



## Volume 5, Issue 5, August 2012

### SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S DAY, AUGUST 24

August 24, St. Bartholomew's Day, has been established as a day of celebration for Clan Leslie. This was done to honor the founder of the Clan, Bartholomew (Bardolf in Saxon), the brother-in-law of King Malcolm III Canmore of Scotland. It was Bartholomew who married Beatrix, the sister of King Malcolm. August 24 should be a day of celebration for all Leslies and sept members. Let us each give thanks for the founder of our clan and raise a glass to toast his memory.

David Leslie White

### GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES JULY 12-15



Tartan Parade: Robert Abernathy, Abernathy Sisters, Don Abernathy, Robbie Leslie (New Member)

CLSI had two tents at the GMHG, one for clan information which was hosted by Lew and Christine Johnson and a hospitality tent hosted by Don and Janice Abernathy. The tents were across the path from each other which was quite convenient and added greatly to the CLSI presence at the games. In an effort to draw attention to the tent, we had two 2' x 6' vinyl banners made with pictures and a list of the septs of Clan Leslie. The pictures of the Leslie castles and houses drew much attention.

Don Abernathy and his wife Janice have very faithfully served for over a dozen years as CLSI hosts at the GMHG. Their dedication to this event is very noteworthy, and it was a pleasure to see the two of them meet and spend time with CLSI visitors in their

hospitality tent.

On Friday morning there was thick fog on the mountain and light rain. However, as the weather cleared in the afternoon we had numerous visitors. Saturday started off with very nice weather and everyone was busy greeting visitors. We had a grand time talking Leslie history, the recent Harlaw Remembrance event, and our travels in Scotland. On Sunday, ten of us marched in the Parade of Tartans and got a special recognition from the announcer as Clan Leslie being a clan that is near and dear to his heart. Luckily, but as expected, we received our daily hour-long drenching just after lunch, but it quickly cleared and the visitors returned.

The highlight of the event was a visit by CLSI member Robert Abernathy from Indiana. He was accompanied by his wife and his sisters, Kate Abernathy, Jodi Stegall, Sandra Lacano, and Annie Windstrup. They each wore a



Abernathy Sisters, Kate Abernathy, Jodi Stegall, Sandra Lacano and Annie Windstrup

very stylish highland dress fashioned in Leslie modern tartan and added to the Leslie presence during the parade of tartans. Thank you to all of the CLSI members 20 in all, who visited the tent from Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina. Francis Leslie from Alexandria, VA was at the games attending the Gaelic language and song class. His son Robert also attended the games.

On Sunday, Riley Lanier, who was a recipient of a CLSI scholarship for piping, visited the Leslie tents and played several tunes for us. Everyone appreciated that he took time out from the competition to visit and his piping is outstanding.



**Riley Piping for the Leslies**



**Christine, Francis Leslie, Marty and Margaret Brown**

A gentleman who was born in Glaslough, Ireland stopped by the tent. His brother lived in the carriage house on the estate of Leslie Castle. As Christine talked with the man, it became evident that he had some knowledge of the Patrick Leslie move from Scotland to Ireland. This Patrick is the brother of the William who went to Barbados in the mid-1600s. These encounters and the conversations about Leslie history are the reason that attending highland games is so important.

**Lew and Christine Johnson**

**ORILLIA SCOTTISH FESTIVAL, ORILLIA, ONTARIO JULY 21**



**William and Sue Leslie and Great Grannie Leslie in her Genuine Red Leslie Tartan, Offering Scottish Shortbread to Visitors.**

William and Sue Leslie had a tent at the Orillia Scottish Festival. We got a chance to try out our new banners, the large main Clan Leslie banner, a smaller one which fit well on our tent and two smaller banners, with the sept names and the Clan Badge. We had visits from two Leslies and two Muirs who took away information. As usual, we had a visit from Brian Lesslie's cousin from Collingwood.

The location of our tent was just about the spot of the large marquee tent we had for the Clan Leslie Gathering in 2002 which was attended by the late Earl, Ian Leslie and the Countess, Marigold. We still remember fondly that event and the 174 Leslies who came to Orillia that weekend.

**William Leslie, Commissioner**

## FERGUS HIGHLAND GAMES, FERGUS, ONTARIO – AUG. 9 TO AUG. 12



Commissioner, William Leslie and Nephew, Steven Spitzer

On Saturday, Aug. 11, I had the pleasure of spending time with William Leslie and his nephew, Steve Spitzer at the Clan Leslie tent. I also wandered through the grounds and was amazed at the variety of activities going on, many concurrently. There were many pipe bands, heavy event competitions and highland dance competitions to see. As well, numerous entertainers, displays and merchants' tents were enjoyed. One day was definitely not enough to take in everything.

There were many clan tents, with the Leslie Clan tent and displays being very well put together. William had done a lot of work organizing information into binders for people to leaf through. He had a very interesting display of pictures hung on a picture wall and was able to share a wealth of Leslie information with visitors. Thank-you, William, for all your hard work and enthusiasm.

**Robert Leslie, Acton, Ontario**

I attended the Fergus Festival for the three days, Friday night with the Tattoo in a thunderstorm, Saturday in off and on rain and Sunday in sunshine until about 2:00 pm. I had to leave early to get to my brother Alec's and his wife Edith's, fiftieth wedding anniversary party in Toronto before everyone left. I have to thank Robert Leslie for his help all day Saturday, including setting up and taking the picture above. My nephew, Steven Spitzer and his wife Ruth live in Fergus and put me up and fed me for two nights. Steven was with me on Friday night and all day Saturday, also helping with the set up. Fergus has this program of Passports for Kids, which requires the children to go to every Clan tent to get their passport stamped. This kept the three of us very busy applying our Leslie stamp to hundreds of passports all day long. Because of my helpers I was able to talk to several Leslies and give them materials to interest them in the CLSI.

