



The Elliot Clan Society

Canadian Region



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October 2007

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Walt Elliot

It has been an exciting summer! Following the Georgetown Games the second weekend in June, my son Paul and I traveled to Ottawa to take in the always excellent lamb roast held at Ross and Helene's home in Navan. While in Ottawa we did some sightseeing and visited the aircraft museum. If you have not visited the aircraft museum work it in to your next Ottawa visit. It is excellent.

2007 is the year of the international gathering of the clans in Nova Scotia. At the invitation of Nancy Buckman, Anne and I decided to drive to the gathering. On the way through New Brunswick we attended an Elliot dinner hosted by Allison Elliott on July 5th in Sussex New Brunswick. The after dinner entertainment by some talented Elliots was most enjoyable. The following evening we were guests of the Nova Scotia chapter at the tattoo held in Halifax. It was superb! Again, if you've never been, try to attend one of these tattoos.

On Saturday July 7th, the Nova Scotia Chapter held a dinner at the Citadel hotel in Halifax. We learned of the contribution of two generations of Elliot architects to designing many buildings in the Halifax area. As well, Joyce Earle's son was the designer of the memorial for the many persons killed in the Swissair flight 111 crash near Peggy's Cove.

We arrived back in Ontario in time for me to attend the Southwestern Ontario meeting at Jim and Shirley Elliot's

summer home in Port Burwell on July 15th. This year the weather was great and an enjoyable visit was had by all.

Unfortunately, on August 7th, while burning a bit of brush in our back yard I broke my left ankle. The fire flared up and burned my right leg. In jumping back to get away from the flame I caught my left running shoe in a crack and fell down, breaking the ankle. At first it seemed not too bad but a week later the orthopedic surgeon decided to operate and put it back together. Consequently I'm now in a non-walking cast until September 26th. My apologies to Alberta, as I was planning to be there on September 15th at Ghost Lake. As well, thanks sincerely to Marshall and Bonnie Elliott, Greg and Bonnie Ball, and Amos and Lyn Elliot for doing a great job on August 11th at The Fergus Scottish Festival in my absence.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

It's that time of year again. A membership renewal form is enclosed in this newsletter. Our year ends October 31st. We would appreciate your co-operation in getting your fees submitted in a timely fashion. You will note a notice regarding the Fergus Scottish Festival 2008 is included in this newsletter. If you have any interest in attending this festival please indicate this in the back of your membership renewal form. We'd like to get an idea of the interest level in this event.



Photos from the New Brunswick Dinner, July 5th

GATHERING 2009 IN SCOTLAND

Scotland is planning an International Gathering of the Clans in Edinburgh Castle July 25th and 26th, 2009. When you get our chief's next newsletter you will learn she is planning our next Elliot Gathering to coincide with this gathering. In this newsletter is a copy of the first communication sent out from Scotland regarding this important event. You will note it outlines how you may register online in order to obtain ongoing details by e-mail. We suggest you take advantage of this opportunity.

FERGUS SCOTTISH FESTIVAL 2008

This festival is always held the second full weekend in August. As we have mentioned in past newsletters, if you would like to attend this festival, this would be an excellent year to come. Marshall Elliott, Chapter Chair and the rest of the Central Ontario members would be pleased to see you. We know you would have a terrific time. The opening tattoo on Friday evening is special as are the day-long games and dancing and bands on Saturday and Sunday. If there is sufficient interest we will arrange an Elliot dinner on Saturday evening. As noted under the membership renewal notice, we would appreciate knowing if you have an interest in attending.

We would like to welcome the following new members to The Elliot Clan Association:

- #1049 Amy Elliott ON
- #1050 Andrew Patton ON
- #1051 Heather and Alan Donovan ON
- #1052 Charles Elliot Fay AB



How President, Walt Elliot, spent the latter half of his summer vacation (well taken care of by granddaughter, Katie).

CLAN HISTORIAN by A.G. "Curly" Elliott

As your Clan Historian, I am all out of stories, ideas and energy, and will be voluntarily retiring effective December 31st, 2007. We need someone to step forward and take on this important role. With the lengthy history in Eastern Canada, as apposed to the prairies, I am hoping that someone from that area will volunteer for this position. I can assure you it will be a most interesting journey and that you will truly enjoy researching "The Elliot's". As a clan we have contributed greatly to the Canadian mosaic and someone must continue to tell our stories.

