



The Red and White

Newsletter for

The Clan Menzies Society, US

September 2007

From the Editor

This is likely the penultimate issue of The Red and White Newsletter as your editor will not be able to continue publication after the first of the year 2008. There should be one more issue after the Stone Mountain Highland Games in October (see article). If there is a volunteer to continue the newsletter, please contact me via email for information on support which you might expect.

I am sorry to have to retire, but 26 years as editor, writer, reporter, printer and mailer have taken their toll. Now to business for this issue:

IMPORTANT ACTION REQUIRED

The coming Stone Mountain, GA, Highland games October 19, 20, 21 will be the venue for Clan Menzies Society, US, Pentennial Meeting, that is, it's our AGM which we hold at least every five years or so. There are a number of items to consider, especially the election of officers (The three Scottish officers will have to be changed due to changes at the August AGM in Weem) and consideration of the new fee structure and member classifications adopted by the Scottish Council in 2006.

I know that this is short notice, and travel from some distance may be impossible for many of you. Please consider letting Gordon Brown or Margaret Mathewes serve as your proxy in these important matters. Send by email to mathewes@charter.net or gmb0@yahoo.com.

Details for The Stone Mountain Highland Games including accommodations, ticket orders, schedules, etc. are available on their web site www.smhg.org as well as recommended accommodations and events.

New Membership Cards

Enclosed with this mailing are your new Membership Cards. They look just like the older cards, BUT there is now a member number identifying you as a member from the US. Please use this number in any correspondence with officers in Scotland, and present it for admission to the Castle. For persons who took a single life membership, there is only one card. For those who subscribed as joint life members, there will be two cards.

Beginning immediately, new membership applications should conform to the classes of membership described in the minutes of the 2006 AGM. Persons who cannot document the required relationship to Menzies or sept of Menzies, an Honorary membership will be provided. This entitles you to all privileges of other members except voting at the AGM.

New Officers

New officers were elected at the August 2007 AGM in Scotland. These are listed on the last page of this newsletter. Note that there is a difference between the Officers and Members of Council for the Menzies Clan Society and the Trustees for the Menzies Charitable Trust. There is some overlap, but these operate as separate entities.

Because some of the members of Council and the Trust have changed, the corresponding positions for the US board must be elected anew.

Expansion?

Should we examine the feasibility of having Canada join with us as a North American Branch?

Fundraising

Robin Menzies Bentzen presented the Trustees with a plan for raising extensive funds in the US for the Trust. Her approach seemed to be pleasing to the Trustees, but they agreed that the effort must lie with the American branch.

Robin is seeking a 501(c)3 designation for the American branch so that any donations and gifts can be tax exempt. Once the tax exempt status is obtained more information will be available from Robin. The fact that we are already an incorporated entity should make the process easier, though dealing with the Federal Bureaucracy is time consuming in any event.

Anyone interested in helping with the process or with ideas about fundraising should contact Robin at laird555@aol.com.

Web Site in Scotland

A little over ten years ago John Gill of Sarasota and I were discussing the possibility of obtaining the most obvious URL for the clan Society before someone snapped it up for selling cars or some such. John acted at once and registered the domain name www.menzies.org.

He has for the last ten years kept up the payments for the registration of this domain and has made it available for use by the Scottish Society. For a number of years Alisdair Paton, son of our new president of the Society, designed and maintained the site with little help from the Council. For the last year or so John has been trying to turn the domain over to the Society directly, and this has finally been accomplished after many frustrations

The web site address remains the same: www.menzies.org and is now under the administration of James Menzies Clow in Scotland. Check out the new formats and information as James gets them set up.

This reminds me that there is no similar domain registration for the American Branch, though I have tried to keep a small section of my personal web site for posting the newsletter and additional information as space permits. If someone is willing to assume the responsibility of keeping up a web site for the US or the US and Canada, send your suggestions. George, are you still there?

Highland Games

There are only three groups which regularly host a tent at Highland Games in the US and which regularly send photos and reports of visitors. Thank you Hugh & Joan Zylstra, Marion & Herbert Butler, Robert & Nancy Luce, Gordon & Sharon Menzies, Jim & Betty Cole along with Dave & Maggie Mathewes. Your pictures will be posted on my web site soon. The pictures from Loch Norman and Stone Mountain are mostly by Kate Mathewes. They will be in the next and last newsletter.

Aberfeldy Games

Among the US members attending the AGM in Weem was Gordon Brown (Corresp. Secretary US). Although he did not participate in the "carrying the Menzies Stone", he did move it around a bit! The winner of this event (sponsored by the US Branch, Stevie and Gordon, was the same winner as last year.



Officers in Scotland elected 2007

Hon President	Ian C Menzies
President	Audrey C M Paton
Vice Pres	A D Dewar
	J M Thornton
	The Hon Lord Menzies
Secretary	Robert Menzies
Membership Sec.	Elspeth Findlay (resigned)
Treasurer	Luke Menzies
Magazine Editor	(vacant)
Chaplain	Rev Colin Renwick

Members of Council	
Alan W M Thornton	Thomas Stone
Hannah Findlay	Elizabeth. Adney
Gordon M Brown (US)	Chris Means
Pamela Hall -Jones (NZ)	Roderick Menzies
Stuart Menzies(DK)	Elspeth Findlay

Contact addresses for most are on the web site: www.menzies.org