



JUNE 2014

ISSN 1207-7232

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Below are some of the events in which you may expect to see the clan represented. Commissioners please advise the editor of events that you will be attending.

May 17 - Moose Jaw - at Peacock High School, SK

May 18 - Saskatchewan Highland Gathering & Celtic Festival at University of Regina, SK

June 5, 6 & 7 - Regina Multicultural Festival - Mosaic at The Scottish Pavilion.

June 14 - Georgetown Highland Games, ON. We will be there.

June 21 - Coburg Highland Games, Ontario - we will be there.

July 1 - Embro, Ont. We will be there.

July 4, 5, & 6 - The Kincardine Scottish Festival and Highland Games, Ontario. We welcome volunteers to help set-up on the Saturday and to attend and take place in the parade through Kincardine on Saturday noon.

July 19 - Orillia Scottish Festival - we will be there.

August 2 - Glengarry Highland Games, Ont. We will be there as always!

August 9 & 10 - Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Ont. Our biggest event in Ontario. Large turnout for help requested.

August 16 - Ontario Clan Dinner - further details to be advised in due course.

Clan Members Meetings at 580 Rebecca Street, Oakville, ON from 2pm to 5pm:

Sunday, June 15

Sunday, September 7

Sunday November 23

Cabar Feidh Newsletter:

Members who wish to write to the Society with news or other contributions to the Magazine please send submissions to The Editor, Clan MacKenzie Society, 580 Rebecca St., Oakville, ON L6K 3N9. or e-mail to alan@mkz.com
Clan Facebook: www.facebook.com/clanmackenziecanada Clan Web Page: www.clanmackenzie.ca



Ben Mackenzie & Sharie Argue and the Water Jug

HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE YOUR SCOTTISH HERITAGE?

BY SHARIE ARGUE

Well, you may say in reply that you attend your local Highland Games each year, or that you enjoyed your recent outing to the Robbie Burns Dinner in your community! Or perhaps your children take Highland Dance lessons, or (God Bless You!) perhaps they are taking Bagpipe lessons!!! Maybe you own a kilt in your clan tartan or are part of a Scottish Country Dancing group that meets regularly.

However you celebrate your Scottish heritage is a wonderful way to keep traditions alive, wherever you may live!

There may be other ways which you have not thought of to contribute to that list.

For example, my cousin Ben Mackenzie has an old, pewter water pitcher that is greatly admired by family and visitors alike. A water jug you say! Well, this is not just any old water jug, this handsome water pitcher sat on the dining table in the home of Ben's 2x great grandfather, who was celebrated a couple summers ago in Oregon for the Bi-Centennial Celebration of his discovery of a river there. This Donald Mackenzie/McKenzie, after whom the Oregon McKenzie River was named, was a great explorer, like his cousin Sir

Alexander in Canada, and is greatly admired by those who know his history. But that too is not the reason why this old water jug is so special. This water pitcher sat on the dining table in Donald's post-fur trade and exploring days home in Mayville, N.Y. and was in daily use at the time that Daniel Webster, U.S. Secretary of State visited Donald there to discuss where the border should go between what is now the USA & Canada in the then Oregon Territory! An historian told Ben that the U.S. and Britain were on the verge of a 3rd war over this border dispute (the first two were the American Revolution and the War of 1812). Ben's grandmother, who knew a couple of Donald's children (one lived to be 99), told Ben, that Daniel Webster had taken a boat on Lake Erie from Buffalo to Westfield, NY, then "horse drawn carriage with the shades drawn to Donald's home, so the people would not be aware he was there." ... Hmmm.... Secret Mission ... ? ... He spent a few days there discussing with Donald where the border should go. Ben had the impression from his grandmother that this was the border from the Great Lakes west, but an historian later told him it was from eastern Idaho west. Ben later saw an array of maps showing how the border evolved over the years and concurs with the historian's statement.

A pretty auspicious occasion I would say! So, this water pitcher now proudly sits in Ben & Marlene's dining room to be cherished by the family, the story related to a few visitors, and their 'connection' celebrated! They have other artifacts that are greatly admired, but those are other stories for another day. There was a second, similar pewter water pitcher which was passed down a different family line to cousin Patsy West, in Maine.

Sometimes we overlook the simple things in life that remind us of our heritage. Is there an

old trunk in your possession that could be cleaned up, put a glass top on it & use it as a conversation piece and coffee table in your family room perhaps. Or is there a beautiful, handmade, lacy christening gown buried in a box somewhere that could be professionally cleaned & mounted in a frame to adorn a hall or bedroom wall? How about an old cap or hat, a pipe, a lace collar or a special locket or other piece of jewellery. Are they on display where you can enjoy them regularly?

Sometimes the most unexpected items can make a great display. In 2010 while cousin Joan (B.C. Commissioner) & I were doing research in Scotland, we visited Dingwall and stayed with friends of our cousin Larry's at the Heights of Pitglassie up the hill. While there we trudged further up the hill to the place where Larry's family had lived. It was now a pile of stone rubble in a sheep pasture, but amongst those fallen stones we found an old broken slate from the roof. I carted that slate home to Regina and eventually mounted it in a shadow box frame along with the story of its retrieval and significance. Larry now has it hung on his wall next to the picture of the ship by which his ancestor travelled to North America...both reminders of his ancestral homeland!

On our games room wall there is a similar larger shadow box frame holding a somewhat strange assortment of memorabilia....this one has a leaf with attached seed pod picked from a tree in my cousin's back yard in Dundee that had been planted by Mary, Queen of Scots! Also in this collection is a piece of broken root filched from the park at Castle Leod from a tree which I'm told by Cabarfeidh was planted by Mary's mother, Mary of Guise! The final piece of this odd collection is another piece of old root from a tree at Dalkenloch where Joan

and my ancestors lived in the valley by Loch Achall, N.W. of Ullapool. Those trees having been cut down in the 1720's for shipbuilding purposes by order of the second Earl of Cromartie to meet his debts..much to the dismay of his then teenaged son George, who was the legal owner of those woods, and was awarded by the courts in 1824 a settlement for the loss of this portion of his rightful inheritance to the sum of 400 pounds! A very usual collection for sure, but happy reminders for me of my ancestry!

