

*The West  
Scottish  
March*

# REIVER

THE NEWSLETTER OF CLAN LITTLE SOCIETY, NORTH AMERICA



Year 2000 Annual General Meeting (AGM) held at the Pacific NW Scottish Highland Games

Year 2001 AGM will be at the Pleasanton, CA Games the Saturday of the Labor Day weekend

► Scenes from the 2000 AGM available on the web!! ◀

ENUMCLAW, WA – Fifteen Clan Society members attended the annual AGM on July 29th at the Pacific NW Scottish Highland Games at the fairgrounds in Enumclaw, WA in the shadow of towering Mt. Rainier. Members forwarded 59 proxies to Society officers, enabling a quorum so that important Society business could be officially conducted.

One of those business items was the selection of the location for the Year 2001 AGM, which is to be held the Saturday of the Labor Day weekend at the Pleasanton, CA Highland Games. This meeting will be very important because the main agenda item will be the election of Society officers for the following two years. Both Richard Holt, Society President, and Ross Little, Vice President, have indicated they would like to step down, so participation in person or by proxy will be very important. The 2001 AGM was originally going to be held in Pennsylvania, but the lack of a NE USA commissioner to host the event necessitated choosing an alternate site.

**Don Little has many pictures and MPGs of the 2000 AGM on his website at [www.donlittle.com](http://www.donlittle.com). Please visit his site and say hello!**

⊗ More AGM news on page 7 ⊗

(AGM information supplied by Ross Little, pictures by Don Little.)



Members, family, and friends all gather at the Year 2000 AGM for a group portrait.

(Photo by Don Little)



The moment everyone is waiting for: Society President Richard Holt makes the first cut of the haggis while hungry members look on. (Photo of the annual haggis dinner by Don Little.)



Ceremonial tradition precedes the dinner: Kevin Campbell reads Robert Burns' famous poem *To a Haggis*. (Photo by Don Little)

## Editor's Column...

It took longer than expected, but at long last, the final Reiver of the year 2000 is in everyone's hands. The delays were numerous and included a trip to Scotland (see story on page 6), a complete hard-drive failure, and other procrastinations both serious and banal. My thanks to Richard Holt and Ross Little for providing material and photos and to Don Little for his wonderful webpage. Again, please note that your editor cannot travel everywhere to personally record events (as much as he would like to). It is thus important that all members send in news and pictures that they would like to see in the newsletter. They can be sent to myself or any of the Society officers. Send them in, and we'll make sure they get into The Reiver!

I want to thank Ross Little for distributing the latest edition of his Western Region Newsletter *The Lantern* to the national membership. This got important AGM information to everyone in a timely manner.

We are still struggling with the problem of photo quality in The Reiver. For this issue, all photos were scanned in b&w at 800 dpi. The masters (four in all for an eight-page issue) were printed at the highest-possible dpi on Canon glossy photopaper. It seems that the final copying of the masters is where the severe loss of contrast and detail occurs. We will be working on this to come up with a solution that is affordable and hopefully esthetically pleasing.

Finally, my entire family would like to wish everyone Season's Greetings and Happy New Year. We look forward to meeting many more members in the coming year and to featuring photos and stories from Society events throughout North America.

## *The Stewart's Herald*

---

On behalf of the Council, I wish you all happy holidays and hope that we have as successful a year for the Society in the coming year.

In respect to our former president, Robert Little, in his concern, and to a few members of the Council, about the lack of Clan Little Society advertisement in a number of national Scottish magazines. We found that the cost was in the hundreds of dollars to place these advertisements in all these magazines with few or no referrals from these publications. In most cases, the magazines list our Society and membership contact in their directory for free. The Council felt the money would be better spent on helping our Conveners with Clan tents and material for the Games throughout North America where the greater number of our memberships and support comes from.

I hope you all have paid your dues as this is how we can keep the Society going from year to year. [NOTE] On your Address: (sample) John Doo Little  
CLSNA 1M/01  
#1 Drive Down Lane  
Hoopdoodle, PA 123456-1234

**1M/01**= John is one member with his dues paid through June 2001. John is a member in good standing although he might not get out to the Games and help out, he does support the Society by paying his dues every year and I thank you John Doo Little.

I want to especially thank Ellen Conn our Secretary/Membership Secretary and her husband Bill for all the work they have done for our Society, you are truly the backbone of the organization. Also I thank Ellen Little our Treasurer for the hard work in getting the books up to date, that was a big job and Phyllis Little on getting the Tartan out to everyone. Last but not least, Ross Little in getting every thing to work which makes my job easy.

Aye.

