

Volume 2, Issue 3, May 2009

BOB BAILEY, CHIEFTAIN, CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL



Volunteers are the life-blood of any non-profit organization such as our Society. Churches, Citizens on Patrol (COPS), Meals on Wheels, fraternal organizations, Boy and Girl Scout troops, etc. all depend on volunteers. And it is the same with our Society. No volunteers, no more Society. We have vacancies for volunteers in some of our appointed offices. These include Justiciar (attorney), piper, and very importantly Convenors for Canada, Mountain and Pacific Southwest Regions. Congratulations to Steve Olling who just volunteered for the Pacific Northwest region. Congratulations to Loren Leslie from Lutsen, Minnesota who has agreed to fill the vacancy on the Council. If you are willing to consider being a volunteer for any of these positions, please contact me.

Bob Bailey, Chieftain rbailey3056@sbcglobal.net

CLAN LESLIE

Did you know all of the family names that make up the Clan Leslie?

Associated family Names of the Clan Leslie (Septs)

Leslie, Lesslie,
Lesley, Lessley, Leslee, Lesle
Laslie, Lasley, Lastley, Lastly
Lassle, Lasle,
Macleslie
Abernethy, Abernethie, Abernathy, Aberrathie
Bartholomew
Cairney, Cairnie, Carney, Carnie
Laing, Lang
More, Moore, Muir

William Leslie william.leslie@sympatico.ca

CELEBRATION OF THE 125th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF LESLIEVILLE

Saturday June 20th, 2009

The 150th Anniversary of the Founding of Leslieville in Toronto by George Leslie

Leslies will be attending the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Leslieville's founding. The history walk is sponsored by Heritage Toronto. LEAF, an organization that supports urban trees, is holding the Leslieville Tree Festival in conjunction. Joanne Doucette is writing a history of Leslieville and has been asked to lead a walk through the area, including the maple tree at the corner of Laing Street



and Memory Lane, which inspired Alexander Muir to write "The Maple Leaf Forever." She lives in Leslieville and is a huge fan of both George Leslie and of trees. A piper has volunteered his services to "pipe us in" to Leslie Grove Park where a tree will be planted and a plaque dedicated. Come and enjoy a piece of Toronto and Leslie history.

William and Sue Leslie will be hosting a Clan Leslie Tent in Leslie Grove Park and will be prepared to answer questions about Leslie Heritage and George Leslie's family, and the Clan Leslie Society International. Harold and Val Leslie from Didsbury, Alberta will also be there. Harold and Val have done extensive research on Harold's Family from George's parents William and Esther Leslie and Harold's ancestors John (George's step father) and Esther who came to Streetsville in 1824 with their nine sons. See the excerpt from the Grip Fast, July 2007, page 4, for more information about George Leslie. **William Leslie** william.leslie@sympatico.ca

RURAL HILL FESTIVAL AND LOCH NORMAN HIGHLAND GAMES 2009 Sponsored by Don Abernathy and Paul Aulbach, April 17-19, 2009



Joe Faris, Paul Aulbach, Karen Faris

The Spirit of Saint Andrew was among us during the Loch Norman Highland games. The weather was fantastic this weekend as we enjoyed the company of current and new members.

First I would like to introduce Clan Leslie Society International's four newest members. Please welcome these members into our family with open arms and kinship.

Sandra Leslie of Davidson NC, Sheila Thrower of Gastonia, NC, Glenda Saunders of Midlothian, VA, Brendan Abernathy of Taylorsville, NC (Inceptor)

Don and I arrived at the Games on Friday morning and set up The Clan Leslie tent. Don had procured some new items to add to the sides and tables which made it

look very calming yet informational. Take a look at the pictures to see how much it has grown.

Jan and I enjoyed the Reception and the Calling of the Clans Friday night. Once again Loch Norman has risen above the common games by giving its Clan Sponsors and visitors a night to remember. The children that attended were glassy eyed as each of the Clans gave their introduction and answered the Calling. Each of us carried a burning torch and were escorted by lovely maidens to a certain position within the field of battle. After the last clan answered the calling, we had formed a Saint Andrews Cross around a bon-fire for the planes to see from above. Just when you thought it was going to be over, the loud explosion of immortal gun fire and ghosts of our ancestors crossed the field, each carrying a candled lantern in memory of our past.

