



# THE NEWSBEAT



Volume XXXIII Winter 2017

Newsletter of the Macfie Clan Society of America

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## Editor's Notes



**Our Membership Chairperson, Diane Swenson and her family have recently moved. Her new address is:**

**Diane Swenson  
216 Spring Street, Apt. 1  
Newport, RI 02840**

I am sorry to be late in getting this newsletter out, we have once again been experiencing some computer problems, but hope to have that fixed in the near future.

The Newsbeat is published three time a year, Spring/Summer and Fall and Winter If you have any news, pictures, stories, poems, Games reports, or genealogy queries, please send them to Ginger (at the address to the left, preferably e-mail) for inclusion in the next issue. We love to hear from you and the membership wants to know what is happening with other members.

**Dues Schedules**  
**Dues are due each June.**

Family \$25.00  
Individual \$15.00  
Individual (over 65) \$7.00  
Associate \$10.00  
One time:  
Sponsorship \$500.00  
Life Membership (over 65) \$200.00

Send Dues to

Diane Swenson  
216 Spring Street, Apt 1  
Newport, RI 02840

Annual dues will be due again on June 1, (unless you have joined within the past 6 months or so, in that case your dues will become due until the year following. Please check your membership card to see when you need to renew. Thanks to all those who faithfully renew their membership each year, your dues helps us to print and mail out this newsletter, it also helps us to maintain our web site and have a presence at many of the larger games in the county and be a presence to meet and get to know other Macfies around the country. We encourage you to attend as many Scottish Games as possible, and if you would like to convene, the society will pay half of the games fee. We will also provide a banner, and some items for the table, just contact Ginger at [jgmcafee@charter.net](mailto:jgmcafee@charter.net)

**The Macfie Society of  
America is a Member of  
The Council of  
Scottish Clans  
Association Inc.**

**Macfie Merchandise for Sale**

Kilt Pin-\$15.00  
Badges \$12.00  
Pro Rege T-shirts green-\$12.00  
Black T-shirts-\$17.00  
Minimal postage will be added to each order. Send order and payment to:

Ginger McAfee  
420 Ash Dr.  
Baxter, TN 38544

[jgmcafee@charter.net](mailto:jgmcafee@charter.net)

**Some upcoming Games where you are likely to find a  
Macfie Clan Tent.**

53rd Phoenix Scottish Games March 4-5, 2017  
Steele Indian School Park  
300 E Indian School Road in Phoenix  
[www.arizonascots.com/05games.shtml](http://www.arizonascots.com/05games.shtml)

Smoky Mt Scottish Games, May 20-12, 2017  
Maryville College, Maryville TN  
[www.http://smokymountaingames.org/](http://www.smokymountaingames.org/)

Blairsville GA Scottish Games, June 10-11, 2017  
Meeks Park, Blairsville, GA  
<http://www.blairsvillescottishfestival.org/>

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games July 6 - 9, 2017  
Linville, NC  
<http://www.gmhg.org/homepage.shtml>

You can get a more complete list of Scottish Games at  
[http://www.angelfire.com/folk/irishcelts/  
scottish\\_highland\\_festivals\\_by\\_date.html](http://www.angelfire.com/folk/irishcelts/scottish_highland_festivals_by_date.html)

If YOU would like to convene a tent at a Scottish Highland Games in your area, please contact Ginger at [jgmcafee@charter.net](mailto:jgmcafee@charter.net) for information.

*Ceud Mile Failte*

(One hundred thousand welcomes)

Mr. & Mrs James McHaffey  
Rock Springs, WY

Mr. & Mrs. Tyler McAthie  
Hudson, WI

To our newest Society members, we hope that you will be able to attend some of the Highland Games where there is a Macfie Tent. You are especially invited to attend the Stone Mountain Games October 20 - 22, 2017 Our Annual Meeting will be held there on the field on Saturday, Oct 21, 2017, at the Clan Tent.

# Clan News



**Commander Iain:** We want to wish Commander Iain a very speedy recovery! The latest news that we have heard from him is that he continues to improve but will probably be in the rehab facility a few more months. He is very much looking forward the 2017 Clan Parliament meeting and Gathering (see page 4) and hopes many will get to go over to Colonsay after the Parliament meetings for more fun and festivities.

