



Clan Little Society NA, Ltd.
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REIVER

Summer 2015

FROM THE STEUART-THOMAS LITTLE

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STEUART REPORT

I am Thomas Little, Steuart for Clan Little Society of North America. My address is in Texas but my wife and I live in an RV and we are traveling about the United States and Canada. I was elected Steuart in 2011. At that time I had three very specific goals for our organization.

- 1> Improve communications and promote membership in our organization
- 2> Tie the Little DNA project to the vast Genealogy library held by Clan Little Society

3> Strengthen our ties with the Clan Little Society WorldWide in the UK

MEMBERSHIP We find that time often gets away from us. As an all volunteer executive team we are all busy with our everyday lives as well as family and various hobbies. It has exceeded our time frames in producing our newsletters and we will strive to keep on schedule. It doesn't mean that the Society and some of it's members haven't been busy. Highland Games, tartan day events and other shows, festivals and recognitions have keep many of our members active.

The CLSNA 501-C-7 tax exempt status remains in place. We are a non-profit, tax exempt membership organization, organized under the IRS statutes domiciled in the State of Georgia. It means that as long as we provide services to our members, we do not have to pay any taxes. Consequently our merchandise and services are reserved for members. The dues you pay to Clan Little are not tax deductible.

CLSNA is now the Admin for a FaceBook Group page, which is a closed group. You must request membership to join the group and we don't let just anyone into the group. You need to have ties to being a Little or some related interest. As of today, we just broke the 500 member mark. Within that group are members from all over the world. All you have to do is post a question or comment, and someone will surely reply or help you. All we ask is that your post is relevant to the group and that you be kind and respectful to one another.

DNA PROJECT Our Genealogist, David Lyttle took leave to do some construction work in Virginia on family land. Hugh Little has taken over as Genealogist. Hugh and David has administrator ties to the Little DNA project. Hugh and David keeps an eye on our Facebook group and offers insights to family connections when inquired. Please log into our website and check out the tab titled, "GENEALOGY". It requires your password as a member to be able to view and read through many Ancestral Charts submitted by members. David spent many hours reviewing these charts and converting them to PDF for our members use in looking up family history.

CLSWW and the UK

For whatever the reason in 2013 the leadership of the home clan in Scotland resigned and no one stepped forward to assume the duties of running the organization. After about a year, the organization ceased to func-

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A Very Special Flowers of the Forest

By Cindy Flora



Vaughn McAlister in 2013 with a replica sword from the McAlister Clan in the 1600s. The original, which he owned until his death, is in a local museum. Stuart Flora behind him. Both are descendants of Littles.

[Preface: Vaughn McAlister was a very good friend of the editor. In 2013, he was diagnosed with a heart disease so advanced that he was told to get his affairs in order. Despite that, he lived for over a year, attending games and other events for his clan and for Triad Highland Games. Last year, his long battle was over. His daughter, Heather, was overwhelmed at the outpouring of love from family and friends. Stuart Flora, president of Clan McAlister in America, was his cousin compatriot in all things Scottish. Stuart's wife, Cindy, is the director of games for Triad Highland Games. Although we have had Flowers of the Forest in these pages before, the story we were told was so compelling and so historically interesting that I asked Cindy for a short article about it. What I got is a tribute worthy of Vaughn and history lesson for all of us. Having been a teacher, Vaughn would have loved that. This is of particular interest to English (Carlisle) Littles.]

On Saturday the 13th of June; Heather McAlister, Mark Patterson, Steve Dillon, Stewart Flora, and I went to the family farm in Anson County with Vaughn McAlister's ashes. The farm is the McAlister – Little Farm and has been in the family since right after the civil war when it was purchased to help support the home plantation “Carlisle”, named for Carlisle England, just across the Tweed from the lowlands and Thomas Little's home place.

