



# CLAN MACINNES ARCHER

The International Association of Clan MacInnes  
Spring 2026



## Scotland in Spring

Angus | Canch | Cansh | Caunce | Hanse | MacAinsh | MacAneiss | MacAngus | MacAninch | MacAninsh | MacAnish  
MacAnsh | MacAonghais | MacAonghuis | MacCainsh | MacCance | MacCanchie | MacCanis | MacCans | MacCansh  
MacEnys | MacGinnes | MacGinnis | MacGuenis | Machans | MacHinch | MacInch | MacIninch | MacInish | MacInnes  
MacInnis | MacInnisch | MacInnish | MacKance | MacKants | MacKinnes | MacKinnis | MacKinnish | MacKynes  
MacMaster | MacMasters | MacNeice | MacNeish | MacNesh | MacNess | MacNichie | MacNinsh | MacNish |  
MacQuinnes | Magennis | Masters | Masterson | McAinsh | McAneiss | McAngus | McAninch | McAnish | McAnsh |  
McCainsh | McCance | McCanchie | McCanish | McCans | McCanse | McCansh | McCants | McEnys | McGinnes  
| McGinnis | McGuenis | McHinch | McIninch | McInish | McInnes | McInnisch | McInnish | McInnis | McInsh |  
McKance | McKinnes | McKinness | McKinnis | McKinniss | McKinnish | McKynes | McMaster | McMasters | McNeice |  
McNeish | McNinch | McNinsh | Kinnes | Kinnis | Kynnes

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## President's Musings Spring 2026

Kenneth McInnis

Well, we are starting this year with a new tank of gas and the pedal to the metal. I am certain our new Treasurer Cecile McAninch Nowatka and Secretary Lesley MacInnes are wondering what in the world they have gotten themselves into!

Your Board has had a couple zoom meetings and countless (yes, I would be afraid to count them) emails going back and forth. Our highest priorities at this time are (1) working on our 501c3 non-profit status and establishing Clan MacInnes International in North Carolina versus the former Massachusetts; (2) investing our Life-Member funds so they are not just sitting there, but are making money we can use on projects like... (3) granting scholarships which is covered on Pages 5-6.

Additionally, due to numerous requests, talks have been held with a Masonic brother of mine who owns a t-shirt business and we have established a new design with him. You will be able to order directly online and have your new t-shirts before the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games July 9-12. Ordering instructions are provided on Page 17. You even get to pick the color of your shirt.

Looking forward to July this year! Having missed last year's Grandfather Games, we are excited to see everyone. As always, we will be in the area for the whole week to take in the games and have time with friends. After we get back to Virginia, Lori and I will be preparing to head over to Scotland for a couple weeks. The first week we will be traveling around with Masons on a bus from Edinburgh to Skye to Glasgow. Even stopping in Killwinning at the "Mother Lodge of Scotland" to attend one of their meetings – a "bucket list" venture. When the rest of the Masonic group leaves to come back to the ole USA, Lori and I will spend an additional week on Islay, Jura, Iona and Morvern. It has been a while since I have seen Kinlochaline. In fact, have not seen it since they turned it pink...

The two Clan tents for the 2026 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games are bought and paid for and I have my Chieftain package which gives me my own private parking space. I have always said

being able to park up on the mountain is worth its weight in gold, but my goodness, the price of gold is going up! More information on the games, picnic, our annual meeting, etc. will be coming out soon.

Looking forward to seeing everyone this year. If not Grandfather, maybe the Scotland County Games, Virginia Games or who knows. As always, if you have questions, concerns, recommendations, or want to fill one of our vacant Commissioner/Convenor positions, reach out.



Would love to hear your thoughts on growing our organization.

*Slàinte Mhath,  
Kenneth Lee McInnis*



## World Whisky Day May 16

The difference between "whisky" and "whiskey" is primarily based on geography, tradition, and spelling rather than quality. Generally, whisky (no 'e') is used for Scotch, Canadian, and Japanese spirits, while whiskey (with 'e') is used for Irish and American spirits (like bourbon). World Whisky Day falls on the third Saturday in May each year, May 17th this year. Whisky is a distilled alcoholic beverage made from fermented grain mash - barley, corn, rye, or wheat. The drink is aged in wooden casks, often made of charred white oak. Some say that the Babylonians already practiced distillation in Mesopotamia in the 2nd millennium BC, reaching Ireland and Scotland only in the 15th century. Yet, the oldest licensed whisky distillery occurred in Ireland in the early 17th century.



