

# An Naidheachd Againne

The Newsletter of An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaganach / The American Gaelic Society

Geamhradh 2011, Leabhar XXVII, Aireamh 1  
Winter 2011, Volume XXVII, No. 1

## Dè do Bheatha Eile?

We're starting a new series of articles in which an ACGA member tells us about some aspect his/her life other than Gaelic. Mike Mackay leads off the series with a piece about his auto-racing hobby.

### A' ruith nan càraichean No: A bheil thu às do rian? *le Micheal MacAoidh*

Cia mheud againn a tha car ciontach a bhith a' dol ro luath 'sa chàr, co-dhiubh tha sinn a' dol a dh'obair, no air turas fad air falbh, no fiù's sios an rathad airson siuga bainne bho'n bhùth? No an robh sibh a-riamh a' draibheadh càr troimh lùib anns a' rathad, agus ag ràdh ruibh fhèin, "Saoil dè cho cunnartach 's a bhiodh e mura cuirinn na breicichean air?"

No, an do gheall sibh gun ionnsaichidh sibh, latha air choireigin, ciamar a dhèiligidh sibh ri sneachd na b'fheàrr (an fheadhainn a tha a' fuireachd anns na h-àiteachan far a bheil a leithid)?

Dè mu dheidhinn seo? An do smaoinich sibh a-riamh gum biodh e math, no spòrsal, no fiù's inntinneach a

### Chasing Cars Or, Are you crazy? *by Michael Mackay*

How many of us are a little guilty of going too fast in the car, whether we are going to work, or on a long trip, or even down to the store to get a jug of



milk? Have you ever driven a car through a turn, and said to yourself, "I wonder how dangerous it would be to try this without braking?" Or have you promised yourself that you would learn, one day, how to drive in the snow (those of us who live where there is snow)?

What about this? Have you ever thought that it would be fun, or interesting to race in a car? Well,

## In This Issue

- Dè do Bheatha Eile?
- Member Survey: Improvements
- Events: ACGA Mòd, Canada Mòd
- Dè do Naidheachd, Pt. 3
- Joy Dunlop: News from the Gaelic World

Go to <http://www.acgamerica.org> for more information on upcoming ACGA events and other Gaelic-related activities.

bhith a' rèiseadh càr? Uill, leis an fhirinn innse, cha robh mi fhìn air dad dhe sin a smaoinichadh fad a' chuid as motha dhe'm bheatha. Ach, seo mi, a' snàgadh a-steach do'n chàr agam, leis a h-uile ball-aodaich a dh'fheumas "race car driver" a chur air no oirre, agus a' ruith càraichean eile feuch an dèan mi an gnothach air fear no dhà dhiubh air an raon rèisidh - agus an tèid mi mu'n cuairt air an raon ann an ùine nas giorra na rinn mi riamh.



Ciamar a chaidh mi dhan stait seo? Chan urrainn dhomh innse dhuibh gu ceart, ach mhol caraid dhomh an spòrs a tha seo, agus 's e a dh'innis e dhomh, gum biodh e math gum feuchainn ri turas a ghabhail ann an càr rèisidh airson rud beag dhe'n ghnòthach ionnsachadh. Uill, bha mi caillte! Aig an toiseach, feumaidh mi ràdh, agus mi a' feuchainn ris a h-uile sian a bu chòir dhomh dèanamh 'sa chàr air an raon, bha mi cianail mar fhear-rèisidh. Tha e fada nas doirbhe na bhiodh sibh an dùil! Ach beag air bheag, dh'ionnsaich mi barrachd agus barrachd, agus an dràsda, tha mi an ìre mhath cho luath ris a h-uile duine eile - ged nach eil an aon eòlas agam 's a th' aig càch. Mar sin, cha nochd mi air bocsa gràin "Cheerios" 'san àm ri teachd!

Ach 's iomadh buaidh a tha tighinn an lùib rèiseadh - rudan nach saoilleadh sibh, tha mi cinnteach, agus nach do shaoil mise 'sa chiad dol a-mach. Nuair a dh'fhàsas duine cleachdte ris na h-astaran a dh'fhairicheas e fhad's a thèid an càr mu'n cuairt, agus cho clis 's a bhios gach gnìomh nuair a bhios e a' rèiseadh, tha a h-uile sian air na rathaidean poblach a' tachairt car mall an coimeas ris. Mar sin, chì mi a h-uile droch rud a tha na draibhear eile a' dèanamh air an rathad chumanta fada ro'n àm a dh'fheumas mi rudeigin a dhèanamh gus mo chàr a chumail sàbhailte. Chanainn gun do sheachnaich mi trì no ceithir tubaistean bhon a thòisich mi rèiseadh leis cho furachail 's a tha mi a-nist. Agus tha mi fada na comhfhurtaile air an rathad, fiù's ged a bhiodh tòrr chàraichean agus làraidhean mòra mu'n cuairt orm. Chan ionnan sin agus a' chiad lùb ann an rèis idir, leis na càraichean-rèisidh eile mu'n cuairt!

to tell the truth, I never thought of any of that for most of my life. But, here I am, climbing into my race-car, with all of the clothing race-car drivers have to have on, and chasing cars to try to beat one or two of them on the track, and trying to get the best lap time I can.

How did I get to this state? I can't really tell you exactly, but a friend of mine recommended this sport, and he said it would at least be good to try it out and see what I can learn. Well, I was hooked! At first, I must say, I was pretty abysmal, trying to do everything a race driver was supposed to do. It's a lot harder than you'd think! But little by little, I kept learning, and I'm now about as fast as anyone else on the track - although I don't have nearly as much experience as the others. So, you won't expect to see me on a box of Cheerios any time soon!



However, there is a lot of good that comes out of racing - things that you wouldn't expect, I think - things I never thought of at first. When you become used to the speed at which things happen when you are in the car, racing, everything on the public roads seems slow by comparison. I can see every bad thing that the other drivers do far before I need to do anything about it to keep my car safe. I'd say that I avoided three or four accidents since I started racing, just because of how much more aware I am. Plus, I'm much more comfortable on the road, even when there are lots of cars and big trucks all around me. It's nothing as bad as being in the first turn of a race with the other race cars!