When the farm was purchased the Littles owned land from the home plantation on the north side of the Pee Dee river all the way to the river, then west to Smith Ferry road and across the river again to the new farm of 1600 acres. Over the years the decedents of Benjamin Franklin Little divided and handed down the properties on both sides of the river until by 1930 there were distant cousins that owned 1/240th of the properties. Lacy Little McAlister took it upon himself to purchase all the land back from his cousins. It took him over 20 years to reach them all and in the meantime he had to keep the land working and supporting itself.

After reuniting the plantation site into one property he gave it to his cousin Rufus Little with the understanding that it could never again be fragmented, it could only be passed to a single member of the family but enjoyed by all. Rufus was a college professor and never married, he passed it to his nephew who at his death asked that it be sold as he could not choose one child over the other. His children did not want

the property, felt no real connection to it, and sold it in 2007 to a long time friend of Uncle Lacy's, Rett Davis.

Earlier the plantation had fallen into disrepair, and because no one was living there, transients burned the house to the ground in the sixties. The land around the plantation had shrunk to 600 acres. This was still being timbered and farmed. By the time it sold in 2007 it was only 65 acres.

“The Farm” across the river was broken into 5 or 6 tenant farms. It, too, had a timber program and was farmed for tobacco and sweet potatoes. Sweet potatoes were the justification for the tobacco barns as they could be used to store the potatoes as well. It was the production of sweet potatoes that saved the farm during the depression and made it viable.

Uncle Lacy incorporated it in the late 1960's and gave the shares to each of his McAlister niece's and nephew's and their children. The farm by then was farmed commercially by one farming corporation, and timbered by one timber broker. The timber is cut every year, for high or low prices, fire lanes are maintained and the 1600 acres has never been broken up. It is truly a heritage farm in the family now for 165 years.

Growing up all the children of the family learned to hunt and fish on the farm, which has several ponds, and abundant wildlife. There are hardwoods, and pine woods, natural grasses that grow under the pines, birds of every species; some places at the farm are simply the most beautiful place you can hope to be.

As we went about our duty of burying Vaughn's ashes, we thought of all his favorite places. We started at the Lewis field, named for a long ago tenant farmer. Vaughn's father had planted long leaf pines here 40 years ago and we know it will be 60 years before these are ever cut. Vaughn had told me that if he could build a house at the farm it would be in that grove of trees so we set about finding a shady spot and moved aside 12 inches deep of needles. We had gathered stones to make a cairn to mark the spot and brought the McAlister Quaich to toast him on his way. Stewart read a nice selection from *Outward Bound* about being in touch with nature.

As we left there Stewart picked up a stone from the Lewis field and we went to the Tony Field where Heather felt closest to her father. In the edge of the woods again we dug, spread, read, toasted, and drizzled the remains of Bourbon (Vaughn's drink of choice) over the stones. We pulled a large stone from the Tony field tree line in the shade of the oak where we made the Cairn and went on to the clearing in the new grounds.

The new grounds are so called because 60 years ago someone cleared them for agriculture instead of timber. ("New" is a relative term in this family.) We drove through the field of newly planted Soy beans, then through the woods, and up into the recently timbered clearing on a knoll where everyone in the family has come for the last year to look for arrowheads. This is where Steve and Mark have memories of Vaughn bringing them to look for arrowheads as well. The ground had just been turned and a feed plot planted. We found our way to the edge of the feed plot to a large stump, along the way we found a perfect Guilford point arrowhead and a half a spear point. It seemed fitting that we should add these to his Cairn so we did. Again we spread, built, read, told stories, and toasted Vaughn with the very drink he could not have in life. Stewart found a rock to take to the next locations, as he had with all locations. Each site had a rock from the one before.

We left the New Grounds and went to the New Pond which is 40 years old. There we built a Cairn at the base of a pine tree overlooking the water where we all have fished many times. Where Vaughn taught the younger cousins to fish, watched the Osprey that strayed inward from the coast, and where he and Stewart put up duck boxes. From the new pond we went to the duck impoundment, Vaughn loved to hunt water fowl. He and Stewart had built a duck blind that sat at one end that everyone coveted and was used by all unless there was hunting going on. This time of year the Duck Impoundment is drained for planting so we walked out on the middle and found a beautiful shady spot in the trees that would never be disturbed, flooded yes, but disturbed no. We again went through our ritual of dig, spread, build the cairn, read, toast, and drizzle.

