



The Border Reiver

## FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

" **Clarence H. Little D.V.M., 09/26/2007**

Clarence H. Little, Jr., DVM of Easton, MD died on Wednesday, September 26, 2007 at Memorial Hospital at Easton. He was 82.



Born July 2, 1925 in Baltimore, MD, he was the son of the late Clarence Hepburn, Sr. and Myrtle May Hill Little. He was a 1943 graduate of Hyattsville High School. From 1943 -1946 he served in the U. S. Navy 1st Beach Battalion. in the European-African Middle East Cam-

paign and the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre. After his release from active duty, he attended the University of Maryland, College Park from 1946-50. He then became the brood mare manager for Rosecroft Farms and Raceway. From 1955-1959 he attended the University of Georgia at Athens where he was Chief Judge of the Honor Corps. After graduation he and partner Henry Virts, DVM co-founded the Tidewater Veterinary Hospital where he remained until 1986.

His wife, the former Jeanne Hahner, whom he married in 1951, died August 17, 1994.

Dr. Little served on the board of Rosecroft Raceway, was member and past President of the Maryland Veterinary Association, Associate Professor at VPI School of Veterinary Medicine, member and past President of Mulligan's Group, a member of Clan Little Societies in North America, Scotland and Worldwide, a member of the St. Andrew's Society of the Eastern Shore.

Dr. Little is survived by one daughter, Alice Bowie Little-Downs, her husband Charles and their children, Ian Charles and McKenna Alyse of Chesapeake Beach, MD; a son, Mason Hepburn Little, his wife Tamara and their daughter, Virginia Jeanne of East New Market, MD; and a sister-in-law, Helen Little of Spring Hill, FL. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Ellice MacDonald Pipe & Drum Corps, c/o the St. Andrews Society of the Eastern Shore, PO Box 1364, Easton, MD 21601-1364. Beannachd Dia dhuit!

## Border Reiver Trail Opens in Scotland

As you all know the Clan Little Society has adopted the Border Reiver statue at Galishiels Scotland as its symbol. The Scottish Borderland has a violent history which is chronicled in several good books on the subject, but until recently, the history of Scotland seemed to ignore this important part of the turbulent past.

Well, no more, for the first Border Reiver Trail has been opened on the border of Scotland and includes eight ancient sites in Dumfries and Galloway as well as many others on the borders. Some of the others include a haunting castle and a brooding tower. The trail has been established by Armstrongs, Elliots and other border clans.

### Reiving

The borderlands of today are peaceful, but 500 years ago, thundering hooves and clashes of steel echoed through the land, as 'reivers' plundered through the night. Nighttime was a time of raids between Scotland and England from the 15<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. A constant state of war between these neighboring countries had made the area an undeclared battleground. The borderlands on both sides had been divided into the West March, the Middle March and the East March, but the area was almost totally without laws, so inhabitants took to raiding or *reiving* which means to steal. One could trust only close family. Murder, feuding and stealing were a way of life. Sometimes at a christening a child's hand would be left out of the service, so that when he grew up he could smite 'unhallowed blows on his enemies'.

### Nowhere Else

The reivers were named Armstrong, Beattie, Bell, Crosier, Douglas, Elliot, Graham, Hepburn, Irvine, Jardine, Johnstone, Kerr, Little, Maxwell, Moffat, Nixon, Oliver, Rutherford, Scott, Turnbull. This lawlessness occurred nowhere else in Europe on such a scale.

*'Are there any Christians to be found? No, we are only Armstrongs and Elliots!'*

### 3000 Armstrongs

The Armstrongs were the largest clan having over 3000 men at one time. It is claimed that they did more damage by raids into England than any other two Scottish families combined. To complicate matters, the king liked having these lawless men on the on their borders as long as they fought for him, but when the clans became too strong the crown worried. The Littles, for example, fought for the king, but he later became so afraid of this 'unruly clan' that he had most of the male Littles hung.

### Langholm to Newcastleton

The Reiver trail which runs between Newcastleton and Langholm depicts the turbulent history of those times. It links the Clan Armstrong Trust Museum in Langholm, to the Liddesdale Heritage Centre in Newcastleton. Some of the highlights of the trail are family stories, full scale battles, a brooding peel tower, a hermitage castle, the river crossing where prisoners were exchanged, an ancient cross commemorating a clan chief and the kirkyard where an Armstrong Laird is buried.