**William Leslie, Commissioner**

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## PERMIAN BASIN HIGHLAND GAMES, ODESSA, TEXAS, AUGUST 18 & 19



The Clan Leslie was the Honored Clan at the First Annual Permian Basin Highland Games, Odessa, TX. Organizer, David Roy Raney said, "Frank, I just wanted to give you a 'heads up'. We have chosen Clan Leslie as the honored clan for PBHG 2012. I believe it is a good choice. You and your wife are always in Midland and now you are supporting our Odessa Fair."

**Frank Leslie**

For those of you who are not familiar with West Texas, the location of the Permian Basin oil field, this is their poster. Just a wee bit of Scotland in the "all-patch."

**David Leslie White**



## JULY 24, 601<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF HARLAW



July 24 was the 601st anniversary of the Battle of Harlaw. I was reminded of the bravery and sacrifice of the men of Aberdeen who went out to defend their homes and the city of Aberdeen. In particular, I am reminded of the bravery and sacrifice of Sir Andrew Leslie, who lost six sons and the other Leslies who died in that battle.

I also remain so very proud of the Clan Leslie Society International and other Leslies who made the donations of money, time and effort to create the new Leslie's Cross at the Chapel of the Garioch.

**David Leslie White**

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**DON'T WAIT! REGISTER NOW FOR THE CLAN LESLIE GATHERING**

**SEPTEMBER 21, 22 AND 23, 2012 LINCOLN, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**The Registration Form, page 13, is at the end of this newsletter.**

**To see the entire Gathering Package, go to Electric Scotland at the address below.**

**[HTTP://WWW.ELECTRICSCOTLAND.COM/FAMILYTREE/NEWSLETTERS/LESLIEINT/2012CLSIGATHERING.PDF](http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslieint/2012clsigathering.pdf)**

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### **FREENS O REID HARLAW, HARLAW BATTLEFIELD TOUR 9TH JULY 2012**

The first Harlaw battlefield tour was held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July and the weather forecast for the day was cold, windy with intermittent showers. Although the forecast for once turned out to be accurate, the day itself was a most enjoyable social occasion.



**The Bass, The Earl of Mar's Army Mustered here Before the Battle of Harlaw**

the Great and the history of Scotland. Andy was involved in two years of research into Harlaw and the development of a model of the battlefield using 750 figurines painted by 11 club members

Led by Andy Douglas seven 'freens' visited a number of locations associated with the battle ending with an invitation to Auld Logie for tea and cakes making this the type of social occasion I envisaged when I came up with the idea of the group..

Having Andy as our guide was a real bonus. His knowledge about the battle simply whetted our appetite as he is the key speaker at our first annual dinner on 21<sup>st</sup> July. Andy is a member of the Aberdeen Wargames Club and has been a student of military history since the age

of twelve with a passion for Classical Greek wars, the Campaigns of Alexander



**The de Greenlaw Slab and Freens with Andy Douglas, Left Rear, and David and Leslie Leslie on the Right**

The visit started off at the Bass and Little Bass in the area known as the Stanners on the road leading to Keithhall. Led by Andy we climbed to the top of the Bass braving wind and rain where he described these natural geological features that were the mounds for the medieval castle possibly belonging to Walter Leslie, Constable of Inverurie.

Many authors agree that it was the most likely mustering point for Mar's army. From the Bass, near Inverurie, we headed to Kinkell Kirk. The renaissance church built in 1538 replaced an earlier medieval church, said to have belonged firstly to the Knights Templar, then the Knights Hospitaller. It is also the location of the engraved burial slab identifying Sir Gilbert de Greenlaw, believed to have been a relation of Gilbert de

Greenlaw, Bishop of Aberdeen 1390-1421.

The grave slab is unusual as it is engraved on two sides, having been reused for a Forbes in 1592. The burial slab now stands upright within the walls of the Kirk and is well worth visiting. The 'freens' have already made initial approaches to try and have the slab better protected and preserved.

Thereafter, we headed for Harlaw stopping off at Johnnie Kelly's Lass which is situated near to Balhalgardy Cottages. These are the remnants of a standing stone circle. A 1771 survey showed this was a 6 stone circle while by 1964 a similar survey found a single stone with at least 22 cup-marks.

Onwards the group followed Andy to the site of the Village of Harlaw just behind Harlaw House. Andy described the village itself, the location of twelve skeletons found in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and finally the Liggars Stane, one of two standing stones from an 1840 survey. Their original position was due north of Harlaw House and said to mark the spot where the Highland females, killed in the battle, were buried.

By now, we were all ready for a break and headed to Auld Logie and the home of Leopard Magazine where Lindy Cheyne and Ian Hamilton had prepared a wonderful spread – teas, coffees and fabulous home baking.

We spent an enjoyable couple of hours covering multiple subjects from baking through to local history and of course Harlaw. What a great time we had and Lindy and Ian were great hosts and we cannot thank them enough for their kind invitation.

By now the day was wearing on and we headed for our final stop at the Harlaw Monument itself allowing Andy to describe the positions of the cairns of Irvine of Drum, Red Hector and Provost Davidson. We were also given an indication of the topography of the site at the time of Harlaw, in particular the location of a loch that was finally drained in the 1830's and the effect that would have had on the strategy of the two armies.

