



The Elliot Clan Society

Canadian Region



Volume 20, Issue 1

June, 2014

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Catherine Elliot Shaw

Hello everyone!

My apologies for the delay in the publication of this newsletter, I hope everyone is now enjoying the balmy weather as spring has finally arrived!

Our membership has grown again. A hearty welcome to:

- 1108 Randall, Patricia, Kristen and Kyle Elliott, Niagara Falls ON
- 1109 Peter, Barbara and Alexander Elliot, Milton ON
- 1110 Blake Elliot and Kristina Scott, Milton ON
- 1111 Janis Goad and Alethea Hackman, Kamloops BC
- 1112 Robert Parry Elliott, Alliston ON

A reminder too, if you haven't already done so, please renew your membership by sending a cheque (\$20 family, \$15 individual) to me at the address listed on the back page of this newsletter.

Your cheque or money order should be made payable to "**Elliot Clan Society Canada**" and including your membership number would be really helpful too.



We are always looking for ideas on how to advertise the Society and attract more members. Is there a Scottish cultural group in your area that would publish/distribute our info either digitally or in hard copy? Would your local newspaper be interested in a short article on the Clan? Are there kiosks in your library or community centre where we could place brochures? Just drop me a quick email or note with a name, email or mailing address and I will do the rest.

Elsewhere in this issue:

- Chapter Reports with news and future events;
- Information on our trip to visit Maritime chapters in July;
- and another two items on "things Elliot".

Wishing you all a happy Spring and Summer.

Yours aye,

Catherine

CHAPTER REPORTS

ALBERTA CHAPTER

Neil Herdman reports:

Although activity has been quiet over the winter months, we recently had notice of the passing of a long time member and supporter of the Alberta Chapter.

Having been with the society in Alberta for only a short time, I never had the good fortune to meet Ron Elliot, even though he has been looking after the audit on our Chapter account for 20 years or more. It is always sad to have the passing of anyone, and we will all miss his support and help at the Alberta Chapter. My thoughts are with partner Conrada and their families. I have sent a copy of the obituary from our local paper. Ron was the brother of another long-time supporter Walter Elliot.

Our Chapter AGM will be coming early in May 2014 (Date and location TBA). With the active membership dropping we will again have to consider if we can support the Highland Games at Red Deer (June 22nd), Calgary (August 30th) and Canmore (August 31st). I have been in contact with the Foothills Highland Games as there has not been a date posted for that. With the devastation there in High River last year, they may take a 'gap' year. I personally plan to support the Calgary Highland Games as usual (if agreed at the AGM) but will not be able to attend the others due to work commitment (I work weekends). If there are any volunteers from the Alberta Chapter who are willing to fly our banner for the Clan Elliot, I would love to hear from you. My contact details are on the back of the Society Newsletter.

I would like to arrange a possible get together with the more Northern members, perhaps in Red Deer later in the year if there is interest. Again, if members wish to contact me, hopefully we can find a date to suit.

Other plans are to work with my wife who is on the board of the Calgary St. Andrews

Caledonian Society to see if there is some way to coordinate with them to give the Elliot and other clans a visible presence at more events and hopefully garner new members.

ELLIOT, Ronald Elmer

May 29, 1935 – February 17, 2014

It is with deep sadness that we announce that Ron Elliot passed away on Monday, February 17, 2014 after a courageous battle with cancer at the age of 78 years. Ron will be forever missed by his partner and friend Conrada Polvorosa and her daughter Lorna; his children Bill (Mary) Elliot, Tim Elliot (Rosemary Baldwin) and Sheri (Monty) Johnson; his grandchildren, Victoria, Danny, Aaron Johnson; Mackenzie and Spencer Elliot and Andrew, Christina, Daniel and Nathan; his brother Walter (Mary) Elliot as well as many other family and friends. Ron was predeceased by his wife of 40 years Patricia Elliot (nee Kolestik) and his brothers Charlie, Jack, and Gordon Elliot; as well as his parents Elmer and Pearl.

