



grip fast Journal

of the clan leslie
society international



Knighting Ceremony, CASSOC Tartan Day Ceilidh



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THE HONOURABLE ALEXANDER LESLIE, CHIEF OF THE CLAN LESLIE



The Battle of Flodden – 500 years on

One of the things that is keeping me busy at the moment is a church service. On September the 9th this year, the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs is hosting a service in St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the battle of Flodden. While it might seem a little gloomy to mark the anniversary of Scotland's most disastrous defeat we are also celebrating 500 years of the Scottish Soldier and raising money for two charities.

The first is Combat Stress (www.combatstress.co.uk) - the UK's leading military charity specialising in the care of Veterans' mental health. The second is Erskine (www.erskine.org.uk), who provide unrivalled rehabilitation, nursing and dementia care in their homes throughout Scotland.

The battle itself was a catastrophe (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Flodden) and at a stroke killed most of the Scotland's upper ranks, including the king, James IV. It was the last battle in which a king died. Among the dead were my ancestors **William Leslie, 3rd Earl of Rothes** with his brother-in-law, Sir Michael Balfour, and George, 2nd Earl of Rothes. And many other notable families.

As Margaret Elliott of Redheugh wrote in the service invitation:

On 9th September 1513 the Scots and the English fought the terrible Battle of Flodden. King James IV had invaded England to help the French, who were under attack from the League of Cambrai, which included Henry VIII and Pope Leo, who excommunicated King James.

The armies met at Branxton in Northumberland and despite superior numbers the Scots suffered a disastrous defeat at the hands of the experienced and wily English commander, the Earl of Surrey. It was a disaster for Scotland, who lost her leaders and her best and bravest sons. The country was left under the rule of a child and a group of elderly nobles.

Andrew Lang observed: "No defeat bore less of dishonour, no battle lost by chivalrous folly was ever so well redeemed by desperate valour."

Unusually, superior technology worked against the Scots. Longer pikes from France were designed for defence not attack. When the Earl of Surrey managed to squeeze his entire army round the sea shore and appear behind the Scots, the Scots had to leave their embedded positions, turn around and attack down a slippery slope, which proved disastrous.

Although it was a dark day for Scotland 500 years ago, we are hoping to make it better by raising money for two charities that are doing amazing and relevant work today, in a world of Afghanistan, Iraq and who knows what else.

Alex Leslie, Clan Chief

WILLIAM LESLIE – COMMISSIONER, CLAN LESLIE, NORTH AMERICA

SOME PERSONAL FAMILY HISTORY



SOME PERSONAL FAMILY HISTORY

Since Sherry Huxtable and Lew Johnson took over the Grip Fast Journal and the Grip Fast Online, I have dedicated much of my time to researching and writing down family history. Sue and I moved to Orillia in 1967 from London, Ontario where I stayed to work after finishing my MBA degree at the University of Western Ontario. We never really knew much about Sue's ancestors on her mother's side but over the years of getting interested in Orillia history, we became more and more interested in the Tait's who helped build this settlement from a village to a town to its present status as a city. I have much of the Tait family history down now, from their emigration from Dalbeattie, Kirkcubrightshire in 1848, through Liverpool to New York City, to Ashford, NY, across the border at Buffalo to Fort Erie. The head of the family, William Tait was a farmer and a blacksmith, his brothers were blacksmiths and two of his sons also became blacksmiths. I believe that the occupation of blacksmith meant that these men were very resourceful, able to make things, try new occupations and were able to find employment anywhere. I have been able to trace the Tait family, William and Mary and their 5 sons and 3 daughters to Fort Erie, Ontario in the 1860's, where Andrew Tait married a lady whose family were United Empire Loyalists, Aurilla Howse, and they had three children in Ridgeway in the Niagara Peninsula.



Andrew Tait 1885 in Orillia



The Tait's at Their Home, Glenorma, in Orillia 1886

Then came the invasion of the American Irish at Fort Erie in 1866. There was a very short lived war in which Militia, nominally British, but in reality Canadians of the nation to be born the next year, sent the Irish packing.

