



# The Elliot Clan Society

Canadian Region



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Walt Elliot

The past six months have been quite exciting. We visited Ottawa and the Ontario East Chapter in June, and the Ontario West Chapter in April for their spring luncheon. We plan to again attend their annual meeting in London. The weather was terrific for the Fergus Games the second full weekend in August. The games were most enjoyable. Central Ontario was planning their annual luncheon for Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Harrop House Restaurant in Milton.

The Elliot Clan highlight of the summer was our Chief's visit to Halifax to take part in the International Gathering of the clans. It is held every four years with activities in July throughout Nova Scotia.

The highlight is a week- long tattoo in Halifax. In Halifax we, as well as our chief Margaret Elliott of Redheugh, stayed at the Citadel Hotel which is a short walk to the tattoo venue. Mayor Kelly of Halifax hosted a reception for the clans. Several USA commissioners attending the Elliot dinner made that event even more worthwhile as we visited with other Elliots over a fine meal. Barry Buckman, chapter secretary, and Murray Elliot, chapter chair, are to be complimented on a job well done.

Anne and I made a holiday out of this trip. We drove to Nova Scotia via Quebec, stopping overnight at St.-Jean-Port-Joli, an artisan village on the St. Lawrence River. After visiting with family in New Brunswick and on Grand Manan Island, we travelled home through the USA, stopping at L.L. Bean in Maine and Lake Placid in New York. We recommend this trip highly to all clan members.

## IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

A renewal form is enclosed in the newsletter. Our year end is October 31<sup>st</sup>. When you renew you will be paid up to October 31<sup>st</sup> 2012. We would appreciate receiving your renewal as soon as possible. The individual fee is \$15. A family membership is \$20. Please check that all your information is correct on the label.

## A Big Thank You

Murray Elliott of Nova Scotia and Barbara Elliott of South Western Ontario are stepping down as chapter chairs. Thanks for a job well done. Congratulations to Jim Feetham who has assumed the chair in Nova Scotia. We look forward to working with you. Catherine Elliot Shaw is now sole chair in SWO.



*Mayor Kelly of Halifax greets  
Clan Chief Margaret Elliott of Redheugh during the  
International Gathering of the Clans*

# CHAPTER REPORTS

## NOVA SCOTIA CHAPTER

*Chapter Secretary Barry Buckman reports:*

Greetings to all clansfolk across the country and I hope that you are enjoying a splendid autumn.

Our chapter has been saddened with the loss of three members this year. Ida Madelyn Cooley passed away in April. The youngest of a large family of New Ross Elliots, Madelyn was a faithful member for a number of years. Lillian Myrtle Elliott of Tiverton passed away on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the age of ninety-two. Her wit and humour, as well as her sunny disposition will be greatly missed. The death of Joan Elliott occurred recently after a lengthy illness. Joan and her husband, Paul, resided in both Lunenburg and North Carolina. Sincere condolences are extended to Paul and family.

The Nova Scotia chapter was delighted to receive our Clan Chief, Margaret Elliott, for a visit in early July during the International Gathering of the Clans. A Clan Dinner was held at the Citadel Hotel in Halifax where we were joined by our national President, Walt Elliot and his wife Anne, as well as Elliots from North Carolina and Wisconsin. Shortly afterward, the group assembled at the Metro

Centre for a performance of the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo. As usual, it was a spectacular event with lots of thrills and excitement.

The following day, I drove Margaret through the Annapolis Valley en route to Long Island. Although rain prevailed during much of the trip, she enjoyed the sights as well as a visit to the home of longtime member, Irma Elliott in Kentville. On arrival in Tiverton, she checked in at the Fisherman's Needle Guest House where she was booked for two nights.

On Sunday, Margaret, Gregory Elliott, and myself took our spots on the Fundy Cruiser for a whale boat tour on the Bay of Fundy. It was a beautiful day on the sea and we spotted several whales, porpoises and seabirds. Margaret had never seen whales before and was absolutely thrilled with the experience. Later in the afternoon, a picnic and barbecue was held at Central Grove where a good number of local Elliots turned out. On Monday afternoon, we wound our way back to Halifax where her flight to Scotland departed in late evening. Margaret was very impressed with the beauty of our province and was able to do some hiking while on Long Island.



On Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, the chapter held its AGM and Dinner at the South Rawdon Community Hall. Jim and Sharon Feetham hosted the event which consisted of a roast pork dinner with all the trimmings. Jim has accepted the role of Chair for the coming year. We wish him well and extend out thanks to outgoing Chair, Murray Elliott, for his service.

That's all for now. Until next time, stay healthy, happy and warm as daylight shortens and temperatures drop!

## EASTERN ONTARIO & WESTERN QUEBEC CHAPTER

*Vice President J. Ross Elliot reports:*

The EOWQ chapter held its Annual Summer Potluck on Father's Day at the lovely home of Eve and Robert Elliot on the western edge of Ottawa. Several of the attendees reflected on the transition that has occurred over the years. When the group was larger (in number) and younger with bigger appetites we used to do major damage to a 50 pound BBQed lamb and sell baggies of leftovers for later meals and bones for soup or pets. Now many people take home half of whatever they brought. This year there were three dishes made with lamb and enough salads to balance. The weather was windy, but the sheltered deck provided a good place to visit and eat and sip the odd beverage.

We said a fond farewell to Ron and Pat Elliott who are on their way to southern B.C. to be closer to grandkids – two thirds of heaven ... Ron was one of the founders of the group in 1984 before Sir Arthur's visit that helped plan the events around Ottawa. A feature of the visit was the thrill of having Sir Arthur and Pierre Elliott Trudeau in the same room. A few people became Liberals for a day and most tried to get pictures with both.

Our Annual Christmas Potluck will be held at the home of John and Collette Trent in the Gatineau Hills north of Ottawa. Even if we don't have snow on the ground, it feels wintry in the mountains with bare trees and a nippy breeze. A Food List will be circulated shortly, but, for now, mark December 4<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. Any member of the clan who is visiting in the area is welcome to attend. Contact Ross Elliot at 613-835-3992 or rosselliot@rogers.com (admission is a large bottle of Scotch for Ross ... NOT).

## ONTARIO CENTRAL CHAPTER

*On behalf of Chapter Chair Marshall Elliott, Canadian President Walt Elliot reports:*

The second full weekend in August we had a tent at The Fergus Highland Games. This is always an enjoyable experience and the tent was quite active throughout the day in excellent weather.



*Walt, Marilyn and Amos Elliot man the Elliot tent at the Fergus Highland Games*

By the time you receive this newsletter our annual fall luncheon will have been held at The Harrop House Restaurant in Milton. We are expecting an unusually large number of members to attend as we are privileged to have Harry Ferguson as our guest speaker. Harry was instrumental 25 years ago in founding a group who pledged to raise one and one half million dollars to establish the first privately endowed Scottish Chair at a university in North America. This Scottish Chair has been established at The University of Guelph and recently the endowment group announced they had raised two million dollars.

The Elliot clan Society is presently considering turning over their records to the University of Guelph, as the Scottish Studies Department is interested in studying the Scottish societies, particularly in Canada. If you have any comments about this initiative please email Walt Elliot at 42es@xplornet.com.



## ONTARIO WEST CHAPTER

*Chapter Co-Chair Barbara Elliott reports:*

Our Spring Luncheon was held in April at the Harmony Grand Buffet and, once again, enjoyed by all. We had a very good turnout and it was a great way to start a new season. Thanks to John D. Shaw for scouting out the Harmony and making the arrangements.

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, we gathered at Waterworks Park in St. Thomas, Ontario for our Annual Picnic. Twenty-six members came out and enjoyed the lovely ambience of the park. Although it was a hot and humid day, we were very cool under the trees. It was great to see old friends and to welcome some new family members. As usual everyone outdid themselves in bringing delicious dishes to share, which provided a veritable feast. Many thanks to all who contributed prizes for the raffle which was very successful.

We were very saddened to lose one of our most faithful members this summer. Eileen French, wife of Glen French, passed away on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Eileen will be missed very much. Our sympathy is extended to Glen and his family.

Our next event is the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Church of St. Andrew Memorial. A turkey dinner will be catered by Belmont Catering. Our Guest Speaker will be John Davidson of Jesse's Journey. John will speak to us about his walk across Canada to raise funds for Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy. Everyone is welcome to attend, so come on out and bring your family and friends.

Upcoming events for 2012:

April 14	Spring Luncheon
To Be Determined	Golf Day
July 15 or 22	Annual Picnic
November 3	Annual General Meeting

## MANITOBA CHAPTER

*Chapter Chair John Peach reports:*

At the time of writing, we are planning to gather at Winnipeg on October 16. We are looking forward to getting acquainted or reacquainted after a long time of inactivity. We are inviting former members and others who might be interested. We are preparing to share some stories of our families and, of course, enjoy food and conversation.

