



# Craigellachie



FALL 1998

IT'S GREAT TO BE A GRANT

VOLUME XX/- NO. 3

## Stone Mountain Georgia Annual General Meeting

October 15-18 are dates to reserve for these Highland Games. Friday evening, at 6:30 PM we'll have our reception at David & Jane Grant's home. Saturday, we'll get together at Duane and Maggie Kline's spacious estate for our evening buffet, starting at 6:30 PM.

Our newly elected officers will be invested at the Annual General Meeting 2:30PM Saturday afternoon at the meeting tent. Come by our tent to get directions.

Friday evening the best TATTOO in the country is held at the Livestock Pavilion across the street from Stone Mountain Games. If you have not seen this extravaganza, do yourself a favor and GO! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

(MAP and more INFO inside this issue)

## Family of Bruce Society Awards Scholarships to Clan Grant Members

by: Melissa Holman

In the January issue of the publication, *The Scottish Banner* we were pleased to see an essay contest sponsored by the family of Bruce society. The essay was designed to bring out the facts surrounding, the now immortalized by Hollywood, Robert the Bruce and William Wallace. The essay was to be 500 words or less, typed and double spaced. As a home-schooling family, we seek any opportunity there is for our children to participate outside their regular schooling, so this was exciting for us!

Our 16 year old, Dan, and our 15 year old, Sarah got to work! They spent some hours at the local library, time on the Internet, and was even able to interview a direct descendent of William Wallace! They were able to learn some interesting facts and some not so nice facts as well. Wallace was not the man that Mel Gibson portrayed him to be! The essays were sent out and our waiting time began. During the wait, our family relocated and, to be honest, the contest slipped our minds.

May 21st, I walked to the mail box and in among our bills and junk mail were two letters. One addressed to Dan and the other to Sarah. I looked at the post mark and was dumb-founded. Who did we know in Georgia? Then I remembered...that is where we sent the essays for review! I was so excited, I couldn't wait for them to open their letters.

Sarah was the first to read the letter's contents. She had won third place! A \$100 prize. Dan quickly opened his and found that he had won second place, which was a \$200 prize.

Once again, the Grants have proven themselves to be winners!

## Kilroy "Grant" was here..... or was he?

by Steve Grant  
Ozarks Commissioner

To the west of Lord Strathspey's home on the Isle of Mull, is the sacred and mysterious island of Iona. By some accounts, the rock that juts up out of the North Sea to form this tiny dot of land is the oldest on earth. Most certainly, it is the place where St. Columba brought Christianity to the Western Isles almost 1500 years ago.

In 1938, Iona's abbey and chapel were restored from ruin. Inside the chapel's wind-whipped tower the words "stand fast" are carved above the sill of a narrow window. Was our Clan Grant rallying cry chisled out by a clever scottish cousin of the past, or was a well-intentioned stone cutter adding an exultation from one of St. Paul's epistles?

If you know the answer, please share it with the rest of us in the future issue. Better yet, if you visit the tower of Iona's chapel, send a picture of the engraving above that window for our erstwhile editor to publish!

Clan Grant Society, USA  
George Grant  
Interim Secretary  
301 Masters Road  
Hixson, TN 37343  
Return address requested

BULK RATE  
US POSTAGE  
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# WELCOME

