

Grip Fast Journal



The Newsletter of Clan Leslie Society International

August-September, 2014

Oh What a Gathering!

See the full photo pages 7 & 8! More photos and articles on pages 8 & 9.



The Honourable Alexander Leslie, Chief of Clan Leslie

A Grand Gathering on the Mountain



I had been to several Highland Games in the U.S over the years and had been impressed by all of them. But nothing can prepare you for the welcome that Grandfather Mountain brings you.

Both Miranda and I had the most amazing time.

From the moment we were picked up by Tom Huxtable at Charlotte – dodging thunderstorms on our landing – we felt so welcome. Miranda, my fiancée, having never been to a Highland Games – nor met our Leslie cousins in the States – was completely overwhelmed by the welcome she received and she is very grateful for it.

The Games itself is a phenomenon, from the opening ceremony and the torches, to the marches and clans and the bands, there is a

buzz that is almost always missing at Highland Games in Scotland. Games in the two countries are, of course, very different, and thank goodness for it.

It is difficult to pick a ‘favourite’ moment.

It was very useful to meet COSCA, who are doing so much for Scottish Clans in America and are now ‘at the table’ of the Scottish Government’s Clan Forum. It was a good opportunity to reinforce links between their organisation and the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs.

It was wonderful – and rather humbling – to walk round the field and be greeted (and offered refreshment) by so many different people.

It was even better to be part of the Leslie Gathering, drinks and picnics on the lawn, formal dinners, great entertainment and a dram or two. What could be better?

It was perhaps best to catch up with old friends and relations and meet new ones. It is always good to see new members sign up for the Society. A special welcome to those who did during the Games.

All in all it was a very special event and we both thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Thank you – and we look forward to seeing you at the next one.

Very best wishes

Alex (and Miranda)

A RIDDLE CALLED ROSSLYN

The autumn 2014 issue of Scottish Life magazine has an interesting article on the renovated Rosslyn Chapel by Candace Leslie of Bryan, Texas. Candace produces an interesting and informative article that cuts through so much of the conclusions by other authors such as Dan Brown’s *The Da Vinci Code* or that the “chapel” was a place of worship for the Knights Templar, a hiding place for the Holy Grail, etc. Her article is accompanied by some wonderful color photographs. This magazine is available now at your local bookstore.

David Leslie White

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ABOUT THE COVER

The 2014 CLSI Gathering at Grandfather Mountain was a grand event. Our cover features a closeup of the group photo (the full photo is on the center spread and can be easily removed for display.)



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Font Dedication

Hot on the heels of the Grandfather Mountain, we headed to Aberdeenshire for the service to dedicate a Leslie font at the Chapel of Garioch.

This was commissioned in the memory of my father, Ian and Alec Leslie Klieforth, who were the people responsible for establishing the Clan Society back in the 1980s.

It was a simple service, with good hymns and a well presented sermon. There was a short ceremony to dedicate the font. It was organised by David Leslie.

We stayed at Warthill with Sebastian and Candy Leslie and, as always, received a great welcome.

It was, of course, not on the same scale as anything that had happened in North Carolina, but it was a nice way to end our trip.

For more on the Font dedication, see page 3.



Front row Hon. Alexander Leslie, Clan Chief, Miranda (Alexander's fiancée) and Sebastian Leslie of Warthill. Second row David Leslie from Leslie, Baron Bailie of Balquhain; Petra Lesslie and Catherine Lesslie. Photo by Regional Convenor Brian Lesslie, Sr.

Election Nominations Announcement

Election time for CLSI is approaching and nominations are encouraged for two very important positions. CLSI must elect a Vice Chieftain and a Secretary/Registrar.

According to the bylaws, the Vice Chieftain will perform the duties of the Chieftain in his/her absence, disability, or decease, and shall perform other duties as directed by the Chieftain or Council. The Vice Chieftain shall be elected for a term of two years, and no Vice Chieftain may serve more than two consecutive terms.

