



# The Elliot Clan Society

Canadian Region



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June, 2009

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Walt Elliot

As in February, I am again writing this report under a number of headings.

### E-NEWSLETTERS

Last newsletter, we initiated a comprehensive plan to get more of our members to access both ours and the Scottish newsletters over the internet. Bonnie Ball e-mailed all the members for whom we had e-mail addresses but who were still getting a hard copy by mail. We are asking Bonnie to do this again in the hopes that more people will sign up for the e-newsletters.

I would like to thank Bonnie for all the effort she is putting into this project and also for notifying our members promptly when the newsletters are posted on the internet. She has the whole process running very smoothly.

All the new members who join and have e-mail addresses will automatically be put on the e-newsletter list unless they notify us that they wish a mailed copy.

If there is a red E after this article in your newsletter it means that we do not have an e-mail address for you. If you have one, please e-mail me at [42es@xplornet.com](mailto:42es@xplornet.com) and give me your name and clan number, if possible. Also let me know if you would be receptive to receiving e-newsletters.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

There are still a few members who have not renewed and a red dot on the address label indicates that you are one of them. This will be your last newsletter unless we receive your renewal promptly.

### 2009 GATHERING IN SCOTLAND

We are pleased that close to 30 Canadian members are going to Scotland this July for the festivities.

I urge anyone going to Scotland to join Historic Scotland as it provides free entry to hundreds of castles, battlefields, and other historic sites all over Scotland. Their website is [www.historic-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk)

Victoria Elliott of Toronto has booked her accommodation at Bailey Mill near the border and would appreciate sharing the cost of a car rental with someone staying in the same area. To co-ordinate travel plans with Tori she may be contacted at:

[actress\\_singer\\_dancer\\_waitress@hotmail.com](mailto:actress_singer_dancer_waitress@hotmail.com)

### ONTARIO GATHERINGS

I was sorry to miss the spring luncheon at the Harmony Restaurant in London Ontario in April, however, I was able to attend the Georgetown Highland Games held on Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup>. Greg and Bonnie Ball are directors on the board which hosts these games and do a great job.



*Greg and Bonnie Ball at the Georgetown Highland Games*

## NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome the following new members to our clan:

1073 Robert George Elliott  
1074 Robin G. Elliott  
1075 Patricia Arlene Elliott  
1076 Renee Elaine Elliott  
1077 Jenny Pearson

## DNA PROJECT

We have a volunteer member, Kyle Elliot, who has offered to be a resource person regarding the DNA project which

allows us to trace our ancestors way back. Please read his letter, on page 5, if you are interested in your genealogy. As well, a portion of a communication with James Elliott, administrator, Border Reiver DNA Project is included.

## ELLIOT GENEALOGY RESOURCES

In addition to the online information available at [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) and [www.rootsweb.com](http://www.rootsweb.com), there is a bimonthly magazine entitled 'Family Tree Magazine' which is loaded with helpful articles and resources. The subscription is \$24 US for six issues. Check it out at [www.familytreemagazine.com](http://www.familytreemagazine.com).

# CHAPTER REPORTS

## NOVA SCOTIA CHAPTER

*Chapter Secretary Barry Buckman reports:*

Greetings to all from my Nova Scotia home. As I write this report in early June, I am enjoying the warmth of the kitchen woodstove. This is indicative of the type of spring we have experienced thus far.

On Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> our Chapter held its Spring Fling at the Dartmouth Senior Citizens Centre. Following an Executive meeting, the dinner commenced at 1:30 p.m. The staff have always pleased us in the past with their efforts and this year was no exception. The twenty-one people present were treated to a scrumptious meal that included baked chicken, potatoes, vegetables, rolls, tea and coffee. Bar service was available as well. For dessert, we enjoyed homemade lemon pie which I consider among the best I have eaten for quite some time.

Our Clan Elliot Picnic will return to New Ross for 2009. It will take place at the fairgrounds on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, and being quite far inland we should escape any fog which might be lingering along the coast.