## New Members January through August 1998

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Mr/Mrs Scott E. Grant<br>58 Grove St.<br>Keene, NH 03431                  | 17. Frederick W. Wood<br>204 Bent Creek Dr.<br>Greer, SC 29650                        | 33. Mr/Mrs Glen W Ledington<br>P.O.Box 53514<br>Lafayette, LA 70505               |
| 2. Mr/Mrs John L. McDonald<br>9133 Trevi Circle E.<br>Jacksonville, FL 32257 | 18. Mr/Mrs Kenneth R. Barrett<br>HC 92 Box 160 K-B<br>Bluffton, SC 29910              | 34. Mrs. Minnie H. Bramble<br>Rt.3 Box 66<br>Hope Mills, NC 28348                 |
| 3. Mr/Mrs Chester Martin<br>548 Savely Dr.<br>Hendersonville, NC 37075       | 19. Tina Sparks<br>309 California St.<br>Carterville, IL 62918                        | 35. Jeane E. Homans<br>13143 Montana Ave<br>Yuma, AZ 85367                        |
| 4. Mr/Mrs Vernon Moore<br>511 E. Tyler<br>Stiliwater, OK 74075               | 20. Mr/Mrs Alden Grant<br>25 Main St.<br>Freeport, ME 04032                           | 36. Mrs. Diane Grant Sanders<br>3 Lepky<br>Cream Ridge, NJ 08514                  |
| 5. Mr/Mrs Robert G. Barkville<br>P.O.Box 8014<br>Woodland, CA 95776          | 21. Mr/Mrs Charles A. Grant<br>103 N.E. 52nd St.<br>Lawton, OK 07350                  | 37. Mr. Grant L. Ingalls<br>711 Rt. 539<br>New Egypt, NJ 08533                    |
| 6. Mr. Jamie Dawson<br>5743 N. 71st Ave<br>Glendale, AZ 85303                | 22. William J. Grant<br>Sill Glen Ridge #A27<br>San Antonio, TX 78229                 | 38. Mr. Thomas A. Grant<br>6970 SW Country View Ct.<br>East Wilsonville, OR 97070 |
| 7. Isabell Grant Clark<br>125 Southmoore Dr.<br>Denver, CO 80220             | 23. Mr/Mrs Michael D. Robinson<br>101 Tuesday Haus Lane<br>Highland Village, TX 75067 | 39. R. Grant Mauger<br>709 Warrenton Rd<br>Winter Park, FL 32792                  |
| 8. John C. Grant Dooley<br>2311 Myra St<br>Jacksonville, FL 32204            | 24. Mr/Mrs Arthur W. Grant<br>160 So East Jason Ln<br>Madras, OR 97741                | 40. Dr. Kerry S. Grant<br>354 Hunters Lane<br>Amherst, NY 14221                   |
| 9. Lisa K. Ward<br>2312 Kathleen Dr.<br>Napa, CA 94558                       | 25. Judy Grant Bigler<br>7602 N. Buckboard Dr.<br>Park City, VT 84060                 | 41. Douglas F. Dodge<br>207 East RD<br>Colchester, VT 05446                       |
| 10. Darrell Grant<br>3900 Zell Circle<br>De Soto, MO 63020                   | 26. Mr/Mrs Robert W. Grant<br>324 Lake Road<br>Mansfield, LA 71052                    | 42. Ricardo S.G.Dodge<br>30 So. Hill Dr<br>Essex Junction, VT 05452               |
| 11. Gordon Williams<br>4314 Connecticut Dr.<br>Harrisburg, PA 17112          | 27. Brenda Grant Caplinger<br>4803 Shirmar Dr.<br>Nashville, TN 37211                 | 43. Mr/Mrs. Richard C. Dodge<br>7 Woods End Drive<br>Essex Junction, VT 05452     |
| 12. Helen Grant Wester<br>613 Elgin<br>Bolivar, MO 65613                     | 28. Lynn Grant Prest<br>Box 494<br>Weaverville, CA 96093                              | 44. Mr/Mrs Charles L. Grant IV<br>5047 McKenzie Dr.<br>Kewadin, MI 49648          |
| 13. Mr/Mrs Jane Cairo<br>172 Kent Farm Road<br>Hampstead N.H. 03841          | 29. Mr. Robert Tracy Grant<br>4918 14th St. W.E.1<br>Bradenton, FL 34207              | 45. Mr/Mrs Williaam F. Borstel<br>20123 Patricia Dr.<br>Killian, LA 70462         |
| 14. Mr/Mrs James A. Browne<br>1902-38 Honour Rd.<br>Orlando, FL 32839        | 30. Mr. Joel Grant<br>228 N. Marine St.<br>Prescott, AZ 86301                         | 46. Mr. David Grant Neal<br>2 Seneca Lane<br>Sandwich, MA 02563                   |
| 15. Frances W. Shank<br>P.O.Box 1437<br>Sheppard, TX 77371                   | 31. Mr/Mrs Gordon R. Maddison<br>38 Madrid Lane<br>Davie, FL 33314                    | 47. Mr/Mrs M. B. Gelford-Grant<br>12723 Redfox Ct.<br>Maryland Hts, MO            |
| 16. Mr/Mrs Geoffrey Grant<br>1605 Robin Rd.<br>Brookings, SD 57006           | 32. Mr. Kenneth C. Grant<br>1415168 Ave.<br>San Leandro, CA 94578                     |   |

### ...From the Editor

What is it about this part of the newsletter that I love so much? I'll tell you. It's the fact that in this wee column I, the editor, get to express my opinion on just about anything I desire, as long as it's Scottish!

With that in mind, I'd like to give you my idea of what Scottish ingenuity is. It all starts, in my opinion, back when the Romans occupied what is now England. As this formidable army moved north through Britain, they encountered a people considered less refined than themselves. These people, having a lesser trained army than their Roman foes, decided that they would even the odds in a rather ingenious manner. Instead of wasting valuable time on new training methods, they would simply paint their bodies and go into battle wearing as little as possible. They seemed to have achieved the desired effect, for history tells us that the Romans withdrew from Britain having failed to conquer the wild northern Highlands.

