



CLAN ROSS

Association of Canada,
Inc.
Founded 1960

David C. Ross of Ross, Chief

SPRING ISSUE
MAY, 2009

An Círean Ceann Cinnidh



**Alexander Milton Ross, Canadian Illustrated News, October 3, 1874.
Courtesy Belleville Public Library and Archives, Canada.**

Join us for Dr. A. M. Ross Day at BME Freedom Park, Chatham, Ontario, Saturday June 20th,
2009.

THE CLAN ROSS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, INC.

Motto: *Spem successus alit* (Success nourishes hope)
Gaelic name: Clann Aindrias (Clan Andrew)
Crest: A hand holding a garland of juniper, proper
Badge: Juniper
Pipe Music: The Earl of Ross March

Septs: (according to Scottish Kith & Kin/Chief of Clan Ross)

Anderson	Denoon	Gear	MacCulloch	Taggart
Andison	Denune	Gillanders	MacLulich	Tullo
Andrew/s	Dingwall	Hagart	MacTaggart	Tulloch
Corbet/tt	Duthie	Haggart	MacTear	Tyre
Crow/e	Fair	MacAndrew	MacTier	Vass
Croy	Gair	MacCullie	MacTire	Wass

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

President:

Andrew Ross Thibodeau

Treas/Mbsp

Lizz Thibodeau

910 Dearness Drive

London, ON N6E 1N5

Email: andyspeaks@rogers.com

Phone: 519- 488-1795

Email: lizzt@rogers.com

Phone: 519-680 2895

1st Vice-President:

Denis Ross

929 Saugeen Street

Kincardine, ON N2Z 1A9

Phone: (519) 396-8791

Email: sndross@bmts.com

(April to November)

saugeensnowbirds@aol.com

(November to April)

COMMISSIONERS:

Ontario:

Wendy F. S. Ross

74 Queenston Street

St. Catharines, ON L2R 2Z2

Phone: 905-684-7758

Manitoba:

Christine Turnbull

19 Abraham Bay

Winnipeg, MB R2P 1E9

Phone: 204-633-5888

Email: mbtartan@shaw.ca

2nd Vice-President:

Interim Secretary:

Donald Fraser Ross

252 Hallmark Ave.

Lower Sackville, NS

B4C 3P9

Phone: 902-865-9192

Email: donaldross@eastlink.ca

Past President:

Denis Fletcher

66 Crestwood Crescent

Winnipeg, MB, R2J 1H6

Phone: 204-257-7511

Email: barbf@miic.ca

Nova Scotia:

Christopher Rayworth

98 Poets Lane

Fredericton, NB

E3B 9P7

Phone: (902) 832-9280

Email: smore@ns.sympatico.ca

British Columbia:

Dorothy O'Donnell

1415 Hamilton Road

Victoria, BC V8R 2Y2

Phone: 250-595-5365

Email: dmodonnell@shaw.ca

COMMUNICATIONS:

Newsletter Editor:

Patricia D. Ross

Webmaster:

J. Douglas Ross, FSA Scot

15 Tepee Court

Toronto, ON M2J 3A8

Phone: 416-491-1861

Email: patriciaross@rogers.com

Email: jdr@greatclanross.org

Association Website:

<http://www.GreatClanRoss.org>



STANDARD OF CHIEF DAVID CAMPBELL ROSS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello fellow Ross clansmen & women:

Four years is a long time. You finish high school in that time. I completed university in that time. Think how much the world has changed since 2005! Yet, it has been over four years since it was first proposed that our next Clan Ross Canada National project would honour Canada's greatest abolitionist, Dr. Alexander Milton Ross.

Every few years, our Clan helps fund worthwhile historical projects that honour Canadians with a Clan Ross connection. For example: the refurbishing of the Ross Memorial Chair, a memorial to Charles Ross, the founder of Victoria, located in Ross Cemetery overlooking Ross Bay in Victoria, British Columbia; the reconstruction of the ship "Hector" that brought the first Scottish settlers to the area of Pictou, Nova Scotia; and the restoration of the headstones of the Alexander Ross family in the Old Kildonan Pioneer Cemetery in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The history of the project to honour Dr. Ross is detailed on the Clan Ross Canada Website: <http://www.greatclanross.org/cra~can5a4m.html>. Steven Duff, author of *Hunter of Dreams*, a fictional account of Dr. Ross's exploits helping to free slaves in the 1850's, was our guest speaker at the 2006 Annual Meeting in London, Ontario. During his research, Steven was surprised about how little is known about Dr. Ross in relation to his tremendous contribution to North American history.

