 total members.

George helped Kathy with annual renewals. He went out with two email blasts. Started with 261 annual members to renew. The first blast went out in August after returning from the Association Gathering. After two blasts, we got 147 to renew. We still have 114 to renew. Kathy is going out with a third blast. Hopefully, we can recover some of the 114 members to renew. Kathy confirmed she will do the third blast. Kathy estimates we would recover 40 of these members. The ones that do not renew, the RCs will be tasked to chase. As well as chase non-renewals from past years.

We see more members in some regions than others. Peggy is making a great push in Pacific North. And always pushing in the Southeast and the Southwest. We see the energy happening in some regions but not in others. One can see the effects of good Conveners. Where we do not have the Conveners and events, it is definitely flatter.

Junior Membership
No report presented at the Annual General Meeting.

Treasurer report (Scott McPherson, given by George McPherson)



Leading up to the AGM, Scott requested that George, as a Past Treasurer, stand in for him to present the US Branch financials.

- **Revised 2025 Budget: review and vote for approval**

George presented the following slides for the review and approval of the revised 2025 budget:

This item requires membership approval.

US Branch 2025 Revised Budget



Budgeted Items	2025 Approved Budget	Through Sept 30, 2025	YTD Growth/Loss %	Remainder 2025 Expected	2025 Forecast
INCOME					
Dues - A, Y, & J Members	$ 7,421.00	$ 5,163.00	-10.4%	$ 1,707.00	$ 6,870.00
Term Memberships	$ 2,000.00	$ 900.00	-37.3%	$ 321.00	$ 1,221.00
Life Memberships	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
General Fund Account Interest	$ 9.70	$ 1,957.89	32750.5%	$ 750.00	$ 2,708.00
Life Fund Account Interest	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Term Fund Account Interest	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Urlar Ads	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Oracle Stock Dividends	$ 448.00	$ -	0.0%	$ 600.00	$ 600.00
Gifts, Grants, and Donations	$ 2,711.00	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
AGM	$ 16,150.00	$ 4,771.50	-31.0%	$ 189.50	$ 4,961.00
Other	$ -	$ -	0.0%		$ -
Museum Donations	$ 11,000.00	$ 12,500.00	25.0%	$ 1,000.00	$ 13,500.00
Transfer from General Account	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Transfer from Term Account	$ 196.61	$ -	0.0%	$ 147.20	$ 147.20
Transfer from Life Account	$ 1,023.46	$ -	0.0%	$ 795.00	$ 795.00
Gross Income	$ 40,959.77	$ 23,340.46	-3.2%	$ 5,509.70	$ 30,802.20
EXPENSES					
Dues to Association	$ 3,914.00	$ -	0.0%	$ 3,386.00	$ 3,386.00
Urlar Expenses	$ 261.00	$ 1,260.00	-100.0%	$ -	$ 1,260.00
Postage and Supplies	$ 172.00	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
AGM Gifts	$ 225.00	$ -	0.0%	$ 225.00	$ 225.00
AGM Sword Shipping	$ 75.00	$ -	0.0%	$ 75.00	$ 75.00
AGM	$ 16,150.00	$ 288.00	0.0%	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,288.00
Regional Commissioner Expenses	$ 2,200.00	$ 30.00	-94.7%	$ 2,170.00	$ 2,200.00
Credit Card Processing & Fees	$ 308.00	$ 159.00	-9.1%	$ 96.00	$ 255.00
Flipping Book - *(Deduct from Dues to Assoc)*	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ 444.00	$ -
Vimeo	$ 144.00	$ -	0.0%	$ 144.00	$ 144.00
Other	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Scholarship Fund	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Flowers	$ 125.00	$ -	0.0%	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
AGM Debts/Deposits	$ 1,000.00	$ 5,350.00	0.0%	$ -	$ 5,350.00
Musem Donations	$ 11,000.00	$ -	0.0%	$ 22,500.00	$ 22,500.00
Urlar Digital Storage	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Transfer to General Account	$ -	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Transfer to Term Account	$ 840.00	$ -	0.0%	$ 810.00	$ 810.00
Transfer to Life Account	$ 764.00	$ -	0.0%	$ -	$ -
Gross Expenses	$ 37,178.00	$ 7,087.00	255.1%	$ 35,950.00	$ 42,593.00
Income minus Expenses	$ 3,781.77	$ 16,253.46	-26.5%	$ (30,440.30)	$ (11,790.80)

This item requires membership approval.