The Bylaws state that the Secretary shall keep records of Society proceedings, maintain correspondence files of the Society, receive and process applications for membership and notify applicants of their enrollment, and maintain current membership records. The Secretary/Registrar shall be elected for the term of two years.

The Vice Chieftain and Secretary Registrar shall be a voting member of CLSI for at least two years, and can be a non-linear member of CLSI.

Persons interested in running for either of these offices, please contact Linda Flowers, Treasurer of CLSI at LFLOWJINGO@SBCGLOBAL.NET or 302 SW 3rd St. Tuttle, OK 73089. Please send a short bio and a picture **no later than October 10th** for printing in the October issue of Grip Fast Journal.

The election shall take place by email or mail in October and those elected will take office January 1, 2015.

The Laurus Lesleana Compendium Available for Purchase

This wonderful work is comprised of the original Laurus Lesleana Explicata in Latin, an English translation, an English index, corrections to the Laurus extracted from the Historical Records of the Family of Leslie by Colonel Charles Joseph Leslie, 26th Baron of Balquhain, and a collection of notes from a copy of the Laurus at Warthill House. CLSI is making this priceless piece of Leslie history available on a convenient CD format.

The price is is \$10.00 and includes shipping. You can order CD's from Linda Flowers. Please refer to the "How to Order" instructions at the bottom of page 13.

The Laurus Lesleana is the oldest known, written history of the family of Leslie. We are very fortunate to have this resource available.



Dedication of the Clan Leslie Font

Story and Photos by Clan Leslie Regional Convenor Brian Lesslie, Snr.

On the 20th of July 2014, a small group of Leslies including Clan Chief Alexander and his fiancée Miranda joined the Freens o Reid Harlaw and congregation of Chapel of Garioch Church, for the 603rd Anniversary of the Battle of Harlaw, 24th July, 1411, to remember those who gave their lives that day and to dedicate the new Clan Leslie Font to honour the memory of the Rt. Hon. Ian Leslie, 21st Earl of Rothes, Hereditary Chief of Clan Leslie and Alexander Leslie Klieforth LLD, founding members of Clan Leslie Society.

The font was presented to Rev. Brian Dobby minister for Chapel of Garioch Church, the Clan Leslie Chapel for the North East of Scotland, by Hon. Alexander Leslie, Clan Chief on behalf of Clan Leslie Society Interenational. Following the service, Leslies and members of Freens o Reid Harlaw joined with the congregation for fellowship and refreshments and anniversary/dedication cake.



Hon. Alexander Leslie, Clan Chief and David Leslie from Leslie, standing with Clan Leslie Font.



Members of Clan Leslie attending Dedication Service standing beside Leslies Cross (from left to right) Left back row: Brian Lesslie Snr; Candy Leslie from Warhill. Front row from left: Catherine Lesslie; Petra Lesslie; Leslie Lesslie from Leslie – Leslies Cross – Miranda (Alexander's fiancée); Sebastian Leslie from Warhill; Hon. Alexander Leslie, Clan Chief; David Leslie from Leslie.



Close up of The Clan Leslie Font. (The small print below is the date of dedication: 20th July, 2014)



Close up of wall mounted descriptive plaque for font. The font when not in use will sit immediately in front of and below the plaque.

Chancel of Chapel of Garioch Church with on left: Leslie Banner; Clan Leslie Font and two banners belonging to Members of Freens o Reid Harlaw.



Thanks Again to Our Font Donors

Don and Janice Abernathy
Bob Bailey
Damon Burns
Adam Flowers
Linda Flowers
David Leslie from Leslie
Gloria Klieforth
Brian and Petra Lesslie
David Leslie White
Samantha Gray
Laura Messing
Stephen K. Leslie
Bonnie Simmons
Leslie Weaver
Bonnie Rudnisky
Robert E. Leslie

Dale S. Young
Lois Leslie
Julia Lessley Elliott
Dr. Duncan Moore
Robert G. Leslie
Richard Ross Leslie
Tom and Sherry Huxtable
Lewis and Christine Johnson
Donald Leslie
William and Sue Leslie
Rosemary Leslie
Barrie Leslie, Australia
Malcolm Leslie, Australia
Tim Leslie
Dr. Nelson and Lady
Patricia Ying of Balquhain

