



DUM /PIRO /PERO  
WHILE I BREATHE, I HOPE.

# MCLAN MACLENNAN

NEWSLETTER  
Central Ontario Branch  
CANADA

Clan MacLennan Canada Web Site: [www.clanmaclennan.ca](http://www.clanmaclennan.ca)

International Clan Web Site [www.clan.maclennan.com](http://www.clan.maclennan.com)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Melanie McLennan

The coming of summer hails on the Highland Games Season here in Canada. The pipe bands, athletes and highland dancers have been practicing their skill and the heavy events fields are drying out. It is a

short haul now to get the various games across our country opening their gates to the festival celebrants. So the question is "Which of the games do I want to attend, and when are they?" or "What games are near to where I will be over the summer holidays?"

A very useful and comprehensive website for Scottish events, here in Canada can be found at Canadian Bagpipe Links Highland Games and Festivals in Canada.

[http://web.ripnet.com/~nimmos/highland\\_games.html#Ontario](http://web.ripnet.com/~nimmos/highland_games.html#Ontario)

The web master for this site, Stewart Nimmo, appears to take great care to keep this broad list as accurate as possible.

He recommends another site for international events at <http://www.maclachlans.org/games.html> although he cautions that the information is often incorrect, so double check it.

Dust off the jackets, buckle the kilts and polish the silver up, choose a location and get ready to pay tribute to our cultural heritage and have a good deal of fun while we're at it.

**Our Annual General Meeting** will be held at Fergus Highland Games August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004. We will meet in the Board room inside the Community Centre at the grounds at 4:00 p.m.

The agenda and details of the dinner will



Lester B. Pearson and Red MacLennan were classmates in 1912 at Hamilton Collegiate Lyceum. See article on page 4.

follow in our July newsletter.

The Executive and myself would sincerely encourage all of our members to join us by email, letter or in person, for this meeting, as we make our plans to celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the Clan MacLennan Canada Central Ontario Branch and plan for the proposed Chief's Visit in the summer of 2005. Your comments, suggestions and service would be greatly appreciated and welcomed to help make 2005 a year of good memories shared.

Our Vision Casting Workshop scheduled for April was cancelled, unfortunately, because of low attendance. We will continue to work on this project over the coming year, however, and will send out a questionnaire which we hope you will take a few minutes to comment on and return. Your comments on what you like and what you want to see will help us to enrich your Clan membership.

Our Members Directory is almost finished and will be included in the next newsletter. We have listed our members both alphabeti-

cally as well as geographically. Should your contact information change over the coming year, let us know and the changes will be updated in the next newsletter. Each spring we will publish an updated directory and send it out with the subscription renewals. We would appreciate your feedback on the directory for future improvements.

Just a reminder, the Directory is for our paid up members use only. All up-to-date subscriptions will be included. It will not be distributed to anyone outside of the Clan MacLennan Canada membership. Any member not wishing their information to be listed must request their information be removed in writing to:

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President Melanie McLennan  
80 London Road West  
Guelph, ON N1H 2B7  
phone 519-823-0003  
fax 519-824-5623

email [Melanie@clanmaclennan.ca](mailto:Melanie@clanmaclennan.ca)

I am looking forward to a wonderful summer season.



**CLAN MACLENNAN  
CENTRAL ONTARIO  
BRANCH**

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of MacLennan

**Chieftain:**

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**Past Presidents:**

Doug MacLennan, Delta, B.C.  
Elizabeth Prebble, Burlington, ON  
David MacLennan, Dundas, ON

## Member News

*From Smoky McLennan*

Please pass on my sincere thanks to all COB members for their kind words and thoughts for our dear Mary and the delightful picture. Brings back many happy memories and a few large tear drops. Maybe with some luck will be able to join you in 2005 at the Fergus games, unfortunately not able this year. Thanks again, yours aye, Smoky

*From Rob McLennan, Ottawa*

I've been working on a genealogy of McLennan/ MacLennan lines throughout Stormont & Glengarry counties since 1995. anyone with information should contact me via [az421@freenet.carleton.ca](mailto:az421@freenet.carleton.ca) or c/o 858 Somerset Street West, mian floor, Ottawa ON K1R 6R7. My website (with various historical links) is at [www.track0.com/rob\\_mclennan](http://www.track0.com/rob_mclennan)

## New Members Package

In celebration of our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we will be offering a New Members Package.

Anyone wishing to purchase a gift membership for a friend or family member will now have a New Members Package to give. Any new members joining while attending the games or calling in over the

## Tartan Day in Ottawa

*From Celtic Heritage May/June 2004  
Letters to the Editor*

Dear Editor,

I read with great interest your article on Tartan Day in this month's Celtic Heritage (March/April 2004). The mail delivered my copy the day I received an invitation:

“The British High Commissioner and Mrs. Roshan Reddaway request the pleasure of the company of Eileen MacLennan to a Reception to celebrate Tartan Day in Canada in the presence of Members of the Scottish Parliament on Wednesday, 7 April.”

