



THE GREEN BANNER

NEWSLETTER

Clan Macpherson Association Canadian Branch

Vol. 6 Number 4

November 2012

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome new annual and life members to the Branch since September: William John MacPherson and Christine Marie MacPherson of Tweed ON joined as life members. We have three new annual members, Mrs Eleanor Pauline Gillies-Saiba and Rev Issa Saliba of Oshawa ON, and Lois McLean of Puslinch ON .

From the Legion of the Lost, we welcome back Anne Macpherson, a life member, who was found at her new home in Windsor ON.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



 ur Gathering in Kingston was the best ever. Vice Chairman Bill Macpherson and his crew did an outstanding job of making the weekend a treat for everyone. We were all impressed with the outstanding hospitality shown to us by the residents of Kingston and were delighted to find so many Macpherson connections. A highlight of the meeting was the presence of our Chief and Hilary, Lady Birnham, both of whom contributed much to the success of the event.

We were honoured to have a number of distinguished visitors. Jan Macpherson of Glenfeargach Scotland who is the CMA Registrar and her husband Bill who is the Chairman of the Scottish Branch and former webmaster; from California, Ken Croker, Chairman of the USA Branch and his wife Carolyn, and Stuart Macpherson from New Hampshire, Membership Chair of the USA

Branch, all added much to our meeting.

The Meeting of Council and the Annual General Meeting were relatively short but business of considerable value was conducted. Several new initiatives regarding recruitment of members, enhanced member services and long range planning for future meetings were approved. More information on these matters will be published as plans evolve.

I would like to thank Rod Smith, Provincial Councillor for Ontario and Chantal McPherson, our Registrar for their hard work supporting our summer recruiting campaign which is still on-going.

A long time member of Council, Jean Whitten of Oakville decided not to stand for election for another term and was thanked for her dedication and service over the past several years.

Since the meeting, John C. House from St. John's NL volunteered to accept an appointment as the Provincial Councillor for Newfoundland and Labrador. He is a welcome addition to Council.

Many members contributed greatly to the meeting but particular thanks are in order for Hilary Eves who performed four dances for us in championship form, also to Rebekkah and Jamie Murdoch with Emily Eves, for conducting a very successful raffle. Clan Piper, Ewan Macpherson gave several impressive performances and added much to our enjoyment.

The Annual Gathering signals the end of one year of activity and the start of a new one. There is much on the agenda for the coming year and I welcome all members' suggestions as to how we can make our association more interesting and of greater value to all of us.

Yours aye, John C. Gillies

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS



We congratulate David Harris Smith, a life member, and brother of Rod Smith our Provincial Councillor for Ontario. David recently received his doctoral degree in Communication & Culture at York University. He was subsequently appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Studies and Multimedia at McMaster University. David is an artist as well as a researcher in information communication technologies and interactive new media. He teaches courses in media design and related topics.

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LEGION OF THE LOST

One of the problems our Registrar has to solve is maintaining our members' database so we can keep up our association with you. Often members move and fail to advise us, thus we ask for your help to locate those with whom we have lost contact.

In previous issues we noted the following members need to be located:

Mr. Davis Smith	Toronto ON
Mr. Roderick Ian MacPherson	Kanata, ON
Mrs. Wallace C. MacPherson	Halifax, NS
Col. Glen W. McPherson	W. Vancouver, BC
Mr. John D. & Glenna McPherson	Vancouver, BC

If any member knows where any of these lost members is presently residing, please send an email or note to:

Chantal McPherson, Registrar
991 Matheson E #13
Mississauga ON, L4W 2V3
Email: chantal@mdsscanada.com

PROVINCIAL COUNCILLORS NEEDED

If you reside in New Brunswick, Manitoba, or Saskatchewan, the Branch needs you as a Provincial Councillor.

In order to grow the Branch and make Clan Macpherson Association a truly national organization we need a presence in each province where we have members,

The Provincial Councillor will advise the Chairman on means to increase our membership and presence in the province in which they reside. The amount of work required will depend on the time available to the individual Councillor and the assistance they can obtain from local members.

