

WELCOME TO OUR

# Clan Newsletter

*the latest news,  
views and announcements*

Faite  
Dùthaich MhicAoidh



MACKAY  
COUNTRY

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## Note from the President



**JOHN GROGAN**

Clan Mackay is entering into its busiest season and events across the US. At a recent leadership meeting, we estimated that your Clan Mackay Society sponsors 60+ Scottish Festivals and Game events. Yes, that's a bunch. So that means an average of 12 events a month, so everyone has a good chance of making at least one event. That is why your membership and renewed membership are so important so that we can keep supporting our Scottish Heritage. In addition, your Clan offers a scholarship each year as well as a heritage gift. This year we will also contribute to the inauguration of our Clan Chief as he is celebrated into office in August.

We have a couple of ways to join, online through our website, by mail and at most events throughout the country. I hope you consider joining as a new member or renewing your membership and continuing your support.  
Aye



## Voting Results are In!

If you are a member in good standing as of 1/1/23, you have the opportunity to nominate and vote for both our current President, John Grogan and Secretary, Andie Cable. Nominations must be received by 12/1/22 and voting will take place on an online platform from 1/20/23 - 1/25/23.

**GET TO KNOW THE CANDIDATES FOR RE-ELECTION:  
PRESIDENT JOHN GROGAN AND SECRETARY ANDIE CABLE.  
READ ON FOR THEIR PROFESSIONAL BIOS!**

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### President

**JOHN GROGAN**

I became President in 2017. Since then I have changed the way we accept payment, introduced accepting credit cards, consolidated accounts, kept a consistent balance, changed our merchandising to quality products all available online. I have created a leadership committee made up of elected officers, Regional VPs and other appointed members. I have enjoyed serving as president for the last three terms and look forward to the next 2 years.

The clan is in superb condition, we have what I believe is a fine leadership group. I have been fortunate to have visited many events over my term as president to include Costa Mesa, Colorado, Georgia, NC and Virginia and Tartan Day in NYC. I have enjoyed being your President and look forward to another term.

Thank you"

### Secretary

**ANDIE CABLE**

I have been a member of Clan Mackay Society USA since 2009. I served as Commissioner of Connecticut, then as the NE Regional VP. When Linda McKay stepped down as Secretary, I took her place and have held this position ever since. I love being National Secretary and hope to continue serving the Clan in this way.

# 2022 Heritage Gift

BY ANDREA MCKAY CABLE



## YEARLY, CLAN MACKAY SOCIETY USA BESTOWS A GIFT TO AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS CONTINUING TO KEEP SCOTTISH HERITAGE ALIVE.

This year, our clan decided to award that gift to Wake and District Pipe Band of Raleigh, North Carolina. On Saturday, February 18, 2023, Joseph Holland and his wife, Trish, and my husband Derek and myself, joined the band at the Olde Raleigh Distillery in Zebulon, NC to hear them perform. After a wonderful performance, we accompanied the band to MacLellan Bagpipes to present the check and certificate. A special thanks to Joe Holland for arranging and presenting the gift.

Wake and District Pipe Band wears the ancient Mackay tartan in honor of their founding drum major, Dave McKee, Sr. (for the full story, please visit [raleighpipeband.com](http://raleighpipeband.com)). The band approached both the McKee family and Clan Mackay for permission to wear our tartan with pride. When presenting them with the gift, their leader, Joe Brady, said it was an honor to win the award and that none of the members are from Clan Mackay, we assured them that all of their members are part of our Clan.

This band has a great legacy and a lasting mission that exemplifies what our heritage award stands for. It was an honor for us to present them with the 2022 award. They will hang the certificate at MacLellan Bagpipes Shop where the band calls home and use the monetary gift to further the bands mission and reach. We are proud of them and their accomplishments and we hope that they make it to the World Championship in 2024.