Ach a bharrachd air sin, tha tòrr spòrs ann, agus tha coimhearsnachd luchd rèisidh uamhasach math, cuideachail, agus coibhneil. Ma tha rud sam bith a dhith ort, fiù's uidheaman no piosan airson do chàr, bheir iad dhut e, agus fios aca gun dèan thu an aon rud dhaibh-san uair no uaireigin. Chan e cur-seachad saor idir a th'ann an rèiseadh, ach ma gheibh sibh an cothrom leum a-steach do chàr rèisidh 'san àm ri teachd, mholainn gun gabh sibh brath air. Ach bithibh faiceallach! Chan eil fhios càit' an "stiùir" sin sibh! ❖

But more than that, it's a lot of fun, and the racing community is really supportive and helpful. If you need anything, even racing gear or car parts, they'll give it to you, knowing that you'll do the same some-time or another. It's not a cheap hobby at all, but if you get a chance to jump into a race car in the future, I'd recommend you take it. But be careful! Who knows where that will "steer" you! ❖

## Cùm Gàidhlig Beò!

*by Randaigh Waugh*

Last spring I became aware of a little jewel offered by ACGA called Member Scholarships. I happily entered the Beginner competition, enjoying the mental exercise and didn't think about it much more. That is, until I heard back that I had won a scholarship to my choice of ACGA events. What a great incentive to help further expand my Gaelic skills. To make it even sweeter, I found out shortly after in an email from Cam MacRae that winning included a Skype correction session with Dr. Jamie MacDonald. "Could this really be a free competition open to all members?" I remember thinking. "Amazing!"

As President of Comunn Gàidhlig Ottawa and host of Mòd Canada, I had already been looking for ways of diminishing the gap between CGO and ACGA and had been curious for some time about what experiencing the US National Mòd might be like. In fact, at Ar n-Òran rehearsals (the Gàidhlig choir I direct) we had started conversations about the group's interest in attending and competing at the ACGA Mòd - so for me the choice of events was easy.

This official welcome into ACGA made an indelible impression. I might have gathered that this sort of competition was reflective of the dedicated generous spirits involved in this great organization after Michael and Cathleen MacKay and William Cassidy showed their support in a demonstrable way by making the trip to Ottawa for our inaugural Mòd Canada event in November 2009. It became apparent that ACGA, like CGO, is home in many ways. It is a truly remarkable organization where like-minded folks focus on improving Gàidhlig-centered skills and promote the cause by sharing it with others. They are able to share their passion for all things Gàidhlig.

When our family came to Canada, Gaelic was passed along for two generations, then fell by the wayside and stopped with my grandfather as English became the language of favour. Although we were always taught that we were Scottish and should be proud of that, our native language, (except for poems or the occasional song) became unsustainable for some sad reason. I wonder if we had lived in Cape Breton whether it would've been different, but I'm not convinced of that either. In fact, except peripherally, I too ignored our language, music and culture until I had children of my own. Then something ignited within and I realized that a very precious gift was slipping away from me, from



us, from all of us, and I knew that it was very important for my children (and myself) to know as much as possible about who we were and where we came from. Globalization, predominating language, whatever the reason, it is at that point that I committed to becoming a lifelong learner of Gaelic. And like many of you, I have become passionate about learning our language, culture and heritage to the best of my ability so that I may understand and enjoy the rich legacy that our forefathers etched out for us. This allows us to both marvel in and continue to add to the common body of knowledge that we work so hard to achieve and maintain.

Language, song, poetry and many other things aren't derived through osmosis, but through learning, repetition and practice. Isn't this the essence of our Member Scholarships? By providing a platform for our members to practice written skills, like the oral skills honed at Mòd and Immersion events, we show our commitment to the continuing improvement that would make our forefathers proud. And our tradition, like many others, is founded on this respect.

I am now proud to be a director at ACGA and was saddened to hear that the Member Scholarships are in peril due to lack of enrollment and participation.

As in President Obama's inaugural speech, I repeat "Yes we can!" We can show other communities that we are engaged in promoting our language and culture. We can show each other that no matter our skill level, we can and will continue to promote our language and culture. Why? Because it does matter. Because in this shrinking world, it is relevant. And with a little effort, all of us can help to make a difference.

As humans, we tend to gravitate toward complacency. We all lead busy lives, busier than ever with demands on our time. I challenge all who read this to think about what matters, about the meaningless noise that fills our lives, and ask you to all pick up your pens, accept the challenge, and challenge everyone you know who shares our heritage to become engaged in the process. We must answer the call and respond or run the risk of something very precious slipping into the annals of time. Cùm Gàidhlig Beò! ❖

## AN NAIDHEACHD AGAINNE

*An Naidheachd Againne* is the quarterly newsletter of *An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaganach*. The newsletter is published in the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. It is produced by the Publications Committee of ACGA.

**Editor Pro Tem: Rudy Ramsey, [rudy@ramsisle.com](mailto:rudy@ramsisle.com)**

**Contributing Editors:**

**Cam MacRae, [cam\\_macrae70@gmail.com](mailto:cam_macrae70@gmail.com)**

**Heather Sparling, [heather\\_sparling@cbu.ca](mailto:heather_sparling@cbu.ca)**

**Janice Chan, [ruadh@idirect.com](mailto:ruadh@idirect.com)**

*An Naidheachd Againne* welcomes submissions. Contact the editor for more information.

## We've lost our editor!

Rudy Ramsey is acting as Editor Pro Tem for this newsletter, but we really need a permanent editor.

We're looking for a long-term editor and hope you will consider taking on this task if your background and interests happen to fit. ACGA will provide appropriate software if you don't have it, and a reasonable amount of tutorial assistance, if you need that. The job consists of working (in an online forum) with our very well organized Publications Committee in planning issue content and converting that content into newsletter format. The editor doesn't need to write content, be fluent in Gaelic, or distribute the newsletter. If you're interested in this

## Naidheachd Saoghal na Gàidhlig *le Joy Dunlop*

### Duaisean Ceòl Traidiseanta Alba MG Alba 2010

A dh'aindeòin an fhìor dhroch thìde a dh'fhàg muinntir na h-Alba fo chòmhdach sneachda nach fhacar riamh, chaidh "Duaisean Ceòl Traidiseanta Alba MG Alba" a chumail ann am Peairt aig a' cheann thall. 'S ann airson an ceòl traidiseanta as fheàrr ann an Alba a chomharrachadh a tha na duaisean seo 's mar as àbhaist, b' e oidhche air leth a bh' ann làn ciùil, spòirs 's dreasaichean spaideil!

Air a libhrigeadh gu dà-chànanach le Màiri Anna NicUalraig 's Tònaidh Kearney, chualas a thuilleadh air na duaisean cliùiteach fhèin ceòl eireachdail, na mheas còmhlan beòthail à Archaibh The Chair agus òrain Ghàidhlig bhrèagha on t-seinneadair Sgitheanach Darren Mac 'Illeathain. Chrìochnaich an oidhche le cèilidh iongantach a thug air a h-uile duine dannsadh gu crìonadh na maidne!