(Credit <https://www.internationaldays.co/event/world-whiskey-day/r/recn9DQivygEVE5NO>)

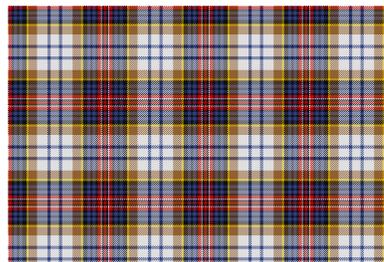


## National Tartan Day April 6 (July 1 in Australia)

***Wear your MacInnes Tartan!***



*Onich (Modern) TS1464*



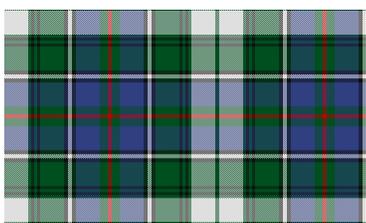
*Hunting TS1614*



*Dalgliesh Dress (TS6766)*



*Homecoming (TS7815)*



*Left: Dress Tartan (TS923)*

*Right: Red Tartan (TS189)  
Similar to the Red Innes Tartan*



*TS is The Scottish Registry of Tartans registry number.*



### Editor's Note: Steve & Donna McKinnis, Co-Editors

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May Spring be glorious in your corner of the world. This is the time of Mother Nature's rebirth with every imaginable shade of green, a steady parade of flowers, Easter egg colors, and the sun's warming rays. We will celebrate Easter, International Tartan Day and World Whisky Day as the calendar starts to fill with Scottish Highland Games. *The Archer* wishes each and all a Happy Spring!

The drive to Kinloch Hourn near Invergarry showcases some of Scotland's spring flowers, including azaleas. The road is a one-lane 34km road.

<https://www.lovefromscotland.co.uk/spring-in-scotland/>



# Membership Report

## by Scott McInnis - Director of Member Services

Current accounts with a Membership - 215

1 Year - 43  
 2 Year - 18  
 3 Year - 37  
 Life - 49  
 Life Plan - 3  
 Life 65 - 31  
 Life 65 Plan - 8  
 Life Honorary - 26

**\*NOTE:**

We currently have 41 Members listed as Past Due! If this is one of you, please take a quick moment to bring your account current. After several email attempts to remind you of your past due status - I will be purging our Membership rolls of those well past their renewal date. Thank you.



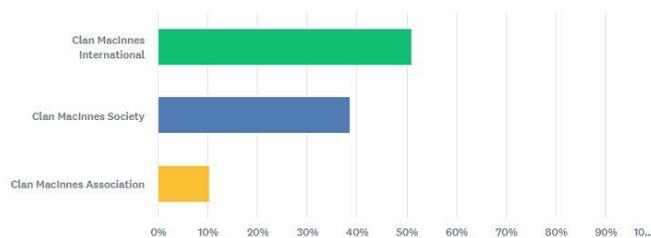
## A Change In Our Name

### by Steve McKinnis

Most of you will remember a recent Survey Monkey survey asking about a new name for the International Association of Clan MacInnes. The results of that survey are shown below.

The International Association of Clan MacInnes is changing its bylaws and is considering changing its name to make it simpler and fit today's games and newsletter lists. Please choose from one of the following.

Answered: 106 | Skipped: 2



Answer Choices ↓	Percentage ↓	Responses ↓
● Clan MacInnes International	50.94%	54
● Clan MacInnes Society	38.68%	41
● Clan MacInnes Association	10.38%	11

The most popular name was Clan MacInnes International (CMI). This name will be used when incorporating in the state of North Carolina where the organization was conceived. Then a new IRS 501c3 will be submitted. We no longer have anyone in Massachusetts who can file for us. We will also be updating our Bylaws.

The IACM name did not fit most Highland Games formats, usually they are done alphabetically.



# A Record Year for MacInnes Scholarships

## by Donna Copen McKinnis

The Clan MacInnes Scholarships set three records for 2026 –  
17 applications, eight scholarships awarded, \$3,175 total

Call this a banner year for scholarships. Here's a smidgen of history why.

The original Clan MacInnes Society formed in 1970 to promote and preserve Scottish culture and heritage, then awarded its first scholarship in 1972 to Highland dancer Maurie McInnis. Over the next 53 years, the Clan awarded at least one scholarship nearly every year (three years were missed) to a variety of dancers, pipers, drummers, one fiddler and two Gaelic students. Scholarship amounts ranged from \$100 to \$700, mostly for \$250. In earlier years the Clan awarded 2-3 small annual scholarships, but in 2018 it gave four scholarships totaling \$1,150, a record at that time. Come 2012, the Clan Society had re-organized as the International Association of Clan MacInnes, or IACM, and established the Mary Faulk Scholarship in memory of her longtime clan service as a founder, secretary-treasurer and newsletter editor. This scholarship would be given to a MacInnes descendant pursuing studies in Scottish/Celtic arts. The first Mary Faulk Scholarship was awarded that year to piper Allan MacTaylor for \$500, then the second one to fiddler Aselin Neal for \$400 in 2018. Some years there are zero applicants with MacInnes descent for this scholarship.

Now we're up to this 2026 record-setting scholarship year. IACM awarded three Mary Faulk Scholarships this year totaling \$1,625 and eight regular scholarships totaling \$1,550 for a grand total of \$3,175.

And here we proudly announce our winners.

### Mary Faulk Scholarship

**CLARA BRUNER**, age 15, Highland Dancer of Fairfax, VA for \$525 to attend Ohio Scottish Arts School for lessons in technique, stamina and dance theory, hoping to teach eventually. Two summers ago at the Grandfather Games, her mother learned that she has MacInnes heritage through Clara's great-great grandmother McCance. The family joined IACM that summer.