*'But war's the borderer's game, their glory, their delight. To sleep the day, maraud the night....'*

### Border History

Broadcaster Fiona Armstrong from the Clan Armstrong Trust said: 'Much has been made of the Highlands—and rightly so—but the borderland's role in Scottish history is often forgotten. Without the reivers, the story of this great nation could be very different—and who knows where the border might be today? This is a big step for roots tourism in Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders. We are delighted the Trail has been professionally produced by local volunteers and we hope to extend it—to Hawick and Jedburgh in the north, to Gretna and Annan in the west—and also down into England, to Longtown and Carlisle'.

The opening of the The Border Reiver Trail took place in August at Hermitage Castle with horses and reiver reenactments as a dramatic backdrop. Hermitage was once known as the 'guardhouse to the bloodiest valley in Britain'. The Elliot clan chief Margaret Elliott of Redheugh, performed the official opening. Many clans from the Scottish side were in attendance.

You can find out more by logging on to [www.thereivertrail.com](http://www.thereivertrail.com).

### TENNESSEE HIGHLAND FESTIVAL

*By Bud Little*

We arrived at the site of the 2007 Tennessee Highland Festival Friday afternoon in plenty of time to set up the table & chairs, stack our materials on the table, and cover it securely for overnight. The location was at a large open field next to the Kittrell Fire Department several miles outside Murfreesboro (founded by Scotsman Capt. William Lytle. The tent was large and included an 8 foot table and 4 chairs--more than we expected! That evening we enjoyed a "Meet & Greet" which was provided by the Heart of Tennessee folks. Punch & cake were available, as well as outstanding music sets by Alex Beaton, founder and President of Glenfinnan Music who recently moved to the Nashville area, and by "Secret Commonwealth," an amazingly talented group of five local instrumentalists and vocalists. Between the sets and after them the hosts gave away an astounding collection of door prizes. I was lucky enough to win the final draw and brought home a bottle of Select Auchentoshan triple distilled Lowland Single Malt Scotch Whisky. That will indeed be tasted on a very special occasion!



The Festival itself was a one-day event, plus a Kirkin' o' the Tartans that would be held at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church the morning after. The day was hot, but there was a fair breeze. About 40 clans were represented, Clan Barclay (one of my Scottish connections) being the Honored Clan. There were no athletic games scheduled, but many other fun events, dancing competitions, sheep herding, seminars, battle axe throwing, haggis hurl, bonniest knees contests, and, of course, the Parade of the Tartans and Welcoming Ceremony. Parading with June and me were Society officers Jim & Pat Little of Thomasville NC. What a big help they were for this novice couple!

Throughout the day we had several opportunities to speak with inquirers about their possible Little connections or their interest in searching for their Scottish connections. As this was our first time to host a tent, we were a bit anxious about the details. The experience, however, has been a positive one and we look forward to finding further opportunities to spread the Little word at the Scottish gatherings in our area.

Clayton "Bud" Little

### **CAPTAIN WILLIAM LYTLE FOUNDER of MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE**

On a trip in 2005 to Tulsa, the editors of this newsletter stopped at Murfreesboro, TN. The land for that city was donated by Capt. William Lytle, late of Hillsborough, NC, on condition that the town be named for a Revolutionary war friend of his Hardee Murfree. And so it was done. The grave of Capt. Lytle was located but it was in very poor condition--gravestones broken, weeds covering everything and litter everywhere. And so a mini-campaign was begun to get it fixed. First the mayor and city council were contacted, but they deferred to the Tennessee Historical Commission which did not reply to letters. Finally a representative of the Tennessee Highland Festival was notified.



On our trip this year we revisited the site and a lot of improvements had been made. Repairs had been made to the markers. Given the condition of some of them, they did the best they could. The area was neat and, though grass was high, it had been mowed regularly.

In 2011, Murfreesboro will celebrate their bicentennial with its patron suitably honored. This just shows how a little effort can make a big difference. *Ed.*

### **WHO'S WHO IN CLAN LITTLE SOCIETY**

#### **Don Little**

(Don is the webmaster for CLSNA)

I was born in Fort William, Ontario, Canada. The cities of Fort William and Port Arthur were amalgamated about 30 years ago and are now called Thunder Bay.