Richard Holt

## CLAN LITTLE SOCIETY OF NA SETS A 'HUE AND CRY' IN THE YEAR 2000

*Members new and old show the Society "colors" at Scottish gatherings across the continent.  
Who will be next to convene a Society table at yet another new gathering?*  
**PART 1 OF 3**

TULSA, OK – This past September marked the very first time the Society was represented at the Tulsa Scottish Games. John and Ellen Little and their daughters Jessika and Brandi served as ambassadors for the Society. Note that Ellen currently serves as Society treasurer.

Eleven people visited the Society table and were very excited to learn that they were descended from a Border clan and that there was a clan society which they could join. John and Ellen report that Little clan history and the enigma of being without a chief proved fascinating to all. They also report that many of the female Little visitors were pregnant, thus assuring our heritage will continue into the next generation!

John stated: "We shared with them all that we knew and that we would be attending other games in the future in other cities in Oklahoma. The excitement on the[ir] faces was all we needed to see that hosting a tent was worth more than anything we could imagine."

### Tartan Cloth Available

Phyllis Little reports that official Clan Little Society tartan cloth is available again, in two weights. Ten oz is available for ladies' skirts, dresses, sashes, vests, ties, children's garments, etc. Thirteen oz is available for kilts, trews, and ladies' garments where a heavier weight is needed.

Contact Phyllis at the address, phone number, or e-mail listed on the back cover for Ross Little, Society Vice-President.

Don't miss out! Order your material today!

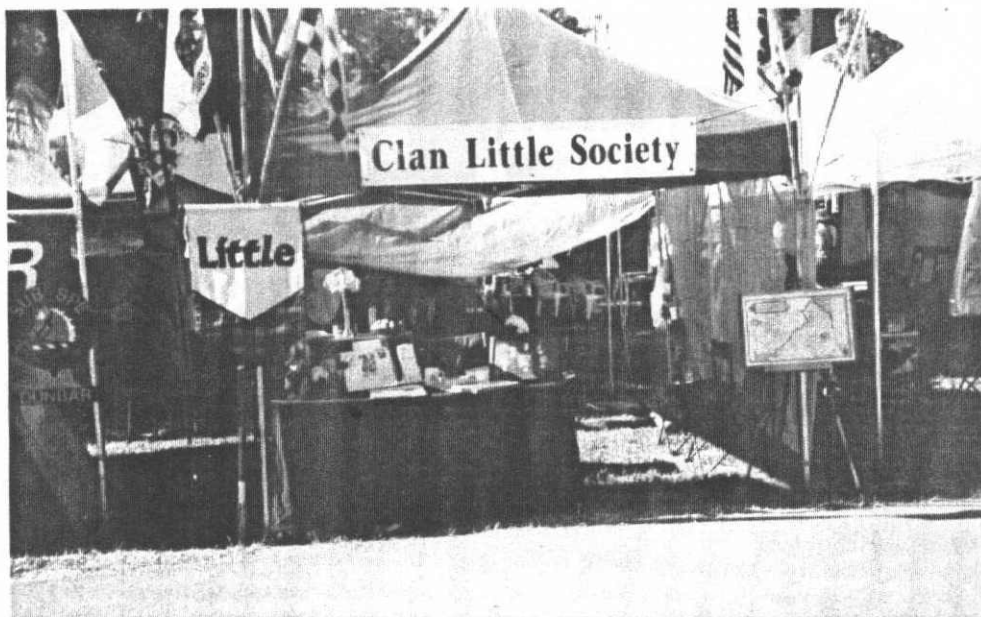


Jessika (left) and Brandi Little exhibit Society and Clan history materials at their table at the Tulsa Scottish Games in September 2000. Their family reports "finding" many Littles who stopped at their display to learn about their heritage.



Ellen and John Little show the Society tartan at the Tulsa Scottish Games. Ellen is Society Treasurer and John is Convener for the state of Oklahoma. This was their (and the Society's) first presence at the Games, and the Littles report that they will be representing the Society at this and other gatherings in the future. Ross Little, Society Commissioner for the western US, notes that the entire Little family "came away from the Games really excited and enthused." Ross urges other Society members to step forward to volunteer to serve as conveners in their area of the country. He points to the John and Ellen Little family as an example of how exciting and fulfilling the experience is.