Do you have an old locket that belonged to a forebear? Perhaps it contains other treasures such as pictures of a great grandmother in her bonnet and great grandfather sporting massive whiskers, or even a lock of hair of some ancestor as a baby! Do you have an old christening gown that has been passed down and perhaps even used for generations? What other treasures do you have tucked carefully away where they are never seen? An old pipe, a hat, a special book perhaps, even an ancient school book, old letters, or pictures. The list of 'things' is endless.

Bring them out and enjoy them! There is archival paper to mount your treasures safely and archival clear coverings in plastic type and special glass as well. Enjoy your treasures all the time. There is no point in having them buried somewhere for 'safe keeping'.... enjoy them now. Let others see them and hear the stories that go along with the items. Include a brief write up with the item so its significance is not forgotten by future generations.

We look forward to hearing about your 'treasures' and seeing pictures too. Let's keep this going for many more issues and see what we can share with each other of our heritage, the unique ways in which we can celebrate our ancestry.

If you need a bit of encouragement or assistance with your idea, don't hesitate to call me, I'll be happy to help you bring your treasures and ideas to the light of day! Sharie :)

Sharie Argue
sharieargue@sasktel.net

MEMBERSHIPS

We have had quite a few older members dying recently. We received our clan magazine returned from BC for Kenneth W. MacKenzie of Salt Spring Island, BC, with a handwritten note on the envelope: R.T.S. Deceased. Kenneth had been a member since 1998 and I find it sad that we did not get any obituary from the family after 16 years of membership. I never met the gentleman but pass the information on to the BC commissioners for their records.

NEWS ITEMS FROM SCOTLAND

Our grateful thanks go to Mark Courtney in Inverness-shire who continues to send us many interesting extracts from the British newspapers. Below we have a few of them.

SCOTTISH LANDOWNERS

This short piece comes from the Daily Mail of January 10th.

SCOTLAND is rightly famed around the world for its wild and dramatic geography, enjoyed by millions of tourists and locals on a daily basis. Yet half of the nation's private land is in the hands of so few people - 432 - that they could all travel aboard a single jumbo jet. John Mackenzie, from Gairloch, calls 53,000 acres in the Highlands his own and was asked by BBC Scotland if he thought land ownership

here is equitable. He replied: 'It may not be fair, but is it fair that your wife may be prettier than mine?' Look out - the joyless SNP will soon be forcing good-looking people to marry plain spouses in the name of fairness.

The following comes from the Daily Mail of February 1st.

THE HOUSE OF STEWART

IT was once the most powerful name in the land, signifying the connections to the thrones of Scotland and England.

But nowadays, any Rod, Dave or Jackie



Relatives: Movie star James Stewart, Bonnie Prince Charlie and Jackie Stewart

Stewart may be able to boast royal blood flowing in their veins.

A DNA study has found that half of all men with that surname can trace their ancestry to the House of Stuart.

There are about 70,000 Stewarts in Britain, roughly half of whom are male - meaning up to 17,500 men, whether they spell their name Stewart or Stuart, can claim to be of royal descent.

Ancestry experts at ScotlandsDNA traced the male DNA lineage to a single man in the 13th century who founded a branch of the Royal Stewart line. Sir John Stewart of Bonkyll died in 1298 fighting alongside William Wallace at the Battle of Falkirk.

His well-documented pedigree has allowed tests to be carried out on his descendants, and those of his brother James, the 5th High

Steward of Scotland and grandfather of Robert II, the first Stewart king.

Dr Jim Wilson, ScotlandsDNA's chief scientist, discovered a marker - or genetic aberration - that originated more than 700 years ago.

Modern descendants of either son of Sir John carry a Y chromosome marker S781+ that is absent in the descendants of James. Dr Wilson said: 'That means that the marker arose in Sir John Stewart, and not his father. If it had, James's descendants would also carry it.'

ScotlandsDNA checked its database of ancestry tests for men named Stewart and found that 20 per cent share Sir John's lineage, while 30 per cent are descended from James.

The genetic find means that up to half of modern-day Stewarts could be descended from Scotland's royal dynasty.

Notable names such as rocker Rod Stewart, Eurythmics guitarist Dave Stewart and motor racing legend Jackie Stewart could be distantly related to Bonnie Prince Charlie and his forebears.

Alistair Moffat, co-founder of ScotlandsDNA, said: 'In the year of the 700th anniversary of Bannockburn, thousands of Scottish men can claim to be directly descended from the Stewarts who fought alongside Bruce.'

The Duke of Buccleuch, Scotland's biggest private landowner and a direct descendant of Sir John, said: 'The fact that the rise of a DNA marker has been identified in an individual brings the past even closer and more personal.'

'I am delighted to have been a guinea pig for the sort of history it is now possible to write, thanks to DNA research.'

Stewart derives from the political office similar to a governor, known as a steward. The royal spelling was later changed to Stuart by Mary, Queen of Scots.

The Stewart line was founded by Alan, the Seneschal of Dol, a Breton aristocrat, whose family came to Britain in 1066 with William the Conqueror.

by Gavin Madeley

The following lengthy obituary was published in The Times on January 25th. Obviously an important Mackenzie hero of whom most of us had never heard. This warrants telling the complete story.

LT-CDR STEVEN MACKENZIE

WARTIME NAVAL OFFICER WHO SPIRITED CLANDESTINE AGENTS ACROSS THE CHANNEL IN A FISHING TRAWLER

Steven Mackenzie played a crucial role in the smuggling of British and French clandestine agents out of Occupied France. During the war he ran a fishing trawler off the Brittany coast, and among those he successfully extracted was de Gaulle's Intelligence chief. He later served with MI6 in Europe (co-ordinating policy on defections), the Far East and Latin America.

Mackenzie was selected to command *Le Dinan*, a trawler of the type used out of Concarneau, to bring back to England the leader of de Gaulle's most successful intelligence network, the Confrérie Notre Dame. Colonel Gilbert Renault-Roulier (known by the code-name Rémy) had been compromised, and his evacuation became a priority.