As yet, we have not set a date or location for our Annual General Meeting and Dinner but, as usual, it will occur some time in October. For anyone planning travel to Nova Scotia in early July, please note that the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo will be staged at the Halifax Metro Centre July 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>. Over 2,000 military and civilian performers take part in this world

class entertainment extravaganza. For more information, call 1-800-563-1114 or email: [info@nstattoo.ca](mailto:info@nstattoo.ca).

From down east, I wish you all a safe and fun-filled summer.

## EASTERN ONTARIO & WESTERN QUEBEC CHAPTER

*Chapter Treasurer Linda Elliott-Doshen reports:*

Once again the mother rabbit is building her second or third nest in our Sissinghurst Castle White Sweet Peas; the baby blackbirds are sitting in our attic vent with their beaks open for lunch; and the Plena peonies are starting to bloom, so it must be time to let you know that we are planning to repeat the same excellent EOWQ Clan events that we had last year.

We will begin with our Annual Lamb Barbeque on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009, noonish, at Ross and Helene's lovely, warm home and garden in Navan. We hope to see you all there. As usual, \$10 will be collected to cover Lamb costs.

We missed it last summer, but this year, we hope to see all of you at John and Colette's lovely, country home on the river, in Chelsea, Quebec for a barbeque, pool and croquet afternoon, 1:00ish to whenever Ross announces his defeat at Croquet! John and Colette would like to have an idea of who is attending, so please let them know if you are planning to attend the August 9<sup>th</sup> event

in Chelsea. As usual \$10 will be collected to cover any costs.

I am sorry to report that Eric says Prudie is still in the hospital and is expected to remain there for the next while. Our thoughts and warm wishes for improved health are with her. We miss her and hope she improves quickly and returns home soon.

REMEMBER to mark these dates on your calendar, now: The Annual Elliott Clan of Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec's June Lamb Barbeque and Potluck, Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Ross and Helene's, in Navan, and our 2nd Croquet, Swim and Potluck event on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at John and Colette Trent's, in Chelsea. We hope to see all of you at both of these events.

## ONTARIO CENTRAL CHAPTER

*Chapter Chair Marshall Elliott reports:*

I am very pleased to report that the Mayor of Peterborough declared April 8<sup>th</sup> as World Tartan Day: a date to celebrate the signing of the Treaty of Arbroath in 1320, but also, and more importantly as a day for all Scots and others (Irish, Welsh) who are associated with Tartans and Clans, such as the glorious Elliots, to wear a piece of tartan or, better still one's kilt if one is so fortunate to have one, throughout the day. I currently work in Lindsay and have apprised the Mayor there, a good Scot, of my intentions of requesting a formal proclamation for 2010 from his municipality. Please members, contact me as this is such a painless and direct way of both celebrating our Scottish heritage and also putting Clan Elliot out into the media etc. I have the required information that could be 'cut and pasted' for any municipality.

Greg and Bonnie Ball were quarterbacking our Elliot presence at the Georgetown Games on June 13<sup>th</sup>; I was also present to help out the Balls who have contributed so much to our presence at the different games. Every spring, I encourage our membership to attend at least one game in our Central Ontario area as there are so many from May through to October. My wife and I also enjoy tremendously the games at Cobourg (June 27); Uxbridge/North Durham and the "chieftain of them all" – Fergus Highland Games and Scottish Festival (the second full weekend in August, the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>). These events are great to expose our culture to our children and relatives who, God forbid, may be a wee bit soft on their roots. The music and spectacle of the events will have most true Celts wanting more and more of our heritage.



*Bonnie Ball hosts the Elliot tent at the Georgetown Highland Games*

## ONTARIO WEST CHAPTER

*Chapter Co-Chair Barbara Elliott reports:*

Our Spring Luncheon, held at Harmony House Buffet, was a great success with 29 members in attendance. We were pleased to welcome one new member and one prospective new member. Everyone enjoyed lunch and a visit with friends.