All in all, we were on the go from 10am until 4pm when we all went our separate ways. Everyone agreed that this was a great day out and a great way to understand the battle and places associated with the event. It was also a great social occasion.

We cannot thank Andy enough for his efforts and our knowledge certainly has been enhanced. This was what the 'freens' are all about and more 'days out' are planned.

**Albert Thomson, Secretary**

For: Freens o Reid Harlaw Newsletter & Website  
 Clan Leslie Newsletter  
 Celtic Guide  
 Leopard Magazine

## **EDITOR URGENTLY NEEDED FOR THE GRIP FAST JOURNAL AND GRIP FAST ONLINE**

I have been editing the Grip Fast since Karen Leslie handed it over to me in 2004 and the Journal since Bob Leslie was no longer able to do it. In 2008 I agreed to edit the Grip Fast Journal and the Grip Fast Online. For a while I had some help from someone who did the Journal. I asked for and obtained a two year term renewable with mutual agreement. In 2010, I agreed to a renewal of my two year term, this second term comes to an end in September of this year. I have other things I wish to do and I am not anxious to continue with the position of Editor Publications.

If there is anyone who ever wished to edit a newsletter and a quarterly Journal, or someone who has any experience with writing or editing, your help is needed. All you really need is to have experience using Microsoft Word. I would be willing to assist you with this job until you feel comfortable doing it by yourself.

**William Leslie, Editor Publications, CLSI**

## **FROM THE CHIEFTAIN**

William Leslie has gone above and beyond in the "call to duty" for our Society for many years. He served as the Chieftain, hosted our Gathering at Orillia in 2002, and currently is serving as the Clan Leslie Commissioner in North America, our Publications Editor, our Liaison to the University of Guelph Library, and the Convenor for Southern and Central Ontario. When William was elected Chieftain in 1999, he noted that "We need volunteers to share the workload." That was true then, and is still true now. We had allowed William to take on more and more workload, and in spite of frequent requests in *Grip Fast* for an Assistant Editor, no one has stepped forward. William has almost single-handedly expanded and improved our publications, and resurrected the *Grip Fast Journal*. We can all be proud of our publications.

I regret that William does not wish to be reinstated as the Publications editor, but I fully understand his desire to do have a break from this job. He has given much for a very long time and now it is time for someone else to step forward and volunteer. Obviously, without a Publications Editor, we will not have publications. These instruments, *Grip Fast Online* and *Grip Fast: The Journal of the Clan Leslie Society International* are the keystones of both our communication and our history. I cannot thank William enough for all that he has done for our Society, and what he continues to do as the Commissioner, Convenor and Library Liaison.

So, I will ask once again for someone to step forward and volunteer to be our Publications Editor. William has offered his assistance until you feel comfortable in this role.

**David Leslie White, Chieftain**

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## **DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY AND THE CLAN LESLIE LIBRARY**

Donations are one of the essential items necessary for our Society to grow. These donations can be monetary, written items for the Grip Fast, donations of your time, and materials which assist in our Clan Leslie Society International collection at the University of Guelph. These printed donations are in keeping with one of our Objectives, "To promote, foster, collect and preserve historical and genealogical records and information about descendants of Clan Leslie throughout the world."

I was most pleased to return from our recent trip to Scotland with some donations. The first was a Clan Leslie "Clout" or tea towel donated by Bill James of the Celtic Craft Centre, Paisley Close, 101 High Street (the Royal Mile) in Edinburgh. This tea towel will be added to the games kit of the Southwest Branch. Bill also donated some large Leslie tartan samples to the 2011 gathering to commemorate the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Harlaw. Bill is still in business selling high quality Scottish items, to include kilts and plaids in rare tartans. Bill sold me my Leslie kilt many years ago and it has served me well. You can contact him at [ccckiltuk@aol.com](mailto:ccckiltuk@aol.com)

Thomas G. Leslie of Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, England donated more of his Leslie holdings which included the following:

*The Leslies of Suddie* by Francis Murray-Leslie, Boxmoor, Herts, England, 1987

*Leslies of the Waxhaws* by William James Leslie, privately printed, Sacramento, California 1981

*The Remarkable Mr. Jerome: The Life and Times of Leonard Jerome, Sir Winston Churchill's American Grandfather* by Anita Leslie, Ireland, published by Henry Holt and Company, New York 1954

Of course, Mr. Jerome was the father of Jennie, Clara and Leonie Jerome. Jennie married Sir Randolph Churchill, parents of Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill and Leonie married Sir John Leslie of Castle Leslie, Glaslough, County Monaghan, Ireland. Anita Leslie is the grand-daughter of Leonie and Sir John Leslie.

*The Descendants of Henry David Leslie, (1822-1896)* compiled by Graham Leslie, published about 1983

*The House of Fetternear: A History and a Description* by H. Gordon Slade

*Scottish Heraldry: An Invitation* by M. [Mark] D. Dennis, J. Dr., FSA Scot 1999

One of the programs from the Leslie Clan Gathering at Leslie Castle, Leslie by Inch, Aberdeenshire, 1995

And an interesting collection of other items such as newspaper clippings and postcards.

My sincere appreciation to both Bill James and Thomas Leslie for their generosity. And a special thanks to David and Leslie Leslie for giving us a guided tour of the important Leslie sites in Aberdeenshire. It was the highlight of our trip to Scotland! These were the sites that Beth and I missed last year when I was unable to travel to attend the 600th anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Harlaw.