Lastly we went to the house, and by now we had circumnavigated the farm, hot and maybe a little tipsy. At the house we chose a mid-sized mossy oak tree that Vaughn's father had planted about 25 years ago. It will not be cut down and it is where everyone sits to clean dove or shoot in the winter into the empty field. It is a lovely spot. So we built our last Cairn at the base of the Mossy oak tree and said our last good.

All of this was for Heather, and for us. We know Vaughn is just fine where he is, but we miss him and want to know that in a physical way he is tied to the land he loved. Each of us know we will visit one or more of these cairns and put additional rocks on them in the future.



Cindy Flora, front, carries the McAlister banner in a Scottish parade of tartans. Stuart Flora, left, and Vaughn McAlister, right, are cousins, descendants of Thomas Little of Richmond County, NC.



FLOWERS OF THE FOREST-KENNETH LITTLE



[Kenneth and Iris Little were long time members of Clan Little Society NA. He resided in Hoquiam, WA, near Aberdeen. Ed.]

Kenneth W. Little, age 87, died peacefully at Pacific Care Center in Hoquiam on Monday November 10th 2014.

Born August 31st 1927 in Spokane, WA to William & Marguerite, he went to grade school in Spokane. The family moved to Seattle and Ken graduated from Roosevelt High School in Seattle before enlisting in the Army. When asked about his time in the military Ken would dryly respond: that his years of service amounted to being a “bed pan commando & manning a typewriter stateside” unlike his brother who had ‘fought on a battleship in the pacific’. After discharge from the Army he took advantage of the GI Bill and received his Bachelors Degree from Pacific University in Forest Grove, OR.

Ken played on the University Tennis team and zealously engaged in campus fraternal traditions. His future wife Iris’s interests during that time were her music studies, and Ken. Following graduation from Pacific he headed to Alaska for the summer in order to earn the money that would allow him to continue his studies in the social services. Iris saw that Ken’s graduation could likely mean a parting of the ways and not content to let the moment slip by she reached out to him in the north country by sending him a tie she had lovingly knit and enclosed a note that said “this is the tie that binds, and you can take that any way you want’. Ken and Iris were wed on June 8, 1952. The newlyweds headed to Chicago so that Ken could continue to pursue his studies receiving a Masters degree from George Williams College in Group Work Administration.

His education led him to a career with the YMCA, which was always a part of his life, and eventually brought him to Grays Harbor where he was Executive Director of the Aberdeen YMCA from 1967 to 1972. After his years at the “Y” he became a Mental Health Professional with Evergreen Counseling Center until his retirement.

Ken enjoyed Sailing, Tennis and most of all Bridge achieving the rank of “Gold Life Master”. Interested in his Scottish heritage he was a member of the “Clan Little Society” He had been a member of the Lions and Rotary International. He also volunteered in the building of the Lady Washington.

Survivors include his wife Iris a younger brother Frank Little of Seattle, 2 sons Don (Diane) and Brian (Julie) of Aberdeen. Ken was preceded in death by his daughter Kathy Howard of Spokane, Great Grandson Porter Rudd and older brother Bob Little. He had four grandchildren Becky Rudd (Mike), Darcie Dingman (Andy) of Spokane, Dana York (Mike) from Olympia and Drew Little (Sarah) of Aberdeen and four Great Grandchildren Joey Dingman, Emily & Tyler Rudd & Kaitlyn York.

A Celebration of Life was held at 1:00 in the afternoon Saturday November 29th 2014 at the Aberdeen Elks Lodge, 1712 South Boone Street.

In Lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to:

YMCA of Grays Harbor - 2500 Simpson Avenue - Hoquiam, Washington 98550

Grays Harbor Historical Seaport - PO Box 2019, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Gallabrae

The Scottish games and festival held annually near Greenville, SC, on the campus of Furman University has become one of the premiere events for clans and clan families even though it is only ten years old. From start to finish, this event, called Gallabrae, is first class all the way. On Friday evening a parade is held through downtown Greenville attended by thousands of onlookers and hundreds of marchers in their Scottish regalia, accompanied by the sound of bagpipe and drum. Clan Little Society was represented in the parade by Thomas Little, Steuart, Patrick Little, marischal, Jim Little, secrateur, and Tom Little, member from Pennsylvania. In addition there were ladies in the crowd to cheer us on.



The four of us were located right behind the grand marshal, Jim Webb, a former United States Senator from Virginia who recently declared his candidacy for president. (See accompanying article elsewhere in this issue.) It was an easy walk along tree lined streets and beautiful scenery, on a gorgeous afternoon in the South.



An hour later we found ourselves at the reception for all clans where we had a wonderful meal and stuffed ourselves too much. Some of us thought we would just check in for a few minutes and have a snack, but the evening was going so well that time flew and we stayed for the entire event. Senator Webb was the keynote speaker and gave us an interesting perspective of Scots-Irish pioneers in America. Later, prizes were announced, and folks, Clan Little Society won "Best in Show" for

our appearance in the parade just a couple of hours earlier. We don't know why we won, it might have been our steuart's knobby knees, but we accepted with gratitude.

Earlier on Friday afternoon we had already located our tents on the practice field at Furman, a prime location, so it was a simple matter to finish setting up on Saturday morning. The only thing that didn't feel Scottish was the weather--it was perfect--not too hot or chilly and the sun shone the entire day.

It seemed like the whole Scottish world was there. Somewhere there was a British car

show and there were multiple events all around. Right in front of us the heavy athletic games were under way which kept our interest piqued. The announcer was humorous and informative. He had to have been worn out by day's end.



Bud, Thomas, Tom, Patrick, Jim, June & Pat before the reception. (Bud and June have been to all the BGMs for CL-SNA)



The parade of tartans which began at 1:00 found the Littles right behind the lead elements since we had won best in show the day before. Friends, I tell you, that when the loudspeakers blared the name of Clan Little Society NA, best in show, our hearts swelled and our pace became exacting. Our banner flew in front of all of the other clans--McDonalds, Davidsons, McIntoshes, Youngs, Wallaces, and all of the others. It doesn't get any better than that.

The military appreciation ceremony was the best I've been to, and that's quite a statement because most of you know I am heavily involved in Memorial Day events in my own home town. A fly-over by military aircraft was one highlight, then American and British military personnel, led by the Royal Scots Fusiliers, exchanged flags in the finale to that.

SURPRISE ELECTION RESULTS...

In a landslide hard fought victory for the top elected officials of Clan Little Society, the following candidates won out above all comers for 2015-17: Thomas Little, steuart, for his third term, Pat Little, marischal, for his second term, and Jim Little Secrateur, for his sixth. It's an easy job but somebody has to do it.

In the afternoon, we held our CLSNA general meeting in the tent. Pam Ashley, our contact for the games, had offered us a room at the field house but we declined, opting for the more informal setting of our tent area. Thomas Little conducted the meeting which led to an interesting discussion and some proposals which are to be found elsewhere in this newsletter. The field announcer actually came into our tent during this time and interviewed us. When he found out we were in the middle of our meeting, he said, "Carry on," saluted and left.

Later, we gathered at a local restaurant for our bi-annual meal together. Pam Ashley joined us briefly and we said our "thank you" to her for a perfect event and great hospitality all weekend. After dinner we returned to our hotels (or in Thomas's case to his motor home) for one last night in South Carolina. Next morning, early, we all took off for our homes, once again except for Thomas who had his with him.



No, folks, this is not the Gallisiels Reiver, it's the Furman University Paladin. German, not Scottish.