This is an important executive level position, open to any member old or brand new. Please seriously consider joining Council. Contact John Gillies at jgillies@rogers.com

THE GREEN BANNER

Published from time to time to bring news to the members of the Canadian Branch of the Clan Macpherson Association.

RGM Macpherson CM, KStJ, **Honorary Chairman**

Officers:

John C Gillies, Chairman
William Macpherson, Vice Chairman
Ken Gillis, Honorary Treasurer
Robert W Archibald PhD, Honorary Secretary
Chantal McPherson, Registrar

Councillors-at-Large:

Jacqueline Murdoch
Lois Urquhart-Musselman

Provincial Councillors:

John C House, Newfoundland and Labrador
Bruce Gillis QC, Nova Scotia
Major Myles G Macpherson CD, Quebec
Rod Smith, Ontario
Donald Pearson, Alberta
Ian Gillies, British Columbia

Inquiries and articles may be addressed to Mark F Macpherson, Editor, by email; markmacpherson009@sympatico.ca or by post to PO Box 1005, Hemmingford QC, J0L 1H0

WE REMEMBER

David McPherson was proud of his Scottish heritage, and in addition to being a long-time member of the Canadian Branch, was active in the St Andrews Society of Montreal and supported the Fort Helen Garrison of the 78th Fraser Highlanders. David could often be found at events sponsored by these organizations in Montreal where he would appear in his Macpherson regalia.

David attended the Gathering in Badenoch frequently and was known for his friendliness and ready sense of humour. He was a medical doctor with a successful practice as a psychiatrist in Montreal. In his younger days he had been a producer with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation on the program "Ideas"

David passed away suddenly in September this year and will be missed in the Montreal Scottish community including our Association.

TREASURER'S CORNER



Our very successful gathering in Kingston is now over and all expenses have been paid. So; it is now time to look at our finances and reflect upon what has transpired this past ten months. We have grown our life members fund from \$4,300 to over \$9,900. Our current account shows an operating loss of \$654 which can be attributed to the transfer of previously held life membership money to the GIC's of the life members fund. The Association net worth has increased from \$12,750 to over \$17,700 which includes the \$3,200 bequest from the estate of Carol Macpherson. Which means the actual operating profit is over \$2,000 for this year. The Clan Association is in a very strong financial position and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support.

Having said that; I would remind our annual members that **membership renewals are due January 1**, so why not renew now and avoid the rush?

ADVERTISING IN THE GREEN BANNER

Members are reminded that there are opportunities for advertising space in the Green Banner. We would like to defray the expenses of publishing and distributing our newsletter and also contribute to Branch operations. The rates per issue are as follows;

Eighth Page	\$12
Quarter Page	\$20
Half Page	\$35
Full Page	\$65

The Green Banner is read by adults and children alike across the country and is circulated outside of Canada.

Anyone wishing to advertise their business, services or talents, or events that might be of interest to our readers, should contact Canada.Editor@clan-macpherson.org for more details and multi-issue rates

OUR ADVENTURE IN HISTORY

By Mark Macpherson

After a year of planning by our Vice Chair, Bill Macpherson, and trips to Kingston to wrap up details, the 63rd Annual Gathering assembled for a memorable weekend in September. There is much Canadian history about Kingston and incidentally, much Clan history as well. Bill saw to it that we were immersed in both.

The view from the Radisson hotel was superb, offering the Kingston harbour, three Martello towers, the Royal Military College, and Old Fort Henry. About 40 Members assembled at the hotel on Friday evening for a “Meet and Greet” buffet followed by a mini-ceilidh. Mary Margaret Gillies and Dana Fitton swung into action with a history quiz in which each table of eight participated as a team to answer Clan history questions. We were joined by Cluny and Hilary who took a very active part in the proceedings. This was fortunate as Cluny, along with our Gordon Macpherson, figured in some of the questions being asked.