Accompanied by his First Officer Daniel Lomenech, Mackenzie took *Le Dinan* to sea from the Isles of Scilly after dark one evening in June 1942. The planned rendezvous was off La Baie d'Audierne, west of Quimper, at 5pm two days later. The most dangerous leg of the voyage was the daylight crossing of open sea when the vessel could be vulnerable to air

attack before *Le Dinan* could merge with the Breton fleet.

This was accomplished safely by 10am on the day of pick-up but Mackenzie was acutely aware of the Luftwaffe patrols overhead and the German warships on the horizon. Anxiety intensified when 5pm came and went without any sign of the craft bringing Rémy and his family to the rendezvous and *Le Dinan* suddenly came under close scrutiny from the captain of a German corvette. Apparently the trawler appeared unexceptional, and as the corvette drew away Mackenzie spotted a small sailing vessel, *Les Deux Anges*, putting out from the harbour of Port Aven. Thirty minutes later the craft drew alongside and Rémy, his wife and four young daughters were taken aboard - along with a detailed blue-print of the enemy fortifications being constructed along the north coast of France.

As the tense return voyage neared its end, Mackenzie was relieved to see the Coastal Command aircraft soon after first light circling ahead to escort *Le Dinan* back to the Isles of Scilly.

In 1943 he was decorated by General Koenig with the Croix de Guerre. He continued his operations until the invasion of Normandy in June 1944, and the following year he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Stevenson Moir Mackenzie, always known as Steven was born in Newcastle upon Tyne. His father, Sir Moir Mackenzie, was European director of the Federation of British Industries. He married Marguerite Haggie, whose family owned a rope works - Hood Haggie, now part of Melrose Industries. The young Mackenzie was educated at Eton, where he excelled in sports such as rowing (he was appointed Ninth Man in the Monarch), the wall game, as keep-

er of the Mixed Wall, rugby and boxing. He was well-built, a trait inherited no doubt from his father, who had been Captain of Rugby at both Fettes College and Edinburgh University, and was invited to play for Scotland. His father was knighted in 1952 for his services to the sport.

Mackenzie studied history at Clare College, Cambridge, and would often sail with friends such as Viscount Caldecote off the coast of Scotland during their undergraduate days. In March 1939 he joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, and was posted to the British Naval Liaison staff at Mainenon, near Chartres. There he came into the orbit of Ian Fleming, who was assistant to the Director of Naval Intelligence.

After the fall of France, Mackenzie managed to board a Canadian destroyer, but on June 25, 1940, the vessel collided with a cruiser in the Bay of Biscay and was sliced in half. As another destroyer came alongside he jumped onto its deck; others who had been on board were not so lucky, and a number of them were killed.

Back in London he was told by Fleming to report to Commander Frank Slocum, who had just been tasked with building up the covert system of transporting agents by sea in Occupied Europe. When Mackenzie was demobilised in late 1945, he was a natural recruit for MI6, which had close links with the Naval Intelligence Service. He was sent for his first foreign posting in 1946 to Bad Salzuflen in Germany. The wartime hero, who was dashingly good-looking, slotted easily into the Cold War world with a new mission to seek out intelligence of Soviet intentions. However, attempts to infiltrate agents in the Soviet zone or into the Soviet Union itself had little success, and the main source of intelligence came from defectors.



Mackenzie, left, and his First Officer Daniel Lomenech aboard Le Dinan, below

Mackenzie served in Germany until 1949 and was then posted to Holland for two years. In 1954 he was sent to Hong Kong where he joined the China watchers, trying to extract intelligence from missionaries, foreign business men and others who were trapped in China after the end of the Korean War. The CIA, with whom Mackenzie worked closely, had a large contingent in Hong Kong because of Washington's concerns regarding the Communist regime in China.

He was appointed director for the Far East and the Americas in 1960, and was head of station in Buenos Aires from 1962 to 1968. He returned to London for his final post as Controller Western Hemisphere, before taking early retirement from service aged 51. He nevertheless continued to work, serving as the director of the Hispanic, Luso and Brazilian Council at Canning House until 1982.

Mackenzie enjoyed playing golf and reading

novels by John le Carré, Frederick Forsyth and, naturally, Ian Fleming, with whom he would often lunch at Boodle's in the postwar years. A strong conversationalist with a good sense of humour, he was popular with his colleagues and foreign Dignitaries. In 1958 he was appointed CBE.

He married Angela Sykes-Wright, who was secretary to Commander Frank Slocum, in 1942. Their son Robert was born two years later, followed by a daughter, Mary, in 1946.

Angela predeceased him, and in 1979 he married Dolores Vyner-Brooks, who worked as secretary with the Foreign Office in Buenos Aires. They lived in London for a time and eventually settled in Chichester. She survives him, together with Robert, a chartered accountant, and Mary, a seller of high-end costume jewellery.

Lieutenant-Commander S.M. Mackenzie, CBE, DSC, wartime naval officer of the Secret Flotillas and career officer of MI6, was born on February 15, 1918. He died on December 31, 2013, aged 95.

HEART OF THE CONTINENT – MACKENZIE'S WAY

PART A: THE CLIMAX

“Tabernac!”

Our canoe is scraping across an unmarked barely submerged reef in the middle of the eastern third of relatively large and elongated Lac la Croix (10km due east from the Quetico Ontario Provincial Park warden cabin) presumably right on the invisible Canada US border.

“If we were in a motor boat we could have punctured our hull and it is a long swim with no one around” I exclaim to my canoe mate and Bob Rieder who is paddling the sea kayak adjacent to us (both of whom joined my journey across Canada for two weeks at Fort

Frances ON for the 350 km trip to Thunder Bay).

“Do we go right or left”, asks my canoe partner Bob Rebagliati from this vantage spot in the bow where there are two distinct arms of the Lake requiring a strategic decision as to direction.

“We go left.”

“Why this way?”

“Because it is a route entirely within Canada,” I answer cryptically, for I want to hold off the real reason until the moment is right and my buddies will truly savour the context.