On June 20th, a plaque to honour Dr. Alexander Milton Ross will be unveiled at the BME Freedom Park in downtown Chatham. This park is located at the site of the first gathering of the British Methodist Episcopal Church, a black church founded by freed slaves in the 1850's. The park will honour Canadian heroes of our black history and from the Underground Railroad. Chatham is the Terminus to the Underground Railroad. Uncle Tom's cabin is a half hour away, and the area still has a vibrant black community descended from those freed slaves.

In the heart of the park is the centrepiece, a \$40,000 bust of the Black 19th century journalist, Mary Ann Shad, sculpted by Artis Lane. Mary Ann Shad published the first black owned newspaper in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Artis is a descendent of this woman! The mission of the park is to add plaques in the park and on a walking tour of Chatham. The official opening of the park, with Artis present, was on May 2nd. Our Dr. Ross Plaque, created by St. Croix Monuments, is polished black marble, 18 inches wide. The cost, with installation, was \$3000. The Clan paid for the plaque back in the fall. Clan Ross Canada is thrilled to work with the Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society to create a special day around Dr. Ross and the plaque that we funded!

Please join us on **Saturday, June 20, 2009!** The program for **Dr. Alexander Milton Ross Day**, at the Chatham BME Freedom Park is as follows:

Friday night, June 19: For those coming from out of town, Clan Ross members will be staying at Ramada Inn, London, located at Wellington Road and 401. Please make your own reservations: www.ramadainnlondon.com

8:45 a.m. Meet & depart from the Ramada Inn, London, at the 401, for those in the London area.

10:00 am. Meet at R&M Classic Cars, Chatham. This working museum and car restoration shop has the world's greatest collection of cars from before 1960. This site was very popular on our 2006 Clan Ross Gathering. They are now in a new and larger facility. \$4.25 entry charge for an hour-long tour. www.rmauctions.com

11:30 a.m. Depart R&M for downtown Chatham. We will park near the restaurants.

Noon. We have reservations for lunch at Glitters Fun Eatery - 162 King Street W.

1:00 p.m. Walk 5 blocks east on King Street to corner of King, Wellington & Princess, to the BME Freedom Park.

1:30 p.m. Unveiling of the Dr. A.M. Ross plaque, with a few brief speeches and pictures.

2:00 p.m. Walk to the The Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society, 177 King Street East, located across the street from the Park. We will have a tour of the museum and a program on Dr. Ross. www.ckblackhistoricalsociety.org

3:30 p.m. Free time in the downtown area. Walk west back to the restaurant area on King.

4:45 p.m. Mamma Maria's Italian Eatery, 231 King Street W. We have reservations in a room overlooking the Thames River. Depart when needed.

A more detailed review of the day, including directions, will be sent out by email in mid-June.

Are you interested in being part of this history? We would enjoy having you! Yes, your friends and family are more than welcome to join the trip ... you do not have to be part of Clan Ross! Contact me via email: andyspeaks@rogers.com

When you contact me, please give me an idea what parts of the day you will be participating in. Will you spend an evening or two at the Ramada Inn in London?

I await your reply if you want to attend. As of today, April 28, we have almost 20 people confirmed to join us after minimal promotion.

Thank you!

Andrew Ross Thibodeau
Clan Ross Association of Canada
National Clan President 2008-2010



FROM THE EDITOR

I hope to see many of you at the events taking place over the next few months. Of particular importance to Clan Ross Canada is the celebration of the installation of the plaque to honour Dr. Alexander Milton Ross on June 20 in Chatham, Ontario.

The photographs in this newsletter have been printed in black and white. A sharp increase in the cost of printing the newsletter (It costs nine times as much to print a page in colour than it does to print the same page in black and white.) has made this necessary.

The deadline for submissions to the Summer Newsletter is August 12, 2009.