**David Leslie White**

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### **DR. JOHN CAIRNEY, ACTOR, ARTIST, AND WRITER, BORN IN GLASGOW, FEBRUARY 16, 1930**

This year is the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic. My first recollection of the story of the Titanic was viewing the 1958 B&W movie *A Night to Remember* on TV. A now legendary Scot, John Cairney played Mr. Murphy in the movie. In an interview for the Daily Record, he recounts that he got paid £20 a day and was repeatedly dunked into freezing cold water, but filming Titanic movie *A Night to Remember* is still one of the highlights of his career. In the movie Cairney played Irish immigrant Patrick Murphy, a part similar to the character Jack played by Leonardo DiCaprio in James Cameron's 1997 version of the Titanic story. In an interview located at <http://www.johncairney.com>, Cairney describes his experiences filming the movie. When he auditioned for the film, no one ever asked if he could swim; anyway if asked he would have said yes with some conviction stating that is the way actors respond to questions of this sort. You too have probably seen him in two other films: *Cleopatra* 1963, *Jason and the Argonauts* 1963.

Cairney, who is probably best known for his lengthy career performing Robert Burns' works, began his association with Burns in 1965 with Tom Wright's solo play "There Was A Man" at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, and at the Arts Theatre, London.

Dr Cairney gained a Masters of Literature from Glasgow University for a "History of Solo Theatre" in 1988 and, in 1994, a PhD from Victoria University in Wellington for his study of Stevenson and Theatre. Having spent the last seventeen years in New Zealand, Dr. Cairney and his wife Alannah have now returned to live again in Scotland.

As a writer, Cairney has published two autobiographies and a novel, "Worlds Apart" as well as "A Scottish Football Hall of Fame" and "Heroes Are Forever" for Mainstream Publishing (Edinburgh) and "A Year Out In New Zealand" for Tandem Press, NZ. He wrote three Burns books for Luath Press in Edinburgh, as well as biographies of R. L. Stevenson and C.R. Mackintosh and a book of essays on Glasgow entitled "Glasgow by the way, but". His second novel, "Flashback Forward", was followed by his book on acting, "Greasepaint Monkey" in 2010.

**Lew Johnson**

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### **2014 HOMECOMING SCOTLAND, STIRLING, - ELECTRIC SCOTLAND NEWS**

This statement was recently posted by the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs and confirms dates for some events in 2014:

Here are the outline plans for Stirling/Bannockburn dates for 2014 in commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the battle of Bannockburn.

23, 24 June. Opening of the new Bannockburn Visitor Centre by the National Trust for Scotland (NTS).

28, 29 June. Re-enactment of the Battle of Bannockburn by NTS.

11, 13 July. International Clan Gathering and Highland Games at Stirling, to include a march, Clan tented village, traditional Highland Games.

Actual locations in Stirling for the various events are to be confirmed as is the route of the march and the organisation and coordination of events. There is plenty of accommodation available at Stirling University should any clan wish to base themselves there and so perhaps time to be considering your 2014 holiday arrangements.

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## 2014 HOMECOMING SCOTLAND GATHERING, STIRLING

Hi all you Leslies and Septs.

There will be a Clan Gathering at the next HOMECOMING in Scotland 2014. **I need to know the numbers who would like to join in and take part.** This will possibly be made into a 4 DAY meeting with an intention of including an exhibition and gathering of all the Leslies and their septs. The Saturday evening dance and meal may be held in the ROTHES halls with the Leslie band in attendance for the music. Transport will be seen to as will the normal arrangements. If you wish to attend this extravaganza please let me know ASAP by Email, FAX, carrier pigeon or snail mail.

You have two years to save up so don't let yourself down! Make the effort to enjoy it.

**Brian Lesslie.**

4 Albany Terrace Perth PH1 2BD Scotland, Tel/Fax 0044 1738 563050. [bleess993@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:bleess993@blueyonder.co.uk).

See Stirling Castle:

<https://www.google.ca/search?q=electric+scotland+stirling+castle&hl=en&prmd=imvns&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=2UW-T4zQCujH6AHtgZFZ&ved=0CGYQsAQ>

## LESLIE TENTS AT HIGHLAND GAMES AND SCOTTISH FESTIVALS.

This list is made up from information supplied by our many dedicated members who give of their weekends to have a Clan Leslie Tent at Games and Festivals all over the world. They share our great family history with visitors who are interested in Scotland and specifically the Clan Leslie.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

**SEPTEMBER 21, 22 AND 23**

### CLAN LESLIE GATHERING, LOON MOUNTAIN, LINCOLN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

You will definitely want to make the Clan Leslie Gathering part of a larger New England vacation, since September is a gorgeous time to visit our region and there is no shortage of things to do. The weather is perfect for wearing all of your Leslie Tartan at the festival. In the meantime, visit some of the websites I've provided in the package to start getting a picture of the festival, area and surroundings. The file on Electric Scotland has every detail that you need to make a decision, including hotel information and road maps.

<http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/leslieint/2012CLSIGATHERING.pdf>

**Laura Sawyer Messing**

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### GEORGIA

**OCTOBER 19-21 STONE MOUNTAIN**, Georgia. **Cathy Duling**, President of the Southeast Branch of the CLSI will be hosting the Clan Leslie Tent. <http://www.smhg.org/>

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## KING MALCOLM HONOURED BARTHOLOMEW FOR HIS SERVICE.

Bartholomew was appointed Governor of the Castle of Edinburgh.

He was knighted and given large grants of land in Fife, Angus, the Mearns and Aberdeenshire.