Walt does not want to strong-arm anyone into the position and we would much prefer a volunteer. Anyone, OR ALL who are interested can contact myself or Walt Elliot and we will arrange for you to be added to the National Exective. Cheers and Happy Trails.

THE GATHERING, EDINBURGH, 2009

The Gathering 2009 is being held in Holyrood Park on July 25th and 26th, 2009. It aims to be the largest international gathering of the clans ever held, and is one of the signature events of the Homecoming Scotland initiative. The Gathering will take the form of a classic highland games and will feature a clan parade up the Royal Mile followed by a unique commemorative clan pageant to be held on the Edinburgh Castle esplanade.

Newsflash

Following the AGM of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs (SCSC) we now have the full support of the SCSC and an important development has taken place in which the SCSC will host a clan convention on Friday, July 24th, 2009. The audience for this event will be Clan Chiefs and senior clan association representatives. Additionally there will be a ballot for a number of additional tickets to this event in 2008.

Website launch

The Gathering 2009 official website will be launched in October 2007. The website will be full of information about the event and will develop more details over the following months. The website will also have a forum and blog, as well as downloadable podcasts and lots of fantastic footage of Edinburgh and Scotland.

Tickets to The Gathering 2009 will go on sale in early 2008, although we will be taking reservations in late 2007 through the website and forms distributed worldwide. Applications

for clan tents will be available from Oct 2007, please fill in the online form to apply. More detailed information will follow in September.

Travel and Accommodation

On our website we will be listing information about travel and accommodation within Scotland. This will detail the hotels with room allocations and special room rates specifically for The Gathering and how you can book direct with these hotels. We will also list a number of tour specialists who can book your entire holiday from beginning to end. This will therefore allow you to make your travel plans well in advance to make sure you don't miss out!



The Gathering 2009 Ltd
27 Queen Charlotte St Edinburgh EH6 6AX
T: +44 (0)131 561 1323
E: info@thegathering2009.com
W: www.thegathering2009.com

CHAPTER REPORTS

NOVA SCOTIA CHAPTER

Chapter Secretary Barry Buckman reports:

Greetings to all Elliot Clan members across the country. As I write this report, the summer season is winding down and it has been very dry in my corner of Nova Scotia.

On July 7th, our Chapter held a Clan Dinner at the Citadel Halifax Hotel. Thirty-nine members and guests enjoyed a meal of baked haddock, salad, rolls, seasonal vegetables and cheesecake. Following the meal, Garry Shutlak from the Nova Scotia Provincial Archives presented a documentary with slides concerning older houses and buildings in the Halifax area that were designed by a prominent architect with the Elliot surname.

Earlier in the day, some of our members attended the Halifax Highland Games and Scottish Festival at the Garrison Grounds. On the evening of Friday, July 6th, several from our membership viewed a performance of the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo. As usual, it was a spectacular event. We were delighted to have our Canadian President, Walter Elliot and his wife, Anne, join us for the Tattoo and the Clan Dinner. Hopefully, they will visit us again in the near future.

Plans are in place for our Chapter's Annual General Meeting and Dinner. It will take place at the Royal Canadian Legion in Kentville on Saturday, October 20th. The time will be 1:00 pm, and an Executive meeting will precede the meal. Until next time, enjoy the autumn season wherever you may be.

NEW BRUNSWICK CHAPTER

Chapter Chair J. Allison Elliott reports:

We had an enjoyable meeting of the Clan with Walt and Anne in July, while they were going on to Nova Scotia. About twenty-five people attended and, in addition to Walt's message, we were entertained by Murray Bleakney on bagpipes, and by sisters Jean (Elliott) Norden on guitar, with Ruth (Elliott) Wilband in a duet. Later Jean's husband Ed joined her for another rendition.

On August 12th, our regular Elliott Family Reunion, the Descendants of William Elliott, was held at the Alma Activity Center in Alma, New Brunswick. It was attended by approximately 125 people, with a historical presentation, memorial service, musical entertainment, visiting, and a computer slideshow of old pictures of the former lumbering industry of that coastal community. There was also a presentation of old pictures of the farming efforts of siblings of that generation during the 1850's and 1870's.



