

CLAN CHATTER

VOL. 17, ISSUE 2, FALL 2021

Published for the

MacDuffee Clan Society of America, Inc.

Organized 1962 on Grandfather Mountain

Incorporated 1968 and 2018 as Amended

In Loving Memory of Wini McDuffie

March 4, 1927 – October 8, 2021



Fall 2021 Message from the President

Finally, it is time to bring our Clan Society back to the Games! It has been too long since we have raised our banner in celebration of our Scottish Heritage. It took a world-wide pandemic to break our string of 62 years on the Mountain. We hope that you all have done well during the last two years and are ready to get your Kilt on.

We have many opportunities to celebrate Scotland during the year: The Highland Games, St. Andrew's Day, Robert Burns Night, National Tartan Day and the International Mcfie Clan Day. We have included a MacDuffee Clan Society Calendar for your reference and celebration.

The leaders of the 2021 Highland Games did their best under the circumstances in 2020 and 2021 with video, websites, and limited attendance at the Games. We appreciate their efforts and now look forward to rejoining the full 2022 gatherings.

Please take a moment to read about a very important past Clan Society member, Wini McDuffie who is now a Flower of the Forest. Wini was a constant on the Mountain for untold years and was a force in supporting her husband, Bruce, and others to keep our Society growing and moving forward. It takes many people like Wini for a Clan to prosper. We thank her and her family for all that they have contributed.

While we all hope that 2022 brings renewed health for everyone each of us must make our own informed health decision regarding attending the 2022 Games.

As always, your continuing support of the MacDuffee Clan Society and attendance at the games are greatly appreciated. We always enjoy meeting new and senior "cousins" and sharing our rich family Scottish History. Thank you to everyone and we'll see you at the Games in 2022.

All the Best for the upcoming Holiday season!

Regards,

Tom

Thomas Patrick McDuffee FSAScot
President MacDuffee Clan Society of America, Inc.

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Iain McFie
Coulintyre Cottage
Kingcraig, Kingussie

Clan Society Topics

Future Clan Society Leaders

If you have interest in being a servant leader or have expertise in Genealogy in any family line of our Clan Society, please let any of the current officers know of your interest or contact me directly. It is a little work, but the reward is a lifetime of friendships and “cousins” from everywhere. You may apply for any current position. We need and welcome qualified candidates and backups to assure continuity for our Clan Society to continue and improve.

2022 Games Schedule

The MacDuffee Clan Society plans to convene our 58th 2022 AGM on Grandfather Mountain on Saturday July 9th. The 65th Grandfather Mountain Games will run from July 7th to the 10th, 2022. We also will sponsor a tent at the Loon Mountain Games the third weekend of September, 2022 in Lincoln, NH. The dates are September 16, 17 and 18. Both Games have very professional websites at GMHG.ORG and NHSCOT.ORG where you can view videos about the games and review all the ticket options available for the times you would like to visit.

International Macfie Clan Seeks New Commander

Our Clan Commander Iain McFie has announced that he is stepping down as commander. The International Clan at this time has reached out to the Court of the Lord Lyon for guidance regarding how to select a new commander. Unfortunately, the Court has been closed due to the pandemic and has informed the International Clan that it may be 2022 before any action may proceed which would include a family convention. We certainly wish Iain well and thank him for his service to the Clan. We were advised that Iain’s brother, Bob McFie, will temporarily fulfill his duties until a new Commander is elected

MacDuffee Scholarship

Please be reminded that eligible students may apply, by May 1st of their Senior year, for the *MacDuffee The Younger Scholarship*. Details and application are listed on our website: macduffeeclansociety.org

Your Family Tree Story

As a reminder we have added a section to include short stories about your family history. Send our Editor Julie MacDuffie Hall your best short story about your history, significant family achievements that are of interest to the Clan Society or special events in history that you or your family experienced. Thanks!

International Clan Parliament: 2023

The Clan is planning for the next International Parliament to be held in Scotland in 2023. This date is important as our last Clan Chief died in 1623, 400 years earlier. This may, if planning goes well, be the first opportunity for our new Clan Commander to lead the Parliament.