When I was about 2 years old my father rejoined the Navy and we were sent out west to Victoria, British

Columbia. At the age of 17, I joined the Canadian Navy as a Marine Engineer and made a career of it. I enjoyed my naval life and the many foreign ports it took me to. I retired 27 years later in 1990 at the rank of Chief Petty Officer (equivalent to USN Senior Chief - E8).

By the time my second retirement came along in 2005 I had a very fulfilling second career in the computer industry as a Computer Systems Administrator and a Network Specialist.

I am currently living in Enderby, BC. Both my wife (Heather) and I have had previous marriages. I have two sons and one daughter. Heather has three sons and one daughter. Giving us a total of 7 children and 13 grandchildren ages 3 – 21. (Number 14 is due in early 2008). None of our children live close to us. They are spread out all over Canada; from Fredericton, New Brunswick to Victoria, BC. We now spend most of our time traveling across Canada (and the US too) to visit them. We try to visit all of them at least once a year.

In 2000 I saw an advertisement on local TV about a Clan Gathering in Enumclaw, Washington. As luck would have it that was about the time I was taking holidays



and I made the decision to go and check it out. When I got there I was pleasantly surprised to find a booth for the Clan Little. This is where I met Ken Little, Richard Holt, Kevin Campbell, Ellen Conn and many more whose names I have since forgotten. Somewhere along the line during my second visit to the Gathering I got involved and volunteered (?) my services to put together a Clan Little web site and from there is where it all began. With many emails and support of encouragement from Ross Little we finally got the web site online and it has eventually evolved into what it is today.

I will be making some more updated changes to our web site in the near future. I haven't had any photo submitted to me for years now and I would like it if more people could email me photos of their Clan Gatherings. If anyone would like to send me info on their upcoming events (CLSNA related only) I will put them in the "News" section on our site.

*Biographies for this column are welcome from CLSNA members. Ed.*



## From the Stuart....

Well, summer has come and has gone. We had just started the Clan Games and Gatherings and now they are finished here close to home. There are several new Games that we will be attending next year and one will be the Kansas City Games in June. We have been invited to several new locations so that we can be more involved with the Games and Gatherings through out the year.

We have several new people who are joining from our location so our time this year was well spent.

Please help me in welcoming Leroy Little of Maine and his family to our Clan Little Family. They are also going to become Conveners in their area. Hopefully we can start adding the schedules for each Con- vener in our winter news letters to let everyone know where they can attend and meet the Little's.

We are still unable to offer a scholarship this year be- cause we need a few more dollars. I know asking for money is not a favorite topic for most Little's, howev- er, we are wanting to benefit our own members and their immediate family by offering a scholarship to encourage the education of dance, genealogy, music or other educational Scottish classes. Remember, any donation is tax deductible.

Until next time.

Aye,

John E Little-Stuart

### Welcome to new members for the past year:

Joan Eileen Cox,	Kuna, ID;
Harold E. Hansen,	Hartford, WI;
Barbara Helwick,	Casper, WY;
Jakob A. Kleparek,	Everett, WA;
Kyle & Konnie Kleparek,	Anacortes, WA;
Nancy L. Kral,	San Diego, CA;
Ruth Larson,	Bloomington, MN
Robert and Sharon Little,	Lovelock, NV;
Leroy D. Little,	Bath, ME;
Murray R. Little,	Portland, OR;
Janice and David Millford,	Bloomington, MN;
Lenore L. Tanke,	Glendale, AZ;
Joseph Tuzzio,	East Troy, WI;
Christine E. Walsh,	New Britain, CT;
Joyce L. Workman,	Marion, IN;
Pamela and Gregory Zangl,	Germantown, WI.