Saturday morning started off with a bang, current members came to check in and visit with us throughout the day. Our tent was open to members where each could enjoy a little shade, a little food, a little drink and some good stories. Last year's Scholarship recipient Riley Lanier and his family visited and updated Jan and me on how his Bagpipe progress was going. He is currently playing with the Charleston Police Bagpipe and Drum Band. Joe and Karen Faris checked in and cordially invited us to come to their Family reunion were we could setup a display for our Clan to investigate some Genealogy and History.

Sunday was a Great Scottish day as it was cloudy and had a few sprinkles just to remind us of who and where we came from. Don Abernathy, Janice Aulbach and I visited with more current and new members about our upcoming project next year. That's right



Riley Lanier

brothers and sisters; next year is going to be the biennial Clan Gathering, which will be held at the Loch Norman Highland Games in 2010. We will be the Honored Clan of the games, and enjoy the company of fellow brothers and sisters from around globe. There will be more to follow as we complete each step of comfort and activities.

We would like to give a special Thank you to everyone who visited and signed our guest book. Thank you, for the opportunity to represent Clan Leslie at the Rural Hill Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games. **Paul Aulbach – Chairman of 2010 CLSI Gathering.**

SAN ANTONIO HIGHLAND GAMES, APRIL 4-5, 2009



David Leslie White, Lynne & Frank Leslie

After several years' absence, CLSI was present once again at the San Antonio Highland Games, held on Leslie Road in Helotes, TX, April 4 & 5, 2009. This was the 10th Anniversary of the Games in San Antonio. The setting is excellent, in a grove of live oak trees with Spanish moss.

CLSI Vice Chieftain David Leslie White was recognized during the opening ceremony on Saturday. Saturday, April 4th, was a fine day with lots of sunshine and a light breeze. Various vendors provided an array of Celtic and related items for sale. The musicians and pipe bands could be heard throughout the day. The athletic events were well received with 65 competitors. There was even a Viking group putting on feats of arms displays in their Viking "Village."

Sunday, April 5th, dawned with a strong wind that encouraged us to strike the tent to prevent damage. Several vendors and clans had their tent frames destroyed by the high winds. Ours only sustained light damage as it was fairly well anchored down. CLSI plans to return to the San Antonio Highland Games next year."

Yours Aye, **Frank & Lynne Leslie, Tent Hosts.**

CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL IS NOW ON FACEBOOK

CLSI now has its own page on the popular networking site Facebook. Our page lists upcoming events and has listings of members hosting Clan Leslie tents at Scottish Festivals around the world. You don't have to be a member of Facebook to view the page, simply cut and paste this link into your browser: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=155937880572>

This link will allow you to view our Facebook page, but you won't be able to add comments and some of the links will be invisible to you. If you'd like a more interactive experience with your kinsmen, joining Facebook is easy. Simply go to <http://www.facebook.com> and sign up. It's free, and best of all by joining you can view the entirety of the CLSI page, keep up with current Leslie events, ask questions of your fellow society members and chat live with other Leslies who are also members of Facebook. It's really a great way to keep in touch with other CLSI members.

If you would like to have a Leslie event posted on our page, please email your information to Laura Messing at designinvasion@gmail.com.

MISSOURI TARTAN DAY, APRIL 3-5, 2009, ST. CHARLES, MISSOURI



It was a windy weekend on the banks of the Missouri River for the 9th annual Missouri Tartan Day Festivities. The CLSI tent was hosted by Laura Messing and Janet Leslie Pyatt with help from CLSI member Barbara Vetter, her daughter Kitty Bentley and Laura's husband Dean Messing. The festival opened Friday evening with the calling of the Scottish Clans and music on the main stage. Photo left, CLSI members line up for the Missouri

Tartan Day Festivities Parade.