Am measg na ghlèidh duaisean na bliadhna seo bha an còmhlan ciùil Albannach Malinky, 'Uam' an clàr ùr aig Julie Fowlis agus chaidh Matheu Watson ainmeachadh mar cheòladair òg na bliadhna. B' e The Red Hot Chilli Pipers a choisinn an duais son a bhith a' cluiche beò agus rinn Eilidh NicCoinnich a' chùis san roinn airson seinneadair Gàidhlig 2010.

Bha a h-uile neach a chaidh ainmeachadh airidh air duais ach airson na feadhainne a shoirbhich aig a' cheann thall fhaicinn, chithear liosta slàn aig

<http://www.handsupfortrad.co.uk/tradmusicawards/stma2010-thewinners.html>

### BBC ALBA air Freeview

Chaidh fàilte a chur air an naidheachd gun nochd sianal na Gàidhlig, BBC ALBA air Freeview a dh'aithghearr. Bhon a chaidh a stèidheachadh o chionn dà bhliadhna, cha deach na prògraman a chraoladh ach tro shaiteil, a' ciallachadh gun robh nas lugha na 50 dachaigh às a' cheud ann an Alba a' faighinn cothrom air an t-sianal fhaicinn (an tè agam nam measg).

A' bruidhinn às leth MG ALBA, thuirt an cathraiche, Alasdair Moireasdan: "San dà bhliadhna a dh'fhalbh, tha BBC ALBA air a h-uile rud a dhèanamh a chaidh iarraidh

## News from the Gaelic World *by Joy Dunlop*

### MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards

Despite huge uncertainty whether it would even happen due to this year's unbelievable Scottish snowfall, the 2010 MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards took place without a glitch and celebrated the finest folk in Scottish traditional music.

Bilingually hosted by Mary Anne Kennedy and Tony Kearney the night featured, in addition to the all important prizes, a fantastic slice of Scottish entertainment that included a foot stompin' performance from Orcadian band

The Chair, gorgeous Gaelic songs from Darren Maclean and a rip roaring all star cèilidh finale.

This year's winners included Malinky in the Folk Band of the Year category with Matheu Watson being tipped as the one to watch as Up & Coming Artist of the Year. "Uam" by Julie Fowlis was awarded Album of the Year, whilst The Red Hot Chilli Pipers scooped this year's Live Act of the Year accolade.

A fantastic night was had by all and the full list of all the worthy winners can be seen at



### BBC ALBA to be established on Freeview

Gaels from John O Groats to Gretna Green welcomed the recent news that the Gaelic language channel, BBC ALBA will soon be available throughout Scotland on Freeview. Since its official launch two years ago, the channel has only been broadcasted through satellite channels or at selected times on BBC iplayer, rendering it unavailable to over 50% of all Scottish households.

air, agus tha sinn air roghainn math de phrògraman a chruthachadh dèante ann an Alba agus tarraingeach do dhaoine le Gàidhlig agus às a h-aonais, a' cur gu mòr ri craoladh Albannach agus ris na gnìomhachasan cruthachail san dùthaich seo."

A dh'aindeoin 's gum feumar trì stèiseanan rèidio didseatach deug a chall sa ghluasad seo, 's cinnteach nach urrainn seo ach cur ri suidheachadh BBC ALBA san lath' an-diugh. Gu ruige seo, tha àireamhan an luchd-amhairc air a bhith seasmhach aig mu 220,000 gach seachdain, a tha math dha-rìribh ann an coimeas le seanailean didseatach eile ann an Alba. Agus ma dh'fhàsas sin nas motha buileach, tha mi beò an dòchas gum bi cothrom agaibh thall-thairis fhaicinn cuideachd ann an ùine nach bi ro fhada.

## **Athchuinge air-loidhne gus Sgoil Chiùil na Gàidhealtachd a shàbhaladh**

Tha an naidheachd gu bheil Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd a' beachdachadh air Sgoil Chiùil na Gàidhealtachd a dhùnadh, mar oidhirp gus airgead a shàbhaladh, air athchuinge air-loidhne adhbharachadh.

Mura h-eilear eòlach air an sgoil seo, 's i ionad ciùil ainmichte airson oileanaich bho aois 12-18 aig a bheil sàr chomas ciùil. San deich bliadhna a dh'fhalbh, tha iomadh neach air tighinn troimhe a tha a-nis nan ceòladairean proifeiseanta, leithid a' chòmhlain Bodega a bhuannaich an duais "Radio 2 Young Folk Award" agus Daniel Thorpe, neach-ciùil traidiseanta na bliadhna ann an 2010. Tha an sgoil a' tabhainn chothroman air leth dha oileanaich ionnsachadh 's brosnachadh fhaighinn bho luchd-ciùil proifeiseanta na h-Alba, rudeigin a tha deatamach airson ar ceòl a neartachadh san àm ri teachd nam bheachd-sa.

Ach ma dh'aontaicheas a' chomhairle gun tèid an dùnadh seo air adhart, tha a h-uile coltas ann gum faod e tachairt ron Iuchar an ath bhliadhna, call dha-rìribh son a h-uile duine a tha an sàs ann. Thuirt ceannard na sgoile Dougie Pincock gun robh e an dùil ri gearradh airgid mar a th' aig gach buidheann an-dràsta ach nach robh gearradh na sgoile fhèin riamh na amharc.

Ma thathas airson taic a chur dhan iomairt shàbhalaidh seo, faodar ur n-ainm a chur ris an athchuinge aig:

<http://www.gopetition.com/petition/42495.html> ❖

Speaking on its behalf Alasdair Morrison, chairman of MG ALBA, said: "Over the last two years BBC ALBA has created a raft of home-grown programmes appealing to both Gaelic and non-Gaelic speakers which has made a very positive contribution to Scottish broadcasting and the country's creative industries."

Despite having to lose 13 digital radio channels in the changeover, it looks certain that this move can only strengthen BBC ALBA's current standing. So far, viewing figures have remained steady at around 220,000 per week, comparing very favourably with other digital channels in Scotland but this move will enable all Scottish households (and perhaps some further afield in the future) to see for themselves what's on offer.

## **Save the National Centre for Excellence in Traditional Music**

News that The Highland Council has targeted the National Centre for Excellence in Traditional Music, based at Plockton High School, in its proposed cuts package has sparked an online "Save Plockton" e-petition.

If this motion is voted through at their next meeting it looks likely that the Centre could close as soon as July 2012. In an interview for the BBC, director Dougie Pincock was quoted as saying that while he expected the Centre to take its share of any cuts he 'hadn't anticipated it would be all of it.'

