



The Elliot Clan Society

Canadian Region



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April 2005

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Walt Elliot

This report will consist of three parts: a comment on the availability of the newsletter on our website, the gathering in Scotland August 26-28, 2005, and an historical article on my great, great grandfather Adam Scott Elliot who came to Canada as a boy in 1817.



NEWSLETTER AVAILABILITY ON THE WEB

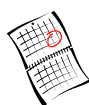
A big thank you to our secretaries Greg and Bonnie Ball of Acton, Ontario and our webmaster Steve Elliott of Calgary, Alberta for successfully testing the availability of the newsletter on our web site. Last month the 20% of our members who had indicated they would prefer to view the newsletter on our website rather than receive it by mail were given a password which allowed them to view the January 2005 newsletter. This April newsletter will be available to them in the same fashion. It looks like the best approach cost wise is to always post the newsletter for those members who want it and in October each year send out a membership renewal to them by mail. Any comments or suggestions on how this process can be improved would be most welcome.



CLAN GATHERING – SCOTLAND, AUGUST 26-28, 2005

Those of us who plan to attend the gathering on August 26, 27 and 28, 2005 are getting excited. It looks like 20-30 Canadians plan to attend. I would appreciate knowing if you are going. I have booked a room at The Grapes Hotel to give all Canadians a chance to visit with attending countrymen. I will be sending out an invitation to all members who have advised me of their attendance with details of the event in June. You will note by the gathering agenda (as printed in the application form) that the best time for our event is on Saturday evening before going to the Legion.

Included in this newsletter is a reprint of an article from an Elliot booklet compiled by Walter Elliot Walls, a direct descendent of Adam Scott Elliot, who founded the Town of Chesley, Ontario. Hopefully, printing this brief history of Adam Scott Elliot, my great, great grandfather, will encourage other members to submit articles of interest pertaining to their own ancestors.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 7 Nova Scotia Chapter Spring Fling Luncheon
June 18 E. Ontario/W. Quebec Chapter Barbeque
July 17 Ontario West Chapter Summer Picnic
July 23 Nova Scotia Chapter Annual Picnic/Auction

Aug 14 NB Elliott Family Reunion
Aug 26-28 Clan Gathering, Scotland
Oct 1 Nova Scotia Chapter Annual Meeting
Nov 12 Ontario West Chapter AGM & 15th Anniversary Celebration

2005 HIGHLAND GAMES



July 22-24	New Brunswick New Brunswick Highland Games	Fredericton
July 9	Nova Scotia Halifax Scottish Festival and Highland Games	The Garrison Grounds, Halifax
	Ontario	
June 11	Georgetown Highland Games	The Georgetown Fairgrounds
June 25	Hamilton Highland Games	The Ancaster Fairgrounds
July 2	Cobourg Highland Games	Donegan Park, Cobourg
July 29-30	Glengarry Highland Games	Maxville
Aug 12-4	Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games	Fergus and District Community Centre
	Alberta	
Aug. 27	High River Highland Games	Highwood High School, High River
Sep. 3	Calgary Highland Games	Shouldice Park, Calgary
Sep. 4	Canmore Highland Games	Centennial Park, Canmore

*For links to these and other websites regarding highland games in your area, please see:
www.maclachlans.org/games.html or <http://highlandnet.com/events/index.html>*

A YOUTHFUL PERSPECTIVE

Things have been pretty hectic these days, and I find myself late for the newsletter assignment. I'm late! The busy life as a high school student adds to it too.

This term I'm in co-op, a good introduction to the busy work world, and I'm learning lots of stuff about speech pathologists. It has been fun too. I get home late from co-op, which makes me late for dinner and late to pick up my brother. I'm working too, with a small child with disabilities. It is very rewarding to help her mom out and I'm seeing lots of changes as she is growing. With my busy schedule, I'm working late with her and studying late into the night. Things are still busy with my friends and, you know teenagers, they run on their own schedules. They are always late!

But tonight is a very special night for our family. We are going to a ceremony for my brother Mike. He is receiving an award tonight, a "Yes I Can" award – we are very proud of him. My grandparents are making a special trip and the family will be going to a big hall to honour him and other students.

So, to my editor, very sorry for being late with the article. I have to go now and get ready. I can't be late for this special night.

Leslie Elliot, Junior Editor



*Mike with proud grandparents,
Marilyn and Amos Elliot*

CHAPTER REPORTS

NOVA SCOTIA CHAPTER

Chapter Chair Joyce Earle, reports:

After a long difficult winter, members of the Nova Scotia Branch of the Elliot Clan Society are all looking forward to being together again for our 2005 activities.

