

Grip Fast Journal

The Newsletter of Clan Leslie Society International

April 2016



We Are Gathering in Canada!
Join us in August at the Fergus Scottish
Festival and Highland Games.

CANADA



Extended Registration
Deadline (see page 4)



The Honourable Alexander Leslie, Chief of Clan Leslie



It is Gathering Year. And only four months to go before we meet in Fergus. Not only is the excitement rising because of the fact that we will see our Leslie Cousins (and hopefully meet new ones), but because Fergus is a very special Festival.

It is (most years) the largest Gathering outside Scotland. Most games in Scotland are local affairs and basically focused around the town or village that hosts them, but some are huge. Aboyne (also a section of Fergus), always attended by Her Majesty the Queen, is one of the biggest.

Fergus is also steeped in history. The town of Fergus was originally called Little Falls, because of the scenic waterfall at one end of town. Its name was changed to honour one Adam Fergusson, who was despatched from Scotland in the 1820s and 30s to study the immigration potential of the area. He and his business partner bought land and built the first house in 1833. Fergus was named not only for himself but for Fergus, King of Scotland.

William Leslie, our Commissioner in North America, has been doing some digging and found the first Leslie in the area as early as 1754. Robert Leslie's relatives had Gatherings in the early 1900s that brought 326 people to the area. I wonder if we will get as many.

It is not just Leslies in Fergus though. Apart from many people of Scottish descent, my wife Miranda has a relative who was Governor of the Great Lakes, Alexander Grant. We intend to go and find the plaque commemorating him.

Although the area and the Festival are, perhaps, more serious and historical than the ones in the US, there is plenty of entertainment lined up. A trip to the Niagara Falls (which are due to be 'turned off' in 2019) which I have wanted to see since I was very young. And a visit to the University of Guelph, where, with thanks to William Leslie, there is now a permanent Leslie section in the library.

With all that, and the Festival itself, there is a lot to look forward to. A dram with old friends (I feel a special delivery will be on its way from Texas), some great conversations and good company.

What more could you want?

Alex Leslie

Chief of Clan Leslie

April, 2016

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ABOUT THE COVER

The Leslies are gathering in Canada! Join us in August in Fergus, Ontario Canada. See page 2.



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CALLING CLAN LESLIE, WE ARE GATHERING!

Clan Leslie will be the Featured Clan at the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games!

Our Chief, The Honourable Alexander Leslie and Miranda Leslie will be travelling from Scotland to celebrate with us.



The Occasion: 2016 Clan Leslie Society International Biennial Gathering
Where: The 71st Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games,
Fergus, Ontario, Canada
Host Hotel: Holiday Inn, 601 Scottsdale Dr., Guelph, Ontario
When: Friday Aug. 12 to Sunday Aug. 14, 2016



Our Host Hotel:

Holiday Inn & Conference Centre
601 Scottsdale Dr., Guelph, Ontario, Canada,
N1G3E7 www.higuelph.ca
Ph 519-836-0231
Toll Free 877-660-8550

This hotel is a 25 minute drive from the Fergus Highland games and has all the accommodations and facilities necessary for the 2016 Clan Leslie Gathering. We have made arrangements with the hotel for a block of 30 rooms for three nights, Thursday Aug. 11 to Saturday Aug. 13, 2016, departing Aug. 14th. Depending on availability, the rooms will be made available for three days prior and three days after the event.

Reservations must be made by contacting the Holiday Inn using the contact information show above and using the group code **CLN**.
Rooms in this block will only be held until July 11, 2016.

Join us and experience:

Leslie Log House



Niagara Falls



Mennonite Farm Country



Leslie Library



2016 Gathering Schedule of Events

Thursday, Aug. 11th: - a choice of one of two full day bus tours are planned (see complete tour info insert included)

- Niagara Falls, depart Holiday Inn, 8 AM, return approx. 5:30PM
- St. Jacobs and Mennonite Farm Country, depart Holiday Inn, 8 AM, return approx. 3:30PM

Friday, Aug. 12th:

- 9AM to 11AM - Event hosted at the McLaughlin Library, University of Guelph.
- 11AM to 4:00 PM – Trip by bus to the Leslie Log House in Mississauga.
- 4:30PM to 8:00 PM – Meet and Greet at the Holiday Inn. Pub Night Food included with option #1 full weekend registration. Cash bar available.
- 6PM to closing – For those wishing to attend, full weekend registration includes admission to all Friday events at the Fergus Games. The games are about a ½ hour drive from the host hotel.

Saturday, Aug. 13th:

- 9:00AM to 4:00 PM – Clan Leslie tent open in the Village of the Clans at the Fergus Festival – a place to socialize and enjoy light refreshments. Also, enjoy your day experiencing all that the Fergus Festival has to offer.
- 12:00 Noon – Clan Leslie has the honour of marching at the head of the Parade of Clans. Everyone to join, wear some tartan and/or your 2016 Clan Leslie Gathering T-shirt.
- 12:30 PM – opening ceremonies, officiated by our Chief
- 1:00 PM – Everyone gather for a group photo
- 6:30 PM – Meet at the Holiday Inn prior to Chief's Banquet, cash bar available.
- 7:30 PM – Chief's Banquet, dress casual to full Scottish formal attire – your choice. Buffet meal with wine or non-alcoholic beverage included. Address by our Chief and others. Scottish entertainment. Cash bar re-opens after meal.