CENTRAL ONTARIO CHAPTER

Walt Elliot (Interim Chair) reports:

We again look forward to two main events in Central Ontario in 2014; the Fergus games held the second full weekend in August and our annual Luncheon at the Harrop House Restaurant and Gift Shop at 345 Steeles Ave. E. in Milton in the fall.

The Fergus games will take place August 8 – 10. Friday evening features a performance at the grounds. Saturday the Elliot Clan usually has a tent on the avenue of the clans and Elliot attendees march in the parade at noon. Sunday features a church service. Scottish dancing competitions and games take place all weekend. It is a great weekend of Scottish activity.

Our annual fall luncheon at the Harrop House Restaurant and Gift Shop features an Elliott family homestead in Milton. William Elliott and his family farmed at this location in the early 1900s. The barn is now located in Country

Heritage Park on Tremaine Road in Milton and the house is the Restaurant and Gift Shop on Steeles Ave. The outbuildings are now used as an art framing center. This part of the location has been acquired by Re-Max Realty for a new office. This may be the last time the homestead will be in its original configuration as construction of the office is being planned.



Walt in front of Harrop House



Another view of Harrop House

All Elliots are invited to attend these two events. Ontario Central Elliots will receive a personal invitation to our annual luncheon with more details in September. If Elliots not in our region wish to attend and want more information please contact Walt Elliot at 905-876-3377 or 42elliots@gmail.com.

ONTARIO EAST AND WESTERN QUEBEC CHAPTER

Bob Elliott reports:

We have been quiet for many months now but we will be more active on Saturday, 14th of June 2014. Once again, the chapter will hold a "lamb fest". The lamb this year will be grilled lamb kebobs supplemented by the potluck contributions of the attendees. We will gather in Carp near Ottawa to enjoy fellowship, and fine food as well as the presence of the Canadian

President Catherine Elliot Shaw and her husband John.

We have reached out to recent new members of the chapter:

Daniel Elliott
Cameron and Winnifred Sherry
Donna Gagnon
Allan Elliott & family
Terry Myles

Regrettably they are otherwise committed or find the two to 3 hour + drive a challenge. We hope to have some photos of the festivities to share for the next issue. Perhaps this may increase interest for 2015.

ONTARIO WEST

Carole Nickels, Co-Chair reports:

Spring has finally arrived in southern Ontario as the Ontario West Chapter looks forward to the upcoming summer events.

The **Elliot Spring Lunch** held April 12, 2014 at the Mandarin Restaurant in London was enjoyed by 20 members. It was great to spend time with friends from near and far in our chapter.

The **Elliot Clan Fundraiser** was held May 10, 2014 at St. Anne's Anglican Church in London. It was a first time venture to increase the revenue of the chapter to defray expenses and \$90.00 was raised. A table was rented at the Spring and Plant Sale and members donated gently used items to be sold at the annual church fundraiser.

The Ontario West Chapter celebrates the 5th anniversary of our **Elliot Clan Golf Tournament Sunday, June 8, 2014**. All Elliot members and their families are welcome to join us at the Dorchester Golf and Country Club for an afternoon of golf followed by supper in the club house. Thanks to Jeff Elliott of London for all his dedicated work. Rain date for the event is June 22, 2014.

The annual picnic will be held **July 13, 2014** in Exeter, Ontario at MacNaughton Park. This

park is beside the Ausable River and features a covered pavilion, gardens, walking trails and scenic lookout points of the river valley. A pot luck supper will be held and all are invited to come and spend a summer afternoon with family and friends.

November 1, 2014 Annual General Meeting will be held at the Church of St. Andrew Memorial, 55 Foxbar Avenue, London, Ontario. Meeting will include a hot dinner and feature a singing group.

The Ontario West Chapter extends a warm welcome to all Elliots to join us if you are in the area and would like to attend any of our events.