## CLAN LITTLE SOCIETY OF NA SETS A 'HUE AND CRY' IN THE YEAR 2000 PART 2 OF 3



Clan Society table at Woodland, April 2000

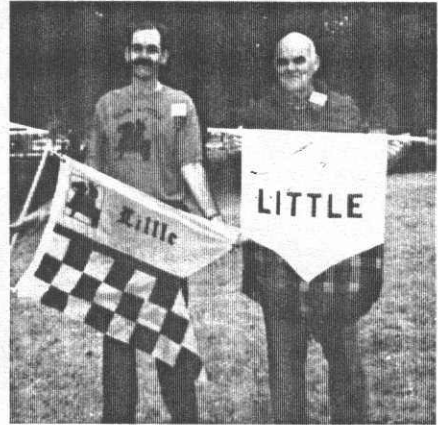
COLORADO – Colorado members launched their participation in Highland games this year with tents in Denver (Highlands Ranch) and Estes Park, reports Ross Little, Western Commissioner. Lavina Little (pictured at right) accepted the Convener job to organize everything. Betty Youngblood sewed the Little banner, and Bill Youngblood put together the banner pole. Lavina's sister Nina came all the way from Schenectady, NY to help! Steve and Irene Little helped occupy the Society table at Estes Park.

Twelve members attended the Estes Park games, and member Jean Taylor from Casper, WY helped at the table. Eight Society applications were taken, and plans are already in progress for 2001. If you live in this new Society Region, contact Ross Little and volunteer!



Lavina Little (left photo), Convener for the Denver area, has agreed to become Society Commissioner for a new region, Rocky Mountain, which will include Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Utah. The Society will be looking for Conveners in any and all of these states to help Lavina spread the goods news that the Clan Little Society is growing and is coming soon to a Gathering near you!

CLAN LITTLE SOCIETY OF NA SETS A 'HUE AND CRY' IN THE YEAR 2000  
PART 3 OF 3



Marysville, KS – Marty and Ronda West (left photo) at the Games. Marty and Ronda report that, yes, it really was that cold! In the photo on the right, Marty poses with his father, Robert L. West. Marty's mother, Virginia, sewed both the Reiver flag and the marching banner. Marty is Society Commissioner for the Midwest USA. He authored the poem featured on page 7.



In the left photo, Ross Little poses with Tuscon Convener J.K. Litel and grandson. On the right, he's with Janet Cathy, Society Convener for the Mariposa, CA Games (April 2000).



A blast from the past. We had to include the photo on the left of the Society table at the 1998 Fresno Games. Left-to-right are Shelia, Brad, and Claire Little. Ross Little notes that this picture shows how just a few "little" things can make a "big" impression with the public at large.

Thanks to all the conveners and participants at all the Society tables throughout the country. Our Society is stronger and better because of all your work. Congratulations for a job very well done!



## Report From Scotland: The Grand Millenium Gathering

*Scotland and NA Clan Society Members From Around the World Meet in Dumfries*

DUMFRIES, SCOTLAND – A small group of members from both the Scotland and the North America Clan Little Societies met in Dumfries, Scotland over the July 7-9, 2000 weekend. Hosted by Dr. Johnnie Little, founder of the Scotland Society, the event was originally scheduled to include a guided tour, formal dinner, and information roundtable featuring ancient Clan Little genealogy. However, due to unexpected illness in the family, Dr. Johnnie reluctantly scaled back the affair to a simple tea at his home on Sunday afternoon, July 9th.



At the Sunday afternoon tea. Dr. Johnnie (far left) explains the pitfalls of Little genealogy to Jim Little of Montoursville, PA (second from left), while Peter Lytle (third from left) looks on. (Photo by C.R. Lytle)

A small group of attendees (including your Reiver Editor and son) stayed at the Crichton University College. A small dinner at the college on Friday evening let everyone relax and get to know one another. The next day, a small band of hardy adventurers went on a self-guided tour of the traditional Little Clan lands of Eskdale and Ewesdale. Printed directions with an extensive list of sights to see were provided by Dr. Johnnie. Highlights included visiting Robert The Bruce's castle (in ruins), lunching at the Reiver's Rest in Langholm (where Peter Lytle sampled the haggis), and visiting Miekledale, home of the last Clan chief. Also visited were several cemeteries with Little headstones dating back into the mid-1600's, the site of an ancient Roman fort, and several even more ancient stone circles.



There's no place like home: Miekledale, ancestral land of the Little Clan and home of Edward Little, the last Clan Chief. (Photos above & below by C.R. Lytle)

On the final day, Dr. Johnnie and his wife hosted an informal tea at his home on Fernhill outside Dumfries. Dr. Johnnie had on display his outstanding genealogical materials detailing the Littles through history from Scotland and England all the way back to Sweden in the earliest centuries of the First Millenium. Although small, it was a gathering to be remembered!



Peter Lytle standing at the tomb of Edward Little in the churchyard at Ewesdale.

## More News & Photos From the 2000 AGM in Enumclaw, WA

ENUMCLAW, WA -- Society President Richard Holt reported on the successful completion of the amending of the Articles of Incorporation. The finished work was then given to Society counsel David H. Dickey of Atlanta, GA, who then completed all ancillary legal work. The Articles will be filed with the Georgia Secretary of State after receiving the required Society Officer signatures.