An integral part of Scottish traditional music for the past 10 years, Plockton has been a starting block for many of our current traditional music stars. Recent graduates include Radio 2 Young Folk Award winners Bodega who met and formed at the school and Daniel Thorpe, Traditional Musician of the Year 2010. The centre creates a unique learning experience for students from across the country and provides training in traditional music and group work from some of Scotland's finest musicians.

Those interested in supporting this cause can sign the e-petition at:

<http://www.gopetition.com/petition/42495.html> ❖

# ACGA National Mòd

Cool September breezes and a warm Gaelic welcome greeted competitors and special guests at the 23rd annual U.S. National Mòd sponsored by An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaganach, held in Ligonier, Pa., Sept. 10-12.

The Mòd took place over three days, starting with poetry and storytelling competitions on Friday, followed by song competitions on Saturday and a song workshop on Sunday.

For the first time, a large contingent from Canada came to Pennsylvania to support our Mòd — the **Ar n-Òran** Gaelic choir of Ottawa. We also welcomed newcomers from Ohio and Virginia as well as special guests from Scotland and adjudicator **Paul McCallum**.



Also for the first time this year, the U.S. National Mòd featured a prescribed song competition, in which a song was assigned by the adjudicator. Competitors had to sing the prescribed song to qualify for the song finals.

For the men, McCallum chose “Sine Chalum Bhàin,” a 19th Century love song by Niall Mac Leòid of Skye. For the women, the prescribed song was “A’ Chuthag” by Dr. MacLachlan of Rahoy.

Our gold medalists this year were **Fiona MacDonald** of Ottawa and **Micheal Mac Aoidh** (Mackay) of Catlett, Va. *Meal an naidheachd!*

McCallum and Scotland’s Mòd Gold Medalists, **Sineag Macintyre** and **Steven MacIver**, performed at a special concert at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., Monday. Macintyre and MacIver also performed at the **Ligonier Highland Games**.

You can see more information and photos on the ACGA Mòd Facebook page (U.S. National Mòd: Mòd Nàise-anta Aimeireagaidh) and on the Mòd’s web page (<http://usmod.wordpress.com>). ❖



## Ar teaghlaichean—The ACGA US National Mòd and CGO Mòd Canada by *Randaidh Waugh*

I was thrilled when I found out that Ar n-Òran, the Gaelic choir I direct in Ottawa shared my enthusiasm for participation at the US National Mòd event in Ligonier in September 2010. Most encouraging was that although only about half our members were able to make the trip, the entire group was supportive in learning and preparation activities. Also of note was that about half those who were able to participate also entered individual competitions and adopted a true spirit of dedication to delivering their best efforts.

It was a lovely fall weekend that we rolled into the Antiochian Village Conference Center in Pennsylvania. Apart from our inaugural Mòd Canada event in 2009, we had little idea of what to expect, but were pleasantly surprised. After a short break and a meal, we kicked into gear and the Mòd began. Our first observation was that ACGA members as a whole were generally more advanced in the Gaelic learning/speaking process, and provided a warm and supportive platform for competition more like a ceilidh than a competition. After the poetry and storytelling competition, the group continued on with a ceilidh.



We rose early on Saturday morning, had a lovely breakfast together, then headed off to Idlewild Park, the home of the Ligonier Highland Games and the National Mòd. What a great venue. The day had a somewhat more “official” feel to it, yet continued to be relaxed and enjoyable. It was easy to see that this small mature group had an established rhythm that was accommodating, welcoming and inclusive. And what talented folks. After a full day of competition, we headed to the Historic Ligonier Tavern for a meal and ceilidh led by several of the senior ACGA members in attendance. With our wee 5 year old Cairistiona in tow, we had to leave earlier than I would’ve liked, but once she was in bed, the group continued back to the Antiochian Village for an after-ceilidh ceilidh. Most enjoyable indeed. Our culture was alive and well. I fell asleep Saturday night and dreamed in Gaelic.

Sunday again brought an enjoyable time of fellowship over breakfast, then an enjoyable workshop with Paul McCallum where we learned several new tunes that inspired Ar n-Òran to learn *Mi Le M' Uilinn*, and had us singing for most of the 9 ½ hour drive home.

Talk during the trip home and since has echoed that we had indeed felt more like family visiting with ACGA members than competing at an event, that we were indeed cousins with a common goal and that the two organizations could definitely collaborate to form a supportive symbiosis. And something else has happened, something beyond my wildest dreams and expectations. There is a heightened level of commitment within our membership to engage more completely in the learning process, not languishing in the nostalgia of what had occurred, but looking forward to what will be.

Our mission at Comunn Gàidhlig Ottawa, is to promote Gaelic language, music and culture by honouring our ancestors and by helping to make Gaelic relevant in the world today. Mòd Canada is our primary annual event dedicated to bringing our activities into the greater community.

Mòd Canada 2010 was by all accounts, a resounding success. We had quality competitors, adjudicators and prizes, and, as hoped, was bigger and better than our inaugural 2009 Mòd Canada. ACGA’s Gàidhealtachd



Support Grant was key in helping us to deliver a superior Gaelic event by providing funds that helped us to bring Joy and Andrew Dunlop to Ottawa as adjudicators for Mòd Canada 2010.

We found a great venue for Mòd Canada 2010 that we will use again next year. It is a recently renovated church with a stage, ample seating, a kitchen, and many other rooms that lend themselves well to this type of event and to future growth of the Mòd. Plug a dynamic duo like Joy and Andrew Dunlop into this type of event, and it was exactly the right ingredient. They were knowledgeable, fun and very supportive of our Mòd, saying it “had the feel of a regional Mòd in Scotland.” Also of note was great vendor and community support this year—collectively from Scotland, to Nova Scotia, to the USA and Canada we realized in-kind donations of close to \$5000. Wow! From inception, we have always held the Field of Dreams philosophy of “build it and they will come,” and come they did. We saw an almost 50% increase in the competitors over Mòd Canada 2009. How is that relevant to ACGA you may wonder? Well, it is relevant if we rewind to 2009 in the support shown by Michael and Cathleen MacKay and William Cassidy in our inaugural event. It is relevant if we rewind to the US National Mòd



2010, in the great American warmth, hospitality, support and encouragement shown to Ar n-Òran in our first US Mòd experience. Words fall short of underscoring the profound effect this has had in motivating our

group toward participation, competition, improvement and in fighting for our collective cause. And if we rewind to Mòd Canada 2010, Michael and Cathleen MacKay and William Cassidy were there again, enriching the Mòd with their participation and support. And it doesn't stop there—we had many comments of support and encouragement from your members about the event, about plans to attend next year. We invite everyone to come to beautiful Ottawa, our city of festivals, to experience the growing Gaelic buzz for Mòd Canada 2011. Joy and Andrew Dunlop will be back, as will most of the core regulars. We look forward to welcoming any and all of you to our city and to our Mòd.