Top: Walt Elliot, and
Garry Shutlak of the Nova
Scotia Provincial Archives
Left: Murray Elliott,
Nancy Buchman, Walt
Elliot, and Barry Buchman

EASTERN ONTARIO & WESTERN QUEBEC CHAPTER

Chapter Treasurer Linda Elliott-Doshen reports:

I hope you had a wonderful summer and are enjoying the lovely fall weather. Once again my roses are going into their fall bloom, so I know it is time to remind you of your Elliott Clan Fall Duties!

Our Annual Lamb Barbeque, Saturday, June 16th, was another grand event with lots of catching up on family stories and laughter in Ross and Helene's exquisite, Navan country garden and home, with delicious lamb and potluck dishes, exceptional company and as always lots of family 'news'... a huge thank you and round of applause to Ross and Helene for hosting us once again and to Walt for driving all that way to join us.



After a visit to Quebec City and Frank Cabot's awesome Quatre Vents gardens in La Malbaie... where I saw some of the most outstanding gardens I have ever seen...there are even singing frogs and swinging bridges.

Helen, Dorothy and I enjoyed our usual fun visit to the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville, Saturday, August 4th. It was lovely to have John and Colette and friends join us this year where among many things we heard 50 plus massed pipe bands playing Amazing Grace ... awesome!



This summer we were very fortunate to have a new event. Sunday, August 5th, John and Colette generously

volunteered their lovely country home on the river, in Chelsea, Quebec for a barbeque, pool and croquet afternoon. John, Colette, Andrew and guests greeted us with drinks and delicious appetizers followed by a wonderfully barbequed pork and corn on the cob buffet which our members supplemented as always with delicious salads and desserts.



A tour of their wonderful riverfront property after lunch followed by swimming and croquet was enjoyed by all. Another huge thank you and round of applause to John, Colette and Andrew for a lovely day.

Helen made us weep with her decision to retire as our ECEOWQ president last year, so this year, at John and Colette's, Ross made her weep with a lovely thank you speech and a gift of wee bottles of Veuve and Elliot Clan Scotch to thank her for her many years of service to our clan.



I realize the more 'decorous' amongst us may still have a few questions about 'appropriate' rules and behaviour during the earlier croquet games... but fortunately Andrew and I were able to clean up the field and the rules in the later match so 'all is well that ends well.'

Ross did seem a bit sad as he was leaving early, but perhaps those weren't tears just something he got in his eye! He did say something about needing to practise all winter but I'm sure he meant something more important? It was hard to tell through the 'rant'... I mean rain.

Perhaps next year he will feel up to playing croquet with us.

And in other news ... since December seems to be beginning early this year, we have scheduled the Annual Christmas Potluck for Sunday, Dec 2nd ... and once again Larry and I will be happy to host the Elliott Clan of Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec's Annual Christmas Potluck on Sunday, December 2nd, at our home, 1799 Dorset Drive, Alta Vista, Ottawa, ElliottDoshen@rogers.com:

Arrival 4:30 for 5 pm;
Happy Hour (visiting, wine and appetizers)
from 5 to 6 pm;
Dinner 6:15ish to whenever!!!

We will take our usual collection of \$10 per person to cover any costs.

We look forward to seeing you in December. Have a lovely fall. As usual, if anyone whom you think should receive this news is not receiving it please forward it to them.

ONTARIO CENTRAL CHAPTER

Chapter Chair Marshall Elliott reports:

This past summer has been hopefully both an exciting and a restful season for all of us. Throughout Ontario and the rest of Canada there have been dozens of the ever popular Scottish festivals and annual games ... Clan Elliot continues to show a strong presence at these events and particularly at the premier event for all Canada, the Fergus Festival and Highland Games.

In August, I was approached by Lord Forbes-Sempill (pictured here chatting with me) with greetings to all Elliots in Canada from our own chieftain, Margaret Elliott of Redheugh.



Lord Forbes-Sempill, who prefers to be called by 'Jamie,' is one of the driving forces behind "The Gathering," July 25th and 26th, 2009, in Edinburgh. The Gathering is being hosted by the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs and it is hoped that all clan associations will attend. The Gathering will host the 2009 World Heavy Event Championship at Edinburgh Castle. Jamie has warmly extended both his

own and Margaret Elliott's invitation for all of us to attend. More details will follow in future newsletters.



Amos and Marilyn Elliott, Greg and Bonnie Ball, and Carole and Al Nickels, along with Bonnie and I, carried our colours during the opening ceremonies.

