



# GRIP FAST JOURNAL

The Newsletter of Clan Leslie Society International

April 2020

St Louis Ribs  
With 2 Sidekicks

BBQ Bowl  
Pulled Pork, Mac & Cheese,  
BBQ Beans

VISA



CLSI at Stone Mountain page 10



# The Honourable Alexander Leslie, Chief of Clan Leslie



While 2019 was a relatively quiet year for us, I know that it was 'business as usual' for all the Leslies who supported so many Games and Festivals and who represented our clan. Thank you for all your work.

This year looks as if it will be a busy one for us in Scotland. Brian and Petra Lesslie and David and Leslie Leslie are busy organising our Gathering for this year, to coincide with the Aboyne Games over the first weekend in August. This will be an exciting event and I hear from Brian that one hotel is already full of Leslies! More on this great event as we get nearer the time.

Meanwhile, at the end of last year there was another exciting event. As you may know there is an entity called the Clan Leslie Charitable Trust, which exists to collect and preserve items that belonged to the Leslies. In

December a clock came up for auction that is an extraordinary piece of history in itself. It was made in 1626, for the 6th Earl of Rothes, while he was in London. Technically, it is a 'First Period' brass lantern clock and a very early example. It was made by William Bowyer, a well-known clock maker of the time.

The 6th Earl also had a high profile role to play in Scottish life, being a leading Covenanter, a movement that opposed having religious beliefs and views thrust upon Scotland by the English king, Charles I. Later, in 1638, he was involved in seizing Newcastle as part of the Scottish Army and went on to London to negotiate with the king. A year or so later, the English gave the Scottish Army £60,000 to go back home! That event was 20 years in the making, as a consultant had spotted it 20 years ago and we had to wait on its sale. The event in August this year, you could say was 25 years in the making. It was 25 years ago that we gathered at Leslie Castle and this time we are celebrating the clan's 950 birthday.

We look forward to seeing you, if not in Scotland, somewhere in North America.

**Alex Leslie**

Clan Chief, January 2020.



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## ABOUT THE COVER

A great group of Leslies at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in Stone Mountain, Georgia!



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## Memories

In this first quarter of 2020, we are not only in a new year but also a new decade. As much as we look forward we have the opportunity to look back and assess our status as an organization and as individuals. I am pleased that CLSI membership is growing not only in the US but also Canada, Scotland and Australia. Perhaps the Clan Gathering this summer has something to do with it.

Looking back I'm sure that most of us have a number of memories hopefully mostly pleasant and eventful. Please let me share what I mean on a personal basis. I was born and raised on a 4 generational farm in Southern Minnesota. It was a diversified, modest farm meaning that there were a lot of livestock and multiple crops grown.

I worked closely with my father and grandfather learning the value of hard work and close family relationships. The hub of the family farming operations was the large barn constructed in the late 1800s and in which the grains were stored to feed the livestock. As the oldest son, I was expected to become a farmer, continuing the operation of the Leslie farm. Much to the disappointment of my grandfather and father, I said that I wanted to become a physician but that I would remain interested

in the farm and assist with its management which became the case after my father's death. Much had changed over the years. Diversified farming had disappeared and the farming operation consisted of just growing corn and soybeans as marketable commodities.

There was no need for a large barn any more. It started to deteriorate and I tried to maintain it as best I could since it was such an important part of my lifetime memories. Last summer, I was approached by a neighbor who wanted to buy the building site on which he would build a new home. That would mean the barn would be taken down. It was a difficult decision but I agreed. The barn would no longer be there but I would always have the memories.

Have you enjoyed your family memories? Perhaps CLSI helps in that regard as well as the attendance at Games and Gatherings. Also I hope you share your important family events and memories by contributing an article to the Grip Fast Journal.

Yours Aye  
Loren Leslie M.D.

## DECLARATION OF ARBROATH

This year is the 700th anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath. The Scottish "Declaration of Independence" was signed on April 6, 1320. It is a plea to the Pope to use his power and influence to convince the king of England to stop his attacks on Scotland and to assist Scotland to be free from English rule.

"May it please you to admonish and exhort the King of England, who ought to be satisfied with what belongs to him since England used once to be enough for seven kings or more, to leave us Scots in peace, who live in this poor little Scotland, beyond which there is no dwelling place at all, and covert nothing but our own."