**We recently got a couple of messages from Society member Jim Mahaffey he wrote:**

I have become very interested in knowing more about the MacPhee's participation at Culloden. I have read most of the reports on the internet plus several books on Culloden. I was fortunate to have visited the site twice, but at the time didn't know what to look for, etc. Basically what I have found to date is:

- \*Originally from Colonsay/Oronsay island.
- \*with Robert the Bruce at Bannockburn in 1314
- \*to Lochaber, was beside the Camerons
- \*a piper at Glenfinnan with Prince Charlie 1745
- \*fought at the right flank of the Camerons, buried in common grave with them.
- \*under Lochiel command.

After purchasing several books on Culloden, I did some research to find any trace of the MacPhee's present at that bloody battle in 1745. The book "No Quarter Given" roll of Prince Charlie's Army listed 3 MacPhee's (spelling alternated with McPhee). They were (1) Ewen McPhee (28) of Locharkaig, who was taken and transported (back to England I presume). (2) Murdoch McPhee (42) of Sandvegg, Eigg. A farmer, also taken and transported.

(3) Patrick McPhee of Invegarry, who surrendered 5-15-46. There were no listings under the spelling "MacFie". Has anyone else traced your lineage back to one of these three? I would love to go back to Scotland and revisit Culloden.

Can anyone refer me to other sources with more about MacPhee's/MacFie role at Culloden?? Any info greatly appreciated.

Pro Rege, Y'all  
Jim Mahaffey  
San Antonio, Texas  
jimmahaffeymusic@yahoo.com

**From Bill McAfee:**

I just read an article, "First Strike", in the May/June 2013 issue of *World War II* magazine that included a 1LT James McAfee. He was the co-pilot of a B-25 bomber under Col. John "Big Jim" Davies, commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bombardment Group out of Melbourne, Australia. They participated with Royce's Raiders in April 1942 raids against Japanese forces in the Philippines just prior to Lt. Col. James Doolittle's more widely publicized attack on Tokyo. ("First Strike" is the way that article was list in the Table of Contents, but the author, John D. Lukacs, named it (page 30) was "Forgotten Valor".

Do you or any of your readers know anything else about this "cousin", like his lineage or what happened to him after April 1942?

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# International Clan Gathering 2017

September 6-10, 2017

Will be held at the Stirling Court Hotel on the Stirling University campus. The accommodations are of good quality. Some rooms are twins, but the majority are fitted with a five foot bed. All rooms have a shower room and other facilities. There are two floors in the hotel with a limited number of rooms on the ground floor.

At the moment only twenty rooms are available for us in the Stirling Court Hotel therefore it may be a good idea to book now. We were told that it is likely that other rooms will become available as other parties may have overbooked and may release rooms which will be allocated to Clan Macfie. We will have our own dining room, which is on the ground floor as are the meeting rooms. The meeting rooms are fully fitted with overhead projectors, etc.

There will be other accommodations available in Stirling,

The Stirling Hotel : <http://www.thestirlinghotel.com/>

There is also a Holiday Inn Express

The Stirling Highland Hotel

And many others can be located on the Internet



William Wallace Monument



Stirling Castle

For further information regarding accommodation, availability, pricing e-mail: [gathering2017@clanmacfie.co.uk](mailto:gathering2017@clanmacfie.co.uk)

**The preliminary program for Stirling is:**

**Wednesday 6th September:** Arrival of delegates. Commander's Reception

**Thursday 7th September:**

Opening of 12th Parliament; Clan Session, half day outing (this will probably be to the smallest whisky distillery in Scotland) or time on your own.

**Friday 8th September:**

Day tour or your own plans. Clan Dinner.

**Saturday 9th September:**

Clan Society Session. Half day tour on your own.

**Sunday 10th September:**

Depart for Colonsay. Probably return on Sunday

**For accommodations on Colonsay see**

<http://www.colonsayholidays.co.uk/cottages/>

# Games and Things

The weather was perfect for **the Stone Mountain GA games last October**, we had lots of people come by the clan tent to say hello.