We also were pleased to see Bill and Jan Macpherson from Scotland representing the Scotland Branch and the CMA Executive respectively. Providing able representation from the US Branch was Ken Croker, its Chair, and Carolyn. The cei-



Ed Smith presenting his adventures in Badenoch

lidh continued with a pictorial report from Ed Smith on his visit to the Gathering in Badenoch this year, which everyone found fascinating indeed. Ed played a leading role in the sing song that replaced the “traditional” choir this year. All present did their best, led by Ed, to master the words and music from the song sheets provided by Mary Margaret. We had a presentation by Lisa Bird and Carson Murphy from the Lennox and Addington Historical Society based in Napanee to the west of Kingston, on some Macpherson historical facts in the Kingston area. Following the active part of the Ceilidh, most of us retired early in order to catch the important meetings scheduled for Saturday morning.

Your Council met early Saturday morning to have a working session before the general meeting. Important topics such as strategies for finding and recruiting new members, security of



Our officers at work l. to r. Chantal McPherson Registrar, Ken Gillis Treasurer, John Gillies Chair, Bill Macpherson Vice Chair, Robert Archibald Secretary

personal information published on the internet and other media, and keeping our Branch history through our archives, were discussed in some detail. All of the Council members present, along with guests; Cluny, Bill Macpherson (Scotland), and Ken Croker took an active part in the deliberations.

Mid- morning, about 30 members joined the assembly for the Annual General Meeting to hear the reports of the officers, and others serving on the Council. Gordon, as Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the nominations for the 2013 Council, which were then elected by acclamation. The AGM was conducted with due dispatch by our able Chairman in time to visit Cluny’s “Cage” in the hotel for a libation before lunch and the boat trip scheduled for the afternoon.



The CMA Cruising Club at dockside

Quite a lively crowd of clansmen and women assembled with their Chief at the dock under beautiful weather to board the boat for a tour of the harbour,

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OUR ADVENTURE IN HISTORY

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the Kingston waterfront, and a bit of the Thousand Islands. The wind was calm and the water flat for this voyage of discovery, so none were inconvenienced by a lack of sea legs. We saw many historical landmarks on this memorable cruise which was accompanied by a commentary by the Captain.



Clan Piper Ewan marching in the head table

Now we come to our main attraction, the traditional formal highland dinner, where we always see the men almost outdoing the ladies in their finery. Clan Piper, Professor Ewan Macpherson from London Ontario got the ball rolling by marching in the head table to the skirl of the pipes. Following the initial ceremonies of toasts and grace, Bill, our Vice Chair and unofficial Bard, gave the address to the haggis, wrestled it to the ground, and properly killed it, thus ensuring that it would please the assembly.



Bill and the haggis

We then dug into a delectable dinner after which the entertainment began with excellent piping by Ewan who put his heart, soul, and remaining wind into it. Then on came Hilary Eves, Bob and Marlene Archibald's granddaughter, about whom we have heard much in previous issues of the Green Banner. Hilary was introduced by her father and proceeded to give us a fine demonstration of her championship highland dancing prowess. Bill Macpherson gave an interesting account of the life of his hero, Robert Burns. Jacqueline Murdoch, the CMA Facebook Coordinator, with the aid of a video projector, informed those present how to get on the Official Clan Macpherson Facebook page.



The raffle experts at work. L to r. Jamie Rogers, Emily Eves, Rebekkah Rogers

The high point of the dinner is the annual raffle of gifts provided by members. Jacqueline Murdoch's daughters, Rebekkah and Jamie, along with Bob and Marlene's other granddaughter,



Ella Gillis with the Macpherson china she won at the raffle

Emily, sold tickets by the bit or by the arm length. Of course, customers headed for the girl with the longest arms. The girls did a sterling job at sales and then managed the draw for the gifts under which the tables holding them were groaning from the weight. We had a somewhat unusual gift this year brought to the raffle by Chantal our Registrar. Last summer Chantal received an e-mail from Jane Blackwood, a volunteer in a seniors' residence in the Toronto area who also offers an administrative support service to seniors called "Leave it to Jane".