Sunday, Aug. 14th:

- 8:00 AM – Clan Leslie Society International Biennial General Meeting at the Holiday Inn
- 10:00 AM – Kirkin' O' the Tartan, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Fergus
- 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM – Clan Leslie tent open in the Village of the Clans at the Fergus Festival – a place to socialize and enjoy light refreshments. Also, enjoy your day experiencing all that the Fergus Festival has to offer.
- 5:00 PM – The Last Word (Closing Ceremonies)

ACCOMODATIONS

Holiday Inn - (our host hotel, see page 2)

There are numerous other hotels in Guelph. Two that are about 2 Km from the Holiday Inn are:

The Delta Hotel, 50 Stone Rd. W., Guelph - 855-281-3104 and

Days Inn, 785 Gordon St, Guelph, - 519-822-9112

Camping - There are three excellent Grand River Conservation Area parks that offer camping, and all are less than a ½ hour drive from the Holiday Inn and Fergus – Rockwood, Guelph Lake and Elora. The parks are popular and reservations would need to be made well in advance. This can be done at www.grandriver.ca/Parks/parks.cfm



REGISTRATION

There are three Gathering Registration options: 1. Full Weekend, 2. Saturday only, and 3. Chief's Banquet only. See the registration form for full details

The Thursday and Friday Bus tours are booked separate from the Gathering Registration. See the registration form for full details.

Registration Required by May 1, 2016 if you are taking part in the Thursday or Friday tours.

Registration Required by May 31, 2016 if you are not taking part in the Thursday or Friday tours.

Refunds: A refund, less the cost of the Fergus Games Admission can be made if a request is received no later than July 29th, 2016. Since the hotel requires guaranteed numbers for the catered events, no refunds can be made after this date.

For a registration and information package, please have a look at our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1219493438077202/> and look for documents titled: PROGRAM, TOURS, REGISTRATION, and ACCOMMODATIONS

For those not wishing to use Facebook, please send me a request at email address 1832leslie@gmail.com, and I will send the information package to you. You may also contact me by mail, Robert Leslie, 5124 Erin 1st Line, Acton, ON, Canada, L7J2L9

Travelling to Canada for our 2016 Fergus Gathering?

We Canadian Leslies are looking forward to welcoming many Leslies to Canada and to our 2016 Clan Leslie Gathering.

Sadly, since 9/11, crossing the Canada / US border is not as simple as it used to be. A passport book has been required for many years to cross in either direction. If you do not already have one, please give yourself lots of time to apply and receive one before starting out on your trip to Canada. It may take up to six weeks from the date your application is mailed until the passport book is received. However, once you have it, it is good for 10 years. Another option is the Passport Card. It will cost less money but is only good if you are driving, it is NOT valid for air travel.

A new requirement for air travel - Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

The following is quoted from this Canadian government website, (please have a look at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>).

As stated on the website: "Starting March 15, 2016, visa-exempt foreign nationals who fly to or transit through Canada will need an Electronic Travel Authorization. Exceptions include U.S. Citizens and foreign nationals with a valid visa."

On the website, you will find a place where you can enter your citizenship information and it will tell you if the eTA is required. When I entered United States citizen, the information returned was that the eTA is not required. When I entered British citizen, the information returned was that the eTA is required.

The website gives instructions on applying for this, but I am sure that your travel agent can also provide this service

Driving in Canada?

U.S. and U.K. driver's licenses are valid for renting a car and for driving on Canadian roads. If you are driving to Canada, your current insurance is valid on our roads (be sure your insurance covers you for driving outside of the USA). If you are renting a car, find out ahead of time what insurance coverage you have through your own car insurance or through your credit card. Bring written proof of coverage and it may save you money by not purchasing the rental company insurance.

What can you bring into Canada?

Generally, you can bring into Canada anything made in the USA, Canada or Mexico. Each person of legal drinking age may bring a maximum of 1.14 liters of liquor or 1.5 liters of wine. You may not bring firearms, ammunition or illegal drugs.

The preceding information is for information purposes only. To be sure you have all the bases covered, speak to a travel agent and/or have a look at the following websites:

http://canada.usembassy.gov/traveling_to_canada/driving-in-canada.html

<https://www.tripadvisor.ca/Travel-g153339-s602/Canada:Crossing.The.Border.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/canada/safety-and-security>

Submitted by Robert Leslie

The Lesslie Story

The Beginning Upper Canada, 1820. (part one)

Edward Lesslie was born in Dundee Scotland. His main occupation was a bookseller and printers ink maker in 83 Murraygate Dundee. He arrived from Scotland with his daughter and two sons, John and James abt 1820.

Edward financed and opens a drug store as Lesslie & Sons in York (later called Toronto) in the same year. The store is run by his son, John, and a friend, William Lyon McKenzie, who came with them from Scotland. A second branch is opened in Coote's Paradise and managed by McKenzie.

Son James opens a third store in Kingston in 1823. In 1826 the York store is taken over by James who then expanded the store to include pharmaceutical products.

Upper Canada at this time was suffering from a shortage of small change for traders so Edward had produced, small denomination coins of ½ p and 2p as trading tokens, arriving at the store in Kingston with 3000 dollars' worth of coins.

The coins or tokens were of three styles; the ½ p has the names of the three stores and is bilingual on the reverse side. The ones struck between 1824 & 1827 all have plain edges. Issues from 1828 to 1830 have reeded edges. The coins / tokens are now fairly rare and the 2p is very scarce. One 2p was found in a foundation stone in 1978.

In 1834 Edward was elected to the first city council for Toronto. He supported William Lyon Mackenzie and the Reformers. In 1835, he helped establish the Bank of the People serving as General Manager and later President after John Rolph. Although he appears to have taken no part in the Upper Canada Rebellion, he was arrested in December 1837 but released two weeks later. Disenchanted, he became part of a plan by a number of Reformers to relocate to Iowa. After hearing of possible changes following Lord Durham's assignment as Governor General, Lesslie decided to stay in Upper Canada.

In 1842 he takes over the operation of the Toronto Examiner from Francis Hicks. After George Brown established The Globe in 1844, the Examiner began to take a more radical stance, later aligning itself with the Clear Grits. The paper lobbied for the abolition of clergy reserves and the separation of church and state. In 1855, after a number of competing newspapers had been established, Edward sold the Examiner to

George Brown. Edward sold off his business interests around the same time. He served several terms as school trustee and also served as a justice of the peace. Edward died in the village of Eglinton, now part of Toronto in 1885.