# 2022 Heritage Gift

BY ANDREA MCKAY CABLE

## CLAN MACKAY SOCIETY USA

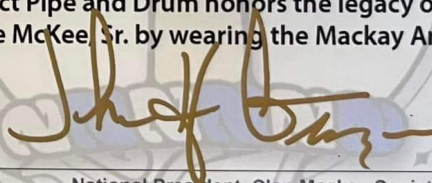
RECOGNIZES

### Wake and District Pipe and Drum

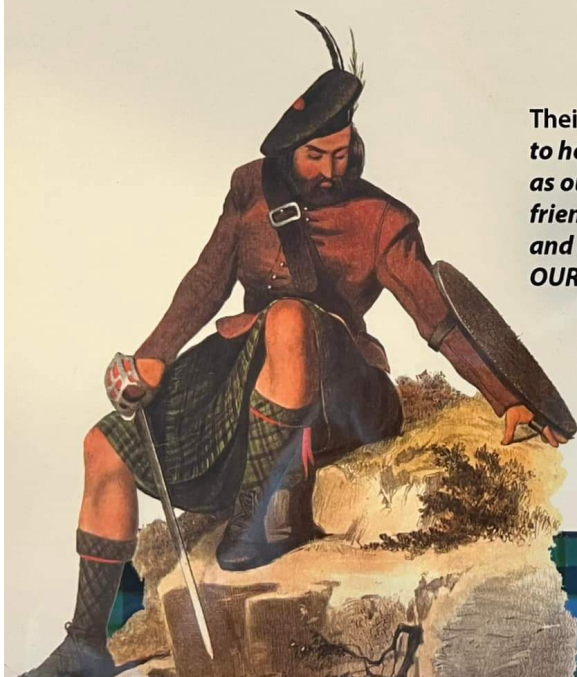
2022 Receptient Clan Mackay Society USA, Inc.  
Heritage Gift

Their Mission: *"Our Mission dictates our priority, first and foremost is to honor our fallen comrades. Today, the Mission continues to serve as our foundation and inspirational goal for our members, families, friends and fans around the world. It guides our day-to-day progress and reminds us our efforts are woven into the lives of others. FOR OUR FALLEN is everything we stand for."*

Wake and District Pipe and Drum honors the legacy of Pipe Major Dave McKee, Sr. by wearing the Mackay Ancient tartan.



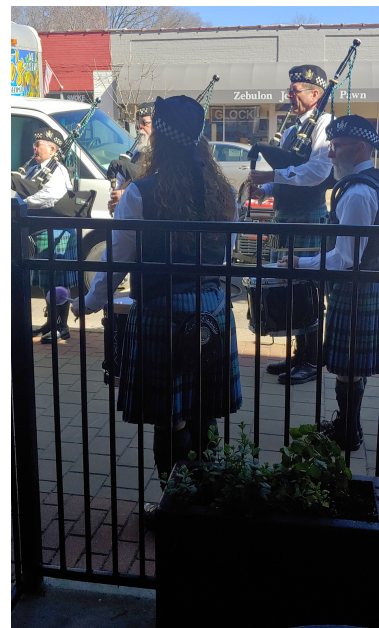
National President, Clan Mackay Society USA, Inc.



The band will be competing in North Carolina at the Loch Norman Highland Games in April and Scotland County Highland Games in October, Clan Mackay will a tent in the Clan Village at both events.



Wake and District Pipe Band Members present at the performance and gift presentation were Joe Brady, Roddy Maclellan, Paul Davis, Jean Farrell, Mark Montgomery, Brian wells, Isiah smith, Caren smith, Joe Harwell, Patrick O'Leary, Andrew Kosydar, Ken McKeveny.



# Atlanta St. Patrick's Parade

## THE ANNUAL CELEBRATION

LORD JOHN ALLEN

ATLANTA ST. PATRICK'S PARADE WAS STARTED BACK IN 1858, MAKING IT ONE OF ATLANTA'S LONGEST RUNNING EVENTS - OVER A HUNDRED YEARS!