The circumstances of these grants are recorded in the following legend:

Commencing his journey on horseback at Dunfermline, and proceeding northward, Bartholomew was promised by the King in hereditary right, all the land for a mile around any point where he should find it necessary to alight for the purpose of baiting or feeding his horse. First, he alighted at Fechil, now called Leslie, in Fife; next at Innerlessad, in Angus: the third time at Feskie, or Eskie, in the Mearns; the fourth time at Cushnie, in Mar. His horse at last failed him at the place called Leslie in the Garioch. On his return to court, the King asked him where he had left his horse, and he replied, as some say –

***“At the lesse ley beside the mair,  
My horse it tyrd and stopped there.”***

The King, finding, it is said, that the place suited well with his surname, answered in the same metrical style –

***“Lord Lesley shalt thou be,  
And thy heirs after thee.”***

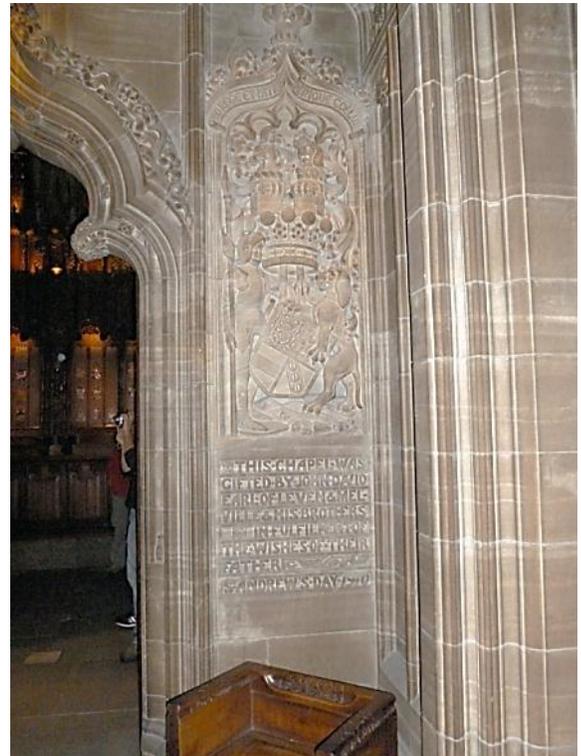
The parish of Leslie, in the district of the Garioch and county of Aberdeen, was thus the earliest possession of the family of Leslie in Scotland.

Reference: Pages 4 and 5, Historical Records of the family of Leslie, 1869 by Colonel Charles Leslie.

**William Leslie**

**DAVID AND BETH VISIT LESLIE HISTORICAL SITES IN SCOTLAND  
THE ENTRANCE TO THE THISTLE CHAPEL, ST. GILES CATHEDRAL, EDINBURGH.**

Note the arms of the Melvilles, with the Leslie arms quartered. The Thistle Chapel is the chapel of The Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Scotland's highest order of chivalry. There are only 16 Knights of the Thistle. This tiny but exquisite chapel has only 19 seats or "stalls," sixteen for the Knights, two for the Sovereign and his or her Consort, and one for the Lord Lyon King of Arms. Above each knight's stall is his helm, decorated with mantling and topped by his crest. The knights who are deceased have an enamelled plate affixed to the



**Leslie (Melville) Arms at the Entrance to the Thistle Chapel**



**Arms of Sir Harald Leslie, Lord Birsay**



**Arms of John David Leslie-Melville**

back of the stall and display the occupant's name, arms and date of admission to the Order. In addition to the arms of Sir Harald Knight of the Thistle with a Leslie connection. This would be Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, 10th Baronet of Pollok. Sir John was the eldest son of Sir William Stirling-Maxwell, 9th Baronet of Pollok, and Lady Anna Maria Leslie-Melville, second daughter of David Leslie-Melville. 8th Earl of Leven and Elizabeth Anne Campbell. He was educated at Eton College and at Trinity College and was appointed a Knight of the Thistle in 1929.

**David Leslie White**

**THE AULD KIRK, ST. MONANS**

My curiosity was raised about a year ago when Tim Leslie discovered, from a website, a Leslie plaque on the wall of the Old Kirk at St. Monans. The plaque was dated 1792, and bore the motto "Grip Fast" and with the twisted white and blue "wreath" of the Leslies.

The village of St. Monans, also sometimes spelled St. Monance, is a small fishing village on the edge of the sea. It is located on the north shore of the Firth of Forth, in Fife, next to highway A917, and almost directly west of the Isle of May. Further up the coast, to the northeast, are the villages of Abercrombie and Anstruther. The name of St. Monance or St. Monans, seems to have come from an Irish missionary, Monanus or Monans or Monan, whose shrine was situated at the mouth of the Inverie Burn. He probably came to East Fife about 832 in the company of Adrian, and he is said to have been the first to preach the gospel in the Isle of May. It is recorded that he was slain by Danish invaders about 875. This material is taken from the information sign outside of the church.

Today the St. Monans church (the Auld Kirk) appears formidable from the outside, almost a fort. But on the inside it is welcoming. All of the walls and the ceiling are painted white, and all of the windows are clear glass. The church is so close to the sea that I would expect the spay from waves crashing on the cliff below to

land on the church. In the graveyard, there is a grave stone for at least one Leslie, a John Leslie and his wife Agnes Easson. It is regrettable that there are no dates on this stone.

St. Monans Church, in close proximity to the shrine of the saint, was founded by Alan Durward about 1265-67. It is to King David II of Scotland, who reigned from 1329 to 1371, that we owe the building as it now is. The King seems to have conceived the church as a thank-offering to God, but there are two different stories about the particular occasion of his thankfulness. The first story tells how David was wounded by two arrows at the Battle of Neville's Cross in 1346 and how one of the arrows was extracted from the wound only after he had made a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Monan, when the arrow leapt from the wound. The second story tells how the king sailed across the Forth to visit Ardrross Castle, and how the queen, Margaret of Logie, and he were in great peril when a storm arose. The king vowed that he would build a church to St. Monan if they reached the land safely.



