

CLAN CHATTER

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Published for the

MacDuffee Clan Society of America, Inc.

Organized 1962 on Grandfather Mountain

Incorporated 1968 and 2018 as Amended



Pictured is the stylized version of the sixteenth century (1539) carved grave-slab of Murchardus MacDufie of Colonsay located in the Oronsay Priory as presented on our new Parade Banner for the Highland Games. It is displayed on the Ancient Colors of our Tartan.

Message from the President

November 23, 2024

The year of 2024 has been quite a busy time for the MacDuffee Clan Society and for the Clan. We are a bit late with this edition of the Chatter but we wanted to have the latest information from the Council of Presidents.

COUNCIL of PRESIDENTS UPDATE

As a quick refresher the Clan convened a Council of Presidents as elected representatives from all Societies to settle the name of the Clan and then to identify a qualified Commander. The Council and the Court of the Lord Lyon set clear guidelines as to how this effort was to be conducted. Transparency, integrity, confidentiality, and ability to work with consensus were all required attributes. The Council at the request of the Court was to share all known correct information about the Clan and to not solicit or lobby inputs via social media. The Lord Lyon also required the outcome to be an overwhelming consensus of preferences by Clan members, not a vote.

Unfortunately, these principles were violated multiple times by the Council. At the conclusion of the Round 1 submission of preferences it was clear that the input submitted by Clan members was invalid and could not be used for any sort of decision. We were at risk of a Court imposed penalty of 5 to 10 years before we would be allowed to petition again.

The Council decided to recognize the challenge, admit the errors and to appeal to the Court to allow additional time to complete the process correctly. The good news is that the appeal was approved by the Lord Lyon. We have another chance that will be closely monitored by the Court. All previous dates for the process are postponed including the Family Convention previously set for May 2025 in Scotland. New dates will come from the Council.

As a recap of the information: The primary facts that drive this action are that there are no formal records at the Court of a name being decided correctly by the Clan at any time, the previous assertion that an earlier Lord Lyon named the Clan is false as only Clans determine their own name, not the Lord Lyon, the Crest and motto (Pro Rege) allegedly given/assigned to the Clan may not be used by the Clan as they strictly belong to an individual thus it is the equivalent of a copyright infringement to use them (note that our Society uses the 1539 Grave Slab of Murchardus MacDufie as our symbol) and the basic fact that the current Lord Lyon is not bound by any previous decisions of prior Lord Lyons. Thus, the current Lord Lyon has decreed that we have no Clan name and that this must be settled before a Commander may be determined.

When the replacement process for settling the Clan name is determined I can only ask that all our eligible Society members fully engage again and submit your preference. Our Society did a great job of submitting input for Round 1 with integrity and promptness. Well done and Thank you. These are decisions that if completed correctly and approved by the Court will affect our Clan for decades. If eligible please participate. If you have a question regarding eligibility please email your question to me at tpmjim@aol.com.

NEXT GAMES for 2025

The Society will convene our 2025 AGM on Grandfather Mountain July 12, 2025, and also convene a tent at the Loon Mountain Highland Games the third weekend in September 2025.

Steve Quillin, President of the Grandfather Games has confirmed that despite the terrible destruction from Hurricane Helene that the 2025 Games will be held on time. We reached out to Steve a couple days after the destruction to ask what the Clans could do to help. He responded a couple weeks later with a challenge to the Clans and Societies that call Grandfather home. See our response below.

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

On July 13, 2024 we convened our AGM on Grandfather Mountain. The 2024-2025 slate of Officers and appointees were approved as submitted. Of special note was the promotion of Donna Marie McDuffee of Massachusetts as an Officer of the Society as Vice President MacDuffee Clan Society of America. Donna demonstrated a great deal of engagement, genealogical research and invested personal time to work on behalf of our Society. She has convened Northern regional games in New England to share our story and to show off her impressive claymore, The MacDuffee, created by Vogie Forge in Scotland.

Vice President David McDuffie provided our financial report which continues to be strong. We ask that all members remain current with their dues based on their membership level.