Saturday's events were kicked-off with a parade down Main Street followed by opening ceremonies and a full day of festival activities. Despite the wind, we had a few visitors to the Leslie tent early in the day who enjoyed refreshments and looking at the Leslie history display. Unfortunately, the winds picked up later in afternoon destroying our canopy and blowing over several other clan tents. Fortunately, none of our displays or signage was hurt and we were able to pack everything up and enjoy the remainder of Saturday and Sunday!

The Missouri Tartan Day Festivities is the St. Louis Area's only Scottish Festival and takes place the weekend closest to April 6, National Tartan Day. Photo above, Barbara Vetter, Kitty Bentley, Dexter, Dean Messing and Janet Leslie Pyatt. Not pictured: Laura Messing, photographer.

Laura Messing designinvasion@gmail.com



SHANE LESLIE'S GHOST BOOK

John Randolph Leslie was a son of Sir John Leslie, 2nd Baronet, and his wife, Leonie Jerome. He was raised at Glaslough Castle in County Monaghan, Ireland and attended Eton College and King's College, Cambridge. He was the author of several books including *The End of a Chapter* published in 1916. He converted to Roman Catholicism, changed his first name to "Shane" and supported Irish independence. He also became a believer in ghosts, and believed that Catholics had a right to investigate the ghostly as part of the universe. He collected every possible type of ghost story in an effort to classify them.

Shane Leslie's Ghost Book was first published in 1955 and was published by Hollis & Carter, London. It is a small book, only 160 pages, and consists of two parts: Part One being "On Ghosts and Poltergeists" and Part Two which is twenty-seven "Catholic Ghost-Stories." The stories range widely, from early saints to well-documented hauntings of our own days.

It is an easy book to read, and is interesting if you like ghost stories. He tells the stories well.

David White

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

How is this for service? I wanted to get some new trousers made in the Green Modern Hunting Leslie Tartan. I drove to Burnett's & Struth in Barrie, about 25 miles south of Orillia. My family had shopped there many times before over the years. They have everything Scottish you might want and they are associated with Lochcaron of Scotland, have access to all tartans and are certified Kilt Makers. They supply kilts to bands all over the US and Canada. I told them what I wanted and the order form was filled out. Margaret Struth was asked about delivery since I wanted these tartan trousers for our trip to Edinburgh for the 2009 Homecoming. The process is that you lend them a pair of your trousers that fit you and they make the new ones using these as a pattern. Imagine my shock in learning that they were so booked up that delivery would take twelve weeks. Where is that recession? Margaret then went back in their factory for a few minutes and returned with a solution and a smile. It happened that David from Lochcaron happened to be here for a few days. David would take my trousers back to Scotland, have my new Leslie Tartan trousers made in the Lochcaron factory and send them back to Burnett's & Struth in Barrie, Canada margaret@burnetts-struth.com. I would have them by July 10th, in lots of time to go to Edinburgh. I was very thankful to Margaret and grateful for their fantastic service.

William Leslie, william.leslie@sympatico.ca

TEXAS SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES JUNE 6-7, 2009.

Frank and Lynne Leslie will also host a CLSI tent at the 23rd annual Texas Scottish Festival & Highland Games scheduled for June 6-7, 2009. Once again this event will be held at the Maverick Stadium, University of Texas at Arlington Campus, Arlington, Texas. This is the largest Scottish event in Texas with an average of over 50,000 visitors and 60 clan tents each year. The entertainment is probably the best in the North America. You can visit their website at www.texasscottishfestival.com/index . Mark your calendar and plan to come on out and join us for some fun and to celebrate our shared Scottish heritage!

David Leslie White, Vice-Chieftain, CLSI clanleslie@earthlink.net

2009 HOMECOMING SCOTLAND LESLIE GATHERING, HOLYROOD PARK, EDINBURGH JULY 25 & 26, 2009

BE PART OF THE LARGEST CLAN GATHERING OF ALL TIME!



On 25 & 26th July, Edinburgh will host the **largest Clan Gathering in history**. Right in the city centre, Holyrood Park will witness magnificent Highland Games. Later, clan members will turn the historic Royal Mile into a sea of tartan with a massed parade before arriving on the Castle Esplanade for the spectacular Clan Pageant.

Click below for more information.

