



Newsletter – Spring & Summer 2019 CGSNA - Eastern Canada Branch



Greetings Dear Members,

We trust that you managed to get through the long & tough winter okay and that you are now getting something that resembles summer weather where you live. The winter was very difficult for us and so far, the local weatherman has not been treating us very well during the late spring. Health issues seem to be an ongoing problem but we are fortunate to have good medical care that help us function.

We are aware that several of our members, or their spouses, have recently recovered or are recovering from medical issues. So, we take this opportunity to send our best wishes to these friends since health is so important to each of us; should there be other members unknown to us, who are recovering from an illness, we also wish them a speedy recovery.

We were very pleased to see leaves opening on trees, green grass and flowers blooming. For a cheery appearance around our yard, we finally have some flowers blooming in the baskets on the archway entrance to our back yard and lately, our wild apple trees were looking very good suggesting a fine crop of apples this year – see the photo top right.

Regarding festivals, we still have the desire to be present and meet the visitors but it has become difficult to plan ahead since we don't know if Ted will be able to handle the activity.

2019 AGM of CGSNA:

As posted on the official website and on the Facebook page, the 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) takes place on the Labor Day weekend (August 31st & September 1st 2019) at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton CA – see www.thescottishgames.com .

2019 Officers of CGSNA:

This year, the posts of all main Society officers are up for election - President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary & Treasurer. Each commissioner is requested to review the candidates, choose one for each post or submit and alternate name and submit the ballot to Rich Gunn, Clan Commissioner for North America. The results will be announced at the AGM and will be posted on the official website.

Since last year, there have been changes in other Society posts:

- James Edward Smith, a Deputy Commissioner of the Florida Branch, replaced Heather Smith as the *Gunn Salute* Editor/Publisher;
- Jän Franz replaced Bill Elrick as the Society Webmaster in 2018 and subsequently rebuilt the website while retaining the post of Facebook Page Administrator;
- Raymond Gunn is the new Storekeeper;
- Mike Pearson has replaced World Genealogist Abb Gunn due to Abb's health issues.

Another Reminder about the Member Contact Update Project of 2016:

As mentioned in previous newsletters, CGSNA is still in the process of updating the records of all members. If you have not already done so, please go to the opening page of the official website www.clangunn.us, click on the “Membership” sub-header, then on the section “Membership Update Project” and complete the form as requested. The form includes an option for receiving an electronic copy of *The Gunn Salute* newsletter.

Membership:

At my request, the membership secretary sent me an updated membership report for our branch dated May 21, 2019 and I was disappointed to note that no new members had joined our branch. An analysis of the report indicated that several members were classified as “Inactive” since their membership renewals were more than six (6) months overdue. Also, a couple of other members were still classified as “Active” although their renewal payments were overdue but still within the six months’ grace period. We sent reminder messages to all these folks advising them that their renewal payments were overdue and that appropriate settlement should be made ASAP.

N. B. - the membership secretary only notifies members once regarding renewals. If the branch commissioner lacks the necessary details to follow up with the members, there is no reminder! Please consider this the next time you receive a renewal notice from the secretary.

Membership Renewals are an ongoing situation and represent a mammoth task for the secretary. The renewal date is not the same for all members since it is based on the month of acceptance in the CGSNA and extends for one year from the first of the following month - members can renew for a longer period.

Online Membership Renewals: The Society has a new form regarding “Online Membership Renewals” and it can be found under the sub-header “**Membership**” on the official website www.clangunn.us. Once your renewal is registered, you will receive a brief message confirming receipt of payment and your contact information.

Emeritus Status: According to Section 2.12 of the Society By-Laws - Member Emeritus status shall be available beginning at age 76. A person shall be eligible for such membership if that person has been a member in good standing for five years prior to applying for that status. The Member Emeritus shall no longer be assessed dues but shall retain full membership rights and services.

N. B.: Should you change your home address or your email address, (or acquire a new email address), please advise us promptly and we will relay the information to the membership secretary and update our records.

Odds & Ends:

- The 5th of July will be a rather special day for Louise and me since we will be celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary and hope to be able to take a short trip by car just to get away and do something different from normal routine.

The ECB 2019 Festival Circuit –

Deputy Commissioner, the Rev. Colin Swan will be hosting a CLAN GUNN tent at these events this summer:

- June 22, Kingsville Highland Games at Lakeside Park, 315 Queen St. Kingsville ON
www.kingsville.ca ;
- July 1, Embro Highland Games at 355644 35th Line, Zorra ON
<http://embrohighlandgames.ca> ;
- July 20, Cambridge Scottish Festival at Churchill Park, 200 Christopher Drive, Cambridge ON
www.cambridgescottishfestival.ca ;
- August 9 - 11, Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games at 400 Tower St S, Fergus ON
www.fergusscottishfestival.com .

If you plan to attend any of these events, do visit the Gunn tent and introduce yourself to Colin. It would be appreciated if you could spend time with him and meet some other visitors; to contact Colin in advance, his email is rev.c.swan@sympatico.ca. You are also invited to display the Gunn tartan and join in the parade of the clans at each event.

The Glengarry Highland Games take place in Maxville ON, August 2-3 - Louise and Ted plan to attend and member Debi Steele plans to join us or replace us if we can't make the trip.

The Quebec Celtic Festival <http://festivalceltique.com> will be presented from September 6-8 and most activities will be on the grounds of the Domaine de Maizerets at 2000 Boul. Montmorency in the Limoilou borough of Quebec City.

Again this year, we may not be available to host a Clan Gunn booth at the Quebec event since the Bernier Family Gathering, September 7 - 8, 2019, website www.bernierdamerique.ca takes place in Sorel QC and presents a conflict of interests for us. Since Louise's family name is Bernier, she likes to attend that Gathering when possible.

In closing, we thank you for your support of the Society in general & our Eastern Canada Branch in particular, we hope to meet some of you at events this summer and we send best wishes to all.

Have a great summer!

Yours aye,

Louise and Edward (Ted) Gunn
Co-Commissioners, Eastern Canada Branch, CGSNA
Quebec QC, Canada