The picnic will be held on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 on the grounds of The Buxton National Historic Site & Museum in North Buxton, ON (near Chatham, ON). This site was the last stop on the Underground Railway for hundreds of fugitive slaves circa 1850's. There will be a tour of the Museum which should provide some very interesting history.

The Annual General meeting will be held on Sat. November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at St. Andrew Memorial Church, 44 Foxbar Road., London, ON. We will have a catered Turkey Dinner and a speaker, to be announced.

In 2010, Ontario West Chapter will celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We are planning a special event at our picnic for this occasion.

Upcoming Events – 2010:

Spring Luncheon	April 17, 2010
Picnic	July 11, 2010
AGM	November 6, 2010

Have a safe, happy and healthy summer.

## SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER

*Chapter Chair Clifford Elliott reports:*

Greetings from Saskatchewan. We are finally getting a nicer spring. We were having snow a week after the May long weekend. We are still experiencing frost at night even yet. Hopefully I won't have to bring in my plants to keep them from freezing. We should have nicer nights shortly so we can sit outside in the evenings without having to wear a jacket. This is all the news from here. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer and will have a safe summer also. So, until the fall, good-bye for now.

## ALBERTA CHAPTER

*Vice President for Western Canada Allan (Curly) Elliott reports:*

The annual meeting of the Alberta Chapter was held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Chateaux on the Green condo complex, courtesy of Curly and Helen Elliott. At an even dozen our attendance was low, but was more than offset by quality and enthusiasm. Our slate of Officers remains the same as the in previous year with the exception of Sandra Elliot who has moved to BC and was replaced by Allan R. Elliott (995).

Our participation at the following Highland Games has been confirmed.

Red Deer	June 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2009
High River	June 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2009
Calgary	September 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2009
Canmore	September 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2009

The Elliot Clan has been honoured this year by the appointment of Allan "Curly" Elliott as "Chieftain of the Day" for the 2009 Calgary Games. In spite of our busy summer we have seven Chapter members with plans to attend the Gatherings in Scotland: namely Curly & Helen Elliott, Allan R. & Hilary Elliott, Arthur, Jean & son Robin Elliott.

Our fall pot luck dinner will again be held at the Huene's Ghost Lake cottage on Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup>. We would welcome all Clan members who happen to be in the

Calgary area on that date to join us for this festive occasion. Contact any Alberta members for further details.

Refreshments were the order of the day following the meeting with a lot of social catching-up to do after a rather lengthy winter. Our president, Bob Elliott related some interesting stories on his forty-day cruise around South and half of North America. He is still sorting through his six hundred or so pictures and we are hoping for a "Show and Tell" at some future meeting. Catherine Huene shared family memories and spoke of her mother's 90<sup>th</sup>, birthday, which was celebrated in the house where she was borne at Boissevain, Manitoba.

## HEADS UP! PIPES UP!

**Dust off those kilts and ties. The "INTERNATIONAL" IS COMING! The 8<sup>th</sup> International Gathering of the Clans and Celts Will be held in Nova Scotia (New Scotland), Canada in 2011.**

Start making those vacation plans for July 2011. A warm invitation is extended by the Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia to Scots the world over to come and attend. Held every four years in Nova Scotia this "rally cry" to all Scots is an event not to be missed.

To look up events in Nova Scotia in 2011, watch our Federation web site at: <http://www.scotsns.ca>. As events become finalized they will go on our web site.

For tourist information contact: <http://novascotia.com/>  
Toll free in North America 1-800-565-0000  
Local and outside North America 902-425-5781  
Fax 902-424-2668 Email [explore@gov.ns.ca](mailto:explore@gov.ns.ca)

A must see in Nova Scotia is the Royal International Tattoo held in July. To book tickets contact: <http://www.nstatattoo.ca>. This is Followed by the Halifax Games: <http://www.halifaxhighlandgames.com>.