GENEALOGY

There is a web seminar on family research in Scotland that might be helpful to those interested at: <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/webinars.asp> about halfway down the page there is the link, it is under archived webinars: RESEARCHING YOUR SCOTTISH ANCESTORS. Scotland has a wealth of records available to assist you in researching your Scottish ancestry. Scottish statutory records of births, marriages and deaths began in 1855 and are available online together with census returns from 1841-1911. Other records include Old Parish Records of baptisms, marriages and burials, records from Catholic archives and Scottish wills and testaments.

Genealogy library & museum now can be reached by <http://www.masoncountymuseum.org/articles/home/asp>

WEB SITES for RESEARCH

Come join us on Facebook at - MacDuffee Clan Society of America

Beth Gay's new web site is <http://www.electricscotland.com/bnft/> Family Tree a very good Publication covering Scottish Clan & the games.
The Scottish Parliament has finally decided to establish an official tartan register. It will be maintained by the Keeper of the Records of Scotland and kept at the National Archives in Edinburgh. The register will also be available online.
at www.tartanregister.gov.uk
<http://www.ancestry.com/> This site has a plethora of information. It will let you search but must join to retrieve data.
<http://www.recordslogin.com/members/?stid=4jvr8koklvjs9smas4a8pkfh7>
<http://www.scottishcatholicarchives.org.uk/>
<http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/>
<http://www.search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#start>
<http://www.ancestryquest.com/>
<http://govgenealogyseach.com/>
<http://mt-spurr.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/> This is the Allen County, Indiana Public Library, genealogy section. They have volunteers that, for about \$10, will research everything in the state for you.
<http://www.colonsay.org.uk/Housechart.htm>

Clan Society Items

Clan Society Polo-Shirts are available. They are green with the MacDuffee Clan Society logo with the claymore behind it embroidered on the left breast. The cost is \$ 25.00. Anyone wishing to purchase items please contact David Nathan McDuffie, our SR VP and Treasurer.

Clan Society T-Shirts are also available by contacting David Nathan McDuffee. They are \$18.00 for S-XL, and \$21 for larger sizes.

Flower of the Forest

Winifred “Wini” Groover McDuffie

Wini gently passed away on October 8, 2021. Born in Atlanta on March 4, 1927 to Marshall Eugene Groover and Mary Winifred Power Groover, Wini grew up in La Grange, Georgia and attended LaGrange College before graduating from the University of Georgia and Emory School of Nursing. She married Bruce McDuffie, our past President, in September 1950. The couple lived in Atlanta and in Washington, Pennsylvania before settling in Binghamton, New York in 1958. Wini lovingly raised their three children, nurturing and encouraging their creativity. Music was always playing and crayons and paper available for drawing! Wini obtained a Masters degree in Early Childhood



Education from SUNY Binghamton and pursued additional graduate work in Intergenerational Studies at Cornell University. She worked at the Interracial Association in Binghamton, taught pre-school, community college, and continually advocated for young children and families. Wini and Bruce moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee in the late 1980s where she worked as Volunteer Coordinator at Senior Neighbors; she later volunteered at Calvin Donaldson Elementary and community after school programs, and delighted in teaching art to children. Wini's generous heart and caring nature are celebrated by everyone fortunate enough to have known her.

Bruce accused her of running "Soft-touch Manor" where homeless cats and dogs always found welcome. Her genuine warmth, concern, and love for all creatures is her enduring legacy, and she lived her life with amazing grace. Wini is survived by her brother Charles Groover (Jacqui) of Gainesville, GA, three children: Susan McDuffie (Salvador Romero), John McDuffie, and Judie Churchill (John), three grandsons: Robert Churchill (Meghan), Sean Churchill (Adrianna), and Zachary Churchill, four great-grandchildren and numerous much-loved nieces, nephews, and cousins. Wini leaves us with many wonderful memories.

International Clan Member Updates

Linda McFee Gilcrest, McFie International Clan Newsletter Editor, has been in the hospital. She is fighting a particularly virulent infection and we all wish her the best of health as she gets back on her feet.

