

## From the Membership Secretary Richard (Rick) Backus

The recent close election result has honored me with the pleasure and responsibilities of this post. I look forward to the challenge and opportunity to serve this great organization.

I hope to offer a venue in this position that will bring our members together in many ways. I will work in coordination with our commissioners, providing them with updated membership information that will enable them to communicate effectively as they strive to increase participation in formal and informal activities. One of our best recruitment tools is our existing members. Through casual local outings such as BBQ's and Scottish Highland Games to more regional formal affairs we can increase our membership and enhance the communal sense of

camaraderie in our clan membership.

As your Membership Secretary, I will maintain centralized information that will enhance the operational qualities necessary for our organization to grow and prosper in the future. As members, please keep in contact with your state Commissioner for local current events and always feel free to contact me for membership issues that you may have. I can be contacted via email [rbackus@hardynet.com](mailto:rbackus@hardynet.com) or mail to: Clan MacTavish USA

P.O. Box 656  
Petersburg, WV 26847

As my first official duty it pleases me to announce our newest members:

A previous LIFE MEMBER reconnected  
Jackie D Garner

### NEW SUPPORTING MEMBERS

- Andrea C Alison
- Benjamin J Thompson
- Ralph D Medbery
- Benjamin N Thomas
- Ellen T Taylor
- Pate D Thomson
- Phyllis A Naegeli
- Paul J Riordan
- Michael L Stephens
- Brandon K Brooks
- Jeffery A Cash
- Mary L Hampton

In kinship,  
Rick Backus

## From the President's Desk, Continued from page 1

Tavish in one role or another over the past nine years and I can honestly say that I have never experienced this level of clan enthusiasm. You all are to be commended!

If you think I am slighting the Chief or Mrs. MacTavish by not mentioning them earlier, think twice! These two special people deserve to be singled out. Simply put, if it were not for Dunardry and Mrs. MacTavish, all of the milestones that I mentioned earlier would not have been possible. They have seen to it that our new organization has had the monetary resources required to help accomplish the tasks at hand and have literally traveled all over the United States, at their own expense, in order to meet the members who support this thing we call Clan MacTavish. Chief, Mrs. MacTavish, thank you!

After reading this article, you might think that all of our hard work is finished but, I beg to differ. Yes, we have laid the cornerstone and begun the foundation that will ultimately make this society something that our children and grandchildren will all be proud of... but our work is far from over. And, amid all of the work that is to be done in the months to come, do not be surprised if you don't see the

workers take time out for a Highland Reel every now and again!

In kinship,  
Larry Thompson

## Culloden Memorial Walkway

If you have ever visited the Vietnam Wall in DC you can never forget the eerie quiet and sense of both calm and unrest as you walk the length of the wall.

Anyone who has walked the fields of the historic battlefield at Culloden has felt the same. Markers upon markers of Clan names, and the most meaningful to us, the "Mixed Clans." Since our Chief Dugald was imprisoned at the time, there was no one to lead our men into battle. Loyal to the cause of freedom and brave to the end, our clansmen went with other clans to the battle. They lie unnamed to this day in the Mixed Clans area.

We now have the opportunity to correct that. The Scottish National Trust, in a fund raising effort to revamp the visitor's history centre, is offering the purchase of

stone markers to form the walkway to the new centre. Won't you join us in commemorating our heroes by donating funds to Clan MacTavish USA specially earmarked for Culloden Walk? Several sizes are available, a 16 inch square stone is \$890, and an insignia stone with our clan crest would run \$3000. Other sizes are available depending on what we wish to do as a group. [www.cullodenwalk.org.uk](http://www.cullodenwalk.org.uk).

For our kin  
Who fell here  
Non Oblitus  
Clan MacTavish

Please send your contributions to:

Clan MacTavish USA  
c/o Patricia Adams

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Note "Culloden Stone" on check's memo.

Would you prefer online access?

Let us know, send a note to [tomey38@alltel.net](mailto:tomey38@alltel.net) if you're interested in an electronic publication.