

Dunardry Heritage Association 1665 Rickman-Monterey Hwy Rickman, TN 38580



### President's Notes

The summer has been busy already! Our members have manned clan tents at Loch Norman NC, Glasgow KY, KY Scottish Weekend and the Illinois St. Andrews IL games. Photos from the games have been posted on the DHA web page under GAMES. Upcoming, we still have the Columbus, IN games and the Ligonier, PA games in September. Others may still be added for the fall.

The events have been very successful for us and we have had the opportunity to explain to many clan reps the truth behind the clan "split." We have a number of new members and renewals are on track. We are growing and it's all due to you and your support.

The AGM was held concurrent with the Illinois St. Andrews games where we were Honored Clan and I want to thank Debra Montague for all her hard work in organizing the tent, motels, formal dinner and the AGM meeting. She did an excellent job - but she forgot to request lower temperatures for the games! Whew! Was it HOT! We enjoyed our traditional clan cookout at Deb's house on Saturday night - the stories and laughter flowed unrestrained as usual.

Next year's AGM will be held at the Glasgow KY games the first weekend of June...so mark your calendars and join us. Having been re-elected President, I'll know if you aren't there.....:)

We have a number of people interested in becoming commissioners in the next year which is great news! We are putting together a revised commissioner's training package to help them organize their tents and learn the historical information most people ask about. It's not an arduous job and you get to meet some great people!

## Vice-President's Comments

I thought you would like to know the Dunardry Heritage Association is alive and well...despite what some would want you to believe! This as been a very exciting year so far. For Barbara and me, the year started with our clan gathering at loch Norman - what an excellent venue. Thanks to Harold and Patsy Bennett, we all had a great time. We had a chance to meet Cathy MacTavish who "did us proud" with her eloquence at the Calling of the Clans. She made it clear that Dunardry and Stratherrick lines are truly one clan. We also got to meet and share tent duties with David Thompson (our new treasurer) - you'll like him!

Next was the KY Scottish Weekend at Gen. Butler Park in KY. Although small, it was well worth having a tent there - our kinsmen were in attendance. Ted and Pam Herring were there to help run the tent and we all had a very good time together. I'm glad to call them kinsmen and friends.

Then came the Glasgow, KY games at Barren River State Park in KY. What can I say??? It was great! Of course, the "other side" was there. They wanted the games officials to throw us out but they were ignored. Plus, they kept sending us people!! We couldn't figure it out but we signed up several and talked to many more. We had a wonderful time, even if they didn't. Dan "Booner" Thompson and McKinley Thomason joined the camp-in and added new ideas, insights and fun to a perfect weekend. Dan is going to check out Estes Park, CO games for us.

At the IL St. Andrews Games, Chicago, we were hosted by Deb Montague. It was a one-day games, but was one of the largest we've ever been to. The British car show, heavy games, vendors, food, concerts, etc. were all first class. Deb treated us to a barbeque at her house after the games and that too was first class. The AGM the next day went off without a hitch (this was well covered on the forum - if you haven't read it, go now!)

After that, we turned right around and went to the Colburg Games in Canada. We stayed a week with some friends up there, Tom and Marg. We timed the trip to coincide with the games. They had never seen Highland Games before, but he, being retired from the Canadian Air Force, has worn a kilt before so it wasn't anything new to him. The Canadian Pipe and Drum Band played for over an hour and was wonderful to hear. We didn't see any MacTavish tartans there although Steven lives very close to Colburg - I just thought you would like to know.

And next, Columbus, IN.

Fred

# **Incoming Treasurer**

To my fellow comrades, I am honored to be elected as your new Treasurer. As I begin the task laid before me, I can only hope that as we grow in the 21st century that the strong bonds we make as clansmen become solid like the unwavering highlands of our ancestors. For we are of that great land know as Scotland.

Once again I am honored to be elected as your Treasurer. Thank you, and CRUACH MOR!!!

Dave

# Outgoing Treasurer's Update

Well, my tenure as Treasurer is over now. David Thompson will be your new Treasurer and I will be changing hats to become Secretary. Additional t-shirts will have to be ordered (we've sold a LOT of them!), but that's a good thing. Our clan store and tent sales have been strong and getting out to more games will only help. See you there!