Erin McKinney and her son, Django, joined our meeting and brought information re DUFFEE our Official MacDuffee Clan Society Highland Cow (see later special story about DUFFEE). Erin's mother is Tom McDuffee's first cousin.

The Society was provided an update regarding the process requirements for settling the Clan name and the need for all eligible Clan members to be sure to participate and submit their preference over during July, August and September.

We would like to note that both Trevor and Clay MacDuffee received medals in wrestling. They represented our Society in the Highland Games.



MACDUFFEE CLAN SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

We were very pleased to announce the 2024 MacDuffee Clan Society Heritage, Scholarship & Service Award to Kayla Ingram. Kayla is the daughter of our Technical Officer, Staci Ingram. The Scholarship Committee voted unanimously for her scholarship award.

Kayla has attended many Games in North Carolina often volunteering to work in support of local games. She has been recognized at her school for her volunteer efforts and scholarship. Kayla is also one of our better athletes receiving medals in wrestling one of which was presented in person by the Lord Lyon, Dr Joseph Morrow. Kayla has also served as the first Student Board Member for our Clan Society which is an honor we all were pleased to recognize. Kayla received a one-time cash award from the Society, a personal cash award from one of our Officers and a certificate for her achievement.

The MacDUFFEE CLAN SOCIETY of AMERICA STEPS UP & DONATES FUNDS for the HURRICANE

The officers of our Society decided to donate funds to the Avery County EMS Fund for Children and to donate funds directly to the Grandfather Mountain Highlands Games for repairs to the area where the Games are held. There are many families that donate time and work to make the Games the worldwide success that they have become. We felt it was an opportunity to help the Games and the Children of Avery County. Well done by the Society.

FANTASTIC NEWS FROM the MCKINNEY (McDUFFEE) FARM & THE HIGHLAND CATTLE

So, we have been tracking DUFFEE's life on the farm from a wee calf to now a very proud and significantly sized Mom. It seems just like yesterday that we were sending her winter bales of hay. In the picture below you can see the latest addition to the farm, DUFFEE'S son. You will see that the new male calf is nearly blonde which is a rare and valuable trait for Highland cattle. You may remember that DUFFEE had a friend named Jura and she is also expecting a new calf very soon.



The farm is expanding quickly. It will be interesting to watch the new "guy" grow. He will eventually be 1500-2000 pounds when grown. His Dad's name was Mull. Now this leads us to a fun opportunity. Eric, Django and Erin have asked the MacDuffee Clan Society to suggest a name for the new "guy" on the farm. They were told that we would be honored to come up with our two best ideas and then they would be sent to their son Django for a final selection between the two best options. Django is a significant helper on the farm working with his parents to care for all the Scottish animals.

NEED NAME IDEAS: we need all children and grandchildren of Clan Society members to send their best idea for a name for DUFFEE'S new calf. Please send your idea for a name to our Society Secretary, Jen McDuffee at tpmjim@aol.com by December 22nd, 2024. We will submit the two best names to Django for the final decision which will be posted with the winner's name in January, 2025. Be creative and be nice. Please include your name, age and name of your family member that is a member with your submission. We look forward to your input.



We wish everyone the very best for the Holidays,
Tom & Jen

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

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Keeper of Genealogy Records is the
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HISTORY**Short Account of the Emigration from the Highlands of Scotland to North America**

And the establishment of the Catholic Diocese of Upper Canada (1939)