Welcome New Members!

Joan Pettigrew
Eganville, ON
Canada

Gary Pettigrew
Eganville, ON
Canada

Jamie LaBoda
Granite Falls, WA

Judith Grigor
New York, NY

Linda Joseph
Hoover, AL

Jerry Anderson
Carmichael, CA

Jeanne Leslie
Woodstock, GA

Meoldy Kirk
Pawhuska, OK

Marilyn Cox
Scottsdale, AZ

Cal Leslie
Wichita, KS

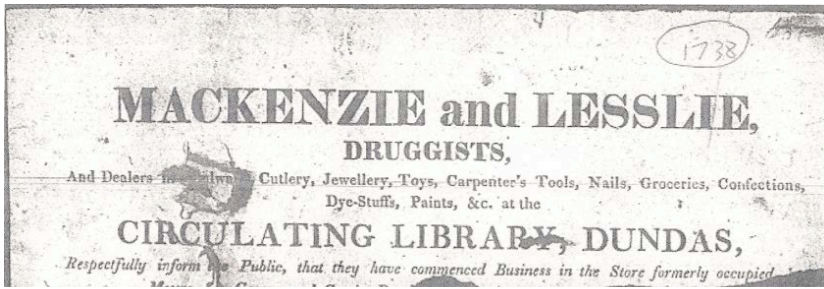
JoAnn Wilcox
South Bluffdale, UT

Jeffrey Dorsey
Salem, VA

Jean Leslie Childers
Brandon, VT



The McKenzie Story (part two)



He was one of the most colourful characters in pre-Confederation Canadian history. But fifteen years before the infamous 1837 Rebellion of Upper Canada, more than a decade before becoming the first mayor of York (Toronto), and before going on to lead one of the most fiery lives in our nation's history, William Lyon Mackenzie lived in Dundas before following his destiny for which he is well remembered.

After coming over from Scotland with John Lesslie in 1820 and working on Montreal's the Lachine canal, William moved to York and worked with John managing a book and drug store called 'Lesslie & Sons' which was owned by Edward Lesslie, but with his son John and MacKenzie splitting the profits. The business expanded opening new stores in Kingston and Coote's Paradise, which brought MacKenzie to Dundas early in 1822. The store, known as 'MacKenzie & Lesslie' was established on the corner of Main and Baldwin Streets (the site of today's Cattel Funeral Home), with John and William as proprietors. This store also sold, along with books and drugs, "hardware, cutlery, jewellery, carpenter's tools, nails, groceries, confections, dye stuffs, and paints" according to advertisements of the day. Perhaps most important historically, this store also served as our town's first lending library, which was only one room with 75 books.

On July 1, 1822, William married Isabel Baxter in Montreal. Arriving back in Dundas, MacKenzie and his family are thought to have moved into a residence owned by Edward Lesslie at 34 Baldwin Street. During his stay in Dundas, he also built a Warehouse on the north shore of Spencer Creek just west of East Street (near the current Canadian Tire). In 1823, after a bitter business dispute, William and John Lesslie parted company, splitting the business inventory between them. It is thought they even took the store sign and broke it in half, each taking their own name. But he kept the warehouse, which he left to the keep of his new partner, Pierre Desjardins (at one point, MacKenzie and Desjardins lived together; perhaps it was their Connection with canals that first brought them together). MacKenzie then moved out of Dundas to Queenston in October, 1823. But he kept in touch with Dundas and visited often, following and encouraging the progress on Pierre Desjardins' canal project, which he mentioned frequently in his news publication, "The Colonial Advocate" between 1824 and 1826. Pierre Desjardins died in 1827 and his estate was administered by Edward Lesslie.

After the unsuccessful rebellion in December 1837, William Lyon MacKenzie passed this way again on his run to the border to escape the authorities. He is reputed to have hidden in what later became known as "MacKenzie's Cave" on the Sydenham Hill before continuing his successful rush to exile in the United States. His route through Dundas may have been along the current Thorpe Street, across the bridge at Spencer's Creek, and then up the wooded slope towards Ancaster, the U.S. and freedom.

In 1849, after being awarded clemency, MacKenzie returned to Canada and lived out the rest of his life in Toronto where he died in 1861. His grandson and namesake, William Lyon Mac kenzie King, would go on to become Canada's longest-serving Prime Minister.

Today, 'Mac kenzie & Lesslie' and the warehouse on Spencer's Creek are long gone. The legendary "Mac kenzie's Cave" located just below the Dundas Peak, has been concealed by time and nature. His old residence on Baldwin Street still stands to this day.

For more details on MacKenzie's stay in Dundas, the excellent paper "William Lyon MacKenzie: The Dundas Connection" by John Kaler is highly recommended reading. It's available for in-house reference at the Dundas Museum as are other fascinating documents pertaining to the life and times of MacKenzie's time in Dundas.

Brian Lesslie

Story produced with kind permission of Dundas Valley Historical Society. Ontario Canada.

Chaplain's Corner

Samantha Gray, Chaplain, CLSI

Monkeys, Rabbits and Birds!



Since this edition of Grip Fast covers the months of many spring festivals in both the lunar and solar calendars, we will look at some traditions, religious and spiritual, having to do with spring. As I write this (2/8), Asian communities everywhere are celebrating the Lunar New Year. The Chinese zodiac specifies 12 animals, one for each year

of a 12 year cycle, calculated by the moon's 28 day phases. Children are thought to have characteristics of the particular animal ruling the lunar year in which he or she is born. This Lunar New Year is 4714, the Year of the Monkey. Monkey children are bold, clever, quick and talkative. It must be noted that if you are trying to figure out just which animal ruled the year in which you were born, you must refer to a lunar calendar, easily found by internet search. This is because lunar calendars have varying starting dates. This year's calendar begins on February 8, 2016, and ends January 28, 2017. Major cities in Scotland, the USA and elsewhere with Asian populations host Lunar New Year celebrations. During the festival, focus is on wishing for good luck for self and others, and making offering to Deities for health and prosperity during the year to come. Ancestors are honoured with gifts on family altars such as rice and fruit, and everyone wears red and lights firecrackers to scare away evil spirits.