"For as long as but a hundred of us remain alive, never will we on any condition be brought under English rule. It is in truth not for glory or riches, nor honours that we are fighting, but for freedom - for that alone, which no honest man gives up but with life itself."

Note that in recognition of this historic document that both the United States and Canada have established April 6th as Tartan Day. Among the lords, barons and other prominent Scots who signed the Declaration of Arbroath were Sir Andrew Leslie, Baron of Balquhain and William Abernethy.

David Leslie White

Hello folks,

We are making great progress with the people wishing to attend the 2020 Clan Gathering in Scotland. We are at 70% for paid attendees, any more wishing to attend please do it soon. Contact myself at [bleess993@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:bleess993@blueyonder.co.uk).

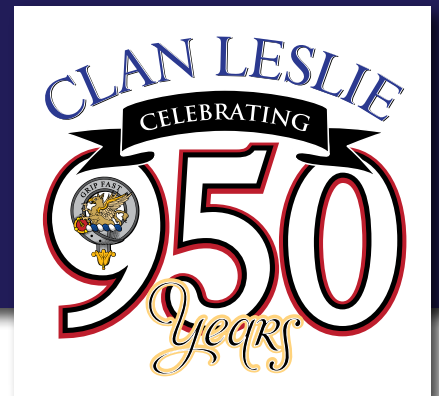
Once you email us we will send out to you the registration papers needed to let us know how many you are coming with, what you would like to dine on and lots of other things.

A revised proposed itinerary will also be emailed to you, the final one will be sent later. We have already filled one hotel and have started on the second.

For first time visitors to Scotland, will love finding your heritage and make more Leslie friends.

GRIP FAST

Brian & Petra. David & Leslie.



## LESLIE COFFEE CO.



Anyone who visits Wichita, Kansas should be aware of the Leslie Coffee Company, which I discovered a few weeks ago. The attached picture was taken on Saint Andrew's Day. If you make it to Wichita, call me and I will buy you a cup of coffee.

Tom Huxtable

## CLSI Elections in 2020

In the fall of 2020, we will need to elect the following Council officers that are held by the following members:

Vice-Chieftain—Laura Messing

Secretary/Registrar—Dane Gay

Chris Johnson--Council

Hinckley--Council

Susan Abernethy--Council

If you are interested in running for one of these offices or running for re-election, please contact Linda Flowers, [LFLOWERS1954@YAHOO.COM](mailto:LFLOWERS1954@YAHOO.COM). We will be publishing bios of those running later in the year.

## Welcome New Members!

**Daniel Leslie**  
Roseville, CA

**Brandon Matthew Wolfe**  
Columbus, OH

**Connor Leslie Wolfe**  
Columbus, OH

**Barbara Leslie Gessaman**  
Columbus, OH

**Joshua Leslie**  
Brooklyn, NY

**Joanna Molyneux-Killik**  
Perth, United Kingdom

**Jess Leslie**  
Taylor, TX

**Lynn Topar**  
Capistrano Beach, CA

**Matthew Maynard**  
Lawrenceburg, KY

**Cheryl Hughes**  
Australia

**Lucy Hop**  
Roseburg, OR

**Larry Smolucha**  
Hobart, WI

**David Leslie**  
Omaha, NE

**David C. Abernethy**  
Seattle, WA

**Glen Torrens**  
The Vines, Australia

**Robin Denny**  
Windsor, UK

**Jennifer Leslie**  
Los Altos, CA

## DONATIONS *Thank You!*

### GENERAL FUND

**TIMOTHY PANNONE**  
PINEY POINT, MD

**THOMAS ALLEN**  
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LITTLE ROCK, AR

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**DR. DUNCAN MOORE**  
FAIRPORT, NY

**DON LESLIE**  
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### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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CANADA

**SANDRA STALEY**  
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**BRUCE LESLIE**  
BROCKPORT, NY

## CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL – SCHOLARSHIPS

CLSI is offering scholarships to our members. We have two different types of scholarships. They are the Alexander Leslie Klieforth Memorial Scholarship (Scottish and Celtic Activities) and the Sherry Huxtable Memorial Academic Scholarship (Academic Studies). The academic scholarship valued at \$250 and the Scottish or Celtic Programs scholarship is valued at \$200 and both can be applied for at any time. The Scottish and Celtic Activities scholarship will cover things such as bagpiping camp, dance, the arts, etc. The person applying for all scholarships must be a member or inceptor member of CLSI.