Robert E. and Dorothy Leslie
Pat Leslie Trachier
Craig W. Leslie
Gale Walker
Susan Abernethy, Tara Pool,
Joshua and Frederick
Persons
G. David and Carolyn Lessley
Dr. Loren Leslie
James F. Leslie
Linda Jones
Donald and Maxine Leslie
Dr. Matthew Allan
Gene and Loretta Leslie
Thomas E. Leslie
Thomas F. Leslie

Thank You to Our Donors

General Fund

Dane Gay
Douglas K. Leslie
Priscilla Rodriguez
Keith Leslie
Diane Sadler
Robert H. Leslie
Beryl C. Leslie
Robert E. Leslie
Julia Lessley Elliott
Russell Lessly

Library Fund

Margaret Loewen
Mary Leslie Williams
Gary Leslie
Harold Wilcox
Mary Ann Weiss
Lois Leslie
Erik Foisy
Donald F. Leslie
Gale Walker
Bonnie Rudnisky

Scholarship

Bruce and Nikita Eike
Gene Leslie
Murna Nason
Rosemary Leslie

DUES ARE DUE

Members owing 2014 membership dues should have received an invoice by email or mail at the end of July. Dues are now due. Please pay your dues as soon as you can. Dues can be paid by check, money order, PayPal, Visa, MasterCard or Discover card. If paying by check or money order, please mail to Linda Flowers CLSI Treasurer, 302 SW 3rd St. Tuttle, OK 73089. If paying by PayPal, use the PayPal email address LFLOWERS1954@YAHOO.COM. If paying by credit card, I need the card type, name on the card, card number, expiration date, and security code on the back of the card. If you have questions, please contact me at LFLOWJINGO@SBCGLOBAL.NET or 405-381-3577.

Welcome to Our New Members!

TYLER GAMMIE
STREATOR, IL

ALAN WHITE
FOREST CITY, NC

AMY WHITE
FOREST CITY, NC
ASSOCIATE MEMBER

JACOB ROBERT LESLIE
WATERLOO, ON
INCEPTOR MEMBER

GABRIEL DAVID LESLIE HERMANN
ROCKWOOD, ON
INCEPTOR MEMBER

DALE LESLIE
WELLAND, ON

MARY K. LESLIE
LAKELAND, FL

STEPHEN D. LESLIE
LAKELAND, FL
INCEPTOR MEMBER

DONNA LESLIE NICHOLSON
WILLISTON, SC

LOUISE LESLIE MUNRO
CLEMSON, SC

CHESTER DEANE MARITZ
VALE, NC

JOHN LESLIE
LITTLETON, CO

ANN LESLIE ERDSMO
APPLETON, MN

SCOTT HUXTABLE
WICHITA, KS

KATELYN H. LESLIE
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL

JIM DICKSON
CORBEIL, ON

STEVEN SPITZER
FERGUS, ON

LAURA CANNON-SHERLOCK
DURHAM, ON

JANET HUFF
OTTAWA, ON

TIM LEITHEAD
SMITHVILLE, ON

YVETTE LESLIE
PORT HOPE, ON

BRIAN WARDLAW
SAULT STE MARIE, ON

NANCY LEATHEAD
BURLINGTON, ON

LESLIE WARDLAW
GUELPH, ON

MARGARET HIBBS
ERIN, ON

ERIK FOISY
OTTAWA, ON
ASSOCIATE MEMBER

DIANE L COOPER
BEAVERTON, OR

OLIVIA LESSLIE PHILLIPS
BURNSVILLE, MN

LYNDA SWACKHAMER
NIAGARA FALLS, ON

LINDA LESLIE SCHROEDER
KEMPTON, PA

WAYNE AITKEN
ACTON, ON

47th Annual Alma Highland Festival, May 23-25, 2014 Alma College Campus - Alma, Michigan

David and Rosemary Leslie hosted the Clan Leslie Society International tent on May 24 and enjoyed greeting twenty-three visitors to the tent, old friends as well as new.