The Tait's had left Scotland during the second major Cholera outbreak and the Potato Famine; they had come north during the American Revolution and avoided that war. I believe that they wanted some place quieter where they could pursue their fortunes and bring up their children in safety. In 1867 they all left Fort Erie for Orillia. I have found most of them here in the 1881 Canada Census.

In 1866, Orillia was an incorporated village. The British government had removed the native Chippewa people to the other side of the lake. This was a somewhat shady deal which the Government of Ontario has just settled with the Chippewa in the last few weeks for \$300 million. Orillia was first incorporated as a town in 1867 with its first elected Town Council. The population was 750. Eventually most of the Tait family went elsewhere to make their fortunes but Andrew and Aurilla stayed in Orillia. They started with a hand operated shingle mill, with Andrew turning the crank and Aurilla packing and tying the bundles of shingles. Within a year Andrew had built a large mill and eventually installed a steam engine to operate his sawmill. By the 1880's Orillia was booming as a lumber town. Andrew's hard work and his fortunes soared. He built a huge, beautiful mansion right near his lumber mill; he bought a 75 foot, 20 ton displacement, steam yacht which he called Gypsy and was one of the first three

people in Orillia to own an automobile. One of the local papers called it the finest automobile ever seen in Orillia. Andrew Tait began to deal in real estate and built many houses in Orillia. He then moved to Toronto and bought and sold apartment buildings.



Andrew Tait and his Steam Yacht, Gypsy, Orillia Waterfront 1890

Four of the Tait children were born in Orillia and grew up here. Alma, who was born just after the Fenian Raid, married a local businessman, Edward Wainwright, who joined some lucrative partnerships with her father. Sidney Carss, husband of Clarisse Tait also became a partner in the Orillia Lumber Mill and eventually owned that business. Edward and Alma moved to Huntsville, north of Orillia, where he assisted in the operation of Andrew Tait's Huntsville Lumber Company. Their one daughter, Edith Elizabeth Tait was born there. Edith was my wife Sue's mother. We named our second daughter,

Margaret Tait Leslie even before knowing much about this family. She in turn gave her second son the first name of Tait. Tait is our grandson who started to learn to play the bagpipes at the age of four. Our three children grew up in Orillia and two of them were born here.

Regardless of where their family and work took them, the Andrew Tait family all came back to be buried in Orillia in the family plot marked by the large Aberdeen granite stone. Andrew, Aurilla, their sons and daughters, sons-in-law, daughter-in-law and three grandchildren are all resting here.

As I gather more and more information about this fascinating family of pioneers who made a very successful life while helping to develop this country, I could not help but compare them to my family. Our circumstances were very different but you do see some similarities. We did not flee the plague or wars of any kind but still ended up in Orillia. This is our forty seventh year in this little city.

(Due to space restrictions, Part II of this story will be published in May.)



The Resting Place of 15 Members of the Andrew Tait Family in Orillia

DAVID LESLIE WHITE, CHIEFTAIN, CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

FOUNDER'S PLAQUE PROJECT

The CLSI Council in the previous meeting approved the purchase and installation of a plaque honoring the founders of our Society, the Honourable Ian Leslie, 21st. Earl of Rothes, and Alexander Leslie Klieforth, our first Commissioner and Chieftain. The Chapel of the Garioch, in Aberdeenshire, is also named the Clan Leslie Chapel of North East Scotland. The wording of this plaque is essentially as follows:



In Memory of and with deepest appreciation
to the Founders of the Clan Leslie Society

The Right Honourable Ian Leslie, 21st Earl of Rothes
and Hereditary Chief of Clan Leslie
1932-2005