### **New Commissioner**

Clayton "Bud" Little has been appointed Commis- sioner of the newly aligned Tennessee/Kentucky Re- gion of Clan Little Society NA

## Dundee Cake

*For weddings, christenings and Christmas*

2 cups seedless raisin, small  
½ cup mixed dried fruit peel  
2 cups dried currants  
¾ cup butter  
¾ cup sugar  
4 small eggs  
2 cups flour, divided  
1 tbsp ground almonds  
½ cup candied cherries  
Juice ½ lemon  
Grated rind of ½ lemon  
Pinch of salt  
1 tsp baking powder  
1 tbsp brandy  
2 tbsp slivered, blanched almonds  
2 tbsp milk, boiled with 1 tbsp sugar

Several hours before starting the cake, put the dried fruit and peel in a covered casserole dish in a slow oven for 20 minutes. Remove from oven and stir occasionally. Stir in ground almonds. The fruit and peel should be completely cooled before using. Cream the butter and sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, alternating with flour and beating con- tinuously. Stir in ground almonds, dried fruits, peel, cherries, and lemon juice and rind, with a pinch of salt. Mix the rest of the flour with the baking powder and blend into the mixture. Stir in the brandy. Pour into round cake tin, cover with foil and bake at 300° for about 2 ½ hours. Half- way through the baking time, remove the foil and scatter the top with slivered almonds. Test with a skewer for doneness, and 5 minutes before re- moving from oven, brush the top with milk boiled with 1 tsp of sugar. Return to the oven to finish baking. Do not remove the cake from the tin until it is cold.

### **DENNIS THE LITTLE**

(Thanks to Edward Little, CLSNA, from Los Alamos, NM, for this article)

In the sixth century, there lived in Rome an abbot and mathematician called Dennis the Little. The walls of the city had been broken down and the city itself was largely in shambles. The last boy emperor, Ro- mulus Augustus had been ousted. Across the Tiber River from Rome was a place called St. Peters, where Dennis spent his time organizing church writings and tinkering with time.

Christians at the time were concerned about when to celebrate Easter. Therefore, Pope John I, in the

year 525, asked Dennis to calculate the dates on which future Easters should be celebrated. After studying the positions of the sun and the moon, Dennis created a chart for upcoming Easters beginning in the year 532. Roman citizens considered that year to be either 1285, based on the founding of Rome, or 248, based on the first year of the reign of Emperor Diocletian, who persecuted the Christians.

Dennis thought it more appropriate to start his calendar on the birth date of Jesus Christ. He said that he "...preferred to count and denote the years from the incarnation of our Lord, in order to make the foundation of our hope better known." Therefore, Dennis the Little's new charts began with anno Domini Jesu Christi DXXXII, the year of our Lord Jesus Christ 532, A.D. 532 for short.

Another Pope, Pope Gregory XIII, gave his name to our present calendar by revising it slightly in 1582. So, today we use the Gregorian calendar. Some nations adopted the Gregorian calendar right away, but some did not. As time went by, more nations adopted the new calendar. When Mao Tse-tung came to power in the 1949, he adopted it for China. The new calendar, is now used by some six billion people.

Sources: CALENDAR, by David Ewing Duncan, Smithsonian magazine, Feb. 1999; Microsoft Encarta 97 Encyclopedia; and Newspapers.

### James Kleparek - Clan Quartermaster

*Last year James had some serious health problems so the editor wrote and received this reply. I hope James won't mind it being shared with the clan. Ed.*

You asked about my health. Well, I am doing quite well, actually. As of August 17, I have been back to work albeit having to take some days off for cancer treatment since then. I no longer take chemo pills and the doctors said that radiation is not helping to curtail my type of cancer. What



they started to do now is chemotherapy. I go in about every three weeks to receive an all day session of chemical injections. It puts me down for three or four days and then I seem to be okay for another three weeks. Otherwise, all seems to be okay. I hope all is well with you folks and within the clan.

(Continued)

Thank you for your help and encouragement. We had a great year at the Highland events in our area, the last one being in Kelso, Washington the second week end of September. Oh! Lois wanted me to mention to you about my voice. The cancer in my brain has not returned and they say everything is okay there. However, the spots in my lungs have expanded a little. It has affected the larynx nerve in my throat and caused my left vocal cord to be paralyzed. As a result when I talk I talk with a hoarse throat. It has not caused me any physical problems, but I have a hard time communicating with my voice. But I can still type.

