



Volume 2, Issue 5, August 2009



JULY 25-26 2009 HOMECOMING GATHERING, HOLYROOD PARK, EDINBURGH
Some of the Leslie's who attended the biggest ever Clan Gathering and Parade on the Royal Mile.

2010 CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

My Dear Bothers and Sisters;

It is my pleasure to announce that the 2010 Clan Leslie Biennial Gathering will be held at the Rural Hill Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games on April 16, 17 and 18, 2010 in Huntersville (Charlotte) North Carolina. You will remember that the Clan Leslie will be the Honored Clan at the 2010 Festival.

I am happy to announce that our distinguished Clan Chief, the Honourable Alexander Leslie who represents our Scottish ancestors back to our founder will be attending the games. We should all be proud to attend this Gathering to share with our Chief the celebration of our Scottish heritage. As he has committed his time to show his support of Clan Leslie Society International by attending, we should show ours by respectfully giving him a proper welcome and a few days of our own. I am calling on all members to try their best to attend the Rural Hill Festival and Loch Norman Games in 2010.

The planning is coming along well as there will be many items on the agenda to keep us busy.

The Drury Hotel at 6920 Northlake Mall Drive, Charlotte NC 28216 has been reserved for our kinsman and leadership. You can contact them at 704-599-8882 to confirm your hotel reservations. Deluxe rooms will be \$65.00 a night and the two room suites will be \$104.99 a night. When you contact them please use the group code 2069424 for the group rates.

I am presently planning the reception, gate tickets, transportation, Dinner and CLSI meeting schedules. Please be patient with me as I will have the Package and membership pricing soon (negotiations ongoing).

I am also considering an early day golf package for those individuals who wish to come a day early (Thursday). The hotel we will be staying in has a beautiful shopping and dining area close by along with some of the most serene and majestic landscaping for tours and picnics. I suggest coming a day or two early just to visit our glorious communities and scenic highways.

I recommend that all those who plan to attend please make your hotel reservations as soon as possible so we can confirm and plan for the correct number of those attending.

I will have the Schedule of Events and Package pricing out to you soon. I look forward to seeing you there and lifting a toast in your honor!

Thank You and Many Blessings,

Paul Aulbach – 2010 CLSI Gathering Chairman

Editor's Note: For those of you who choose to book by the Internet:

Drury Inn and Suites, Charlotte Northlake. <https://www.druryhotels.com/Reservations.aspx> at the top of the form on the left, under STEP 1, is a little message that says "If you have a group number, click here." Click and enter the group number **2069424** then you get your choice of rooms.

2009 CLAN GATHERING, EDINBURGH

We counted 28 Leslie's, Lesslies and Abernathy's in our group for the Gathering on July 25th and 26th and in the parade. In addition we had many visitors to our Clan Leslie Tent and signed up some new members. This was a tremendous experience for me and I had so many new and enjoyable experiences that I am still working on writing them down. The October Grip Fast will be dedicated solely to reporting on this Gathering with contributions from several of those who were there. Look out for it; it is sent to Clan Leslie Society International members.

Tom Leslie donated a bag full of great books for the Clan Leslie Library. Sue and I were able to carry them home in our baggage.

The two Brian Lesslies, Petra and Catherine did a great job of looking after the people who stayed in Perth, preparing the tent and providing food for all of us at the tent.

Elsie Montgomery sent this You Tube Video of the parade that shows the Leslies at about 1.30 on the video. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4ERHSj6KD0>



Sue and I went north to Peterhead to see our cousins and had a good time there. Here is a picture of one of the newest Leslies, cousin Milly. Her great grandmother was my dear aunt Fanny Smith.

I have hundreds of photos and I am collecting more from all the folks who were there I will find a way to make them available.

William Leslie

APPOINTMENT OF NEW COMMISSIONER FOR NORTH AMERICA



On Saturday July 25th at the 2009 Homecoming Gathering in Holyrood Park in Edinburgh, The Chief of the Scottish Clan Leslie, the Honourable Alexander Leslie, appointed William Leslie of Orillia, Ontario, Canada, the Commissioner for North America for the Clan Leslie. William Leslie will be the Chief's representative for Clan Leslie members in North America. This appointment is a great honour and has been held by only two individuals in the past, Alexander Leslie Klieforth and Robert E. Leslie. The presentation of the Clan Leslie Medallion was made at the Leslie Tent in the presence of the Leslie's, Lesslies and

Abernathy's who attended the Gathering.

William Leslie

2009 CONFERENCE OF CLAN CHIEFS SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT, EDINBURGH

I was honoured to be invited by our Clan Chief to attend the Conference of Clan Chiefs in the Scottish Parliament buildings on Friday July 24th. Those of you who want to see the entire proceedings can do so on Electric Scotland at: http://www.electricscotland.com/history/articles/scottish_chiefs.htm

CLAN CHIEF, THE HON.ALEXANDER LESLIE GREETED BY THE DUCHESS OF CORNWALL

I took some pictures of our Clan Chief meeting with the Duchess of Cornwall, (Camilla) and Prince Charles.