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OUR ADVENTURE IN HISTORY

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Jane explained that one of her clients, Mr. Dan Beagan, was looking for a new home for his wife's lovely Macpherson china. Chantal, thinking of our September Gathering in Kingston and the raffle, assured Jane that the set would find a new home with one of our CMA members. The beautiful set attracted much attention and Ella Gillis was the lucky winner. The Branch offers our special thanks' to Mr. Beagan for his generous gift.

The raffle proceeded apace with all of us watching the gifts dwindle down to a precious few. As usual some members were called up several times leaving the rest of us losers in tears. Not only are the winnings mal-distributed but also some were won by obvious re-gifters. For example, Arielle Macpherson, a junior member, won more than one bottle of sprits, among other prizes, which I am sure her mother wouldn't let her use. That didn't stop her from smiling! It is really nice to see our juniors at the Gatherings.



Sir John A Macdonald and Lady Agnes in St Andrew's Church

Those us who were able, arose on Sunday morning and proceeded to the traditional church service offered at our Gatherings. Our group was piped into the church by Ewan led by Cluny. This year it was different, as St Andrews Presbyterian was having their "music" Sunday. In addition they had two local actors appearing as Sir John A Macdonald and his wife Lady Agnes. "Sir John" gave an address following the lessons read by Cluny and John Gillies. The gentleman playing Sir John was a retired history teacher from the area and supplied much information about Sir John on his personal habits and political activities. He apologized privately for not being over six feet tall as the real Sir John had been. The music Sunday features the choir assembled in the first pews singing with a small orchestra. During the performance some of the members of the choir played in instrumental ensembles. After the interesting service, Ewan piped us out to a sumptuous ham lunch with all of the trimmings to which the Congregation had invited us.

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RENO WE CAME, WE SAW, WE WERE CONQUERED

By June Macpherson



The American Rally was held in Reno this October and, as usual, we were warmly welcomed by our American cousins. Kudos to Ruth Rouse and her committee for their splendid work in organizing this meeting. The venue was the Nugget Casino and the invasion by the Macphersons occasioned many questions from tourists and gamblers alike. Most prominent was "Why are you wearing that outfit?" ; or "What is a Klan?" (an obvious mistake); or "I'm a Buchanan, do I belong to your Clan?" Alas, no!

Mark and I spent Friday meeting new friends and greeting old friends. We were not the only Canadians at the Rally as Bill and Irene Macpherson of Mississauga also attended and we



US Branch pipers at the ceilidh

were able to catch up on CMA events at dinner that evening. After dinner everyone gathered for the Ceilidh in a beautiful room with spectacular views of the surrounding mountains. There we were treated to the artistic accomplishments of the Macphersons, among whom was Donna Rucks who played and sang her own compositions. I was especially touched by her rendition of *This Kiss*. The evening ended with everyone gathered around Cluny while he led the group in a rousing chorus of *The Paratroopers' Song*. What fun!!!

Saturday was day full of activities commencing with the General Meeting and then an afternoon of options. Some visited the Highland Games nearby or chose to take Scottish dance lessons led by Jack Raines; while others drove to Lake Tahoe and Virginia City. Irene told us that the outhouse races at Virginia City were hilarious.

The formal dinner was held on Saturday evening.

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RENO WE CAME, WE SAW, WE WERE CONQUERED

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Cluny and Hilary in the dance

How fortunate Mark and I were to be seated with Cluny and Hilary. There could be no greater honor than to share your dinner with your Chief. Also at the table were Ken Crocker, the American Chairman, and his wife Caroline, whom we count among the many American friends we have met over the years. Just to add that other friends with whom we have also shared many good times, including the American and Scottish Rallies, are George and Bonnie McPherson as well as Ruth Rouse.

And that is why we attend the American Rally as there is such a feeling of family and good fellowship. Next year the Rally will take place in St. Augustine, Florida, on the occasion of that city's 450th anniversary. Why not put it on your travel itinerary? Hope to meet you there.