A second fact I point to is that the Scots, by taking a mass of fabric bearing vertical and horizontal lines, and by pleating, belting and throwing the vast majority of the fabric over one's shoulder, created a garb more manly and recognizable than any other in the world!

Fast forward to modern times. Here we are in an age where technology and invention have run rampant. I now refer the reader to a quote from James Doohan, better known as 'Scottie' of the Star Trek TV series and movies. After landing the part of Chief Engineer aboard the Enterprise, he was asked what sort of accent he thought would be best for the part. His response: "Since nearly everything deemed as a necessity in modern society was either invented or is in some way connected to the Scots, the choice is pretty clear."

This brings me to the most recent bit of ingenuity that I see coming out of Scotland. I'm not talking about Dolly the Clone, for I'll not open up that can of worms. Rather, I'm talking about how to retire comfortably on a single acre of Highlands.

In light of the recent surge in popularity of things Scottish, especially in the US, some clever clansman has come up with the idea of selling off his estate one square foot at a time. By buying a bit of Scotland, for say a mere \$50, the new land-owner acquires the right to a title, in this case Esquire, not to mention actually owning a part of the homeland!

Does this seem like a lot of money to you? In our affluent American society, even those earning minimum wage could gross that amount with one full day of overtime pay. Crazy, you say? Let me point out those people who recently spent \$200 to buy a single share in their favorite football team, the Greenbay Packers!

So how does one retire on an acre of Highlands? There just happen to be 43,560 square feet in an acre! I'll let you do the math. And what's next in Scottish ingenuity? Finding 43,560 buyers. But I'm sure the Scots will figure that one out, too!

## GENEALOGY CORNER

by Beryl Grant, Clan Grant USA Genealogist

Everytime I go on the Internet I am amazed at the amount of information available on line. Even if you do not have your own computer, you can access records at your local library. Check to see if you need to sign up in advance. You will find most librarians will be happy to get you on line. What is out there for Grants? Lots!

Marty Grant, one of our members, has a Grant website. In it he has an awesome amount of information on Grant families in North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. He has census abstracts, some military records, and family lines. Included are names of researchers - your own line may be already researched. In any case, just being able to access census records is terrific. Marty is to be commended for his efforts. The Grant website is: <http://www.martygrant.com/gen/grant.htm>.

There is a Grant research mailing list. You can subscribe by sending a message to [GRANT-L-request@rootsweb.com](mailto:GRANT-L-request@rootsweb.com). Just put the message in - subscribe - and you will be on the list which I check just about every day. You can get off it very easily so do try it. I have it coming to my Juno e-mail so I do not even have to get on line to get my mail.

If your research is in the state of Maine, a dedicated researcher, Christine Pettit, has started listservs for people with roots in York County, MB and Stafford County, NH. Her family was located in these areas for over 300 years. She is most generous in helping other folks. I became acquainted with her over the Grant-L rootsweb. Let me know if you want these addresses. You need to subscribe to the appropriate list; you can unsubscribe at any time and it comes directly to your e-mail.

We have our own Grant webpage thanks to Howard Parsons. You can access this for questions on Grant heritage, genealogy, upcoming events, Clan Grant Society matters, etc. You can also submit Grant genealogy questions there. <http://www.parsonage.net/clangrant>.

If you go to <http://www.genform.com/grant/> there is another place to post your inquiry.

If you know where your ancestor came from, go on line to see if your particular historical society is on line. You probably won't get an e-mail back with all your data; you still have to send them some research money, but they could tell if they can help you.

Scottish records may be researched at <http://209.130.76.71/GRO/>. This online research costs about \$10 for your research for 24 hours or 30 pages of records.

If you need to send money overseas, call Reusch International in Washington DC at 1-800-424-2923, They will quote you an amount at the current exchange rate plus (last I knew) \$3 for preparation of a bank check in pounds sterling. They give you a transaction number; you send them a check and by return mail you have your check to mail overseas.

If you send mail overseas expecting someone to reply, do not forget to include international reply coupons available at a large postoffice. I keep them on hand and include at least two if I am hoping for a reply from someone.

If anyone wants to reach me email: [bgrant3@juno.com](mailto:bgrant3@juno.com). I do like this method of communicating with people!