The end of year 2006 financial report was included with the Spring 2007 newsletter. Our balance a/o 30 June was \$9459.42, allowing us to put \$5000 into a savings CD. We are in great shape! Mary

### Illinois St. Andrews Games and AGM

by Deb Montague

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "A friend is a person with whom I may be sincere. Before him, I may think aloud." There was a great deal of "out loud" thinking in my back yard on Saturday evening, June 16th. Lots of stories and lots of laughter.

The 2007 Annual Gathering Meeting of the Dunardry Heritage Association is history. But, as you can see from the photos, we had a smashing good time in Chicagoland. The DHA was the "Honored Clan" of the 21st Annual Illinois St. Andrew Society's Highland Games. Held on the Oakbrook Polo Grounds, this event regularly attracts upwards of 15,000 who plan their Father's Day weekend around this. There is a juried pipe band competition which attracted 10 bands from all over the Midwest. There is an amateur and professional athletic competition. New this year was a women's division held on Friday night. There is a rugby competition won, this year, by The Frogs. There are food and goods vendors, an entertainment tent, highland dance competitions (one of the trophies sponsored by DHA). In short, it's big.

The festivities of the AGM started on Friday with what has become a tradition, a "formal" dinner at a nice restaurant. Once again, it is a delight to be walking behind a man in full Highland dress- this year it included Tom Thompson, Fred Cash and Harold Bennett. It gets quiet and heads turn and you can't help feeling more than a little pride at your heritage on display. We had one gentleman approach the table and ask, "Scottish or Irish?" We didn't laugh until after he'd left. If you have to ask, you can't claim much Scottish ancestry.

Saturday was the games. HOT and HUMID. It was worse than last year which was merely hot and windy. The best thing I did was rent two spaces. We could spread out and invite others into our tent for relief from the sun. The clan row was moved from its usual position between the athletes and the rugby players to in front of the athletes. Smart move. The traffic in our tent was steady. As we mobilized for the parade, a father and his son were talking to President Tom. We quickly drafted them to march with us, to carry a banner and a flag. Ashton is 9 years old and we put him in the front row with the St. Andrew Cross. I'm hoping it's something he always remembers.

As "Honored Clan", we had a banner to hang from the tent and to carry in the parade. President Tom was given a medal as "honored guest" and we received a lovely plaque denoting our honor. I didn't know, honest, that this was done so I am thrilled we have something more than a name in the program, although that was cool, too.

Saturday evening, 22 people sat in a circle in my back yard and told stories on one another. We laughed. We ate. We welcomed new

members. And did I mention we ate? My backyard is mostly shade so, by the time we all gathered, it was cool and comfortable. The 17 year cicadas put in an appearance this year and were all over the polo grounds. In my yard, they provided background noise to the message of the day, one of "we are all kin."

On Sunday, we met at the Downers Grove holiday Inn Express for our business meeting. Much was discussed and the location for the 2008 AGM decided. It is Glasgow, Kentucky, in conjunction with their Highland Games the first weekend in June.

I want to thank a few people: Harold and Patsy for coming early and helping set up the tent and for the foresight of a huge cooler filled with ice water. Indiana Tom and his fiance Barbara who came to my house early and helped make the fruit salad and tidy up so I didn't feel quite so embarrassed about the state of the kitchen. Pam for brownies. Ted for being the master of the grill. Fred and Babs for taking a lot of stuff with them after we took the clan tent down at the end of the day. It doesn't all fit in the jeep anymore. Bessie, Paula and Michelle for joining the clan and participating in everything over the course of the weekend. Niles and Steve for bearing arms and being our "honor guard" at the front of the group in the parade. And Tom and Mary for being, well, themselves, most excellent ambassadors of the DHA.

On Sunday, I went home after the meeting and slept most of the afternoon and it has taken quite a few days to slowly move things from the living room back into the basement. I'm sorry you couldn't all come but I know you were with us in spirit. It's been quite a year and a half, but, if what I saw this weekend is any indication, we are growing and spreading the spirit of "clan" wherever we go.

Thank you all for coming to my stomping grounds. Sorry about the traffic and the directions mix-ups and the cicadas and the heat. Come back next year and we'll have more fun!