US Branch 2025 Revised Budget

Notes



Year To Date in Review

2025 has seen a significant drop in membership from 2024, specifically in the Annual Memberships. This has created a decrease in membership dues in 2025.

We are holding roughly $22,500 in donations to the Clan Macpherson Museum. Expecting additional year-end donations. All will be sent over together.

In March 2025, the board approved $6,000 in CMA funds to be used to offset expenses for the AGM, to keep rates affordable. $4000 is to come from the General Account and $2000 is to come from operating cash.

Considering the statement above, as well as the holding of museum funds, the actual operating loss is $5,100, which is roughly the same as 2022 and 2023.

Discussion:
2025 Budget was approved last year $37,178. Budget to finish this year is $42,593.

In the Council Meeting a motion was made, seconded and approved to increase the Region grants budget by $1,000, from $2,200 to $3,200. The $1,000 increase is shown in the revised 2025 budget and the figure we are asking for approval is now $43,593.

Big gap in annual dues for this year.

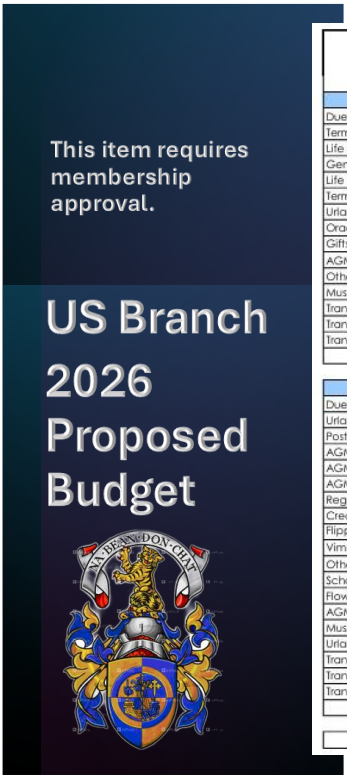
Funds held for Clan Museum will be sent over at the end of the year, as a lump sum. The Museum Funds are strictly a pass-through. Our actual operating budget is around $15,000 per year.

We also get $700 dividends from Oracle stock. This offsets the 6,000 dollars that were used to subsidize the US AGM costs.

Gifts for Conveners and AGM are not part of AGM expenses. It is a separate line item.

2025 Revised Budget Approval
With the above changes, the new revised budget for calendar year 2025 is $43,593. Motion to approve the revised 2025 budget was made by Kathy McPherson. Seconded by Doug McPherson. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Proposed 2026 Budget: review and vote for approval
George presented the following slides for the review and approval of the proposed 2026 budget:



Budgeted Items	2025 Forecast	2026 Approved Budget
INCOME		
Dues - A, Y, & J Members	$ 6,870.00	$ 6,870.00
Term Memberships	$ 1,221.00	$ 2,000.00
Life Memberships	$ -	$ -
General Fund Account Interest	$ 2,708.00	$ 1,900.00
Life Fund Account Interest	$ -	$ -
Term Fund Account Interest	$ -	$ -
Urlar Ads	$ -	$ -
Oracle Stock Dividends	$ 600.00	$ 240.00
Gifts, Grants, and Donations	$ -	$ 2,711.00
AGM	$ 4,961.00	$ 16,150.00
Other	$ -	$ -
Museum Donations	$ 13,500.00	$ 11,000.00
Transfer from General Account	$ -	$ -
Transfer from Term Account	$ 147.20	$ 147.86
Transfer from Life Account	$ 795.00	$ 796.10
Gross Income	$ 30,802.20	$ 41,814.96
EXPENSES		
Dues to Association	$ 3,386.00	$ 3,386.21
Urlar Expenses	$ 1,260.00	$ 261.00
Postage and Supplies	$ -	$ 172.00
AGM Gifts	$ 225.00	$ 225.00
AGM Sword Shipping	$ 75.00	$ 75.00
AGM	$ 6,288.00	$ 16,150.00
Regional Commissioner Expenses	$ 2,200.00	$ 2,200.00
Credit Card Processing & Fees	$ 255.00	$ 308.00
Flipping Book - *(Deduct from Dues to Assoc)*	$ -	$ -
Vimeo	$ 144.00	$ 144.00
Other	$ -	$ -
Scholarship Fund	$ -	$ -
Flowers	$ 100.00	$ 125.00
AGM Debts/Deposits	$ 5,350.00	$ 5,000.00
Musem Donations	$ 22,500.00	$ 11,000.00
Urlar Digital Storage	$ -	$ -
Transfer to General Account	$ -	$ -
Transfer to Term Account	$ 810.00	$ 840.00
Transfer to Life Account	$ -	$ 744.00
Gross Expenses	$ 42,593.00	$ 40,650.21
Income minus Expenses	$ (11,790.80)	$ 1,164.75

Discussion:
Last year, the 2026 budget was approved for $42,593. This year, we present a budget of $40,650.21.

As discussed for the 2025 revised budget, there was a discussion for the 2026 proposed budget to increase Region Grants from $2,200 to $3,200. It was motioned, seconded and approved at the Council Meeting. It will be included in the 2026 proposed budget also.

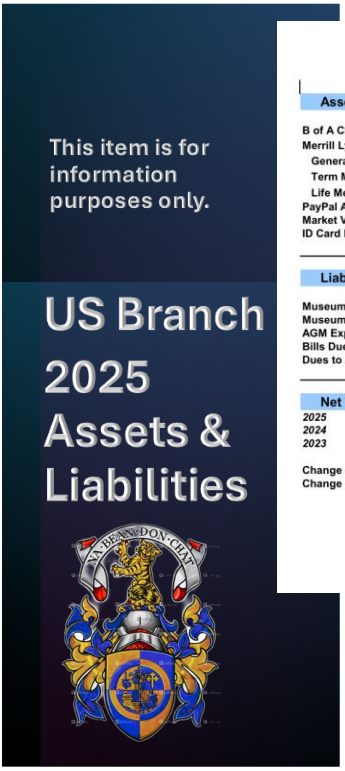
Also, at the Council Meeting and the AGM, Bonnie McPherson briefed on the cost of Microsoft Office Premium for the US Branch. It was determined that licenses are needed for seven people. The total cost is $462.00 per year. It was motioned, seconded and approved by the Council. This will be included in the proposed 2026 budget.

Bruce Sterba discussed some of our investments. $107,000 is with Merril Lynch, in conservative investments. We get about $4,600 in interest from that.

2026 Proposed Budget Approval
As mentioned above, the new proposed budget for 2026 is an additional $1,462, for a total of $41,914.21. Motion to approve was made by Peggy Brewster. Motion seconded by Skip Clark. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Assets and Liabilities

George presented the following slide for discussion of the assets and liabilities. This was not a voting item. It was for informational purposes.



