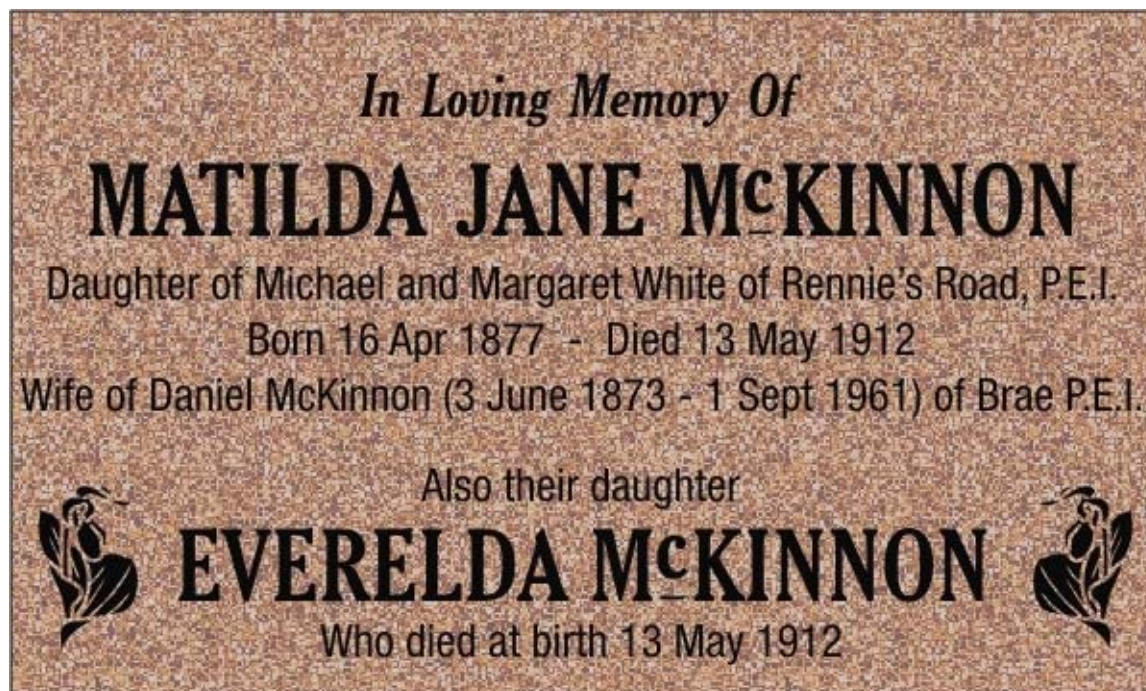

KITH & KIN

Volume 3, Issue 1

March 2007