## THANKS DEB FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK -

An email from an AGM attendee:

"First....was really a pleasure to meet you both. Second...thank you so much for your hospitality. You made us instantly feel like family. And, as Jim expressed to tom after the meeting Sunday, he really felt "family"....thank you.

I have been doing a lot of reading. The DHA is definitely the place to be. Got a request for you. Could you please e-mail me the picture of us that you included on the web?

# GAMES, GAMES, GAMES!!

# Coburg Games in Ontario, Canada

Fred and I met some wonderful people in Florida last February and got to talking about how much we enjoy going and participating in Highland Games. We also related that it was a subject that we both share an interest in. As you probably know many Scots immigrated to Canada and have made good lives for themselves. As we were talking to our friends they decided we should come up to the Coburg Highland games on June 23. We thought it would be interesting to go to another country to see the Games. The emphasis is on athletics and pipe bands. I have to say it was remarkable to see Scotsmen throw the caber, toss the sheath and the "56 for distance" (a weight) with skill and dedication. One man threw 60 feet

for the keg toss and was askedfor an encore. The weather could not have been finer. It was in the low 70's, sunny with a great breeze off Lake Ontario, which made it great to sit and watch the games and the splendor of the Canadian Air Force Pipe and Drum Band parade on the field. It was a very pleasant day and we enjoyed the company and the games. There were even Gaelic speaking people sitting behind us in the stands. I wish I could have understood them-perhaps one day?

Get out and go to local Highland Games! It is amazing how they are celebrated in other countries and other cities.

In Kinship,

Barbara and Fred Cash

Glasgow Highland Games,

We arrived at the Barren River Lake State Campground Thursday afternoon. Some of our friends and cousins were already there. We got our camp set up and had all day Friday to visit with friends and family. We all got together for supper in our portable 12 X 20 screen room, and what wonderful food the ladies had prepared. We had two new members join us, they fit right in with the rest of us fun loving people and were a pleasure to be around. One came all the way from Colorado on his motorcycle!

Saturday dawns bright and hot, walking down the hill at the entrance to the Games you can feel the excitement in the air. It's a sight to behold all the colorful tents. Clan banners and flags gently blowing in the breeze, the wonderful scents from the food vendors.

McKinley, one of our teenage members (who is a delight and

very mature) ran and won the Kilted Mile race in his Thompson Dress Blue kilt. We were all cheering him on and are so proud of him!

We had some good entertainers as always. We could hear them from our tent which had the best spot of any to listen from and it was real close so Patsy, Pam, Babs and I could go watch Albannach!

Sunday was a little cooler and the DHA had the largest number of people in the parade of tartans! Our tent was crowded most of the time with members having fun. I was so happy to see members from last year with their little ones. We gained some new members too, as people found their "home".

We have a great group of family and friends and I'm honored to be with them in our DHA/Clan MacTavish.

Barbara Moore

### AGM 2007 D.H.A. Agenda Holiday Inn Express, Butterfield Rd, Downer's Grove, IL June 17, 2007

President Tom Thompson called meeting to order:

Quorum is present: Tom Thompson, Fred and Barbara Cash, Barbara and Tom Thompson, Harold and Patsy Bennett, Ted and Pam Herring, Paula Lemmond, Michelle Lemmond, Debra Montague, Mary Thompson, Bessie Richardson and Jim Womack

The President read the minutes of the 2006 AGM in the absence of the secretary. Asked for any questions, corrections or amendments? None offered.

Motion to accept as read: Harold Bennett

Second: Tom Thompson (IN)

Unanimous ballot cast Discussion: none

President's remarks: Welcome to all the members attending, a quick overview of the games from Saturday, and thanks to Deb Montague for organizing it all and hosting the clan picnic at her home. A round of applause followed his statements. Then, to business.

Financial report: Given by Mary Thompson. Based on 1 ½ years of books as neither of the past years have been "normal." End of year synopsis given and Budget for 2008 presented and explained.

Discussion: The expense for the newsletter was brought up by Babs and discussed - maybe consider asking members if they mind getting an email newsletter versus the mailed ones or going to black and white pictures. Mary said several members said they liked having something they could hold in their hands. Bessie said she was one of those also. Mary also said we could cut costs if we printed in B/W but then we run the risk of it being tossed as junk mail but maybe we could find a cheaper printer - she thought it important to give the members something in hand for their money.

