

Volume 3, Issue 4, August 2010

## WHY CELEBRATE SCOTTISH HISTORY?

### THE CLAN LESLIE IS ADDING TO SCOTLAND'S HISTORY

The Clan Leslie has a distinguished history beginning with Bartholomew's landing in Scotland with Margaret Atheling who was to become Queen Margaret then Saint Margaret. Bartholomew later distinguished himself as a Scottish Knight, Governor of Edinburgh Castle and married the Princess Beatrix, daughter of King Duncan. Our first Leslie ancestor built his first castle at Leslie in the sight of Bennachie on the side of the Gady Burn. His descendants expanded the Leslie family in the Garioch and built substantial castles and families in this area. The first Baron, Sir George Leslie in 1340, was given the estate of Balquhain in the Garioch and he and his descendants expanded the Leslie family from this castle. The third Baron of Balquhain, Sir Andrew Leslie, was apparently a bit of a rascal and was eventually killed by the Sheriff of Angus in 1420. In his Leslie history books, Colonel Charles Leslie lists the many children of this active Baron. Leslie historians agree that most Leslies in the world now are descended from the Balquhain Leslies. Sir Andrew was succeeded by his son Sir William Leslie, fourth Baron of Balquhain. Where have I heard that name before?



**Harlaw Monument to Provost Davidson**

In my personal family history search, I have come to a dead end with my great, great, great grandfather John Leslie, a Crofter in old Longside Parish about 1800. Since Longside is only 30 miles from Balquhain, I choose to believe that some distant relative was a son of one of these prolific Leslie Barons who was given a piece of farmland some distance from Balquhain. Just as I am certain that Bartholomew was one of my ancestors, I have adopted the Balquhain Leslies as my ancestors also. That is why I feel so strongly about helping to replace the monument to the Leslies who died at Harlaw, fighting for their homes and way of life.

The Leslie soldiers who fought to save their homes from the invaders from the Highlands and died on the battlefield on July 24, 1411 have long been forgotten except in the Leslie history books. After the battle, when the Highlanders had returned to their homes and the people of the area of the Harlaw were able to bury their dead, a cross was raised on the battlefield by Sir Andrew Leslie to honour his six sons who he had buried that day. This memorial, called Leslie's Cross, remained on the field for sometime and eventually disintegrated.

Individual members of the Clan Leslie have come together to raise a new Leslie's Cross to remember the six sons of Sir Andrew Leslie and all the other Leslies who fought and died fighting to protect their homes and indeed their way of life, at the Battle of Harlaw, 599 years ago. This Leslie's Cross will be raised in the front yard of the Chapel of the Garioch, a short distance from the battlefield and another historical place related to Leslie History. Clan members who participate in this project will forever be able to visit this historical site and say to themselves, their children and grandchildren, I was one of those who helped to raise this monument to the brave Leslies who battled the Highlanders that day to preserve their homes and way of life.

The Leslie's Cross will be carved out of red Aberdeen granite to signify the blood of the Battle of Red Harlaw. On July 24, 2011, the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this fateful event, Clan Leslie leaders, Clansmen and Clanswomen and other friends, will gather in the afternoon to dedicate the monument and remember these Leslie ancestors from the Leslie castles and farms in the areas of Balquhain, Fetternear, Pitcaple, Leslie, Warhill, Lickleyhead and others, in sight of Bennachie and the Gady Burn. The inscription will be as follows:

**LESLIE'S CROSS  
JULY 24, 1411  
The Battle of Harlaw**

**Sir Andrew Leslie, Third Baron of Balquhain and several of his sons rode out with Alexander Stewart, Earl of Mar to meet the advance of the Highlanders at the fields of Harlaw.**

**Six of Sir Andrew's sons died that day as well as Leslies from nearby castles and farms.**

**Leslie's Cross was erected on the field in commemoration.**

**This Leslie's Cross was placed *here* by the members of the Clan Leslie and their Chief, The Honourable Alexander Leslie in their memory on the 600th anniversary of the battle, July 24, 2011.**

We need to know who will participate so that the plans can be confirmed. See list of those confirmed, page 3. Please send a message to William Leslie [william.leslie@sympatico.ca](mailto:william.leslie@sympatico.ca)