MacDuffee Clan Society Scottish Calendar

November 30, 2021 St. Andrew's Day

St. Andrew has been the patron saint of Scotland since the 9th century. However, it wasn't until 2007 that St. Andrew's Day became an official bank holiday in Scotland. Many of the traditions that are associated with St. Andrew's Day go all the way back to pagan practices. Some of these pagan practices, which include Saturnalia and Celtic practices, were intermingled with Christian traditions. In Scotland it is often celebrated with traditional Scottish food and dancing. It is also often seen as the beginning of the Scottish winter festival seasons which begins with St. Andrew's Day and concludes with Hogmanay and Burns Night.

January 25, 2022 Robert Burns Night

January hails a dinner celebration for all Scots-the birthday of Scotland's most famous poet, Robert Burns. Traditional elements of the Burns Supper are held all over the country featuring the famed national meal called Haggis. It is an obligatory dish during Burns Night for it was so loved by Burns that he devoted a poem to the dish. It is served with neeps and tatties (turnips and potatoes).

The tradition of Burns suppers started soon after the poet's death in 1796 by several friends and about 200 years later became a nationwide holiday.

Burns suppers include a piper greeting the guests, a predinner recitation of The Selkirk Grace, a prayer written by Burns, and followed by the Immortal Memory Toast so everyone may honor the poet. Often there are very Scottish silent auctions (whisky), great fun and an evening ending, with Burns, by singing his Auld Lang Syne.

April 6, 2022 National Tartan Day

National Tartan Day, observed in the United States on April 6 every year, commemorates the day that the Declaration of Arbroath (or the Scottish Declaration of Independence) was signed in 1320. The reason it's so important is that the American Declaration of Independence was actually modeled on the Declaration of Arbroath and quite a big proportion of the Founding Fathers were of Scottish descent as almost half of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and nine of the 13 governors of the newly established United States, were Scottish.

Returning in person for the first time since 2019, the NYC Tartan Day Parade will take place on Saturday, April 9, 2022, in historic midtown Manhattan. The swirl of kilts, the skirl of bagpipes and the cheers of thousands of spectators await. This beloved celebration of Scottish-American culture promises to be extraordinary in scope, talent and turnout as we gather in person once again.

May 27, 2022 International Macfie Clan Day

July 7-10, 2022 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and our Annual General Meeting on July 9th. For over 60 years Grandfather has been our Home Games.

September 16-18, 2022 New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival at Loon Mountain

BOOK REVIEW

"The Colonsay & Oronsay Pilgrim Trail"

In the Footsteps of the Earliest Christian Missionaries to Scotland

By Kevin Byrne and Andrew McMorrine

Available through House of Lochar, Isle of Colonsay, Argyll, Scotland PA61 7YR

This well-researched, little book is the perfect companion for those who are interested in not only the Christian history of the Isles of Colonsay and Oronsay, but those who wish to explore the isles by foot, auto or cycle. The trails will give the traveler a new perspective on the isles and their beauty and history. The book is divided into six sections that can be followed at leisure in any order, and up to one-third of these trails can be driven or cycled. It is amazing how much history has been woven throughout the book and there is no doubt that traveling these trails will give you a new appreciation of these beautiful isles...exploring areas and monuments that had not previously been seen or noticed. The reader will find many monuments, cairns and rock formations. This was researched using open sources and paid subscriptions.

For more detail, visit these websites: The Sugar Macfie Family of Scotland Underground History: A peek below the surface at Karori Cemetery Papers of the MacFie Family, sugar refiners, Greenock and Liverpool -University of Glasgow Archives Hub Sugar Refiners and Sugarbakers Database (contains information about the Sugar Macfies and scans of original letters). Trove online Australian Archive British Newspaper Family Search (LDS) Headstone inscription: In memory of Ellison Thorburn MACFIE of Redford, Colinton Mid-Lothian, widow of the late Sir Thomas McClure Bart. [Baronet] of Belmont Co. Down, Ireland and daughter of Robert Andrew MACFIE of Dreghorn Castle, Mid-Lothian. She died suddenly on-board SS Warimoo in Wellington Harbour on 4 January 1906 in her 63rd year. Ye know not on what day your Lord cometh. hitherto had been 'passed by' without knowing the historical significance of their "stories in stone." You will find new meaning in the remnants of stone that tell a story of when Christianity first came to the isle. The book contains several references to "MacDuffie" within the Oronsay Priory and, most significantly, elaborating on the Oronsay Cross of Malcolm MacDuffie, our Clan's last Chief. You will find this reference, as well as others in Section 2 of the book.