Aren't we are lucky to have so many wonderful Gaelic focussed events, so many dedicated folks who ensure successful delivery of these events, and the freedom to express ourselves with our extended Gaelic family in the language of our ancestors and relatives. ❖

# Dè Do Naidheachd?

by Cam MacRae and Jeanne Pendergast

Here are two more of the stories Jeanne and I wrote as grammar and pronunciation exercises. In these, we were working on several consonant sounds: both broad and slender L's, the broad CH sound, and also the hard C sound that D makes in the CHD combination. The eight required words are shown in bold.

## Jeanne:

Chuala mi an sgeul seo bho sheann duine às An Dail **Riabhach** ann an Cataibh:

Tràth sa mhadainn air latha ciùin ceòthach chaidh athair gaolach dhan **choille**. Bha e a' sireadh fiodh sònraichte airson each-**tulgaidh** a dhèanadh e dha mhac. Bha miann aige rudeigin a thogail nach biodh **lochdach** no cunnartach do bhalach beag.

Air an t-slighe, thachair coigreach ris, duine caran **salach** fliuch ach a bha **coltach** ri feadhainn eile a bhiodh ag obair sa choille. Dh'innis an t-athair dha ceann a sheud no shiubhal agus thuir am fear eile **gu dian** gun robh fios aige càit' an robh a' chraobh as fheàrr airson na h-obrach sin.

Ghabh an t-athair ris agus thug e dhachaigh am pios de dh'fiodh a fhuair iad. Rinn e an dèideag gu cùramach—each fiodh brèagha le muing fhada. Bha an gille air a dhòigh agus dhirich e suas. Gu h-obann, chaidh an dèideag na h-each-uisge beò agus dh'fhalbh esan à fianais. Lean an t-athair àmhgharach lorgan **nochdte** anns an talamh suas gu bruaich na h-Aibhne Brora faisg air làimh, far an deach iad a-steach dhan uisge.



## Glossary:

a dhèanadh e dha mhac (conditional: that he would make for his son)

**lochdach** (harmful)

thachair coigreach ris (using the older word order; now might be "thachair e ri coigreach")

ceann a sheud no shiubhal (the purpose of his errand—an old expression so the story sounds more traditional)

**gu dian** (earnestly, vehemently)

Ghabh an t-athair ris (the father agreed, adopted the proposal: gabh + ri)

muing fhada (long mane)

chaidh an dèideag na h-each-uisge beò (became, turned into: rach + ann)

dh'fhalbh esan à fianais (went out of sight)

àmhgharach (distressed)

lorgan **nochdte** anns an talamh (prints showing or noticeable on the ground)

## Cam:

Seall, a Mhamaidh, nach eil an speur **coltach ri** bobhla mòr gorm?

Rinn mi gàire, oir bha i ceart. 'S e latha air leth brèagha a bh' ann, agus mi-fhin 's mo nighean bheag toilichte a bhith a' streap suas an gleann, **dian** a bhith air chèilidh air m' antaidh.

Chan eil fhios 'am carson, ach nuair a chaidh sinn a-steach dhan **choille** thionndaidh mi. Bha am bobhla air atharrachadh bho ghorm gu glas, bho shoilleir gu **riabhach**, agus sgòthan **salach** a' ròiligidh a-steach on iar.

Anns **a' choille**, cha robh e cho **nochdte** gun robh stoirm, comasach a bhith **lochdach**, a' teannadh. An toiseach bha a h-uile rud ciùin sàmhach. Cha robh e fada co-dhiù mus faca is cuala sinn geugan **a' tulgadh** os ar cionn. Thòisich sinn air ruith agus an ceann cairteal na h-uarach chuir m' antaidh fàilte oirnn le eanraich bhlasda theth ann am bobhlaichean mòra gorma.



## Glossary:

**bi coltach ri** (resemble)

air leth (exceptionally)

**dian** (eager, keen)

**riabhach** (streaked, grizzled, brindle)

on iar (from the west - alternate form of bhon iar)

**nochdte** (noticeable, evident)

mus faca is cuala sinn (before we saw and heard - mus is a conjunction which takes the dependent form of the verb)

geugan **a' tulgadh** (branches rocking/swinging)

an ceann + genitive (at the end of)

cairteal na h-uarach (a quarter of the [an] hour)

an ceann cairteal na h-uarach (Did you notice that "cairteal" isn't in the genitive (cairteil despite its following "an ceann?") That is because when you have a string of nouns in the genitive, only the final one takes the genitive form.)

cuir fàilte air (welcome) ❖

# Survey Says! Member Suggestions for Improvement

by Heather Sparling

This is the fifth article in a series summarizing the results of our member survey conducted in 2009. One of the survey questions asked “How could ACGA improve its existing services and/or events?” Although I have mentioned in earlier articles some suggestions related to particular services and events, there are still a number that deserve to be mentioned. In this article, I want to share some of these in part to ensure that they are documented but also in part to hopefully inspire members to spearhead new initiatives.

## ***Promotion, Outreach, and Communications***

A number of people suggested that we need to do a better job promoting the ACGA. In the past, we have posted ads in Celtic, Gaelic, and Scottish magazines in both Scotland and North America. However, we find ourselves receiving declining returns for these investments. Perhaps we are not advertising in the right publications. Or perhaps we need to reconsider our strategy completely and contemplate advertising in new places: Google ads? radio? the side of a NASA spaceship? Your (additional) suggestions would be most welcome!

One way that we have tried to promote ACGA is through our regional representatives. Regional reps are asked to promote ACGA at appropriate events, such as Highland Games or other Celtic-flavoured events. Some regional reps run booths where information about ACGA is available and others run introductory language and culture workshops. Regional reps also provide a local point of contact for members and non-members who may not know the executive officers or who want to speak to someone personally.

Unfortunately, the regional rep program has historically been somewhat hit-or-miss. Some regions lack a regional rep. Other regions are too large to be adequately represented by a single person. And some regional reps are more active than others. It is therefore perhaps not a surprise that the third most common response to the question, “Which of the ACGA services or events listed above do you feel is *least important* to you as a member and why?” was ACGA’s regional representatives. For some respondents, the problem was that they didn’t know who their regional rep was. For others, they were unsure what role the regional reps play. And for still others, they were completely unaware that regional reps existed at all! So, wise and worldly members, do we disband the regional representative program? Is there a better way to promote the ACGA? Or could it be salvaged with a few well-considered tweaks? Should we, for example, be thinking more digital than physical: social media? Skype? Or perhaps the program simply needs more members willing to be active regional reps (hint, hint!).