The Royal Scots Fusiliers



Tom Little, PA; Jodi & Thomas, ??; June & Bud, TN; Jim & Pat, NC; Pat, KS at Shortfields in Travelers Rest, SC before our final goodbyes for 2015.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Many of you already know that Clan Little Society NA offers a scholarship to high school graduates of \$200. The requirement was that the student use that stipend toward the study of Scottish lore and traditions. In over ten years, we have only awarded that scholarship once, and then it was split between two young ladies from Tennessee who had no connection to our clan society whatever. Never mind that, both the girls were to use the money for the designated studies. However, at the 2013 BGM, it was voted on and decided to limit the award to children of CLSNA. None of the other provisions were changed.



At this year's BGM in Greenville, SC, a discussion was under way concerning membership for all clans and societies, which are down. That led to the possibility of increasing the scholarship amount to up to \$1000 and to remove the requirement that it go for Scottish studies. How many colleges offer that, anyway? The more important issue was the actual scholarship itself and it being only for family members.

Nothing was decided except to ask for input from the members of CLSNA. There are certain considerations, such as not going over a certain percentage of our bank account, who would make the decision and what it would be based on. Should it be offered to students who are already in college, say going for their masters? Members can come up with other questions, too.

We need your feedback. Is this something you would like to see happen? What are your positive and negative thoughts? Please reply to any member of the staff. When all comments are received, we will put the matter to a vote. A simple e-mail will suffice.

Tennessee Lyttles

Every year the descendents of Charles and Robert Lyttle celebrate a family reunion somewhere in the United States. This year it was held near Bristol, Tennessee on a Friday and a beautiful but cloudy Saturday afternoon in June. On Friday evening there were about 100 Lyttles gathered at a local restaurant sharing old stories and family tales, then on Saturday, those that had not departed met for a cookout at nearby White Top Creek Park. Joe and Julia Little, brother and sister, had invited us to join the gathering and David Lyttle had also requested we come. So at the last possible minute on that Saturday morning we departed for what we thought was a short trip to Virginia. What it turned out to be was a long, rainy drive through the gorgeous Blue Ridge Mountains, then the toe of Virginia, and finally to the tip of Tennessee. It was well worth the journey.

The Lyttles could not have been more welcoming or nicer. David Little, Julia and Joe were all there but we were greeted at the front of the picnic shelter by Velma who made us feel very welcome. There were about fifty Lyttles there, counting all the kids and one dog, and everyone we encountered welcomed us and made us feel like part of the family.

We had a great lunch of barbecue dishes, one of which was called “Carolina Gold BBQ” which, considering that I live next door to the BBQ capitol of the world, was pretty good. Pat said that the banana pudding was some of the best she had ever eaten. (For you who live north of the Mason-Dixon line that’s a pudding made with bananas and wafers.)

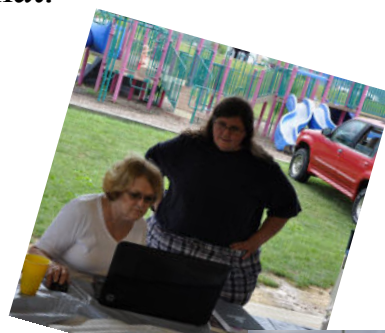
It was a great afternoon and we met a lot of great Lyttles. They made us promise we would come back and we hope to do just that.



David & Charlie Lyttle-Computer gurus



Annette Bates, Joe & Julia Little, Pat



Talkin' genealogy



A Bunch of Lyttles and a few Littles.