For more information contact: Linda Flowers, CLSI Scholarship Committee, [lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net)





## Candles, Stars & Saints: how we celebrate Light.

As I sat down to write this, I was reminded by my husband that tomorrow is cause for celebration. "Oh!" said I, "you mean Groundhog's Day". "No" said he, "It's Superbowl!" Never mind. I needed to have my brains jogged, because this col-

umn is about Light and even Groundhog's Day is based in the idea of light. If it's bright enough for the "official" Groundhog (named Punxsutawney Phil for the Pennsylvania town in which he resides) to see his shadow, he will emerge from his burrow and then run directly back into it again signifying 6 more weeks of winter. If it's overcast and he cannot see his shadow, he will not immediately return to the burrow and we will have an early spring. Or so goes this common folklore in the USA. Everyone wants to know "Did he see his shadow?", and the result of his foray is even broadcast on the evening news. I write this for all our CLSI members in other parts of the world who may not be acquainted with this particular bit of American madness...

Light, or the idea of light, the iconology of light, pervades celebrations of all kinds. And although tomorrow morning people will be concerned with a furry, 5 pound rodent's ability to prognosticate spring, it is also another holiday celebrated in many more places than the USA. Tomorrow is known as Candlemas or St. Brigid's Day to Christians, and Imbolc (say Eee-molk) or Brinassadh (say Brin-ah-sah) to Pagans. It's an old celebration that began when the two faiths walked hand in hand and often overlapped. Each faith carries traditions borrowed from the other to this day.

Why did Christians call this holiday Candlemas? A little history is in order here. In the earliest days of candle-making, most people couldn't afford them. Candles were reserved for the extremely wealthy, and mostly for the church. The great cathedrals, with their brilliant stained glass, tapestries and intricately detailed stone work, were easily soiled by the most common source of light: rush dips. These and the almost-as-common pitch torches smelled foul, burned with heavy smoke and left lingering and stinking soot on everything. Candles were considered "pure" because they left little residue, and the beeswax smelled sweet. The gentle glow around the flaming wick resembled the

nimbus often pictured about the heads of saints and angels. And this holiday was also called "The Churching of Mary, because six weeks after giving birth, women went to a purification ritual at their local parish in which candles were lit as symbols of their renewed purity. February 2nd is six weeks after Christmas, when Mary delivered Jesus. St. Bridget, according to Celtic legend, was also the midwife of Mary and foster-mother to Jesus. Her day is February 2nd. February, since ancient Roman times, has been considered a month of purification; its very name, from the Latin verb "februare", means "to make pure". Add this to the idea of a pure virgin giving birth, the postpartum ritual occurring on this date with its use of candles, Bridget, the midwife, and by association, here's what you get: all candles to be used in the church (for whatever reason) for the entire year were brought into the church on the second of February and blessed during Mass. Hence, "Candlemas". If this sounds convoluted, it is, but that's usually the way religious traditions of all faiths develop over time.

There's even an old poem that predicts weather on Candlemas (but has nothing to do with furry critters and their burrows): "If Candlemas be fair and bright, old winter surely will take flight. If Candlemas bring cloud and rain, winter will n'er come again." It's easy to see where the groundhog superstition connects with this older forecasting myth.

February 2nd, Saint Brigid's Day, is also marked by light. She is often depicted with a nimbus around her head, and a torch or candle in her hand signifying the light of her faith. Brigid's flame in Kildare had burned for several centuries when it was finally extinguished by order of a Pope who felt it was too Pagan. No one understanding the conflation of the ancient Celtic Goddess Bridget and the Saint would be surprised at his worry. Yet old beliefs and traditions survive, and in 2006 in Kildare at the traditional site of St. Brigid's original church, her flame was lighted again to burn perpetually. The torch that was erected for that purpose combines both Christian and Pagan symbols.