Motion to contact the membership and see how many want mailed newsletters and how many would accept emailed ones just as well.

Motion: Accept treasurer's report and contact the membership about newsletters: Debra Montague

Second: Fred Cash Unanimous ballot cast

Voting: These are the results of the proxy ballots (which were available for those present to review) and the votes from the floor.

Election of Officers:

Motion: Harold Bennett to cast unanimous ballots for officers

Second: Tom Thompson (IN)

President: Tom Thompson - Unanimous ballot cast Treasurer: David Thompson - Unanimous ballot cast Secretary: Mary Thompson - Unanimous ballot cast

Location of 2008 AGM Voting: By majority vote, the next AGM will be held in Glasgow, KY in June 2008. The secretary will notify them that we will be holding our AGM there and make arrangements for it. Secretary will also get information out to the members.

Funds investment: The President said he felt that we should invest some of the funds currently in the checking account. We may as well make some interest and US Bank was paying around 5%. David Thompson or Mary could make the deposit into a savings program.

Motion to invest \$5000.00 of the clan funds – amount to be determined by the rates - Harold Bennett.

Second: Mary Thompson

Unanimous ballot cast. Mary Thompson will contact the US Bank and have Da<u>vid Thompson put onto the bank account.</u>

### Membership Secretary's report:

Pam Herring reported we had 58% participation of our members on absentee ballots. That's a pretty good show! We got 19 new members in the last year. This is really good and, I think, bodes well for the future of the organization. We need to keep going – if you like to camp out, we have a great time when we go to the games. It's like a big family reunion when we get together. As long as we keep being involve, people will pick up on the fun and friendship we have and will want to be a part of it.

President: Thank you for your information, Pam. Patrick Thompson's cousin, who was a member of the Dark Side at Patrick's insistence, has left them and joined us after watching what they do. Don Mikitta has left them after seeing that they already owed Steven nearly \$20,000 and received no explanation as to "why." The differences between us are becoming more apparent as time goes on. People and clans are taking notice and we're winning their opinions.

#### Old Business: President

- --Moved bank account to US bank
- --New insurance bonds <u>all</u> directors and includes general liability

<u>New Business</u>: Mary said T-shirt prices are going to go up again. Then, Barbara Cash asked if we could contact the t-shirt company and see how much it would cost to add Dunardry Heritage Association to the emblem. Bessie Richardson: Membership should be interested in the redesign, let us know what you find out can/can't be done.

The secretary will contact the company and see what the cost would be to add the organization name to the front/back designs. She will also get pricing for ordering a limited number of XL-3XL shirts as we are out of or very low in those sizes.

--Genealogy database:

http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgibin/igm.cgi?db=dunardry

### Discussion from the floor:

Harold: I think we're doing just fine by being a family. We're selling family and the Dark Side is exuding bitterness. We need to just keep doing what we're doing.

Bessie Richardson: I always wanted to be Scottish and join a clan. I'm not "blood" related and I'm a new member. I think you have the advantage of taking in someone who isn't blood related to the clan but who wants to join – that's something I haven't seen in other clans.

President: David Thompson looked at both web pages to determine where he should join. He said we projected an image of family – we argued and laughed on the forum just like a family. He liked the fact that we had the reunions at games. He liked that because he and his wife will be starting a family and liked that attitude. This has been expressed by others.

Pam: Those of you who are new or relatively new, do you feel like you are getting something out of your membership? The new members said yes. Bessie Richardson said she hears more from this clan organization than the other organizations she belongs to.

Deb: We sponsored a trophy for the highland dance competition. Since we were the honored clan, it was a good thing and time to do it. Deb gave Mary a copy of the letter from the organization.

President: We have paid for Ligonier, PA and Columbus, IN games in September. David Thompson in PA is a new director and hasn't run a tent yet, so Mary and I are planning on going there and helping him for this year. Other members will be doing the Columbus, IN games.

Babs: I thought it was great at the KY Heritage Weekend that, as small as it is. We had members come because they knew we were there. A good thing!

Motion to adjourn: Fred Cash

Second: Harold

Unanimous ballot cast and Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM

Respectfully submitted: Secretary Mary Thompson