Valentines Day honour Father Valentius, or Valentine, a priest imprisoned in Rome by Emperor Claudius II for continuing to marry couples in Christian ceremonies. A tree near his prison cell window bore heart shaped leaves, and using these, Valentine scratched out messages of comfort to his flock. These he signed "From Your Valentine" before scattering them on the wind to be found and read by the Christians in his parish. Today, we continue to use his messages of love when we send a card with chocolate or flowers or even sign those 'anonymous admirer' cards in grade school "From Your Valentine".

St. Patrick is always associated with Ireland. He was captured by pirate raiders as a young man and lived there for 10 years prior to escaping. He was born, however, in England or Wales according

to most historians, but lately there is research strongly suggesting he was born in Dunbartonshire, Scotland. Dunbarton means "Fort of the Britons". This makes sense when one remembers that in Patrick's time, Briton and much of the surrounding lands - now the southern regions of Scotland - were under at least nominal Roman governance. His parents were well-to-do Roman citizens, although whether or not they were from Celtic or Italian stock has yet to be established. Patrick's name may have been a Celtic one, but he himself is known to have signed several documents written in his own hand as "Patricius" - Latin for Patrick. He may never replace Saints. Andrew and Margaret in the hearts of Scots the world over, but his special day is a day for everyone everywhere to "be Irish". I don't think Scots tint their whiskey green as some people do their beer on March 17th. However, gentle readers, if I err in this most important matter, kindly inform and enlighten your Chaplain...

Easter comes quite early this year on March 27th - almost as early as possible (March 22nd, extremely rare). I am often asked why rabbits bring Easter eggs and not some Easter bird. We're talking about eggs, after all, and despite those Cadbury commercials of cackling, egg laying bunnies... Well, as it turns out, Cadbury got it right. We have borrowed - as in so many things - from a pre-Christian Pagan tradition concerning the spring Goddess Estre. Her name is associated with estrogen, hence fertility; and Estre (or Oestre) was known to be the patroness of all newborn creatures and symbols of spring emergent. Here's a sweet story which has found its way into Christian myth: on a bitterly cold and snowy day in early spring: Estre found a little bird who had almost frozen to death. She took pity on it, and cared for it until it was well. But a heavy coating of ice has broken both its wings and it would never fly again. Once more the Goddess took pity on the bird, and turned it into her favourite creature - a rabbit - which could run freely and still lay eggs. When the delighted bunny tried to thank Estre, she replied with a "Pay it forward" command: the bunny was to remind children that winter death is always followed by the promise of renewed life by leaving a nest full of eggs at each child's door every spring. The nests have become our modern woven baskets, and the eggs take many forms from jelly beans to hard-boiled and coloured, but the tradition remains. Somebody at Cadbury did excellent research.

And here's another Easter story about a bird: Once, long, long ago, the robin had a snow white breast. He was very vain on account of it and spent hours preening. He avoided anything which might stain his beautiful snowy feathers or cause them to be soiled. Then Jesus was crucified. The robin watched in horror and sorrow from his perch on a branch near the hill of Golgotha. He noted Jesus's crown of thorns particularly, because the robin had hidden in thorn bushes many times to escape predators. He knew how sharp those thorns were and how they could pierce anyone pursuing him. As he watched Jesus's suffering, the Robin was filled with compassion; he did not care about his own beautiful feathers, but flew down to Jesus and used his beak to pull the painful thorns out of His head. As the robin did this, his breast became stained with Jesus's blood, and God decreed that as a sign of the robin's care and compassion, he would wear a red breast forevermore.

There is yet one other story from Christian myth I wish to share with you, and this also concerns a rabbit.

One day, while walking with His disciples, Jesus befriended and freed a tiny bunny who was caught in a snare; after that day,

the rabbit followed Him everywhere. When Jesus died, the little rabbit waited patiently by His tomb, hoping and believing he might see his friend again. After Jesus arose, he saw the rabbit sitting there, comforted him, and chose a flower - a larkspur - out of the bunch that the rabbit had gathered to nibble on while he kept vigil. Jesus declared that for the rabbit's great faith, the larkspur would always bear the image of the bunny's head and ears. And if you look closely at the center of each small larkspur flower, you will see just that.

Clan Leslie Society is made of up many different folk who have differing beliefs. What is important is the common theme of friendship, kinship, and a firmly held ethic of goodness, respect and appreciation for one another. These beliefs transcend whatever our differences may be and hold us together as a Clan. No matter what you may celebrate this spring - Lunar New year, Passover, Easter, Spring Solstice or a special saint's day, I wish for each of you, my cousins, happiness, and many blessings as the Light returns and winter passes.

Lang May Yer Lum Reek

"Lang may yer lum reek" is an old Scottish birthday greeting meaning "Long may your chimney smoke!" The intent of this was that the recipient of the greeting would live a long time to tend his or her own hearth fires. It is your Chaplain's privilege and pleasure to wish all the members of CLSI having birthdays in November and December many blessings, health and happiness in their upcoming personal year.

January

William Leslie - 1/1; Robert Leslie - 1/6; Alexander Leslie and James Leslie - 1/7 ;Laura Messing - 1/12; Dominik Leslie - 1/13; Timothy Abernathy and Leslie Plude - 1/16; Robert Leslie -1/20; Gary Pettigrew and Diane Sadler - 1/22; Norma Johnson - 1/24; Josephine Gordon and Gale Walker and Poet Robbie Burns - 1/25; Robert Bailey, Donna Nicholson and Eva Thomas - 1/26.