CAUTION! Wilmer L. Grant, Bath, OH has written many of us concerning his book, The Grants in America: From 1850 to 1998" If you order this book, what you will get is some general information on doing genealogy and a list of Grants taken from phone books. I am not saying this won't help some people but if you order it expecting to find your information, you will be disappointed. You can do much better online! This firm also has other names - the fun part is that they use the same picture of a family for each name. Last year I sent \$10 to Warol & Associates in Marion, IL which promised much Grant information. What a disappointment - some general information as in the other book: a list of names in one family with few dates and even fewer locations. As we all know we need LOCATION to find records. More important than dates! I wrote them expressing my dissatisfaction and also to Everton's Genealogical Helner where the advertisement appeared.

Keep sending me your pedigree charts and family group sheets. I have just about finished a mammoth data base for our members research. This will help me tie in your research with other people. If your research is identified with a particular line (which was in a prior newsletter) then that information is filed there. One of the happiest events can be when long lost or unknown cousins find each other. It has happened to Clan Grant members! If you need forms, just send me a stamped, self-addressed envelope and I will get that to you. I send one each of the forms - you will need to make several copies because they get used up fast!

### BEATTIE BLVD.



"Some family actually laid out their plots like this?!"

WINTER  
DEADLINE  
NOVEMBER 1



**A NOTE FROM DAVID GRANT**

As is our custom, we plan to invite several folks from other clans to visit with us and to be introduced to the Games. Already on our list are MacGregors (who are Grant cousins, anyway), MacRaes and McFarlands. Of course, Jane and I will cover expenses for these extra guests.

The payments we are asking of the Grant regulars (or should we say "irregulars"??) cover our out-of-pocket expenses for food, beverages, copying, and postage for these notices. We sent out over 100 announcements in 1996 and about 75 last year. We will likely have 80 or so this year, which will exhaust our Stone Mountain "slush fund" unless we have an increase in attendance. We moved the Friday night reception to our house to save the Hampton Inn banquet room fee, but we see no other easy economies. We welcome your comments.

The Clan Grant Society annual meeting will be held beginning at 2:30 PM on Saturday afternoon at the Games. We look forward to seeing all of you in October.

STAND FAST!  
DG

**Clan Grant Gatherings  
Stone Mountain Highland Games  
October 15-18, 1998**

**Reception** - 7PM, Friday, October 16  
- At home of Jane and David Grant  
1842 Alderbrook Rd (see map)  
Atlanta, Georgia 30345  
(404) 634-9051  
-\$3.00 per person for munchies and potables

**Dinner** - 7PM, Saturday, October 17  
- At home of Maggie and Duane Kline  
1902 Alderbrook Rd (around the corner from Jane and David's)  
(404) 636-0560  
-\$6.00 per person to cover meats and beverages  
- Please bring a salad, vegetable, etc., to share

**Accommodations**

- Hampton Inn, Mountain Industrial Blvd @ Hwy 78 (Stone Mtn Freeway)  
(800) 426-7866 (National number) or (770) 934-0004 (Local number) Mention code "GRA" Rooms are \$74.00 per night. Ask for Bob Jordan
- Or try Days Inn Clairmont, Clairmont Rd @ I-85  
(800) 325-2525 or (404) 633-8411

**Games Info** - Call (770) 521-0228 for information and to leave a message to get a brochure with ordering forms. Ordering at least some tickets in advance allows you to buy a pass to enter the park at a reduced rate. This pass is good for all four days, from the Tattoo on Thursday through the games on Sunday.