What other ways are there to promote ACGA? Should we advertise on Gaelic-related listservs? Should we partner with other Gaelic organizations in Scotland and/or Nova Scotia both to promote Gaelic more effectively and raise our visibility? Should all members be required to get an ACGA tattoo etched on their upper left arms? Post your suggestions to the ACGA forum ([forum.acgamerica.org](http://forum.acgamerica.org))!

## ***Teaching & Learning Gaelic***

A few respondents suggested that ACGA could improve the support it offers Gaelic language instructors. One suggestion was that we should provide opportunities for the exchange of teaching materials. We have initiated a forum for that purpose but are there other ways to support teachers? Perhaps we need to review textbooks so that we have a better sense of which textbooks work and why. Perhaps we need to create relevant teaching materials. One person suggested that we provide Gaelic articles with accurate English translations and designed specifically for teaching (illustrating, for example, a particular grammatical rule). Do we need to help

*(Continued on page 13)*

train learners to become teachers? So many of us who are teachers became teachers largely because there was no one else available – and we learned on the fly! One person suggested that we arrange to have advanced members act as “teaching assistants” for distance courses, providing, for example, interaction between students.

Since the majority of our members are Gaelic language learners, the survey generated quite a list of suggestions for improving ACGA’s role in learning Gaelic. A couple of respondents suggested that ACGA should provide more opportunities to practice or learn Gaelic. We currently offer several Gaelic language events (involving both face-to-face and mail-in activities), the member scholarship program, Gaelic content in the newsletter, and areas for practising Gaelic in the ACGA forum. We’re keen to provide more and better opportunities to learn Gaelic: what would work for *you*? What do you need?

Various respondents made the following suggestions: offer an online language course, offer more Skype sessions, provide assistance in selecting Gaelic materials (such as dictionaries, textbooks, etc.), make suggestions for sourcing resources, create an ongoing support network for new learners, negotiate group rates for ACGA members taking distance courses via Gaelic colleges (presumably Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Cape Breton Gaelic College, and/or the Atlantic Gaelic Academy), provide new members with a DVD that facilitates Gaelic practice, offer more help for isolated learners, and create more services useable by people regardless of location. If you’re inspired by any of these ideas, we welcome your help!

This brings me to the end of the survey and the end of these survey reports. Thank you to all who participated in the member survey. Your feedback has really helped those of us on the executive to focus our attentions and imagine a future that will respond to your concerns and needs. And while the survey may have been circulated over a year ago, please don’t let that stop you from letting us know anything you want us to know. We always welcome your input!

## Special offer on new Dileab Phriseil CD benefits ACGA

Dileab Phriseil has just released their inaugural CD, chock-full of traditional tunes from Scotland and Ireland!

Scott Morrison, ACGA member, and Dileab Phriseil band members deliver 16 tunes, including four in Scottish Gaelic and one in Irish Gaelic, that are sure to get your toes tapping! Jig, reels, pub tunes and pipes!

Price: \$12 + \$5-US (or \$6-Canada) for S&H. Note: **\$6 for each sale goes to ACGA!**

To order your copy:

If paying by PayPal, please e-mail the name and address to which you want the CD sent to [rudy@ramsisle.com](mailto:rudy@ramsisle.com), and make the payment in U.S. dollars to

[payments@acgamerica.org](mailto:payments@acgamerica.org) .

If paying by mail in U.S. dollars, make check payable to "ACGA, and mail with the desired name and address to:

ACGA  
PO Box 103069  
Denver CO 80250



If paying by mail in Canadian dollars, make check to "Toronto Gaelic Learners Association", and mail with the desired name and address to:

ACGA c/o Janice Chan  
43 Norbrook Cresc.  
Toronto, ON M9V 4P7  
Canada

## Oisean Scott

*le Scott MacIlleMhoire*

Fàilte gu Oisean Scott! Is mise Scott MacIlleMhoire agus an turas seo, tha mi a' dol a bhruidhinn air an sgian dhuibh. 'S e seo an t-ainm a th' air pairt dhen aodach-sgeadaichte a th' aig muinntir na Gàidhealtachd. Airson na feadhna nach eil eòlach air aodach nan Gàidheal, 's i an sgian dubh an sgian bheag a bhios ga cumail anns na stocainnean-fada, dìreach fon a' ghlùn. Cha ghabh a faicinn idir, ach an làmh a tha nochdadh os cionn ceann na stocainn. Bidh am pairt seo gu tric sgeadaichte le dealbh no suaicheantas-cloinne no rudeigin mar sin. Agus, ach am fèileadh 's an suaicheantas-cloinne fhèin, tha eachdraidh na sgèine duibha nas inntinniche na gach pairt eile de dh'aodach nan Gàidheal.

An toiseach, coimheadamaid air an ainm 'sgian dubh'. Tha am facal 'dubh' a' ciallachadh tuilleadh na dìreach an dath dubh. Tha e cuideachd a' ciallachadh 'falach' no 'às an t-sealladh' no eadhon 'sgathach'. Bho thùs, b' àbhaist don t-seann Ghàidheal biodag a chumail na falach sna crochta fo achlais anns a' bhreacan aige (no fèileadh-mòr mar a chanadh iad ris aig an àm ud...gheibh sinn fios air a' chuspair seo anns an ath-litir). Chanainn gun robh seo caran mi-chofhurtail air sgàth 's gum biodh na biodagan corr is troigh a dh'fhaid! Chan i sgian chidsin a bh' innte idir, ach ball-airm a bha gu math cunnartach agus bàsmhorach. Agus ged a bha e mi-chofhurtail ri taobh nan corp aca, bha feum aca air seo a dhèanamh mar a chithear.

Bha seo anns an linn dhen fhàth-sgrìobhach as dèidh blàr Chùil-Lodair nuair a bha e an aghaidh an lagha do dhuine sam bith claidheamh no sgian air choireigin a chumail orra. Leis a' bhiodag na falach fon bhreacan, dh'fhoadadh iad fhèin a dhion gun fhios a leigeil air duine eile gun robh ball-airm air am pearsa. B' e seo an suidheachadh a bh' ann anns a' Ghàidhealtachd thar bliadhnaichean. Nuair a chaidh na laghan seo à bith, ghluais iad a' bhiodag do na stocainnean aca, neo air crios an fhèilidh, far an robh e nas cofhurtail a cumail. As dèidh uine, dh'atharraich an sgian bho bhith na ball-airm gu bhith na pìos beag de na sgeadaichean a th' air aodach nan Gàidheal. Agus chaidh an sgian a ghearradh seach nach robh na h-uiread de rùm ann dhi anns na stocainnean mar a bha fon a' bhreacan. Ach, bha i fhathast (agus bidh i fhathast) uamhasach feumail airson ithe is cogaidh, nam biodh feum air an leithid.

