




CLANN NA ASKETILL
Descendants of Asketil
The MacAskill Sept Society

Spring 2021 Newsletter

Reflections and Welcome Back

First, I would like to apologize for the lack of newsletters and communications over the last year. COVID-19 has significantly affected each and every one of us. I would like to take a moment to honor and remember those who have lost their lives over the last year, some to COVID-19 and some to other causes. While COVID-19 has been present for over a year now, it looks like there is light at the end of the tunnel. COVID-19 infections are decreasing for the most part, immunity and immunization rates are increasing, and restrictions are also going down. While the last year has been challenging for many reasons, I hope that we can move forward in a positive direction when it comes to our Sept Society. I would like to say that leading up to the Pandemic, there were many positive signs for our society. We saw membership and interest from new MacAskill's increase, we saw more young member involvement and applications than ever before and we had planned a summer gathering in Nova Scotia. That summer gathering was one that our membership looked forward to. Although we were unable to complete the planning or even gather last summer, it gives me hope and something for all of us to look forward to. With all that being said, here is a newsletter to cover some of the last year but also to look forward to upcoming events and activities of our society. I look forward to connecting with everyone!

Sincerely,

A. Miles Scott, Your Communication Officer

Losses from 2020 and 2021

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of:

Betty MacAskill Burnett Shea (1926 - 2021) - <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/seacoastonline/obituary.aspx?n=elizabeth-ann-burnett-shea-macaskill&pid=197943120&fhid=4797>

Malcom Gourlie (1948 - 2020) - <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/hartfordcourant/obituary.aspx?n=malcolm-gourlie&pid=196345598&fhid=24218>

Gordon McCaskill (1937 - 2021) - <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thelancasternews/obituary.aspx?n=gordon-l-mccaskill&pid=198101403>

Carola MacAskill MacDonald (1946 - 2021) - <https://humphreysfh.com/tribute/details/554/Carola-MacDonald/obituary.html#content-start>

Robert Bartlett (1958 - 2020) - <https://obituaries.newburyportnews.com/obituary/robert-bartlett-1080591196>

Rob Webberson (1951 - 2020) - <https://www.cherokeememorial.com/services-obituaries/2020/11/5/ronald-webberson>

If anyone was excluded from this list we sincerely apologize. Please reach out to Miles Scott and it will be included in the next newsletter.

Welcome to our New Members!

Over the last year we have received at least 10 online applications for membership from across the USA, Canada, and the UK. We are pleased to list some of our new members here:

Marshall McLeod of KA

Charles Neil McCaskill of TX

Michael McKaskle of TN

Jacob White of AL

Jay W McCaskill of OK

William Scott Davis of TX

Richard Tufts of Ontario

Tara Boockholdt of GA

Pamela Hush of VA

Ian Macaskill of Lancashire, UK

Kent Vorkink of UT

Amy Kozlek of AL

Membership Application or Renewal Form:

<https://forms.gle/8u7Z6MKFtJzzeWKeA>

Thank you for your Service!

We would like to take a moment to say thank you to Earl McCaskill, our Immediate Past Vice President - Canada, for his service to our organization. Earl has notified the board of his resignation. He will remain a member and active in our society. A little about Earl:

Malcolm Earl McCaskill born February 28, 1942 - I go by my middle name Earl.

- son of Malcolm George McCaskill (b. 1914: d. 1999) and Mary Belle (Hay) McCaskill (b.1921: d, 2017). When the Newsletter was being published before, my mother was a member of the Society, and she had attended a few of the Gatherings (2006, 2008, 2010).
- graduated from Mount Allison University in 1964 with an Engineering Certificate, worked for Bell Canada for a couple of years, and then graduated from the University of Alberta in 1969 with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
- married Doreen Parsons in 1967 - celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary last year by going to Ireland/Northern Ireland. I managed to play a round of golf at the Royal Portrush Golf Club, where the 2019 British Open will be held.
- we have 3 sons: Shawn (Laura Vecchio) and family live in Southlake, Texas. Scott (Heidi Horine) live in Frederick, Maryland. James (Megan McPhee) live in Yarmouth, Maine.
- I retired from Bell Canada in 1997 after 27 years of service. Claim to fame was that I was a co-leader of a study team, and co-author of a final report, which recommended that the Trans Canada Telephone System (TCTS) go completely DIGITAL in 1975. TCTS was an alliance of the major telephone companies in Canada, and this strategy made Canada a World Leader in telecommunications at that time.
- joined the MacAskill Sept Society in 2006 by attending a Gathering in Englishtown, NS
- elected the Canadian Vice-President in 2010 at the Gathering in Towson, MD
- avid golfer - still have not had a hole-in-one
- live on a small acreage on the outskirts of the town of Almonte, ON - the birthplace of the inventor of basketball, Dr. James Naismith. Doreen and I continue to live in the home we built 38 years ago.

2021 Sept Society Gathering

With the decreasing COVID-19 numbers, increase in the availability of the vaccine, and decreasing restrictions, we think a Fall 2021 Annual Gathering is possible.

June McCaskill Miles, Rachel McCaskill Miles and Mary Anne Scott all three of Sumter, SC have graciously agreed to help plan and host the 2021 Gathering. Obviously, they are just in the planning phase, but we would like to get the word out about our 2021 Gathering. A date has not been set but they are planning for Fall 2021. A location has been picked and will be in the hometown of the hosts, Sumter, SC. More information will be distributed soon.