The idea of light being divine is found in almost all faiths. Jesus said "I am the Light of the world" (John 8:12). He also said "Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16). Zoroaster (Zarathustra) was the first prophet to say "God is Light". Zoroastrians always worship with a live flame present as a reminder of this. The Magi, who were Zoroastrian priests, saw the light of a divine star and followed it to find a newborn "Child of Light". From this, Christians have stars on the tops of their Christmas trees. Modern Pagans still see the Goddess

Bridget in the starry constellation of Orion as did their ancient ancestors. The idea of divine light crosses into science as well. Such notables as Einstein and Bohr, Pribem and Bohem have written and spoken about light as energy and our primary universal source. Zoroaster understood that concept in a primitive way when he spoke about Ahura Mazda, the “wise God”, being Light and the origin of all life. And the late and brilliant Dr. Stephen Hawking, known for being an atheist, once stated that “When you break subatomic particles down to their most elemental level, you are left with nothing but pure light” (italics, mine).

Stars, candles, Saints, The Divine. The old saying goes “It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness”. In the middle of winter - six weeks after the yule festivities have vanished and six weeks before the spring equinox arrives - it's good to have holidays that reminds us no matter how dim and dank the weather, no matter how dark the night, we can light a candle, and the stars with their blessed life engendering energy still burn behind the clouds, even if we cannot see them. Wishing a peaceful and Light-filled rest of the winter to all in CLSI.

Samantha Gray,  
Chaplain

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## Recipe Request

Don't forget to send your best family recipes to **Riognach@aol.com**. We would love to be able to publish a CLSI cookbook as a legacy for future CLSI members, but we can only do it with your help. If everyone sent in JUST ONE, we'd have a fabulous cross section of recipes from CLSI members all over the globe. So send in those recipes! Make us hungry!!

## CLSI Objectives

One of the Objectives of our Society is “To promote, foster, collect and preserve historical and genealogical records and information about descendants of Clan Leslie around the world.” In the past we have had articles in the Newsletter about history, geography, tradition, homes, castles, and various members of Clan Leslie.

The responsibility for the research and writing of such articles lies with the members. The membership is “the contributing staff” of the publication. Even though you may have never written an article before, don't let that hold you back. The editor will prepare your article for publication. To quote Alexander Leslie Klieforth (The Griffin, Vol. 1, 1979, p. 4) “We are not looking for polished gems or prose; we are a Clan, a family organ, and an important purpose of this publication . . . is to promote kinship.”

You get out of our Society what you put into it. Gifts of your time, talent and effort are what makes us successful. Please consider writing an article for our Grip Fast newsletter. It can be a short book review of a book by or about Leslies, Abernethys, Cairneys, Laings Moores or Bartholomews, your visit to Scotland, or some site with a Clan Leslie connection, or an article on a prominent Leslie from your area. An article might be as simple as an informal gathering of CLSI members for Hogmanay, a St. Andrews Night or a Burns Dinner.

Or you can do some serious research and write a more academic article. The choice is yours, but the gift of your time, talent and effort is what is needed.

David Leslie White

# Lang May Yer Lum Reek

**“The phrase “Lang may yer lum reek” is actually a birthday wish that you may live long to keep your hearth fires burning for many years. It is your Chaplain’s privilege and pleasure to wish all members of CLSI having the following birthdays a healthy, happy year ahead. If your birthday is not listed, but falls within these months, please let me know (Riognach@aol.com) so I may include you in our member Birthday Lists.**

**January:** 1/1 – Daniel Jones and William Leslie; 1/6 – Robert Leslie; 1/7 – James Leslie; 1/8 – Cherry Edith Marie Spelock; 1/11 - Andrea Vivienne Leslie; 1/12 – Laura Messing; 1/16 – Timothy Abernathy and Collin Leslie; 1/20 – Donald Leslie and Robert J. Leslie; 1/21 – James Festerman; 1/25 Josephine Gordon, Thomas Leslie, Gale Walker, and Robbie Burns, Scotland’s Poet Laureate; 1/26 – Robert Bailey, Clark Leslie, Jess Leslie and Donna Nicholson; 1/27 - Syver More.