I have made sure for years MACKAY has been there and represented. I'm not much on make write ups so hope can do something with the info sorry sent pics on def email. Thought get this to you for write up it's March 11 not sure when you were doing banner figure better safe than sorry lol



IMAGE FROM THE WWW.SPORTKILT.COM

### The Man Himself

A poet, lyricist, champion for equality and father of 12, ol' Rabbie Burns was voted "the Greatest Scot" over 200 years after his death. Scots know his work, and you do too – he wrote "Auld Lang Syne" (aka the New Year's song), among hundreds of other works that are still widely read today at events like Burns Night.

*Other fun facts about Rabbie:*

- In 2009, became the first person to appear on a commemorative Coke bottle
- Orbited Earth over 200 times when an astronaut carried his poetry book into space
- Has more worldwide statues in his memory than all non-religious figures except Queen Victoria and Christopher Columbus
- Had a scientifically-verified larger-than-average head

It's no wonder we toast to Robert Burns, the man, the legend – but no myth!

### The Grand Entrance

Bagpipes welcome guests as they arrive for supper. There is general milling about until the host arrives, takes his position at the head table, and welcomes everyone. Following in short order is the recitation of Selkirk's Grace, which is a short and sweet ode of praise to having meat on the table.

**Do it yourself:** Play this clip of bagpipes blowing "Sweet Afton," written by Robert Burns in 1791, as you set the mood and the dining room table. Then parse the Scottish dialect and try your hand at the

Selkirk Grace:

*Some hae meat an canna eat,  
And some wad eat that want it;  
But we hae meat, and we can eat,  
And sae the Lord be thankit.*

# The Inauguration of Lord Reay as Chief of Clan Mackay

SAT, 19 AUG | STRATHNAVER MUSEUM

## THE INAUGURATION OF LORD REAY AS CHIEF OF CLAN MACKAY

A CALL TO GATHER HAD BEEN MADE BY THE LORD REAY, 15TH LORD REAY AND CHIEF OF CLAN MACKAY.

THE CLAN MACKAY SOCIETY INVITE YOU ALL TO ATTEND THE FORMAL INAUGURATION OF LORD REAY AS CLAN CHIEF ON 19TH AUGUST 2023

RSVP

## THE INAUGURATION OF LORD REAY AS CHIEF OF CLAN MACKAY



IMAGE FROM [WWW.CLANMACKAYSOCIETY.CO.UK](http://WWW.CLANMACKAYSOCIETY.CO.UK)



IMAGE FROM [WWW.CLANMACKAYSOCIETY.CO.UK](http://WWW.CLANMACKAYSOCIETY.CO.UK)

**GATHER AND ENJOY ANCIENT CEREMONIAL BAGPIPES, WHISKY, TARTAN AND THE INCOMPARBLE PLEASURE OF BEING A MACKAY!**



## Have a article idea?

For submissions and inquires please email:  
[clanmackaybanner@gmail.com](mailto:clanmackaybanner@gmail.com)

[WWW.CLANMACKAYSOCIETYUSA.ORG](http://WWW.CLANMACKAYSOCIETYUSA.ORG)

# Places to Stay Around Scotland

BY DANIEL SANDERSON,  
SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT  
[WWW.THETELEGRAPH.CO.UK](http://WWW.THETELEGRAPH.CO.UK)



IMAGE FROM THE [WWW.THETELEGRAPH.CO.UK](http://WWW.THETELEGRAPH.CO.UK)

## **THE GOVERNMENT SPENDS MILLIONS OF POUNDS A YEAR PROMOTING GAELIC AND HAS ENSURED THE LANGUAGE IS PLASTERED OVER EVERYTHING FROM EMERGENCY VEHICLES TO ROAD SIGNS.**

But it was left red-faced on Burns Night after publishing an embarrassing translation error. An official Scottish government social media account wished Scots all over the world “Oidhche Losgadh Sona”, in what was supposed to be a translation of “Happy Burns Night”, alongside an image of a traditional supper of haggis, neeps and tatties.