Our annual meeting was held at 3:15 at the clan tent;

**The minutes** of the last meeting were read and approved

**Treasurer report** was read and adopted. (However there was a discussion about purchasing new merchandise. Our finances are down, (see Financial Report below) but we are also low on merchandise to sell, a motion was given and passed to go ahead and purchase needed clan badges, kilt pens and t-shirts, but at this time there is not enough money in the treasury to purchase said items. We can wait until the June dues come in to see if we have enough at that time to purchase the needed items.)

**Old Business:** We are still looking for someone to volunteer to handle updates on our Go Daddy website.

**New Business:** Discussion and information about upcoming Parliament and Gathering in September 2017

Meeting was adjourned

## Macfie Clan Society of America

### Financial Statement

**Oct. 1, 2015-Oct. 1, 2016**

Beginning Account 10/01/15	\$1,293.56
Income	<u>\$3099.00</u>
Total	\$4,392.56
Disbursements	<u>\$2,575.93</u>
<b>Bank Balance 10/01/15</b>	<b>\$1,816.63</b>

#### Explanation of Monies Received:

Dues	\$1,273.00
Donations.	\$ 800.00
Merchandise	<u>\$ 1,026.00</u>
Total	\$3,099.00

#### Explanation of Monies Disbursed:

Advertisement & Internet	\$230.00
Office Supply/Newsbeat/Postage	\$1,204.93
Games	<u>\$1,141.00</u>
Total	\$2,575.93

**We have miscellaneous inventory on hand and out with those who convene various games. Inventory includes t-shirts, badges and kilt pens. Estimated value \$3,000.00.**



**The Northern California Macfies Scottish Highland Gathering & Games  
sponsored by The Caledonian Club of San Francisco  
Held in Pleasanton, California, September 2016**

**(Copied from the Clan Macfie News)**

At our Games, we had a very interesting visitor stop by. His name was Marc Pehkonen (a Finnish name). He is a piper from the Wasatch & District Pipe Band in Salt Lake City, Utah. He was excited to see a photo of Dreghorn Castle. He told us that his grandfather was born there. Before moving to the United States, Marc lived near Edinburgh and often passed the army base where the manor home use to be. It is off limits to civilians, but I had the impression that part of the estate is still open to the public. He hastily scribbled out a family genealogy which I can hardly read. His ancestor, R. A. MacFie, purchased Dreghorn Castle in 1862. His son John (which I think could have been Johnathan or Jonathan, which was popular at the time) William had a very large family, including a daughter named Janet. Apparently Janet had a son named Henry Paton. If Henry was born there, then Marc would be one of R.A. MacFie's great great grandsons. He told us that it was Janet's generation that sold off the family sugar business. The sons were all of an academic bent and no one wanted to run the business so the sugar refining was sold to the Tates who still operate MacFie's Golden Syrup. By Barbara Russell Northern California Macfies

**I ran across this YouTube article on the Macfies. It is definitely worth your time to listen**

**[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Xae0dXcI\\_o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Xae0dXcI_o)**

**Another interesting web site is**

**Why even the fiercest Viking warrior steered clear of Scotland**

**<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/why-even-the-fiercest-viking-warrior-steered-clear-of-scotland-1790728.html>**



**It is time once again to elect our officers for two years. If you have someone that you would like to nominate, please make sure they are willing to serve in that office and then send in their nomination to the address below by July 1, 2017. Ballots will be in the next edition of the Newsbeat, you will be able to vote either by mail or at the annual meeting at Stone Mountain in October.**

**All offices are open to any member whose dues are up to date. We would like to see more people involved in the Society**

### **Macfie Clan Society of America Nomination Form**

I nominate the following people

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

I have spoken with the above named candidates and they have agreed to serve if elected.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Send the nomination form to membership chairperson

Diane Swenson  
216 Spring St  
Newport, RI 02840

## Scottish Heraldry

I know many have seen the people at some of the Games who wear badges and feathers on their caps and wondered why they wear these and who might be entitled to do so. Here is some history of Scottish Arms (Gleaned from the News letter of The McPhee Clan Society of New Zealand and the Internet)

Dr. Joseph J. Morrow, QC, is the Lord Lyon King of Arms of Scotland The office of Lyon King of Arms dates from the 14th century. The position may incorporate the much older Celtic office of royal *Seanchaidh* or of King's Poet with responsibility for keeping the royal genealogy and attending the inauguration (later coronation) of the King.