*We continue to remember James in our prayers and wish him a speedy recovery. Ed.*

### Falconry and Falconry History

Falconry is defined as the art and sport of hunting wildlife with a trained raptor. From the falconer's viewpoint, the "raptor" may be a hawk, falcon, eagle, or even an owl. "Hawk" is the general term used to describe the trained raptor.

Falconry has a long and distinguished history. Many historians suggest falconry began in ancient China others believe it started in the Middle East. Both agree the origins trace to 4000 years ago, although this debate continues. Some documents credit the Mongolians as the originators of Falconry. Art precedes most written history. Falconry in the Arab countries traditionally (and to this day) allows for the trapping and training of birds on fall migration from Asia into Africa. They use these birds for a few months and then release their birds in the spring as the wild birds return. This tradition of releasing falconry birds after a season of hunting has been carried out by practically all Arabic falconers for thousands of years. Few falconers kept birds through the molting season (spring/summer), because of the very high maintenance involved when the birds were not securing their own food. In addition, the Arab countries have sparse game and difficult to traverse habitat. History tends to support that falconry began in Asia but evolved to Arabia through camel caravan contact with the Far East (through the trade routes) known as the "Silk Road". Spices, Silk, trade goods, and Falconry were traded for African slaves and products of the Egyptian/African regions and Falconry seemed to have evolved into popularity in the Middle East by about 1700 BC. (Continued next page)

Roman contact with the Egyptians, Arabic peoples, and Holy lands, spread falconry into Western Europe, while others believe it originated with the Khans through Russia. By whatever route, falconry became a pursuit and 'status symbol' of all social classes.

Falconry's history in Western Europe was in full swing by 525 AD and falconry is depicted in several scenes of the Bayeux Tapestry (11th Century). According to your rank in society, you were allowed to have only certain species of hawks and falcons, and were allowed to hunt only certain game. The "code" in Europe

went something like: An Eagle for an Emperor, White Gyr for a King, Peregrine for a Queen or Duke, Goshawk for yeoman, Merlin for a Lady, the Spar (Eurasian Sparrow Hawk) for a priest, Kestrel for an Altar boy. Severe penalties were enforced anyone disturbing the kings or landlord's hawks or falcons in their nests, or eggs, or the game animals they hunted. One penalty for falcon theft was that one square inch of flesh be the chest of the accused and fed to the falcon. A second offense meant death.

How has falconry affected history? To gain a perspective of influence on our history, it might be best to look at the other way: How has it NOT affected it? When Richard the Lionhearted (1157-1199) was captured during the Crusades (11th through 13th centuries), part of the payment required for his return were two white gyr falcons from the north. Gold would not suffice. . . only white. What if they had NOT been available? King Henry VIII was hawking one day as a youth. We always picture him as a fat, older man, but he did have his younger, fit years. It is reported Henry was vaulting over a water-filled ditch, pursuing one of his falcons, when his vaulting pole broke, and he nearly drowned. His royal falconer, Robert Cheseman, rescued him. Wonder of how different our history would be, had Henry drowned that day. Henry's sister, Mary Tudor, was an enthusiastic falconer. When Mary, Queen of Scots was imprisoned in the Tower of London, she was allowed to fly a Merlin Falcon from the window for a tiny amount of daily recreation. Queen Elizabeth I was an enthusiastic field sportswoman, hawking, shooting, archery and the like. She contended that the physical exertion of field sports was good for one's health. The royal falconer is one of many British titles that, to this day, remain within the English monarchy. Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh, is considered the Royal Falconer of England (among other titles). If you read Shakespeare, you will find many references to falconry throughout his writ-

ings. Some so specific to the sport, that you will need a falconer to interpret "to what" the bard is referring. Falconry was practiced by all aristocracy of Western Europe. The passion that some members of the ruling classes had for the sport sometimes resulted in neglected official duties and even abandonment during war, of key battles, to go "hawking." Hawks accompanied their falconers to all social events. This practice was considered excellent "manning" (taming) of the hawk to human activity and of course the raptor sitting on the glove was an excellent fashion accessory. Birds of prey were used as payment for rent, exchanged as diplomatic gifts, and used as barter for negotiating treaties.