**HARLAW REMEMBRANCE PLAN**

1. **A Leslie history of Harlaw.** Copies of *The Griffin* have been mailed to all CLSI members. The lead story is by David Leslie from Leslie by Inch, "The Leslies and the Battle of Harlaw." David's story of Harlaw pulls together the whole story of the cause of the war with Donald of the Isles and the Leslie involvement prior to and during the Battle of Harlaw.
2. **A New Memorial Stone.** Monument companies have been asked to quote on a suitable red granite cross to be installed in the Churchyard of the Chapel of the Garioch. The plan is to depict the Leslie's Cross which was placed on the battlefield in 1411 and has long since disappeared. It will be inscribed with a memorial to the six sons of Sir Andrew Leslie and the other Leslies who fell defending their homes and the City of Aberdeen.
3. **The Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire Councils.** Several events will take place beginning Sunday July 24, 2011, with the laying of a wreath by the Provost at the Harlaw Monument and continuing through that week. Plans are for a play of the Battle of Harlaw, a re-creation of the Battle and battlefield camp, and other historical displays at art galleries and museums.
4. **Leslie Book of Participants and Donors.** You could be a part of Leslie history by participating in the Leslie ceremony to remember the Leslies of Harlaw or by contributing to the cost of the monument. A booklet listing the names and hometowns of all the contributors will be produced and a copy preserved in the permanent Clan Leslie Library Collection.
5. **A Clan Leslie Gathering.** We are organizing a Leslie Gathering involving Clan Leslie members from all over the world. The Clan Leslie Gathering in 1995 was such an event and attracted Clan Leslie members from many countries. The 1995 hosts, David and Leslie, Leslie introduced many of us to the great history of the Clan and to many historical Leslie sites in Aberdeenshire. This time we have the possibility of attracting even more Scottish Leslies because of the major historical significance of the Battle of Harlaw. The Leslies of Warhill have generously agreed to arrange our Gathering Dinner at their Warhill House.
6. **Stay at a Leslie Castle.** The working group needs to know who plans to be there. Sebastian and Candida Leslie from Warhill House have been very generous in making rooms available at Warhill House and Lickleyhead Castle, two Leslie homes. A Clan Leslie Dinner, for Sunday July 24, 2011, has been planned at Warhill House. If coming from afar, plan to arrive by Saturday July 23, 2011.
7. **Tour Historical Leslie Sites.** We would like to arrange transportation and joint attendance at events and visit historical Leslie locations. All Leslies, Abernathys, Bartholomews, Carneys, Laings and Moores are welcome to participate. You do not have to be a member of the Clan Leslie Society. It takes time to plan such an event so if you are interested in being at this historical event in remembrance of the Leslies of Harlaw, please send a message to **William Leslie** at [william.leslie@sympatico.ca](mailto:william.leslie@sympatico.ca). See list in table page 3.



**Warhill House**



**Lickleyhead Castle**

No.	NAME	ACCOMMO- DATION	NUMBER ATTENDING DINNER JULY 24, 2011	INTERESTED IN LESLIE HISTORICAL TOURS
1	David Leslie White & Beth Meriwether	Warthill House	2	2
2	William and Sue Leslie	Warthill House	2	2
3	Rosemary Leslie and Erik Foisy	Warthill House	2	2
4	Bonnie Leslie Rudnisky	Warthill House	1	1
		Lickleyhead Castle		
		Lickleyhead Castle		
		Lickleyhead Castle		
		Lickleyhead Castle		
		Lickleyhead Castle		
		Lickleyhead Castle		
		Lickleyhead Castle		
		Dinner only		
		Dinner only		
		Dinner only		

**DONORS TO LESLIE'S CROSS - HARLAW MONUMENT**

**The Target is £ 9,000**

**Donors in the USA**

Lewis and Chris Johnson, Greensboro,  
North Carolina  
Don and Janice Abernathy, Albermarle,  
North Carolina  
David Leslie White and Beth Meriwether,  
Fort Worth Texas  
Steve Olling, Issaquah, Washington  
Arthur Leslie, Las Vegas, Nevada  
Adam Flowers, Norman, Oklahoma  
Linda Flowers, Tuttle, Oklahoma  
Edmund Leslie, Omaha, Nebraska  
Bob and Dot Leslie, Ridgeway, Pennsylvania  
Jonathan Moore, Wayne, New Jersey  
Priscilla Rodriguez, Belleville, Illinois  
Richard Lynch, Amador City, California  
Laura Messing, St Louis, Missouri  
Glenn Abernathy, Salem, Oregon  
Becky and Chuck Dobias, Carlyle, Illinois  
Keith Leslie, Macon, Georgia  
Patricia Akroyd, Spring Hill, Florida  
Donald and Marian Leslie, Alpharetta, Georgia  
Ivan Lesley, Converse, Texas  
G. David Lessley, Burbank, California  
Phyllis Dubois, Sarasota, Florida  
Walter T. Leslie, Woodstown, New Jersey  
Melanie Cave, Orlando, Florida  
Bret Leslie, Vienna, Virginia  
Robert E. Leslie, Brandywine, Maryland  
Jane Leslie Roe, Jackson, Tennessee  
Glenda Saunders, Macon, South Carolina  
Leslie and Wayne Seich, Jackson, New Jersey  
Samantha Gray, Glen Cove, New York

**Donors in Canada**

William and Sue Leslie, Orillia, Ontario  
Stewart Leslie, Mount Hope, Ontario  
Rosemary Leslie, Ottawa, Ontario  
Dr. Peggy Allan, Vancouver, British Columbia  
M. Alexander Leslie, Toronto, Ontario

**Donors in Scotland**

David and Leslie Leslie, Leslie, from Leslie  
David and Sheena Leslie, Banchory  
Georg Dorsch of Leslie Castle  
Albert and Linda Thomson, Inverurie  
Mrs. M. Sharp (nee Leslie), Aberdeen