They could have got my name from the Sons of Scotland, The Saint Andrew's Society of Ottawa, or the Maxville Highland Games.

Thank you for ALL the interesting information in Celtic Heritage.

Sincerely and gratefully,

Eileen MacLennan, Ottawa

summer, will also receive the New Members Package as part of their subscription.

This package will be the New Subscribers price of \$25.00. It will include a letter of welcome, a personalized membership card, the most recent newsletter issue, a copy of the Membership Directory, a brief synopsis of the MacLennan Clan History, a discount certificate for Clan Merchandise and a list of members benefits and contact information.

## PASSAGES

### Mary Elizabeth Holton

(nee MacLennan) was a member of COB since its inception. Born May 20,1917 in Toronto, died April 10,2004 in Deland, Florida after a short illness. Mary leaves a brother Douglas(Deland) and sister Flora Asselstine (Windsor); three children, Philip, Averil and Michael; eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She devoted her life to her family, her church and volunteer work. She was President of Home and School, a volunteer with the Art Gallery of

Windsor, a member of the YMCA Board of Directors, President of the May Court Club of Windsor and Canada, and latterly a member of PEO and the AAUW. A memorial service was held at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Windsor. Donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society in Mary's name. Mary and Flora were at the inaugural meeting of the COB in June,1985 and organized a very well attended gathering in Kincardine in 1994}

## Editors Notes - by Robin MacLennan

It looks as though we are tentatively moving into summer, along with a few thunderstorms to remind us not to get too confident yet. The way the lawn is growing is a sure indicator.

Bob (Hamilton) has heard that the Fort Erie games have been cancelled. Apparently the bands have become a bit too expensive. On the plus side, the Hamilton games are on again this year at the Ancaster grounds.

We had an Executive meeting in Dundas on the May 8<sup>th</sup>. As far as we know, the Chief's visit next year is still on so we will start planning as soon as we get confirmation.

There is confusion arising as to who owes dues for previous years. Some members have even paid for up to two years in advance! We are revamping the membership slip to clarify the actual year e.g. (2003-2004). We discussed deferring our financial year closing date from 31<sup>st</sup> May (the COB started on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1985) to either the AGM date at the Fergus games or to the normal financial year end of 31 December. We hope to get some input on this at Fergus.

Known dates for the Games this year are:

Georgetown June 12  
 Ancaster June 26-Elizabeth & Bob  
 Kincardine July 2, 3, 4 K. Dunbabin  
 Coburg July 3 J. Rose, L. Walton  
 Cambridge July 17  
 Durham July 24  
 Maxville July 31-Eileen & Robin  
 Fergus Aug 13,14,15-All  
 Sarnia Aug 20-22  
 Almonte Aug 21-Eileen

We try to be represented at games where there are Clan displays. If any members visit Games could you let us know about them. We can even provide you with information to pass on to

interested parties who may consider joining the COB. We would really appreciate help in making the COB more visible as many on the Executive have done more than their fair share of duty. Eileen's book on Maxville goes back to 1980, predating the COB!

We moved the AGM to Fergus in the fond hope that we might actually meet some more of our members to get their views on widening our activities. The COB covers a wide geographical area but, with present email and other communications, we hope that members will at least give us some feedback on how they would like to see the Clan

MacLennan grow.

On the lighter side, Eileen celebrated her 75<sup>th</sup> on March 12. For the occasion, my daughter Linda came over from Scotland and we all met up in Ottawa. We marked the occasion with two lunches, one in the Highlander pub and another in Darcy McGee's-my mother was Irish, born Sheila Kathleen O'Donovan!

Regarding my note in the April newsletter on Tartan Day on 6<sup>th</sup> April (see page 2), would you believe the British High Commission in Ottawa held a reception to mark the occasion and Eileen went in her kilt.

### C.O.B. Statement of Receipts and Disbursements May 23,2003 - May 15,2004

#### Receipts

Bank Balance May 23, 2003				2,350.08
Members Dues				
	2002 2003	185.00		
	2003 2004	580.00		
	2004 2005	385.00		
	2005 2006	80.00		
	2006 -2007	30.00		
	2007 2008	10.00	1,270.00	
Donations				85.00
Clan Sales				
	Maxville	71.00		
	Fergus	117.00		
	Misc.	5.00	193.00	
Fergus Draw				64.00
Interest-G.I.C.		25.00		
Bank		0.11	25.11	
American Exchange			3.34	1640.45
				3,990.53

#### Disbursements

Fergus Avenue of the Clans				55.00
July Newsletters	Copy	207.16		
	Postage	208.88	416.04	
Web Website		63.34		
	Web Hosting	256.80	320.14	
Misc. copy and postage			20.48	
Royal G.I.C.			1,000.00	
Service Charges			3.75	1815.41
Bank Balance as of February 19,2004				2,175.12
Royal Bank G.I.C.				2,000.00
<b>Branch Total</b>				<b>4,175.12</b>