We will hold our Spring Fling Luncheon on May 7th, 2005, at the Dartmouth Senior Service Center, in Dartmouth, at 12.00 noon. The Annual Pot Luck Picnic Auction will be held on July 23, 2005, in New Ross, Lunenburg Co. Our Annual Meeting Luncheon will be held on Saturday, October 1st, 2005, at The Old Orchard Inn, in Greenwich, Kings County. Elliot(t)s travelling in the vicinity are welcome to come to any of our activities. (We need 5 days advance notice for our luncheons.)

On April 6th, three of our members were proud to represent our Elliot Clan, at the Federation of Scottish Clans Tartan Day Dinner, sponsored by the Stuart (Stewart) Clan, in Halifax.

NEW BRUNSWICK CHAPTER

Chapter Chair J. Allison Elliott reports:

Our local "Elliott Family Reunion," the descendants of William Elliott, arriving in New Brunswick c 1850's, which has been held since 1970's, will be held this year on the bi-annual basis as planned, on August 14. Cousins from all over will be present. In addition, Clan Elliot has been invited to act as Host Clan at this year's N.B. Highland Games, to be held July 22, 23, and 24, 2005. Clan Elliot holds a record, having attended every year since 1996, except for 1999.

EASTERN ONTARIO & WESTERN QUEBEC CHAPTER

Chapter Chair Helen Elliott reports:

Please note that the date for the Annual Barbeque was incorrect in the previous newsletter. The correct date is June 18. The event will be held at Ross and Helene's in Navan, Ontario, and other chapter members who may be in the vicinity of Ottawa at this time are welcome to attend.

ONTARIO CENTRAL CHAPTER

Chapter Chair Marshall Elliott reports:

Every spring the Society, through this Newsletter, provides our members with the names, locations and dates of the Highland Games and Festivals throughout our region. In our part of the great Scottish world there are more than a handful to choose from (please see list): they range from Ancaster to Georgetown, from Cobourg to Uxbridge and from mid-May to the latter part of September. When we reflect on our Elliot ancestry and integral connection with Scotland and its culture and history, there is no better way to experience who we are and where we came from, short of traveling to Scotland, than attending any one of these truly Scottish events. For most Scots, and those of us with Scottish blood, I know this is the opportunity to 'renew' so very much of who we are and why 'the rest of the world wishes they were Scots'. Please do make an effort this year to attend one of these cultural events.

A great number of our members do attend the Fergus Highland Games yearly, hosted just north of Guelph on August 12-14. There, for sure, you will spend an enjoyable day of music, heavy events, dancing and food, to make this event one to which you return on a yearly basis. Every year the Clan Elliot Society sponsors a tent and information booth and all members are genuinely asked to drop by. Bonnie and I will be there for the Saturday, at least, as will other members, including Walter Elliot, our President, and his lovely wife Anne. There will be a great deal of excitement at the Fergus Games given that a good number of those attending will be attending 'The Gathering' in Scotland in late September. If anyone has any questions or comments about the Games this year or suggestions for our Chapter please do contact me.

ONTARIO WEST CHAPTER

Chapter Co-Chair Barbara Elliott reports:

The Ontario West Chapter held a spring get together on April 16, 2005 at the Elgin Regiment Armoury in St. Thomas, ON. L. Col. Mark Sellars, Commanding Officer, 31 Combat Engineers (The Elgins) joined us for a delicious luncheon in the Sergeants' Mess. A successful raffle was conducted by Catherine Elliot Shaw, with thanks to all who contributed.

Following lunch, we adjourned to the Officers Mess and L. Col. Sellars gave a very interesting talk on the Canadian Army, past and present. He also spoke about the role of the Elgin Regiment in peacekeeping duties. John Shaw gave us an overview of the Armoury and the Elgins and then led us on a tour of the compound.

Coming events: July 17, 2005 will be our Picnic to be held in Lion's Park at The Flats, St. Marys, ON. November 12, 2005 the Annual General Meeting will be held at St. Aidan's Anglican Church, London, ON. On this occasion, we will celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the founding of our chapter. Members of other chapters are most welcome to join us at any of these functions.

MANITOBA CHAPTER

Chapter Chair Rev. Shawn Ankenmann reports:

Spring has come to the prairies. I saw a flight of swans as I was heading to Brandon. The sloughs and potholes are bursting with geese and ducks of all varieties and the hills are turning green. Although there are no immediate plans for the chapter, we will organize a get-together of some kind as the summer and fall progresses.

SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER

President Walt Elliot reports:

It is with profound regret we have to report the death of Hannah Elliott, wife of Clifford Elliott, our Saskatchewan chapter chair. Hannah passed away Thursday April 7, 2005. The funeral was held the following week. During our visit to Saskatchewan last June we found Hannah to be a most gracious host. Since that time Clifford and Hannah moved from their home to an apartment because of Hannah's health problems. We will miss this gracious lady.

ALBERTA CHAPTER

Chapter Secretary Alison de Caen reports:

The Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Chapter of the Elliot Clan Society was held in Calgary on Sunday, April 17, 2005. Unfortunately, not everyone was able to attend, as our membership extends to Arctic Bay in Nunavut and all of Alberta! Allan (Curly) & Helen Elliot kindly hosted the event.

The following Board was elected:

President:	Robert H.J. Elliott,
Vice President:	Ruby Coulson,
Secretary:	Alison de Caen,
Treasurer:	Walter M. Elliot,
Directors:	Mary Elliot, Sandra Elliott, Allan G. Elliott, Alan Rowat Elliott.

We are looking forward to summer and a number of Highland Games. Mary & Walter Elliot, and Sandra Elliot will once again represent the Elliot Clan Society at the following games: High River (Aug. 27), Calgary (Sep. 3) and Canmore (Sep. 4).

The Alberta Chapter wishes all Elliot Clan Society members a great summer.

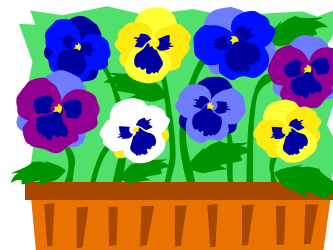
BRITISH COLUMBIA CHAPTER

President Walt Elliot reports:

We didn't get a volunteer from British Columbia to co-ordinate a meeting in May with Curly Elliott our Western Vice President. Consequently this meeting will have to be arranged at a later date.

Members in BC should realize that a portion of your membership fee is rebated to your chapter to be used in local events and for postage, etc. At present there are about 40 members in your chapter and you have more than \$1000 in your chapter funds. We really need a member to volunteer to be a contact person to help reinvigorate the BC chapter. Speaking as a former Chapter chair for Ontario Centre, I believe this position on the clan executive is very gratifying. If you are at all interested and want more information please get in touch.

P.S. I will be sending a letter to all BC members in June to request information on how we may operate the BC chapter to the best advantage of its members.



THE FAMILY TREE

ADAM SCOTT ELLIOT & JANET HALLIDAY



ADAM SCOTT ELLIOT
Born in Howick, Scotland, Sept. 29, 1807.
Died July 3rd, 1899, in his 92nd year.



JANET HOLLIDAY
Born March 7th, 1807 at Berryscaur, Scotland.
Emigrated to Canada with her parents in 1815.
Died in Chesley, 1889.

The following is the account of Adam Scott Elliot, published in the Grey-Bruce Historical Atlas, 1880.

A. S. Elliott, of the Village of Chesley, is a native of Roxburghshire, Scotland, where he was born in 1807, removing with his father's family to Canada when ten years of age, his father being one of the very earliest settlers in Perth, now the County Town of Lanark, in 1817.

On arriving at man's estate, Mr. Elliott commenced business for himself at Smith's Falls, Lanark County. He erected saw and grist mills on the River Tay, and prosecuted the milling business in that place for thirteen years, owning during that time extensive farming lands and timber limits. He visited the County of Grey as early as 1843 with a view to settlement, but did not remove to this section of county till 1856, when he bought property in Sullivan Township and erected grist and saw mills; and two years later he purchased 200 acres where the Village of Chesley now stands, and built thereon a saw mill, and subsequently a grist mill also. In 1869 he gave up his Chesley business to one of his sons, and removing to Williamsford, built mills and a woollen factory; these he also disposed of, and has now retired from the business of a long and useful life of activity and industry, which has brought its well-merited reward. He has literally been the "architect of his own fortune," and a firm supporter of the logic of cause and effect as opposed to the doctrine of "manifest destiny," believing that "the gods help those who help themselves;" and the experience of his life has certainly been an exemplification of the correctness of that theory. Viewing his course from the standpoint of the effect his presence has exerted upon the material development of the country, Mr. Elliott has been one of the most useful men in any of the communities which have at various periods claimed him as a citizen, having built and operated no less than six saw mills, four grist mills, and one woollen factory, of which eleven in all were in the approximate neighborhood of Chesley, his present home.