**Donors in England**

James, Alastair and Emma Leslie, Stoke on Trent

**Donors in Australia and New Zealand**

Barrie Leslie, Gordon, New South Wales

**Donors in Europe**

Lisa White, Paris, France

**A total of \$5,694 or £3,635 has been raised to date.**



## 2012 CLAN LESLIE GATHERING – THE LOCATION HAS BEEN CHOSEN

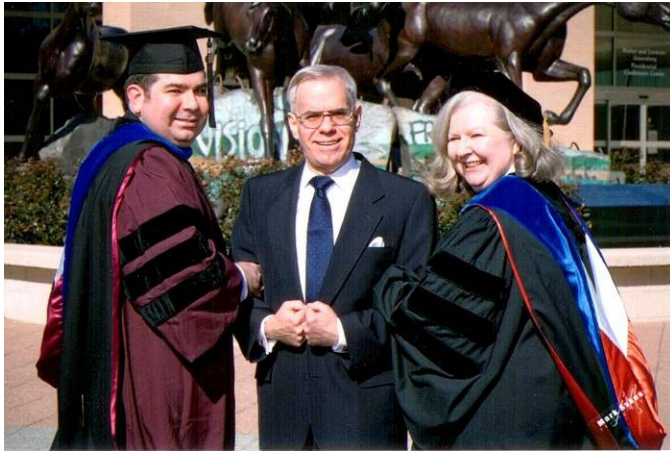
The 2012 Clan Leslie Society International Gathering will be held in conjunction with the New Hampshire Highland Games at the Loon Mountain Ski Resort, Lincoln, NH. To find out more about the New Hampshire Highland Games, please visit: <http://www.nhscot.org>. These games traditionally take place on or around the third weekend of September, but we will post the 2012 dates when they become available. Keep checking our Facebook page.

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=696321738&ref=ts#!/group.php?gid=155937880572&ref=ts>

Laura Sawyer Messing Design Invasion 314.646.7673 (phone/fax) [designinvasion@gmail.com](mailto:designinvasion@gmail.com)

[www.designinvasion.com](http://www.designinvasion.com)

## THREE DOCTORS – NEW CLSI MEMBER, DR. MARGARET (PEGGY) ALLAN – VANCOUVER



Here is a photo of our family so that you can put pictures and names together. This was taken last December 18th when Matthew graduated from Texas A & M University with his Ph.D. in political science (international relations). He previously did his law degree at UT-Austin and was called to the Texas Bar. I did my Ph.D. in psychology at UT-Austin, and Allen did his M.D. at the U. of Iowa.

**Peggy Allan**

## COMING TENTS AT HIGHLAND GAMES AND SCOTTISH FESTIVALS

### SEPTEMBER 25. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

Chris Chamberlin and her son Michael Hadley will be hosting a tent at Cedar Rapids. Chris is very enthusiastic and writes: We have recently become a member of H.A.G.I.S. (Hawkeye Area Grand Gaelic Islands Society) an organization here in Iowa that promotes our Scottish heritage. It is this organization that holds the All Things Scottish Festival in Cedar Rapids. We are having a picnic/bonfire this Friday evening and will be discussing plans for the upcoming festival in great detail. We are very excited about the event and have already received several responses from friends and family that they will be coming to the event. My cousin Les Simmons is also a lineal Leslie and is very much looking forward to stopping at the tent to learn more and has expressed interest in possibly joining CLSI at that time. I cannot tell you in words how very happy I am since I have joined CLSI and how much I look forward to being an active member in promoting our great heritage. The number of friends I have met through the CLSI gathering has been very rewarding.

### OCTOBER 15-17. STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

The Stone Mountain Highland Games will be held October 15-17 at Stone Mountain Park Meadow, Stone Mountain, Georgia. Stone Mountain is located just east of Atlanta. The CLSI tent will be hosted by Roy Abernathy, assisted by Al and Don Leslie.

For additional information, check the Stone Mountain Games website at: [www.smhg.org](http://www.smhg.org)

## RECENT TENTS AT HIGHLAND GAMES AND SCOTTISH FESTIVALS

I would appreciate it very much if the fine volunteers who plan to host Tents at Games would keep me informed of their intentions far enough in advance to print the notice in this newsletter. It would be also be much appreciated if you would send a written report and photographs of the tent and the participants after the event, to be published in the Journal. Please help us to strengthen our Society by reporting all our activities.