IN MEMORIAM

The Ontario West Chapter was saddened by the news that **#270 Jim Elliot** and **#775 Marian Elliott** passed away. Jim passed away February 18, 2014 in Windsor. Jim and his wife, Shirley were very active members in our chapter over the years and hosted our annual picnic twice at their summer home in Port Burwell.

Marian passed away March 9, 2014 in Dresden. Marian was a loyal member of the chapter for many years and always looked forward to attending our events.

We would like to express our deepest sympathy to Shirley and her family and to Marian's family. Jim and Marian will be greatly missed by all their friends in the Elliot Clan.

MANITOBA

John Peach reports:

We have not had any chapter activities since last fall. Some of our chapter has escaped this long, cold, snowy and windy winter. The rest of us have tried to make the best of it. My activities have included working on my family tree including the Elliott branch which reaches back through Ontario to Northamptonshire, England. I got one generation closer to the Borders and filled out some Ontario branches. I

learned about a family of Websters whose branch connects to our Elliots at some time back in Northamptonshire. I have yet to work my way back to that fork in the tree.

I looked into sharing my family info with others of the clan through the Society database. I found that there is one database on which all the regions co-operate. The USA website has detailed instructions on contributing one's information. I have resolved to get my tree ready to share next winter. That means being busy filling in blanks, checking facts and tidying up sources. Maybe I have more relatives in our clan society than I know.

SASKATCHEWAN

Clifford Elliott reports:

Well, we have finally gotten summer despite some severe flooding. No activity at the moment with the chapter. Wishing everyone a good summer.

NEW BRUNSWICK

J. Allison Elliott reports:

We will have a regular meeting when our Canadian President, Catherine Elliot Shaw, visits us in July. The details on date and time to be announced later. Hope everyone can attend!

NOVA SCOTIA

Tanya Elliott Hendsbee reports:

Exciting news for Nova Scotia Elliots! Our Canadian President, Catherine Elliot Shaw, and her husband John are visiting Nova Scotia in the early part of July. We will be meeting at the Old Orchard Inn in Wolfville on Saturday July 5th, 2014 at 12:30 pm. Following lunch in the dining room (at your own cost) we will adjourn to a meeting room to chat with Catherine and hear about the Clan Gathering in Scotland last summer and other highlights from the national perspective.

Please RSVP to me no later than June 20, 2014, in order to give the Inn our numbers.

thendsbee@accesswave.ca or 902-435-6111.

For directions to the Old Orchard Inn please check the website below:
www.olderchardinn.com

Look forward to seeing you all!

DOUBLE IDENTITY

submitted by Catherine Elliot Shaw

On a recent visit to Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, we discovered an historic building known alternately as the “Elliot House” and the “Whale Inn”. Built in 1835 as a public house at the foot of King Street, it overlooks the Niagara River where it empties into Lake Ontario. Walter Elliot, its first owner, served both the area fishermen and, later in the century, the gentry staying at the exclusive Queen’s Royal Hotel formerly located in what is now the Queens Royal Park. As late as 1935, the house was still owned by Elliots and operated as a very select summer boarding house. The high standards of its proprietors, the Misses Adelaide and Jane Elliot, coupled with its outstanding waterfront location ensured its exclusive status among tourists. By the 1950s, it had been purchased by a couple from Buffalo, New York, and converted into a private home. Their renovations restored the building to its original beauty while the dining room retained the inn’s original bar. Today, its current owners continue to care for this piece of Niagara and Elliot history.



Historic Elliot House-Niagara- on- the-Lake

On the same weekend, we attended Sunday service at St. Mark’s Anglican Church, just down the street from Elliot House. There we found another piece of the puzzle in the form of a

large tablet erected to the left of the altar, one of many commemorating veterans of the War of 1812: *Sacred to the memory of Lieut. Col. Wm. Elliot, K.B. of the R.C. Rifle Regt. Colonel Commanding Niagara frontier, who died at Niagara, Dec. 17th, 1845, aged 55 years. 39 years of his life were devoted to his country, he having served in most of the glorious victories of the Peninsular War. This tablet is erected by the Officers of the Royal C. Rifle Regt., as a memorial of affection and sincere regret for his lamented death.*

ARE WE RELATED

submitted by Robert Parry Elliott

This is a story about James Elliott, and I hope someone is related to him, hence me. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in February 1837, 4th child of another James Elliott and Ann Clark. The parents were from County Donegal in Ireland. The 6th child was my great grandfather, Joseph Stopford Elliott. The parents were married by Dr. Joseph Stopford in Letterkenny Church in 1825. In the 1851 Glasgow census, James the son was working as a molder. By 1854, he had joined the 78th Seaforth Highlanders. He would have been age 17.