And

Alexander Leslie Klieforth, LLD
1918-2012

Our preference is for a plaque made of Scottish oak with gold lettering carved into the surface. Now comes the more difficult part, paying for it. We need to raise at least \$3,000 US to pay for this plaque and have it installed. David Leslie from Leslie has done the preliminary design, and it is both beautiful and striking. I have no doubt we can do this. It is right and proper that we honor those who gave so much of their time and talent to bring our Society into existence. If 120 members will donate \$25 each, this project will be successful. Please send your donations to our Treasurer, Linda Flowers, at 302 SW 3rd, Tuttle, OK 73089 and mark your check for the "Plaque Project." You may also pay by PayPal to LFLOWERS1954@YAHOO.COM or pay by Visa, MasterCard or Discover. If paying by credit card, you need to send the card type, number, name on card, expiration date, and 3 digit security code on the back. Donations from the UK, Europe, Australia and New Zealand should be sent to David Leslie, The Coach House, Leslie Castle, Leslie by Insch, Aberdeenshire AB52 6NX, Scotland UK.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL E. M. D. LESLIE, DSO, CD (1918-1979)

The son of another distinguished Canadian Gunner, Brigadier- General E. M. D. (Edward Murray Dalziel) "Teddy" Leslie was born in Guildford, Somerset, England in October 1918. Educated in the United Kingdom and at Montreal's Loyola College, he enlisted as a gunner in the 1st. Field Battery of Ottawa. Earning his commission in 1938, he enrolled in the Permanent Force in the following year, initially serving with "B" Battery, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery.

Lieutenant Leslie went overseas in December 1939 and served in the United Kingdom as an Instructor-in-Gunnery at the Canadian Army School of Artillery (Overseas), in Italy with the 5th Medium Regiment and in North-West Europe as a Brigade Major, Royal Canadian Artillery, 5th Armoured Division. Promoted to Major in 1942, he was Mentioned-in-Dispatches on three occasions and awarded the United States Bronze Star. In 1943, he was elected to attend the Camberly Staff College.

He returned to Canada in 1945 to train with the Pacific Force (6th Canadian Division) and later returned to Europe for duty with the Canadian Army Occupation Force in Germany.

In 1951 he was promoted and appointed to command the 1st. Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, subsequently leading the regiment to Korea in the spring of 1952. By 5 May the 1st. Regiment was fully in place and in action supporting the Commonwealth Division. Lieutenant-Colonel "Teddy" Leslie's leadership, technical gunnery skills and personal courage were the example for his officers and men. His brilliantly conceived fire plans were cited on numerous occasions by his supported arms commanders as the decisive factor in their operations. His consistent, unflagging efforts to provide the best possible fire support were recognized in the award of the Distinguished Service Order. He led his regiment home to Winnipeg after firing more than 300,000 rounds. Relinquishing command in 1955, he was assigned to Army Headquarters, Ottawa.

After training at the U.S. Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia, he was appointed Staff Planner with the NATO Standing Group in Washington D.C.. In March, 1961, he was promoted to Colonel and assumed command of the Royal Canadian School of Artillery at Camp Shilo, Manitoba. His considerable leadership skill and love of artillery were put to good use – he had a profound influence on many thousands of gunners who passed through the school. August of 1966 brought promotion to Brigadier and appointment as Commander 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in Petawawa, Ontario.

In the summer of 1968, Brigadier-General Leslie was appointed Chief of Staff of the United Nation's Force in Cyprus, the first Canadian officer to hold that position. His energetic and professional manner rapidly earned the respect of other national contingents and the trust of the opposing factions.

Returning to Canada in July 1972, he commanded Canadian Forces Borden until his retirement to pension in November of that same year. In January 1975, he accepted the appointment of Colonel Commandant, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery, a task he undertook with characteristic zeal until his death on 3 August 1979.

Brigadier-General Leslie was a passionate advocate of Canada. He was deeply committed to his profession, to his Regiment and to his soldiers. He is fondly remembered by three generations of Canadian Gunners for his unique character, love of life and dedication to his "Gunner Family."

At the Canadian Forces Base Shilo, located about 22 miles east of Brandon, Manitoba, there is a Leslie Parade Square and a Leslie Cairn erected in his honor.

David Leslie White, Chieftain

HISTORIC BATTLEFIELDS OF SCOTLAND

From the March/April issue of *The Highlander* there is a short article announcing that Scotland's Inventory of Historic Battlefields was completed in 2012. A total of 39 sites have now been officially identified for protection. A complete list of these battlefields can be found at www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/battlefields. The search continues, and more battlefields will be added based on new evidence.

