



The Mackay Banner



2017 Issue 1

A Publication of
Clan Mackay Society, USA

February 2017

Do you have any interesting Clan Mackay news items? If so, send them to scottishlassjaime@gmail.com and we will include them in a future issue.

Election Results!

The elections are over and the votes were unanimous! **John Grogan is our new President** and **Chuck Epperson will remain our Treasurer**. Congratulations to you both!

Here are a few words from our new President:

Members of Clan Mackay USA ...

Greetings. I am looking forward to serving as the President of Clan Mackay USA for the next term. I have been a member of Clan Mackay starting with Clan Mackay North America in the 70s and continued with Clan Mackay USA. I have also served as website author, Facebook admin and NC commissioner.

I want to thank Charles McKay and Doug McCoy, the two most recent presidents that I have worked closely and hope to continue in their footsteps to keep Clan Mackay moving forward. I also want to thank all the other volunteers and those who commission our events because they are the backbone of our success.

We have a great group of folks who make up our executive board and whose leadership has made a difference. We have lots to do over the next couple years. My contact information is on the website, please contact me to share your ideas.

Aye,

John Grogan



John at the Games at Grandfather Mountain in 2016.

Above the door of "The Mackay Church" in Tongue

Enter this door...

As if the floor...

Within was gold...

Or jewels all...

Of wealth untold...

As if a choir...

With robes of fire...

Were singing here...

Nor shout, nor rush...

But hush...

For God is here!

- James Mackay (submitted by Don McKee, VP)

Clan Mackay Society, USA

ELECTED AND APPOINTED VOTING OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

John Grogan, Flowery Branch, GA

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Doug McCoy, Lawrenceville, GA

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Donald McGee, Naples, FL

TREASURER

Charles Epperson, Hurst, TX

SECRETARY

Andrea Cable, Shelton, CT

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

North East Region: Madelynne Cable, Shelton, CT

South East Region: Ellen Morgan, Interlachen, FL

Mid West Region: Ann McDonough, Pickerington, OH

Rocky Mountain Region: Jamey White, Denver, CO

Central Region: John Wells, Garland, TX

Western Region: Jeff Goodwin, Folsom, CA

Mid Atlantic Region: David B. McKay, Leesburg, VA

APPOINTED NON-VOTING OFFICERS

Membership Chair: Charles McKay, Plano, TX

Editor of Mackay Banner: Jaime Chambers, Thousand Oaks, CA

Scholarship Chair: Leslie Deitrich, Yukon, OK

Web Master: John Grogan, Flowery Branch, GA

Seanachaidh & Genealogist: Ken Bain, Fresno, CA

Chaplain: Mark W. Polson, Idabel, OK

Flowers of the Forest

We say good-bye to longtime member, Chuck McKee from Pittsburg. He passed away in July was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

2017 Annual General Meeting

The 2017 Annual General Meeting will be held at the Longs Peak Scottish-Irish Festival in Estes Park, Colorado.

The Festival dates are September 7-10, 2017. The AGM will be held on Saturday evening, September 9, 2017.

This week fills up quickly, plan now so you won't be left out!



Clan Mackay USA Membership

Dan from Columbus sent me a note suggesting I put a reminder in the Banner for everyone to stay current with their membership— What a great idea! If you have questions about the status of our membership contact Chuck Epperson at Charles.epperson@sbcglobal.net.

At an art auction in Edinburgh, Scotland, a wealthy American lost his wallet containing £20,000 [\$21,000]. He announced to the gathering that he would give a reward of £200 to the person who found it.

From the back of the hall a Scottish voice shouted, 'I'll give £250.'

Feb—April Events

Let's Go To The Games

The following is a listing of many of the games and gatherings that will be occurring in the first four months of 2017. Please review it and if there are any games in your area, pack up and go support. If I've missed your local games, please let me know! And if, while at the games, you discover that there is not a Clan Mackay tent, contact you local commissioner and volunteer to host a tent next year!