February

Scott Huxtable - 2/1; James Leslie - 2/2; Ann Eidsmo - 2/5; Richard Leslie - 2/7; Louise Munro - 2/8; Stephanie Phillips - 2/11; MaryAnn Weiss - 2/12; Charles Leslie - 2/13; Cherie Davila - 2/16; Julia Elliott and Hugh Moore - 2/18; Bobbie Peacock and Linda Joseph - 2/22; Patricia Powell - 2/23; Joan Leslie Pettigrew - 2/24; Magnus Leslie and Helen Harkness - 2/29.

March

Margaret Ann Lowen - 3/3; Edmund Leslie and Linda Swackhamer - 3/4; Patricia Trachier - 3/6; Sue Leslie - 3/7; Theresa Dyer - 3/8; Bryan Lesley and Donald Morey - 3/11; Martha Hanson and Barry Leslie - 3/14; Bret Leslie and Nicole Leslie - 3/15; Taylor Morse - 3/16; Keith Leslie - 3/17; Doyle Mayer - 3/18; Patricia Akroyd - 3/19; Sharon Earnest - 3/23; Frederick Persons and Joshua Persons - 3/25; Charles Toles - 3/26; Christopher Cairney - 3/28; Sandra Lacano; Mary Williams- 3/29 and Annie Windstrup - 3/30.

April

Nikita Eiki - 4/3; Joan Eike 4/4; Bonnie Gleason - 4/5; Michael Abernethy and Linda Flowers - 4/6; Timothy Pannone - 4/7; Ann Musmanský - 4/9; Sara Seich - 4/10; Dakota Flowers and Leila White-Vilmouth - 4/11; Sammie Rainey - 4/12; Craig Leslie, Tomas Leslie and Bridget Weller - 4/13; Katelyn Leslie - 4/14; Charles Ward - 4/17; Donald Leslie - 4/18; Robert Leslie - 4/19; Wardlaw Leslie - 4/20; Clement Hoffman - 4/23; Leslie Craddock - 4/25; Doris Derrington, John Leslie, David Leslie and Nora Mayer - 4/26; Thomas Leslie - 4/29.

Carol MacDonald Lucas

Carol MacDonald Lucas, granddaughter of Helen Dorothy Moore of New Brunswick, Canada and great granddaughter of Captain James Moore of Ireland, has been involved with clan activities for about 40 years now. It began with the International Gathering of the Clans in 1977, which was in celebration of the Queen's silver jubilee. Her involvement slowed in the middle as she was an oil and gas geologist with a husband and 2 children that made many moves, including Venezuela, Switzerland and Malaysia. Currently, Carol and her husband, Chuck, have retired to Georgetown, Texas. Carol says she now actually has time to do more with Clan Leslie.

A couple of years ago, she started a new hobby, digitizing and embroidery. She found that she actually had a talent for it. Since Carol was very interested in her Scottish ancestry, she decided it would be fun to digitize clan crests.

It was from there Carol decided to give back to the clan and perhaps leave something of a legacy. She began with Clan Donald as that is who she was most familiar with. So she made a banner sporting all of 10 Clan Donald crests, please see figure 1. It was presented to Lord and Lady Macdonald in August at the AGM by Gary and Linda Tate, the commissioner and membership chair for Clan Donald in Texas. Carol received a lovely note from Lady Claire and apparently she and Lord Macdonald were having quite a discussion on where to hang it.

Of course, as life would have it, retirement funding needed some augmentation. However, the lure of the 8 to 5 did not exactly take her by storm.

What do you do when you have to start working again after you have retired? Since she had this talent for digitizing and embroidery, Carol decided to start her own home based embroidery business serving the Scottish community both here and abroad. So with a help from a friend in Skelmorlie, Scotland, who set up her website(www.cembdeisgn.com), she formed Ceilidh Embroidery Designs.

As a fiber artist, her products include purses, coats of arms, embroidered badges/crests, interlocked clan crests, pennants and tartan parade banners. Because Carol is a small operation, she can do one off embroidery. Please see attached examples.



Some of the lovely work of Carol MacDonald Lucas.

Contact Carol at:
cedesigns@cembdesigns.com



Salado Games

The 54th Gathering of the Scottish Clans and Highland Games was held at Pace Park, Salado, TX November 13 through 15, 2015. Friday night's Calling of the Clans was again conducted via torch light parade from the Central Texas Area Museum (CTAM) to an open spot just south of Salado Creek. Lynne Leslie carried the torch for Clan Leslie Society International. A Fingertip supper followed in the CTAM Hall Of Scots with entertainment provided by Carl Peterson, The Drambeauties, and Ravenmore. This year, all the Clans were together, allowing visitors and friends easy access. Lynne and I participated in the Opening Parade from CTAM to Pace Park on Saturday, November 14th at Noon. Although somewhat cool, there was sunshine until late that afternoon. The rain began about 5 PM and lasted until 10 PM. There was no rain on Sunday and it was a bit warmer, too! The closing ceremony took place at 2:30 PM rather than 3 PM. We hope to be back in Pace Park next year for the 55th Gathering of the Scottish Clans and Highland Games, the oldest gathering in Texas.



Frank & Lynne Leslie

Yours Aye,

Frank & Lynne Leslie
Convenors

Saint's Days

SAINT MARGARET OF SCOTLAND

The feast day for St. Margaret of Scotland is November 16th, the date of her death in 1093. As you may know, Margaret of Scotland was also known as Margaret of Wessex (the royal Saxon house of Wessex) and Queen Margaret of Scotland, the wife of King Malcolm III Canmore of Scotland. She was born in Hungary, the daughter of the English prince Edward the Exile, the king's half-brother, and a sister of Edgar the Atheling. Margaret became much beloved by the people of Scotland for her charitable works serving orphans and the poor. She was deeply religious and established a monastery at Dunfermline and the restoration of the monastery at Iona. King Malcolm and their oldest son, Edward, were killed in a battle with the English at Alnwick, between Berwick and Newcastle, on the 13th of November, 1093. Margaret died three days later on November 16th. She was canonized in 1250. St. Margaret's Chapel still stands in Edinburgh Castle.