This book is excellent for not only for the religious historian, but the recreational hiker as well. *Oronsay: The book uses this spelling of the isle in accordance with the Ordinance Survey, although local usage prefers "Oransay" in reference to its Gaelic name, "Orasaigh." (Editor's Note: We met Kevin on our first visit to Colonsay in 2006. At that time, he was the Harbor Master as well as the driver of the school bus. He unselfishly provided us with his time, as well as a litany of information on the Macfies/MacDuffees on Colonsay. Kevin is the Isle Historian, and publisher of several newsletters on various aspects of Colonsay life, flora and fauna, as well as being the proprietor of several self-catering cottages on the isle. He is an encyclopedia of knowledge on the history and genealogy of the isle.

The Scottish Parliament 1560-1707, Glimpses of old Scots Parish Life and Bishop Norie's Dundee Baptismal Register, 1722-26 From the Scottish Historical Review which you can read at: https://electricScotland.com/history/articles/scottish_parliament_article.htm

Be sure to check out photos at our MacDuffee Clan Society website, macduffeeclansociety.com, and on Facebook.

Photo: David Nathan McDuffie is second from the right at a previous Grandfather Mountain Gathering. David always finds a way to proudly keep our Clan Society up front.



MEETINGS, GAMES & GATHERINGS

Nov 13 & 14, 2021 Highland Games & Celtic Music Festival, 15321 County Farm Road, Gulfport, MS 39503 www.mshighlandsandislands.org

Feb 5, 2022 Sarasota Highland Games & Festival 3000 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota, FL <http://www.sarasotahighlandgames.com/>

Student Board Member (Open)

Students interested in applying for consideration as the Student Committee Member should submit the following information to the President of MacDuffee Clan Society: *Name, Date of Birth, Year in School, Organization (school, civic, service) membership(s), your Clan Society membership level or member name of parent and/or grandparent. (Note that all dues must be current.) Please submit a paragraph as to why you would like to serve the Clan Society. Submit your input to Thomas McDuffee, President, MacDuffee Clan Society at tpmjim@aol.com.*

Duties of the Student Board Member include the following:

- 1.) Responsible for sharing of Scottish information, assisting with coordination of the Clan Society Marches at the AGM at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, and providing a Society interface with children in the MacDuffee Clan Society.
- 2.) Participates in the review of Clan Society Scholarship recommendations unless they are a candidate.
- 3.) Assures that Clan Tents are maintained.
- 4.) Student Board members do not have a vote in Clan Society affairs unless they are at least 18 years of age prior to the AGM.
- 5.) Student Board Members are to be at least 13 years of age by the first AGM in which they serve and may serve for 2-year terms unless reelected unopposed.
- 6.) Encourages other youth members of the Society to compete in the Highland Games competition.
- 7.) Attendance at AGMs is not mandatory, but input is important.

CLAN CHATTER INFORMATION

The Clan Chatter is scheduled to be published in Spring and Fall of each year. Clan Society members with articles need to submit them by the 15th of March or September for consideration. These can include births, marriages, deaths, achievements and, etc.

Please advise the Editor of any changes in address or email addresses. Anyone that is currently receiving an issue by snail mail and wishes to have an electronic copy please let her know. They can be submitted by forwarding to Julie Hall (Editor) at 506 Stone St., Watertown, NY 13601 or juliehall522@yahoo.com

FROM THE EDITOR

Well, we survived our very wet summer and closed our camp a couple of weeks ago, the countdown has started for next season. We both received our vaccines and have been well, even with our high rate here (6.09%).

NOW THAT THE USPS HAS SLOWED ALL MAIL DELIVERIES AS OF OCT 3rd AND HAS RAISED THE RATES OF POSTAGE, YET AGAIN. I STRONGLY ENCOURAGE EVERYONE THAT HAS INTERNET AVAILABILITY TO FORWARD YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS (if you haven't already). I RECENTLY RECEIVED BACK A NEWSLETTER THAT WAS MAILED IN THE SPRING.

Julie



From the family of Julie and Clan Officers