OUR ADVENTURE IN HISTORY

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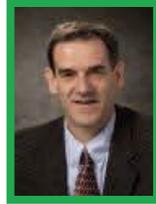


Ewan piping Cluny and the Branch out of the church

The members that were able to linger in Kingston for the afternoon visited Cluny House. Bill Macpherson has prepared an article which appears elsewhere in this issue. This was a truly memorable Gathering, thanks to all of the hard work by Bill and his team, not the least of which is his lovely wife Irene to whom we must express our appreciation. We look forward to another excellent event in Kitchener-Waterloo Ontario in 2013.

VISIT TO CLUNY HOUSE

By Bill Macpherson



One of the highlights of our trip for this year's Canadian Branch Gathering was a visit to Cluny House (built circa 1817) by Lt.-Col. Donald Macpherson Commander of the garrison at Kingston during the war of 1812.

Thanks to an article by our Editor in the June 2010 edition of The Green Banner, I was aware of the Macpherson-Kingston connection. Advertisements placed in two local newspapers in an attempt to attract cousins to our gathering successfully achieved that aim, and in addition brought in some very interesting contacts.

First Lisa Bird & Carson Murphy, volunteers at Alan Macpherson House in Napanee (Alan was Donald's eldest son), contacted me and kindly came along to our Friday night Meet & Greet Buffet to make a presentation giving some background and history for our enjoyment. Then I heard from Laurie Macpherson Keefe and her husband Barry. Laurie is a Great-Great-Great-Granddaughter of Donald. Her children are the 7th generation of the family to reside in Kingston. Unfortunately they were going out of town on the weekend of the Gathering and were unable to join us. Finally I heard from Anne Croy and husband Carl, current owners of Cluny House, who graciously offered our members a tour of the house and grounds.



At Cluny House Kingston. L to r Irene Macpherson, Jan Macpherson, Hilary Lady Birnham, Bill Macpherson, Anne Croy, Cluny, Bill Macpherson Scotland,, Carl Croy

At the end of the war of 1812, Lt.-Col. Macpherson spent some time as Commanding Officer of the 10th Regiment in Quebec City. On retiring from the military, he returned to Kingston and had Cluny House built in Pittsburgh Township just off the old road from Kingston near Fort Henry. Anne and Carl gave us a most informative tour and shared many interesting facts on the house and its features. The house is built using local limestone blocks and whilst it has been modernised and extended retains most the original character and features. Anne pointed out 3 granite bricks that had been built into one of the walls, Legend has it Donald included them to depict the 3 distinct branches of Clan Macpherson.

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VISIT TO CLUNY HOUSE

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The three granite stones set in the limestone wall of Cluny House depicting the three branches of Clan

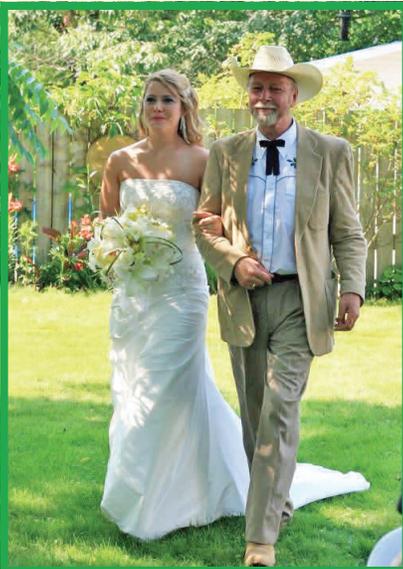
Another piece of interesting information is that the house was once owned by The Honourable Dr. George F.G. Stanley who was one of the designers of the present Canadian Flag. Ann showed us the room in which it was designed and shared

with us her collection of background information, which included copies of the original concept drawings.

As the visit ended, Cluny thanked our hosts for a wonderful afternoon and presented Anne & Carl with a signed copy of our clan history, *The Posterity of the Three Brethren*, plus the Green Banner issue that included the article on Donald.

