

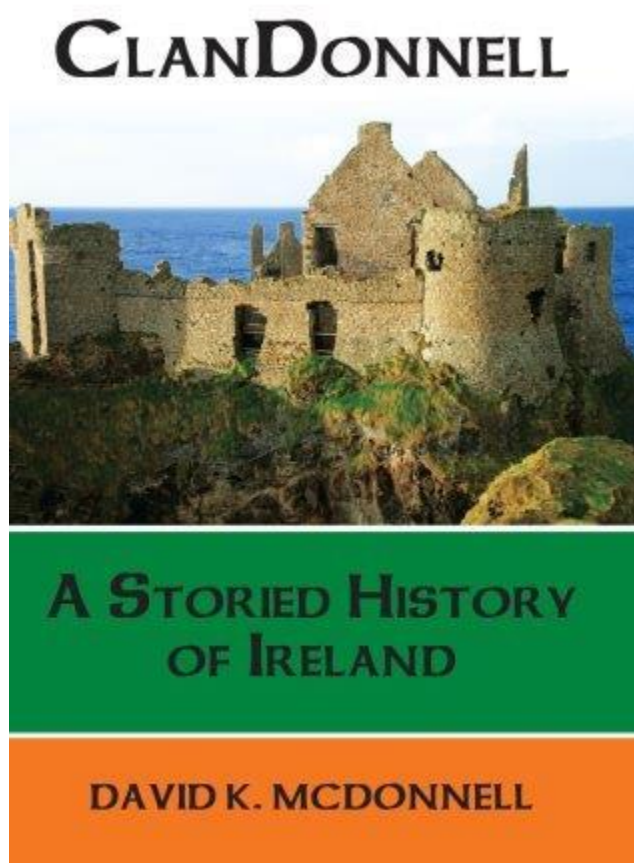


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## **Author pens book of Irish tales**

**Publication received two literary awards and is now available**

**May 2, 2014  
Staff Report**



A Northern Michigan author recently published a book of collected stories about an Irish clan that details the history of Ireland.

“My new book, ‘ClanDonnell: A Storied History of Ireland’ has received two recent national book awards, numerous favorable book reviews, and tremendous reception from readers,” said author David McDonnell. “The book is a collection of stories of an Irish clan which tell the history of Ireland in an entertaining, easy-to-read fashion.”

The book’s tone is more like an oral history than that of a formal history text. The human stories, numerous illustrations and humor throughout bring the history of Ireland

to life for the non-historian reader.

The two awards the book earned include first place in the Reader Views' 2014 Reviewer's Choice Literary Awards, as well as first place in the 2014 Beverly Hills Book Awards. The book is independently published by Michigan-based Burrowing Owl Press with help from The Jenkins Group, of Traverse City.

"I'm ecstatic, and it's not simply because of the literary awards," McDonnell said. "The book has received several very positive reviews. The feedback from readers — in the United States, Canada, Ireland and the United Kingdom — is even more positive.



"All of this tells me that this type of book was long overdue and that I'm grateful that I was able to write it," he said.

McDonnell often appears at Irish and Celtic festivals, bookstores, libraries, Irish pubs and other retailers to present entertaining and informative stories of Ireland with a focus on audience interaction. He maintains a vast repertoire of stories and an encyclopedic memory for details, plus is creative and flexible in his approach.

McDonnell is a Detroit native who now lives along Grand Traverse Bay near Traverse City, from where he now spends his retirement writing. He earned his bachelor's and doctoral degrees from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, then practiced law in Detroit and its suburbs for more than three decades.

McDonnell's new paperback book, "ClanDonnell: A Storied History of Ireland," is available for \$34.95 at bookstores, or from the publisher at [www.clandonnell.net](http://www.clandonnell.net) online.