Have a wonderful summer.

Patricia D. Ross

12th ANNUAL CLAN ROSS-MANITOBA BURNS DINNER

Submitted by Ian Ross

Saturday, Jan. 17th, 2009 saw the Manitoba Chapter of Clan Ross, and friends, holding its 12th annual Burns Dinner at Winnipeg's Fort Garry Hotel. This event, the original idea of Manitoba Commissioner Christine Turnbull, has grown from very modest beginnings to being (*if we dare say so ourselves*) Winnipeg's best. From a dozen or so members in attendance in its first year, we have grown to a record attendance of 94!



Committee Chair Denis Fletcher, final details complete, and ready to receive guests.

Following a formal welcome by Chapter President Patricia Ross, and grace by Ed Bethune, Pipe Major Hilda Towerzey (*ANAVETS Unit 283 Pipes & Drums*) piped in yet another Pipe Major, Ron McFarlane (*Manitoba Pipes & Drums*), to give an elegantly traditional Address to a Haggis. Our appetites only partially sated by a splendid haggis, we then tucked in to the Fort Garry's usual gourmet dinner.



Treasurer Len Perry welcomes Carol & Eldon Ross (and makes sure their tickets are paid for!).

Entertainment followed. First up were Highland dancers of all ages from the Gaelyn McGregor Studio of Highland Dance. You could hear all the ladies go "awwww!" as the wee ones took to the floor ... and we were all impressed by the skill of the senior dancers. Then classically trained singer Colleen Morrison presented a series of Scottish songs. Especially moving was her *cappella* rendition of the Eriskay Love Lilt in the Gaelic. There followed a bit of nonsense as Ian Ross presented the Atholl Brose, freely plagiarizing Robert Service with some doggerel entitled *The Pickling of Sam McGee*.



Ian & Jacquie Ross, all decked out for a great evening.

After a good break for chat, and the purchase of raffle tickets for the silent auction table run by Patricia and Roger Stagg, we proceeded to the more formal part of the evening. Memorably introduced by MC Tony Fletcher, Winnipeg's own "very tall" Bill Blaikie, recently retired senior member of the House of Commons, gave perhaps the best Immortal Memory yet to be heard at our event. A delightfully concocted Toast to the Lassies and Response was then given by Robert and Barbara Tisdale. The evening closed with Auld Lang Syne, led by Donna Fletcher and her new (no stage fright whatsoever) baby daughter.



Donna Fletcher and the youngest attendee, her new baby daughter Amalia

Many thanks for a splendid evening to Committee Chair Denis Fletcher and his Committee Members: Len Perry, Don Ross, Eldon Ross, Ian Ross and Roger Ross. See you all next year!

SCOTTISH HUMOUR

Submitted by Jacquie Ross

Are you Scottish? I am..... You know you are a true Scot if.....

Ye can properly pronounce McConnochie, Ecclefechan, Milngavie, Sauchiehall St., St. Enoch, and Auchtermuchty.

Yer used tae four seasons in wan day.

Ye kin fall about pished without spilling yer drink.

Ye measure distance in minutes.

Ye kin understaun Rab C Nesbitt and know characters just like him, in yer ain family.

Ye kin make hael sentences jist wae sweer wurds.

Ye know whit haggis is made ae and stull like eating it.

Somedy ye know his used a fitba schedule tae plan thur wedding day date.

You've been at a wedding and fitba scores are announced in the Church/Chapel.

Ye urny surprised tae find curries, pizzas, kebabs, fish n chips, iron-bru, fags and nappies all in the wan shop.

Yer holiday home at the seaside has calor gas under it.

Ye know irn-bru is a hangover cure.

Ye actually understand this and yurr gonnae send it tae yer pals.

Finally, you are 100% Scot if you have ever said/heard these words;

how's it hingin

clarty

boggin

cludgie

pished

get it up ye

wee beasties

erse bandit

amurny

away an bile yer heid

case peely-wally

humphey backit

Ba'-heid

baw bag

dubble nugget

And finally.....