## **Scott's Corner**

*by Scott Morrison*

Welcome to Scott's Corner! I am Scott Morrison and this time I am going to talk a little about the skean du. This is the name of part of the dress-clothes worn by the Gaels. For those not familiar with Gaelic dress, the skean du is the little knife kept in the stockings just under the knee. It is not seen at all except for the handle that appears above the top of the stocking. This part is often decorated with a picture, a clan badge, or something of that sort. And except for the kilt and the clan badge itself, the history of the skean du is more interesting than every other part of the Gaelic dress.

First, let's look at the name, skean du. The word "dubh" means more than just the color black. It also means "hidden" or "out of sight" or even "obscured". Originally, it was customary for an old-time Gael to carry a dirk hidden and hung under an armpit inside his tartan, or great kilt, as it was called at that time (we will take a look at the great kilt in the next letter). I would say that this was a little uncomfortable because the dirk could be more than a foot long! It was not a kitchen knife at all, but a weapon that was very dangerous and deadly. And although it was uncomfortable for them to carry it this way, it was necessary, as will be seen.

This was in the time of the proscriptions after the battle of Culloden when it was against the law to carry a sword or knife of any kind. Since the dirk was hidden under the tartan, they could defend themselves without letting anyone else know that they had a weapon on their person. This was the situation in the Highlands for years. When these laws were removed, they moved the dirk to their socks or onto the tartan belt where it was more comfortable to keep. After a time, the knife was changed from a weapon to a little piece of the decorations which were on the Gael's clothing. And the knife was shortened since there was not as much room for it in the stocking as there was under the tartan. However, it was (and still is) awfully useful for eating and fighting, should there be a need.

Uill, nach eil e inntinneach mar a thèid acfhuinnean à cleachdadh a rèir na thachras anns an t-saoghal againne? 'S e sin agaibh eachdraidh na sgèine duibha (air a ghear-radh) agus tha mi an dòchas gun do chòrd e ruibh uile.

Beannachdan Leibh! ❖

Well, isn't it interesting how implements change according to what happens in our world? There is the history of the skean du (abbreviated) and I hope that you all enjoyed it.

Blessings! ❖

## Miosachan 2011 Now Available at Discount

We have a few of our 2011 Gaelic photo calendars still available, and they're now \$10 off. These 8 1/2 x 11 inch 12 month calendars are coil-bound on heavy card stock. Each month has a full colour photo submitted by an ACGA member on a Gaelic or Celtic theme. This year's calendar also has a photo in black and white on the cover.

The calendar notes major North American holidays, as well as a few other dates important to Gaels, with enough space to write memos or appointments. As far as we are aware, this is the only printed calendar that is entirely in Scottish Gaelic.

The price is now \$12 in American or Canadian funds, plus \$3 for postage. To pay by PayPal, simply go to [http://www.ramsisle.com/acga/acga\\_paypal.html](http://www.ramsisle.com/acga/acga_paypal.html) and click the appropriate button.

Otherwise, if you are mailing to a US address, please make your check in American funds payable to "ACGA" (\$12 + \$3.00 postage) and mail to:

ACGA  
PO Box 103069  
Denver, CO 80250  
USA

If you are mailing to a Canadian address, please make your cheque in Canadian funds payable to "Toronto Gaelic Learner's Association" (\$12 + \$3.00 postage) and mail to:

ACGA Calendar  
c/o Janice Chan  
43 Norbrook Crescent  
Toronto ON M9V 4P7  
Canada ❖



**Dè tha Dol?**  
*Gaelic Events*

**April 1 - 3, 2011 - Adult Gaelic Weekend, Gaelic College, St. Ann's, NS Canada**

Please see <http://www.gaeliccollege.edu/school/gaelic-weekends/general-information.html>

Note: A minimum number of participants is required to run the workshop. If minimum number is not met by the Friday of the week preceding the session, the workshop will be cancelled.

**April 14 - 17, 2011 - Las Vegas International Tattoo & Celtic Festival, Las Vegas, NV USA**

US Pipe Band Championships, Gathering of the Clans, Highland Games

See <http://www.lasvegascelticfestival.com/> for more information.

**May 28, 2011 - Nova Scotia Gaelic Gathering, Cape Breton NS Canada**

Please mark Saturday May 28th on your calendar, and plan to join in a province-wide gathering of the Nova Scotia Gaelic Community, hosted by Comhairle na Gàidhlig - The Gaelic Council of Nova Scotia.

For Information, please contact: Caroline Cameron [comhairlenagaidhlig@gmail.com](mailto:comhairlenagaidhlig@gmail.com) (902) 258-5768

**June 2 - 5, 2011 - ACGA Immersion Weekend, Colorado Springs, CO (cancelled)**

This event is cancelled.

**June 29 - July 2, 2011 - Celts in the Americas conference, SFX University, Antigonish NS Canada**

Hosted by the Celtic Studies Department of St FX and the Centre for Cape Breton Studies at Cape Breton University, the *Celts in the Americas* conference will offer a unique opportunity to share scholarship about the history, culture, and literature of Celtic-speaking peoples in North and South America.

See <http://www.mystfx.ca/academic/celtic-studies/AllAboutConference.pdf>

**July 3 – 8, 2011 – Grandfather Mountain Gaelic Song and Language Week, Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk, NC USA**

Details to be announced at <http://www.acgamerica.org/events>

**September 9 - 11, 2011 - Adult Gaelic Weekend, Gaelic College, St. Ann's, NS Canada**

Please see <http://www.gaeliccollege.edu/school/gaelic-weekends/general-information.html>

Note: A minimum number of participants is required to run the workshop. If minimum number is not met by the Friday of the week preceding the session, the workshop will be cancelled.

**September 9 - 11, 2011 - US National Mòd, Ligonier PA USA**

At the Ligonier Highland Games, Idlewild Park. Sept. 9 - poetry and stories; Sept. 10 - song; Sept. 11 - workshop. More details to be announced at <http://usmod.wordpress.com/>

**October 14, 2011 to October 22, 2011 - Royal National Mòd, Stornoway, Lewis, Scotland**

See <http://www.acgmod.org/nationalmod> for more information.



**November 18 - 20, 2011 - Mòd Canada, Ottawa ON Canada**

Details to be announced. See <http://www.gaidhligottawa.ca/>

**November 25 - 27, 2011 - Special Adult Gaelic Christmas Weekend, Gaelic College, St. Ann's, NS Canada**

Please see <http://www.gaeliccollege.edu/school/gaelic-weekends/general-information.html>

Note: A minimum number of participants is required to run the workshop. If minimum number is not met by the Friday of the week preceding the session, the workshop will be cancelled.