Plaque on the Wall of St. Monans

The church was built as a monastic chapel in 1370, and sometime before 1477 the building was granted to the Dominican Friars. In 1544 the church was burned by English invaders but the damage must have been made good, for in 1646 it became the Parish Church. General Sir David Leslie of Newark (Baron of Newark) was an elder of the Kirk and a member of the Presbytery.

Now the other piece of the puzzle starts with General David Leslie, Baron of Newark. General Leslie was created Baron Newark in the County of Fife in 1660 by King Charles II. The ruins of Newark Castle are about a third of a mile southwest of the St. Monans Church. Like the church, it was on a cliff very close to the ocean. Newark seems to have been abandoned as a formal place of residence about 1750, although part of the building was occupied by servants from Newark farm until the early 1800s. Sir David Leslie died in 1682, and was succeeded by his son who was also named David. David, the second Lord, died in 1694, leaving five daughters. Jane, the eldest daughter, succeeded as baroness of Newark, and married Sir Alexander\* Anstruther, baronet of that ilk, an ancient family in the county of Fife, and by him had three sons and six daughters. Jane died in 1740, and the estate and honor devolved to her eldest son William, who took the name and arms of Leslie and succeeded as Lord Newark. He died unmarried in 1773.

Alexander Leslie was the third son of Jane (some accounts give her name as Jean) and Sir Alexander\* (or Philip\*\*) Anstruther who assumed the title of Lord Newark. He was not the heir-male of the first Lord, and his claim to be Lord Newark was not established before he died on 10 March 1791. His eldest son, John Leslie, who inherited the claim, was styled Lord Newark. He assumed the title of Lord Newark on his father's death, but the House of Lords held that the charter of 1672 by which his father had claimed the peerage was a forgery. John died in 1818 and no further claim was made to the peerage.

Now, back to the plaque on the wall of the St. Monans church, bearing the words "Grip Fast" and *mare vivimus* which is the motto of the village of St. Monans. The motto means "we live by the sea," the plaque is also dated 1792, which indicates that it was probably given to the church by Lieutenant Colonel John Leslie, the eldest son of Alexander Leslie and his wife Elizabeth Price.

\* *The Greening Peerage of Scotland*, 1767, page 246

\*\*Sir James Balfour Paul, Lord Lyon King of Arms, *The Scots Peerage*, vol. VI, pages 440-445, 1904

## NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY- SCULPTURE OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS AND JOHN LESLIE



On the east wall of the National Portrait Gallery is a sculpture of Mary, Queen of Scots, Bishop John Leslie and William Maitland of Lethington.

This sculpture is the work of William Birnie Rhind, and was erected between 1899 and 1906. The sculpture was donated by a group of Edinburgh ladies calling themselves the "Queen Mary Statue Committee."

Bishop John Leslie (also known as the Bishop of Ross) was a close and trusted advisor to Queen Mary. Alexander Leslie Klieforth, on page 109 of his book *Grip Fast: The Leslies in History*, describes Bishop John Leslie: "While endowed with superior intellect, an abundance of energy and utter loyalty to his Queen, he lacked both patience and finesse, qualities essential to a successful diplomat."

Sir William Maitland of Lethington was a Scottish politician and reformer. He was known as "Secretary Lethington" to Mary. He was involved in the conspiracy to murder David Rizzio, the private secretary to Queen Mary.

David Leslie White

## CLAN LESLIE ITEMS FROM THE QUARTERMASTER PETER M. LESLIE, QUARTERMASTER, CLSI

Clan Leslie items for sale are listed on our clan website, [www.clanlesliesociety.org](http://www.clanlesliesociety.org). Click on the Leslie Badges, Crests and Flags link. The list of items includes a description, price, and photo along with how to order. All prices are in \$US and include postage and packaging. The Clan Leslie items now available for sale are listed below.

- 1) Grip Fast - *The Leslies in History*, a beautifully hardbound book, detailing the Leslie clan from its inception (290 pages), authored by Alexander Leslie Klieforth and autographed by our Clan Chief, The Honourable Alexander Leslie. Price \$66.00
- 2) Post Cards-Two styles. One style contains King Malcolm's promise to Bartolf and the origination of our clan name; and the other style provides open space for your personal notes. Please specify which style you prefer. \$5.00 for a package of 25 post cards.
- 3) Grip Fast Pin -- \$3.00
- 4) Grip Fast Patch -- \$3.00



The post cards were developed by Laura Messing and can be used by members to tell family and friends of upcoming Scottish events, to recruit prospective CLSI members and to help increase interest in all events Scottish. Also, a **free** packet of "giveaway" postcards is available for those Convenors/Tent Hosts who host a CLSI tent.

Payment should be made to Linda Flowers, CLSI Treasurer, 302 SW 3rd, Tuttle, OK, 73089, USA. [lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net)

Peter M. Leslie, [scotslad11@yahoo.com](mailto:scotslad11@yahoo.com)

## NEXT PUBLICATIONS TO MEMBERS

September 2012 – *The Grip Fast Online Newsletter*.

October 2012 – *The Grip Fast, the Journal of the Clan Leslie Society International*.

Please continue to send us your stories. We are recording your history and we cannot do it without your input.

Send us stories and pictures of your Scottish ancestors or your North American family; we really need them. Note the number of different clan members who have contributed to this issue.