Assets and Liabilities
(As of September 30, 2024)

Assets	9/30/2024	Withdrawals from ML	Additions to ML	9/30/2025
B of A Checking Account	$ 24,025.31			$ 25,490.22
Merrill Lynch Account	$ 107,231.95			$ 110,125.91
General Account	$ 79,495.00			$ 79,495.00
Term Member Account	$ 1,472.00	$ 147.20	$ 810.00	$ 2,134.80
Life Member Account	$ 26,499.38	$ 794.98	$ -	$ 25,704.40
PayPal Account	$ 3,528.81			$ 9,572.18
Market Value of Oracle Stock	$ 59,640.00			$ 98,434.00
ID Card Printer & Digital Scanner	$ -			$ -
Total Assets	*$ 194,426.07*			*$ 243,622.31*

Liabilities		
Museum Funds	$ 10,000.00	$22,500.00
Museum Acquisition Fund	$ -	$ -
AGM Expenses	$ -	$ 6,000.00
Bills Due and Payable	$ -	$ -
Dues to Association	$ 1,171.12	$ 3,385.63
Total Liabilities	*$ 11,171.12*	*$ 31,885.63*

Net Worth of the US Branch	
2025	$ 211,736.68
2024	$ 148,922.39
2023	$ 145,332.91
Change of Net Worth in 12 Month Period	$ 62,814.29
Change of Net Worth in prior 12 Month Period	$ 3,589.49

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The Oracle stock has again increased significantly in value since this time last . This alone has contributed nearly $39,000 in value to the bottom line.

Early in 2025, some funds from the brokerage account were brought into a high-yield account that should create around $2,700 in interest alone by the end of 2025.

Discussion:
Comparison from September 2024 to September 2025. Increase of net worth from $148,922.39 to $211,736.68. The large increase is attributable to the increase in the value of the Oracle stock. It went from $59,600 to $98,400 in round numbers. This is the impact of the growth of AI.

The change in net worth from September 2024 to September 2025 is $62,814.29. Advice given not to sell Oracle stock

(350 shares). To hold onto it for the next five years at least, due to the rapid rise of AI.

Bruce Sterba discussed some of our investments managed by the Investment Committee. $107,000 is with Merril Lynch, in conservative investments. We get about $4,600 in interest from that. Investment Committee: Bruce Sterba, George McPherson, Scott McPherson, Chairman, and adding Asst Treasurer Ben McCluney.

Our Investment Committee is a mix of risk investors. We, as a Committee, lean toward conservative on investments. It is not our money.

Bruce Sterba briefed on the issue of collecting past dividends (about 3 years) equaling $1,743. Bruce has made a second effort to recover the funds. We are still working on recovering all the funds. We will recover the funds for the US Branch without paying any service fees.

When one looks at our net worth, our financial stability can be measured. If the net worth is divided by our operating budget, we have about ten years' reserves in our investments.

Regional Commissioner Reports
Graham Gillespie explained the advantages of increasing the region grants from $2,200 to $3,200.

As Vice Chair of the U.S. Branch, Graham Gillespie is the contact for any regions which currently do not have Regional Commissioner representation. The following are included for the current year:

Gulf Coast Region (Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana)
While there are a few Highland Games and Festivals taking place in the region, the CMAUS does not have official representation at them. CMAUS member Willie Dunning III has been setting up a tent at festivals in Alabama, and we will be coordinating additional outreach to increase support for his efforts in 2026. As well as hopefully building others.

Midwest Region (North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio)
Similarly, CMAUS member James McPherson is representing the Branch at festivals in Michigan, but we lack a regional commissioner for overall coordination in the rest of the states. That search continues into 2026 while also providing support to James. As of the Summer, four new members have signed up to join the CMA.

Rocky Mountain Region (Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico)
After the retirement of long-time regional commissioner Ruthe Macpherson, it has been difficult to find consistent representation at the festivals. Particularly as the region is so large geographically, stretching from border to border. Ruthe had been successful in recruiting Paul Puebla to take on convening at festivals, but unfortunately Paul passed

away unexpectedly late this year. We send our condolences to Paul's family and friends. And will take up the search again for an RC. We do understand there are active, engaged members in the region who we may rely on in the future to step up.

