

THE ARDCHOILLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEFTAIN

BY LOIS ANN GARLITZ



There has been much thoughtful planning going into our **San Antonio Gathering this September 28-30** and the excitement is building – somewhat like a freight train coming straight at you down the tracks. I use that metaphor easily; as the town I have moved to recently in Wyoming (grandkids are here) has as many as a dozen freight trains race past this little town of Cokeville every day and night.

Our last traditional Gathering was in St. Louis in 2014 and I look forward to seeing old friends again in this atmosphere of crossing paths for three days with a number of folks. Hesitate no longer – go to our website

www.acgsus.org and get registered.

A follow-up on last Spring's newsletter's front page – how are friendly relations working out with the Colquhouns after four hundred years since the famous battle between our clans at Glen Fruin in Scotland? I can vouch for two occasions this summer at clan tents.

During the Utah Scottish Association's Scottish Festival and Highland games in June, at a new location in Salt Lake City's State Fair Park, the MacGregors and Colquhouns' tents were side by side. At an appointed hour, over a dozen of us gathered at the MacGregor tent (a 10x20 ft.), each with a glass of our favorite toasting brew. **Steven Argyle**, new ADC for Utah, raised his glass to **Bobby Marz** and her husband, Colquhoun visitors from northern California, and presented a toast to increased friendship and understanding. In turn, the Colquhouns responded in kind, as did other visitors and clan members in the tent.

At Grandfather Mountain Highland games in July, the Colquhouns and MacGregors again met, this time in Colquhouns' tent, hosted by **Beth Calhoun**, convener at GMHG. As **Bruce Whyte** posted on his Facebook page "The reconciliation with Colquhouns continues at Grandfather Mountain. Yesterday we shared toasts and the odd libation with each other. Planning many more."

Speaking of Grandfather Mountain, I am pleased to report to those of you who contributed to the Clans Stones project, the first twenty or so stones have been installed just inside the front gate of MacRae Meadows, with Clan Gregor's stone located right in the middle of the others.

See you soon in Texas! **Lois Ann Garlitz**

Newsletter Editor Adrienne Tomkins
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For more information on our Society, please visit our website at:
<http://www.acgsus.org>

Gathering at the Gathering? See page 2!

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The views and opinions expressed in any of the articles within this publication are not necessarily the views or opinions of the ACGS.

108th Annual Gathering San Antonio, TX

Thursday September 28th - Saturday September 30th

HAVE YOU REGISTERED?

DEADLINES

Gathering Registration August 28

Hotel Registration September 7

MORE DETAILS OF THE GATHERING

Thursday	5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Chieftain's Welcoming Reception
Friday	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Council Meeting <i>(All Council Members, ACGS Members welcome also)</i>
	12:00 noon - 4:00 PM 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Lunch and Tour at Institute of Texan Culture Ceilidh
Saturday	9:00 AM - 9:30 AM 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Memorial Service Annual General Meeting <i>(All attendees of the Gathering)</i>
	Special Guest:	Sir Malcolm MacGregor
	11:30 AM - 12:00 noon	Annual ADC Meeting <i>(All ADCs meet with the RDC)</i>
	12:00 noon - 1:30 PM 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM 7:30 PM - 11:30 PM	Lunch with Lady MacGregor Tour of Mission San Jose Daniel Randall Magruder Formal Reception The Formal Banquet

ALL THE TRIMMINGS

PLUS A CHALLENGING PANEL DISCUSSION

with

SIR MALCOLM MACGREGOR
VISCOUNT DUNROSSIL
JOHN MCINNIS

ACGS 2017 ANNUAL GATHERING IN SAN ANTONIO, TX

SEPTEMBER 28-30, 2017
HOSTED BY: RANDY AND TERESA WALKER

If you do not have internet access, you can book with the hotel directly at (888) 999-2089. To register for the Gathering, send a note to the Assistant Chieftain with your check (address is on the back page of this newsletter), stating how many you are registering, their names, if there are any wine donations (and how many), and if you want Gathering T-shirts (specify sizes).

THE HOTEL

The Sheraton Gunter Hotel is the host hotel. A block of rooms has been reserved and you should book your accommodations yourself directly on line through our website. By accessing the links on the page you will automatically be redirected to our own web page at the Sheraton where you can book your dates with the ACGS special rate already included. You will receive the negotiated rate of \$139/night without having to enter any unique codes. This rate applies to the nights of Wednesday through Sunday. On completion of your booking, close the booking page and you will go back to the ACGS website to complete your registration.

REGISTRATION

Registration and payment should also be completed through our website. If you click on Registration, you will be taken to a separate page to register. There is a single registration fee this year of \$125 per person, which includes attendance in *EVERY* event offered. The only information required is the number of registrants for the banquet and their names, indication of which event they will be attending (ITC lunch and tour, Ceilidh, Luncheon with **Lady MacGregor** and the Mission tour). It would not be complete without donations of wine, so that choice is offered also. You can specify who you would like to sit with at the Banquet, if you choose to add anyone. You can also order special Gathering T-shirts.