**William Leslie** [william.leslie@sympatico.ca](mailto:william.leslie@sympatico.ca)

## **JULY 8-11 GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES, LINVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**



The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games are one of the premier games in North America. It is a beautiful setting, and the sponsors have been putting this event on for 54 years. Linville is northwest of Hickory and Grandfather Mountain is 5,965 feet high! Visit [www.gmhg.org](http://www.gmhg.org) for more information. Don and Janice Abernathy along with Paul and Janice Aulbach hosted the tent at the 2010 Grandfather Mountain

Games. The weather turned out to be cooler, and dryer than expected. However attendance was down greatly from last year's games. Clan Leslie signed up 7 new members along with 1 renewal. Our very own Riley Lanier (with Mom above) won 1st place in the 2/4 march in grade 4 Jr. We had CLSI members from North Carolina, Florida, South Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland stop by the tent. Michael Hadley

## **JULY 17. ORILLIA SCOTTISH FESTIVAL, ORILLIA ONTARIO**



William and Sue Leslie hosted a Clan Leslie Tent at the Orillia Scottish Festival. Visitors included Albert and Gwen Lesslie and two grandsons. A new member, Grace More joined the CLSI. The Orillia Scottish Festival was honouring the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Canadian Navy. It was a beautiful day at Couchiching Beach Park.

## **AUGUST 13-15. FERGUS SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND HIGHLAND GAMES, FERGUS, ONTARIO**



William and Sue Leslie and Tait Leslie Goos hosted a Clan Leslie Tent at Fergus. This was the first time there ever was a Leslie Tent at this Festival and Highland Games which was celebrating its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Fergus Festival claims to be the biggest 3 day festival of its kind outside of Scotland. There were 38 Clan Tents in the Avenue of Clans and we were unable to see much of the large number of events and displays. We were there for the Friday night Tattoo and operated the Tent on Saturday and Sunday. The location we were assigned was in a good traffic area, near the Scottish Dancing Competitions and the Genealogy Tent where interesting speakers were scheduled both days. There were a few visitors and we signed up four new members and one, Bonnie Rudnisky, offered to help with the Tent in the future and also booked to join us at the Harlaw Gathering next year. With some prompting, Tait played his bagpipes and immediately attracted a lot of attention at our tent. Two donations for the Harlaw Monument were received from Clan members. It was a very Scottish event and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

**William Leslie** [william.leslie@sympatico.ca](mailto:william.leslie@sympatico.ca)



## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO THE CLSI COUNCIL**

In accordance with Clan Leslie Society International Bylaws this public notice serves as a Call for Nominations for the following Elected Offices:

1. Vice Chieftain – currently held by Linda Flowers, OK
2. Secretary/Registrar – currently held by Rebecca Chase Dobias; will not be seeking re-election and the position will be vacant.
3. Council Member – currently held by Thomas Huxtable, KS, recently vacated by Joan Leslie Eike.
4. Council Member – currently held by Reuben Leslie, TX

All elected officers shall be adult, lineal, voting members of the Society for a period of not less than two (2) years. Elected officers shall assume office January 1, the year following the election.

Please send your notice of intent with biography to Rebecca Chase Dobias prior to September 10, 2010.

### **Rebecca Chase Dobias**

Secretary/Registrar, PO Box 42, Carlyle, IL 62231

## **GLEN GARIOCH DISTILLERY: THE WHISKY OF OUR ANCESTORS**

Nestled in the fertile fields of Aberdeenshire in Oldmeldrum is the Glen Garioch distillery. This distillery commenced distilling legal whisky in 1794, making it one of the oldest legal distilleries in Scotland. Glen Garioch is also located conveniently among the Leslie castles in Leslie, Pitcaple, Balquhain and Fetternear. Hence, it was almost certainly the whisky of our ancestors.

The following is transcribed, with permission, from issue 83 of *Whisky Magazine*. [www.whiskymag.com](http://www.whiskymag.com). The Garioch (pronounced 'Geery' in the ancient dialect of Aberdeenshire) is a tract of arable land, 150 square miles in size, beginning 18 miles north-west of Aberdeen and stretching north-west to Strathbogie. Rolling, fertile country, it used to be known as 'the granary of Aberdeenshire' – even by the 1790s "a considerable quantity of grain [was] sent each year from this parish to the Aberdeen market" – and is well supplied with springs and burns. In other words, perfect whisky country.

The oldest distillery in the district is Glengarioch, at Oldmeldrum – curiously, the distillery is 'Glengarioch' and its brand 'Glen Garioch', while 'Oldmeldrum' used to be 'Old Meldrum' - tucked away on the edge of the town with the narrow public road running through it. A charming, old-fashioned distillery, it was founded before 1794, and it is thus one of the oldest operating distilleries in Scotland.

The founder was a local worthy, John Manson, and it remained in his family for ninety years. His grandson, Sir Patrick 'Mosquito' Manson, F.R.S., is recognized as "The Father of Tropical Medicine" and was the first person to make a connection between mosquitoes and malaria.

In the 1880s ownership went to a Leith firm of wine and spirits merchants, soon joined by the influential blender William Sanderson, creator of VAT 69. Thereafter much of the make from Glengarioch went into the Sanderson whiskies, including S.V.G. (Specially Vatted Glengarioch), O.B.G. (Old Best Glengarioch), O.M. (Oldest Malts), P.M. and A.M. (for drinking before and after lunch). Mr. Sanderson was keen on the use of acronyms!