Bob has every reason to determine why we are eschewing the “classic” and famed Grand Portage route eastward over the Laurentian Hydrological Divide (west the water flows to Hudson Bay and east into the Atlantic Ocean) separating us from Lake Superior. Perhaps this route is famed because the paddle upriver and lakes to the 14.5 km Grand Portage to Lake Superior, now forms the Canada – United States Border. In addition, it comprises The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness with Quetico and La Verendrye Provincial Parks to the north and Superior National Forest to the south. But most of all, like the creation of Voyageur National Park on the US side of Rainy Lake behind us some 100 km west, the lore of the Voyageurs has been adopted as America’s own. This area is probably the most used and renowned recreational canoe area in the USA and much is made of its history as the waterway of the Fur Trade even though it was driven and run by Canadian and Canadian interests out of Montreal from at least 1688 until forced out by the unpredictability of borders between two nascent countries in 1803.

The area is generally recognized, at least by American marketers, as the “Heart of the

Continent”. If one takes away everything above the Arctic Circle in the Territories and Nunavut and Alaska, it can be visualized as the bull’s eye of the continental USA and Canada: one that is full of lakes, rivers and wonderful trees and scant of inhabitants. It’s like the center of a donut: “North America’s premiere, near-urban, wilderness canoe area”.

Although he is a loyal friend, Bob remains unclear why we are taking a lesser known route that is 80 km longer? Although I don’t discuss it further with him, he might have been thinking that I am employing the same philosophy we used upon exiting Namakan Lake east of adjacent Rainy Lake wherein we proceeded 100 km up the Namakan River, past the confluence with the Quetico River and into Lac La Croix, for the very reason it is wilder, more remote and more difficult than the alternative boundary lakes route further south.

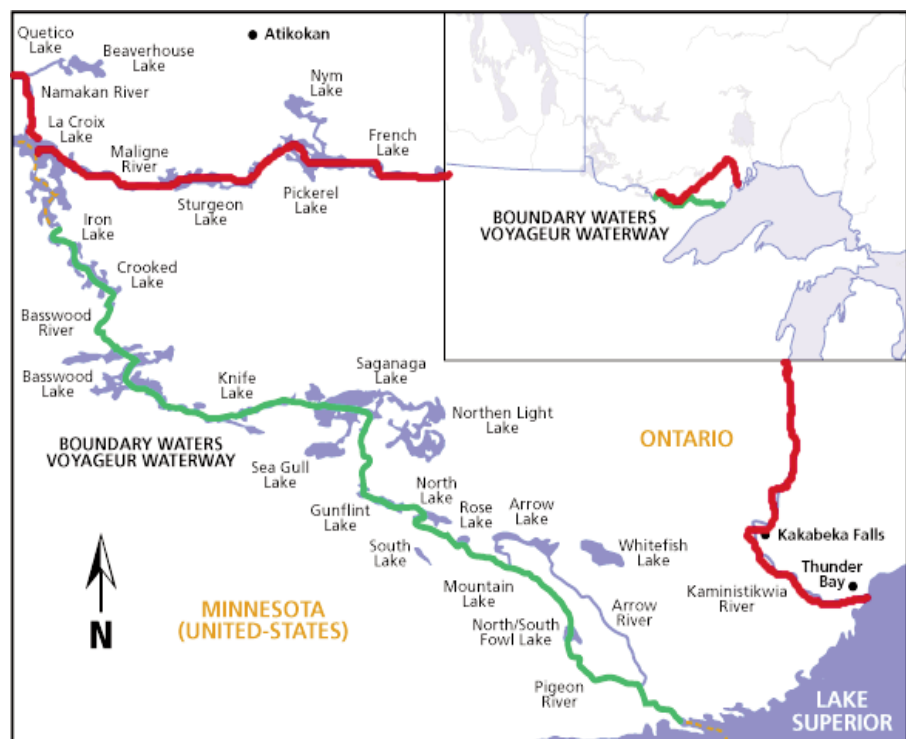
The next day, after spending it canoeing up the Maligne River (in some instances we line the canoe and kayak up the river submerged to our armpits in the running water all the while finding our footing on the uneven and unseen river bottom replete with boulders, rocks and crevices), we camp on the shores of this beautiful waterway. Our site is quintessentially Canadian (Precambrian) Shield: granite with a light cover of earth and moss and some beautiful stands of White Pine and other evergreens with a sprinkling of deciduous varieties. The water is crystal clear as it percolates over and around granite rocks and outcrops. We are sitting out in the dimming light of the setting sun enjoying a scotch and cigar relishing the moment; augmented by the surroundings and the sweet jolt our spirits received by the challenges of the day. I take this blissful occasion to share with my partners Bob Rieder and Bob Rebagliati why we are taking this route.



“The fort at Grand Portage on Lake Superior, which for many years had been the fur traders’ rendezvous point, in the 1780’s became the North West Company of Montreal’s great inland depot as the critical transshipment centre wherein trade goods arriving from Montreal and destined for the web of forts in the ever expanding “west” were exchanged for pelts heading east to markets. In 1800 the Nor’Westers, who monopolized the fur trade traffic through this region from 1786, decided, in order to avoid the threat of US custom duties, they needed to move out of their famous Fort at Grand Portage in what was to become Minnesota and find a new home north of the Pigeon River, which formed the border, on Lake Superior. In addition the Nor’Westers needed to find a

completely new route to Lake Superior from Lac La Croix, one which they had heard of but had not been used for a century. They sent out one of their men west across the traditional route to the point on Lac La Croix we saw yesterday. At this point that man turned east again and boldly struck off up the Maligne River, Sturgeon Lake, Pickerel River and Lake, French River and Lake, Lac des Milles Lacs, Savanne River, over the height of land (Laurentian Divide), Dog River and Lake, and Kaministiquia River to Lake Superior. They were relieved, if not overjoyed, with this option and set out to build what became known as Fort William as replacement for Grand Portage. From the time of its completion in 1803 this route was used by them and most others coming west. Simply, this route became the primary means of crossing Canada.

“Think about it, everyone who came across



Canada, from 1803 until the advent of railways in the US Midwest in the 1870's, came by the very spot on which we are camped." (See attached maps: Green: Grand Portage Route; Red: Kam-Dog-Maligne Route)

"What makes it even more special to me, is that the Nor'Wester who pioneered this route was Roderick Mackenzie (of Terrebonne), my great-great-great grandfather. Incidentally, Roderick Mackenzie is also credited in some sources as being in charge of construction of the new Fort William in what is now Thunder Bay.

