



DUM SPIRO SPERO  
WHILE I BREATHE, I HOPE.

# CLAN MACLENNAN

NEWSLETTER  
CANADA

*Central Ontario Branch*

Clan MacLennan Canada Web Site: [www.clanmaclennan.ca](http://www.clanmaclennan.ca) International Clan Site: [www.clan.maclennan.com](http://www.clan.maclennan.com)  
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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer heat has definitely arrived- possibly a bit much for wearing a kilt, but it is better to be warm than cold and wet, which is what the kilt may have been in its original setting.

This Newsletter is also going out as part of a mail-out invitation to prospective members (MacL. And Mcl's), whose addresses are west of Toronto, inviting them to go to Fergus to see the Clans in action and think of joining us. We do have a strong core of support, but need new ideas to increase our appeal, particularly in this climate of instant communications.

Members are invited to join us in the Parade at 12.00, when the games officially open. Kilts are NOT required, but a Clan shirt or some item of MacLennan tartan will help to show your colours. Please dress comfortably, because it is meant to be a fun day for everybody. You can even get to carry one of the banners, which Bob assembled, each showing recognized versions of our tartan. If you are coming to the dinner, please let us know at the tent, so we can advise the Angel Diner of our numbers.

The Tattoo on Friday night is well worth a visit, but it tends to go on until about 10.30, which is not good if you have a long drive home. If you are staying in Fergus, the shuttle bus is useful- it runs every 20 minutes and picks up at about 5-6 places indicated by board on the sidewalk. They make a point of ensuring they pick up all from the Tattoo!

## CLAN GATHERING, EDINBURGH, 24-26 JULY, 2009

If you hope to go but have not applied yet, do it now or you may be disappointed.

Passports – these are required entry for all events and guarantee places. Book at [www.thegathering2009.com](http://www.thegathering2009.com) with method of payment ready. Gold passports have sold out, but silver and bronze are available, differences being in the quality of viewing of the parade, Highland Games etc.

Accommodation- Our Clan base will be the Express by Holiday Inn, Edinburgh. Book at [www.casheltravel.com](http://www.casheltravel.com) with your passport. They have silver and bronze rooms still available and apparently can also book passports.

Our tent has been to Georgetown and Cobourg so far this year. Georgetown appeared larger than last year, with about twenty Clan tents, more dancers and a good turnout for the massed bands. This venue seems to be getting more popular, possibly due to Hamilton canceling out again. Cobourg, however, had separate venues for the Games and their Festival, which divided the attendance. I hope they are not following Fort Erie, who have dropped the Games in favour of a Festival only. We will be at the Glengarry Games at Maxville the week before Fergus.

Please advise us of any changes in your details in the Clan Directory because this is due for reissue with the September Newsletter. If you use email, please let us know if you can accept your Newsletter by email. This would lower our printing and mailing costs, which are our main expense items, and would also improve the quality of any photos we would like to include but avoid costly colour printing.

Now for the bad news. Those who have not paid their dues for this year will be receiving a "billet doux" reminding them that our financial year closes on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008, and they will be downgraded from a pink (forgetful) status to a blood-red (critical) status. This also means that we are looking for \$20 rather than the usual \$10 renewal. Sorry, but as the Mafia used to say- "Its only business."

Yours aye,

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Here are the Fergus details:

**Friday Aug. 8th**  
7.00 pm – Opening Concert  
8.00-10.00 – Tattoo  
(Adults \$18, Seniors/ Students \$15)

**Saturday Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>**  
12.00 Opening & Clan Parade  
5.00 Massed Bands  
(Adults \$22, Seniors/Students \$17)  
Our items  
4.00 AGM in Centre  
6.30 Clan Dinner in Angel Diner

**Sunday Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>.**  
10.00 Kirkin at St. Andrews Church  
(No charge)  
Note: Our tent will not be open on  
Sunday.

The Tattoo is scheduled to end at 10.30, but I don't think it has finished at that time yet. The shuttle bus, however, knows this well and there has always been a kind soul that picks up stragglers.

On Saturday, the tent is up and running quite early, as are most of the vendors. Sign in and let us know if you can come to the dinner. We will try for 6.30 this year to allow folk to see the massed bands and still get away at a reasonable time. Please note that we close up the tent about 3.30 so that we can clean up and get over to the Centre for the AGM at 4.00. Times are not hard and fast, however, because this is meant to be a relaxed day. Do not push it too much, however, as another Clan may be following us for their meeting. We do not man the tent on Sunday as we usually head for home after the Kirkin at St. Andrews Church, which is at the top of the hill, facing you as you drive into the town on Highway 6 from Guelph. If you wish to attend, arrive early to get a seat because the church fills up quickly.