A WORD FROM THE NEW COMMISSIONER FOR NORTH AMERICA

There are two main issues facing the Clan Leslie Society International that I can see at the moment.

1. We need to strengthen our membership. The members of the CLSI are the people who keep the Clan Leslie alive. These are the people who are working to help preserve the history of the Clan, to preserve its documents, promote education in Scottish culture and history and protect the treasures of the Clan. We would be very much able to do more of these things if every member was to recruit at least one new member. How about giving CLSI memberships as Christmas presents to sons and daughters and cousins.
2. From the fine members we have, we need more people to volunteer to do the work of the CLSI. There are people doing more than one job and there are jobs that are vacant. Important jobs like the Convenor for Canada have been vacant for too long. I challenge you to count how many on the List of Council and Appointed Officers on the last page have more than one job. I would love to be the Convenor for Canada but I cannot take on another job, however, I would be very willing to work with anyone who wanted to try that job. Hello, Nova Scotia, any Leslies there?

William Leslie

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY PIPE BAND BEST IN THE WORLD

Brian Leslie in Vancouver is proud to report that the SFU, Burnaby, BC pipe band is the best in the world.

<http://forargyll.com/2009/08/result-headlines-world-pipe-band-championships/>

STORM OVER CORONADO, A MYSTERY NOVEL, by PEGGY LESLIE & DONNA JEREMIAH

Firstly, thanks for all you do in putting together *Grip Fast*. It's a LOT of work!

Secondly, I have co-authored **Storm over Coronado**, a mystery novel, along with Donna Jeremiah (wife of Dr. David Jeremiah, our pastor and founder of Turning Point Radio and TV Ministries).

The book has been published by Xulon Press and should be showing up in bookstores soon. Meanwhile, the best way to order it is through amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, or booksamillion.com. The price is \$14.99--but it can be purchased for as low as \$11.88 on amazon.com. All us Scots like a good bargain, don't we?

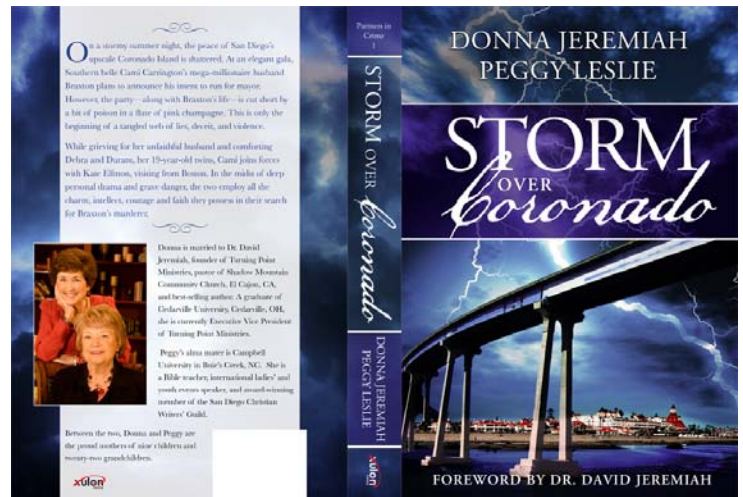
This was a really fun project that Donna and I are glad we undertook even if the book were not already selling well (which it is). We've had quite a number of calls, emails, notes, and personal contacts saying things like, "It kept me up all night" or "I couldn't put it down," or "I didn't figure out 'who dunnit' until the very end." We are very thankful to the Lord for helping us write this book and for the many people who are enjoying and being blessed by it. For anyone who really loves having "signed" copies, Donna and I are making up some stick-on labels with both our signatures.

Oh yes, a brother and sister in the novel plan to attend Edinburgh University for a semester. Thanks and God bless!

Peggy Leslie (Leslie Clan Charter Member with husband Gene)

El Cajon, CA

Editor's Note: Peggy and Donna are providing an autographed copy to be donated to the Clan Leslie Library.



AVAILABLE ONLINE: THE FAMILY OF LESLIE FROM 1067 TO 1868-9 BY COL. C. LESLIE.

From: Pat Trachier

Hello William; Some time ago, I was sent an e-mail which took me to Google Book Search, specifically to the historical records of "The Family of Leslie from 1067 to 1868-9" by Charles Leslie.

Google explains that this is a copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves, its copyright expired and is now in public domain. It was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable and accessible online.

I had nearly forgotten about this site, although I did download it to my computer, and I came across it recently and thought that it might possibly be of some use.