One of our new visitors was Dr. Jeff Abernathy, President of Alma College, which hosts the Alma Highland Festival on its beautiful campus. After chatting, we provided him with Clan Leslie literature and a membership application and hope he will join Clan Leslie now that he knows we are "family."

A solemn time occurred when the Clans gathered after the Tartan Parade to pay tribute with a toast and heartfelt farewell to Jesse Murdoch who passed away in April. Jesse and his wife Lorraine coordinated the Clan Gatherings at Alma for 27

years. We are fortunate to have Steve Nisbet of the Nesbitt/Nisbet Society of North America assume the duties of Clan Tent Coordinator.

This year, 2014, marked the 19th year that we have hosted the Clan Leslie tent and we have decided to retire. Making that possible by stepping up to take over is our good friend, Ryan Chavez, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. We first met Ryan when he was about 9 years old and came to the festival with his parents. Ryan is extremely capable and personable. We have felt it an honor and distinction to represent CLSI, but we are excited to have Ryan succeed us. We look forward to his younger, fresher, ideas coming to fruition.

**David C. and Rosemary Leslie
Canton, Michigan**



David Leslie of Canton, Michigan welcomes Dr. Jeff Abernathy, President of Alma College



Steve Nisbet (center) and approximately 100 people toast Jesse Murdoch with Jesse's favorite wee dram.



New Clan Leslie tent host, Ryan Chavez (right), and David Leslie.

July 19, 2014 - Orillia Scottish Festival

This festival takes place at Couchiching Beach Park in Orillia on Lake Couchiching, two blocks from our home. This was the site of the 2002 Clan Leslie Gathering; attended by 174 Leslies, including the late Ian Malcolm Leslie the 21st Earl of Rothes and Lady Marigold Leslie, Countess of Rothes, parents of our Chief, the Honourable Alexander Leslie. The weather was very pleasant this year, in spite of a forecast of rain, it was mostly cloudy and cool.

Sue and William hosted the Clan Leslie tent in their usual location near the Totem Pole in the park and were assisted by daughter Rosemary Leslie and her husband Erik Foisy. There were a few visitors, some local friends and some with general questions about things Scottish.

The small banner which shows the Septs of the Clan Leslie and which is shown on the left side of our tent, attracted a lot of attention. We talked to Brian (Brian of Perth) Leslie's cousin Bert Leslie and his wife Gwen and their grandson Chris Kitchen and his girlfriend, Jenn Gibson. We also talked to a young man, Andrew Moore, who was very interested in joining our Society.



Chris Kitchen, Gwen and Bert Leslie and Jenn Gibson at the Leslie Tent



William Leslie, Laura Grant of the Orillia Scottish Festival, and Erik Foisy

34th Leslie Reunion a Great Success

On Sunday, August 10th 2014, 151 Leslie descendants came together to celebrate our common heritage. While most were the descendants of John Leslie and Letty Ann Boke who settled in Williamsburg (now Glen Williams, Ontario) in 1819, there were also present descendants from three other lines of this ancient Scottish family. We were called to gather by the excellent piping of Mark McClennan, who played for an hour, and ended his offering of tunes with "Amazing Grace". After that, those gathered learned of ancient Leslie history from William Leslie, Commissioner of Clan Leslie North America; the history of the Irish Plantation during the 169 years our Leslie ancestors lived in the north

of Ireland as told by Robert Leslie; and the history of pioneer life in the north of Halton County as told by local author and historian, John McDonald. John had for sale signed copies of two of his wonderful books, Halton's Heritage and Halton Sketches Revisited. After a time to stretch and socialize, everyone was called to assemble again, by the ringing of the hand bell from the old one room school, SS#8 Greenock (built on Leslie land). The entire group gathered on a hillside for a group photograph, and after thanking the Lord for the bounty of his provision, a delicious pot luck meal was enjoyed by all.