A wee Glesga wumman goes intae a butcher shop, where the butcher has just came oot the freezer, and is standing haunds ahint his back, with his erse aimed at an electric fire. The wee wumman checks oot the display then asks, 'Is that yer Ayrshire bacon?' 'Naw,' replies the butcher. 'It's jist ma haun's ah'm heatin'.



FAMILY HISTORY CORNER

1) In the course of researching Finlay ROSS (b. 1819 Inverness-shire, Scotland, d. 1904 McKillop, Ontario, Canada) who I believe was my great-great-grandmother's brother, I came across quite a few Rosses who settled in the Huron District and had originally come from Ross-shire. Finlay's brother married a Ross who was from Nigg in Ross-shire. Also one of Finlay's sons married sisters who were Rosses. I got the feeling that there may be more extended family in Canada than I realised. I would love to know the place of origin of any Ross families who settled in the Huron area to try to establish any connections. Thank you.

Jacqui Kirkman: jacqui@kirkman.com.au

2) Is there a definite source that proves that William Guillaume Ross who came to Canada as an NCO in the 78th Fraser Highlander Regiment and fought at Quebec including on the Plains of Abraham was born in Tain, Scotland? He settled in Quebec in 1763 and on January 9, 1764, married Marie-Josephe Proulxand. He is recorded as living in St-Thomas-de-Montmagny, QC. He died on November 7, 1808, in Rimouski, St Germain, Quebec. I have the records of his death and burial but nothing that gives a source of his birth. I have read from Laforest's biography on William Guillaume Ross but I don't know where his information comes from.

As can be noted his first two names are interchangeable depending on the source or person who wrote about him. Thank you.

Peter Lagasse: mrlwca@hotmail.com

3) Hello, I'm going to Scotland in August 2009 and I'm hoping to find lost cousins. My Grandfather immigrated to Canada about 1902. His name was Alexander Ross from Langwell just outside of Ardgay and he was born Nov 21, 1885. He had a large cattle ranch near Eckville, Alberta. His father's name was William Ross, son of Flora, and his mother's name was Margaret (nee Munro), born about 1851 in Alness, daughter of Hector and Ann Munro. My great grandparents William and Margaret had seven children; Hugh 1877, Hector 1879, David 1881, Flora Ann 1883, Alexander 1885, William 1887, and Roderick 1889. Granddad's brother William married Williamina MacGregor in 1926 at Tain and his other brother, Roderick, married Elizabeth Gunn in 1931 at Spinningdale. I will be staying in Tain and I'm going to the Ross Clan Gathering there in August. I hope to make a connection. Thank you.

Marion Miles (nee Ross): fmmiles@telus.net



CEUD MILE FAILTE

A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members

David Ross & Family, Toronto, Ontario
Nancy Ross-Hill & Rowland Hill, Aylmer, Ontario
Anita Merritt, Ponoka, Alberta

SCOTTISH HUMOUR

Submitted by Ian Ross

A Scotsman walked into a bank in Toronto and asked for the loan officer. He told the loan officer that he was going to Edinburgh on business for two > weeks and needed to borrow \$5,000 and that he was not a depositor of the bank. The bank officer told him that the bank would need some form of security for the loan, so the Scotsman handed over the keys to a new Ferrari. The car was parked on the street in front of the bank. The Scotsman produced the title and everything checked out. The loan officer agreed to hold the car as collateral for the loan and apologized for having to charge 12% interest. Later, the bank's president and its officers all enjoyed a good laugh at the Scotsman for using a \$250,000 Ferrari as collateral for a \$5,000 loan. An employee of the bank then drove the Ferrari into the bank's underground garage and parked it. Two weeks later, the Scotsman returned, repaid the \$5,000 and the interest of \$23.07. The loan officer said, "Sir, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is; why would you bother to borrow \$5,000?" The Scotsman replied: "Where else in Toronto can I park my car for two weeks for only \$23.07 and expect it to be there when I return?"



UPCOMING EVENTS

From: <http://www.greatclanross.org>

May 16, 2009: Moose Jaw, SK. Moose Jaw Highland Games. At Crescent Park:
<http://www.reginahighlandgames.org/moosejaw.htm> [See Also: Regina Highland Games.]