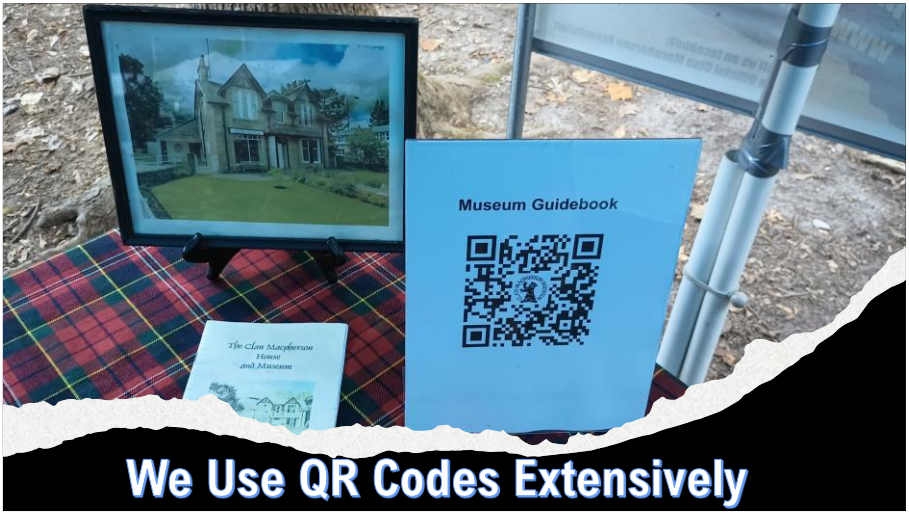
New England Region (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut)
Conversely, New England is ably represented by Donald Platt, as Regional Commissioner. Donald has been to a few festivals this year, however, he is facing some health issues currently and has been unable to complete his report. Stay tuned for future report updates in coming issues of The Urlar. As of the Summer, three new members have signed up to join the CMA.

Southeast Region
George McPherson was asked to present the Southeast Region first.
The following slides were presented to illustrate what is happening in the Southeast Region.



It is impossible for one person or one couple to cover the 7 states in the Southeast Region. Thanks to our many volunteers and tent conveners, we do a great job of promoting the Clan Macpherson and our Association. And also our Museum. Many of the tent conveners and volunteers are in the audience today at this AGM.





Clan Macpherson Association Membership
Join or Renew



We embrace everyone at tents in our region. Young and not so old. All nationalities and all races. Everyone. If someone is interested in Clan Macpherson, we welcome them. We try to get everyone involved.

Southwest Region



Greetings to our Association Chairman Angus Macpherson and to all Officers and members of the U.S. Branch of Clan Macpherson Association in attendance. Firstly, I want to thank George and Bonnie McPherson for all their time and hard work to stage this AGM in Dunedin, FL. They stepped-up when no one else answered the call. Believe me, it's not an easy job, and the last thing everyone wanted was to hold another virtual AGM. Like the past 3 years, member registrations have been a constant struggle, but it looks like we have enough for a quorum this time. It's also unfortunate that the Canadian Branch has elected not to continue participating in joint AGMs.

As of September 1st, of this year, the SW Region had only 57 total members. This figure is comprised of: 37 Life, 1 Term, 16 Annual, and 3 Junior members. Compared to last year, my total membership losses were 16 (22% decrease). The specific reductions were: Life, two due to death; Annual, 13 due to non-payment of dues; and Junior, 1 after reaching the age limit. This Annual member retention rate of only 45% is unacceptable for our U.S. Branch to remain viable! At some point in time, it's imperative that we have a serious discussion regarding yearly dues. The amount must attract new members, but more importantly, it should be within the budget of existing members. Just some food for thought, over the past 10 years, our assets have almost tripled while membership has dropped by ~50%. Essentially, we are financially rich, but membership poor.

My conveners participated at the following Southwest Scottish festivals this year:
North Texas Irish Festival (Dallas, TX), Feb. 28-Mar 2
Conveners: Bruce & Kathy Sterba and Rick McPherson. If you only can attend one Celtic festival in 2026, this should be at the top of your list.

Sherman Festival & Highland Games (Sherman, TX), Mar 21-23
Conveners: Bruce & Kathy Sterba and Rick McPherson. This is the fastest growing Scottish festival in Texas, and I encourage all the SW members to attend in 2026.