SAINT ANDREW'S DAY

November 30th is St. Andrew's Day in Scotland. He is the patron saint of fishmongers, singers, spinsters, and women wishing to become mothers. So just who was this Saint Andrew? Briefly, he was a fisherman, and was a brother of St. Peter, founder of the Church. St. Andrew is said to have preached around the shore of the Black Sea, and Scots claim to be descendants of the Scythians who lived in the area of the Black Sea. St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, and also the patron saint of Greece, Romania and Russia. His feast day is celebrated in Germany, Austria and Poland. The St. Andrew's Day Bank Holiday was established by the Scottish Parliament in 2006. St. Andrew's Day is also an official flag day in Scotland, requiring all buildings with a flag pole to fly the Saltire or St. Andrew's Cross. At the University of St. Andrews, students are given the day off.

It would be appropriate for each of us to fly the Saltire on November 30th in honor of St. Andrew, and perhaps attend one of the many St. Andrew's dinners given across North America and much of Europe. At least raise a wee dram of your favorite Scottish beverage.

David Leslie White

Thanks to Clan Leslie Society International

I would like to thank Clan Leslie Society International for the honour of the Bartholomew Award for 2015. I must apologize for not having previously thanked them for the Award but I have had a few health problems and have not been able to sit down and write a proper thank you.

I must mention that all the research on the Leslie Clan and the stories that I have put into the Clan Leslie Society of Australia and New Zealand Newsletter was to find and record the history of the Leslie Clan so that future generations of the Leslie Clan would find it a bit easier to study their family. I must mention the Laurus Lesleana Explicata that I have spent so much time and effort on with an English translation; then Ian Leslie 21st Earl of Rothes sent me pages of the Latin Laurus by email, for me to compare with my English translation; also Tim Leslie of Clan Leslie International and I spent a lot of time making the Laurus Lesleana Compendium, which is a collection of the Latin version of the Laurus, the English translation of the Laurus and a collection of entries from the collection of Laurus Lesleana' from Warhill House in Aberdeenshire. This Laurus Lesleana Compendium is available from Clan Leslie Society International for the very reasonable charge of \$10-00 and it is the only chance most people will have of being able to read and study the first history of the Leslie family from 1692.

Barrie Leslie. D.Ua. JP.
Gordon. Sydney. NSW.
Australia



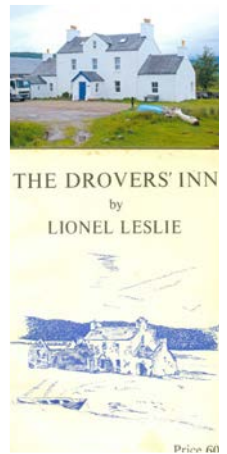
Barrie Leslie with Award and Quaid



The Bartholomew Award for 2015

Drover's Inn

I am preparing a box of items for the Clan Leslie Collection at the McLaughlin Library at the University of Guelph. Among these books are four by Lionel Leslie. Lionel Alistair David Leslie (1900-1987) was the youngest of four brothers, Shane, Seymour, Norman and Lionel. All sons of Sir John Leslie, 2nd Baronet of Castle Leslie, Glaslough, County Monaghan, Ireland, and his wife Lady Leonie Leslie. Leonie was an American, Leonie Blanche Jerome, sister of Jennie Jerome who was the mother of Winston Churchill.



Lionel was said to be a tough child, whose favorite "sport" was to take a running jump over the large round dining table, bounce on his head, and come up grinning. His older brothers would also use him as a football. He and his cousin Pat Guthrie would fire a large western six-shooter (Colt single action Army?) through the closed door between their rooms, scoring points if they could catch the bullet as it emerged. Patrick Guthrie (1894-1932) was the son of Walter Murray Guthrie and Olive Leslie of Torosay Castle, Isle of Mull.

Lionel was "sent down" from Eton for being "unteachable" (upper class students were never "expelled," they were "sent down"). He was not successful at Trinity College in Dublin, but eventually graduated from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. His military service prior to World War II included India, China, Tibet, East Africa and Labrador, Canada. These travels were the topics of his books Wilderness Trails in Three Continents: An Account of Travel, Big Game Hunting and Exploration in India, Burma, China, East Africa and Labrador published in 1931. Also his book One Man's World: A Story of Strange Places and Strange People published in 1961. Wilderness Trails has become a rare and desirable book, and one with Lionel's signature on the half tile page is for sale for over \$350.

Lionel was recalled to active duty in World War II, and served in Italy. In 1942, he married Barbara Enever and they had one child, Leonie Deirdre Elise Leslie. After the war, they moved to the Isle of Mull and restored a derelict house at Grasspoint, not too far from his cousin, Pat Guthrie's home at Torosay Castle. The roof leaked, a cow occupied one room, hens occupied another room, there were no windows, and water was 300 yards away. There was no electricity or telephone. In addition, the house was three miles by cart track from the main road. Lionel opened a sculptor's studio there and became a sculptor. Barbara opened a tea room adjacent for the visitors and customers. The Drover's Inn was located on the east coast of Mull, right on the edge of the Firth of Lorn. In the distance, Lionel could see Lismore Island, where the former home of his ancestor, John Leslie, Bishop of Ross lived. Lionel wrote several more pieces from Mull, including The Drover's Inn which tells of their move to this derelict house and its restoration. He also wrote a book of poems, *Poems of Mull and Iona*. (continued on back page)

Life in Scotland

by David Leslie White

Alistair McIntyre, a Scot who is now a Canadian Citizen, writes this weekly blog titled *Electric Scotland*. This week he offers a rather lengthy summary of “life in Scotland.” I hope you find it of some interest.

