

*The Scottish West
March*

REIVER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CLAN LITTLE SOCIETY, USA, LTD.



March 1998

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PRESIDENT'S PODIUM

Bill:

Glad to hear the bad weather missed you. With what we were hearing we were getting a little worried.

If you have enough for the newsletter just go ahead and put it out. We are both sick as dogs right now and I can't come up with a thing to say. I will be sure to get up one for the next Reiver....

George

(Editor's note: Ugh, urk, awk... Chicken/egg story here. See below...)

THE EDITOR'S DESK

First, let me apologize for getting this edition of The Reiver out a little late. I have plenty of excuses, none of them exactly valid. As George mentioned above, we've been having a bit of rough weather down here in the "sunny" south of late. Last weekend's storm made a real mess of Central Florida - the final death toll count got to 41. The good news is that it spared Brevard County for the most part. Most of the damage was well to the west and north of us.

The bad news is that I had the dubious distinction of experiencing the storm twice. I had to go to Columbia, SC that weekend to attend the funeral service of a close friend on Saturday. George and Debby were kind enough to put me up in Savannah on Friday and Saturday nights, and no sooner did I get on I-95 Sunday afternoon did I get pummeled by wind and rain. It kept up all the way down to St. Augustine. For the record, it is **no fun** going 70 mph in a gale-force thunderstorm, surrounded by 18-wheelers! It caught up to me at 1:30 the next morning, and kept Susan and me up, kids in arms, glued to the TV set until 2:30 when the tornado warnings expired.

As for the "chicken/egg" comment, the Savannah Littles aren't the only ones "sick as dogs". I can only wonder: did I give it to them, did they give it to me, or did the kids' daycare give it to all of us? It's been a miserable weekend....

On the other hand, being sick at home has given me the opportunity to do a little uninterrupted work on the computer, which has yielded plenty of good stuff for this newsletter. It's *amazing* what I can find when I clean out my inbox! So, if this quarter's Reiver has a distinctly "internet" flavor, it's because that's where I got most of my material. Enjoy!

Clan Little Society USA, LTD.

Officers:

President/Steuart: George Little (912)927-4756
113 Seminole Street
Savannah, GA 31406-5855
george@skio.peachnet.edu

Vice President/Marischal: Patrick J. Little (313)429-2037
701 Woodcreek
Saline, MI 48176
plittle@orchard.washtenaw.cc.mi.us

Treasurer/Sillarman: Dr. Clary Little (410)476-3211
30428 Belmont Drive
Trappe, MD 21673-1521

Secretary/Secratur: Patty Thigpen
205 Donna Road
Savannah, GA 31410

Committee Heads:

Quartermaster: Mike Little ()
171 Edythe Street
Livermore, CA 94550
MLITTLE265@aol.com

Editor/Membership Secretary: William Little (407)639-2789
946 Tope Street
Port St. John, FL 32927
littleb@palmnet.net

Commissioners:

Northeast: Vacant

Southeast: Dr. Michael Little (703)560-3164
2416 Luckett Avenue
Vienna, VA 22180
michael.j.little@hotmail.com

West: Ross A. Little (916)446-3909
4819 South Land Park Drive
Sacramento, CA 95822
marischal@classic.msn.com

Midwest: Patrick J. Little (313)429-2037
701 Woodcreek
Saline, MI 48176
plittle@orchard.washtenaw.cc.mi.us

Northwest: Richard L. Holt
2319 "L" Street NE #B
Auburn WA 98002
engraverlh@aol.com

Southwest: Don Lytle (318)981-2306
125 Beta Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506-3930

Send all submissions to: William Little
946 Tope Street
Port St. John, FL 32927
email: littleb@palmnet.net

<http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/2824/Little.html>
Courtesy Bryan Little of Richmond, VA

SOCIETY NAME CHANGE VOTE BARELY MISSES

By a narrow margin, the vote to change the name of the Clan Little Society, USA, Ltd. to the Clan Little Society, North America, Ltd. was defeated. The vote narrowly failed to achieve the 67% approval as required by Georgia state law. Oddly enough, all ballots returned were marked in favor of the name change. The vote's failure can be attributed to the fact that the ballots were attached to CLSUSA membership renewal forms that were distributed during a late campaign to encourage members who hadn't done so to renew their memberships for the 1997 - 1998 year. Members who had renewed earlier in the year and did not send in the late renewal forms also didn't vote in the name change referendum, thus causing the measure to fail.

On a positive note, the late membership drive and name change ballot has helped us get a better handle on the number of individual and family memberships in the society. We currently have 110 memberships: 77 individual and 33 family.

THE CLAN LITTLE HOME PAGES (AND OTHER INTERNET NOTES)

There have been some inquiries pass the editorial desk lately about the society's home page on the World Wide Web. A bit of investigative effort turned up the following: the address of the home page maintained by Bryan Little that we have been listing in The Reiver, <http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/2824/Little.htm>, has one minor flaw in it. The correct address is <http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/2824/Little.html>. For those of you who are eagle-eyed enough to catch it, we lost the "l" on "html". In the computer world, forgetting that one little character is enough to cause an error that will keep you from reaching the page. Oops, sorry.... You'll note that we've corrected the problem.