The vendor's stalls are interesting, with a wide variety to suit all tastes. Low calorie food, however, may be hard to find, so healthy eating may have to be abandoned for the day. Enjoy while you can, but leave enough space for the dinner.

We will have our usual draw at the dinner and donations of draw prizes will be appreciated. Elizabeth's brick for 2008 will be there, and I hope we will not be in danger of starting a family feud among siblings again. I hope husbands and wives can settle as amicably as James and Ross did last year! Lorna is also learning Elizabeth's technique, so we may have a secure source for this coveted item. My sister Eileen's dates from 1994, while mine is dated 1993, so please wait at least a year before you complain.

A word about the AGM, or Annual General Meeting. After years of having this meeting in early June, when only the sitting committee attended, we thought it might improve visibility if we held them at Fergus, so that more members would attend. We were only partially right, because we do see more members, but not even as many as sign in at the tent. We encourage members to make an effort to at least to be able to put faces to names that you may see in the Newsletters. We know our membership is scattered over not only Ontario, but also most of North America, but it would be nice to get even an email about your doings, or what you think we should be doing to increase interest.

I get the Melbourne (Australia) Newsletter, which is full of items from all over the world, sent in by their members. These items range from enquires about possible ancestral connections to accounts of good holidays to chance meetings with other members. We have had some stories of holidays and would welcome a lot more. Maybe it is a Canadian thing that we feel nobody would be interested. Dave (Ottawa) has provided a detailed series of articles on tracing ancestors, but has had precious little feedback on how these have helped. Speaking for myself, I would welcome any or all news – It would save me having to harp on about items that many would think-“ been there, done that.”. So, please come and see us, or better still, come and join in the AGM and bring your ideas.



## Family History - Sharing the Past By: David MacLennan

Article 7 – Research Using Modern Scientific Techniques - More about DNA

After the last article concerning the use of DNA Studies as a research tool, I received a number of emails from MacLennan researchers inquiring about a group project for the CLAN MACLENNAN. Two of these email messages have indicated an interest in setting up an administrative team for a Clan Mc/MacLennan Genographic Group Project. As previously mentioned, there are only two registered Mc/MacLennan members within the Genographic Project, my son Matthew and the gentleman that I spoke of in the last article. My intent is to get involved on co-administering or any way possible to help this group out.

In trying to get a handle on exactly what all of this means I encourage anyone interested to go to the National Geographic site last mentioned in the previous newsletter at;

<https://www3.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/index.html>

To further explain in detail I also urge the interested reader to go to the following site for added information. Sorry about this but I want to make sure there is clarification available for all.

[http://dna.ancestry.com/learnMore.aspx#What\\_is\\_DNA\\_and\\_Genealogy](http://dna.ancestry.com/learnMore.aspx#What_is_DNA_and_Genealogy)

The following excerpt from Ancestry.com will give you a number of topics that helps to understand what this all means.

- What can DNA do for me?

You might already be familiar with how DNA testing can help solve crimes, confirm the paternity of children, and even determine the identity of ancient mummies. Now DNA can also help you with your genealogical research. It's a simple and painless process to gather your DNA sample and within a few weeks have results that you can compare with the ever-expanding DNA Ancestry database to find potential genetic cousins. Learn more about the science behind DNA, chromosomes, and genetics.

- Finding genetic cousins

By comparing your DNA Ancestry test results with others, you can determine to what extent you are related. For example, the more closely your result set matches another's, the narrower the range of generations between the two of you and your common ancestor.

As the DNA Ancestry database grows, we will automatically compare your result against each new entry. If a close match is found, you will receive an e-mail with a link to a page that describes how your two test results match. You can now begin communicating with your genetic cousin using Ancestry.com's Connection Service as the first step towards comparing the genealogies of your two families.

- Discover ancient ancestry

In addition to finding genetic cousins, your DNA test can also reveal your ancient origins. Beginning over 170,000 years ago, our ancient human ancestors migrated out of Africa and began their slow and steady spread across the continents. Over time as these ancestors spread throughout the world and adapted to their new surroundings and environments, their DNA diversified and they became genetically distinct from one another. Today, these differences can be traced through DNA and provide insights on how your ancient ancestors migrated and diversified into distinct populations...

Note: I have not mentioned anyone's name in these articles unless given permission to do so. I will be getting in touch with these those that have written me and explain exactly what has developed with the communication so far.

As always; for those that want to share with the rest of the Clan, please get in touch with me with problems, solutions or both at [dmac44@rogers.com](mailto:dmac44@rogers.com) until then, happy hunting.

Yours in Kinship – Dave MacLennan - Ottawa