Difficult trading times during the 1920s led to Sanderson's combining with Booth's, the well-known gin distillers, and then both joining the mighty Distillers Company Limited (DCL) on April Fool's Day, 1937. During World War II, production was at a greatly reduced level (ceasing altogether in 1941) and troops were billeted in the spacious malt barns. Surprisingly, there were no incidences of pilfering whisky!

The DCL was never happy about Glengarioch's production levels, arising from a shortage of process water, so in 1968 the old distillery was mothballed, and two years later it was sold the Glasgow whisky broker (and owner of Bowmore Distillery), Stanley P. Morrison for £150,000. Joe Hughes was appointed manager with instructions to 'find another water source'. He approached a neighboring farmer, and together with Alec 'Digger' Grant, who owned a JCB, they found what came to be called the 'silent spring of Coutens Farm' – it could neither be seen nor heard, but it flowed in sufficient abundance to increase production tenfold. "DCL's reaction when they heard the news may be imagined", remarked Alec Grant's son, Kenny, who now manages the distillery!

Now somewhat removed from the Glen Garioch of old, the re-launch leads with the 1797 Founders Reserve at the heart of the range. Periodically individual casks will be hand selected when at the peak of their perfection for launch as "Single Batch Releases".

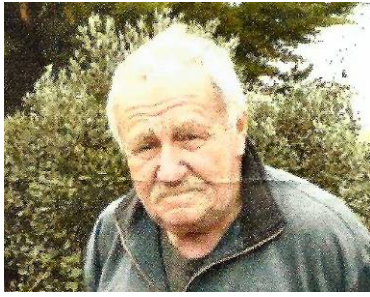
This year, the quantity and breadth inherent in the Glen Garioch 1990 Vintage and the Glen Garioch 1978 Vintage join the 1797 Founders Reserve.

**David Leslie White, Fort Worth, Texas**

## FAMILY SEARCH CORNER – LESLIE FAMILY CONNECTIONS

### CONNECTIONS MADE BETWEEN A NEW ZEALANDER AND A MINNESOTAN

#### 1. ARE WE TWINS? A TALE OF TWO WILLIAM LESLIES



**William Leslie, Kaiwaka, NZ**      **William Leslie, Orillia, ON, Canada**

1850 and married a William Leslie born 1829 having an Andrew, Laurence, Jane (died), John, Jane, William. All were born in Fair Isle. In 1861 the family moved to Chattam N.B., and Apple River and River Herbert in Nova Scotia. In 1871 Margaret died and in 1873 William remarried Abigail Bonnell which produced another 3 children. Descendents moved to Ontario including a Barron Barnhill Leslie. You should be able to tell at a glance if we are related. Kind regards to all from **William (Bill) Leslie, Kaiwaka, New Zealand.**

Giday William or is it Bill. I looked in the Gripfast North America today and saw my twin, you! So I thought I would see if we are related. In 1828 my g/grandfather was born on Fair Isle (Shetland Islands) with a sister Margaret being born 1824. In 1829 the family moved to Dunrossness (Shetland Islands) where others were born. In 1859 g/grandfather William immigrated to N.Z. with his wife, but Margaret had returned to Fair Isle about

#### 2. REPLY FROM WILLIAM LESLIE, ORILLIA, ONTARIO

Hello William (Bill) Leslie;

Firstly, if we are Leslies, then we are related somewhere, even if we have to go back to the founder Bartholomew. I am always looking for resemblances in faces, but rarely finding them. My great great great grandparents and subsequent generations come from Longside Parish in the NE of Scotland, near Peterhead, north of Aberdeen. My guess is that the first Leslie in that area came from Balquhain Castle in the Garioch north west of Aberdeen. The Grip Fast Online is from the Clan Leslie Society International, not just North America and our other publications, the Grip Fast Journal of the CLSI and the Griffin contain many historical Leslie stories. We are attracting a lot of new members this year and often hope that we will get some New Zealanders.

#### 3. WILLIAM (BILL) LESLIE, KAIWAKA, NEW ZEALAND

Hi William, Thank you for your quick response. You will get a photo but my scanner is down at the moment. Yes we are related as you say, and while the Canada line has been closed others may have opened. I have just written a book which names the 31 generations from Bartholomew to myself, being 30th. Little is known of the Shetland Leslies other than Shetlanders who trace the family back to 1550 when Norman Leslie, 2nd son of William Leslie 1st laird of Warthill got the young Isobel Gordon pregnant. Isobel was the daughter of William Gordon, Bishop of Aberdeen who had 8 illegitimate children by Janet Knowles plus others. William Gordons brother was Lord George Gordon and William Leslie, 3rd son and brother of Norman married Elizabeth Gordon and they had two children before William was accidently killed by his brother-in-law. Children's names were Alexander and Annabel (Annabel of Scotland was Elizabeth Gordon's mother, a Kings illegitimate daughter).