David Leslie White, Chieftain

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



As most readers of the Grip Fast Journal know by now, I depart from the usual format with each April edition on the premise that we should take the authors of Proverbs 17:22 and 14:40 to heart when they wrote "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine", and "A relaxed attitude lengthens a man's life". We should also attend to the Psalmist writing in Psalm 2:4 "The One enthroned in heaven laughs". Have you noticed the wonderful drawings going around the Internet of Jesus laughing? Perhaps because I am a progressive theologian and a feminist one at that (!), I need to think of Jesus as human first, sharing human traits, getting filthy dirty as a kid, bringing frogs and lizards home ("Ma, can I keep him?"), goofing off when he should have been attending to whatever he was being taught, sassing his elders, swiping treats that St. Mary had prepared for Sabbath, and so on. Typical kid stuff. Later, when he was grown and on his many journeys with disciples, I imagine him sitting around a

hearth or campfire in the evening, unwinding and recounting humorous stories with them. Who said Jesus was a solemn guy who never cracked a smile? We are told he was fully human in order to share all human qualities, and as sense of humor is a true gift and an excellent sign of mental health we may assume with good certainty that he had one...probably better than most to put up with all he did.

I'm not talking here about the snide, angry, razor blade Don Rickles style "humor" or obscene Lenny Bruce "humor". I'm talking about a sense of humor that sees the absurd in life and that is able to laugh *about* it, not *at* it, and maintain a sense of compassion for our mutual human condition while laughing. It's mentally, spiritually and physically healthy to laugh. A thousand years and more before Jesus preached, the East had images of laughing Buddhas. I'm guessing that both Jesus and Siddhartha Gautama (later referred to as The Buddha, as Jesus was later called The Christ) and the Hindu Lord Krishna, come to that, all kept their sanity with laughter. I find it interesting that Buddha smiles and even is depicted laughing out loud; and Krishna, the blue-skinned God of the Hindu pantheon who is most like Jesus, who dearly loved his people and cared for them, is almost always portrayed with a smile on his lips. Why then is Jesus always portrayed as being glum as a cold, rainy Monday? Can it be that we only allow Jesus to live in the shadow of his own cross? But that does violence to the joyful spirit he tried to spread among his followers. Perhaps it was because our Calvinist ancestors deemed it undignified for such a Being as Christ to laugh - how frivolous! Let's remember the Proverbs and Psalmist, please. Jesus doubtless knew of them, and most likely had a keen sense of humor about life. I cheerfully refer you to the following lovely site with drawings of a very happy, very human Jesus drawn by the talented artist Jean Keaton. Please check this out to see a joyful portrayal that will touch your hearts.

<http://www.rural-revolution.com/2009/04/jesus-laughing.html>

And now, because this is the April edition of Grip Fast Journal, and time for April Fools and (if I may borrow a Scottish phrase) "hunting the gowk" (sending folks on bootless, silly errands such as snipe hunting) it is time to include some funnies, this time part of my collection of Scottish jokes (we can tell 'em and laugh at 'em cause we've all got Scottish genes!).

1. Why do bagpipers march so fast? It's harder to hit moving targets...
 2. What's the difference in a bagpipe and an accordion? A bagpipe burns longer...
 3. The Prime Minister brings a new candidate for Chief Torturer to the King for his approval. The king asks the man's credentials - can he wield a whip properly? "No, Sire." Does he know how to winch the rack? "Never seen one, Sire." Is he strong enough to break bones with his bare hands? "My wife opens all the tight jars, Sire." "Weel", snorts the king in exasperation, "What is it ye *can* do then to torture a man?" "Sire, I can play the bagpipes and the accordion at the same time!"
 4. What's another reason bagpipers march so fast? If you can't get a good look at their faces they can't be held accountable..
 5. What's one more reason bagpipers march so fast? They're trying to get away from the sound...
 6. A bagpiper was playing and really putting his heart into it. A little boy stood next to him, watching the performance, and finally interrupted the piper by tugging on his kilt. The piper was quite irritated, and demanded of the child 'Weel, laddie, what is it?!!' The little boy regarded the bagpipes seriously for a moment and then said "I only wanted to say that it might stop hollering if you let it go..." And finally, something we've all seen, but it's great for a laugh at the end of a drizzly long winter. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZ35SOU9HTM>
- Blessings and much joy and fun in your lives, my cousins!