"As you know the purpose of my paddle across Canada is to follow the rivers and lakes travelled by my various antecedents. I do know that my French antecedent Jean-Baptiste Chevalier (for one) began trading in furs in 1700 at Fort Michilimackinac close to the strategic intersection of Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron but apart from noting the matrimonial records of succeeding generations (Barton, Alavoine, Larcheveque, des Rivieres (Trottier), Benoit, and Chaboillez and their respective generational strings) there is very little written about their travels except that they lived and traded in the Great Lakes basin and possibly in the headwaters of the Mississippi River. It is fair to say they kept very quiet about their activities because as independent Coureur des Bois they were unlicensed and if caught could suffer the wrath (possibly death) of the King of France through his appointed Governor of New France. It is also fair to say that the cloak was removed after the English conquest of New France in 1760 and as such I know, for instance, Charles-Jean-Baptiste Chaboillez (1736 – 1808) continued the fur trade carried on by his father Charles (1706 – 1757), which purportedly extended as far west as Grand Portage. Further, I know that

Chaboillez's son Charles (1772 -1812) became the second of four Canadiens, including Francois-Amable Trottier des Rivieres, to be made a partner in the North West Company.

"The marriage in late fall of 1803 between Marie Louise Rachel Chaboillez, daughter of Charles-Jean-Baptiste Chaboillez, to Roderick Mackenzie on his return to Montreal (Terrebonne) upon completion of his role as wintering partner (1785 – 1803), not only exemplifies the seamless spiritual and cultural fusion between normally disparate peoples who shared a physical reality, also extends my biological link with the fur trade. It also affords me much greater insight as to the exact routes and circumstances of life in the "west" for both he and the North West Company were much greater chroniclers of their travels and exploits than that allowed to his wife's, or that of his son Alexander's wife (Trottier des Rivieres), family prior to 1760. Thus, while I can only surmise that it is possible my antecedents were included in the unnamed Canadiens who traveled beyond Lake of the Woods and could have paddled up the North Saskatchewan River, I do know that I intersected the course of Roderick Mackenzie's annual travels between Fort Chipewyan on Lake Athabasca and Grand Portage, initially by way of the Methye Portage and the Churchill and Sturgeon-Weir Rivers, at Cumberland House on the Saskatchewan River. I am very cognizant of following his steps over the classic fur trade route since: West to east Cedar Lake, Lake Winnipeg, Winnipeg River, Lake of the Woods, and Rainy Lake"

"Notwithstanding the foregoing connection, since I feel the Maligne River is his doing, my spiritual bond with him is at its utmost here. Will you join me in a toast to his memory as this moment is the classic prosaic climax to the

story of my trip across Canada.”

Although not as well-known and exalted as the Arctic, Portage, and Pacific Lakes crossing of the Continental Divide and the 325 km cross country trail forged from the Fraser River at Quesnel BC to Bella Coola (including over the Coastal Mountains) in 1793 by his cousin, close friend, and business partner Sir Alexander Mackenzie in his voyage of discovery to the Pacific Ocean, Roderick's route was certainly more strategic and well-traveled than the isolated and impractical route of the former. The route I have outlined was first traveled by Jacques de Noyon in 1688, who traveled as far as the exit of the Winnipeg River from the north end of Lake of the Woods, but was superceded (and lost) by the more practical Grand Portage Route.

[The Grand Portage route goes through Crooked Lake, Basswood Lake, Birch and Knife Lakes, Saganaga Lake, Maraboeuf, Clove & Magnetic Lakes, Gunflint Lake, North & South Lakes, Rose, Mountain, & Moose Lakes, North Fowl & South Fowl Lakes, Pigeon River to the portage.]

Michael Hartley
Tumbling Brook
Maple Bay, BC

HOW THE MCKENZIE RIVER WAS NAMED

The McKenzie River flows from the snow-fields of the Three Sister's Mountains, westerly through the temperate rainforest of the Cascade Mountains, 80 miles to its confluence with the Willamette River just north of Eugene, Oregon. This river is unique in several ways. One such way is that it is the only large tributary to the Willamette River whose name does not include some Native American



Donald Mackenzie - King of the Northwest

roots. The Tualatin, Clackamas, Yamhill, Santiam, Luckiamute, Long Tom and Calapooyia River's names all include words of the Kalapuya, Mollalla, and Chinook native Americans people who have resided in the area for thousands of years. The McKenzie River is clearly named after a Scot.

Oregon Geographical Names tells us that the river was named "for Donald McKenzie, a member of Astor's Pacific Fur Company. In 1812 he explored the Willamette Valley, and it was doubtless this expedition that caused his name to be attached to what is now the "McKenzie River."

Donald Mackenzie was just 27 years old when he arrived at the mouth of the Columbia River as assistant leader of the Astorian Overlanders in January 1812. Several months later he and six or seven hunters explored and hunted in the Willamette Valley for six weeks. It is likely that they followed trails along the river, although no definitive record of this

exists. The Pacific Fur Company intended to establish a commercial fur trade between Fort Astoria and China, and in doing so was exploring, trapping, and trading in every major tributary to the Columbia river. Mackenzie was preparing to spend the winter of 1813 in the Willamette Valley however after receiving news of the War of 1812 he stayed at Fort Astoria instead, contributing to the decisions on the future of the Pacific Fur Company. In April 1814, after selling Fort Astoria to the British-owned North West Company, Mackenzie and most others left Fort Astoria, travelling back to New York and Montreal, either by canoe east up the Columbia River, or by ship into the Pacific Ocean. Fifteen ex-employees of the Company chose to stay in the Willamette Valley area, to continue trapping or to begin farming. These people may have been the first to regularly refer to the river as “Mackenzie’s Branch”.