Your friend, Jean L. Watson  
2009 Chair for the 2011 International  
[jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca)  
Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia

# DNA PROJECT

Greetings To My Borderer Brethren,

My name is Kyle Elliot and I am the Great, Great, Great, Grandson, of Isaac Elliot. Isaac was descended from one of five brothers who came to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, from Massachusetts, USA, in 1763. We have this history documented in a family journal belonging to one of Isaac's, Great, Grandsons. I have been interested in Genealogy for a while but a television program changed the meaning of Genealogy to me; in essence, it changed my life.

In 2006, I was watching, "Canada AM" and an article came on regarding Genetic Genealogy. I listened, intently, as National Geographic, explained how the male "Y" Chromosome could be used to trace surnames. The "Y" Chromosome is passed from Father to Son unchanged over the generations. It is unique, in that, it is only found in males, the Chromosome does not have any Maternal contribution, and a man's surname follows the "Y" Chromosome.

I was a new Dad in 2006, so, being the first Elliot to be in a position to trace our family's origin, genetically, was an honor. This was something I could do to give to my Son and his descendants. So, I ordered a cheek swab test from National Geographic. When the test came in the mail, I simply followed the easy directions. The kit contained a couple of cotton swabs and an envelope. You, simply, brush the inside of your mouth, which is painless, for thirty seconds. Next, you mailed it to National Geographic for analysis. The testing, in 2006, was done by National Geographic via Familytreedna.com.

Six weeks later, I found out that my "Y" Chromosome was of "Celtic" origin and further subclade testing confirmed that I am U152, L2+, Continental Celtic. My Elliot "Y" does not match the main branch of the Borders Elliot family but there is no reason to be alarmed by such a result for, Borders Law allowed for trial marriages where offspring received the Mother's Maiden name for a surname. The late, George MacDonald-Fraser's book, titled, "The Steel Bonnets: The Story of the Anglo-Scottish Border Reivers," explains this in its entirety. Also, the link below explains the unique Borders Law, too. So, there you have it. I recommend all you male Elliots take a 12 marker test to see where you stand. If you do, I can advise you of the necessary upgrades to, possibly, secure a match, if you do not match the genetic mainstream of the Elliot clan. Below, is an offer to test at our Border Reiver DNA Project group discount. Please email me if you have any questions.

The group discounts for customers who order kits under the auspices of project membership are as follows:

Four different tests are available. The more markers that are tested, the more precisely we can estimate your relative's closeness or distance from another participant. The group rates for these tests are shown below:

- a. 12 marker test --- 99 USD
- b. 25 marker test -- 149 USD
- c. 37 marker test -- 189 USD
- d. 67 marker test -- 269 USD

We strongly recommend ordering at least the 25 or the 37 marker test. Some DNA profiles are common across many families at 12 markers, but become more specific to a given family when they are sequenced out to 25 or 37 markers.

That is why we suggest ordering one of the higher marker tests. However, you can join with just the 12 marker test now, and upgrade to 25 or 37 markers later on if you match another participant exactly on 12 markers and you are sufficiently interested in going further.

*Sincerely,  
Kyle Elliot*

## ELLIOT CLAN DVD AND THE FAMOUS RED SHIRTS

In the mid-1990s Scottish television produced a series of programs relating the history and tradition of many of Scotland's prominent clans. Clan Elliot was included in this series. The program was put on videotape and made available for purchase. The DVD tells the story of the Elliot Clan, with interviews with the Chief, scenes of the beautiful Scottish Borders, and Border Ballad songs. For information about purchasing the DVD, contact "The DVD Guy" Jim Elliot, in California, at [elliott1@mindspring.com](mailto:elliott1@mindspring.com). Jim is also "The Red Shirt Guy," providing beautiful Elliot logo T-shirts, polo shirts, ladies' scoop-neck T's and children's T's.