Continued

In the summer of 1795, the First Glengarry Regiment was ordered to the Island of Guernsey, then threatened to be invaded by the French; and there it continued until the breaking out of the, Irish Rebellion in 1798. This Corps was then ordered to Ireland and served in that country during the whole of the Irish troubles. The good conduct of the men, together with the activity, derived from their mountainous habits, induced the Government to employ the Glengarry Regiment in the most disturbed parts of the country, in the Counties of Wexford and Wicklow, and the Hills and Morasses of Connemara, where during the rebellion, and for some time after it was put down, a number of deserters took refuge, accompanied by the most desperate of the rebels, yet at large. Issuing from their fastnesses during the night, they harassed the peaceable inhabitants, plundering their habitations, and burning their houses and out tenements. Mr. Macdonell, accompanying the men in the field, by the character of his Office, prevented those excesses so generally committed by the soldiers of other regiments, especially by those of the native Yeomanry Corps, which rendered them alike the terror and detestation of the insurgent inhabitants. Mr. Macdonell found many of the Catholic Chapels in the counties of Wicklow, Carlow, and Wexford, turned into stables for the horses of the Yeomanry, These he caused to be cleansed and restored to their original sacred use,

performing Divine Service in them himself, and inviting the Clergy and Congregations to attend, who had mostly been driven into the mountains and bogs, to escape the cruelties of the Yeomanry, and such of the Regular Troops as were under the command of prejudiced or merciless officers. The poor deluded and terrified inhabitants returned with joy and thankfulness to their Chapels and homes, as soon as assurance of protection had afforded them from quarters and by persons who had no interest to deceive them. The above-mentioned district, which by its peculiar fastnesses had become the resort of the desperate characters alluded to, was by the promptness and activity of Col. Macdonell and his Highlanders, quickly cleared of its troublesome tenants; and aided by the humane endeavors of Mr. Macdonell, to allay the fears and soothe the feelings of the public, it soon became as peaceable and quiet as it had been turbulent and rebellious.

During the short peace of Amiens in 1802, forty-four of the Scotch Fencible Regiments were disbanded, and amongst the number was the Glengarry Regiment. Thus, again were the Catholic Highlanders of Glengarry reduced to want and penury. Mr. Macdonell, finding that the trade of the Scottish Cotton Manufacturers had become so much circumscribed and reduced by the bloody war that had just ended, as to afford no longer an asylum to his destitute countrymen. In whose welfare he had taken so warm an interest, and in whose dangers and fatigues he had so largely participated during eight years, thought that he might establish for them a claim upon Government, so far as the obtaining for them grants of land in Upper Canada, where so many of their friends were settled, on lands given as rewards for their services and attachment to the Government during the American Revolutionary War.

With this intention he went to London and represented the destitute situation of his charge, and also their claims upon government, to The Rt. Hon. Henry Addington, then Premier, after the resignation of Mr. Pitt. Mr. Addington received Mr. Macdonell with great condescension, communed with him on the bravery and loyalty of his countrymen, the Scotch Highlanders, and assured him that nothing could give him greater pleasure, than to afford substantial proofs of the approbation and good will of His Majesty's Government towards them; and was moreover pleased to say, that of all His Majesty's subjects, the Highlanders were always the readiest to come forward at their country's call, and the only class from whom a complaint or murmur had never been heard. Mr. Addington further assured Mr. Macdonell, that since his appointment to his present situation, nothing had given him deeper cause of regret, than to see those brave and loyal subjects, the Glengarry Highlanders, reduced not by their own faults, but by adverse circumstances to the necessity of quitting their native land, to seek in a far distant country a subsistence for themselves, their wives and little ones. At the same time Mr. Addington admitted, that the proprietors of the Highland Estates had every right to dispose of their property to the best advantage, and that Government could not interfere in the matter. To shew the interest Mr. Addington took in this subject, he proposed to Mr. Macdonell a plan, by which his followers might easily enrich themselves, and render themselves able in time to return to their native mountains with wealth and distinction.

To be continued.

BOOKS

Scotland Ireland and Canada By T. W. Berry, Director of Education, Rhondda (1912) (pdf) You can read this book at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/canada/scotlandir10zwest00berr.pdf>

How the Haggis Freed Scotland By Robert Watson An interesting article which you can read at: <https://electricScotland.com/haggis/freed.htm>

WEB SITES for RESEARCH

Come view our photos us on Facebook at - MacDuffee Clan Society of America

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=4jvr8k0klvvjs9smas4a8pkfh7>

<http://www.scottishcatholicarchives.org.uk/>

<http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/>

<http://www.search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#start>

<http://www.ancestryquest.com/>

<http://govgenealogysearch.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>

[Scottish Heritage Center | American Revolution Tour of N.C.](http://www.amrevnc.com/scottish-heritage-center) [amrevnc.com/scottish-heritage-center](http://www.amrevnc.com/scottish-heritage-center)

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

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.