# REMINISCE

## Lester B. Pearson lost his first election race to a MacLennan!

*Submitted by David MacLennan (Dundas) about his father, "Red" MacLennan.*

*Reprinted from the Hamilton Spectator, Tuesday May 14, 1963. By Dan O'Neill- Spectator Staff*

In those days young Lester showed few signs of greatness. He was a boy in Hamilton in an era of innocence. You could buy a stick of O-Pee-Chee gum (Chew like the ball-players do!) for a penny and take a trip around the Bay on the old Macassa or Modjeska for 50 cents. Big Bob Isbister was thrilling the crowds who yelled for the Hamilton Tigers. Ty Cobb was the idol of baseball fans even as far away from Detroit as Hamilton. And down at Central Collegiate a 125 pound half-back called Lester B. Pearson looked ruefully at the larger students around him the late Orville Walsh and Reid Bowlby, "Ab" Brown and "Pep" Leadlay and wished that he was a bigger man.

Well, Lester B. Pearson is a big man today. For a long time, now, he's carried a lot of weight in world affairs. And when Parliament opens Thursday, Lester B. Pearson, fresh from visits with the leaders of Britain and the United States, will be top man.

No one who remembers the young Lester Pearson (it wasn't Mike until his army days during the First World War) claims today that he saw the mark of greatness on the boy who lived in Hamilton 50 years ago.

### 'Smart As A Whip'

"Oh," says Herb Moore, who played basketball with Pearson for the Wesley Methodist Church, "he was always smart as a whip. "But Prime Minister? You just don't think of classmates as future prime ministers", Mr. Moore admits. "But even as a junior he set up the signals that helped us win the Church league." IN THOSE DAYS Lester Pearson was a curly-haired, stocky fellow, Mr. Moore recalls, who was interested in every kind of sports.

He moved to Hamilton around 1910 when his father, the Rev. Edwin A. Pearson, was appointed minister of the

Wesley Methodist Church.

THE PEARSONS lived in the church manse, a rambling 17 room building at 137 Catharine Street North.

### Tranquil Place

Hamilton, in the early 1900's was a tranquil place.

Only 82,000 people lived here when the Pearson family including Lester's brothers, Marmaduke and Vaughan arrived.

There were few cars rattling through the streets, and horses still clipped along King. You could spend a Sunday picnicking on the sparsely populated Mountain and you could walk around a Bay that was still comparatively unspoiled.

JOHN LING, who now owns a cleaning company in town, went to school with Lester and remembers him as "a better-than-average athlete and very clever at school." "He used to like going to the old court house especially for murder trials. He used to like court procedure."

B. L. SIMPSON remembers teaching Lester Pearson at Central Collegiate "and he was a good student". The man who taught the Prime Minister says Pearson was always a good student "but I never thought he'd be really big."

Money went a long way in those days. You could get a decent house for \$3,200 and a boy's suit for \$6. Straw hats went for 25 cents and collars for a nickel

### Early Rival.

Donald H. (RED) MacLENNAN, who wore the same three inch high collars, is now an Anglican minister who wears a Roman collar....

Mr. MacLennan, rector of St. George's Church here, was one of the few people to beat the Prime Minister in an election.

As Mr. Pearson tells it, "Red" became president of the literary society at Central "because he was so good-looking all the

girls voted for him."

Mr. MacLennan denies most of the story, but not the part about his looks. He says that a rival of Mr. Pearson's rounded up everyone he could find to vote against the future PM. "But Lester got to be secretary".

MR. MacLENNAN recalls those long-ago Hamilton days as a time of tranquility although there were some pretty lively things going on around town. One Spectator story the Pearson family could have read began: "With his shrieks echoing through the courtroom and tears coursing down his shrunken and pallid cheeks, Charles W. King presented a pathetic picture in plice court today". Charles was a victim of "the scorching, sizzling heat wave" of the summer of 1911 a heat wave through which the Pearsons, too, must have suffered and he was recommended for deportation to his native England. He was charged only with "a serious offence."

Pearson left Hamilton in 1913 to enter the University of Toronto. But the world was changing and young Lester was soon to be come a private in the Army. He got the name "Mike" while with a hospital unit in Greece. Later he transferred to the old Royal Flying Corps as a pilot and before war's end was invalidated home and returned as an instructor.

In 1958 when he campaigned here, he walked silently along Catharine Street, gazing at the house where he once lived. The neighborhood had changed and where big family once lived, there were groups of roomers. The windows along the street carried room-rent signs. Cars parked bumper to bumper along the street spelled out, dramatically, the fact that the area had left behind it the ear of easy grace and tranquility that the Pearsons knew.

Now those who knew him when he was young are saying "yes, they should have known". As Herb Moore says: "You know, that Pearson was always smart as a whip."