► [Celebrate clan history at The Gathering 2009](#)

There will be a Leslie Tent in Holyrood Park and there is a contingent of Leslies and Abernathy's who have their Homecoming Passports and will be marching in the Parade on the Royal Mile. Brian Lesslie has made arrangements at the Innkeeper's Lodge in Perth and is arranging transportation to and from Edinburgh. Some of the group are planning a trip to Rosslyn Chapel to see the Bartholomew, Queen Margaret, carving.

William Leslie, william.leslie@sympatico.ca

2010 CLAN LESLIE GATHERING

Clan Leslie will be the Honored Clan in the Rural Hill Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games and be honored in the parades and reception dinner.

Paul Aulbach pablosquarter@aol.com

CLICK ON ADDRESSES AFTER MESSAGES

Please note that all the email messages in this issue are clickable. If you want to reply to the writer, you can do so right away without having to copy the address into your email program.

William Leslie william.leslie@sympatico.ca

BOOKS NEEDED FOR THE CLAN LESLIE COLLECTION

You can donate your books by sending them directly to the Clan Leslie Library Collection. Contact William Leslie, Library Liaison, at william.leslie@sympatico.ca for the form and address.

With the start of the Clan Leslie collection at the University of Guelph, there is a need to provide some books by or about Leslies, Abernathys, Cairneys, Laings and Moores. Below are some of the books desired:

The Leslies of Tarbert, County Kerry, and their Forebearers by Pierce Leslie Pielou, published 1935 by Brindleys LTD, 224 pages.

Lesley Leslie and Lesley Leslie Supplement and Vevins Notes, 1755 - by Ruth Leslie Cleveland, Published 1979 by the Inter-Collegiate Pres, 210 pages

The People of Leslie, Premnay and Oyne 1696, by W. Biack. Published in 2001 by the Aberdeen & North-East Scotland Family History Society

Elephants Have Right of Way by Betty Leslie-Melville, published 1973 by Doubleday, 222 pages.

There's A Rhino in the Rose Bed Motherby Betty Leslie-Melville, published 1973 by Doubleday, 253 pages.

The Queen of Publishers Row: Mrs. Frank Leslie by Madeleine B. Stern, published 1965 by J. Messner, 192 pages

David Leslie White, Vice-Chieftain, CLSI clanleslie@earthlink.net

CLAN LESLIE WEB SITE <http://www.clanlesliesociety.org/>

Anybody who has anything to sell can now get it posted on the website.

FAMILY HISTORY EXCHANGE (A NEW FEATURE)

(See Details of Marlene's Family Tree, February Grip Fast Online)

Hello William

I am attaching three generations of my Leslie family, starting with my great great grandfather Alexander Leslie, who was the first immigrant to Canada in 1832. I like your suggestion of "Family History Exchange" or "Searching for Family Connections". I think either one would be suitable. I would appreciate receiving feedback from anyone who has any family connections.

Regards, Marlene Strudwick at mates2@shaw.ca

CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS UPDATE

This is the fifth issue of the Grip Fast Online, sent to members for whom we have email addresses. It is an expanded service of publications to keep the members informed and allow more opportunities for members to share their stories and contribute to the work of the Clan Leslie Society International. Please use this online newsletter to give us your views and to share your Leslie (Abernathy, Carney, Moore, Lang, etc) stories. The plan is to keep this letter informal.

Grip Fast. Issues are planned for **January, April, July and October.**

Grip Fast Online. Issues will usually be **February, March, May, June, August, September, November and December,**

The Journal. The Journal will be published annually at the end of the summer when the reports of Games and Gatherings have been completed.

Note: It is *extremely important* that those hosting tents at games and family gatherings send pictures and short reports of these events to the Editor, William Leslie at william.leslie@sympatico.ca

The Griffin. The Griffin will be published annually.

NEXT GRIP FAST ONLINE - JUNE

Please send us your stories. Some stories may be published initially in the Grip Fast Online and published again, in more complete form in the Grip Fast or one of the other publications.

Please note the number of different CLSI members who have contributed to this issue.

William Leslie, Editor william.leslie@sympatico.ca

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