Piper Mark McClennan.
Photo by Marguerite Leslie



151 Leslie descendants who gathered at Rockwood Conservation Area, Aug 10th, 2014. Photo by Tyson Spitzer

The 2014 Clan Leslie Socie



Clan Leslie Socie
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The 2014 Clan Leslie Socie

Grandfather Mountain by Linda and Adam Flowers

Adam and I flew to Charlotte on Thursday. We got our car and headed to the mountains. We had a great time stopping at the shops on the roadside as we went up the mountain. What beautiful scenery.

When we arrived at the Best Western, the informal reception was well under way. We enjoyed seeing everyone again and meeting the lovely Miranda.

What can be said about the Gathering? Lew and Chris Johnson were excellent hosts. Everything went as planned—such great organization. They were presented with a plaque at the banquet for being chosen the 2013 Convenors of the Year. The reception and banquet were lovely. Don and Janice Abernathy hosted a great refreshment tent which was wonderful.

The best part of any Gathering is meeting and visiting with other CLSI members. It is so nice to be able to put names with faces.

One of the funniest moments came at the reception. Chief Alex and Miranda, Laura and Dean Messing, and Adam and I were sitting at a table talking about strange things we have eaten—like fried Snicker

candy bars and chocolate covered bacon. I mentioned I have even had a fried Twinkie. Chief Alex asked what a Twinkie was so Dean Messing gave him a technical description of a Twinkie. Adam and I didn't want Chief Alex and Miranda to return to Scotland without sampling the American staple so the next day we stopped at a convenience store and bought a package of Twinkies. I presented them to Chief Alex and Miranda at the banquet and they sampled their first Twinkie. I think it was too sweet for them!

Adam and I spent a couple of days touring North Carolina. What a beautiful state. I highly recommend the Carolina Raptor Center in Huntsville at the Latta Plantation. They are doing excellent work with injured raptors.

If you haven't attended a Gathering, consider coming in 2016. Meeting fellow Leslies is an experience you won't forget.



Miranda and Alex.



Miranda and Alex try and American staple: the Twinkie for the first time.



Laura Messing and Miranda Grant. Laura is feeling un-stylish without an awesome hat!



Alex and Miranda representing the 2014 honored clan, Clan Leslie.



Alex and presenting flowers to gathering host Christine Johnson.

ty International Gathering

Our trip to Grandfather Mountain by Robert Leslie

Early Friday morning, July 11th, Marguerite and I loaded our two grandsons, Jacob and Gabriel into the car and headed off to our CLSI gathering at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. On Thursday, we had spent a fun day touring the Luray Caverns and also testing our courage at the rope park right next to the caverns. Luray is at the opposite end of the Blue Ridge Mountains, so it was a very scenic drive that we had. In the late afternoon, we arrived at our destination, the Four Seasons Resort high up on Beech Mountain. After a bit of rest, we were off to the CLSI reception at our convention hotel, the Best Western in Banner Elk. Having arrived about an hour after the reception started, I was touched by the concern everyone had for us, and their relief when we showed up safely. I guess that is what family does though. After enjoying the excellent food and drink that was provided, and meeting with our Chief and Chieftain, we headed back to our hotel – it had been a long day for the boys (and us as well).

On Saturday morning, we found our way to the shuttle busses provided to transport games visitors up the mountain – I was impressed by how the driver negotiated the narrow, winding gravel road – pushing the old school bus to its limits, up the mountain. We spent time at the CLSI tent as well as the CLSI hospitality, meeting more of our kinfolk. I must say, Lew and Christine Johnson know how to host a clan tent. Well done! After touring, tasting and souvenir shopping with the boys, we made the trip down Grandfather Mountain and up Beech Mountain again. Soon it time to head down the mountain to attend the banquet at the Best Western. Once again, we were warmly greeted by our fellow kinfolk. The

meal was excellent, and after some speeches, we were treated to a musical performance by the very talented Bill Leslie. We purchased one of Bill's many CD's "Grace of the Wild", which was listened to many times over on the way home.