Oklahoma Highland Gathering (Choctaw, OK), October 10-12
Conveners: Bruce & Kathy Sterba. We planned to attend this event, but unfortunately, a family illness required a last-minute drive to Iowa the same weekend. We hope to convene next year.

Houston Highland Games (Houston, TX), October 12
Conveners: Terry & Candi Smith. It's a smaller festival but growing larger each year.

Scottish Gathering & Highland Games (Salado, TX), November 8-10
Conveners: Bruce & Kathy Sterba and Rick McPherson. Tape the football games and make plans to attend because the venue and beautiful fall weather are always perfect!

SW Christmas Party (Arlington, TX), December 7
Clan Macpherson hosted a table at the Cowtown Scots St. Andrew's dinner. Everyone brought a wrapped Christmas

tree ornament for our gift exchange. It was a wonderful start to the holiday season!
Robert Burns' Supper (Fort Worth, TX), January 21
The CMA had a separate table at the new Fort Worth church venue for this Cowtown Scots celebration. Everyone had a great time, and we hoped that more members would join us in celebrating our wonderful Scottish heritage in 2026! All Scots should honor Rabbie, the Bard of Scotland, on his birthday.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bruce A. H. Sterba
Commissioner, Southwest Region
U.S. Branch of Clan Macpherson Association

Pacific North Region



Greetings Cousins,

We had a busy year this year. I convened the clan tent at 7 games this year. Four were in Oregon and three in Washington state. Eugene, Albany, Douglas County (Roseburg), and McMinnville in Oregon. Skagit (Mt Vernon), Enumclaw (Seattle), and Kelso were in Washington. Planning on 6 for next year and two of those will be run by my Convenors.

We added 9 new Association memberships. There may be a couple more as I wait to hear of online signups that I have been told would be done. The Pacific North total of members is currently at 66 - assuming that my

list of current members have renewed. We had about 65 people signing in at the tent with many more just stopping by this year.

The new convenors, Pete and Megan Macpherson in the Roseburg area in Oregon did a great job convening their local games. They have been extremely helpful and came up to McMinneville again to help run the tent there also. It's wonderful to have a whole family involved and seeing the future generation very interested in their culture. Lisa Wright is the newest convenor in Mt Vernon (Skagit HG) and was excited to start right in at the tent this year, helping and learning the ropes. She will be the Convenor for next year, although we do hope to be up there also.

Many thanks to my husband Bob Livingston (Council Member-at-Large), for his outstanding help in convening and getting us (including the cat!) to all the games.

Yours aye,
Peggy Brewster
Commissioner Pacific North Region

Pacific Central Region
Scots on the Rocks finally came back. Yosemite Games is a new one. Will be there next week.

Lack of volunteers, people aging out – has caused a huge number of events to be cancelled in the Pacific Central region.

Pleasanton Games this Labor Day weekend was the first time it got back to normal.

Encouraged everyone to get out to the games to make connections.

David J. McPherson
Pacific Central Regional Commissioner

Central Region



Greetings to all those in attendance this year's Annual General Meeting of the USA Branch of the Clan Macpherson.

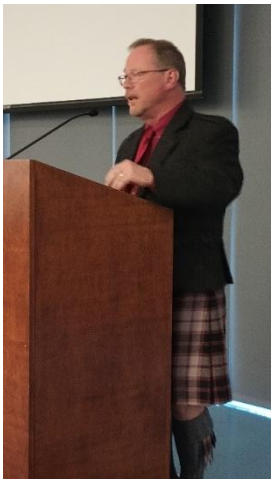
This year, the Central Region has continued its growth in the number of Scottish games and festivals. For 2025, there were 9 events in the Central Region. Norma and I were able to attend 6 events. We will be attending the Lyons College 7th Games and Scottish Festival in Batesville, Arkansas, the weekend following this AGM. The 2 games that we could not attend were due to schedule conflicts. The other Games were scheduled at the same time.