Date	Highland Game	Web Address
Feb 18-19	Queen Mary Scotsfest: Long Beach, CA	http://www.queenmary.com/events
Mar 3-5	North Texas Irish Festival, Arlington, TX	www.ntif.org
Mar 4-5	53rd Phoenix Scottish Games	www.arizonascots.com
Mar 4	SE Florida Scottish Festival & Games	www.sassf.org/events/festival/festival
Mar 18	SE Alabama Highland Games: Dothan, AL	www.wiregrasshighlandgames.com/
Mar 25	Sherman Celtic Festival, Sherman, TX	http://www.shermancelticfest.com/
Apr 7-9	Arkansas Scottish Festival, Batesville, AR	https://www.lyon.edu/arkansas-scottish-festival
Apr 8-9	Colorado Tartan Day Festival	http://www.coloradotartanday.com/
Apr 28-30	Iron Thistle Scottish Festival, Yukon, OK	http://www.unitedscotsok.com/iron-thistle/

The Traveling Mackay

Have you ever been somewhere or seen something and thought, "Oh, I wish I could share this with my Clan?" Well, now is your chance! If you have things that are Mackay related, I'd love to share them with the rest of the Clan via the Banner. Don't forget— you can always post on our Facebook page!



Driving in Bellingham, WA one day Cheryl Forsyth Reid spotted this great neighborhood tavern!

What is a quaich—the Scottish cup of friendship?

By: Elnur Amikishiyev/Alamy 25 January 2017 <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news>

Theresa May will be the first foreign leader to visit Donald Trump since his inauguration on January 20. On the visit, she is expected to give Melania Trump, the First Lady, a hamper full of produce from Chequers – including apple juice, damson jam and marmalade – and to Donald Trump, the President, she will give an engraved quaich.



What is a quaich? The quaich, pronounced “quake”, is an ancient Scottish artefact, whose form has not changed for centuries. The term ‘auaich’ emerged in the mid-16th century, from the Scottish Gaelic word ‘cuach’, meaning cup. Originating in the Highlands, where clan chiefs prized them as a token of hospitality, they have been used across Scotland for centuries as a cup of friendship. The English and US colonial versions were called porringers, while in northern Sweden, they were known as kuksa.

When is a quaich given? Today it is rarely used as a drinking vessel, but rather it is a symbol of welcome and kinship. Its two handles signify trust, both on the part of the giver and the receiver. Tracing its origins to the distant past of Highland chivalry, the quaich is a timeless reminder of the enduring Scottish values of friendship and hospitality. Fishermen also use them to toast the opening of the new salmon season every year by tipping whisky from the quaich into the river.

The gift of a quaich is an appropriate one, given Donald Trump’s strong connections to Scotland. The President is half-Scottish on his mother’s side and he owns two Scottish golf courses, at Menie and Trump Turnberry. Discussions are also underway about the president playing a round of golf on the private nine-hole course at Balmoral Castle during his first official state visit to the UK this summer.

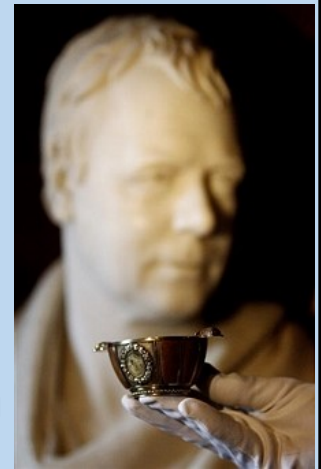


Who else has received a quaich?

Nelson Mandela drank whisky from a quaich after he was awarded “Freedom of the City” of Edinburgh in 1997.

The honor was bestowed upon the former South African leader in tribute to how he inspired others.

The Waterloo Tree quaich was one of many historic relics collected by Sir Walter Scott. The piece was made from silver gilt and elm wood, cut from a tree at the Waterloo battlefield. The Duke of Wellington is said to have given orders to his soldiers from under the tree. Scott’s quaich dates from 1824 and was made by Joseph Angell of London. It is engraved with Scott’s motto, “Watch Well”.



Winners at the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games were presented – along with their gold, silver or bronze medals – with special commemorative quaiches made from elm wood, designed by Glasgow-based artist Paul Hodgkiss. At the inaugural Commonwealth Youth Games in 2000, a silver quaich was made to mark the occasion. It is now passed over at the end of each Games from one host nation to the next.