OUR DAUGHTER'S WEDDING

By Bruce Gillis, Father of the Bride



Bruce walking Kendra down the "aisle"

Kendra Marie Gillis, daughter of Bruce and Debbie, was married at "Burnbrae Estate" in Paradise Nova Scotia, on July 14, 2012, in a wonderful ceremony on the side lawn on a beautiful summer day.

The theme was more Western than highland. Kendra is a champion Western Rider, and as her brother Paul's wedding last summer was a kilted event she too wanted something distinctive.

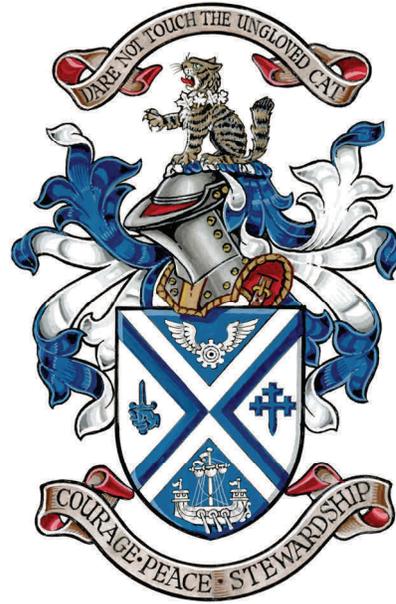
Clan Piper Hugh Macpherson, played both before and after the ceremony. His selections included a beautiful rendition of the tune *Mrs. Mary Gillis*, that he wrote many years ago in honour of Kendra's late grandmother and life member of the Association.

The groom, Josh Logan, has impeccable Scots heritage and hails from Sheet Harbour on the province's Eastern Shore, He is in the RCAF, stationed now in Shearwater Air Base near Dartmouth, which is a perfect location for the couple.

An unusual tradition from Josh's home that was new to us was followed when, after the traditional tossings of the Bouquet and Garter, the bride and groom, fully dressed in wedding clothes, jumped in the swimming pool and were followed by the whole wedding party, to the astonished applause of the onlookers.

MY ARMORIAL BEARINGS

By William Macpherson of Mississauga PEng.



On the 15th May 2012 my petition for arms was granted by the Canadian Heraldic Authority and recorded in Volume VI page 138 of the Public Register of Arms, Flags & Badges. My sincere thanks go to our very own heraldic expert, Gordon Macpherson, for his patience and wise council in guiding me through the process, for his excel-

lent artwork, for his ability to convert a few of my ideas and then combine them with his heraldic creativity on my personal arms.

My Shield: The colours, the saltire division and cross evoke Scotland the land of my birth. The winged cog wheel combines the wings and cogwheel from the arms of Mississauga, my city of residence and represent my profession as an engineer in the aerospace industry. The galley, cross crosslet and hand with dagger come from Cluny's arms and affirm my allegiance to him and Clan Macpherson.

The Crest: The wildcat is traditionally associated with Macpherson arms and the garland of maple leaves and shamrocks respectively reflect my allegiance to Canada and to my branch of the Macpherson family traced back to Ireland in the early 1800s.

Mottoes: As the first of my known direct family members to have armorial bearings I chose to have two mottoes. The first in traditional Scottish style placed above the shield and crest, DARE NOT TOUCH THE UNGLOVED CAT is an answering call to the Chiefs motto. The second placed below the shield, COURAGE PEACE STEWARDSHIP emphasizes personal values associated with the given names of my immediate family members. Etymologically, the names William & Andrew (my eldest son) mean courage, Irene (my wife) and Calum (my deceased son) peace and Stuart (my youngest son), stewardship.

I am so very proud that my armorial shield, painted by Gordon, is already been on display on the heraldic wall of the Museum in Newtonmore. My thanks go to Gordon for this kind gesture.