According to the information provided to me by our Membership Chair "Kathy MacPherson" the membership of the Central Region for 2025 stands at a total of 26 members, down 2 members from 2024's, 28 members. There are 15 life members, down one due to the passing of Barabra Smith. There are 7 annual members. 4 new annual members, with a loss of 5 annual members. Finally, we have a total of 4 Junior members.

Norma and I have enjoyed the chance to travel to various Games and Scottish Festivals in the Centurial Region. Both of us retired, so we have more flexibility in our schedule to

travel to these Games. We both look forward to enjoying more years of serving the USA Branch Clan MacPherson.

Nominations Committee report (Graham Gillespie)



Discussion

- The Chairman is stepping down to focus on personal career requirements. A replacement is necessary. Dave McPherson discussed his lack of bandwidth to search for work, start a LLC, and do the Chairmanship at the same time. John Bierens has agreed to step up.

- The Recording Secretary, Bob Wagner, has retired after many years of service. The membership is being canvassed for a volunteer to fill the position.

• The Northeast Regional Commissioner position is open, but remains covered with convener Bethani Rahrle for festivals in Upstate New York and former region convener Graham Gillespie for the NYC Tartan Day Parade.

• The Gulf Coast Regional Commissioner position remains open. Finding leadership for the region is a priority for 2026.

• The Midwest Regional Commissioner position remains open. A replacement is being sought. James McPherson, past Council member, supports efforts in Michigan. We will coordinate with James for expanded coverage.

• The Regional Commissioner position for the Rocky Mountain region is open. A potential candidate to fill the position unfortunately passed away recently. We are

coordinating with past RC Ruthe Macpherson in the search for a replacement. There may be candidates available.

• The Pacific South Regional Commissioner, Annie Shreckengost, wishes to retire. She will aid in the search for a replacement.

• Graham Gillespie, in his role as Vice Chair of the U.S. Branch, serves as contact for members in regions without commissioners.

• Members Joyce Newport and Benjamin McCluney have come forward to volunteer for Assistant Membership Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, respectively.

• A Facebook Coordinator for the US Branch is needed. The CMA/US Website Content Editor, David Muxo McPherson, has been filling in but he will be retiring at the end of 2026. This position could be combined with the Website Content Editor position, which also remains unfilled.

• The Junior Membership Secretary, Norma Bierens, is retiring but has agreed to stay on while a replacement is found.

Nominating Committee Proposal for 2026: Officers, Regional Commissioners and Council Members-at-Large
The following is the proposed slate of Officers, Regional Commissioners and Council Members-at-Large for consideration for service during the 2026 calendar year. The proposal, was approved by the Council, and is presented at the Annual General Meeting, for additional nominations from the floor and a vote to be affirmed by the General Membership.

(c)=continuing
(n)=new

Officers

Chairman	John M. Bierens (n)
Vice Chairman	Graham Gillespie (c)
Recording Secretary	open
Treasurer	Scott McPherson (c)
Membership Secretary	Kathy McPherson (c)
Editor of The Urlar	George McPherson (c)

Regional Commissioners

Central	John M. Bierens (c)
Gulf Coast	open
Mid Atlantic	Robert Wagner (c)
Midwest	open
New England	Donald Platt (c)
Northeast	open
Pacific Central	David McPherson (c)
Pacific North	Peggy Brewster (c)
Pacific South	Anne Shreckengost (c)
Rocky Mountain	open
Southeast	George McPherson (c)
Southwest	Bruce A. H. Sterba (c)

Council Members-at-Large

Council Member-at-Large	Bob Livingston (c)
Council Member-at-Large	David Muxo Macpherson (c)

There were no nominations from the floor.