**KANSAS CITY  
HIGHLAND GAMES**

by Mark Barber

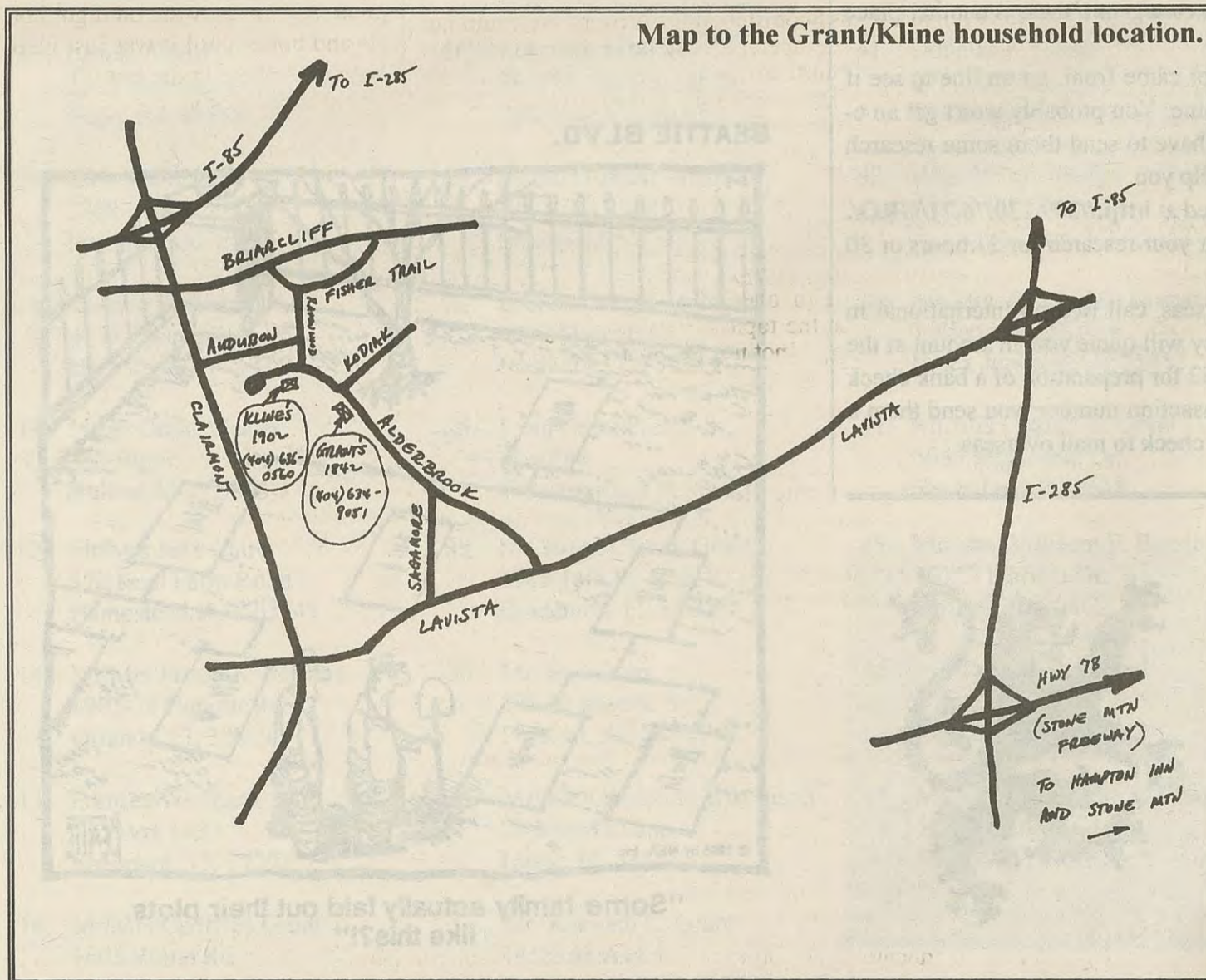
The 21st annual Kansas City Highland Games were celebrated on Saturday, June 13, 1998. The weather was absolutely wonderfiil, couldn't have asked for better. This was the last year for the games at Barstow School. They will be move to the Wyandotte County fair grounds in the fliture (due to their ever-increasing popularity)! It was the biggest crowd that we had ever seen here and there were more clan booths represented than ever. According to the *Kansas City Star* of June 14, there were approximatly 12,000 in attendance (5,000 more than last year)! John and Helen Grant attended and helped guide me through the day. Their guidance was greatly needed and appreciated. They are a great resource for Grant history!

The games hosted the Southwest Regional Closed Highland Dance Championships as well as the Central States Open Highland Dance Championships. We had several people signup for correspondence in the future and there was a great deal of interest in tartans.

The Kansas National Guard Band introduced the mid-day events and there were more pipers this year at the massed bands than ever. The Parade of Tartans had five Grant participants this year! Face painting, celtic storytellers, games for the children as were everywhere! Tickets for the evening Ceilidh sold out early.

I wish to thank you all for the honor of representing our clan and if anyone is having second thoughts of "manning a tent", then don't. It was a wonderfiil experience and I look forward to next year!!

Map to the Grant/Kline household location.



# Great Grants at the Games

## Grandfather Mountain Games

The weather was outstanding. Rained only when it was convenient. Good fellowship, and great fun. We played golf and washed the stones looking for rare minerals. Everyone found some, value was not sufficient for anyone to become wealthy.

Our accommodations were quite comfortable. Next year we have reserved two Snow Lake Condos. Both are 4 bedrooms, bordering the golf course. The games were packed solid with people from everywhere. Biggest Saturday crowd ever! Our two tents were busy all day. Saturday evening, we convened at the Mathews' Home for our Ceilidh. Doris, her daughters & grandchildren were perfect hosts. The family emphasized, that they want the party to be continued at their home for a very long time. It is what they and Bill want. This year we feasted on Roast Beef and a whole salmon we cooked in the dish washer at the Condo. Everything was great!!

Sunday Church services were attended. Our departed members, Ronald Grant & Bill Mathews', names were read and Flowers of the Forest played in their memory.