Sunday morning was a bit of a rush; our CLSI bi-annual meeting started at 8:00, but because we had to be back on the mountain by 10:00 to assemble for the Parade of Tartans, the meeting needed to finish by 9:00. Tom and Linda, well done – you kept things moving and we accomplished what needed to be done.

The parade was a very long one; I did not know there were that many clans. We were the honoured clan, and the first to lead off the parade! I felt a lump well up in my throat several times during our march as I thought about that. Immediately after the parade, we left for our next destination – Beckley, WV and a tour of the Exhibition Coal Mine. We travelled along the Blue Ridge Parkway until the town of Boone, NC. Jacob's other grandfather belongs to a Ford Model T club and he had mentioned that they would be at a club meeting in Boone, around the time of the games. Upon arriving in Boone, we saw that the downtown section was blocked off and full of antique cars. We went searching for the other grandpa and imagine his surprise when Jacob walked up behind him and tapped him on the shoulder!

To all of you who helped organize our gathering and to all of you who attended, thank-you. We all had a wonderful time.



Alex and Miranda.



Jacob, William, Gabriel and Sue.



Robert, Chief Alex, Gabriel and Jacob (front.)



Gabriel and aspiring piper Jacob.

Chaplain's Corner

Samantha Gray, Chaplain, CLSI



As I write this, several friends are going through serious “challenges” – a modern euphemism for right ugly circumstances – with kids, health, finances and marriages. Recently one of them said “It’s bad enough to have to cope with a personal crisis without the rest of the world going crazy around me too!” She was noting the reflected present chaos in her family

with that on the world scene. Having been specifically trained to work with people in crisis, as well as the ability to mediate crises situations, I recognize her reaction as extremely common just now, and for good reason.

Considering only the USA for a moment, at the far outer edges of national financial recovery and with so much other change and stress within our own country, we must also deal with how we are affected on the greater stage of the entire globe. Scotland is struggling with the vastly important question of independence, life-changing in so many ways for all Scots, and so has special stressors which her people must deal with as well. The Middle East wars, African mass kidnappings of children, the loose cannon of North Korea and its bombastic threats, the horrific abuse and murder of women in India and Papua New Guinea are all trigger points waiting to explode and we hear about this every evening on the 6 o’clock news. The latest insult to humanity – the destruction of a civilian aircraft and loss of so many innocent lives by warring dissidents in the Ukraine – adds to the global sense of unrest and lack of a safety net on this small planet. Years ago just after 9/11, I was asked by a local women’s magazine to write an article on stress management, which I did. They wanted to give their readers something spiritually and emotionally helpful in a time of great anxiety and upheaval. For this issue of Grip Fast, I thought a repeat on that subject might be appropriate and useful. Crisis is, according Merriam Webster, “A difficult or dangerous situation that needs serious attention”. The dictionary goes on to say it is also a point of decisive change which may be anticipated as having a high probability of a negative outcome. Sounds like the 6 o’clock news alright. The thing about crisis is this: by definition it is also short lived in its most acute and perilous stage – 6 to 10 weeks, approximately – and resolves in a relatively rapid manner, although those experiencing it may perceive it as an eternity. So what so we do in a world gone mad to survive and maintain our equilibrium,