Having found our "missing" home page, we decided to do some more digging to see what more we could find about the society on the web, and any other information about Scotland, Scottish immigrants, and general Scottish stuff. Starting with Bryan's home page, what follows is a quick review of some of the more interesting sites we found, and how to get to them.

<http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/2824/Little.html>: Bryan's home page is nicely laid out, and gives a high-level overview of the history of the Border Reivers, and presents a little bit about Bryan's ancestry and family. It is more of a personal home page than the home page of our society, although he provides links to other pages giving a lot more detailed information on Reiver families and history. He does give a link to a page "Contact the Clan Little Society", but clicking on that link sends you to the home page of none other than the Clan Little Society, Scotland and Worldwide!

<http://www.nwrain.com/~littl/heraldry.htm>: This is the home page of the Clan Little Society, Scotland and Worldwide. It is well done, and provides quite a bit about the Scottish society. It contains links to Ancestry, History, Septs, Emblems, News, membership information, and links to other clan societies.

<http://www.tartans.com/clans/Little/little.html>: The information on this home page is the same as that found on the Scottish society's link, but the page contains some very good graphics of the clan badge and tartan. One link of particular note to any amateur genealogists who are looking to get in contact with other Littles out there is the "Littles On The Net" link. This page contains the names, home addresses, email addresses, and other information about Littles on the net who are looking to get in touch with other Littles.

<http://www.infinet.com/~dlaird/usscots/usscots.htm>: Thanks to our Western Region Commissioner Ross Little for this one! It is the home page of "U.S. Scots Online!" magazine. Of particular note is their list of every, and I mean every, Scottish Game scheduled in the U.S., Canada, and Scotland for 1998! Check this one out; the sheer number of games will boggle your mind (and make special note that the Williamsburg games, where we plan to hold our 1998 AGM, is on Saturday, September 26, 1998).

<http://www.rabbie-burns.com>: This is just exactly what it sounds like. Burnsophiles, unite! Anything and everything you ever wanted to know about Robert Burns. You can even send a friend or loved one an electronic Robert Burns card. A special thanks to Pat Little, CLSUSA president emeritus, for this gem!

There are more, many, many more. If you find one you like, send us its address, and we'll report on it. Anything you find on Littles, Border clans, or all things Scottish, let us know.

CLAN LITTLE SOCIETY USA REGIONS AND COMMISSIONERS

Northeastern

(vacant)
 Maine
 New Hampshire
 Massachusetts
 Vermont
 Rhode Island
 Connecticut
 New York
 New Jersey
 Pennsylvania
 Delaware
 Maryland
 West Virginia
 Ohio
 Kentucky
 Indiana
 Michigan

Southeastern

Dr. Michael Little
 2416 Luckett Avenue
 Vienna, VA 22180
 Virginia
 North Carolina
 South Carolina
 Tennessee
 Georgia
 Alabama
 Florida

Midwestern

Patrick Little
 701 Woodcreek
 Saline, MI 48176
 Wisconsin
 Illinois
 Minnesota
 Iowa
 North Dakota
 South Dakota
 Nebraska