I have very little about his military career, except that he won a medal for being in the Battle of Lucknow, India. In due course, he was posted to the British base at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and he was discharged there in 1871. He would have been 34.

He married Lilly Sutherland from Earltown, NS, a third generation resident of Nova Scotia. They had about nine children, in Halifax, Pictou County and Springhill, Nova Scotia.

For someone working on their Family Tree, the Nova Scotia Historical Vital Statistics website is a wonderful resource. From there, I got most of James and Lilly’s children’s names. From there, I moved on to Dora Canning and her son, Tim Jansen, who live in or near Middleton, NS. But there must be more Elliots in the Maritimes or the New England states that I haven’t found yet. Lynn, MA is a possibility. I have even found Alberta Celli, near

Vancouver, BC. James Elliott, the son, died in Fernie, BC in 1926. He was 89.

Donald James Elliott was a Flying Officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He died over Germany in 1944 at the age of 22. He was a grandson of James Elliott, son of Dora Ethel and Donald David Elliott of Springhill, NS. He is remembered with honour in the Hanover War Cemetery.

I have had my DNA done by Family Tree, and I have 20 close matches. I have been told I go back to Border Scots, but probably 500 years ago. My Y-Haplogroup is I1, not common for Elliotts, but common for Norse Vikings and Border Scots.

I have only recently joined The Elliot Clan Society, but I look forward to hearing from members who might be related to me.

You can contact me at the e-mail address below:

Bob & Jean Elliott

[\[mailto:jeanbob61@rogers.com\]](mailto:jeanbob61@rogers.com)

IN MEMORIAM



We are saddened at the passing of **Elizabeth (Bessie) Elliot**, widow of our former President Col H.C.F. Elliot, and a stalwart supporter and worker for the Elliot Clan Society both in Canada and Scotland. Elizabeth (Bessie) passed away peacefully May 31, 2014, at the Civic Hospital in her 95th year. She was mother to Tim (Shirley) and Malcolm (Catherine); grandmother to Simon (Melissa), Nicholas (Heidi), Amy (David) and Erin (Chris); great-grandmother to Samuel, Clara, Noelle, Corbin and Liam. Bessie had enjoyed living at the Colonel By Retirement Residence for the past eight years. All who knew her will miss her story

telling and good nature. If you would like to make a donation in Bessie's memory, she always had a soft spot for animal shelters.

SUMMER SUN

Great is the sun, and wide he goes
Through empty heaven with repose;
And in the blue and glowing days
More thick than rain he showers his rays.

Though closer still the blinds we pull
To keep the shady parlour cool,
Yet he will find a chink or two
To slip his golden fingers through.

The dusty attic spider-clad
He, through the keyhole, maketh glad;
And through the broken edge of tiles
Into the laddered hay-loft smiles.

Meantime his golden face around
He bares to all the garden ground,
And sheds a warm and glittering look
Among the ivy's inmost nook.

Above the hills, along the blue,
Round the bright air with footing true,
To please the child, to paint the rose,
The gardener of the World, he goes.

From *A Child's Garden of Verses*, 1885
by Robert Louis Stevenson (born Edinburgh
1850)

Newsletter Submissions

Calling all historians, geographers and trivia specialists! Have you discovered something interesting related to the Elliot (t) name? It could be the origin of a place name, a notable award winner, a scientific term, anything. Send it along in 150 words or less to Tanya, our Editor, at thendsbee@accesswave.ca