sustain love, faith, honour, affection and good will and most especially hope? First we must admit our feelings to ourselves. We, in Western society, have been taught to be stoic, to suppress “negative” feelings such as fear, hurt, disappointment, and anger as ugly and unacceptable. It’s essential to know that in terms of psychological energy, feelings are all equal, “good” or “bad”. It’s the spin we put on them, how we act on them and manage them that counts. So we have to recognize our feelings and own them. If we do not, we run the risk of acting at their mercy, which seldom has beneficial results for anyone. Second, we can employ gratefulness. Many thanks to cousin Meg Leslie who introduced me to an exercise of gratefulness on Facebook! Even if you use no ‘social media’ try this: find three things to be grateful for daily, and share these with friends, encouraging them to do the same. Stuff we take for granted suddenly become gifts, and we see more clearly how rich we are in blessings of all sizes. Third, we must care properly for ourselves. Physical stress such as lack of sleep, fatigue, missed meals, even a bit of dehydration takes a toll. Taking care of self and healthy activity promote well-being. Remember the wonderful words of the prose-poem Desiderata: “You are a child of the Universe, no less than the trees and the stars, and you have a right to be here.” No one can cope well when a range of physical stressors are in play. Forth, turn off the TV. Do NOT watch the 10 o’clock news. No one sleeps peacefully after witnessing mayhem, murder, disaster and other ugly behaviors. Multiple research studies demonstrate that people who watch less TV news have more positive and hopeful outlooks on life. Shut down the eejit box. It’s good for your health. In that time saved with the TV off, pray, meditate, contemplate, write a “real” loving, newsy note to someone you care about (when did any of us last get one that wasn’t emailed?), go out in the garden and pull weeds, bake cookies, take a long soothing shower, read something uplifting or humorous, take an extra walk with the dog and make a point of noticing the goodness and beauty around you. Smile and say hello to strangers you pass. You may be the only one who speaks cordially to them all day. I remember the weeks immediately after 9/11 when people in and around the “Greater New York Area” actually made eye contact and nodded or said ‘good day’ to one another. Sometimes it takes a crisis to remind us we are all human and sailing along on the only boat we all have, Planet Earth. Slow down expectations of yourself and even of others. Wonder Woman and Super Man are fun, but I don’t have an invisible plane to whisk me around in my busy schedule, and I’m betting you don’t either. We all have our own form of Kryptonite: when crisis and strains demand a particular amount of our energy, it’s best to know our limits and learn to say “no”

gracefully but firmly. Do something kind for someone else. Feed a stray, buy another treat for the little kid who has spilled his, give an extra donation to charity or in the collection plate at your house of worship, take an elderly neighbor a meal... You know what to do. Be with people of good will and cheerful disposition who are happy to see one another and raise one another's spirits. The Gathering at Grandfather Mountain is an excellent example, but a casual dinner with friends, fishing with pals, an informal family get-together or coffee hour after church also serve to lighten the heart. These are all simple, universal, transcultural and well-known remedies and coping strategies that we have been taught but often don't remember to practice when they are most needed. And if anyone calls you a Pollyanna for espousing a hopeful and caring outlook, is critical and cynical about your efforts, remember the words of Baha'u'llah, prophet of the peaceful Bahia faith: "When thou art disdained and rejected by the wicked doers be not cast down; and at the power and stiff-neckedness of the presumptuous be neither vexed nor sick at heart; for such is the way of heedless souls, from time out of mind." Every kindness matters in a world that is gravely injured, hemorrhaging and crying out for want of compassion and decency. There's an old story about a little boy walking along the beach, and tossing stranded starfish back into the water so they will not die. A man notices the child and says to him "Why are you bothering to do that? There are so many of them you can't make any difference." The little boy picks up another starfish and throws it back into the water. Then he turns to the man and says "I sure made a difference with that one!" We all can too. Blessings of the summer to all kith and kin. Samantha Leslie Gray, Chaplain, CLSI

“Lang May Your Lum Reek”

Lang May Yer Lum Reek is a birthday wish for the recipient to live well for years in order to tend his or her own hearth for a long time. It is your Chaplain's privilege and pleasure to wish a Happy Birthday to the following CLSI members since the last spring issue came out.

June: Lori Hoopes - 6/1; Bart Moore - 6/2; Andrew K. Leslie and Dan Leslie - 6/4; Jessica Leslie - 6/6; Linda Jones, Charles Leslie and George Pravaz-Leslie - 6/7; Olivia Phillips - 6/10; Frances Greer - 6/11; Bruce Leslie - 6/12; Brenda Taylor Leslie and Timothy Sering - 6/13; Jordan Hinckley - 6/14; William Leslie - 6/15; Roy Abernathy - 6/16; Tim Moore - 6/17; Phyllis Amstutz, Betty Biggs and Roy Bingham - 6/20; John Luedecke - 6/22; Leslie Seich - 6/24; Tait Goos - 6/25; Doris Lee - 6/27; Douglas Wilcox - 6/28; Donald Leslie and Emily Leslie - 6/30.