Location: Known as the Gamecock City, Sumter lies near the geographic center of the state of South Carolina. Sumter is 100 miles west of Myrtle Beach's Grand Strand and 175 miles east of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Columbia, the state capital, is about 45 miles to the west, and Charleston is around 100 miles to the south.

History: Sumter has a colorful history stretching back more than three hundred years. In the 1740s, the first English-speaking settlers arrived to establish roots along the banks of the Wateree River. The "Carolina Backcountry," as it was then known, became a predominantly agricultural area originally part of Craven County, later Claremont County. Sumter District (county) was established effective January 1, 1800. When the state capital was moved from Charleston in 1786, Statesburg, located on U.S. Highways 76 and 378, missed being elected the new capital by one vote. According to tradition, Statesburg (now Stateburg) was also considered as the location for the United States Military Academy, now at West Point.

The city of Sumter is the County Seat and the largest city of Sumter County, the eighth-largest metropolitan area in the state of South Carolina. Incorporated as Sumterville in 1845, the city's name was shortened to Sumter in 1855. It has grown and prospered from its early beginnings as a plantation settlement.

The city and county of Sumter bear the name of Brigadier General Thomas Sumter, the "Fighting Gamecock" of the American Revolutionary War. His place in U.S. history is secure as an ardent Patriot and military genius. Brigadier General Sumter was one of the models for Mel Gibson's character in the 2000 movie, "The Patriot" (along with Francis Marion and Andrew Pickens, also from South Carolina), and his service to his country continued for the duration of his long life.

The MacAskill Sept Society

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The MacAskill Sept Society

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Decendents of Asketil

Please check out our website:

<https://www.macaskillseptsociety.org>





Cape Fear Scottish Immigration Memorial Fund

PO Box 7950
Wilmington, NC 28406

June 20, 2020

The MacAskill Sept Societ
c/o Don MacAskill
8 Huckleberry Lane
Hampton, NH 03842

Dear Mr. MacAskill:

On behalf of the Cape Fear Scottish Immigration Memorial Fund and all the Scots who immigrated to the United States through the Cape Fear region in the 18th and 19th centuries, thank you for your generous contributions of \$500.00 on June 6. We are in the early stages of designing the memorial and working with the City of Wilmington and other interested parties to select an appropriate site. We will keep you posted of our progress.

Ours is a totally volunteer organization and please know that your contribution will be used totally for the design, construction and maintenance of the memorial and associated costs. We have no overhead and no salaries to pay. This letter will acknowledge that you received no benefit in exchange for this contribution other than the joy of giving to an organization that supports Scottish heritage.

We are a federally tax exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our EIN is 84-3743680.

Again, Thank you!

Very Respectfully,

Scott Cromartie
Treasurer

Blast from The Past

We will revive articles from previous newsletters in this section.

From the Spring 2008 Newsletter:

Proper gender use of Gaelic names

By Sharon McConnel

As MAC means 'son,' a woman, obviously, cannot correctly use this prefix in the true Gaelic form of her name. A woman must prefix the genitive of her patronymic with NIC (which is an abbreviation of NIGHEAN MHIC). As for example, MAIRINICAILPEIN instead of the usual anglicized form Mary MacAlpin."

-- Taken from Ronald MacDonald Douglas in "The Scots Book", published in 1995 by Bracken Books, London

A note on Jick McCaskill

By Steve MacAskill

The third book in Ivan Doig's trilogy is "Ride with me Miriah Montana". The whole trilogy is excellent. They were published out sequence. I recommend reading 'Rascal Fair' first, then "English Creek" second, and "Ride with me" last. Jick is a boy in "English Creek" and an old man in "Ride with me". "Rascal Fair" is about his grandfather's journey from Scotland to Montana. They provide an excellent flavor of rural Montana. Another book you might also enjoy is "This House of Skye". Happy Reading.

The Cure

By Sandra MacAskill, Englishtown, Nova Scotia, Canada

George went to a psychiatrist.

"I've got problems. Every time I go to bed I think there's somebody under it. I'm scared. I think I'm going crazy."

"Just put yourself in my hands for one year," said the shrink.

"Come talk to me three times a week, and we should be able to get rid of those fears."

"How much do you charge?"

"Eighty dollars per visit, replied the doctor."

"I'll sleep on it," said George.

Six months later, the doctor met George on the street. "Why didn't you ever come to see me about those fears you were having?" asked the psychiatrist.

"Well, eighty bucks a visit three times a week for a year is an awful lot of money. A Cape Bretoner cured me for \$10 and a quart. I was so happy to have saved all that money that I went out and bought me a new pickup."

"Is that so? And how, may I ask, did a Cape Bretoner cure you?"

"He told me to cut the legs off the bed! Ain't nobody under there now!!!"



Join the Society or Renew your Membership

We encourage you to invite your
MacAskill relatives to join the society!!

Please click the following link to access
the Membership Application or Renewal
Form:

<https://forms.gle/8u7Z6MKFtJzzeWKeA>

Please contact President Lloyd
MacAskill @
lloydmaca@aol.com

if you would like to purchase
some MacAskill Tartan

McCaskill History Books For Sale

CONTACT RACHEL MCCASKILL MILES @
rachelmiles@ftc-i.net for more info.

Follow us on Facebook!

Click on the following link to join “The
MacAskill Sept Society” Facebook page.



We would like members to
share pictures,
experiences, and useful
resources on this page.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/458130997638435/>

If you would like to contribute to
the “MacAskill Sept Society
Newsletter”, please email the
communications officer, Miles
Scott, at
anthonymilesscott2020@gmail.com