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**\*\*\*BREAKING NEWS\*\*\***

For years it's been claimed that the McIntire Garrison was the oldest building in ME, but solid evidence was lacking. Fast Forward to terrific news just in from Dr. Emerson Baker (our 100th Reunion speaker): with funding procured by his research team it has now been verified as indeed the **oldest building ever tested in Maine!** Dendrochronology analysis by expert Bill Flynt revealed the Garrison timbers were mostly felled in 1712, so it was likely built by Micum and Dorothy's son John in 1713. We'll celebrate this new finding by devoting our reunion program to this amazing historic structure— its mysteries, those who lived, loved, worked, and died there, and the outstanding stewardship of the McIntire/Davis family since 1713! Given the Crystal Ball Survey directives to update the Red Book and build our treasury, we'll also have some fun with "growing" our family tree. This is a reunion you won't want to miss!!! NOTE: Summer lodging fills up fast—make your reservations ASAP!

**August 3, 2024 MMCA Reunion and Annual Meeting**

St. Aspinquid Masonic Lodge, 101 Long Sands Road, York, ME

9 am - Doors open

10 am - Annual Meeting

12:00 pm - Brown bag lunch, shared desserts (tradition!)

1:00 pm - The McIntire Garrison: Past, Present, and Future

2:00 pm - Final announcements, farewells, see you on Zooms till '25!

**Crystal Ball Survey Highlights\***

*Clan Priorities (10 voters):*

1. Update the Red Book (unanimous!)
2. Cemetery Mapping
3. McIntire Stories/Tales

*Mini-Zoom Winners (16 voters):*

1. McIntire Sites in Scotland
2. Cemetery Headstone Cleaning and Living Tree Toolkit/McIntire Forest
3. From Family Trees to Tombstones, McIntire Sites in Southern New England, Cruachan in the Kitchen

*Fundraising:* Increase dues and ask for more donations (unanimous).



\* Special thanks go to our Fundraising Committee volunteers Paul Sweeney, Chris Fuller, and Caryl McIntire Edwards. They are working with the Council to update our membership/dues system in time for the annual meeting and to make recommendations on how to increase donations for our VERY thirsty bank account.

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Jan Maier**

How exciting that the McIntire Garrison is now the oldest building tested in Maine! I so hope you'll be able to attend our Aug. 3 Reunion and Annual Meeting in York to learn more about this incredible structure—its amazing history, mysteries, and excellent care by the Davis family.

The Council is busy making plans based on our Crystal Ball Survey results, and I especially want to thank 1) everyone who completed them at our 2023 reunion and in our last mailings, and 2) Chris Fuller, Paul Sweeney, and Caryl Edwards for serving on our Fundraising Committee. It was very inspiring to see unanimity in the #1 clan priority to update the Red Book and for support of increasing dues and donations. I bet way more than a thousand descendants have joined the planet since Robert Harry McIntire's 1983 version. My mom, a tiny twig on the 1980 tree, has 25 more descendants missing from that tree!

A lot of interest in maintaining our old York burial grounds and "mapping" who's where also emerged as important activities in the survey. Ken Junkins led the Junkins Family Association in their annual cemetery cleanup this May, and we hope to join them next spring --as there were a number of intermarriages among our ancestors. Alan Junkins, Kens father, was a great friend of our clan and a fine artist and historian. We deeply regret that this newsletter was not available in time for Alan's May 11 memorial service in York (see Flowers of the Forest).

As our newsletter continues to grow we welcome a new regular column, "McIntire, USA!" Turns out more than one state has a town with our namesake (how about your state?). Member David F. McIntire of AZ (not to be confused with our Webmaster David McIntire of MI) kicks off this delightful new series with his exploration of McIntyre, IA. Could the town's namesake be one of our relatives? Stay tuned!

We have our work cut out for us, but with some creative grant-writing and successful fund-raising, we can update the Red Book, have fun with a variety of mini-Zooms between reunions, and thrive! Stay healthy, enjoy those spring blossoms and warmth, stop by and take a peek at Micum, our tree by the Garrison, and make those plans to come to York in August! (And I hope many of you got to see the eclipse on 4/8.) Cruachan! Jan



## **MICUM'S PERCH by Micum Davis**



Bob Dylan said "the times they are a changin'." I've played and worked outside my whole life and can say with confidence that the climate is a changin'. On St. Paddy's Day this year the peepers were out! This annual cacophony of tiny frogs and their deafening harmony is usually an April occurrence—never this early, and certainly not with a cold snap in the forecast.

The erratic weather of this El Niño year has been, perhaps, an amplified version of what I've been seeing each winter since I started sugaring in 2016. This is my first time sugaring during El Niño. The flow started early this year and last. I had low expectations and rolled with the punches as the weather disappointed with conditions too warm for sap flow, or so cold that the trees locked up leaving ice pucks in sap buckets, and then was punctuated with incredibly strong winds and rainstorms. I tapped on February 7th this time, a couple weeks earlier than usual.

Sap will flow during tree dormancy when temps are below freezing at night and above during the day. The optimal weather for good sap flow has always been the late winter, early spring run. Sunny and warm, calm days and cold nights. No wind or rain is what you want. Sugar makers are lost without this reliably rhythmic weather fluctuation. The last two winters have yielded seemingly good sugaring conditions in December and January, a concerning sign of significant warming. This delicate balance of specific conditions supports a substantial

industry and an assumed part of New England culture. Our sense of place, connection to the land, and identity is defined in part by this yearly engagement, nearly as much as the trees changing color in fall.

