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MMCA
NOVEMBER
2023

MMCA NEWSLETTER



<https://micummcintireclanassociation.org/>



Jonathan Tucker, Caryl Edwards, Denise Threlkeld, Jan Maier



Dr. Emerson (Tad) Baker



Bound by the river but not by the road
Micum's cabin closer to River?



Jonathan Tucker leading Micum's Walk



Steven Mears' Durham Cathedral Exhibit

REUNION WRAP UP

What a thrill to be together yet again in person! Special thanks to the enthusiastic 26 who were able to attend! Our best wishes are with Janet Conroy for continuing recovery, who was in the ICU and sorely missed. We mingled and made new friends/met new cousins, held our annual meeting and elections, browsed the History and Gift Shop tables and special exhibits by Steven Mears on Durham Cathedral and Scottish Prisoner of War (SPOW) burials and by John Demos on earliest Scottish land grants, held a moment of silence by Steven in honor of the SPOWs left behind in Durham, did Crystal Ball Survey I, enjoyed fabulous shared desserts, had fun tracing our lines back to Micum and Dorothy on giant paper family trees, began the Living Trees, had lots of questions for Dr. Emerson (Tad) Baker's fascinating presentation, and with guidance from Historian Jonathan Tucker, followed Micum's footsteps from debarking at the Old Landing Dock in Durham, NH, to where he lived and worked prior to moving to York. David McIntire (Webmaster), Kelly Scribner (Secretary), and Jan Maier were re-elected to the Council, which then re-elected Jan as President (as required by the By-laws). Special thanks were extended to retiring Vice-President Caryl Edwards after 36 years of service to the clan council, and to Donald Young for his wise counsel this past year. The Vice-President and a Council-at-Large position remain unfilled. Tad's lecture, Landscapes of Indenture, featured the first generation SPOWs from their march from the battlefield to confinement (and death for thousands) in Durham Cathedral, to passage and indenture in the colonies, and then as settlers with lands of their own. Focusing on Micum and information from old wills/land grants, he posited that Micum's cabin may have been near to the cemetery near the garrison, but much closer to the river than previously thought. Tad and his research team in Durham, UK are analyzing data collected in May in search of first generation SPOWs' homesteads and burial sites, as well as early settler impacts on the ecology.

We look forward to their updates!



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FUN FACTS



Did you know that, as Micum's descendants spread across the country (and the world)? They added their name to the places they wherever they went. Member Dave McIntire of Scottsdale, AZ, made a fascinating discovery of such a place last year:

The town of McIntire, Iowa in northeast Iowa was founded in 1891 by Micum descendant John McIntire and his wife Sarah (Eastman) McIntire, who granted a right-of-way to the Chicago Great Western Railway Company. John was a descendant of Micum's older son, John

More information about how Dave found McIntire, Iowa, and how we found out it was named after a Micum descendant will follow in ensuing issues of the newsletter. Do you know of any McIntire places—communities, landscape features, etc.—created by Micum's descendants? Please let us know.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings dear cousins and friends! I hope this finds you and your loved ones in good health. It was a joy to see you at the Reunion—thank you so much for making the trip, and we hope to see many more of you in 2024! In addition to being together in person, it was especially fun for me to see people at lunch tracing their lineage back to Micum and Dorothy with big yellow markers on those giant paper 1980 Family Trees we passed around!

Indeed it has been a great first century, but to keep the “mighty” in our “small but mighty” MMCA, we need continuing help and participation from our members...AND more members! Our clan operating expenses are outstripping our dues/donations support. Our robust mailing list has a 165 people, but only 33 are paying members. We need to narrow that 80% non-paying gap!

The Council's primary priorities this year are therefore: 1) becoming financially stable, and 2) strengthening our membership. This means not only reaching out to our readership list, but also to our younger generations who largely live on the web. Our transition to a healthy 21st Century Micum McIntire Clan requires building person-to-person relationships while taking full advantage of the internet and our fantastic website (Kudos to our Webmaster, David!)

Your Council has ideas for moving forward, but to pull this through together we need your help. Using input from Reunion attendees, we have developed an improved Crystal Ball Survey II. Now we need to hear from YOU (yes, we mean everyone on the mailing list!) about fundraising, enticing online Zoom offerings (for those using email), and potential future projects held between Reunions.

Please complete your Crystal Ball Survey II within 2 weeks. Paper copies should be mailed to her at 62 Autumn Drive, Centerville, MA 02632 (postmark within 2 weeks is fine).