Mr. Elliott's close application to his private business has not prevented him, however, from giving his time and talents to the service of the public. Municipal advancement, educational development, and the progress of public improvements have ever in him found a warm friend and powerful advocate. He has been for many years a Justice of the Peace, and Reeve of the Township of Sullivan for three years, is frank and outspoken in his intercourse with new and measures, quick of perception, ready with conception, and prompt in execution; having the reputation among his fellows of one who has done well whatever he has undertaken, and possessing in a marked degree the esteem and confidence of hosts of acquaintances and a wide circle of the warmest personal friends.



THE FAMILY OF A. S. ELLIOT

SARAH	JANET	BELLE	MARGARET	JANE
WILLIAM	ADAM SCOTT		JANET (HOLLIDAY)	JOHN
	MARY		HELEN (ELLEN)	

Adam Scott Elliot and Janet Holliday were married in 1829

Margaret Elliot married John Dobie - children - Tom Dobie,
 Isabella Elliot married Alex Dobie - children- Jean, Janet, Frank, Harry, Jim, William, Margaret, Adam.
 John Elliot married Mary Colville - children - Bell, Agnes, Annie, (Van Camp), Nell.
 Jane Elliot married Peter McLaggan - children - Peter, Janet, (Mrs. Walter Gray)
 Janet Elliot married Thos Ramage - children - Louis, Russell, Annabelle, Margaret, Matilda Lee.
 Mary Elliot married Jim Ramage
 Sarah K. Elliot married James Wallace - children - Nellie, (Mrs. Jim Nichol), Sarah, Ada, Alice.
 Helen Elliot married John Thomson - children - Cecile and Wallace.

ANOTHER ELLIOTT GONE TO THE DOGS

Tradition of a legendary dog mushing pioneer family of Paddockwood, Saskatchewan, continues. Following in the footsteps of his parents, brother, nephews and his own son, retired 68 year old farmer, Stewart Elliott, who describes himself more of a sled dog builder and trainer, rather than a race expert, driving a team of Alaskan huskies from Tomkins Sled Dog Kennel, recently won the Canadian Challenge 6 Dog Race in a dramatic style. The following is his description of the race.

The 2005 race was my second attempt at competing in this race. Last year I had to settle for third place. That was when planning started for the 2005 race. I selected the dogs that would go in my team for fall training, which started on September 2, by using an ATV and increasing the distance each session. When there was enough snow, I started using my training sleigh and continued accumulating kilometers by participating in shorter warm up races. With 5½ months and 3600 kilometers of training, we were ready for the 245 km **Canadian Challenge Race** on Feb. 19, from LaRonge to Spruce Home just north of Prince Albert, through the beautiful forest and lake area of Northern Saskatchewan.

The race started a 10:00 am. I was the first one to leave followed by the other five participants at two minute intervals. My carefully planned strategy was to break the race in three sections. The first part was of 91 km, then resting four hours. The next part of 105 kilometers can only be described as heaven on earth, as it was a night run with a full moon and a fantastic display of northern lights dancing. The trail wound itself through the forest, and on and off the lakes. The peace and the serenity were almost overwhelming. The only sounds were of the majestic rhythm of the dogs' feet, the glide of the sleigh on the crisp snow, and the odd wolf howling in the distance.

I arrived at The Land of the Loon checkpoint for a 5-hour mandatory rest stop and, as no one had passed me, I was still in the lead. It wasn't until near dawn that the next team arrived, which gave me a lead of 3 hours and 28 min. With 49 kilometers to go, the race was mine to win or lose. The last 30 kilometers to the finish line was the most enjoyable and refreshing, as it took place along side of the highway on Sunday morning. Along with my wife, Louise, and most of my family, there were an enormous number of other spectators that followed cheering me on and taking pictures. Two of my grandchildren were holding signs that said "Go Grandpa Go." There was even a police cruiser escorting me.

I reached the finish line at 10:47 am (a total of 245 km. in 24 hours and 47 min.). I was always confident that I could win but never with such an unbelievable lead as the next team came in 3 hours and 31 minutes later. Needless to say, champagne was flowing at the finish line, and did it ever taste good after being on the trail so long.

Part of my success was the superior design of my home built lightweight sleigh, which included a seat that helped reduce the draft, and made it easier pulling. The bonding that took place between myself and such an outstanding team of dogs, who are the real heroes, reflected in our success, as we had the desire, dedication and determination to win. Dreams do come true even for an old Scotsman like me.

The snow is gone and the season is over for this year and I'm already dreaming of what lies ahead.

Until next time – Happy Trails from the Old Grey Fox

Stewart Elliott