Matilda's Memorial

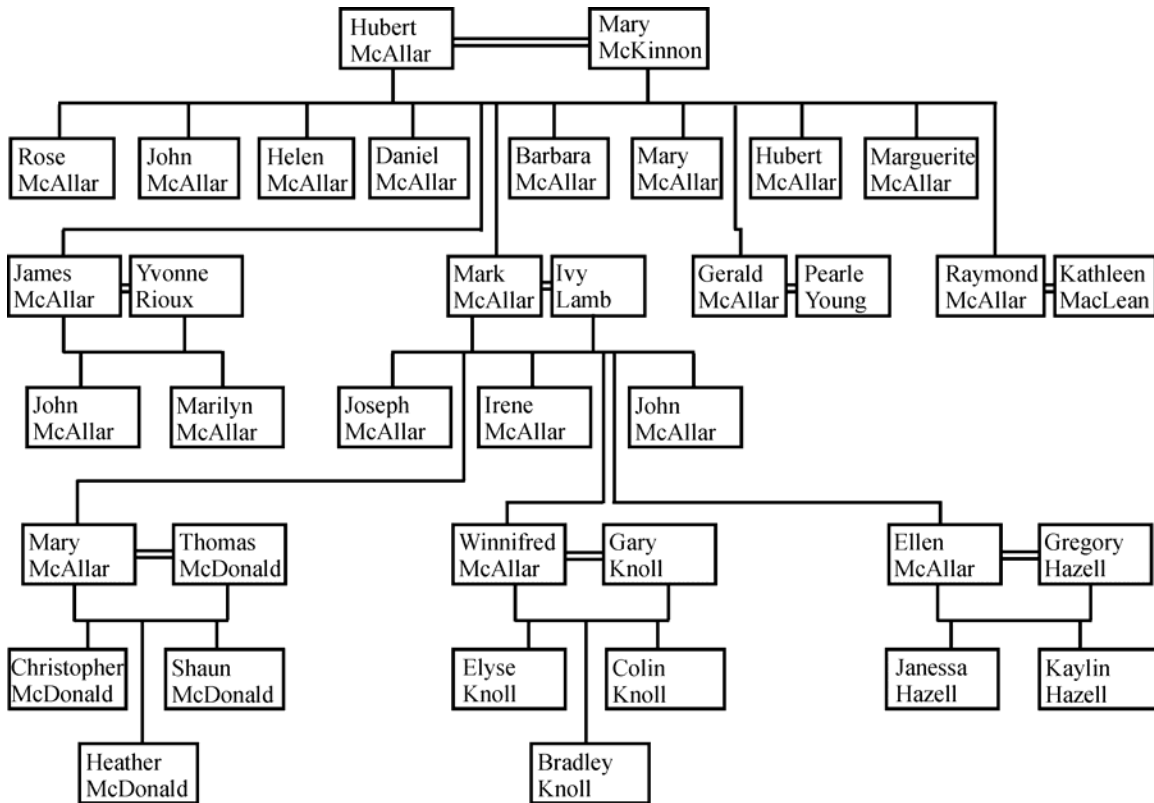
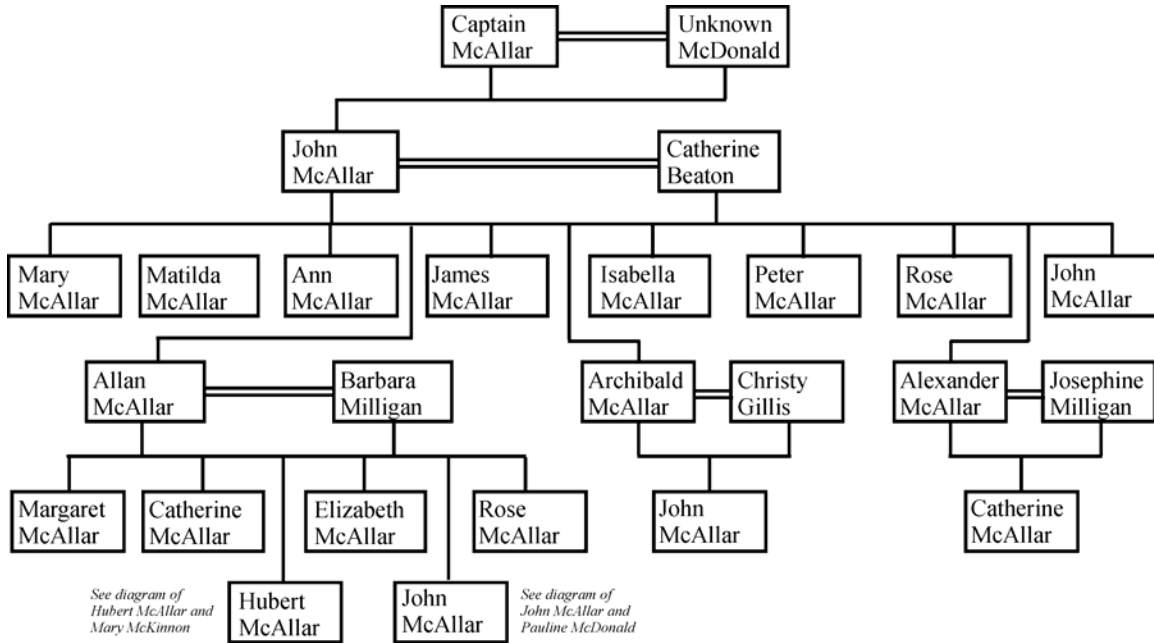