The Lord Lyon is the sole King of Arms in Scotland. He is Head of the Heraldic Executive and the Judge of the Court of the Lord Lyon which has jurisdiction over all heraldic business in Scotland.

The origin of the Coat of Arms was a jacket or tabard worn by a mediaeval Knight over his armour in order to identify himself. Nowadays the expression "Coat of Arms" is generally applied to what is officially called an "Achievement", which consists of various parts: a shield, helmet, mantling, wreath, crest, motto and sometimes supporters and decorations.

There is a widespread misconception that a family or a clan can have a family or clan Coat of Arms. Many heraldic and clan web sites and other media suggest that a person has the right to use the family or clan Arms. This is completely incorrect.

A Coat of Arms belongs only to one individual person and can only be used by that person and no one else. In order for a person to be able to use a Coat of Arms it is necessary for that individual person to apply for a personal Coat of Arms to be granted to him or her .



**Chiefs of clans** have the right to wear their Crests as badges either simpliciter, without the accompaniment of cirlet, motto or feathers behind the badge. or, as is more usual, surrounded with a plain cirlet inscribed with his Motto or Slogan, NOT a strap-and-buckle which is for clansmen; and, if they choose, with THREE eagle's feathers in silver behind the cirlet.



**Heads of large branches of a Clan**, who have been Officially Recognized as Chiefs by the Lord Lyon King of Arms, may wear: either their own personal Crest within a plain cirlet inscribed with the Motto, as for a Chief, but with two small eagles' feathers instead of the Chief's three. If the Chieftain is also a Peer, he may add the appropriate coronet of rank on top of the cirlet, or they may wear their Chief's Crest badge without feather like any other clansman



**Armigers:** A person who has registered his or her own coat of Arms and Crest, or inherited these according to the Laws of Arms in Scotland from an ancestor who had recorded them in the Lyon Register, may wear their own Crest as a badge: either on its Wreath, Crest Coronet or Chapeau, or, as is more usual, within a plain cirlet inscribed with his Motto. An armiger may also choose to wear instead the Crest badge of his Chief if the armiger is a clansman. An armiger is entitled to one silver eagle's feather behind the plain cirlet, and if he is also a Peer he may add his appropriate coronet of rank on top of the cirlet.

### Clansmen and clanswomen



These are the Chief's relatives, including his own immediate family and even his eldest son, and all members of the extended family called the "Clan", whether bearing the Clan surname or that of one of its septs; that is all those who profess allegiance to that Chief and wish to demonstrate their association with the Clan.

It is correct for these people to wear their Chiefs Crest encircled with a strap and buckle bearing their Chief's Motto or Slogan. The strap and buckle is the sign of the clansman, and he demonstrates his membership of his Chiefs Clan by wearing his Chief's Crest within it.



## **In 1850, A Farmer Found A Secret Door In The Sand. Sent by Cliff McDuffie**

**In a small bay in Scotland, a well-kept secret is hidden among the green hills. At first glance, it might not seem particularly impressive, but step inside and you'll be amazed at what you see.**

**Thousands of years ago, it was a bustling society. But time and weather buried it under the sand. For millennia, no one knew that this place ever existed, but when a terrible storm swept over the Orkney Islands in 1850, an incredible secret was revealed.**

**Nestled in the mossy, green hills on the Orkney Islands off Scotland is a secret older than the great pyramids of Egypt.**



**At first, it might not look like much, but the fact is, this is a unique and magical place. Because within this rolling hillside is a perfectly preserved prehistoric village called Skara Brae**

**The winter of 1850 hit Orkney hard. A severe storm caused great devastation and resulted in more than 200 deaths. But it also revealed something long forgotten. When the storm abated, villagers discovered a settlement under the sand.**