Trevor Little, Commissioner for Canada, was appointed Commissioner for the Northern/Northeastern USA. Because of problems with currency conversions, Trevor was authorized to establish a Canadian bank account in the Society's name. Ross Little has noted that this area of the USA has need of conveners or others to help the Society grow and be represented at the various Scottish events.

A commendation was approved for Society Genealogist Pat Maddox and her husband Rex, both of whom have worked tirelessly to further the success of the Society.

Regular neck ties, bow ties, sashes, and other items featuring the Clan Little Society tartan are available from the quartermaster, Harry Fiske, who is listed in the "how to contact your Society officers" section on the last page.

The haggis dinner that always proceeds the Enumclaw Games was well-attended and again served to connect Society members with a touch of Old Scotland. Such events bring us all together and serve to cement the ties of common ancestry and culture that seem to be so fleeting in today's polyglot world. Thanks go out to Kevin Campbell, Richard Holt, and all the volunteers that helped to make this annual event truly memorable.



Enumclaw 2000: Richard Holt, President, and Harry Fiske, Quartermaster, pose before the Society display at the Pacific NW Highland Games. The Little tartan was very much in evidence throughout the two-day event! (Photo by Ross Little)



Annual Haggis Feed: "Whew! Boiling haggis, frying burgers, July weather." Kevin Campbell, host, at the grill.



Enumclaw 2000: Richard Holt and Society Secretary Ellen Conn with a friend. (Both photos by Don Little)

### *Tears*

By Martin A. West

They come when I'm sad,  
They come when I'm glad.  
Sometimes they come when I'm mad.  
Often you cry when you lose a Mom or Dad.  
Some even say,  
Men shouldn't cry, it's a woman's weakness in every way,  
I know by experience, it's a human trait, that it's okay,  
When a man cries, the world sighs,  
Hearing him tell his last goodbyes.  
Letting go you'll see,  
Brings you that much closer to eternal peace and tranquility.  
Tears are important to moving on in life.  
Remembering those you once knew: a friend, a loved one, or wife,  
Now the time has come, to begin again carrying the drum and fife.

**How to contact your Society Officers.** Below is a list of Society elected and appointed officers. Please feel free to contact them with questions or comments about the Society.

**President (Steuart):** Richard L. Holt, 1511 N. 18th Ave., Pasco, WA 99301. Ph: (509)542-1966. Fax: (509)542-1967.  
E-mail: clanlittle@aol.com.

**Vice President (Marischal):** Ross A. Little, 4819 S. Land Park Drive, Sacramento, CA 95822. Ph: (916)446-3909.  
Fax: (916)446-4945. E-mail: ralwcomish@aol.com

**Secretary (Secratur):** Ellen Conn, 3401 71st Ave., Gig Harbor, WA 98335. Ph: (253)265-2876. Fax: (253)265-3506.  
E-mail: eldanski@harbornet.com

**Treasurer (Mailin):** Ellen M. Little, 209 W. Durham St., Broken Arrow, OK 74011. Ph: (918)449-8541. E-mail:  
jellen@webzone.net

**Membership Chair:** Ellen Conn (see above)

**Genealogist:** Patricia Little Maddox, 7505 Range Road, Alexandria, VA. Ph: (703)765-8819

**Quartermaster:** Harry Fiske, 3263 Vineyard Ave. #1, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Ph: (925)426-0756

**Publications:** Charles R. Lytle, 2006 Conestoga Lane, West Linn, OR 97068. Ph: (503)723-8909. Fax: (503)624-2653.  
E-mail: crlytle@aol.com

**Commissioners:** **Northwest USA,** Richard Holt (see above)

**Southwest USA,** Don Lytle, 125 Beta Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506. Ph: (318)981-2308.  
E-mail: donlytle@juno.com

**Western USA,** Ross Little (see above)

**Midwest USA,** Martin A. West, 203 S. 8th St., Marysville, KS 66508. Ph: (785)562-3325

**Southeast USA,** T. Michael Little, 128 Rogers Lane, Chutta, GA 30710. Ph: (706)226-0020.

Fax: (706)694-5777. E-mail: tmike@alltel.net

**Canada & Northeast USA,** Trevor Little, 529 Fallingbrook Dr., Waterloo, ON N2L 4N2, Canada.  
Ph: (519)884-8275. E-mail: nacoah@golden.net

## The Reiver

Ellen Conn

Clan Little Society NA

3401 71st Avenue NW

Gig Harbor, WA 98335-6434

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
DO NOT FORWARD**