Look in future issues of the newsletter for information for next year. If you want to be with us in the Condo next year, contact Lucille Grant.

## McHenry Highland Festival

by Allan F. Grant

First Saturday in June, in this case the 6th, the highland games are held in McHenry, Maryland. This is a mountain setting and it's a lot like the Highlands in that the weather is unpredictable. On the particular day it was cold and windy. Whenever the sun came out (not often) everyone ran outside their tent to bask in it.

Anyway we were there bright and early and set up our banners to insure that everyone knew that clan Grant was in attendance. We had a number of visitors, it's a friendly place, but only three of them had Grant connections. The Reverend John Grant came by as usual, he lives in the area, and we expect him and of course are always happy to see him. He plays the pipes and participates with the college pipe band and also performs at the ceilidh.

Cold or not lots of people attended the games and seemed to enjoy themselves. Later in the evening we attended the ceilidh with many others (the local folk seem to love it) and witnessed Carl Peterson singing "Seven Old Ladies" with Bonnie Rideout doing a pantomime of it at the same time. It was very funny and set the tone for the rest of the evening. These games are small but we always enjoy them.



High Plains Commissioner John Grant (center) "hands over the reins" of the Clan Booth during the Kansas City Highland Games to Mark Barber (left).

## 1998 Arlington Texas Scottish Festival

by John Grant,  
High Plains Commissioner.

The 10th annual Arlington Texas Scottish Festival is over. We could not have wished for better weather. The temperature can be in the mid 90s' this time of year. On June 6th & 7th northern Texas was as pleasant as the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. The magnitude of the crowd attested to that fact. This years attendance is estimated to be 75,000 visitors, establishing a new all time high for the games. This years two day event may exceed last years record attendance of 60,000.

Clan Pollack was the guest Clan this year. They chose the Arlington Games as their AGM for this year. There was a significant growth in the number of Clans represented at the festival. The parade field is looking smaller and the tent space is fast becoming a premium. Double space occupancy will probably be limited to one space per Clan next year. Relocation of the game site has been the topic of discussion at this years Clan meeting due to the limited space. If not next year, it appears this may become a reality as the festival has and will continue to grow. It is now recognized as one of the largest Scottish gatherings in the United States.

The crowds were entertained this year by the special guest band, the "402nd Squadron Pipes and Drums and Dancers of the City of Winnepeg". Entertainment abounded with the Celtic Rock Group "Seven Nations" various sololists, harpists, gaelic storytellers, and numerous performers of Celtic music.

The athletic events covered both days with the amateur and professional competition. The sheepdog trials and competition, a highlight of the festival, drew a large gathering to watch the lively and intelligent breed herd the local critters. We had twelve newcomers come by the Clan Grant Tent. They had to have been the most enthusiastic group of Grants/Septs we have met to date. We were encouraged by their thirst for knowledge about their Clan and the USA Society.

This year we were joined by Lance Logue of the McElroy Sept. At the completion of his athletic competition he joined us in the Parade of Tartans. He hopes to be available this fall so that he can help us in the Central Texas area, the Saledo and Trinity Celtic Festivals. His availability will depend upon his upcoming military assignment.

The food was terrific, the weather wonderful and visitors "Great". It was a super weekend in northern Texas and we are looking forward to more of them in the future. We again thank the Society for the opportunity and their support in our endeavor to educate and inform the "Grants and their Septs" located in the "Breadbasket of the Great Plains".



## Colonial Highland Games Fairhill, Maryland

by Allan F. Grant

On 16 May My wife Eiko and I packed up all our Scottish paraphernalia and headed for our first highland games of the year at Fairhill, Maryland. We arrived plenty early to set up our gear and it's a good thing we did. The weather at that time was great. As the day wore on it got hotter and hotter until it was just plain hot, somewhere in the low 90s.

Our mid-atlantic commissioner, Howard Parsons, was in Washington on business and decided to accompany us on the outing. We got lots of work out of him. In addition Phil and Shirley Smith showed up and assisted us (or was it the other way around) in manning the tent. I always enjoy having Phil around because I can send all the hard questions to him. To top it off our treasurer, Betsy Riggs, also showed up. So it was a good gathering of Clan Grant Members.

We had lots of visitors and managed to sign up a new member as well, which in my book makes it a successful day. As usual there were lots of people showed up and paid to come to the games. Even though it was very hot everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Since the games management has left me and my banner alone, I too enjoyed the day and will probably go back again next year. A lot of potential members in that area. All you members that already live in that area come and visit with us.