Falconry was so popular that to this day we have expressions whose origins are found in the sport. One well known expression ("An old hag") describes a stubborn and cantankerous old woman. A haggard hawk is one that has been taken from the wild after it has reached its adult or "haggard" plumage, usually after a year of age. At this stage of development, a raptor is considered stubborn and set in its ways, and thus are called "stubborn old haggard". The male counterpart to this expression is the "old codger" or younger mans descriptive, "cad." These terms root from the word "cadger," the man in the field who carried the hawks on a platform called a "cadge." The cadge is like a square table frame without the top (or an empty picture frame held horizontally), in the middle of which the cadger stands, carrying the frame from straps to his shoulders (like suspenders), and the birds perch along all four sides of the square. The frame had legs at the corners and could be set down when the hunting party stopped to fly hunt. In old England, the cadger or codger actually represented one or the other of two individuals. Either a younger man hanging around the higher classes who would often be mooching drinks and favors from the hawking party (this led to cadger/cad); or an older man who could not keep up with the hunt, but could keep watch over the not-yet flown hawks (codger). In time, the younger man became someone of ill repute, while the older one, a "duffer" type of individual. Cadger (who handed the falcon to the noble on horseback) was not only the root word for Cad but also was the root for "Caddy" (used in golf - a person who hands a golfer his golf club). Another modern expression is "fed up to here". mph dive a falcon makes in pursuit of her quarry. The higher the falcon flies and higher the origin of the stoop, the more desired or stylish it is (also a more effective hunting strategy). A low stoop is considered poor falconry form. So a low stoop

has come to describe an unethical person or action, i.e. "How could you stoop so low"? 'Hobby' today describes a part time activity. Hobby is also a species of falcon in Europe (although a rare species in the wild today). A beautiful and colorful bird which flies well but, not a species considered a serious 'Shunting' hawk. Falconers who flew 'Hobbies' were not considered serious game hawkers. So, the expression, "you've taken up a hobby" has come to mean the casual pursuit of an interest.

There are both old and new texts on the subject of falconry. Probably the most epic was De Arte Venade Cum Avibus (The Art of Falconry) written by Frederick II of Hohenstafen in 1266. If you ever get to see the original, you will see it is a magnificent work. This Holy Roman Emperor is most famous for his castles. Nevertheless, his greatest love was falconry. He wrote this monumental five volume treatise which he considered his life's work, and took about 30 years to complete. A replica of the Vatican copy resides at the Archives of Falconry, located at the Peregrine Fund in Boise, Idaho, and you can also find and purchase an English translation by Wood & Fyfe for about \$100.00. This epic work contains knowledge that falconers use to this day in training their birds. Frederick's classification of animals initiated the science of taxonomy, and established that which we consider the modern scientific method. Frederick II was a true Renaissance man, one of many diverse talents and wide expertise, living hundreds of years before the renaissance. Anyone who reads 19th Century and earlier falconry

books will read of the Mollen family of Valkenswald, Holland (Dutch for "Falcon woods"). The Valkenswald is a major European migratory region for hawks and falcons. The Mollens supplied "passage" (migrating) hawks and falcons to the known world, as well as being manufacturers of fine falconry equipment and furniture up until World War I. Visitors to that part of Holland will find a small museum dedicated the Mollen family.

The practice of falconry was often considered good character training for the youth and future leaders of the upper and ruling classes of medieval society. This assumption was based on the fact that the falcon knows no rank -- she will only respond to courtesy, kindness, and just rewards. Otherwise, she simply flies away. The great Czars of Russia were enthusiastic falconers, exchanging gifts of falcons (Saker falcons and Scandinavian Gyrfalcons) with western monarchs. The Czars may have been one of the significant links through which falconry traveled into Western Europe. Both Genghis Khan and his grandson Kublai Khan had invaded Russia and had used falcons to feed their armies. Alexander the Great was also reputed to have used falconry this way. All the Roman Caesars used falconry and are credited with having brought both Falconry (and the Bagpipes) into Scotland in about 525AD.

(Thanks for permission to print this article to George Bristol, Chairman, Birds of Prey Caledonian Club of San Francisco, [www.beebusters@hotmail.com](mailto:www.beebusters@hotmail.com).)

since this will be our last issue before the holidays, we want to wish each of our society members a safe and happy holiday season.

*Happy Thanksgiving*

*Merry Christmas*

**HAPPY HANNAKUH**