SCOTS HERITAGE MAGAZINE

BY RANDY WALKER

If you are not familiar with Scots Heritage Magazine you should be. This is the publication of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs and I believe it is the highest quality Scottish Heritage publication currently in publication. Having said that, a sad note. They will no longer publish a hard copy edition. In order to provide a lot of new features, in-depth coverage of the worldwide Scottish diaspora, audio recordings and video footage, they will now publish in digital form only. Our Chief Sir **Malcolm MacGregor** is deeply involved in this effort and will be a primary focus from time to time as well as other Clan Chiefs. You can obtain information on how to access the new digital version at www.pocketmags.com Take a look. I think you may like what you see.

DID YE KEN?

(DID YOU KNOW?)

That Bonnie Prince Charlie was born in Italy and died in Rome? He was only in Scotland for 14 months. And he did not come to Scotland to claim the crown for himself. It was for his father.

GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN GAMES 2017

CONTRIBUTORS: THAD OSBORNE, BRUCE WHYTE, LOIS ANN GARLITZ

ACGS Takes Home Honours at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games



Randy Walker, Bruce Whyte, the Honored Guest, the Chief of the House of Gordon (**Granville Charles Gomer Gordon, Marquis of Huntly**), and **Steve Quillin** with our award.

attend, which makes one of our achievements very special indeed. **Steve Quillin, Vice-President of the Games**, presented us with a commemorative pewter plate for having the best clan tent this year. The Grandfather Games made this award not only for creative decoration, but for the welcome we provide to Games visitors. Members **Bruce Whyte** and **Randy Walker** deserve credit for setting up the tent.



Parade of Tartans **Lois Ann Garlitz, Bruce Whyte** and **Valerie Horner**

As they have continuously since 1960, the American Clan Gregor Society hosted tents for three days of field events at MacRae Meadows, where the Games began in 1956. Originally a one-day event, over one hundred, forty clans now



Treasurer **Bruce Whyte** represents the Gregors at the Sunday Parade of Tartans. (The Worship Service and Kirkin' of the Tartan was a church service held in a different location than the one in this photo.)

John Bellassai, in his role as President of the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations, led meetings on Thursday and Saturday to report on the role COSCA plays as a support institution to clan societies in the USA.

Elizabeth Joiner and her mother are active in the work of ACGS, **Elizabeth** as historian, and **Lillian Magruder** as a former trustee and lifelong adviser and consultant to the Society, laid on good luncheons on Saturday and Sunday.

In addition to those already named, Chieftain **Lois Ann Garlitz**, Assistant Chieftain **Kathy Whyte, Teresa Walker**, former Chieftain **Thad Osborne**, (and others) graced our tent.

GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN GAMES 2017

CONTRIBUTORS: THAD OSBORNE, BRUCE WHYTE, LOIS ANN GARLITZ



Mrs. **Lillian Magruder** presents a trophy to the winner of the "Bear," a running event at the Games.



Mrs. **Lillian Magruder** and Martha Smith point out the ACGS Memorial Stone at the entrance to the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, made possible by your gifts.



The ACGS tent at Grandfather Mountain 2017. The banner was designed by Miss **Abbey Magruder**, grand-daughter of Mrs. **Lillian Magruder** and the late **Abbey Magruder**.



Aaron Hale of Raleigh, North Carolina won the clan kilted mile wearing MacGregor tartan. **Aaron** stopped by our tent to introduce himself and recruited supporters who cheered him on his way. He also finished second with a victory in the two-mile run and second in the 440- and 880-dash races. He placed third in another mile race.

Notice to all Contributors: We at *The Ardchoille* have received your submissions for inclusion in the newsletter. Due to the upcoming ACGS Gathering, it has been necessary to omit many items from this and the last issue. Please rest assured that your submissions **are** in our hands and will be included in the Fall issue of *The Ardchoille*.

AREA DEPUTY CHIEFTAIN REPORTS



We were entertained by our own piper, a Gregory no less.

Bruce MacGregor Whyte (ADC Georgia, Northern Florida)

I attended multiple Highland Festivals and Games in the early summer of 2017.

Blairsville Highland Games, June.

Aby assisted by **Thad Osborne**, we hosted a tent at these two day Games and were again swamped with visitors. In excess of 50 signed our visitor log, almost all with obvious Gregor heritage. A number wanted to join on the spot which leads me to believe we could use the provisional application more and “grab” them then and there.

Randolph Walker (Ranking Deputy Chieftain): I hope your summer has been cooler than mine. Another day of 100 plus degree heat here in San Antonio (no rain in sight).

NEW AREA DEPUTY CHIEFTAINS

The work continues on the Annual Gathering that will be held here in SA, Sep 28-30, 2017. I hope many of you will be able to attend. Our focus has shifted this year to Scottish Culture and Heritage. Of course there will be plenty of Scottish music and dance as well, plus some tours that I think everyone will enjoy.



Welcome to **Bill Black**, ADC of Colorado (Pictured here with wife **Frances**)

Ms. Bradana Crawford (right) from the San Antonio Scottish Society Highland Dance Group recently won the Seven & Under Ten National Scottish Dance Competition. **Ms. Crawford** will be one of the Highland Dancers performing for the Ceilidh at the ACGS Annual Gathering in San Antonio, TX, September 28-30, 2017. This is an award winning Highland Dance Group of talented young men and women.



Welcome to **Mr. Stephen Argyle**, our new ADC of Utah.



“ARDCHOILLE”
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THE AMERICAN CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

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SEPTEMBER 28-30

2017

ANNUAL GATHERING

**SEE PAGES 2 AND 3 FOR
INFORMATION!!**