**KRISTEN ANGUS RUMLEY**, age 49, world heavy athlete of Mico, TX for \$500. A MacInnes descendant and IACM member, Kristen will use her scholarship to compete in the 2026 Masters World Championships in the Netherlands September 4-6, in the Women's Lightweight 40-49 division. She placed third at the 2024 Masters World and is determined to take first at the podium this year. Kristen has represented the U.S. internationally, including the inaugural Scottish Female Heavy Event Championships in Loch Ness, an historic step forward for women in traditional Highland athletics. She serves as chair of the Sisterhood of the Highland Games Throwers to strengthen women's heavy events, is a doctor of social work, a mental health consultant, and an Air Force veteran.

**ROSEMARY WALKER**, age 16, Scottish dancer, of Todd, NC for \$600 for weekly online dance lessons for five months with Margaret MacInnes, noted Highland dancing teacher based in Edinburgh, Scotland. Rosemary belongs to Southeast Region of ScotDance USA and has competed across the U.S. and in Scotland, winning the Southeast Regional Championship and Loch Norman Championship, plus several Promising and Best of Competition awards. She placed at the World Championships Qualifiers of the Cowal Gathering in Scotland, the world's premier Highland Dance event. She is studying for her Associates Degree in teaching, and helped create a second location of her Raleigh, NC dance school in Boone, NC as the first Highland Dance school in the North Carolina mountains.

## Regular Scholarships

**ABIGAIL BOWLING**, age 19, Highland Dancer of Howe, TX for \$300. Abigail began dancing in 2019 after watching her sister take a class. At her first competition she placed last every day, disappointed but determined, the next time she won her first trophy, a third place. Now she loves competing and improving. She is interested in Scottish history and her own Scottish heritage, related to the historic Robert the Bruce on her mother's side.

**AMY FERGUSON**, age 24, Highland Dancer of Edinburgh, Scotland for \$250 to attend the Ohio Scottish Arts School for dancing and teacher training courses. Amy began dancing at 16 and has competed in 14 international military tattoos and has achieved championship line-ups in Scotland, England, France and America. She was selected to perform at the acclaimed Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo for 2025. After that she decided to promote Highland Dancing through social media such as TikTok, where her videos reach over 40,000 views. Her long-term goal is to teach and mentor.

**ROWAN AND MORGAN MACFARLANE**, sisters 9 and 6 respectively, dancers of Albuquerque, NM for \$250 each. Rowan is entering her fourth year of dance, a dedicated student with countless hours of class and practice. She loves the stories and history of the dances, now able to dance the Sword, Fling, Sean Trubhas, Lilt, Flora and Half Tulloch. Her mother reports that Rowan is often seen dancing in the grocery store, while waiting in line, and at the playground. Morgan started dancing at age three and now in her third year, she has learned the Sword, Fling and Lilt. She started as a Primary, and although Beginner Level starts at age 7, she is already in the Beginner class and called an Advanced Primary. She recently had the opportunity to be a Primary Class Helper, assisting the teacher with new students – excited to share and help beginning students.

**CHARLOTTE STONE**, age 19, Scottish dancer of South Burlington, VT for \$200. Charlotte has been a Highland Dancer since age 7 and a Premier Dancer since 12. A new college student who also works, she will use her scholarship for dance school classes to prepare for her audition to the renowned Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2026. Last year she was nominated to attend the North American Sadie Simpson Highland Scholarships in Hawaii, where she learned from some of the world's best teachers and placed second in the Seniors Group and fourth in solo choreography out of 80 dancers. Charlotte also performed in the 2025 New York City Tartan Day Parade. She is "excited to see where dance takes me, hope to give back, and take on students of my own."

**HANNAH SUEHLE**, age 20, Scottish dancer of Cary, NC for \$300. Hannah will apply her scholarship to attend the annual School of Scottish Arts, a dance intensive at Lees McRae College in Banner Elk, NC and a longtime partner of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. This March marks her 12<sup>th</sup> year of dancing. Hannah says "this specific camp has been an integral part of my dance experience for the seven years I've attended. It gives me the opportunity to learn from experienced instructors and train to take my dance teacher's exam, and it takes place just before the Grandfather Games, allowing us to heavily review before the biggest competition of the year." Hannah is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina as a psychology major and children's literature minor.

*NOTE: The Board made some changes this year. In the past, the funds went directly to the instructor or school. This year more general scholarships are granted to those who have multiple needs: instructors, clothing, books, instruments, etc. And this year we are adding athletics to the list of activities IACM is supporting. These changes are being added to our scholarship page. The Bylaws already allowed for a more general distribution.*

*Applications will be accepted starting July 15, 2026 and will close March 1, 2027.*



**To see the full edition, please join our association.**

[https://macinnes.org/joinmw/jnmw\\_join.html#join](https://macinnes.org/joinmw/jnmw_join.html#join)