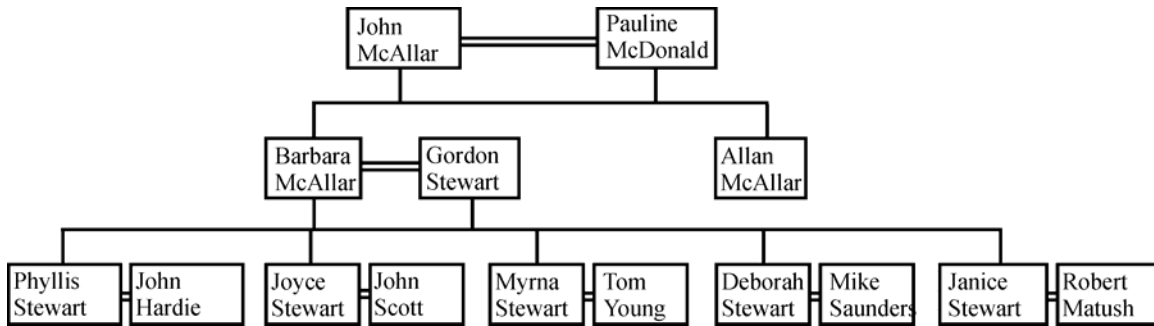
The headstone was put in place in December, 2006 so thank you very much for your generous donations which made this a reality. It didn't go without a hitch though and, as sound as we thought our family history data were, we should have left more time for feedback from family members who knew better. We inscribed the marker with Everelda McKinnon's name but, according to Christine McKinnon Crosland the baby in the grave with Matilda was unnamed; Everelda lived and died six years before her. We will record the correct information wherever necessary to ensure that future generations are aware of the discrepancy on the marker and we trust that Baby Girl McKinnon won't mind sharing her sister's name. Here is the latest information on Dan and Matilda McKinnon's family which contains the details provided by Christine.

- i. GERTRUDE MCKINNON, b. 27 May 1904, Brae, Lot 9, Prince Edward Island, Canada; d. 28 Sep 2005, Stoneham, MA, U.S.A.
- ii. EVERELDA EMMA MCKINNON, b. 30 Jun 1906, Brae, Lot 9, Prince Edward Island, Canada.; d. 14 Sep 1906, Brae, Lot 9, Prince Edward Island, Canada..
- iii. GEORGE JUSTIN MCKINNON, b. 23 Apr 1908, Brae, Lot 9, Prince Edward Island, Canada; d. 27 Feb 1909, Brae, Lot 9, Prince Edward Island, Canada.
- iv. JOHN DANIEL MCKINNON, b. 08 Jan 1911, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; d. 25 Mar 1993, Brae, Lot 9, Prince Edward Island, Canada.
- v. BABY GIRL MCKINNON, b. 13 May 1912, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; d. 13 May 1912, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Getting To Know You: The McAllar Tree

Captain McAllar, a seafaring Scottish Highlander, settled in the Brae in about 1827. This early Brae pioneer is one of the few who has descendants still living there. The McAllar family tree has many more branches (such as McDonald, Milligan, Bulger, and Marchbanks) than we can show here but, hopefully, there will be an opportunity to profile them in the future. Sources for this information in addition to personal research include *"Past and Present, A History of Brae"*, and the McAllar Family Register.





Parking Attendant

Paddy was driving down the street in a sweat because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. Looking up to heaven he said, "Lord take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I'll go to Mass every Sunday for the rest of me life and give up me Irish Whiskey!"

Miraculously, a parking place appeared.

Paddy looked up again and said, "Never mind, I found one."

Whozit? (Mystery Pictures)

Can you identify the handsome little fellow below?

Who is the fellow on the right?



Photo 1 – (hint) photo taken about 1909



Photo 2 – Unknown relative

The answer to Photo 1 can be found at the end of the newsletter but any clues you can provide on Photo 2 would be greatly appreciated. We know that the fellow on the left is Dan McKinnon (Felix, Neil) but who is the chap on the right?