You may already be aware of this site, but I thought that I would pass it along to you just in case and if you so wished, you could evaluate it for somehow including it into the Clan Leslie Library, that is if the Library can accept this type of media. Of course, it can be printed (about 650 pages).

Anyway, take it for what it is. I just thought that maybe it could be of some use, at least until an actual copy of the book is discovered and donated (if it has not already been done).

<http://books.google.com/books?id=lyENAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA1&dq=Family+of+Leslie>

Regards, **Pat**

Hello Pat thank you for this information. This set of books seems to be very much in demand. Besides this Google site, several universities have electronic copies available from their libraries. I remember finding it at Oxford, the University of Toronto and others. I did talk to the Head Archivist at Guelph about making it available through their library. I cautioned them that this could be simply a link, since so many libraries had scanned digital copies. They probably will do this somehow. David Leslie White in Texas donated an original set of the three volumes to the Clan Leslie Collection and I have a set in nearly new condition which will end up there someday. In addition to all this, someone has been selling bound photocopies for several years. The cost of these photocopies is high enough to make you think of downloading your own copy from Google. You are right; I think many members would be interested in this web site. Thanks again.

William Leslie

SITE SEEING- FAMILY HISTORY SEARCH

Cyndi's List – Scotland

<http://www.cyndislist.com/scotland.htm>

*Updated June 14, 2009

A good first stop when researching your Scottish ancestors is *Cyndi's List*.

The website includes an extensive Categories List plus a list of Related Categories, all of which may prove useful to the person researching Scottish ancestors. Categories include How-To; Libraries and Archives and Museums; Maps, Gazetteers, and Geographical Information; Mailing Lists, News Groups, and Chat; and Military (just to name a few). Jump-start your Scottish gene research with a trip to *Cyndi's List*!

BBC – Scottish Roots: Searching for Your Family History in Scotland

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/history/scottishroots/>

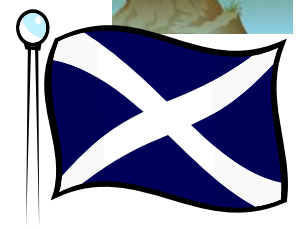
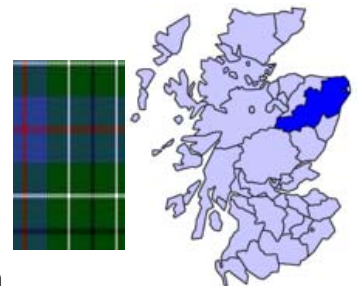
The BBC's guide to Scottish roots research is a great location for anyone new to Scottish ancestor research.

Genuki - Scotland

<http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/sct/>

It's links, links and more links – all of them dealing with Scottish history and/or genealogy!

Rebecca Chase Dobias



BOOK REVIEW: THE GILT AND THE GINGERBREAD BY ANITA LESLIE

If you have been so fortunate as to stay overnight at Castle Leslie in County Monaghan, Ireland, have slept in the bedroom as we did where the ghost of her soldier uncle Norman Leslie might appear, or even have had dinner in the glorious dining room, you will be interested in reading this autobiography written by Anita Leslie; this was her childhood home after the First World War. She describes with great witticism and affection her memories of family, including her cousin, Sir Winston Churchill, and many famous friends. Anita grew up with her brother Jack (now called Sir John, in his nineties, and a current resident of the castle), her Irish father, Sir Shane Leslie, who seldom spoke to her, and her American-born mother, a woman who loved travelling, parties and the social life of these Edwardian times. Although precocious, Anita did not learn to read until age nine due to being shunted from one strange school and convent to another in England, Ireland and Europe.

Few young women of the upper classes held careers, being quite obsessed with cocktail parties and fashions, so it was highly unusual that, besides writing many other books, Anita distinguished herself during the Second World War as an ambulance driver for the Free French forces, serving in Italy and France. For her bravery, she was awarded the Croix de Guerre by the Government of France. She died at the age of 71 and is buried on the grounds of her beloved Castle Leslie.

Book Report by Sue Leslie

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TREASURER:

Dear Kinsmen:

Often in times of economic worries, the first thing that a family experiences is cut - backs. Charities and memberships in organizations are hit the hardest. Those precious dollars must go for needs, not likes or wants. For those members who received a dues notice in January, we have 27 members that have outstanding dues. We understand that you may have difficulty paying your dues. Perhaps you simply forgot, or lost the dues notice. If you have forgotten, please remit your dues promptly. If you are having a difficult time paying your dues, please contact us, we may be able to help. Please let us know if we can help you, if you do not respond by 1 September 2009, you will be dropped from the membership rolls of the CLSI.

Yours aye,

Linda Flowers, Treasurer, lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net.