Southwestern

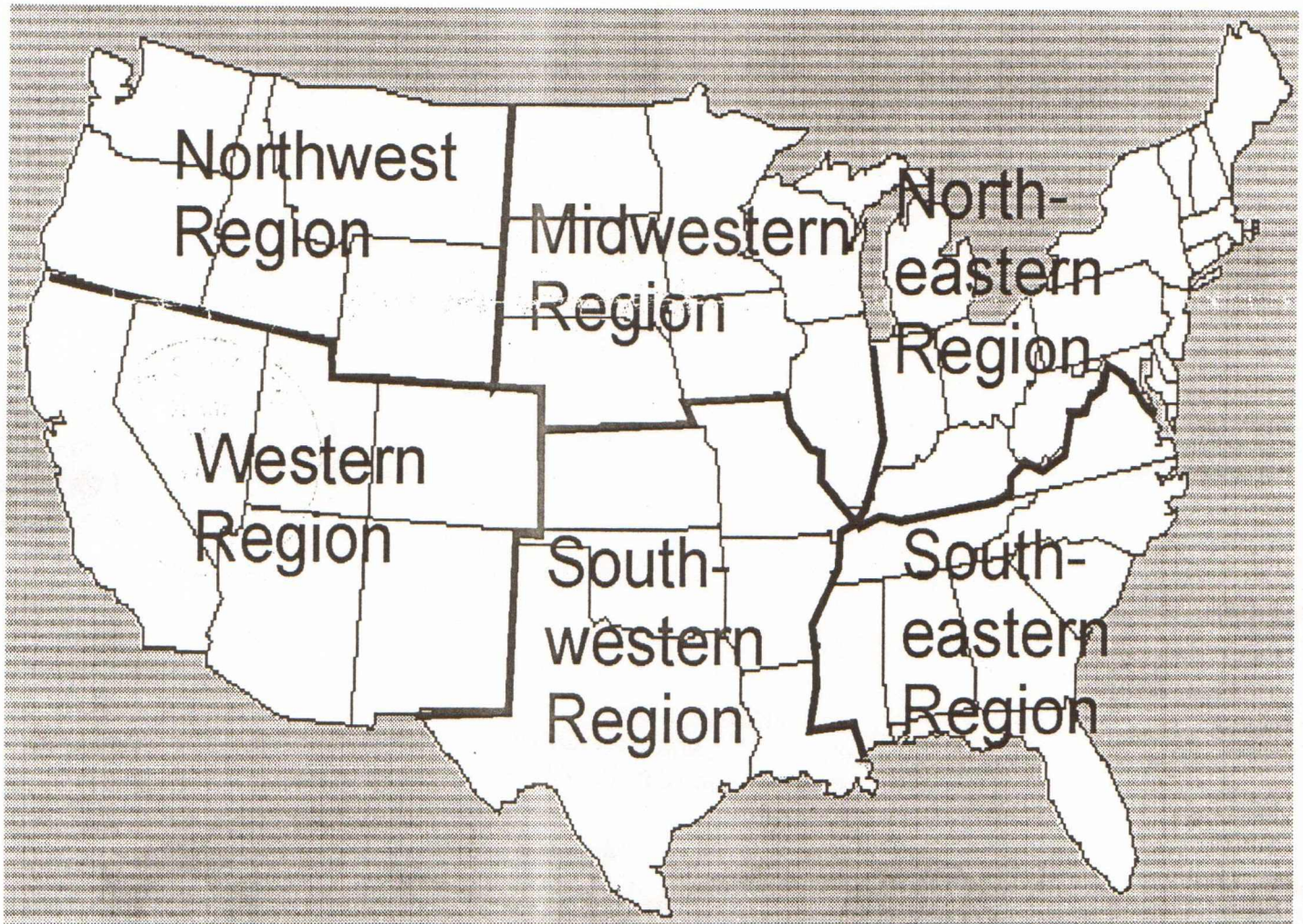
Don Lytle
 125 Beta Drive
 Lafayette, LA 70506
 Missouri
 Arkansas
 Mississippi
 Louisiana
 Kansas
 Oklahoma
 Texas

Northwestern

Richard Holt
 2319 "L" Street NE #B
 Auburn, WA 98002
 Montana
 Wyoming
 Idaho
 Washington
 Oregon

Western

Ross A. Little
 4819 South Land Park
 Sacramento, CA 95822
 Colorado
 New Mexico
 Utah
 Arizona
 Nevada
 California



FROM THE MAILBAG

At the Grandfather Mtn. Highland games (July, Linville NC) I spoke with Darryl McDonald of Dunedin Scottish Inc., who told me he has contacts with a weaver in Scotland. He could arrange worsted kilt-weight tartan to be woven special order @ \$56/yd., with a 16 yd. minimum (bear in mind that a feile beag (wee kilt - what you see most often now, the 'tailored' kilt) requires 4 to 6 yards of 60" fabric). I also have a business card for a gentleman in Greenville SC who makes kilts. If anyone would be interested in trying to make up an order for tartan to be woven, have them contact me - Rosser (Mrs. Aaron) Tilley, 1417 NC 68 North, Oak Ridge, NC 27310 (336) 643-7507, or e-mail to RosserT@Juno.com.

CONCEDO NULL!!!! Rosser

SAMUEL JOHNSON DEFINED OATS AS A GRAIN, WHICH IN ENGLAND IS FED TO HORSES AND IN SCOTLAND IS FED TO MEN. A SCOT FOLLOWED UP WITH THE RETORT. "THAT IS WHY THE ENGLISH HAVE SUCH STRONG HORSES, AND THE SCOTS SUCH STRONG MEN!"

I am the eldest daughter of a Little family which settled in the London, Ont. area four or five generations ago. I am very excited about and interested in my Scottish ancestry. I have been browsing this web-site, and have relayed some of the information to my paternal grandfather who will be very enthusiastic about this source for family tree hunting. I am surprised that the Little clan claims to be headless and without badge, when a traceable line of descendants from Simon Little of Nittyholm exists. Surely if the Sutherland clan was headed a few times by a matriarch, the Little clan could also be. Has the lineage descending from Simon's eldest CHILD not been researched? I don't have access to such a family tree as would help me, but perhaps someone else does. If the blood-lines of a chief are important, the mother is certainly a more accurate trace anyway - no question of the child's origin that way (a person can't fake motherhood). Anyway, just thought I'd put a bug in somebody's ear. I'll be interested in any developments from this line of thinking. Much from Little, right?

All the best, Marion Hodson-Little

Editor's final note: for those of you who asked - if you are holding this copy of The Reiver, yes, you're paid up for 1997/1998!

William Little
946 Tope Street
Port St. John, FL 32927



Clan Little
Society,
USA, LTD.

George Little
President
Savannah, GA

Pat Little
Vice President
Saline, MI

Clary Little
Treasurer
Trappe, MD

Patty Thigpen
Secretary
Savannah, GA

Ross A. Little
4819 South Land Park Drive
Sacramento, CA 95822