**The settlement consists of eight stone houses and was inhabited between roughly 3180 and 2500 B.C., making Skara Brae one of the oldest agriculture villages in the UK. Skara Brae has been called the Scottish Pompeii because the ancient monument is so well preserved. Since the surrounding sand and the buildings architecture were well protected against the cold, both the buildings and their contents have been remarkably preserved throughout the millennia.**

**(Continued next page)**

Archaeologists estimate that 50-100 people lived in the village. When the settlement was built, the houses were 1,500 meters from the sea. Now, the sea has dug closer to the village and the view from the settlement has changed from pastures to the sea. The settlements seven or eight houses were connected to each other by tunnels. Each residence could be closed off with a stone door.

Skara Brae was a society which centered around families. The dwellings are all quite similar, which led archaeologists to conclude that this society was a fairly equal one, without any authoritative leadership. Some believe that the villagers were Picts, a people of unknown origin who settled in eastern and northern Scotland near the end of the British Iron Age. But archaeological findings have

shown that the people who lived here could have lived much earlier than that. A number of mysterious discoveries have been made at the site, including this carved stone ball, though no one really knows what it was used for. And no one knows why the village was abandoned. But around 2500 B.C., the Orkney Islands became cooler and wetter. Many theories speculate about how the people of Skara Brae met their fate; the most popular ones involve a violent storm. What's the future look like for Skara Brae? Although the settlement was built nearly two kilometers from the beach, in recent centuries, it has been increasingly threatened by the sea. Since 1926, the houses have been protected from the approaching sea and harsh autumn winds by a concrete wall.



There has been talk about building an artificial beach with boulders and break-water to preserve Skara Brae and several other ancient monuments at risk of being destroyed. But nothing has happened yet. Until further notice, tourists continue to visit this fascinating place, but the question is for how long? I personally hope that the Scottish Government will do all they can to preserve this amazing place.

## Robert Burns

**Robert Burns was born on** January 25, 1759 and died July 21, 1796) he was a Scottish poet and lyricist. He is widely regarded as the National Poet of Scotland. Burns began life as a poor tenant farmer but was able to channel his intellectual energy into poetry and song to become one of the most famous characters of Scotland's cultural history. He is best known as a pioneer of the Romantic movement for his lyrical poetry and his rewriting of Scottish folk songs, many of which are still well known across the world today. Celebrations are held around the world on or near his Birthday, to commemorate Burn's life and poetry. A Dinner is served consisting of Haggis, neeps and tatties and other Scottish Fare. There is also a time of poetry reading and other activities to celebrate Scotland's most famous Bard.

If you would like to have your own Burns Night celebration, you can get some ideas from

<http://www.robertburns.org/>

Here is my recipe for Haggis using things we can easily find here in the US.

### AMERICAN STYLE HAGGIS BY GINGER MCAFEE

1 pound ground lamb meat  
1 pound ground pork  
½ pound ground beef  
½ pound liver (Cooked and ground)  
1 medium onion chopped fine  
1 stalk celery chopped fine  
2 Cups steel cut Oats (or old fashioned oats)  
1 cup water or beef stock  
2 eggs  
  
1 tsp. Salt,  
1 tsp black pepper  
1 t sugar  
1 tsp Ginger  
½ tsp cloves  
½ tsp. Allspice  
½ t nutmeg



Mix well and bake in greased pan at 350 for 1 hour. Or you can shape like a haggis and cook in a large baking bag.

# Auld Lang Syne

(Old Times Gone by)

By Robert Burns

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And auld lang syne!

Chorus.-For auld lang syne, my dear,  
For auld lang syne.

We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.

.And there's a hand, my trusty fere!

And gie's a hand o' thine!

And we'll tak a right gude-willie waught,  
For auld lang syne.

For auld, &c.

Chorus.-For auld lang syne, my dear,  
For auld lang syne.

We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.



## The House Where R. Burns was Born

- Robert Burns was born on 25 January 1759, the first of William and Agnes Burns' seven children. From an early age Robert had to help his father on their small, impoverished farm in Ayrshire, in south-west Scotland.



The Macfie Clan Society of America  
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