The *Griffin* will be published when we have enough stories to warrant a printing. We do need *Griffin* stories. These are usually well researched stories which include references and sources preferably illustrated with some photographs.

William Leslie, Editor [w.leslie@rogers.com](mailto:w.leslie@rogers.com)

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### 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:

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

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### MEMBERS OVER 85 YEARS OF AGE

Did you know that if you have been a member of Clan Leslie Society International for at least 10 years and reach the age of 85, the CLSI will continue your membership without further payment of annual dues?

Contact Linda Flowers

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## CLAN LESLIE

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Chief of Clan Leslie	The Honourable Alexander Leslie Boreland House, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire, DG11 2LN Scotland	<a href="mailto:alex.leslie@btinternet.com">alex.leslie@btinternet.com</a>
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Commissioner of Clan Leslie North America	William Leslie 82 Tecumseth St., Orillia, Ontario, Canada, L3V 1Y2	Phone 705-326-6791 <b>NEW&gt;&gt;</b> <a href="mailto:w.leslie@rogers.com">w.leslie@rogers.com</a>
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### CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL - ELECTED (COUNCIL) AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

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#### 2010 – 2011 CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

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Chieftain	David Leslie White 7313 Old Mill Run, Fort Worth, TX, 76133, USA	Phone 817-346-3333 <a href="mailto:clanleslie@earthlink.net">clanleslie@earthlink.net</a>
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Vice-Chieftain	Thomas (Tom) Leslie Huxtable 118 S. Coach House Rd., Wichita, KS, 67235, USA	Phone 316-721-0307 <a href="mailto:tshux@cox.net">tshux@cox.net</a>
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Treasurer	Linda Flowers 302 SW 3rd, Tuttle, OK, 73089, USA	Phone 405-381-3577 <a href="mailto:lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net">lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net</a>
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Secretary/ Registrar	Christine Johnson 1113 Foxhaven Drive, Greensboro, NC 27455, USA	Phone 336-656-4971 <a href="mailto:cejohnson@triad.rr.com">cejohnson@triad.rr.com</a>
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Council	Bob (Robert C.) Bailey 6113 El Toro Court, San Jose, CA, 95123, USA	Phone 408-224-1190 <a href="mailto:rca Bailey3056@sbcglobal.net">rca Bailey3056@sbcglobal.net</a>
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Council	Samantha Leslie Gray ANPC 61 Robinson Avenue, Glen Cove, NY, 11542-2944, USA	Phone 516-676-5719 <a href="mailto:riognach@aol.com">riognach@aol.com</a>
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Council	Laura Messing 12 Dennis Dr., Burlington, MA 01803, USA	Phone 781- 272-2065 <a href="mailto:designinvasion@gmail.com">designinvasion@gmail.com</a>
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Council	Loren R. Leslie 4746 Cascade Beach Road, Lutsen, MN 55612, USA	Phone 218-663-7622 <a href="mailto:lrakleslie@aol.com">lrakleslie@aol.com</a>
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Council	Timothy W. Leslie 3800 Horizon Pl., Fort Worth, TX, 76133, USA	Phone 817-764-0244	<a href="mailto:timothywleslie@gmail.com">timothywleslie@gmail.com</a>
Council	Lew Johnson 1113 Foxhaven Drive, Greensboro, NC 27455, USA	Phone 336-656-4971	<a href="mailto:ljohnson12@triad.rr.com">ljohnson12@triad.rr.com</a>

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### 2010 – 2011 CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL APPOINTED OFFICERS

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Chaplain	Rev. Samantha Gray, ANPC 61 Robinson Ave, Glen Cove, NY, 11542, USA	Phone 516-676-5719	<a href="mailto:riognach@aol.com">riognach@aol.com</a>
Editor, Publications, Grip Fast, Journal of the Clan Leslie Society International, Griffin, Grip Fast Online	William Leslie, Editor 82 Tecumseth St., Orillia, Ontario, Canada, L3V 1Y2	Phone 705-326-679	<b>NEW&gt;&gt;</b> <a href="mailto:w.leslie@rogers.com">w.leslie@rogers.com</a>
Genealogist	Joan Leslie Eike 1227 Route 17C, Barton, NY, 13734, USA	Phone 607-972-8346	<a href="mailto:jleike@hotmail.com">jleike@hotmail.com</a>
Herald	Susan C. Abernethy 5643 Limerick Av., San Diego, CA, 92117-1526, USA	Phone 858-576-8293	<a href="mailto:sabernet@trexenterprises.com">sabernet@trexenterprises.com</a>
Historian	Timothy W. Leslie 3800 Horizon Pl., Fort Worth, TX, 76133	Phone 817-764-0244	<a href="mailto:timothywleslie@gmail.com">timothywleslie@gmail.com</a>
Justiciar	Vacant		
Piper	Gale Walker 30 Calder Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3T 5L9		<a href="mailto:galew259@shaw.ca">galew259@shaw.ca</a>
Quartermaster	Peter M Leslie 3930 Knowles Road, Wenatchee, WA, 98801, USA	Phone 206-890-3053	<a href="mailto:scotslad11@yahoo.com">scotslad11@yahoo.com</a>
Webmaster & Web Site	Brian Lesslie Jr. 117 Nimmo Ave., Perth, PW1 2PV, Scotland Clan Leslie Society International Web Site -	Phone 01738 560687	<a href="mailto:bless7506@blueyonder.co.uk">bless7506@blueyonder.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.clanlesliesociety.org">www.clanlesliesociety.org</a>