Clan Leslie Society International

302 SW 3rd Street, Tuttle, OK, USA, 73089

OBITUARY: DAVID CALVIN LESLIE SR.

David Calvin Leslie Sr., 89, passed away Friday, February 6, 2009, at Piedmont Medical Center. Services were held on Monday, February 9, 2009, at Neely's Creek ARP Church, 974 Neely's Creek Road. Reverend Jan Senneker officiated. Burial was at Neely's Creek ARP Church Cemetery. David Leslie was born in Catawba, S.C., to the late Martin Luther Leslie and the late Florence Simpson Leslie. He was a life-long member of Neely's Creek ARP, where he was a former deacon an elder and a member of the choir for over sixty years. He was a graduate of Rock Hill High School and retired as a railroad engineer with CSX Railroad with over 44 years of service.

David Leslie was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Gettys Leslie; his daughter, Lynn L. Mann; his brother, Martin L. Leslie Jr.; and his sisters, Jean Gordon, Rebecca Faris and Pauline Leslie. He is survived by his wife, Myrtle Reeves Leslie; his sons, David C. Leslie Jr. and wife, Lori, and Kirk Leslie and wife, Anita, all of Rock Hill; his daughter, Harriet L. Flinn and husband, Wes, of Catawba; his son-in-law, Terry Mann of Lake Wales, Fla.; his stepson, James W. Boyd and wife, Susan, of Rock Hill; and his many grandchildren.

BOOKS DONATED TO THE CLAN LESLIE LIARARY BY THOMAS G. LESLIE, KSG, KM

The Gilt & the Gingerbread, an Autobiography, Anita Leslie, Hutchinson & Co. Publishers, London, 1981.

Lesley, Leslie. A History of the Family of William Robert Lesley and Elizabeth Buchanan Lesley. Two Hundred Years in America, 1755-1956, by Ruth Cleveland Leslie, the Courant Press, Washington, DC, 1956. First Edition, Copy 194 of a total printing of 315.

Two's Company, A History of Leslie and Godwin, 1885-1985, By Victor Head with illustrations by David Langdon, Published by Leslie and Godwin (Holdings) PLC, 1985.

One Man's World, A Story of Strange Places and Strange People, by Lionel Leslie, Pall Mall Press, London, 1961.

The Baronetage, Second Enlarged Edition, by Sir Martin Lindsay of Dowhill, Bt, Published by the Author, 1979.

Copies of the ACLS Journal from 1978 to 1980. Copies of Grip Fast. The Griffin, 1983 to 1993.

Photograph of Alastair Leslie, the last Baron of Balquhain, taken in New Zealand where he and his family moved before WW II.

Photocopy of *The Fetternear Banner* (Booklet) by The Reverend David McRoberts S.J.. A description of a religious banner that was given to the Church of Our Lady of the Garioch which was built by Colonel Charles Leslie, 26th Baron of Balquhain, in 1859.

Miscellaneous other copies and photographs.

CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL – SCHOLARSHIPS

CLSI is offering scholarships to our members. We have two different types of scholarships. One is an academic scholarship valued at \$250. The deadline for the next scholarship is November 30 with the award of one scholarship being made on January 15. The second type of scholarship is for Scottish or Celtic Programs. The amount of this scholarship is \$200 and can be applied for any time. It 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 a member of the scholarship committee: **Paul Aulbach** pablosquarter@aol.com, **Becky Dobias** dobiasrsc@aol.com, or **Linda Flowers** lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net.

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.

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 Mother by 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/>

See the latest photos from the 2009 Homecoming Gathering in Edinburgh.

Chat with other Leslies. Anybody who has anything to sell can now have it posted on the website.

CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS UPDATE

The Grip Fast Online is 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, Lang, Moore, 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.

Have your say: You will notice contributions from several people in this issue. Just send your letters or messages to the Editor, William Leslie at william.leslie@sympatico.ca

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 - SEPTEMBER

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.

Note the number of different clan members who have contributed to this issue.

William Leslie, Editor william.leslie@sympatico.ca

COMING SOON

Joanne Doucette lives in Leslieville, Toronto. Over the years, she has been very active with others in making this part of Toronto one of the most desirable places to live in the city. Joanne has done a tremendous amount of historical research on the founder of Leslieville, George Leslie and has kindly agreed to allow us to publish her stories about one of the most famous Leslies in Canada. She is planning a book about George Leslie and his family and it will be a significant addition to historical information about Canadian Leslies.

William Leslie, Editor william.leslie@sympatico.ca

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Herald	Susan C. Abernethy	5643 Limerick Av, San Diego, CA, 92117-1526, USA	858-576-8293	sabernet@trexenterprises.com
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Piper	Vacant			
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Grip Fast & Online Journal, Griffin	David L. White, Laura Messing, Elsie Montgomery, Publications Committee			
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