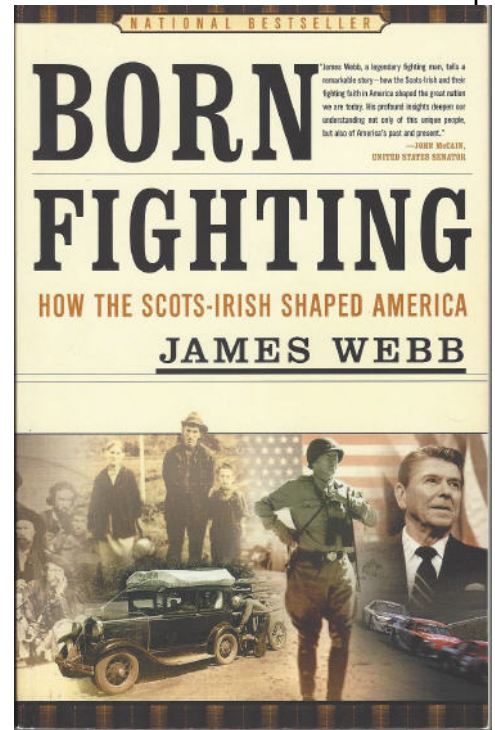
Bruce Lyttle, Julia Little, Joe Little, David Lyttle

Unauthorized Book Review

Right in front of the CLSNA contingent at the Greenville, SC parade was a beautiful 2016 Jaguar convertible for the Grand Marshall of the parade. We couldn't see the name on the side of the car but it turned out that it was a fellow named James Webb. "Who?" I thought at the time. "Never heard of him." I guess I should have kept up with my current events better. He's a past U.S. Senator from Virginia, and, most recently, a candidate for the presidency of the United States. More important to our Scottish friends, he's also an author and one of his books is "Born Fighting-How the Scots-Irish Shaped America." We actually had a copy which I had never read, but I have now. It's a pretty good book and it is right on the mark as to the importance of the Ulster Scots who came to the United States before the Revolution and after helping transform the former colonies into a new nation. In fact, in Webb's view, the United States would not have existed had it not been for them.

He goes into some detail about the physical history of how they were brought to Pennsylvania to protect the British from the Indians, but then followed the Great Wagon Trail southward into Virginia and the Carolinas, westward into Tennessee and beyond. He also traces some of the more famous of them like Andrew Jackson, John Sevier, and many others, but it's not the notables he dwells on, it's about the poor, rough and tumble, in-your-face mass of immigrants with a different attitude and a resistance to the yoke of British rule that made them different, necessary but apart, from the norm.

Webb does delve into his family history, too, and in the context of the narrative it is well taken. But he does so a little too much. That's the only criticism I have of his book. The rest of it is spot on and should be read by all who are interested in how the Scots-Irish forged a nation right under the noses of the British crown and how they molded that nation into the world power it became through the next two centuries.



Treasurer's Report 2015

Income	<u>2013</u>	<u>2015</u>
Membership	\$4,400.00	\$2,555.00
Sales	<u>3,129.80</u>	<u>\$4,987.10</u>
	\$7,529.80	\$7,542.10
Expenses	\$6,327.24	\$4,714.46
Membership	<u>2013</u>	<u>2015</u>
Life	\$1,800.00	\$ 600.00
New	700.00	\$1,175.00
Renewal	<u>1,900.00</u>	<u>\$ 780.00</u>
	\$4,400.00	\$2,555.00

It sure would be nice to have a treasurer. After the previous one resigned (not over his duties), the steuart, Thomas Little has done an excellent job with managing our finances. However, it's not really fair to ask him to do two volunteer jobs when there are plenty of our members who could help out if they just would. Interim officers can be appointed by the steuart until the next election and it would not take long for the volunteer to find out that there is not much to it and is not very time consuming.

If interested, just contact Thomas and he will answer all your questions.

JUST MY OPINION by Jim Little

I know I'm swimming against the current here, and it's a pretty swift stream, but I have something to say--don't put all your eggs in one DNA basket. I've had a problem for years about how DNA can find your ancestors down to the person, if available, and folks in that gene pool just stops there, by not investigating further. Some say I just don't get it, but, given the ancestors DNA has found for me, I have serious doubts about Abraham being my ancestor. The article in this Reiver about the Tennessee Lyttles is a prime example. Although it is proven that I'm related to them, there is no paper trail at all linking me to them. According to DNA, they are my close relatives, scientifically speaking. The problems are that I've never heard of them, nor do I resemble them, and none of our extensive research shows any ties whatsoever. Don't get me wrong, they are great folks, salt of the earth, so to speak, but not my near kin that for which I can find documentation.