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### REGIONAL CONVENORS

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Southern and Central, Ontario, Canada	William Leslie (See full address above for Editor)		<b>NEW&gt;&gt;</b> <a href="mailto:w.leslie@rogers.com">w.leslie@rogers.com</a>
Southern California	Susan Abernethy (See full address above for Herald)		<a href="mailto:sabernet@trexenterprises.com">sabernet@trexenterprises.com</a>
Iowa	Chris Chamberlin, Iowa		<a href="mailto:Chris.Chamberlin@pearson.com">Chris.Chamberlin@pearson.com</a>
Kansas	Tom Huxtable (See full address above for Vice Chieftain)		<a href="mailto:tshux@cox.net">tshux@cox.net</a>
Michigan	David C. Leslie, Michigan		<a href="mailto:leslie_dr@att.net">leslie_dr@att.net</a>

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North Carolina and Virginia	Christine and Lewis Johnson, Co-Convenors for North Carolina and Virginia (See full address above for Secretary)	<a href="mailto:ljohnson12@triad.rr.com">ljohnson12@triad.rr.com</a> <a href="mailto:cejohnson@triad.rr.com">cejohnson@triad.rr.com</a>
Oklahoma	Linda Flowers (See full address above for Treasurer)	<a href="mailto:lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net">lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net</a>
Europe/Asia	Brian Lesslie, Sr. Phone 07138 563050 4 Albany Terr., Perth, PH1 2BD Scotland	<a href="mailto:bless993@blueyonder.co.uk">bless993@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
Mountain, USA	Jordan Hinckley Phone 802-550-2080 535 S 300 E #2, Salt Lake City, UT 84111, USA	<a href="mailto:dragonfyre99@gmail.com">dragonfyre99@gmail.com</a>
NE USA	Laura Messing (See full address above for Council)	<a href="mailto:designinvasion@gmail.com">designinvasion@gmail.com</a>
Pacific NW, USA	Steve Olling Phone 425-557-7672 3909 - 242 Avenue SE, Issaquah, WA 98029, USA	<a href="mailto:ollings@comcast.net">ollings@comcast.net</a>
Pacific SW, USA	Vacant	
SW, USA	Frank W. Leslie Phone 254-577-7050 3432 Upton Drive, Kempner, TX 76539-5032	<a href="mailto:fleslie@hotmail.com">fleslie@hotmail.com</a>

#### BRANCH PRESIDENTS

SE USA	Cathy Duling Phone 706- 442-7448 4022 Lyn Drive, Columbus, GA 31909, USA	<a href="mailto:guinnethv@mchsi.com">guinnethv@mchsi.com</a>
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#### CONVENORS HOSTING CLAN LESLIE TENTS

**Aberdeenshire, Scotland – David Leslie from Leslie**  
**Iowa – Chris Chamberlin**  
**Kansas – Tom Huxtable**  
**Michigan – David Leslie from Canton**  
**North Carolina and Virginia – Lew and Christine Johnson**  
**North East USA – Laura Messing**  
**Oklahoma – Linda Flowers**  
**Southern and Central Ontario, Canada – William Leslie**  
**Southern California – Susan Abernethy**  
**Washington – Steve Olling**

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# Clan Leslie Society International 2012 Biennial Gathering

New Hampshire Highland Games; Loon Mountain Ski Resort; Lincoln, NH; Sept. 21-23, 2012

Gathering Reservations Questions? Please email Laura Messing at [designinvasion@gmail.com](mailto:designinvasion@gmail.com)

Please complete and mail this form with your payment to:

Linda Flowers, CLSI Treasurer, 302 SW 3rd, Tuttle, OK 73089

## IMPORTANT!

Reservations must be received by Linda Flowers no later than **Friday, July 6, 2012.**

**Names-Adults** (please print names as you wish them to appear on the name tags)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size \_\_S \_\_M \_\_L \_\_XL \_\_XXL

2. \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size \_\_S \_\_M \_\_L \_\_XL \_\_XXL

3. \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size \_\_S \_\_M \_\_L \_\_XL \_\_XXL

4. \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size \_\_S \_\_M \_\_L \_\_XL \_\_XXL

**Names-Children** (12 years and under) (All t-shirt sizes are in adult sizes)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size \_\_S \_\_M

2. \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size \_\_S \_\_M

## Address Information

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees:

Adults \_\_\_\_\_ x \$100.00 USD = \_\_\_\_\_ Children \_\_\_\_\_ x \$70.00 USD = \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Options:

1. Check in US funds made out to CLSI
2. Pay by PayPal to LFLOWERS1954@yahoo.com
3. Pay by Visa, Master Card or Discover.

**Charge my:** \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_ Discover

Cardholder Name (as it appears on card) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Amount to be Charged \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Three Digit Security Code (on the back of your card) \_\_\_\_\_

Outside the US, indicate cost in USD\$ and the company will convert.

## Banquet Entrée (please select 1)

Please indicate your choice of entree(s) for the banquet on Saturday night. **Note:** Please use this entree selection only for the **adults**. A children's menu is available and orders will be taken at the table. A vegetarian selection will also be available to order at the table. All entrees come with a garden salad, fresh baked rolls, mashed potatoes, green beans amandine, coffee, tea, soda and your choice of dessert, see below.)

(No) \_\_\_\_\_ **Filet Mignon**

(No) \_\_\_\_\_ **Stuffed NH Maple Chicken**

(a crispy fried chicken breast stuffed with traditional walnut bread stuffing topped with a brandied maple demi-glace)

## Dessert (please select 1)

(No) \_\_\_\_\_ **Chocolate Cake** (No) \_\_\_\_\_ **House-Made Apple Crisp**