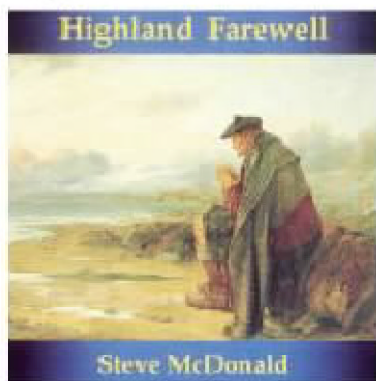


The Steve McDonald Fan Club

Newsletter Steve McDonald Fan Club Newsletter #30

Sent May 2008

Dear Friends and Fan Club Family,
I hope you all had a wonderful month! I'd like to extend a special welcome to all the Fan Clubs new subscribers and say hello to all of you.

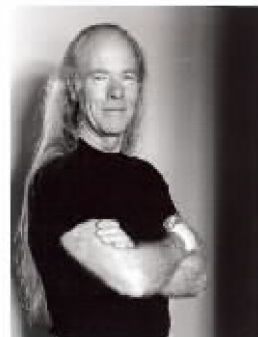


Whats New:

I have put Steve on My Space.
Check it out at
www.myspace.com/stevemcdonaldfanclub

There will be a Spotlited Member of the Month named each month in the newsletter! Scroll down and see if its you!

If anyone has an idea for something new to add to the website, please let me know.



Steves wee newsletter blurb

It would seem that most people interested in my music, are taken by the heritage or lineage of the music. That's great as that's the reason how I started with this genre.

I think it's so important for people to have some kind of contact with there past as it explains why you are the person you are, the kind of people you came from and a geographical point to explore.

*The past talks to us al the time and by getting to know where we've been we get insight as to where we are going. All those who have shared with me (through their emails) here experiences with tracing ancestry, or visiting the home land of their forbearers, thank you. May the children pick up from where we have left off. ".....so forget ye not the departed ones, for the souls they live on in the blood of the sons" from The Legacy, Sons of Somerled. (sons also means daughters!)
Best Wishes
Steve McDonald*

Member Spotlight:

Arlene Radasky! You are the Spotlighted Member of the Month! Please click over and meet Arlene and the others!

How Steves music inspires me by Arlene Radasky

I love history. Ancient history, especially. I have seen bog bodies in museums so when I found the book, *The Life and Death of a Druid Prince*, by Anne Ross, and Don Robins I was totally engrossed. As I looked at other bodies and ancient findings in that book and museums, a single thought replayed in my mind. The people who lived then had the same hopes and dreams that we have, today. I was compelled to write about the life of the man called the Lindow Man, and tell his story so he can live on in time, beyond being a museum show-piece. I love Scotland. The times I have visited, I could feel the line of Scottish blood in me start to heat and make my heart rush. I love the history of other lands I have been to, but the very earth of Scotland vibrates when I am there. So, my book is based in Scotland. I wanted to listen to music as I wrote and remembered a CD I picked up in Scotland that had some very stirring songs. *Stone of Destiny*. As I listened, the music wove itself around me like a plaid. I played it continually, in my car, while I wrote, while I gardened. I decided to look for more of the magical songs and voice of Steve McDonald and found *Highland Farewell*, *Legend*, and *Sons of Somerled*. Not much other music was heard coming from any of my music players, my iPod, my stereo, or my car radio. I even played his Christmas music. My book is about the life a Druid in Caledonia, before it was called Scotland and Steve even had music that helped me form ideas for that time period. I was given permission to use some lyrics in my book and when I decided to give it away free, online here, www.radasky.com, I asked for and received permission to use his songs for my podcasts, the reading of my chapters. The choices came easily, I had already listened to the albums so many times I had the series set in my mind. *Boudicea (Stone of Destiny)* was my main character, *Lovers*, queen. It was her death and the subsequent Roman rampage that caused him to flee north. *Jahna* (the narrator of most of the ancient story) was waiting for him. They are introduced to the music of *All You Can Know (Sons of Somerled)*, in the first chapter. This song sets my feeling for the whole book. *Will a man sell his soul/When a man wants to know/Memories are forever. Look with amazement/soon you will find/That the past is still real/and it's all in your mind.* The whole song is about remembering our past, where we came from. The modern archaeologist, *Aine MacRae*, is from Skye, so of course, *Come to the Isle of Skye (Sons of Somerled)* is her introductory song in chapter two.

