

CLAN MACKAY Society USA



MACKAY

***Celebrating Scottish Heritage
Through Education & Fellowship***

<http://clanmackayusa.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/ClanMackayUSA>

HISTORY OF THE CLAN MACKAY SOCIETIES USA

The first in the USA was the Clan Mackay Society of North America. It was formed by Rev. Samuel McKay and Judge Neil McKay at the Grandfather Mountain Games in Linville, NC in 1971. The Society maintained its identity and base for many years, growing as a Clan Mackay Society of North-America, Pacific and Eastern with Convener, Barbara Paul Fanshier, spearheading the organization.

In 1993, it was re-organized as a Georgia not-for-profit cultural and educational corporation with its current name CLAN MACKAY SOCIETY USA, INC. It is represented nationwide by about 50 local Commissioners.

The purpose of the Society is to promote fellowship for its members and other clansmen, women and children, and provide support and information of the history, genealogy, culture, customs and heritage of Scotland as it specifically relates to those of Mackay lineage and interest.

Membership is open without regard to race, religion, sex, age, physical or mental abilities or national origin to those whose heritage and interest is in Clan Mackay upon payment of annual dues.

BRATACH BHAN CLAN AODH

The White Banner of Mackay is the oldest existing extant military, or clan/family banner in the world. It was known to have flown at the Battle of Drum-nan-Coup in 1433. It can be seen at the Scottish National Museum

in Edinburgh. A replica was dedicated by Dr. Ian Grimble at the Centenary Celebrations at the Mackay Room of the Strathnaver Museum in Bettyhill/Farr, in 1988.

TARTANS of Clan Mackay

In 1626 the Mackay Regiment was the first regularly organized military unit to wear Highland Dress (never say costume) which was a dark green pattern. A 1631 German woodcut of four Mackay Highlanders is the earliest surviving likeness of Highlanders in tartan.

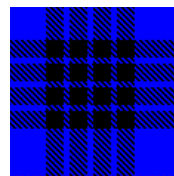
There are seven recognized Mackay Tartans: Ancient, Modern, Morgan, or Blue Mackay, Dutch or Orange, Dutch Dress, Weathered, and Mackay of Strathnaver.



Ancient



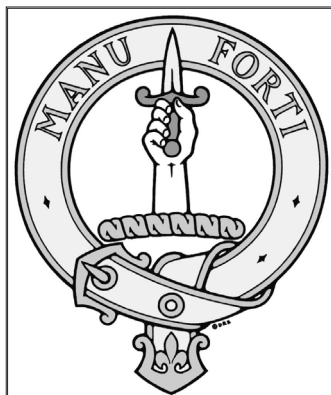
Weather



Morgan

ORIGIN OF MACKAY

The Clan Mackay has its inception from two Royal Houses. According to Iain Moncreiffe, a noted genealogist, the progenitor of the Clan Mackay was Eathelred the son of King Malcolm III Canmore (1058-1093) and descendant from the Pictish Royal House of Alpin, early Kings of the Scots. Malcolm III took as his second wife Margaret Atheling, who was English by birth, but she was a Saxon Royal Princess whose grandfather was King and Saint Stephen of Hungary. Malcolm III and Margaret had eight children. The fourth was Ethelred, a Saxon name, and sometimes written as Aethelred. As a young man he was appointed by his father to be Abbot of Dunkeld, a Columban Church. This was a position held earlier by his great-grandfather Crinan. Ethelred became so entrenched in the Celtic Church that he became a priest. Celtic priests could marry and Ethelred married the daughter of King Lulach (c. 1085) also a descendant from the House of Alpin. The Saxon name was unacceptable in the Highlands. Ethelred took the Gaelic name of Eth which is similar to the Saxon Aed and is pronounced nearly the same. To the Gaels the name became Aodh. The children of Eth took the name form MacEth, meaning son of Eth. The son of Eth and the daughter of King Lulach was Angus MacEth, who became Earl of Moray (1130). Political struggles between David I, youngest



son of Malcolm III, and Angus MacEth, his nephew ensued for the authority of the crown. MacEth tried to claim his right to the crown. The conflict carried over to the next generation and it was finally Malcolm IV in 1163 who defeated Malcolm MacEath, the son of Angus. Malcolm IV tired, of the troubles caused by the Moray men, dispersed all of them to a remote corner of Scotland beyond the mountains to the Strathnaver Region. Over time the name MacEth became corrupted to Aoidh. The next 100 plus years brings us to the first Chief of the Strathnaver Mackays Iye Mackay (MacEth). In the meantime the name

MacEth disappears and MacAoidhor Mackay begins to emerge.

Joining Clan Mackay USA

Joining Clan Mackay is easy. You can join the Society while you are at a Clan sponsored event or you can join online through our secure account at PayPal.

Membership fees enable Clan Mackay to promote and educate people about their Scottish heritage, specifically Clan Mackay. Membership is open to all races and religions whose common goal is celebrating Scottish heritage.

Although most members do have Scottish roots, some members join to celebrate the life of a dear friend or other personal reasons.

NATIONAL OFFICERS**PRESIDENT****Melvin E. McKay**

166 Jim Buck Road

Johnson City, TN 37601

(423) 543-3775

president@clanmackayusa.org

VICE PRESIDENT**Charles E. McKay**

Plano, TX

(972) 424-3304

charlesemckay@msn.com

RECORDING SECRETARY**Jessica Russell**

Vass, NC

secretary_mackay@yahoo.com

TREASURER**Doug McCoy**

1898 Prince Drive

Lawrenceville, GA 30043

treasurer@clanmackayusa.org

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**Melvin E. McKay**

166 Jim Buck Road

Johnson City, TN 37601

(423) 543-3775

president@clanmackayusa.org

SEANACHAIDH (GENEALOGY)**Kenneth Bain**

7395 N. Benedict

Fresno, CA 93711-02121

(559) 439-5553

klbain@sbcglobal.net

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR**Cheryl McKay**

5461 Poplar Drive

Monroe, MI 48161

(734) 457-1772

mackayscholarship@clanmackayusa.org

MEDIA EDITOR**John Grogan**

5208 Hampton Mill Drive

Flowery Branch, GA 30542

editor@clanmackayusa.org

MACKAY BANNER EDITOR**Amy Miller Beaton**

13431 Woodchester

Sugar Land, TX 77498

(832) 532-7224

bannereditor@clanmackayusa.org



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<http://clanmackayusa.org>

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