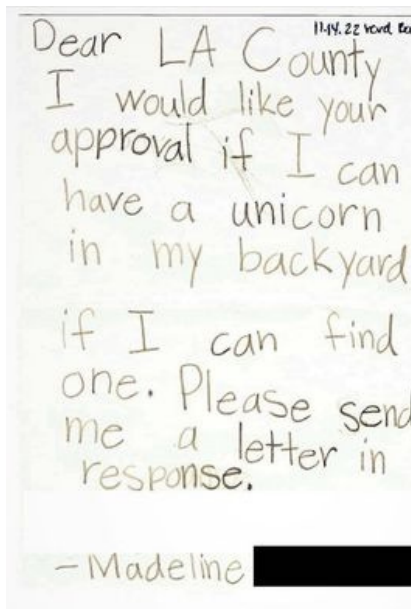
However, the patriotic tweet backfired when it emerged that “Losgadh” was not Robert Burns’ Gaelic surname but the word for a physical injury caused by heat or chemicals.

Donald Cameron, a Scottish Conservative MSP for the Highlands and Islands who took his parliamentary oath in Gaelic, said: “Whoever was responsible will be sat eating their haggis with a bit of a red face tonight. It is just as well Burns showed more attention to detail in his works than this official did in this tweet.”

The Scottish government has committed millions in taxpayers’ cash to Gaelic learning. It published a Gaelic plan in which it hailed the language as “an integral part of Scotland’s heritage, national identity and current cultural life”. A Gaelic government agency, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, based in Inverness is tasked with overseeing the plan.

# A child asked for a license for a pet unicorn.

LOS ANGELES JANUARY 4, 2023 / 7:16 PM / CBS NEWS



A child in California asked her local animal control department if she could get approval for a unique pet — a unicorn. The child, named Madeline, sent a handwritten letter to County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control, which they posted on Facebook.

Madeline asked for approval to keep a unicorn in her backyard, if she could find one. She asked if the department could please send her a response letter, and they did that and more.

They sent her a pre-approved unicorn license — but knowing the mystical creature (the official national animal of Scotland) might be hard to find, they also gave her a unicorn stuffed animal, with a heart-shaped pink license attached to its collar.

"It is always rewarding to hear from young people who thoughtfully consider the requirements of providing a loving home to animals," the department's director, Marcia Mayeda, wrote in the reply letter. "I commend your sense of responsible pet ownership to seek permission in advance to keep a pet unicorn in Los Angeles County."

While Madeline easily won approval for her unicorn, the license does come with some rules.

"The unicorn must be cared for in compliance with all animal caretaking regulations set forth in Los Angeles County Code Title 10," the letter reads.

**THE UNICORN MUST ALSO HAVE "REGULAR ACCESS TO SUNLIGHT, MOONBEAMS AND RAINBOWS," AND BE FED WATERMELON, APPARENTLY ITS FAVORITE TREAT, ONCE A WEEK.**

The department also said the unicorn's horn must be polished regularly to maintain good health.

And, since unicorns and sparkles naturally go together, the department said any glitter used "must be nontoxic and biodegradable to ensure the unicorn's good health."



IMAGES FROM THE [WWW.CBSNEWS.COM](http://WWW.CBSNEWS.COM)



# Around the Clan

"THE CLAN COMES TOGETHER IN UNITY!"



Jamie Chambers and grandson of Phoenix, AZ at the 85th Annual Phoenix Highland Games.



Norma and daughter Leanne Brinkmeyer of Phoenix, AZ at the 85th Annual Phoenix Highland Games.

## New Position Alert

### THIS IS RACHEL, OUR NEW BANNER EDITOR

The Banner has a new editor!

Don't worry Jaime Chambers isn't going anywhere, she is moving on to bigger and better things for the Clan in Membership. Rachel Parrish has been appointed the new editor of The Banner. Rachel brings with her years of experience in marketing. She is excited to take The Banner and its readership into the future with fresh perspectives and innovative ideas.



## Have a clan photo to share?

**Be Sure Check your Spam Folder for Clan Emails**

For submissions and inquires please email:

[clanmackaybanner@gmail.com](mailto:clanmackaybanner@gmail.com)

**[WWW.CLANMACKAYSOCIETYUSA.ORG](http://WWW.CLANMACKAYSOCIETYUSA.ORG)**