

Our New MacInnes Pavestone in MacRae Meadow

by President John McInnis

In 2015, the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Inc. announced a project inviting Clans to purchase a commemorative stone to be installed in the main entryway onto the games field. Our Board, while meeting there that July, was not a bit hesitant. As I recall, the first response to the question of "Shall we?" was "How can we not?"

The initial price was \$1,000 (it rose to \$1,500 this September) and after our tremendous success with the Clan's Antigonish Cairn, the Board suggested a similar campaign. Within a few days, we were halfway to our goal and we reached \$905 in about a month. Once we reached that level, the stone order was placed. We have since received another \$100 and met our \$1000 goal.



The MacInnes pavestone at Grandfather Mountain

Our stone was installed in time for this year's Games. As you can see from the picture, it is the leftmost stone in the first row. Position #1 you might say. As it should be!

The Board determined that this stone would be an appropriate remembrance for those who gave birth to this organization in 1970 at the Grandfather site in Linville, NC -- our seven late founders: Alice Gillis McInnis Doughty, her husband Louie Franklin Doughty, their son Franklin Gillis Doughty, Martha Clyde McInnis Faulk (Alice's sister), Martha's daughter Mary Alice Faulk, William Sidney McInnis and his wife Cindy White McInnis.

For a bit of historical context, the great-grandfather of Alice and Martha was Angus McInnis who immigrated from Jura about 1819. Additionally, our current Clan Secretary is Martha Ruth Doughty Long, daughter of Alice and Franklin's brother. The genealogies of these families are connected to a great many of us.

While we could not find a way to gather around the stone and appropriately toast our Founders (the crowds and traffic there were unyielding), we will find a way to do that in 2018, with sufficient claymores if need be. So, in our own way, we should all lift a glass to their devotion to this Clan and name and swear to provide for its continued health. The stone will be permanent and so should we.



The Pavestone Donors are:

Dean & Maurie McInnis Johnson
Tom & Martha Long
Alex & Stella MacInnes (Bute, Scotland)
John Ross MacInnis
Norman MacInnis
Norman MacInnis (to honor Malcolm & Jackie McInnis for their many years of service)
Alan MacMasters
John McInnis (to honor Malcolm & Jackie McInnis for their many years of service)
Kenneth & Lori McInnis
Randy & Robin McInnis
Roy & Dee McKinnis
Scott McInnis (in honor of Col. & Mrs. I. Neill McInnis, Jr. "for fostering a love for our heritage and Scotland")
Steve & Donna McKinnis
William & Joyce McInnis