Genealogy: Family Heritage Through Recipes

Do you have favorite recipes that have been passed down in your family? Recipes that invoke memories of past family events and those that passed them down are a great way of linking family stories and ties as we remember "grandma's cookies", or "great-aunt Sarah's casserole". How do we remember where the recipe came from? On the back of the recipe, write down the name of the person it came from as well as any special events such as wedding, birthday, holiday it was served at. Don't forget to write the date too! Not only are you preserving a heritage recipe, but you are recording an event that may otherwise be lost in memory. We are hoping that our readers will share some of their "family" recipes as well as the story as to where the recipe came from to include in future newsletters. The following recipe is courtesy of Ancestry Magazine's heritage page. Enjoy. I (Erica) tried out the recipe and it is delicious, and the cookies stay moist for nearly two weeks if they last that long!

<u>May's Sugar Cookies</u>	<u>Directions</u>
2 cups sugar 2/3 cup shortening or margarine 1 cup sour cream 2 tsp baking powder 1/2 tsp nutmeg 2 large eggs 1 tsp vanilla 5 cups flour 1 tsp baking soda 1/2 tsp salt	Cream shortening and sugar. Beat in eggs, vanilla, and sour cream. Sift dry ingredients in a separate bowl and add. Chill dough several hours in the refrigerator. Roll half the dough 1/4 inch thick over a lightly floured surface. Cut in desired shapes and put on greased or papered sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 9-11 minutes. Repeat with the other half of the dough. If you push on the top of the cookie with your finger and it makes a slight impression, it's done.

What He Read: Family Heritage Through Hobbies

In a 1926 letter to his brother Raymond, Alphonsus McKinnon wrote "We have memories that we may have flowers in December." We wondered where Alphonsus got this, did he read it? What type of literature did he like to read? The phrase is credited to J.M. Barrie (world famous for his play and story about Peter Pan) who, as Rector speaking to a graduating class at St. Andrews University, Scotland, put it this way:

"You have had many rectors here in St. Andrews who will continue in bloom long after the lowly ones such as I am are dead and rotten and forgotten. They are the roses in December; you remember someone said that God gave us memory so that we might have roses in December. But I do not envy the great ones. In my experience--and you may find in the end it is yours also--the people I have cared for most and who have seemed most worth caring for--my December roses--have been very simple folk. Yet I wish that for this hour I could swell into someone of importance, so as to do you credit."

from "Courage" -- St. Andrews Rectorial Address, 1922, by J.M. Barrie

"Courage" is witty, dour, inspirational, self-deprecating, challenging, complex, and irreverent. It is impossible to know for sure if Alphonsus actually read this article but it is probable that he did. What else could we discover about him or others if we had such hints about their past times?

Ol' McDonald Had A . . .

An elderly man owned a large farm. He had a pond in the back fixed up nice; picnic tables, horseshoe courts, and some apple and peach trees. The pond was properly shaped and fixed up for swimming. One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while, and look it over. He grabbed a five gallon bucket to bring back some fruit. As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end.

One of the women shouted to him, "We're not coming out until you leave!"

The old man frowned, "I ain't here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked." Holding the bucket up he said, "I'm just here to feed the alligator."

Creamer Family Reunion Early Notice

Many P.E.I. families (including many K&K readers) are connected to the Creamer family. If you descend from surnames such as Condon, Costello, Farrell, Flynn, Fisher, Greenan, Lund, Malone, McGaughey, Mc/MacWilliams, McNally, Noonan, Vessey, Whalen (and many more) then you'll be interested in their planned reunion. It will take place from July 25th to July 27th of 2008 and you can get more info at <http://www.islandregister.com/reunions.html> or at clancreamers_reunion@hotmail.com. If you're not sure whether or not that you are connected to the Creamers contact us at K & K and we'll endeavour to find out. Please include a brief outline of your family lineage (paternal and maternal).

As a matter of interest, if you've ever seen the altar in the Immaculate Conception Church, the Brae then you've witnessed the handiwork of Bernard Creamer (1860-1936).

The Clan McKinnon Society

The word clan is from the Gaelic word "clan" meaning children. The clan system was found only in the Scottish Highlands; other areas of Scotland such as the Lowlands and Borders evolved different traditional lines. The clans were primarily patriarchal in nature with a 'chief' being the head. The chief was responsible for the care and feeding of his people. He was the final arbiter of disputes and organized and led the armed forces that protected his people. In return they supplied him with manpower and material to provide for the needs of the clan.