We regret to report the death of George Elliott of Winnipeg on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011. George was born in Saskatchewan in 1933. He trained as a radio operator and operated out of Halifax in the RCMP Marine Division. He moved into aviation, starting as a radio operator at small northern airports and then a series of positions in airport administration. From 1978 until his retirement in 1989, he served as general manager of the Winnipeg International Airport.

George's retirement interests included the Western Canadian Aviation Museum and the RCMP Veterans Association.

He is survived by his wife Joy and sons Mitchell and Keith. He was predeceased by his son Mark.

We enjoyed being with him at Elliot Clan Society gatherings.

## SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER

*Chapter Chair Clifford Elliott reports:*

Greetings from Saskatchewan!

I hope everyone had a really great summer. The summer here turned out really good. After a wet and cool spring, the temperature and climate turned to the better. We had moderately hot temperatures and a scattering of good rains to keep everything green and lush-looking. When fall arrived we kept on having nice temperatures. The farmers are happy about the nice weather as they are able to complete their harvest.

I went in August to do some fishing at a northern lake with my family but as luck would have it, my son-in-law's boat motor broke down so I never got out onto the lake, but I had some time with my family anyway. I'm spending Thanksgiving with them also.

I've been helping my friends during the summer with different things. I've been staying with one friend who has cancer of the spine while his wife goes grocery shopping or other business. It's sad to see him slowly waste away from the cancer, but at least he is at home.

I hope everyone will have a happy Thanksgiving and a nice fall with warm days until December. Until the next newsletter, I'll say so long for now.

## ALBERTA CHAPTER

*Chapter Chair Allan R. Elliott reports:*

Again this year our Elliot tent display had good locations at four Highland Games in Alberta. The Red Deer Highland Games at the end of June moved to a new location and we had excellent attendance and interest in

our display. We had nine members assisting with the Calgary Games and good attendance at both the Okotoks and the Canmore Games where the weather for once was as beautiful as the setting. There was greater clan attendance at all the Highland Games this year. There appears to be a growing interest in Scottish clans generally with a number of clans attending all four Games - a welcome trend.

## TWO BOOKS

*We recently received information about the following two books which may be of interest to Clan members:*

### BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE

*by Peter Pininski*

This new book by Peter Pininski tells the story of Prince Charles Edward Stuart together with that of his daughter and heir, Charlotte, Duchess of Albany. It reveals the lives of his three secret grandchildren and descendants. Pininski does not take the usual anglo-centric view, but sets the prince against the British-Polish family and Italian home of his upbringing. The author details the prince's pan-European network of cousins, British Jacobites, international bankers and freemasons who tried to further the Stuart cause after the failure of the 1745 Rising.

Clan members may order this book for the special price of £15.00 by phone (44) (0) 1285 760030, e-mail: [sales@amberley-books.com](mailto:sales@amberley-books.com), or website [www.amberleybooks.com](http://www.amberleybooks.com). Please quote the code 'CLANS.'

### THE LITTLE COAT: THE BOB AND SUE ELLIOTT STORY

*by Alan J. Buick*

Sussie Cretier was only ten when she met Bob Elliott, a Canadian Soldier assigned to help protect her region of the Netherlands from the invading German army. Sussie's family had endured years of Nazi occupation before escaping to a safe area where Canadian soldiers held firm with their guns and tanks. Brave little Sussie had once spoken out against the commanding German officer to save her father's life. Now nothing could stop her from

getting close to these men who guarded her town and became her heroes during a troubling time.

To the soldiers, Sussie became a glowing example of the innocence of youth and a beacon of hope for the future. Children like Sussie were the reason the Allies were fighting this war. On Christmas Day 1944, the Canadians honoured their little adopted soldier with a special Army-style coat they ordered from a local seamstress. Decades later, the relationship between Sussie (Sue) Cretier and tank commander Bob Elliott not only endured but flourished. Sue's 'Little Coat' has been donated to the War Museum of Canada as a permanent reminder of this powerful story of courage, hope and love. For more information, visit the website [www.thelittlecoat.com](http://www.thelittlecoat.com).



The Bob and Sue Elliott Story

Alan J. Buick *buick*