A motion was made by Dave McPherson to approve this slate of Officers, Region Commissioners, and Council-

Members-At-Large. The motion was seconded by George McPherson. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Appointed Positions

Asst. Treasurer	Benjamin McCluney (n)
Asst. Membership Secretary	Joyce Newport (n)
Asst. Membership Secretary #2	open
Junior Membership Secretary	open, Norma Bierens interim
Publications Committee Chairman	George McPherson (c)
Asst. Editor of The Urlar	open
Fettle Editor	open, Norma Bierens interim
Website Content Editor-US Branch	David Muxo Macpherson (c)
Asst. Website Content Editor-US Branch	open
Facebook Coordinator-US Branch	open
Site Committee Chairman	Graham Gillespie (c)
Nominations Committee Chairman	Graham Gillespie (c)

Committees

Temporary Committees at request of Council (from 2018)

Youth Membership Committee	open + (2 additional open)

Investment Committee

- George McPherson
- David McPherson
- Bruce Sterba
- Scott McPherson (Treasurer ex officio)
- Benjamin McCluney (Asst. Treasurer ex officio)

Fundraising Committee	open

Note: Per the Bylaws, the Council Appointees and Committees are voted upon by the Council and only presented at the Annual General Meeting to the members for informational purposes. No vote is taken at the AGM on this item.

Respectfully submitted,
Graham Gillespie, Nominating Committee Chair

Gathering Events For Remainder Of The Weekend.
During an ensuing break, George McPherson talked about the events for Saturday and Sunday. He encouraged everyone to take a photo of the AGM weekend schedule as well as the Tiki Shuttle schedule.

Site Committee Report (Graham Gillespie)
As of the AGM meeting, we do not have a location for the AGM & Gathering for next year. It is open for discussion at this AGM.

We WILL have an in-person AGM next year.

Graham thanked Bonnie and George for convening this year's AGM.

Need to try to replicate the Dunedin AGM formula: near a population center with easy access to an airport; a welcoming host city; many events and points of interest; affordable; walkable; ideally have a historic tie to Scotland.

Las Vegas is a fallback location for next year. (Plan Z). If we do select Las Vegas, we are going back to the Tuscany Suites and Casino, two blocks off the strip due to the relationships established in 2023 which will facilitate easier and affordable accommodations. We will again look to check the formula boxes for popular events, excursions, etc. The city is also readily accessible from most parts of the U.S.

RCs need to think about places in their region that are good locations for an AGM. We will continue this conversation into the future to be able to plan two years ahead.

We have templates for AGMs, and we can provide lots of help.

We need to decide by the end of this calendar year where we want to be next year for our AGM. Otherwise, it is too late to do all the planning required for an AGM.

Old Business
No Discussion.

New Business
1. A brief discussion was had about keeping the Branch Calendar updated and accessible in The Urlar and/or the Website. From their experience this year while traveling, Laurel and Tim Christie were able to fill in at the Estes Park, CO festival where there was not a convener. It would have been helpful to them to have had a contact or convener information.
George noted the difficulty in keeping both info souces, Urlar and website coordinated, despite the forms generated by Kathy for the RCs to submit.
It was noted that the website can be accessed by members and the general public in a search, while the Urlar is open to members only. It seems if we want anyone to be able to find us at festivals the website should be the focus for up-to-date, accurate information. With a quick link from the Urlar.
After a few more comments it was decided to have a few people work on this, and to involve CMA/US Webmaster Dave Muxo involved.
2. Doug McPherson asked how Life dues are determined. And whether a family plan could be an offering. As this involves an Association discussion and determination this question can be taken up there in the next year.

3. John Bierens encouraged Regional Commissioners to be more proactive in working with the Membership Secretary for member communications in their regions. The RCs know their particular region best.

AOCB
No Discussion.

Adjourn
The 2025 US Branch General Council Meeting was adjourned at 1:28 PM EST.

Action Items From the 2025 US Branch Annual General Meeting
1. As per the approval of the US members, Treasurer Scott McPherson to revise the 2025 Budget to $43,593.
2. As per the approval of the US members, Treasurer Scott McPherson to revise the 2026 Proposed Budget to $41,914.21.

Respectfully Submitted,
George McPherson, for Robert Wagner