Not all families were large or powerful enough to hold their own against others and so a smaller family might pledge allegiance to the chief of a larger clan in return for protection. These smaller families are known today as septs or associated families. The clan system as a way of life came to an end in 1746 with the battle of Culloden. However, the pride of belonging to a clan has continued to this day and clan societies are enjoying a revival at Scottish gatherings and games worldwide.

For those of you who may wander through any of hundreds of highland games, you'll know that at most highland games events, besides watching the dancers and listening to the skirl of the pipes, you can wander from clan tent to clan tent, chatting up the volunteers.

Al and I joined the Clan MacKinnon Society last year. We receive a quarterly newsletter, The Shank Bone, filled with clan history, recipes, book reviews, tent events dates and things pertaining to MacKinnon genealogy and Scottish history. As well, we are kept up to date with the goings on of present day Mackinnons. The newsletter originates in Wilton, California but interestingly enough the North American representative of the chief is one Gerald McKinnon from Prince George, B.C.

We highly recommend joining this society to anyone interested in the broader area of clan connections. Membership is a small annual fee and for more information, check out their website at www.cmksna.org

How We Met

Technically I am not a McKinnon, but I live with one, and as long as my Irish and French ancestors don't find out, we'll be fine. Al and I met in a grade 11 social studies class at St. Mary School in Edmonton in 1969. I have vague memories of dating him a couple of times, but after we graduated from high school, except for a chance meeting on the University of Alberta campus sometime between 1971 and 1975, nothing, nada, zip, zilch.

We might have fallen off the face of the earth as far as each of us was concerned. Skip ahead to July 2003. We had each lived at least one life, if not more. Other relationships, children, locations, professions happened – and now an opportunity to do it all over again. Actually, I really needed help renovating my house and he was pretty handy with a hammer. And the way he worked those power tools...well I ask you, how could I resist.

We traveled back and forth between Calgary and Lethbridge for a couple of years while we worked on the house and made plans for our future. The house sold in January of 2006 and...voila. Al and I now live in the southwest part of Calgary. My daughter, who moved to Vancouver Island a couple of months ago to go to school, visits once in a while and completes this new family unit.

Answer to Whozit (A Mystery Picture)

Felix Allen McKinnon son of George McKinnon of Miami, grandson of Felix McKinnon of the Brae, P.E.I. and great-grandson of Neil McKinnon and Hannah McDonald early settlers of the Brae.

Credits and Submissions

Thanks to Flora (MacKinnon) Jenkins for the joke we called 'Parking Attendant' and thanks to George Allen McKinnon III for the mystery photo of his father Felix.

We wish to encourage you to contact us with your stories, photos, letters, recipes, anecdotes etc for inclusion in the newsletter. We'll help with any write-ups and/or necessary research surrounding articles you come up with. And, if you think we may have information you would like to have regarding your family research please give us a shout. Here's our contact info:

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The newsletter will have been sent to those people for whom we have contact information. Please pass it along to anyone who might like to see it. We will continue to print and mail copies for people who don't have computers but the address list has quadrupled since the first edition. Therefore, we're making use of email delivery as much as possible. Anyone who didn't receive a personal copy but would like one, please send us your email or postal address.

Moving Kith & Kin Along

An important concept we held in starting this newsletter was that the privilege of putting it together should eventually pass from us to others. That way, various branches of the family would share *their* perspectives and knowledge with the rest of us. We've introduced some of those family lines with our modest descendancy diagrams but there are many more branches and we know that other researchers have details, anecdotes and photos to share. Now is the time for a new beginning, to refresh the newsletter and we would like to use the next issue (in the fall) to switch over. Therefore, this is a call to you to continue Kith & Kin with your own style and content. Please contact us at any of the addresses listed above - we're looking forward to hearing from you.

Back Issues

If you missed and want any of the first four issues of Kith & Kin please let us know.



March 2005



October 2005



April 2006



October 2006

Famous Sports Quote

Football commentator and former player Joe Theismann 1996: "Nobody in football should be called a genius. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."