July: John Leslie - 7/2; Donald Abernathy - 7/4; Glenn Abernathy - 7/5; Walter Leslie, William Leslie and Ginny Carlson - 7/7; George Alexander and Chester Harbert - 7/8; Arthur Leslie - 7/13; Kurt Regling - 7/16; Sarah Stegall - 7/17; Barbara Bruce and Leslie Weaver - 7/18; Margaret Ogilvie - 7/19; Melanie Cave and Rhonda Hambright - 7/20; Pat Leslie - 7/21; Gary Leslie - 7/23; Paul Leslie and Ruth Storrow - 7/25; Nancy Bitterling and Robert Leslie - 7/31.

August: Stephen Lessley - 8/3; Margaret Brown, Harold Leslie, Patricia Grossman, Rosemary Leslie and Richard Lynch - 8/10; Wayne Seich - 8/11; Betty Starr - 8/15; Marilyn Leslie - 8/18; Riley Lanier - 8/22; William Leslie - 8/23; Anne Maret - 8/24; Irene Bush and David Olling - 8/25; John Leslie, Loren Leslie, Marguerite Pope, Leslie Short and Timothy Leslie - 8/26; Flora Leslie and Todd Leslie - 8/28.



New Leslie Baby

Alexander Carson Eric Leslie was born October 24, 2013. He is the son of Adam Harold Leslie and the grandson of Eric Raymond Leslie, both of Canada. He was named after Alexander Leslie, 17th century Commander of the Covenanters who with 1,000 men took Edinburgh Castle without the loss of a single life. His father, Adam, said "I have been captivated by where I came from since I found out when I was 10, and since then have had great pride in Clan Leslie and will instill this same pride in my son." Welcome to this new addition of Clan Leslie!

Clan Leslie Items for Sale

Clan Leslie Mouse Pads

Add a pop of color and Leslie pride to your office! We are pleased to offer these Leslie mouse pads featuring the beautiful Dress Leslie tartan and our clan crest. These high quality mouse pads are only \$18, so you can Grip Fast while doing your work, surfing the web (or reading the *Grip Fast Online*).



Coming Soon!
The 2014 Clan Leslie
Christmas Ornament!

Griffin Reprints



Clan Leslie Items From the Quartermaster, Peter M. Leslie

Clan Leslie items for sale are listed on our clan website, 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.



How to Order

To order any of these very special Leslie items, contact Linda Flowers, lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net, 405-381-3577.

We accept the following forms of payment:

Checks

Money Orders

PayPal to the email address lflowers1954@yahoo.com

Credit Cards: Visa, MasterCard, and Discover.

If paying by credit card, please include the card type, card number, name on card, expiration date, and 3 digit security code.

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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 the **Sherry Huxtable Memorial 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 scholarship is the **Alexander Leslie Kleiforth Scottish/Celtic Programs Scholarship**. 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**

Georgetown Highland Games June 14, 2014 Georgetown, Ontario, Canada

Commissioner William Leslie and Robert Leslie hosted a Clan Leslie Tent at Georgetown, the 39th Anniversary of the Georgetown Highland Games. The weather was beautiful all day and there appeared to be a good attendance. The Clan Village was very active with several Clans represented. Right next to the Clan Village was the Scottish Dancing competitions which had many young ladies participating. We had a few visitors and two possible membership candidates who each took away a brochure, a membership form and other information. It is great to have the help and company when you are working at a tent all day and when the time comes to put it up and take it down. Commissioner William Leslie marched in the Parade of Clans while Robert Leslie manned the tent.

I am always amazed that with hundreds of Leslie descendants all around this area, from Georgetown to Acton to Guelph, that we get so few at these games. I have a feeling that the \$20 admission is a bit high for many people.

**William Leslie,
Commissioner Clan Leslie,
North America.**



Leslie
Clan Leslie Society
International

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