Electric Scotland News September 4, 2015

The state-of-the-nation report sets out a sweeping picture of the lifestyle habits and changes among Scots over the course of the year.

Education

SATISFACTION levels with local schools among Scottish parents has been falling steadily in recent years, it has emerged. The problem is most acute in more affluent areas of major cities, although remote small towns are also at the centre of concerns, according to the latest Scottish Household Survey. It shows that fewer than half of Scots believe local councils – which run schools – are providing high-quality services, while just one in four feels they can influence the decisions affecting their areas. It finds that 85 per cent of people were “very or fairly satisfied” with local schools when the current SNP government won its Holyrood majority in 2011. This fell to 83 per cent the following year, then to 81 per cent in 2013 and sunk to 79 per cent last year.

Transport

Road congestion is at its highest for six years. The number of journeys involving delays increased by 2 per cent to 11.7 per cent. Traffic reached a new record of 44.8 billion vehicle kilometers, up 2 per cent on 2013 and topping the previous peak in 2007. The number of vehicles was at its highest for at least a decade, which also increased by 2 per cent to 2.8 million. New vehicles, most of them cars, were also at a ten-year high, with 262,200 registered last year.

Climate change

Despite the increasingly high profile of climate change on the global agenda, fewer than half of Scots consider it an urgent problem. The latest survey has shown just 45 per cent believe the issue is of immediate concern – a sharp drop from 57 per cent in 2008. It also reveals the youngest and oldest adults are the least worried, while more than a fifth are not convinced it is happening at all. The belief in its urgency also fell in direct relation to levels of academic and professional qualifications.

Relationship status

Most Scots are not married or in a civil partnership, the survey has found. More than a third (35 per cent) said they have never married or registered a same-sex civil partnership. Just 47 per cent of people are married at the moment, the report found. A further 2 per cent are separated, but still legally married, with 8 per cent divorced. There were 7 per cent of people who are widowed. Almost all (96 per cent) younger adults – aged 16 to 24 – are not married and never have been.

Religion

Half of Scots still describe themselves as Christian despite a general decline in organised religion in recent years. About one in four (27.8 per cent) say they are Church of Scotland, but this is down from 34 per cent five years ago. A further 14.4 per cent describe them as Roman Catholics. Other Christian churches such as the Frees, Wee Frees and Episcopalians, account for a further 7.7 per cent. Muslims account for about 1.4 per cent of Scots. A growing number of Scots (47 per cent) say they are not religious at all. The figure in 2009 was 40 per cent. Rev Colin Sinclair of the Church of Scotland said: “These latest figures represent the challenges facing many established organisations in Scotland.”

Smoking

The number of smokers has fallen to its lowest level in 15 years, as only a fifth of Scots now smoke. The level fell from 31 per cent in 1999 and 23 per cent over the last three years. Smoking rates in the most deprived areas have dropped from 40 per cent in 2010 to 34 per cent in 2014. The figures were hailed by ASH Scotland chief executive Sheila Duffy, who said it was “a significant step” towards a healthier Scotland.

Homeownership

Fewer Scots now own their own home, with more and more people renting from private landlords, the figures show. Rates of home ownership have declined over the past five years from 66 per cent to about 60 per cent last year. The private rented sector has more than trebled from 5 per cent in 1999 to 14 per cent in 2014. In contrast, the percentage in the social rented sector has declined from 32 per cent in 1999 to 23 per cent in 2007 and has remained steady since. There are now 160,000 people on social housing waiting lists.

Neighbourhoods

Scots have pride in their local neighbourhoods with over 90 per cent saying they are very or fairly good places to live. Antisocial behaviour is relatively low in their area, most people think. The most common problem is dog fouling or barking, a problem for 31 per cent of people. Problems with neighbours, including loud parties and disputes, account for 17 per cent of problems. Drug dealing and mis-use is a problem for 11 per cent of Scots and rowdy behaviour affects a further 11 per cent. But four in five (85 per cent) adults said they feel safe when walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark.

(continued on back page)

Clan Leslie Items for Sale

Clan Leslie items for sale 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. These books are out of print and in short supply. Get yours before they are gone! 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

5) **Griffin Reprints** - Some of you will remember the four volumes of The Griffin Reprints that were published by The Clan Leslie Charitable Trust many years ago. These four volumes contained the best articles from the 17 volumes of The Griffin, the historical journal of the Clan Leslie Society, and had been reedited by The Right Honourable Ian Leslie, 21st. Earl of Rothes and Alexander Leslie Klieforth. These reprints were sold by the Clan Leslie Society to the membership for about \$17 each, and they sold out quickly. We have had these four volumes professionally scanned and recorded on a CD. I am exceedingly pleased that we can offer this CD of our history for \$30. The articles are excellent and contain information about Clan Leslie that is not available anywhere else.

6) **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).

7) **The Laurus Lesleana Compendium** - 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. Price is \$10

8) **Clan Leslie Christmas Ornaments** - We have 2013 and 2014 ornaments still available. The 2014 ornament is very limited so get yours before they're gone!

9) **Balgonie Castle Christmas Cards** - We still have Christmas cards featuring Balgonie Castle. There are ones with verse and without verse. They are on special—20 cards for \$14.

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 PayPal to the email address lflowers1954@yahoo.com
Money Orders 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.