## Entertainment News!!

### Grant Society Member Makes Poetry Album

Member of the Clan Grant Society, USA and Celtic Harpist, Candace Coates, has released her first album. The selections are narrated love poems with Candace playing background harp. Works from such great poets as William Shakespeare, Elizabeth I, Emily Dickinson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Andrew Marvell are included in the cuts.

Ms. Coates reports that the album was in studio production for nine months, but that the work has paid off. She has already sold out her first set and is in the process of having more recorded. It seems the local libraries are grabbing up as many as they can. Unfortunately, this reviewer can say little more about the style or quality of the album as Candace failed to send a sample of her work for my listening pleasure (*HINT!*). However, having the Highland blood coursing her veins, I'm sure that this project shows nothing less than the finest in artistic work.

Those of you interested in what she has accomplished can obtain more information by writing her at the address listed on this page. Congratulations to her and the best of luck in her future endeavors!



## Highland Harper Candace Coates

*Session Player Soloist*

PO Box 432  
Hopewell Jct. NY 12533

914-227-6284

*This review was sent in by Society member Wayne Harvey of Scotia, NY. Mr. Harvey seems to be quite 'on-the-go', as he also attended the KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN at the National Cathedral in Washington DC, where he enjoyed "nearly" front row seats.*

### Grant Charms Palace with Mainstream Mix

By MICHAEL HOCHANADEL  
For The, Daily Gazette, Schenectady, NY

ALBANY - Proclaiming she's made music for 20 years, former Christian singer and now Christian-AND- pop singer Amy Grant delivered a warm - in both senses of the word retrospective at the Palace Theatre Wednesday.

Changing the target of her music from heaven to the pop mainstream, Grant has become a substantial cross-over star by using a small, pretty voice, coupled with generic radio ready songs and great natural charm, to surprisingly big effect.

If Aretha Franklin personifies black Gospel in all its emotional and musical power, Grant's music is precise, controlled, and well-mannered, like the country-pop from her Nashville hometown.

Her seven players and two singers supplied more than expert support, in fact Kim Keyes and Tabitha Ferris offered the best vocals heard Wednesday night.

Her curly hair shoulder-length, lithe in a long print dress in the first of two sets, pants and sleeveless blouse in the second, Grant came onstage complaining jocularly about the heat and proceeded to warm up the place.

Accepting flowers, snacks and drinks from her fans, she had every-one in the palm of her hand before she started singing. Her voice ranged from a Sarah McLachlan-like breathiness, quite effective in suck love songs as "Cry a River" to a brassy top-end

used on rockers.

"House of Love," recorded with Vince Gill, got a lilting reggae treatment, as did "Everywhere I Go."

Christian songs and love songs mixed comfortably, sounding much like each other, and a bit too much alike cumulatively.

But Grant brought even her blandest songs to life by explaining their origins and meaning to her, conferring a persuasive freshness to the relentlessly overplayed "Baby, Baby" a love song to her daughter, and the reverently grateful "Doubly Good to You."

Sending her band offstage, Grant sang a few songs solo, playing guitar capably, but the biggest surprises were too-respectful versions of 10CC's "The Things We Do For Love," stripped of its fatalism, and Joni Mitchell's "Big Yellow Taxi."

Grant has said that after seeing Bruce Springsteen perform recently in a theater, she, too, chose to play theaters on her current "Behind the Eyes" tour rather than the arenas (the RPI Fieldhouse and Saratoga Performing Arts Center here) she's hit on past swings.

The Palace balcony was closed Wednesday, and the main floor (1,456 capacity) about three-quarters full at \$33.50 and \$23.50 a ticket.

## Craigellachie

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by the Clan Grant Society, USA

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## INVOLUNTARY EXTENSION OF TRIP TO SCOTLAND

by Bob Grant

Having been ticketed via frequent flyer mileage for months, I had looked forward with great anticipation to my third trip to Scotland in six years. However, this time the itinerary was to be different. I would be solo, traveling all by myself, and splitting my precious days between train/ferry explorations of the Western Highlands and family research. The latter I had found to be impractical to accomplish during my previous two sojourns to Scotland, when I accompanied my wife and sister and was needed to chauffeur them, it seemed, from one shopping opportunity to another. That was not exactly true, of course; we did do then a great many of the other things tourists in Scotland do. It was merely a perception which made me want to go alone and be able to spend whole days in genealogy search centers and libraries, on my own.

So, I set it up for two weeks in Scotland, beginning the middle of May. I would spend the first night in Edinburgh, do a day at the New Register House (NRH) there, then go over to Glasgow to "headquarter" for an extended stay, alternating with general genealogy and selected train/ferry trips designed for relief from research boredom. NRH is accessible on the Internet now, since last April 6, and I had used it a lot, but I wanted to get familiar with the General Register Office procedures on location, and that turned out to be a good decision.