CONGRATULATIONS



Gerry and Nancy at the ceremony

Our congratulations to Gerry Curry, in the photo at the left with his wife, Nancy, on being awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding service to his community. The presentation was made by the hand of the Premier of Nova Scotia at a recent ceremony in Digby. Gerry is a relatively new member of CMA, with interests in the information technology field, is a licensed radio amateur, and a former member of the Canadian Armed Forces.

CMA CHAIRMAN REPORT

By John Macpherson of Montrose



Iris & I had a family wedding, which was a must as we saw the family in April at their mother's funeral and had to give them family support for the wedding, which took place in a small village called Piddlehinton (you couldn't make that up) in Dorset. Sadly this event clashed with the date of the

Canadian Gathering in Kingston.

On our return to Montrose, Iris & I prepared for our trip to attend the US Branch Gathering in Reno. As this was our first visit we were quite excited about it and we were not disappointed. In the reception area of the hotel the first couple we spoke to, who were obviously Clan members, told us his grandmother lived in our home town of Montrose in the 1920's. She lived above her uncle's bar, the Caledonia that I know well. Curiously enough, in the town it gets the nick name of "Catsers" as the original owner reputedly looked like a cat and this goes back over three generations.

Our Chief "Cluny" was in good fettle in Reno, accompanied by Hilary. We also enjoyed the company of the Canadian Branch members present. Everything about the US Gathering went more or less according to plan.

I did have a bit of luck at the Casino in the Nugget Resort where the Gathering took place, but being a true Scot I cashed in my winnings of £45.00, so I would have something to show for it.

We will be in Banff, Alberta for about a week in January to attend another wedding but as we are not skiers we will leave that to the younger ones and simply enjoy the rest of the celebrations. We are already in the process of making plans for this trip to Canada.

DEADLINE

The next issue of the Green Banner is scheduled for March. I am looking forward to receiving articles and photographs, accompanied with descriptive captions, by February 26.— Ed.

COMMEMORATING THE DIAMOND JUBILEE



Father Ewan MacPherson our poet residing in the town of Wells in the UK, submitted a poem he wrote in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A copy of it went to HM The Queen at Buckingham Palace. Later, along with the folded card of royal photographs that all well wishers received, came a letter from the Queen's Lady in Waiting, which said that the Queen had read the 'touching' poem and had liked it very much.

The poem was read in Canada at the Royal Mohawk Chapel, to which Queen Anne gave a silver Communion set in the eighteenth century. The Chapel is in Brantford, Ontario. The poem was read by a fellow student at Wycliffe College, University of Toronto, now Bishop Mark MacDonald, whose grandmother has Ojibway blood. Bishop MacDonald has responsibility for all the Anglican indigenous people in Canada.

The Diamond Jubilee

O, what a thing it is to wear a crown;
To bear the burden lightly, with such grace
That we, whether in countryside or town,
Are strangely stirred by your anointed face.
You came among us as you said you would
To live your life in service of us all,
Bringing such care and comfort as you could;
Quick to respond to your dear father's call.
He, quite unbowed, forgetful of himself
Led us through all the horror of the War.
His life was courage. Honour was his wealth.
He chose the path our Saviour chose before.
He taught you well, our noble sailor King.
You wear his mantle like a wedding ring.

You reign among us with our glad consent.
Both Crown and Parliament obey the law.
We knew your forebears since the Romans went
And Hengist stood upon the Saxon shore.
They come to you Prime Ministers and Kings.
You listen to them and receive them well.
It is as if your long experience brings
Help when they prospered; solace when they fell.
You are a human symbol; mother, wife;
So conscientious in affairs of state.
A country woman; yet within your life
You run so true. Your powers do not abate.

In peace and war; achievement, love and grief,
Your service to us mirrors our belief.

Ewan A. MacPherson
3rd June 2012

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our Editor wishes to thank the following members for their excellent contributions to the November issue; , John Gillies, Ken Gillis, Bill Macpherson (Mississauga), John Macpherson (Montrose), June Macpherson, Rod Smith, Chantal McPherson, Gerry Curry and Ewan Macpherson