**February:** 2/1 – Scott Zippie Huxtable; 2/2 – James Leslie and Cherie Davila; 2/3 – Lucinda Moore and Andree Wolffing; 2/5 – Ann Eidsmo and Robert M. Leslie; 2/7 – Richard Leslie; 2/8 – Louise Monroe; 2/10 – Pauline Heaton, James Leslie, Lori Leslie, Walter Leslie; 2/11 - Stephanie Phillips and Patricia Weyhrauch; 2/12 – Mary Ann Weiss; 2/13 – Mary Erler and Charles Leslie; 2/18 – Hugh Moore; 2/20 – Carol Welk; 2/22 – Robert Bolcar, Linda Joseph; 2/23 – Patricia Powell; 2/26 – David Leslie; 2/27 – Mary LaCombe; 2/28 - Richard Evans Abernathy; 2/29 – Helen Harkness and Magnus Leslie.

**March:** 3/1 – Erin Shutty and Robert Stevens; 3/3 – Margaret Ann Lowen; ¾ - Edmund Leslie and Linda Swackhammer; 3/5 – Harvey Leslie ; 3/6 – Arthur W. Leslie; 3/7 – Joanna ‘Jo’ Molyneux-Killik; 3/9 – Debby Leslie, Ellis Pettigrew and Montgomery Pettigrew; 3/10 – Rob Leslie; 3/11 – Sarah Elliot, Bryan Leslie and Donald Morey; 3/12 – Lynn R. McGuiness; 3/14 – Max Gardner, Martha Hanson, and Chad Leslie; 3/15 – Nicole Leslie; 3/16 – Ron Leslie and Taylor Morse; 3/17 – Connor Leslie Wolfe; 3/19 – Neil Leslie; 3/24 – Jean Leslie Childers; 3/25 – Frederick and Joshua Persons; 3/26 – Christian Sprenger and Charles Toles; 3/27 – Kathy Leslie Walker; 2/28 – Christopher Cairney and Debbie Husted; 3/29 – Sandra Lacana; 3/30 – Greg Keefe, Jessica Cannon and Annie Windstrup.

**April:** 4/1 – Trent Leslie; 4/3 – Nikita Eike; 4/4 Joan Eike and Scott Leslie; 4/5 – Melissa Cargile, Bonnie Gleason and Samuel Leslie; 4/6 – Michael Abernethy, Diana Gay and Linda Flowers; 4/7 – Timothy Pannone; 4/9 – Ann Musmanskyy; 4/11 – Dakota Flowers and Leila White-Vilmouth; 4/12 – Sammie Rainey; 4/13 – Craig Allen Leslie, Rufus Leslie and Tomas Leslie; 4/18 – Donald Leslie; 4/19 – Robert E. Leslie; 4/22 – Stanislaw Macak; 4/23 – Clement Hoffman; 4/24 – Daniel Leslie; 4/25 – Lesley Craddock; 4/26 – Doris Derrington, John Leslie and Nora Mayer; 4/29 – Karen Ingersoll, Jo Lawrence, Thomas Leslie, and Donna Noyes Spankles; 4/30 –

## CLSI Items For Sale

Our website has a great selection of Leslie items for sale!  
Visit our online store at: [www.clanlesliesociety.org/store](http://www.clanlesliesociety.org/store)



# TENTS, GAMES & EVENTS

HERE ARE SOME ADDITIONAL LESLIE EVENTS FROM THE SECOND HALF OF 2019 AS WELL AS SOME FROM THE FIRST PART OF 2020. CLAN LESLIE IS ALWAYS WELL REPRESENTED THANKS TO THE HARD WORK OF OUR CONVENORS & TENT HOSTS.



*Houston Highland Games*  
FRANK AND LYNNE LESLIE, CONVENORS

Humble Civic Center Arena & Expo Building  
Humble, Texas  
September 21, 2019  
[houstonhighlandgames.com](http://houstonhighlandgames.com)

The Houston Highland Games was held on Saturday, September 21, 2019, in the Humble Civic Center Arena. CLSI was there along with approximately 30 other Clans and Societies. This was a re-start of the Houston Highland Games after a hiatus of approximately 5 years. With a roof over the arena and a concrete floor where the Clans, vendors, and musicians were, there was no worry about the weather. And speaking of the weather, the Humble area was dry and sunny on Saturday. The previous rains and flooding did not affect the venue as Humble is on the North East side of Houston. George Bush Intercontinental Airport is close by. Scottish Athletics took place in the adjacent covered dirt floor arena. We had one couple sign in the guest resister, Bob and Lezley Ewen, of Eupers, TX. The Houston Highland Games Association is planning on holding the Games next year on September 26 and 27 at the Humble Civic Center Arena.