The oldest map showing “McKenzie’s Branch” available to us today was drawn for the Hudson’s Bay Company (HBC) in 1824, a full 10 years after Donald Mackenzie had left the Willamette Valley area. During those years his reputation a competent leader, able to deal with difficult situations continued to grow in the fur-trade business. Between 1810 and 1814 he had shown his skills and integrity while on the arduous overland journey with the Pacific Fur Company. Between 1816 and 1821 he led the fur-trapping brigades into the Snake River basin for the North West Company, and encouraged the tribes to settle their differences. In 1823 he was sent by the Governor of Hudson’s Bay Company, George Simpson, to the Red River Colony, (near present-day Winnipeg) “to restore order to the Company’s affairs.” The following year Simpson described him as “the fittest man in the

Country for the Situation,” being “a cool determined man, conciliatory in his manners.” Mackenzie retired in 1835, and died in 1851, in Mayville, New York.

A more complete story of “How the McKenzie River was Named” by Margaret Beilharz . is available in the Lane County Historian, Volume 59#1, Spring 2014.

SEAFORTHS HOPE FOR STURDY NEW HOME

Property will house brigade headquarters, serve as disaster resource

The Seaforth Highlanders’ armoury is undergoing a major upgrade that will include the addition of a new four-storey building - photo Rebecca Blissett

The Burrard Street armoury belonging to the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada is undergoing a massive construction project, which once completed will not only result in improvements to the iconic grey structure but also the addition of new four-storey building.

Rod Hoffmeister, Seaforth honorary lieutenant colonel, said the new building will play headquarters to 39 Canadian Brigade Group. Hoffmeister said it makes sense for the armoury and headquarters building to share the same property.

“When it comes to earthquake and emergency preparedness, the headquarters and armoury together will make an excellent command centre for resources and recovery,” said Hoffmeister.

The new \$31.2 million Canadian Armed Forces building will also house numerous support organizations, classrooms, locker rooms, a fitness centre, storage bays, medical and dental clinics, and a resource centre for military families. The complex will include a three-level parking garage for military vehicles.



The Seaforth's headquarters was moved in 2012 to the Jericho Garrison in West Point Grey.

Hoffmeister said when the armoury was built in the 1930s, seismic concerns were not a priority.

"In 1936, the armoury was built to the standard of the day," said Hoffmeister. "So now we're spending \$9.3 million to bring it up to the correct seismic code."

The construction of the headquarters building, as well as seismic upgrades and a retrofit, is estimated to cost more than \$40 million and take almost three years.

Hoffmeister said the officers and sergeants messes will not only be renovated but recreated to maintain their same look. In the case of the officers mess, that means the return of the dark wood panelling and antique fireplace.

The armoury was completed in 1936 to mimic a "Scottish baronial castle," complete with a turret that houses a curved bookcase and stained-glass window adorned with the regiment's stag's head logo and a list of many of the regiment's battles from the First and

Second World Wars.

According to Seaforth history, the regiment was established Nov. 24, 1910 by a group of Vancouverites of Scottish descent. Before moving into the armoury, the regiment, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2010, was housed at various locations across the city,

including the Vancouver Opera House on Granville Street, the Hoffmeister Brothers auto dealership on Pender, and the Beatty Street armoury.

After the regiment had shown great heroics, including aggressive trench warfare in the First World War battles of Ypres, Passchendaele and Vimy Ridge, the Canadian government rewarded it with its own armoury.

In 1936, the regiment left the Beatty Street Armoury and marched along Georgia Street and across the Burrard Street Bridge with its regimental colours to its new parade square. In September 2012, the Seaforth marched out of the armoury for the first time since the Second World War in preparation for the renovation project.

As previously reported in the Courier, the renovation project was under discussion for more than a decade before the minister of defence finally gave the go ahead in 2012.

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AN ADVERT FROM A MACKENZIE IN STRATHPEFFER

A warm welcome awaits you in the Heart of the Highlands of Scotland.



If you are thinking of coming to Scotland then we can help you with your travel plans. Either going North, South, East or West and over to the Islands there is so much to see and do. I've been a tour guide for many years now and know all the secret special places for you to visit, and can offer routes where you will zig and others zag. Please come and stay at our 120 year old Victorian lodge either B&B or Self Catering.

We would feel honored to be part of your travel plans. Our website is:

www.hollylodgeandcottage.com.

Email: hollylodgeandcottage@gmail.com

Kind regards Fiona & Andrew Denovan (a Mackenzie before married!)

(I will be helping out at the Gathering next year - I hope you will come.)

Fiona

ED: I know that getting B&B accommodation, particularly at the time of the Gathering (August 2015) can be difficult. Since the lady is helping with the Gathering I thought this little advert was appropriate.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new member who has joined since the publication of the March Newsletter:

Denise Gosselin,
143 Rue Oneup-Peltier,
LaMonica, QC J5X 3X1

LETTERS ON THE INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM

The following letters to The Times were published on February 19th.

Sir, I listen to the statements from the SNP with increasing dismay. As a Welshman who believes that being part of the UK is a good thing, I can't see why Scotland would want to leave. There are few upsides, and the downside of being a tiny state on the fringes of Europe are huge.

No one will care about it, whereas the UK is important.

The key point is that the SNP is asking Scots to vote on leaving the UK, not the other way round. A "yes" vote would, in my view, be a pity, but Scots have that option in the referendum. If, however, it leaves, then Scotland is no longer a part of the UK and will lose everything that goes with it. Neither has it ever been a "member of the EU" - only the UK has. The pound is the currency of the UK, not an asset; the Bank of England is the central bank and lender of last resort for the UK, and Scottish bank notes have been underwritten by it; HERM collects taxes for the UK which the government of the UK deploys etc. These types of things will no longer pertain after a country leaves the UK and whatever the SNP says will not change this.

As someone leaving an entity, it is not with-

in their gift to decide what is and isn't to be kept, that is for negotiation and, unless you have a strong hand, you have little or no bargaining power.

I do not believe that the SNP speaks for the majority of Scots, not even the 16-year-old children who are, bizarrely, allowed to vote, but not to drive or drink, and that it has run a campaign of serious disconfirmation where facts which are "inconvenient" are ignored, distorted, or portrayed as bullying, hectoring and harassment.

NEIL JONES

London SE24

SIR, George Osborne's comments on the impossibility of Scottish retention of sterling in the event of independence have nothing to do with political vindictiveness but are simply a statement of the obvious.