I dont want to give away too much of the story, I hope you go read or listen to it and hear the songs I have chosen to accompany each of the twenty-seven chapters. I will say that *Freedom (Stone of Destiny)* *I Will Return (Sons of Somerled)*, *Soldiers Lament (Sons of Somerled)*, *A Scottish Soldier (Highland Farewell)* and *The Painted Men (Stone of Destiny)* accompany the last five chapters. It has taken me four years to get to this point, and Steve's music still makes my heart race when I play it, and I play it often. Thank you Steve McDonald, for all your inspirational words, *Dorie Cofer, GM, Etherean Music* for allowing me to use his music, and *Jackie*, of the *Steve McDonald Fan Club*, for this opportunity to meet other fans who are as appreciative as I am.



Forum & Topic of the Month:

The Forum Topic of the Month winner for this month is Monica Hudson! Congratulations, Monica!

Please write to me at jackie@stevemcdonaldfanclub.com and let me know your address and which of Steves autographed CDs you would like!

Please keep those Forum Questions coming! Steve loves to hear from you, and answers all your questions. There are two pages on the Forum, one for questions for Steve (please keep your forum questions to only being about his music, albums and gigs/tours) and one for Topic of the Month.

This month the Topic of the Month this month is something a little different. Recently I changed the format of the newsletter, and I would like to know if you like it in the PDF format, or would like to go back to the old style?

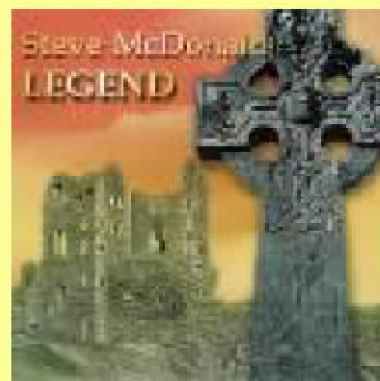
Please send your entries to jackie@stevemcdonaldfanclub.com

I will add last months Topic of the Month to the archives. If any of you have any ideas for the Forum Topic of the Month, please write to me and let me know them. Check it all out at www.stevemcdonaldfanclub.com



On The Road Contest News

We need some more of Steves fans to blow their own horn! I know that everyone who loves Steves music tells their friends about it, and shares his music. Write in and let me know, and I will post your stories, and enter you to win an autographed CD! The Steve McDonald On The Road Team is a very special group of Steves listeners who help promote his music. I know through your e-mails to me that many of you are already doing this by telling friends about his music, posting about his music on message boards, and asking for his CDs in stores. Thank you all for your efforts! Were thrilled by your support, and I'd love to encourage you to continue to spread the word about his music. On The Road Team membership is open to all of his listeners, and benefits include your name listed on the front page of the On The Road Team section of the Fan Club website, and a chance to win autographed CDs in a monthly drawing for On The Road Team members only. Joining is easy...visit the On The Road Team section and click on "Invitation" to see what you need to do. Whether you decide to join the team or not, we appreciate your support!



This Months Sweepstakes Winner:

I know everyone is wondering who turned out to be the last lucky winner this month, so I'll get right to it...

Lauri Bergeron! Please contact me at jackie@stevemcdonaldfanclub.com with your snail mail address so I can send your autographed CD to you! Those of you who didn't win should not despair. I've still got plenty of prizes, and I'm going to continue to give one away each month, which means more opportunities to win! So if you've been putting off entering, now is the time!

There is a new song for the Sweepstakes! Here is the lyric:

"For we have met in

this life

To dance in the light in the time we have"

And I bet those of you who have listened the Sons of Somerled CD already know the answer! Best of luck to everyone who enters (which will be all of you, I hope!).

One entry is good for all the monthly drawings, so if you haven't entered yet, what are you waiting for? The earlier you enter, the more chances you'll have to win...

Click on over to www.stevemcdonaldfanclub.com, click on the Sweepstakes button and get your name in the contest. Best of luck to you all!