Elizabeth remarried Thomas Cheyne whose father was Archdeacon of Shetland. Circa 1550 a large group from the Garioch region moved to Shetland and took up land which included Norman, Isobel and children. Elizabeth and Thomas Cheyne and her Leslie children, along with Barbara Gordon, sister of Elizabeth who married James Mowat and others were Giffords, Dunbars and Tullidaffs, one of whom Norman and William had killed. The Leslies settled in the Tingwall area of Shetland and are frequently mentioned there. Shetland was owned by Robert Stewart, half brother to Mary, Queen of Scots. The first son of Elizabeth and Thomas Cheyne, Patrick b1548 married Christian Hepburn sister of James Hepburn (Bothwell) who divorced Jean Gordon seduced then married Mary, Queen of Scots becoming her 3<sup>rd</sup> husband. When Hepburn fled Scotland he stayed with his sister Christian and the Leslies and was almost captured before he fled to Norway where he died. Patrick Leslie Lord Lindores who had married the 16 year old daughter of Robert Stewart also stayed with his cousin Norman on a visit to Shetland with his father-in-law. Norman's family grew in the Tingwall area and is well documented. Annabel Leslie married a James Wishart about 1570 and Alexander Leslie married the 3rd child and first daughter of Adam Neven and Barbara Sinclair and settled in the Dunrossness area of Shetland, thus two branches of Leslies formed in the Shetlands. Normans 3 sons were tried for piracy in 1577 and made

to stand on the gallows with ropes around their necks till a ransom was paid. Alexander's sons were tried for robbery, fighting, murder and one was taken to court for turning the church into a cowshed.

The families grew to many and in 1770 my g,g,g,grandfather Laurence Leslie from Alexander's side married my g,g,g,grandmother Margaret Leslie from Norman's side. However what I wish to point out is the fact that from 1650 Leslies were returning to Scotland and to give a couple of instances, Andrew Leslie born 1683 returned to Fife and started the Burnt Island Leslies, and his sister Elizabeth went to Rothes and married James Dumbreck in 1707. As Shetland Leslies were close to the sea many returned to the Aberdeen and Fife coasts and became fishermen. From 1800 families moved to England, Canada, America and from 1850 to Australia and N.Z. Remember the Shetlands had their own culture and language and English was not taught there until after 1700. Take tiny Fair Isle where my g/grandfather was born; in 1828 it had 8 families of Leslies but being unable to pay the rent, 5 left before 1831, most going to Scotland. In 1861 another 4 families from Fair Isle left for Canada and America.

When Andrew Leslie's parents lost their land in Shetland he moved to England and in 1853 started Leslie Shipbuilding Yards which employed 2700 men, many of them his relatives from Shetland. This is why so many Leslies can not track their forebears as they are unaware of the Shetland connection which is now 450 years old. They are not mentioned in Col. Charles' books as he died before his work was finished, yet some 1200 Shetland, and several hundred Orkney Leslies have been recorded from the late 1500s. My g/grandfather sailed away from Shetland having been sent to sea at the age of 9 and in 1852 was on a ship that took a load of potatoes from N.Z. to the Gold diggers in Australia; he jumped ship and went prospecting for 4 years before returning to Shetland, marrying and emigrating to N.Z. in 1859. I still own the same farm. He had five sons, 31 g/children. 90 g,g,grandchildren and now the family exceeds 500 and growing fast. All this is written to help those who cannot connect due to the ignoring of Shetland Leslies who are proud of the illegitimate Royal and Religious blood in their veins. Trusting I have not bored you,  
Regards Bill.

#### **4. LOREN LESLIE IN LUTSEN, MINNESOTA, SEEKING INFORMATION ON SHETLAND LESLIES**

William, I have been very interested in the presence of Leslies in the Shetlands and Orkneys. I have pieced together a plausible theory. After the King of Denmark ceded the Shetlands and Orkneys to the King of Scotland as a part of his daughter's dowry there was a migration of Scots up there as either lairds or shopkeepers. The Scottish clans in closest proximity were the Clan Sinclair who occupied the Cathiness region and the Leslies of Aberdeenshire by virtue of their access to the sea. The Sinclairs were naturals given their Viking heritage and may have been prevalent in the isles even before their transfer from Denmark to Scotland. Which brings me to the fact that my Leslie ancestors in the Shetlands intermarried with Sinclairs and their septs in the Dunrossness Parish of the southern main island. The families appear to have either participated in the fishing industry or supported it via shipping and merchandising of the production of fishermen of Scandinavian descent. I plan to pursue this further which may lead to another contribution to the Grip Fast Journal. By the way, the recent issue was excellent. Well done. **Loren Leslie.**

#### **5. LOREN GETS A SHETLAND CONNECTION**

Hello Loren, I have just received a story from William Leslie in New Zealand. He thinks we look like twins. His ancestors came from the Shetland Islands and I told him that the Shetland Islands had a great connection to Peterhead. In the whaling and sealing days, the ships used to sail from Peterhead to Lerwick and fill up their crew requirements from there. I had a great grandfather, James Rankin from Peterhead who was a Captain on some of these ships.

**Regards, William**

#### **NEXT PUBLICATIONS TO CLAN LESLIE**

SEPTEMBER 2010 - The *Grip Fast Online* sent to any interested Clan member who sends an email address.