Thank you!! It's going to be a very exciting year with new online Mini-Zoom gatherings, clan project(s), and a brighter financial future ahead! In the meantime, may your upcoming holidays be filled with good cheer in your gatherings with family and friends—and all the ingredients for the making of wonderful memories!

Cruachan! Jan



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2023 Thomas Beach Highland Games Opening Ceremony



Jan Maier / MMCA tent - Did You Visit?



This Coo stole Jan's Viking Horns!



Bill, Rowie, and Laura Budde kindly shared their campsite with Jan Maier

HIGHLAND GAMES!

Another Great Year at the 8/29/23 ME Highland Games! The MMCA tent was a very popular stop for kids getting clan tent stamps on their passports! The secret—we featured the 1980 Micum McIntire Family Tree unrolled on the front table, and Jan told kids the story all about Micum's capture, march, sail to the colonies, and life as an indentured servant in America. They loved it—their eyes got really big and they were fascinated. She pointed to the leaf on the Tree with her name, and traced it all the way back to Micum in 1650. Then she told them THEY were a leaf on their family tree...and Micum was a leaf on a tree going WAY back, and just imagine how many people they are related to! This is a great way to get kids interested in family history!

Many visitors came by, and thanks to help from members Bill and Laura Budde and their daughter Rowie, we were able to staff the MMCA tent throughout the entire day. One visiting couple were great fans of Dan and Suzanne Davis' B&B in Kingfield, ME, and Mark MacLeod stopped by and talked about his work with Y DNA research among Scottish Prisoner of War descendants. Heads up, male McIntires—imagine what genes from Micum have passed down! Fabulous bagpipe bands, Scottish dancers, highland games, and musician competitions, gentle highland cattle, incredible sheepdog competitions, vendors of all things Scottish including yummy edibles, enjoyed by thousands of Celtic fans, many in costume. What fun! See fabulous festival highlights video with Rowie and Jan in Clan March at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwJIBZjBaWI> Find one in your part of the country next year!"Well let me tell you a story 'bout a man named Micum..." (Charlie and the MTA)



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MICUM'S PERCH

When moving through the region, one would have a hard time not noticing the variance within the greater leaf canopy. A hard freeze in May killed or demented tender leaves unfurling at the time. Maples and cherry trees were worst hit and never regained the fullness of their canopies. Our mulberry lost all its leaves and proceeded to push out an entirely new set. And, then began the rainiest summer ever, further exacerbating the loss of tree canopy with apples and others including horse chestnuts!

Seeming like the Pacific Northwest, this was a big year for fungi. Leaf blights are mostly caused by fungi, which thrive in these conditions. They cause leaves to turn brown and black, red and rusty, and then fall off at varying rates. The wetter the year, or denser the canopy, the better fungi do and the worse the trees appear.

While driving by in August, I was not surprised to see Micum with a full canopy of leaves browned by the "horse chestnut leaf blotch." This disease is pervasive for horse chestnuts. Most have it and live with it their entire lives. Some years are worse than others, but it's mostly cosmetic, and not a threat to their existence. A real bad year will cause the leaves to drop entirely. This, was such a year.

Apparently the tree had been bare long enough that it was stimulated to push out a couple sets of new leaves with recent warm temps. These happenings tell a story that I don't fully understand. Our lilac is doing the same, and I had the chance to enjoy the odd sensation of smelling fresh lilac blooms in October the other day! The few new leaves on Micum don't seem like they could do much before nipped by a fall frost, but who knows, maybe they are like antennae sharing valuable info with the mothership as to whether or not others should follow. All signs indicate that Micum is doing just fine. She certainly received plenty of moisture this year, and has a full head of healthy fat buds poised to open after the coming dormancy of winter! I'll report back in your winter newsletter. Cruachan!



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Garrison's Baby Horse Chestnut Tree

YOUR COUNCIL

Jan Maier, President 2025
jemsong7@icloud.com

Vice President
- Currently Vacant -

Kelly Scribner, Sec. 2024
perardua1917@gmail.com

Denise Threlkeld, Treas. 2024
mcintireclan@comcast.net

David McIntire, Web. 2024
dmcintire@comcast.net

Jonathan Tucker, Hist. 2024
jontuck@comcast.net

!Fill Out this Email Survey Please! This link will open an email with questions our council is looking for your input on!



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