Want to know where the Leslie tents will be?  
Visit our website at: <https://www.clanlesliesociety.org/events>  
to view our calendar!

## Kerr County Celtic Festival and Highland Games

FRANK AND LYNNE LESLIE, CONVENORS

Hills Country Arts Foundation  
Ingram, Texas  
October 12 & 13, 2019  
[kerrcountyceltic.com](http://kerrcountyceltic.com)

The Kerr County Celtic Festival and Highland Games were held October 12 & 13, 2019, in Ingram, TX at the ¾ size replica of Stonehenge, hosted by The Scots of the Texas Hill Country Association. CLSI was there along with about 20 other Clans and Scottish Societies. The festival featured sanctioned Scottish Heavy Athletics, sanctioned Highland Dance competition, and two pipe bands: The San Antonio Pipes and Drums, and the Alamo Pipes and Drums. There were numerous vendors, also. It was in the 40's on Friday during set up, but that did not cause much of an issue. Saturday was cool with a short bit of rain. Then the skies cleared and we had sunshine. Sunday was much warmer with more sunshine. Two people with a Leslie connection signed the guest register and were offered CLSI membership applications. A lady signed the guest register as she enjoyed how Lynne had arranged the tent and learned a little bit of her own Scottish heritage. Next year's is scheduled for October 10 and 11.

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## West Texas Celtic Fair

FRANK AND LYNNE LESLIE, CONVENORS



Horseshoe Pavillion  
Midland, Texas  
March 14 & 15, 2020

[westtexascelticfair.com](http://westtexascelticfair.com)

We attended the West Texas Celtic Fair, held at the Midland Horseshoe Arena complex, March 14 & 15, 2020. Again, it was an indoor event. So no problems from the nearly continuous mist and rain in the Midland area. Attendance was down for various reasons that need not to be discussed here. We enjoyed live entertainment from Red McWilliams, Rickey Pittman, Cleghorn, and Iron Roux (Beth Patterson and Hugh Morrison), and the Thorn and Thistle Pipes and Drum band. There were activities for the children. Two beer and two whisky tastings. And two Bonniest knees contests. A ceilidh was held Saturday night and was enjoyed by all who attended it. We had many visitors to the tent during both days, which made it a successful event for us to attend. They are already planning for next year's Fair on March 13 & 14, 2021.



## Stone Mountain Highland Games

LEW AND CHRISTINE JOHNSON, CONVENORS



Stone Mountain Park  
Stone Mountain, Georgia  
October 19 and 20, 2019  
**smhg.org**

Pictured are the 4 Abernethy sisters, and the Charles - Shirley Moore with granddaughter, and a friend of the Moores.

In the past the South East Branch of CLSI hosted a tent there and held its annual meeting at the games. It has been about 10 years since CLSI was represented at the SMHG and it was time to have CLSI once again participate in the second largest gathering of Scottish Clans on the east coast. Over 100 clans marched onto the field and Clan Leslie was there to answer the call.

While we had some rain on Saturday, it did not deter Leslies from visiting with us and sharing stories of previous games and gatherings and talking about the upcoming trip to Scotland. While Don and Marion who previously hosted the clan tent at these games couldn't be with us, we accepted many hellos and well wishes for them. We had some very special guests visit with us. The four Abernethy sisters joined us and marched with us in the parade of tartans. The Moore's who we met in Grandfather Mountain in 2018 drove up from Orlando. Also, a Leslie arranged to fly into Atlanta to visit a daughter and scheduled the visit to coincide with the games.

Sunday was a perfect sunny day with many visitors and we spent our day talking to visitors about Scotland, Leslies in history and projects accomplished by CLSI.

We had a great pleasure of meeting a member who lives in the Atlanta area. He owns a group of five BBQ restaurants in the area and was a food vendor at the games. He graciously provided lunch for all Leslies in our group on Sunday. Thank you Guy.