OCTOBER 2010 – The second edition of the *Grip Fast, Journal of the Clan Leslie Society International*. Sent to Clan Leslie Society members.

Please continue to send us your stories and pictures of your Scottish ancestors or your Clan Leslie family; we really need them. Note the number of different clan members who have contributed to this issue.

**William Leslie, Editor** [william.leslie@sympatico.ca](mailto:william.leslie@sympatico.ca)



## GRIP FAST ONLINE AND GRIFFIN FANS WRITE

There were an unbelievable number of comments on the new *Griffin*, revived after an absence of 12 years.

-- William, the (June) Grip Fast Online was very impressive. I think you are doing a great job with this. Ed Leslie, Waterloo, Nebraska.

-- William, I received in the mail today my first Griffin in about a decade. It is extremely well done and perfectly in tune with the spirit of re-awakening knowledge and appreciation of our heritage. Thank you for contributing and inspiring all the intelligence, imagination, and hard work that made it possible. Reuben.

-- I just got my copy in the mail. It looks GREAT! Well done! My congratulations for bringing back *The Griffin*. Yours aye, David.

-- William, Mine (*Griffin*) came today. It is wonderful. Linda

-- William, my copy of *The Griffin* arrived this morning, and I have read it from cover to cover! What a treat it is to read. Please, pass on my thanks and appreciation to Elsie Montgomery et al. for their enormous effort in producing this fine document. My great great grandmother, Margaret Leslie, of Edinburgh would have been proud! Thanks very much. Margaret C. "Peggy" Allan, Vancouver, B.C.

--Thank you, dear William, for the June issue of *Grip Fast*. It is a very rich issue with lots of information and beautiful stories - I loved especially the memoir of Samantha Grey. It is truly amazing how many Leslies keep in touch so far away from their original home. I am proud to be one of them, if only by marriage! Love, Edith Leslie.

-- William, This issue of the *June Grip Fast Online* was excellent--as usual. Thank you for running my request for family information. I have already had a response from Jean Leslie. She says, "Enjoyed reading this enormously!" Linda

-- I read the *Griffin* this afternoon and loved it! I loved that article by David Leslie! That really did fill in some blank spaces (I have many.) I just could never quite understand the relationship between the Ross and the Rothes. Understanding grows through education! Yours Aye, Becky

-- William, our *Griffins* arrived and they are excellent! Orrin, who loves history (and taught it at one time along with several sciences) dove into it immediately. His comment, after reading the piece on the Battle of Harlaw was "ALL those Leslies...and they ALL have the same names!" I explained patiently that when you've got a good thing, you don't switch horses mid-stream, not even for a Percy, Floyd, or Basil. Seriously, you and Elsie have done an extraordinary job in getting this out. The format is very "reader-friendly", comfortable to hold, and scans well to the eyes. With many, many thanks to you both. Samantha

## LESLIE ENTERTAINMENT

The Rock band Leslie (of which I don't know why they chose the name) is gaining popularity, <http://www.myspace.com/leslierock> and they have some cool shirts for sale. Will Leslie, Edmonton.

There are a lot of great Scottish tunes on this site, e.g. The Black Watch playing "Dark Isle." The photos are good too. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-clij7zWdN0&feature=related>

..

## ACRYLIC KILTS

We have the opportunity to order acrylic kilts in the Leslie green or red tartan. They are \$69 each or with accessories \$169. If you are still interested in ordering one, please contact Ralph at 412-489-5170 or 412-489-5171. His email is [scottyguy2003@yahoo.com](mailto:scottyguy2003@yahoo.com). He said the best way to contact him is through email. You can also contact Linda Flowers 405-381-3577, [lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net)

## 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: **Rebecca Dobias, CLSI Scholarship Chairman**, [dobiasrsc@aol.com](mailto:dobiasrsc@aol.com),

© 2010 Clan Leslie Society International. All photos and graphics remain the property of the respective owners. Retransmission, distribution and manipulation strictly forbidden without consent from the author or owner of such. Any materials used on a web site for redistribution including broadcast must be credited to The Clan Leslie Society International.