Samantha Gray, Chaplain, CLSI

"Lang may Your Lum Reek!"

This is an old Scottish birthday wish which translates to "long may your chimney smoke!" The idea, of course, came from the time of peat fires and is a wish that you'll be alive for many years to tend your hearth.

As Chaplain, I reach out to offer condolences and comfort to those in our Clan who have lost dear ones. I thought it would be a fine counterpoint to congratulate those marking another year of tending their respective hearths, although today we usually must pay the oil or gas bill, rather than cut our own peat. Nevertheless... Life is a gift, taken with all its trials and joys, and should be celebrated, especially the day on which each of us came onto this beautiful planet. I plan to do this every month, and encourage those of our kith and kin who are in touch with one another to reach out in celebration of each other by whichever media is most convenient. We're family - let's celebrate US! I ask everyone also to email me (Riognach@aol.com) if I have your birthday on the wrong day, or if you do not see your birthday listed. Some members have not given their birthdates to CLSI, but if you will kindly send it to me so that I may honour you, I promise sincerely that I will NEVER publish the year!!

So '**Lang may your lum reek!**' to our following cousins:

5/1: Charlene Bigelow, Kenneth Leslie and Drew Seich; 5/3: Craig Cairney; 5/5: Vera Denny and Richard Leslie; 5/6: James Leslie; 5/7: May White-Vilmouth; 5/12: Christina Chamberlin; 5/14: Lisa White; 5/16: Adam Flowers, Margaret Kelley and McKenzie Flowers; 5/17: Adam Leslie; 5/19: Peter Gray and Priscilla Rodriguez; 5/20 Orrin Gould; 5/23: James Arnaud; 5/27: Douglas Russell; 5/30: Susan Abernethy and Lillian Green; 5/31: Leah Leslie and Sharon Porterfield. May each of you enjoy many blessings and health in the year ahead.

Samantha Leslie Gray, Chaplain, CLSI

APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT LESLIE

Robert Leslie of Acton, Ontario, and his wife Marguerite attended the Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada 2013 Tartan Day Ceilidh and dinner at Newmarket, near Toronto, on April 6th. This was the first opportunity Robert has had to meet with the members of the Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada (CASSOC). As most of you will recall, our previous representative to CASSOC, L. Fred Leslie asked to be relieved of that position for health reasons. I am very pleased that Robert Leslie has offered to be appointed as the Clan Leslie Society International representative to CASSOC, and I have accepted his offer and appointed him as our representative.

David Leslie White, Chieftain

The following is a message received from Jo Ann M. Tuskin, CASSOC Secretary:

Greetings Clan Leslie,

Thank you David and Robert and we welcome Robert as the Delegate from Clan Leslie Society International to CASSOC. We were sorry that Fred could not continue as Delegate, but understand the situation. We enjoyed meeting with Robert and Marguerite at our Ceilidh and are pleased to welcome him as the official Delegate. We wish CLSI all the best.

CASSOC Tartan Day Ceilidh

On Saturday evening, April 6th, Marguerite and I had the pleasure of attending a Celidh hosted by the Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada organization (CASSOC). We arrived right on time at 6:30, and how fitting it was that the restaurant was just one block east of **Leslie** Street, one of the major streets of Toronto!

We were warmly greeted by Jo Ann Tuskin, secretary and enthusiastic supporter of the organization. We met several other very friendly couples, all turned out in their clan tartans and kilts. The evening commenced with the singing of "God Save the Queen" and was followed by a procession led by the pipes and followed by the haggis on a silver platter. Bill Richardson of Clan Graham gave a dramatic presentation of Burns' "Address to the Haggis", and after a prayer and blessing by Allan MacLeod, we all enjoyed a roast beef dinner, complete with haggis. After the meal, we were treated to highland dancing performed by four lovely young ladies.