Not only that, other than being Caucasian and male, none of them resemble me in appearance or manner. We all have ears and eyes, but for us to be related there has to be something else like the shape of our faces, the way our eyes are set, our hairlines--something of a common nature, and there was none of that. I'm as different from them as any stranger on the street. David Lyttle and I are a close match, DNA-wise, but we have no physical resemblance; same for Charlie Lyttle, Bruce and Robert. Nice folks, but not closest relatives by other measures.

DNA proponents will argue that the gene pool gets watered down and altered over the years, resulting in differences in appearance and manner, and that is obviously true, but to what extent, is my question. Consider this: The folks we met in Tennessee whom I have no paper trail to at all, are closer relatives than a proven member of my family, Tony Little, of Washington. Tony looks strikingly like my late Uncle (James) Carson, born and raised in North Carolina, where Tony also has proven roots. We separately traced our ancestry right to Chatham County without knowing the other even existed. When the trail led to the discovery of our common ancestor and the happy conclusion that we are blood kin, we took the DNA test to prove it but, according to the results, we are only very distantly related to each other. Yes, Tony was an unknown ancestor before my wife picked up the phone one day and called him, but when we met face to face, the recognition was immediate.

When I took the DNA test, my closest matches at that time were Dorman Dudley Little and Leo Little, both now deceased, neither of whom had any ties to North Carolina. Furthermore, the Abraham Little that is claimed for our DNA group includes no paper trail at all. (Abraham died long before DNA testing was even thought about so a scientific trail to him is impossible.) I never met either Dorman or Leo but from pictures there is no family resemblance to the former except for the aforementioned race and sex. I do have some resemblance to Leo. On the other hand, if you look at pictures of Tony and me, we don't look much alike initially, but looking closer you can see the same nose, mouth and eyes.

Never mind that documents prove that brothers Green and Robert Little of Chatham were our direct ancestors and that their father was Archibald who moved from Chatham to Randolph in the early 1800s. Also, forget that recent discoveries have proven even more clearly that Tony and I are fourth cousins, once removed, and never mind that our temperaments are more like brothers than cousins--we are not close relatives...according to DNA. Nowhere in my documented line is any mention of Abraham, Dorman, Leo, David, Bruce, Robert, Joe or Julia. Why they don't show up is a mystery to me. Maybe our common ancestor is further back than Archibald and the proof is just in the next trip to archives or in an undiscovered letter from the 18th century. I hope so, but it still makes no sense that I'm closer related to them, than a proven close relative like Tony.

Now, don't get me wrong...I don't want to kick the DNA testing in the head. I think it's a great tool and can help people find relatives and ancestors they never even considered. I just don't think it's the only factor in tracing your ancestry. I'm just saying, don't depend on it as the only tool. There is no substitute for documentation and family lore. Yes, I could have been adopted; yes, I could be an anomaly; and yes, I could be the only example of a misstep in biology--a mutant, but given the research my wife and I have done on my family over the past fifteen years, I'm sticking with what I know to be fact.

I'm not quibbling with DNA in particular, but rather the acceptance of questionable conclusions. For example, when we first started finding my ancestors, there was a trail to Randolph County by a fellow named Rik Vigland who claimed right down to my father that I was descended from one Thomas Lytle and his son Frank by a slave that Thomas owned. Not only was that not true it was proven false and subsequently accepted by Vigland as erroneous. He claimed relationships with most of the Lyttles and Littles of that county until he took the DNA test, which proved conclusively that he was not related at all. Score one for DNA--a tool. That doesn't mean, though, that his prior claims have gone away. The trouble is that the information is still out there. The local library has numerous documents and articles by him which are still there and still taken as fact by anyone looking for ancestors, because the genealogist on duty has no power or inclination to check for validity. Also, only my line has been removed from Vigland's family tree on Ancestry, the rest are still there.