May 29 - 31, 2009: Perth-Andover, NB. Gathering of the Scots Festival at Baird's Memorial Campground. (506)273-6710. <http://www.gatheringofthescots.com/>

June 13, 2009: Georgetown, ON. 34th Georgetown Highland Games at the Fairgrounds. (905)584-5440. <http://georgetownhighlandgames.com/>

June 20, 2009: Chilliwack, BC. BC Legion Highland Gathering. For further information visit <http://www.highlandgathering.ca/>

JUNE 20, 2009: Unveiling of the Dr. A.M. Ross plaque, Chatham, Ontario; Detailed program above in newsletter.

June 27, 2009: Red Deer, AB. 62nd Annual Red Deer Highland Games. Westerner Altaplex. (403)343-6418. <http://reddeerhighlandgames.ca/>

June 27, 2009: Cobourg, ON. 44th Annual Cobourg Highland Games Festival. Donegan Park, D'Arcy Street South. <http://www.cobourghighlandgames.ca/>

June 27, 2009: Coquitlam, BC. 78th British Columbia Highland Games and Scottish Festival. Percy Perry Stadium (formerly Coquitlam Town Centre Stadium). Held on last Saturday every June. Phone: (604)263-9111. <http://www.bchighlandgames.com/>

July 1 - 8, 2009: Halifax, NS. The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo. Halifax Metro Centre. Tickets: Phone (902)451-1221. <http://www.nstatattoo.ca/>

July 3 - 5, 2009: Kincardine, ON. 10th annual Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games. Victoria Park. Toll Free: 1-888-232-7952. <http://www.kincardinescottishfestival.ca/>

July 11, 2009: Halifax, NS. Halifax Highland Games and Scottish Festival. 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Dartmouth Common. Admission: Adults \$10 Students & Seniors \$8. <http://www.halifaxhighlandgames.com/>

July 11, 2009: Haliburton Village, ON. Haliburton Highland Games at Head Lake Park (705)457-3543. <http://www.haliburtonhighlandgames.com/>

July 17 - 18, 2009: Cambridge, ON. 34th Annual Cambridge Highland Games at Churchill Park. Phone: (519)241-4906. <http://www.cambridgehighlandgames.org/>

July 24 - 26, 2009: Uxbridge, ON. 15th Annual Highlands of Durham Games. Elgin Park in Uxbridge. (905)852-0112. <http://www.highlandsofdurhamgames.com/>

July 24 - 26, 2009: Fredericton, NB. 28th Annual New Brunswick Highland Games and Scottish Festival. Old Government House. Phone: (506)452-9244. <http://www.highlandgames.ca/>

July 25 & 26, 2009: Scotland's International Clan Gathering. . . Check about events and clan tents at Holyrood Park . . . the Parade along the Royal Mile to the Clan Pageant at Edinburgh Castle. See <http://www.clangathering.org/> for more information.

July 31-August 1, 2009: Maxville, ON. Glengarry Highland Games. Agricultural Grounds. 1-888-298-1666. <http://www.glengarryhighlandgames.com/>

August 2, 2009: Montréal, QC. 32nd Montréal Highland Games. George Springate Sports Centre. Phone: (514)332-5242. <http://www.montrealhighlandgames.qc.ca/site/index.php>

August 2 - 8, 2009: Winnipeg, MB. Pavilion of Scotland . . . Folklorama. New Location: Glenwood Community Centre. <http://www.pavilionofscotland.ca/>

August 7 - 9, 2009: Fergus, ON. 64th Fergus Scottish Festival and Premier North American Highland Games. Fergus Community Centre. Phone: (519)787-0099. <http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com/>

August 13 - 15, 2010: Fergus, ON. 65th Fergus Scottish Festival and Premier North American Highland Games. Fergus Community Centre. THE CLAN ROSS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA IS THE FEATURED CLAN THIS YEAR DURING OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY SINCE FOUNDING.

August 7 - 9, 2009: Goderich, ON. 17th Annual Celtic Roots Festival. Lion's Harbour Park, West Street. (519)524-8221. <http://www.celticfestival.ca/>

August 22, 2009: Almonte, ON. 26th North Lanark Highland Games at the North Lanark Agricultural Society fairgrounds. (613)256-2064 ext. 221. <http://www.almontehighlandgames.com/>