This year's annual chapter get together will be held again at the famous Harrop House restaurant in Milton from 12:30 pm to mid afternoon on Sunday, October 28th. This time of year is a beautiful occasion to travel and enjoy the fall colours and catch up with other Elliots over a delightful lunch. The charge will be \$20 per person and kindly contact me so we will know to expect you (Marshall Elliott: (705) 748 4843; marshalllelliott@cogeco.ca). I will talk briefly about my meeting with Jamie Forbes-Sempill and the upcoming Gathering 2009. Hope to see many of you there as this is a great opportunity to informally meet other clansfolk.

ONTARIO WEST CHAPTER

Chapter Co-Chair Barbara Elliott reports:

Our annual picnic was held on Sunday, July 14th, at the summer home of Jim and Shirley Elliott, Port Burwell, Ontario. Twenty-three members turned out to enjoy a lovely warm, sunny afternoon under the huge shade trees on their property. We all enjoyed a great visit with our Elliot friends. We were very pleased to welcome our Canadian President, Walter Elliot. We extend our thanks to Jim and Shirley for their wonderful hospitality. Once again, the generous donations made by our members made our raffle a tremendous success and we all had a lot of fun as well. A sumptuous potluck supper followed and was enjoyed by all.

On July 23rd, Al & Carole Nickels and Peter & Barbara Elliott attended the Harmony Grand Buffet to present an Honourary membership in the Ontario West Chapter to David Chan, proprietor of this restaurant. We have had

many gatherings here and David has become quite interested in our activities. He was born in Hong Kong and has memories of the skirl of bagpipes and the swish of the kilts from his childhood.

Congratulations to John and Bernie Elliott on celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in the summer and also to Roy and Ruth Nickels who will celebrate their 65th Anniversary in September.

Our thanks go out to Al and Carole Nickels who spent many weekends this summer attending Highland Games to represent the Ontario West Chapter.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Mary Elliott, widow of the late Hugh Royden Elliott and mother of Brian (Elizabeth), Jeff, (Shauna) and Philip. Mary was a longtime member of our chapter and will be sadly missed. We extend our condolences to the family.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 10th, at St. Aidan's Anglican Church, London, Ontario. We will have a guest speaker from the London Police Department.

SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER

Chapter Chair Clifford Elliott reports:

I hope everyone had a great summer. Mine was rather busy, especially in July. That was due to the New Ark of the Covenant making a tour of Saskatchewan. I had the task of seeing that it was sent from point A to point B and that it arrived on time. Sometimes it was a little stressful.

We had some rather violent rainstorms here this summer. The first one was about the middle of July. Basements in certain parts of the city were flooded, plus the underpasses and low-lying areas. The second and third storms happened in mid-August and they happened two nights and one day apart. This happened one weekend. The second storm was during the night of August 17th and we got something like six inches of rain and hail in four hours. The third storm was the next night, which was Saturday, August 18th. This storm lasted all night and most of Sunday. By the time it ended, we had flooding in a major part of central Saskatchewan. Country roads were washed out. The Yellowhead Highway was washed out about 35 kilometers northwest of Saskatoon, which is being worked on yet. Two housing units on the west side of the city were flooded and the residents had to be evacuated. There was a great deal of damage done to a lot of units. The Saskatoon Housing authority had to take about 33 units off the market

so that they could be renovated. The tenants were housed elsewhere temporarily.

Now fall is around the corner. We've had some frost during the nights and the leaves are turning yellow and falling off the branches. The flocks of wild geese are heard as they start heading south.

Until next issue, this is all for now. I hope all enjoy the coming fall and all the changes that happen at that time of year.

ALBERTA CHAPTER

Chapter Chair Robert Elliott reports:

Several of our members were pleased and honoured to attend a gathering at the Presbyterian Church in Rocky Mountain House to celebrate the 95th birthday of long-time clan member Mrs. Kathleen Elliott on August 7th.



Mrs. Kathleen Elliott was born on the 7th of August, 1912, in London, England. Growing up in London, she went to regular school to the age of 14 then went to Business College for two years. After college she worked at a lawyer's office as a secretary to the boss. During WWII she worked in a firm that made small armaments. In 1946, she married John Elliott in London, and moved to Canada in 1947. John became a forest ranger, which resulted in many moves at various stations such as Highwood, Pekisko, Hinton, Castle, Coleman, back to Castle, then to the Upper Saskatchewan. During their time in the forestry they started raising Saint Bernard Dogs. These dogs were used to pull sleighs and for packing on out trips with John. They also showed many of them winning many trophies and ribbons. In later years they also raised Samoyeds and Basenjis. On retirement from the forestry in the early 60's they moved to Rocky Mountain House and started Rocky Greenhouse and Florists, which they operated for about twenty years. John passed away in 1991 at the age of 81. Kathleen moved into Rocky in 2001. She is a member of the Eastern Star, Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Hospital Auxiliary, Museum, Friends of the Historical Park and the Canadian Kennel Club. Her family is spread out across

Canada with some in B.C., Ontario and Alberta, one in New York and a few still in England.