Consider another example: Capt. Daniel Little of Salisbury, Rowan (row AN) County, NC. He is supposedly German because he spoke that language and translated for the many Germans in the piedmont. Yet he is from the same area as the mass Scot-Irish immigration in Pennsylvania as detailed in Jim Webb's book (see review, pg. 8) and he is buried in the English cemetery in that town. Even today the society does not state conclusively that Daniel Little was German, just that he appears to have been. Maybe he was German, but literally thousands of Littles claim kinship. They search the web and find the Captain Daniel Little Society and conclude that since he was a Little they must be kin--and German.

The Tennessee Lyttles, Dorman Dudley, Leo, David, Joe and Julia are all nice folks and I'm related to them. Proven. But how far back? Obviously further back than Archibald and that link is still elusive. Family tradition and values are as important and DNA testing can't show you that. It can't tell you if your ancestor was a veteran, a senator, a farmer or a thief. There is nothing like finding a letter or even a court case in which your ancestors were mentioned.

((Continued on page 10))

(Steuart, cont'd)

tion. It's treasury was sent to the Guardian, Crawford Little. There were 82 members, 17 lifetime and 65 regular. In October, 2014 the Executive committee of Clan Little SNA offered all the members of the UK organization, membership into CLSNA. We absorbed 17 lifetime members and the 65 regular members at no cost to them. I only received two notices of UK members not wanting to be part of our group. This action pretty well doubled our membership numbers, but without the benefit of any dues being paid. I would be remiss if I failed to also mention our sister organization in the New Zealand/Australia region. Allen Little is the Steuart of that organization. It is active and maintains it's own facebook group as well as organizational structure, membership and newsletter. Allen and I communicate regularly.

I will report shortly that our in our treasury report, that Merchandise and tartan sales have been increasing. Earlier this year we ran out of the 10 ounce tartan and we had to re-order. The Tartan comes from a mill in Scotland and it was 4 months in the making. Clan organizations all over the world struggle to exist. Participation in events such as tartan day and Scottish Highland games, ours is no different. Obviously by the 500 members of our facebook group but only around 200 paid subscribers as members there seems to be an interest in the Little heritage and we strive to keep it alive. If you are not a member, please consider joining, it is only \$25. If your membership expired or ready for renewal, it is only \$20. Paypal makes it easy to join. Go to our website and consider joining our organization.

Finally, I want to thank each and everyone of you for your membership, your interest in our family heritage and your participation whether it is on-line, attending a community event or through the purchase of Clan Little merchandise. Your fellowship and friendship is reciprocal and appreciated.



ISN'T THIS PRETTY -- AND IT'S PRACTICAL?

This tote bag is really beautiful and functional and is very reasonably priced, just 14.95. The pocketbook size is only \$11.95, AND there is a possibility of a quantity discount for large orders. It's great for going to the beach or your favorite vacation spot. It carries just about anything and you can show off your Clan Little Society emblem.

Just contact Thomas Little (e-mail on page 1) and get the details. [I've already ordered mine. Ed.]

(Opinion-from page 9)

So you've got to do your homework. Yours. Not someone else's. And don't trust Ancestry.com for answers. Most of the postings they have for any family are findings by family members like Rik Vigland. Maybe they are more reliable than he, but I'm urging you use the site for census records and actual down-to-earth research of documents. Accepting someone's unproven paper trail can lead you in the wrong direction to say the least. Use DNA to find your relatives but relying on that as the only means seems to leave a lot out.

My wife took a course at a local library on how to trace ancestors. The outline of the course concluded with the following admonition: "H: Published genealogies (Be afraid! Be very, very afraid!)"

[This is just my opinion. Yours is welcome and, if you care to send it, will be printed in this newsletter with the next edition. Send it to me. I'll print it without change. Ed.]