In a sap bucket operation like ours the tap holes (spiles) become unproductive after 5-6 weeks. Naturally occurring bacteria in the air enter the trees through the spiles. The tree senses this and begins to limit further invasion and the burden of decay. After this interval, the sap flow stalls out regardless of the temperatures, making it critical to time tapping in line with the period of optimal weather. Sugaring guidelines for tree health allow only one tapping per year so you have to make it count. This year, dancing around the odd weather, we were able to bottle 65 gallons of syrup—down significantly from the typical 100, and with greater effort.

The good news: Micum made it through its first winter by the garrison, seemingly unaffected by the odd weather. I stopped by to see her yesterday and enjoy a sunset on the river and the Garrison itself. I was pleased to see fat healthy buds and nothing visible of concern! Let's hope for a full head of flowers in late spring/early summer and I'll be sure to include a photo in the following "Perch." Better yet, come see her in full glory at the reunion! Cruachan!

### FLOWERS OF THE FOREST



Ken and Kathy Junkins shared that the memorial for Alan D. Junkins was held at the Alexander burial ground at the Junkins Garrison site, 259 Cider Hill Road in York, ME, at 11 AM on May 11, 2024, followed by a luncheon at Norma's Restaurant. Alan, a prominent member of the York community and devoted member of the MMCA, passed on Sept. 13, 2023, at age 93. Our apologies to all that the newsletter did not get out before his service.

### MCINTIRE USA

#### Series 1: McIntire, IA



#### Part 1 "Have Cane, Will Travel!" by David F. McIntire

It was a casual question asked by Jonathan Tucker during a McIntire Genealogy Zoom (ZIG) session early last year, "you all know that there is a town in Iowa named McIntire, right?" That was news to me, and I thought, "I really should visit McIntire."



Since I will be visiting McIntire in the next few issues of this newsletter, I thought you may want to know who you are traveling with. I'm a descendant of Micum McIntire's son John. I was born in Michigan but live in Scottsdale, AZ now. I love to explore new places, particularly small towns and quirky villages. To prove a point, I have traveled to Bliss, Christmas, Climax, Good Hart, Hell, Maybee and Paradise the past few summers.

Not long after that Zoom session I Googled but found no McIntires in McIntire. I called the town's City Hall phone number, and with incredible luck, I was eventually connected with the owner of the old McIntire house. He is not a McIntire but nevertheless he still sounded very likable. He told me if I should ever visit McIntire, I should stop to meet him. That was all I needed to hear! The hook was set and I chose Monday, June 5, 2023 as the date to make my first visit to McIntire. It's just a 2-hour drive from Minneapolis-St. Paul where I would be attending a granddaughter's graduation from law school. As it turned out, that was not the best day to have chosen (I'll explain in our Summer Newsletter). Now it's time to fasten your seat belts, we are about to begin our trip!

## 2024 HIGHLAND GAMES & FESTIVALS IN NEW ENGLAND

1. ME Scottish Festival at Old Orchard Beach - June 1 - Old Orchard Beach, ME
2. Round Hill Highland Games - June 30 - Lakeville, CT – Location tbd.
3. Southeastern CT Highland Games - July 13 - Stonington HS, Pawcatuck, CT
4. \*Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival - July 20 - Look Park, Northampton, MA
5. \*ME Highland Games & Scottish Festival - August 17 - Topsham, ME
6. Quechee Scottish Games and Festival - August 24 - Hartford, VT
7. \*NH Highland Games & Festival - September 16-18 - Loon Mountain Resort, Lincoln, NH
8. Scotland CT Scottish Festival - October 6 - Scotland, CT

\* Games with a known Clan MacIntyre or MMCA tent host.



### FUN FACTS



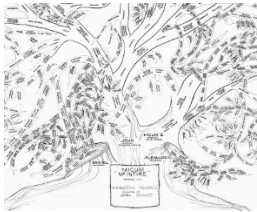
### Beltane – The Spring Fire Festival.

The Celtic year has a cycle of festivals throughout the year, four of which are the important fire festivals—Imbolc (February/the awakening of spring), Beltane (May/the arrival of spring), Lughnasa (August/first harvest), and Samhain (October/end of the Celtic year). Beltane is one of the most prominent and festive. For early Scots, the light, the warmth, and the fertility of the land had

returned, as was promised, and the difficult winter months had ended. Beltane is celebrated with great energy and joy (and a lot of fire). The Beltane Fire Festival in Edinburgh—April 30 this year—is a major international event in which thousands participate.

<https://beltane.org/about-beltane/?fbclid=>

### Genealogy Zoom Interest Group (GenZIG) June 13, 2024



Jonathan Tucker, MMCA Historian, conducts monthly online Zoom sessions addressing the genealogy of Micum McIntire and his descendants. The next session is scheduled for Thursday, June 13 at 7 p.m. EST. Contact Jonathan at [jontuck@comcast.net](mailto:jontuck@comcast.net) if you would like to participate, or if you have questions about how you connect to the McIntire Family Tree.

### Your Council

President – Jan Maier – 2025 – [jemsong7@icloud.com](mailto:jemsong7@icloud.com)

Vice President – Currently Vacant

Secretary – Kelly Scribner – 2024 – [perardua1917@gmail.com](mailto:perardua1917@gmail.com)

Treasurer – Denise Threlkeld – 2024 – [mcintireclan@comcast.net](mailto:mcintireclan@comcast.net)

Historian – Jonathan Tucker – 2024 – [jontuck@comcast.net](mailto:jontuck@comcast.net)

WebMaster – David McIntire – 2024 – [dmlmcintire@comcast.net](mailto:dmlmcintire@comcast.net)

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Explore our website! <https://micummcintireclanassociation.org/> Questions? Contact Jonathan or Denise.