To honour four people who have worked very hard for the organization, a knighting ceremony was performed, as shown in the cover photo. Persons in the knighting picture are: Allan MacLeod, 1st vice chair and delegate of Clan MacLeod (bearing the sword); (from far end of row) Don Hunter, past treasurer and delegate of Clan Hunter; Alene McNeil, past chair; Jo Ann Tuskin, U.E., Secretary and delegate of Clan Munro and Bill Richardson, U.E., delegate of Clan Graham.

I was honoured to receive the appointment by Chieftain David Leslie White as the CLSI delegate to CASSOC and look forward to being your representative on that council.

**Robert Leslie,
Acton, Ontario**

LESLIE TENTS AT HIGHLAND GAMES, SCOTTISH FESTIVALS AND FAMILY GATHERINGS.

This list is made up from information supplied by our many dedicated Convenors who give of their weekends to have Clan Leslie Tents 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. Planned Leslie Family Gatherings may also be included.

LOCH NORMAN HIGHLAND GAMES

<http://www.ruralhillscottishfestivals.net/>

Rural Hill, NC - April 19, 20 & 21, 2013

Lew and Chris will start the North Carolina highland game season hosting the tent at the Loch Norman Highland Games in Rural Hill, NC just north of Charlotte. This is a wonderful event starting with the calling of the clans at dusk on Friday night and events all day on Saturday and Sunday. All CLSI members in the area are encouraged to attend and enjoy the hospitality of the CLSI tent and the events of the games. We will be staying at the Drury Inn near the Northlake Mall. This location provides a full breakfast and very nice hot snacks from 5:30-7:00 each evening.

IRON THISTLE FESTIVAL

www.uscoscots.org

Yukon, OK – April 26, 27, & 28, 2013

Linda Flowers will be hosting a tent at this festival. This is a great festival for you to attend.

TRIAD HIGHLAND GAMES <http://www.triadhIGHLANDgames.org/>

Greensboro NC - April 26 and Saturday April 27

TEXAS SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES, May 3-5, 2013

The 27th annual Texas Scottish Festival & Highland Games will be held at Maverick Stadium, University of Texas at Arlington, 1307 West Mitchell, in Arlington May 3-6. This event will again be hosting some of the top professional Scottish athletes in North America, and includes professional, amateur and novice competitions. Also featured are Scottish Highland Dance competitions. Other activities include educational seminars, whisky tasting, Celtic harp, a huge pub tent and Celtic rock concerts. The Texas Scottish Festival is the largest Scottish festival in the Southwest, and is noted for the outstanding entertainment. Entertainers this year will probably include Brian McNeill, Ed Miller, and the performing groups Jiggernaut, Tullamore, Clandestine, Cleghorn Scotland Rising and more.

The host hotel is the Quality Inn-Arlington Highland, 121 I-20 East at Matlock Road, Arlington. The entire Inn is reserved for those attending the festival. For more details, please visit their website at www.TexasScottishFestival.com

The Clan Leslie Society International tent will be open Friday evening (May 3) for the Calling of the Clans, and all day Saturday and Sunday. Your tent hosts this year will again be Frank and Lynne Leslie. You are all invited to stop by and celebrate our shared heritage. If you can volunteer for an hour or so, your assistance will be appreciated. Frank and Lynne deserve some time to visit the entertainment tents also.

FROM SUSAN ABERNETHY

I am planning to have a Clan Leslie Tent at the Scotsfest on May 25 and 26 at the Orange County Fairgrounds, Costa Mesa, CA. Alec Klieforth will be honored for his military service during the opening ceremonies.

<http://www.scotsfest.com/> (not yet updated)

As soon as I have more information about what they are doing for Alec, I will let you know.