Chief of Clan Leslie	Alexander Leslie		<a href="mailto:alex.leslie@btinternet.com">alex.leslie@btinternet.com</a>	
	Boreland House, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire, DG11 2LN Scotland			
Commissioner to North America	William Leslie	705-326-6791	<a href="mailto:william.leslie@sympatico.ca">william.leslie@sympatico.ca</a>	
	82 Tecumseth St., Orillia, Ontario, Canada, L3V 1Y2			
<b>CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY ELECTED (COUNCIL) AND APPOINTED OFFICERS</b>				
<b>2009 – 2010 CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL</b>				
TITLE	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Chieftain	David Leslie White	7313 Old Mill Run, Fort Worth, TX, 76133, USA	817-346-3333	<a href="mailto:clanleslie@earthlink.net">clanleslie@earthlink.net</a>
Vice-Chieftain and Treasurer	Linda Flowers	302 SW 3rd, Tuttle, OK, 73089, USA	405-381-3577	<a href="mailto:lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net">lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net</a>
Secretary-Registrar	Rebecca Dobias	10 Lakeview Drive, Carlyle, IL, 62231, USA	618-594-8273	<a href="mailto:dobiasrsc@aol.com">dobiasrsc@aol.com</a>
Council	Bob (Robert C.) Bailey	6113 El Toro Court, San Jose, CA, 95123, USA	408-224-1190	<a href="mailto:rcbailey3056@sbcglobal.net">rcbailey3056@sbcglobal.net</a>
Council	Joan Leslie Eike	1227 Route 17C, Barton, NY, 13734, USA	607-565-4437	<a href="mailto:jleike@hotmail.com">jleike@hotmail.com</a>
Council	Samantha Leslie Gray ANPC	61 Robinson Avenue, Glen Cove, NY, 11542-2944, USA	516-676-5719	<a href="mailto:riognach@aol.com">riognach@aol.com</a>
Council	Reuben Leslie	12203 Antoinette Place, Austin, TX, 78727-5334, USA	512-837-6181	<a href="mailto:rlsd@io.com">rlsd@io.com</a>
Council	Laura Messing	1107 Tamm Ave., St. Louis, MO, 63139, USA	314- 781-5481	<a href="mailto:designinvasion@gmail.com">designinvasion@gmail.com</a>
Council	Loren R. Leslie	4746 Cascade Beach Road Lutsen, MN 55612, USA	218-663-7622	<a href="mailto:lrakleslie@aol.com">lrakleslie@aol.com</a>
Council	Timothy W. Leslie	3800 Horizon Pl., Fort Worth, TX, 76133	817-764-0244	<a href="mailto:timothywleslie@gmail.com">timothywleslie@gmail.com</a>
<b>2009 – 2010 CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL APPOINTED OFFICERS</b>				
CASSOC Delegate	Fred Leslie	3 Durie St., Toronto, ON, Canada, M6S 3E5	416-763-2586	<a href="mailto:fred.leslie@utoronto.ca">fred.leslie@utoronto.ca</a>
Chaplain	Rev. Samantha Gray, ANPC	61 Robinson Ave, Glen Cove, NY, 11542, USA	516-676-5719	<a href="mailto:riognach@aol.com">riognach@aol.com</a>
Fiddler	Anne Leslie	6024 Telegraph Rd., Alexandria, VA, 22310, USA	703-960-0095	<a href="mailto:lesliefw@aol.com">lesliefw@aol.com</a>
Genealogist	Joan Leslie Eike	See above		
Herald	Susan C. Abernethy	5643 Limerick Av, San Diego, CA, 92117-1526, USA	858-576-8293	<a href="mailto:sabernet@trexenterprises.com">sabernet@trexenterprises.com</a>
Historian	Timothy W. Leslie	3800 Horizon Pl., Fort Worth, TX, 76133	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>
Publications	William Leslie, Editor	See above	705-326-6791	<a href="mailto:william.leslie@sympatico.ca">william.leslie@sympatico.ca</a>
Grip Fast, Journal Griffin, GF Online	Publications Committee, W. Leslie, David L. White, Laura Messing, Elsie Montgomery			
Quartermaster	Peter M Leslie	3930 Knowles Road, Wenatchee, WA, 98801, USA	206-890-3053	<a href="mailto:scotslad@nwi.net">scotslad@nwi.net</a>
Webmaster & Web Site	Brian Lesslie Jr.	109 Nimmo Ave., Perth, PW1 2PV, Scotland	01738 560687	<a href="mailto:less7506@blueyonder.co.uk">less7506@blueyonder.co.uk</a> Leslie Web Site Address below. <a href="http://www.clanlesliesociety.org">www.clanlesliesociety.org</a>
<b>REGIONAL CONVENORS</b>				
Canada	Vacant			
Central Region	Vacant			
Europe/Asia	Brian Lesslie, Sr.	4 Albany Terr., Perth, PH1 2BD Scotland	07138 563050	<a href="mailto:Bless993@blueyonder.co.uk">Bless993@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
Mountain USA	Vacant			
North East USA	John Aulerich	16 Mount Hygeia Rd, Foster, RI, 02825-1435, USA	401-647-0404	<a href="mailto:jaulerich@yahoo.com">jaulerich@yahoo.com</a>
Pacific NW USA	Steve Olling	3909 242 <sup>nd</sup> Ave SE Issaquah, WA 98029, USA	425-557-7672	<a href="mailto:ollings@comcast.net">ollings@comcast.net</a>
Pacific SW USA	Vacant			
South West USA	Frank W. Leslie	3432 Upton Drive Kempner, Texas 76539, USA	254-577-7050	<a href="mailto:fleslie@hot.rr.com">fleslie@hot.rr.com</a>
<b>BRANCH PRESIDENTS</b>				
South East USA	Timothy R. Sering	2000 Enon Road Valdesa, NC 28690, USA	828-874-2550	<a href="mailto:trsering@embarqmail.com">trsering@embarqmail.com</a>