CLSI Officers Contact List

CLAN LESLIE

Chief of Clan Leslie

The Honourable Alexander Leslie
8 Buckingham Terrace
Edinburgh EH4 3AA
Scotland
alex@disruptiveviews.com

Commissioner of Clan Leslie, North America

William Leslie
70 Creighton St.,
Orillia, Ontario, L3V 1B2
Canada
Phone 705-326-6791
w.leslie@rogers.com

CLAN LESLIE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL ELECTED (COUNCIL) & APPOINTED OFFICERS

Chieftain

Thomas (Tom) Leslie Huxtable
1102 N. Bayshore Dr.
Wichita, KS, 67212, USA
Phone 316-721-0307
tshux@cox.net

Vice-Chieftain

Dr. Loren R. Leslie
4746 Cascade Beach RD.
Lutsen, MN, 55612-9518, USA
Phone 218-663-7622
lrakleslie@aol.com

Treasurer

Linda Flowers
302 SW 3rd,
Tuttle, OK, 73089, USA
Phone 405-381-3577
lflowjingo@sbcglobal.net

Secretary/ Registrar

Christine Johnson
1113 Foxhaven Drive,
Greensboro, NC 27455, USA
Phone 336-656-4971
cejohnson@triad.rr.com

Ex Officio

David Leslie White

Council

Bob (Robert C.) Bailey
6113 El Toro Court,
San Jose, CA, 95123, USA
Phone 408-224-1190
rcbailey3056@sbcglobal.net

Council

Samantha Leslie Gray ANPC
61 Robinson Avenue,
Glen Cove, NY, 11542-2944, USA
Phone 516-676-5719
riognach@aol.com

Council

Laura Messing
12 Dennis Dr.,
Burlington, MA 01803, USA
Phone 781-272-2065
designinvasion@gmail.com

Council

Robert Leslie
5124 Erin First Line, RR3
Acton, Ontario,
Canada L7J 2L9
Phone 519-856-4083
1832leslie@gmail.com

Council

Timothy W. Leslie
632 Clearbrook,
Azle, TX 76020, USA
Phone 817-764-0244
timothywleslie@gmail.com

Council

Don Abernathy
525 East St.
Albemarle, NC, 28001, USA
Phone 704-982-8253
dabernathy@ctc.net

Chaplain

Rev. Samantha Gray, ANPC
(See Council Address Listing)

Co-Editors, Publications Grip Fast, Journal of the CLSI, Griffin, Grip Fast Online

Linda Flowers
(See Council Address Listing)
Laura Messing
(See Council Address Listing)

Genealogist

Joan Leslie Eike
1227 Route 17C, Barton, NY,
13734, USA
Phone 607-972-8346
jleike@hotmail.com

Herald

Susan C. Abernethy
5643 Limerick Av.,
San Diego, CA, 92117-1526, USA
Phone 858-576-8293
sabernet@trexenterprises.com

Historian

Timothy W. Leslie
(See Council Address Listing)

Justiciar

S. Mark Weller
913 Aster Drive
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
Phone: 419-738-7064
Cell Phone: 419-236-0947
smarkweller@gmail.com

Piper

Gale Walker
30 Calder Bay,
Winnipeg, Manitoba,
Canada, R3T 5L9
galew259@shaw.ca

Quartermaster

Lew Johnson
1113 Foxhaven Dr.
Greensboro, NC 27455
ljohnson355@gmail.com
Phone 336-656-4971

Webmaster & Web Site

Laura Messing.
(See Council Address Listing)

Timothy W. Leslie
(See Council Address Listing)

Clan Leslie Society
International Web Site:
www.clanlesliesociety.org

REGIONAL CONVENORS

Canada (Vacant)
Central Region, USA (Vacant)

Europe/Asia

Brian Lesslie, Sr.
4 Albany Terr.
Perth PH1 2BD,
Scotland.
Phone 07138 563050

Mountain, USA

Jordan Hinckley
535 S 300 E #2,
Salt Lake City, UT 84111, USA
Phone 802-550-2080
dragonfyre99@gmail.com

NE, USA

Laura Messing
(See Council Address Listing)

Pacific NW, USA

Steve Olling
3909 - 242 Avenue SE,
Issaquah, WA 98029, USA
Phone 425-557-7672
ollings@comcast.net

Pacific SW, USA

 (Vacant)

SW, USA

Frank W. Leslie
3432 Upton Drive,
Kempner, TX 76539-5032
Phone 254-577-7050
fleslie@hotmail.com

BRANCH PRESIDENTS

SE USA

Cathy Duling

Australia & New Zealand Commissioner

Malcolm Wallace Leslie. D. Ua
Clan Leslie Society of Australia
and New Zealand (CLANZ)
4117 / 303 Spring Street.
Kearney's Spring
Queensland 4350 Australia
61 7 4635 8358
malncol@icr.com.au

We have a new website!
Take a look at our beautiful new CLSI
website: <http://www.clanlesliesociety.org/>

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THANK YOU!

(Drover's Inn, continued from page 11)

Lionel became an expert on the Loch Ness and Loch Fadder monsters, publishing a book on the subject. Quoting from Elisabeth Kehone, she says he had considerable powers as a mystic and was appointed "Arch Druid of the Western Isles."

Images of their home at the Drover's Inn and his studio in about 1960 and a photo of the same home in 2014 are shown above.

David Leslie White

(continued from page 12)

Volunteering

About one third of people provide unpaid help to organisations or groups. In 2014, 27 per cent of adults provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months. Levels of volunteering have remained relatively stable over the past five years. The type of organisations most commonly volunteered for are youth/children organisations (22 per cent), followed by those working with health, disability and social welfare organisations (21 per cent). Younger adults, and those in age groups 35 to 44 and 45 to 59 were more likely to volunteer with children and young people.

Personal finances

More people are feeling confident about their personal finances in Scotland. The proportion of households reporting that they felt positive about their household finances increased from 48 per cent in 2013 to over half (52 per cent) in 2014. One quarter of households (25 per cent) reported not having any savings or investments in 2014 though around half (53 per cent) of households reported having savings of £1,000 or more. Over half (59 per cent) of single parent households reported having no savings.

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree

Be sure and access Beth's Newfangled Family Tree. It's completely free, no strings.

All you have to do is go to <http://www.electricscotland.com/bnft>. There is a new issue up the first of every month. You may read it online or print a copy.



Leslie

Clan Leslie Society
International

302 SW 3rd
Tuttle, OK, 73089
USA