I will also have the Clan Leslie Tent at the San Diego Games on June 22 and 23 at Brengle Terrace Park in Vista, CA <http://www.sdhighlandgames.org/>

GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

<http://www.gmhg.org/>

Linville, NC - July 12-14

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Eric Duling
Greensboro, NC, USA

Patrick Duling
San Antonio, TX, USA

Sharon Leslie Porterfield
Acton, ON, Canada

Barry Leslie
Victoria, BC, Canada

Donald R. Leslie
Windsor, ON, Canada

THANK YOU TO THE DONORS TO THE CLSI

- Craig William Leslie
Leesburg, Fl, USA

CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL – SCHOLARSHIPS

CLSI is offering scholarships to our members. There are 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 any scholarship must be a member or inceptor member of CLSI. For more information contact: Linda Flowers, CLSI Scholarship Chairman, LFLOWJINGO@SBCGLOBAL.NET.

Linda Flowers, Treasurer

CLAN LESLIE ITEMS FROM THE QUARTERMASTER

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 signed by our Clan Chief, The Honorable Alexander Leslie. Price \$66, including shipping.
- 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 Conveners/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

Peter M. Leslie, scotslad11@yahoo.com

KILTS AVAILABLE

We have the opportunity to order acrylic kilts in the Leslie red tartan. They are \$69 each or with accessories \$169. Also available are hostess kilts for women. These are longer and suitable for dressier occasions. If you are interested in ordering one, please contact Ralph at the Clansman at 412-276-3242. His email is clnsman@aol.com. He said the best way to contact him is through email. For measurements he needs following: (a) waist around belly button (b) hips at widest point (c) length from belly button to top of knee. I also have a picture that shows how to measure for one. You can email me and I will send it to you. For a hostess kilt, you would need to measure longer as the kilt is longer. I have a regular kilt in the green and a hostess kilt in the red. Several members have these kilts. We are very pleased with the quality and they are made in Scotland. The acrylic is much cooler and less expensive than wool. You can also contact Linda Flowers 405-381-3577, LFLOWJINGO@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Linda Flowers, Treasurer

CLSI LIBRARY FUND

The second Objective of our Constitution is "To promote, foster, collect and preserve historical and genealogical records and information about descendants of Clan Leslie throughout the world."

The donation of the book by Thomas G. Leslie titled *The Remarkable Mr. Jerome*, written by Anita Leslie (1954) prompted me to do a search of books by and about Leslies that were for sale by Abebooks and Amazon. I was pleasantly surprised to discover many such books for sale, and many at very low prices. I did some further research and discovered that most of these books had been in public and college libraries, and had been sold for pennies on the dollar to various antiquarian book sellers. Libraries do this when there seems to be no further interest in the book. And the antiquarian book sellers post a price, and if the book doesn't sell, it may be offered with free shipping. And then if it doesn't sell, the book is sent to the trash.

Another discovery was that a number of the Leslies (and also probably Abernathys, Moores, and other Leslie septs) have written many books. Shane Leslie, the father of Anita, wrote or translated 60 books, and Anita Leslie wrote at least 12 books. Shane's brother Lionel, in addition to being a sculptor also wrote books and poems. Anita's brother, Desmond Leslie, an RAF fighter pilot in World War II also wrote books, and this is just one branch of the Leslie family! Some of these books are very inexpensive, while some of the older books are somewhat rare and are rather expensive. *The Gilt and the Gingerbread* by Anita Leslie (1981) with approximately five copies for sale worldwide is available from \$50 to \$294. *Wilderness Trails in Three Continents* by Lionel A. D. Leslie (1931) with approximately four copies available worldwide is priced from \$100 (Switzerland) to \$134 (USA).

The bottom line is that some of these books will disappear in the trash soon, while the price on others continues to rise to higher and higher levels and I haven't even identified all of the books from this one branch of the Leslie family. In order to "collect and preserve" at least some of these books, the CLSI has created a Library Committee to identify books to add to the Clan Leslie Collection at the University of Guelph, and to purchase the most significant or most in danger of "disappearing." To make this happen, we need funds to make these purchases. I am asking for donations specifically for the "CLSI Library Fund." If you would like to contribute, please send your check to our Treasurer, Linda Flowers, and mark the check for the "CLSI Library Fund." Your donations will be sincerely appreciated.

David Leslie White, Chieftain

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