Mr Salmon is disingenuous in suggesting it could ever be otherwise.

You cannot have monetary union without political union, otherwise one country is implicitly liable for the financial policies of another country without limit and without recourse. The euro is a classic example of the problem.

DAVID HART

Harrogate, N Yorks

Sir, The SNP is resorting to the tactic of portraying any contrary opinion as an outrageous attack on the liberties of the Scots. These manufactured "border incidents" are a practice of unscrupulous leaders who wish to inflame the passions of both sides and push the issue onto a war footing. No one should fall for it. Scots, English, Welsh, Irish, European, in fact all supporters of the Union, must not get drawn into these attempts to Balkanise the debate.

WILLIAM PARENTE

Welbeck, Notts

Sir, You raise the possibility of Scotland issuing its own currency (leader, Feb 17). The precedents are not encouraging. The pound Scots (or "pund Scots") was introduced by King David I in the 12th century. By the time of James III the pound sterling stood at four pounds Scots.

In 1707 the pound Scots was replaced by the £ sterling at a rate of 12 to one. No wonder the "Yes" campaign is so anxious to join a sterling zone with England.

ALEXANDER POLLOCK (Scottish Conservative & Unionist MP, 1979-87),
Drumdarrach, Moray

THE MACGREGOR'S PURGE WARRANT FOR SALE

The following article appeared in The Times on January 11th this year.

A commission that empowered Scottish nobles to persecute those who protected members of the outlawed Clan Gregor is to go on sale in Edinburgh next week.

The handwritten manuscript, dated 21 November 1611, provides an insight into the period of Scottish history when James VI aimed to rid Scotland of MacGregors.

It instructed regional courts to be held to try those suspected of protecting the interests of members of the Clan, 60 years before the birth of its most famous son, the legendary folk hero Rob Roy MacGregor.

The document will be sold at Lyon & Turnbull's auction in Edinburgh on Wednesday when it is expected to fetch up to £3,000. The manuscript originates from Sir Duncan Campbell, who lived from 1550-1631.

Cathy Marsden, book specialist at Lyon & Turnbull, said yesterday: "In April 1603, King James VI issued an edict proclaiming the name MacGregor to be 'abolished'. This came in the wake of years of the Clan Gregor having been restricted in their lands to Glenstrae, and subsequent interclan battles and killings.

"As of 1603, the Clan Gregor would be persecuted by law, and anyone bearing this name and refusing to renounce it would be put to death. Until the edict against the clan was repealed in 1774, it was illegal to be a MacGregor, or to protect or support the cause of those who held on to the name." James VI of Scotland issued an edict in April 1603 that proclaimed the name of MacGregor as "altogidder abolisheed".

This meant that anyone who bore the name must renounce it or suffer death.

In 1604 MacGregor and 11 of his chieftains were hanged at Mercat Cross, Edinburgh. As a result the Clan Gregor was scattered, with many taking other names.

An Act of the Scottish Parliament from 1617 stated: "It was ordained that the name of MacGregor should be abolished."

ED: Rob Roy MacGregor supported the Mackenzie Clan in their ill-fated attempt of a Jacobite rebellion in 1719. Rob Roy brought around 90 members of his clan to support the 500 Mackenzies and some Spanish soldiers. The result was the destruction by the Royal Navy of Eilean Donan Castle. The Spaniards were caught as prisoners of war and sent back to Spain. The rebellious clans ran for their lives.

MESSAGE FROM FAMILY TREE DNA

Dear Alan McKenzie,

Our new and vastly improved Population Finder is launching in just a few weeks! Soon, you'll be able to dive into fresh insights about your ethnic origins. You'll also be able to compare your ethnicity with your Family Finder matches!

If you want to share your ethnic origins with your matches, you don't need to take any action. You'll automatically be able to compare your ethnicity with your matches when the new Population Finder becomes available. This is the recommended option.

You may read more detailed instructions about this page in our Learning Center. You may also join our forums for discussion.

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ED: The Above will be of interest for those members who have subscribed to the Mackenzie DNA Project.

THE MACKENZIE CHATLINE

The Mackenzie Chatline on the internet has been used successfully by many members to make contact with others for genealogical purposes. Its a good way to ask questions in the hope that someone else can pinpoint a location such as where a church or cemetery is located.

To subscribe to the list, please send an email to CLAN-MACKENZIE-request@rootsweb.com with the word 'subscribe' without the quotes in the subject and in the body of the message.

Richard (MacKenzie) Melucci
Chatline Administrator

REPORT BY THE CLAN SOCIETY'S PRESIDENT

Hello Clan MacKenzie Society members and families!

It has been a very exciting first term as President of the Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada.

Since my election on September 15, 2013 at the last AGM in Mississauga, Ontario, I've been able to travel to Charleston, South Carolina as part of the Canadian contingent who accompanied our Cabarfeidh, John, The Earl of Cromartie and his lovely wife, Eve, the Countess of Cromartie, where they and the Clan MacKenzie were the honoured guests and clan members of the American Clan MacKenzie Society at various events including the Charleston Tartan Ball, the Highland Games held at Boone Hall and several other spectacular activities.

Since then, the role has been more the 'normal', with communication with Commissioners across the country, writing articles when the muse hits me, continuing to work on the genealogical database with submissions and queries from various members and friends who have read their copy of Cabar Feidh.

Now the season for planning of Highland Games tents and other Scottish related events is in full swing.

Please see the notice in this issue of Cabar Feidh for the upcoming AGM to be held in Calgary, Alberta this year. *[See page 20]*

Continue to enjoy your membership in the Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada, share your newsletter with family and friends, feel free to contact me with any ideas or suggestions you may have, or ask questions and submit information about your branch of the family. I am always delighted to hear from you!

Sharie

CLAN AGM & DINNER

Full details of this year's AGM and Dinner in Calgary are listed on the last page of this Newsletter.

As the immediate past president of the Society I would like to extend my personal thanks to Sir Roderick Mackenzie of Scatwell for agreeing to host these important Clan Mackenzie events at his lovely home in Calgary. The Scatwell branch of the Mackenzie family is a very senior line descending from the Chiefs of the Clan. Sir Roderick is a commissioner of the clan and is a medical doctor in Calgary.