Clan Society Shirts

Clan Society Polo-Shirts are available. They are green with *MacDuffee Clan Society* and the Claymore embroidered on the left breast. The cost is \$ 25.00 for S-XL



Clan Society T-Shirts are also available. They are \$20.00 for S-XL.

The new shirts were a big hit at Grandfather & Loon Mountains this year. T-Shirt front is same as Polo, but the back has our 1539 Grave slab. Our Clan members look very sharp at the Games, and they would also be great Christmas presents. Contact David McDuffie, dnmcduffie@gmail.com, our Treasurer to place your order. We request a \$4 shipping fee for any size order. Thank you.

MEETINGS, GAMES AND GATHERINGS

January 11-12, 2025

Florida Keys Celtic Festival, MM49, US Hywy 1, Marathon, FL

<https://floridakeyscelticfestival.com/>

MacDuffee the Younger Scholarship

Following is a summary of our scholarship that is available for eligible students. Application cut off is May 15th. The MacDuffee Clan Society supports education and knowledge of our Scottish & family heritage. Winners will be announced at the Annual meeting in July each year.

Purpose: The MacDuffee Scholarship recognizes college bound high school seniors based on citizenship, contributions to Scottish Heritage, academics, and service to the MacDuffee Clan Society.

Criteria: The students eligible for consideration must be graduating high school seniors who have been accepted at either a two- or four-year college or university. Consideration will be given to accomplishments and activities such as: academics, community service, activities in their church and school, awareness of Scottish Heritage, knowledge of their family genealogy, and admission to a College or University. Successful applicants will be asked to write a half page paper regarding their family history. All eligible students will be the children, grandchildren, stepchildren or adopted children of active MacDuffee Clan Society members in good standing.

Guidelines: Scholarships will be awarded and disbursed each year at the Annual General meeting in July. All eligible candidates are to submit their Scholarship Application by May 1st of their senior year in High School.

Amount: Scholarships may range from \$250 to \$500 at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee. One scholarship may be granted each year. The scholarship is for one year and is not renewable.

Deadline: The deadline for submission of a Scholarship Application is May 1st of each year. The post mark or media date on the submission will be strictly monitored.

Submission: Applications are to be submitted to the Clan Society Secretary via mail or electronically.

Applications may be sent to: Clan Society Secretary Jen McDuffee, 9902 Woods Edge Drive, Fishers, IN 46037.

Student Board Members

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 by May 15th.

Duties of the Student Board Member include the following:

- 1.) Responsible for sharing of the Scottish information, assisting with the coordination of the Clan Society Marches at the AGM at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, and providing Society interface with the 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 16 years of age by the first AGM in which they serve and may serve for 2-year terms unless reelected unopposed until graduation.
- 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 address.** They can be submitted by forwarding to Julie MacDuffie Hall (Editor) at 506 Stone St., Watertown, NY 13601 or juliehall522@yahoo.com. **The mailing rate for each newsletter that is mailed with USPS has been raised yet again. THAT MEANS IT WILL COST US OVER \$.84 TO MAIL EACH NEWSLETTER. I STRONGLY ENCOURAGE EVERYONE THAT HAS INTERNET ACCESS TO FORWARD YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS (IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY). WE WOULD LIKE TO KEEP COSTS DOWN.**

FROM THE EDITOR

I have completed the scanning of all issues of our Society, from the handbook dated 1969 to current. If anyone is looking for a particular issue, please contact me and I can forward to you.

We did very little camping this year, my parents are getting older and we wanted to stay closer to home.



From the family of Julie and the Clan Officers