Tha 'm beàrn seo ann a dh'aona-ghnothaich.

This space intentionally left blank.

# Directory of Gaelic Classes & Study Groups

## Arizona

### Flagstaff

Study Group  
Richard Ferguson  
[fergusdubh@yahoo.com](mailto:fergusdubh@yahoo.com)

### Phoenix

Classes  
Richard Smith  
[coindubh@yahoo.com](mailto:coindubh@yahoo.com)

### Tucson

Classes  
Muriel Fisher  
<http://www.murielofskye.com>

## California

### Sacramento Area

Classes  
Donnie MacDonald  
[minchmusic@comcast.net](mailto:minchmusic@comcast.net)

### North Hollywood

Study Group  
Eva Gordon  
[celt@celticartscenter.com](mailto:celt@celticartscenter.com)

## Colorado

### Boulder

Study Group  
Sue Hendrix  
[susan.hendrix@colorado.edu](mailto:susan.hendrix@colorado.edu)

### Denver

Lessons  
Glenn Wrightson  
[thegaelicguy@hotmail.com](mailto:thegaelicguy@hotmail.com)

### Denver

Study Group  
Rudy Ramsey  
[rudy@ramsisle.com](mailto:rudy@ramsisle.com)

## Florida

### Jensen Beach

Treasure Coast Scots-Gaelic Study Group  
[gerhardherm@yahoo.com](mailto:gerhardherm@yahoo.com)

## Illinois

### Springfield

Study Group  
Bill McClain  
[fidheall@yahoo.com](mailto:fidheall@yahoo.com)

## Maryland

### Chevy Chase

Song Group  
Joan Weiss  
[sweiss@american.edu](mailto:sweiss@american.edu)

## Massachusetts

### Sandwich

Classes - Thomas Leigh  
[www.mermaid-productions.com](http://www.mermaid-productions.com)

Song Classes - Maggie Carchrie

[www.mermaid-productions.com](http://www.mermaid-productions.com)

## New York

### New York

Classes  
New York Caledonian Club  
<http://www.nycaledonian.org/studies.php>

## North Carolina

### Asheville

Study Group  
Leigh McBride  
[lmcbride@unca.edu](mailto:lmcbride@unca.edu)

### Guilford

Classes (adv. beginner)  
An Phillips  
[fiongeal@gmail.com](mailto:fiongeal@gmail.com)

### Triangle / Raleigh area

Classes (beginner)  
An Phillips  
[fiongeal@yahoo.com](mailto:fiongeal@yahoo.com)

## Ohio

### Cincinnati

Study Group  
Andrew MacAoidh Jergens  
[macaoidh@eos.net](mailto:macaoidh@eos.net)

### Kent

Classes  
Frances Acar  
Classes by Skype  
[frances.acar@gmail.com](mailto:frances.acar@gmail.com)

## Oklahoma

### Midwest City

Study Group  
Barry Acker  
[bearachanse@yahoo.com](mailto:bearachanse@yahoo.com)

### Tulsa

Study Group  
Adrian Martin  
[almarti6527@gmail.com](mailto:almarti6527@gmail.com)

## Pennsylvania

### Pittsburgh Area

Study Group

Harry Webb

[hwebb@zoominternet.net](mailto:hwebb@zoominternet.net)

## Texas

### Hurst

Classes

David Gressett

[jdgressett@hotmail.com](mailto:jdgressett@hotmail.com)

### Fort Worth

Study Group

Jonquele Jones

[jonquele@flash.net](mailto:jonquele@flash.net)

## Utah

### Salt Lake City

Classes by Skype

Rachell Blessing

[rachell-blessing@comcast.net](mailto:rachell-blessing@comcast.net)

## Virginia

### Alexandria

Classes

Nick Freer

[neacalban1@aol.com](mailto:neacalban1@aol.com)

## Washington

### Seattle

Classes & Study Groups

Slighe nan Gàidheal

<http://www.slighe.com>

## Canada

### New Brunswick

#### Fredericton

Classes

Atlanta Gaelic Academy

<http://www.gaelicacademy.ca>

## Nova Scotia

### Halifax

### New Glasgow

### Port Hawkesbury

Classes

Atlanta Gaelic Academy

<http://www.gaelicacademy.ca>

### Sydney

Classes

Cape Breton Gaelic Society

<http://www.gaelicacademy.ca>

## Ontario

### Ottawa

Classes

Randaidh Waugh

[comunnqaidhligottawa@rogers.com](mailto:comunnqaidhligottawa@rogers.com)

### Toronto

Classes

CLUINN

<http://www.torontogaelic.ca>

## Québec

### Montréal

Study Group

Linda Morrison

[linda@lindamorrison.com](mailto:linda@lindamorrison.com)

*FOR MORE information about these resources and for information on long-distance courses, short courses and private instruction, see our web page at [www.acgamerica.org/learn-gaelic/classes-and-distance-learning](http://www.acgamerica.org/learn-gaelic/classes-and-distance-learning)*

*For additions and corrections, contact Janice Chan, [ruadh@idirect.com](mailto:ruadh@idirect.com)*

## ACGA Officers

### President

Rudy Ramsey

7644 E. Lakecliff Way

Parker, CO 80134-5933

[rudy@ramsisle.com](mailto:rudy@ramsisle.com)

### Vice-President

Scott Morrison

7824 Butterfield Dr.

Elkridge, MD 21075

[sammallets@netzero.com](mailto:sammallets@netzero.com)

### Treasurer

Jeanne Pendergast

340-G Union Street,

Arcata, CA 95521

[jeannep99@yahoo.com](mailto:jeannep99@yahoo.com)

### Bookkeeper

Heather Sparling

2011 Kings Road

Howie Center, NS B1L 1C4

Canada

[heather\\_sparling@cbu.ca](mailto:heather_sparling@cbu.ca)

### Recording Secretary

Joyce Campbell

129 Bailey Road

Kempton, PA 19529

[jyccmpbll@aol.com](mailto:jyccmpbll@aol.com)

### Membership Secretary

Janice Chan

43 Norbrook Cresc.

Toronto, ON M9V 4P7

Canada

[ruadh@idirect.com](mailto:ruadh@idirect.com)

### Webmaster (pro tem)

Rudy Ramsey

7644 E. Lakecliff Way

Parker, CO 80134-5933

[rudy@ramsisle.com](mailto:rudy@ramsisle.com)

### Naidheachd Editor (pro tem)

Rudy Ramsey

7644 E. Lakecliff Way

Parker, CO 80134-5933

[rudy@ramsisle.com](mailto:rudy@ramsisle.com)