Alan McKenzie

CLAN MACKENZIE CANADIAN WEBSITE

Many members will have noticed that they cannot access the clan's website at www.clanmackenzie.ca and this is because it is held up by *Godaddy* who arranged this website originally. It may take a little time to get the website back under our control. In the meantime our webmaster, Scott McKenzie, is planning to operate a new website until such time that we can regain control of the existing web address.

In the meantime you may try the intended new address we are working on at:

www.clanmackenziecanada.ca

CLAN DNA PROJECT

The Clan DNA Project continues to grow with new members around the world joining. We have 307 members who have joined the y-DNA Project. This is that portion of the DNA which is of the biggest importance when trying to find a link to other Mackenzies with a same or close to the same y-chromosome DNA. What this means is that the results record **ONLY** the male DNA which passes only

from father to son. That is as it should be because the surname in most cases also passes from father to son. So when a member finds another member with a similar DNA, he contacts that person by e-mail and they are able to exchange information about their family trees. With luck they may find a common ancestor and this is more likely if both parties have a genealogy going back several generations.

My only close match is with my 4th cousin, Colin McKenzie whose family descends from one Thomas Urquhart McKenzie who emigrated to New Zealand from Easter Ross in 1841. That New Zealand branch of the family numbers well over 2,000 descendants. This Thomas is my 1st cousin 4 times removed and his father was the brother of my 4xgreat grandfather, thus we both descend from my 5th great grandfather born around 1730.

Now I already had this genealogy from research and the benefits of DNA is that it proves that relationship as being the closest of over 350,000 y-DNAs done by Family Tree DNA. My distant cousin in New Zealand kindly did the DNA to prove the relationship.

In the course of a month I receive a large number of reports showing relationships that have just been discovered through the y-DNA. I am satisfied that the process is very highly used by our members and obviously a lot of people are doing their research accordingly.

To enrol in this Project go to the website www.familytreedna.com and follow the instructions given. Costs vary according to the number of markers sought but these can be increased over time without having to go through another DNA test (which is painless)!

We would be very interested in hearing from members of their own successes with their DNA.

ANOTHER MACKENZIE GRAND-DAUGHTER

The lovely photo below was sent in by Commissioner William MacKenzie in Coquitlam, BC. His daughter, Tara was married last year to Brad Walter and they announced the birth of Maya Jennifer Mary, who was born several weeks premature on October 30th, 2013. She weighted only 3 lbs 2ozs, but we are pleased to report that she is



now a healthy 11 pounds.

Our congratulations to Bill Mackenzie and to parents Brad and Tara Walter. What a splendid little girl!

THE QUEEN MAKES HER FIRST INTERVENTION ON SCOTLAND'S FUTURE

The Queen urged Scots to come together to resolve "divisions" stemming from the referendum. This was her first part she has taken in the debate on the referendum.

In a letter she used the Church of Scotland's General Assembly on the 18th of May to call on the people to join together, whatever the result of the vote in September. In doing so she recognised the Kirk's role in "holding the people of Scotland together" and "healing divisions".

The letter was presented to the General Assembly, in the presence of Prince Edward

and First Minister Alex Salmond. Prince Edward gave an address on the theme of community and Mr Salmond welcomed the Queen's "typically gracious and considered remarks".

Prince Edward said: "Community is about looking out for each other, but how can we do this as many of our communities become larger and less personal. The state has developed all sorts of ways and means and we have devised ever more sophisticated legal systems and processes, but in doing so are we creating a more harmonious society? In my mind there is a significant difference between the assertion of legalistic rights versus the Christian teaching of responsibility. For instance, I could argue that it's my right to play my music as

loudly as I please. However, this is bound to infringe on someone else's right to peace and quiet. There is no clear answer to this, so we could come to blows or it requires going to court and engaging two lawyers and arguing the case. One of us will be happy and the other unhappy. We will both probably have had our characters besmirched and our lawyers will be, well, better off.

However, as a Christian I am taught to consider others and in this case the likely impact of playing my music too loudly."

The above is an extract from The Scotsman newspaper which can be seen at www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scottish-independence.



This photo was taken at the Quarterly Meeting in Ontario at Alan & Susan's house. Alan took the picture. It was a great meeting and we had many laughs, but still got down to necessary business including arranging help at the forthcoming Highland Games season in Ontario. L to R: Bob Smart, Blaine & Carol McKenzie, Maggie McEwan, Sandy MacKenzie, Alex MacKenzie, Marg Hook (front row), Jan Zimmerman, Mike Hook, Susan McKenzie, Larry Doyle, Commissioner Shawn MacKenzie.

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
CLAN MacKENZIE SOCIETY OF CANADA**

Sunday, September 14, 2014 2:00 p.m.

Agenda

1. President Sharie Argue will chair the meeting.
2. Approve Minutes of the Annual Meeting held September 15, 2013
3. President's Report
4. Commissioners' Reports
5. Receive and Approve the Financial Statements of the Society for the year ended December 31, 2013
6. Election of Officers:
 - a. President
 - b. Secretary
 - c. Treasurer & Deputy Treasurer
 - d. Vice President
7. Confirm the List of the Commissioners.
Any members willing to stand for election please submit your name to:
Sharie Argue at P.O. Box 3672, Stn. Main, Regina, SK., S4P 3N8 no later than August 14, 2014.
8. Any other business
9. Entertainment & Social Gathering & Dinner to follow the meeting.

**Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada
Annual General Meeting & Dinner**

SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2014

2431 UDELL ROAD N.W., CALGARY, AB.

Meeting at 2 p.m.

Gathering Social & Dinner to follow

Sir Roderick and Nadine, Lady Mackenzie have graciously offered their home for this event. Ruairi & Nadine love to cook and entertain, but contributions to the dinner menu and nice wines would be gratefully accepted. Please notify of your intent to participate by Saturday, September 6th, to facilitate preparations.

Name:

Address:

Postal Code:

Phone #:

Number attending:

If you can contribute to the dinner menu, what would you be able to bring?

The dinner is without further cost to members of the Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada. If your membership is due to be renewed, please bring your \$20.00 along for your renewal.