Kathleen's daughter, Rubina Coulson, is a vice president of the Alberta Chapter, a long time clan member and our representative in Edmonton. Ruby is a competitive piper. She and her two sons from Toronto and from New York were present as well as other relatives from B.C. and Alberta. There was a large attendance of local people from Rocky Mountain House and surrounding areas attesting to the friendship and respect held for Kathleen in the community.

A YOUTHFUL PERSPECTIVE by Leslie Elliot

THE FIRST WEEK

So, it's September now and most kids have gone back to school. This week I started at Brock University. It is a big change for me, I have never really been away from my family for a long period of time and now I am living about nine hours away from my family and friends. I knew that this day would be coming, I really did, but once it got here it was very nerve-racking for me.

So this whole weekend started on Saturday, when we packed up our truck and started to drive to my grandparents' home in Hamilton. When we got to Hamilton we stopped for dinner with my grandparents and, after that, we went to their new apartment.

The next day I had to do some shopping for my new dorm room with my parents and brother. First we went to Costco to get some things like microwave popcorn, bottled water, shampoo, and toothpaste, among other things. After that we went to the mall to get some clothes and lunch with my grandma. It was fun, and we talked for a while at the mall, then we went to her apartment and visited there. After that we went to my aunt and uncle's house for a BBQ. It was a lot of fun to see everyone.

The next day was the big day – move in day. We left my grandparents' house and went to my uncle's to pack the rest of the stuff into his truck. Then we drove to St. Catharines. We got there about thirty minutes before the move in time for the residence that I was to move into, so we spent the next few hours moving stuff into my new room. After we finally moved everything into my room and unpacked, my uncle and my grandma went home, and my parents, my brother and I went out exploring the city. Then we went for lunch. After that we went back to my dorm and we sat and visited for a little while until my mom decided that it was time for them to go. So we walked out to the truck and said our good byes for now. After I said

The Elliot clan booth was set up at the High River, Calgary and Canmore Highland games. Unfortunately high winds in High River on August 25th virtually blew our tent away and so ended our display. Calgary was cool and wet in the morning setup but turned into a sunny warm afternoon and large crowds turned out for another successful game day on Sept. 1st. Canmore games enjoyed a fine clear day with a very large attendance and the Elliot clan joined five other clans with their display booths. The massed bands again preformed majestically as a finale to a successful day on Sept. 2nd.

my goodbyes I walked back to my dorm and was very teary eyed. It was nice though – my bathroom mate offered to go to the BBQ for the Dorms, which was nice of her.

The next few days just consisted of me exploring the campus and buying books for my classes. Then that Friday was the first day of classes, which was great for me, as I finally had something to do with all of my time. The first class I went to was Biology, which was good. We met the profs who would be teaching us for the year but, let me tell you, it was a huge difference from my biology courses in high school or community college. In high school I was in a class of 30 people and in college I was in a class of 40, but in university there was over 400 people in this lecture – it was nuts. The next class I had was “intro to signing,” which is, like it says, an introduction to sign language. I had a lot of fun in that class. The teacher is completely deaf, so we cannot speak in his class. He signed to us in the very beginning of the class. For that class, the first half of the lecture we had a translator, but in the second half the translator had to leave so we were on our own, but we all picked up on a lot of the lesson that he was teaching, even though a lot of us had little to no training in sign language. Out of all my courses I think that I am looking forward to that course the most.

After that, it was the first weekend. Not much happened there on Saturday. I went down to the mall and visited with my aunt, who works there, and went to get a few other things that I needed, and that was about all that I did on Saturday. On Sunday we were supposed to have an activity day in one of the big fields on the campus but a two o'clock in the morning the head of the floor called to tell us that the plans were cancelled. Yeah, I wasn't very happy with that ... so on Sunday I just prepared for the first full official week of classes. Well that's all for now.