Lew Johnson



## Queen Mary Scots Festival

SUSAN ABERNETHY & JAMES FESTERMAN, TENT HOSTS

Queen Mary Scots Festival  
Long Beach, California  
February 15 and 16, 2020  
[queenmary.com](http://queenmary.com)



My fellow Clan Member from San Diego, James Festerman (who will be at the Scotland Gathering), was responsible for setting up, manning the booth with his family (and me, sometimes), and taking the first two of these pictures. I took the third one of my Joshua carrying the escutcheon banner and James carrying the flag in the Clans Parade. The Queen Mary can be seen in the background. Most of the events were in the parking lot next to the ship, except for the solo piping and the Highland and Country Dancing, and the "Greyfriars Pub", where the most delicious haggis, tatties and neeps could be had for a reasonable price!

Several Leslies visited our booth, and we hope they will take the invitation to become members.

The boys and I were in the Observation Lounge on the ship on Friday afternoon, when a woman who noticed their kilts and their T-shirts from the Grandfather Mountain Gathering several years ago came over to talk to us. Her name is Leslie and she IS one of us; she and her family were visiting from Scotland--her 8 year old granddaughter was competing in dancing, and her teacher brings her students to this festival often (all the way from Scotland!). She was as delighted to find us as we were to find her, and we had a great visit. In addition, the teacher's grandmother was along too, and she came over to chat with me when she learned my grandfather came from Fettercairn, as she lived five miles away from there!

Sadly, they were too busy with the dancing and never made it to our booth; but the granddaughter won several awards and a plaque.

I have played Mary Queen of Scots for the festival for years, but this year abdicated in favor of a lovely young lady who is Queen Elizabeth in our Renaissance Guild (in my interest of retiring and moving to Fort Worth in a few years). However, those are my twins, Joshua and Frederick, in the court.

Susan Abernethy





## CLAN LESLIE REPRESENTED IN THE 2019 SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK PARADE



Scottish Christmas Walk Parade  
Old Town Alexandria, Virginia  
December 7, 2019

**[campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend/parade](http://campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend/parade)**

On December 7, 2019, Clan Leslie was represented at the Scottish Christmas Walk Parade in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia by Vice Chieftain, Laura Sawyer Messing. Laura holds the title of United States of America's Mrs. Massachusetts 2020 and was the guest of Tabitha Kinchen, United States of America's Mrs. Virginia 2020.

The Scottish Christmas Walk Parade is the highlight of the holiday season in Old Town Alexandria. There were 119 registered groups that marched in the parade, including pipe bands, Scottish Breed Terrier Groups and 37 Scottish Clans.

The historic streets were lined with beautiful Christmas greenery and an abundance of tartan. Despite the chilly temperature, the crowds were friendly and a wonderful time was had by all. It is truly an event not to be missed and one that CLSI should consider in the future.

Decked out in red Dress Leslie tartan, Vice Chieftain Laura Sawyer Messing is pictured (on the right) with a parade piper and USOA Mrs. Virginia Tabitha Kinchen.



# W. Leslie & Co. Ltd Herring Curer Aberdeen, Scotland





# CLSI OFFICERS CONTACT LIST

## CLAN LESLIE

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## CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL ELECTED (COUNCIL) & APPOINTED OFFICERS

### Chieftain

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David Leslie White  
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## Leslie Tartan

At the Grandfather  
Mountain Games, we  
found a vendor who  
has 13 oz. wool, Leslie  
Ancient tartan 54 inches  
wide for \$55 per yard.

The vendor is:  
Grandfather Scottish  
PO Box 1132, Linville,  
NC 28646  
perrys@charter.net  
phone 828-733-3476

visit us at [clanlesliesociety.org](http://clanlesliesociety.org)

# CLAN LESLIE GATHERING 2020

Thursday July 30 - Sunday August 2, 2020  
Aberdeenshire, Scotland

TO CELEBRATE 950 YEARS OF THE CLAN

Your Hosts will be:

**Brian & Petra Lesslie and David & Leslie Leslie**

Your Clan Chief Alex and his wife Miranda  
will also be attending.

We have already had a high number of people  
interested in attending the gathering.

As we will be limited to the number who can attend,  
due to the size of the Function room, anyone who is  
interested in attending please send your name and  
email address a.s.a.p. to BRIAN LESSLIE at:

**[bless993@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:bless993@blueyonder.co.uk)**



## Join us for this exciting event!



## Leslie

Clan Leslie Society  
International

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