I had acquired a Freedom of Scotland Railpass, which permits free travel during a particular period not only for rail, but also intercity busses and, most important to me, passage on any of the fifteen Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) ferry routes. CalMac operates a fleet of thirty vessels to link twenty-three Western Islands, from Arran in the south to Lewis in the north, including all the Hebrides, Inner and Outer, and the Clyde Islands.

Some of the CalMac ferries are quite large, depending on the route serviced. The largest are more than two hundred fifty feet in length, and have full food and pub facilities on board. A truly comfortable mode of

travel, especially compared to modern airline coach seating. The two Highlands railroad lines terminals, Oban and Mallaig, are where most of the CalMac routes originate from. Thus, use of the Railpass, which can only be purchased prior to arrival in Scotland, was to be very convenient. My object was to optimize my time by taking in as much as I could by the ferry mode.

Using a detailed, forty-page brochure obtained free from the Scottish Tourist Board, I got into the most variable and time-consuming part of planning for the trip. The brochure, entitled "Journey Through Magical, Mystical Scottish Islands" and published by CalMac (telephone: (01475) 650100; Internet: <http://www.calmac.co.uk>), provides complete timetables, maps, info on amenities on board specific ferry vessels, and overnight accommodations in the tourist board format for the communities serviced. Most, but not all, of the same information is also available on CalMac's aforementioned Internet site.

Thus, I set my itinerary to include trips on both train lines, and four ferry routes, involving three overnights for which I advance-booked Bed & Breakfast accommodations. My small hotel in Glasgow was cooperative by agreeing not to charge me for nights away, and said they would hold for me any luggage I didn't want to drag along on brief trips to the West. Between the Western travels, I would research in Paisley, or maybe even back in Edinburgh.

Everything went according to schedule for the first five days in Scotland. After Edinburgh's successful ancestor searching, I spent most of a day at the Mitchell Library in Glasgow, finding lots more information on my forebears, 98% of who it seems, on my father's side, lived nearby in Paisley, Renfrewshire. Then I rode the rails to Oban, took the longest ferry ride (seven hours) in CalMac's repertory to a quick stop at Castlebay on Barra, then to my B&B overnight at Lochboisdale on South Uist. Ferried directly back to Oban early the next day, where I squeezed in a brief visit via another

huge ferry to Craignure on Mull, while waiting for the train back to Glasgow.

Then, early the sixth day, after a few days of progressive ill feeling, I was taken by ambulance to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary where I was inpatient for twenty-two days, including ten in Respiratory I.C.U. I had contracted an unidentified, "atypical" pneumonia bug sometime after departing home on the trip. With time, I have recovered quite well, but not until after giving a scare to my family. My wife and a daughter from Georgia came to Glasgow to help pull me through. (Yes, they did manage lots of shopping between visits to my bed in the Infirmary.) But, their presence helped immensely, even though it vaporized the solo aspect of the trip.

I took six more days in and around Glasgow, with my wife, after release from the Infirmary, while I built up strength for the arduous air trip back to Hawaii. (An aside; although it is a Royal Infirmary, I never did locate Queen Elizabeth's bed!) We stayed at my same little hotel which had a very friendly and helpful staff. In those later days, we went by train to Edinburgh and the Castle; took a train/ferry trip to Arran, the southernmost Hebridean isle; and also took in museums and sites in Glasgow. I even spent a fruitful day at the Paisley Library. So, in a way, those six days provided a good compromise to what was missed from my original schedule by my getting ill.

I have nothing but praise for the medical treatment I received. Although labeled as what we call "socialized medicine," in the UK it is of the highest quality. More than ample staffing of well trained and helpful professionals. State-of-the-art equipment. The doctors are quite willing to give the patient full disclosure on his or her condition and prognosis. I will no doubt fondly keep the cane I was given, and used, including back home, until my legs got stonger.

Instead of two weeks away, the trip encompassed just over five weeks, and I returned home in the third week in June. I have now pretty well caught up with whatever per-

### "...From the Archives"

A member sent in this article, dated 2-20-97, from the Strathspey & Badenoch Herald.

#### Off-Road Centre Receives Award

AN OFF-ROAD driving centre based on Rothiemurchus Estate has just won national recognition for the level of care and attention it exhibits in its day-to-day activities.

Landwise, which is run by Boat of Garten man Mr Frank Spencer, is one of only three off-road centres to be recognised by the International Organisation of Professional Drivers (IOPD), and given authorisation under the Road Traffic Act 1992 Off Highway Event Regulations to organise motor sport activities under strict IOPD guidance.

The IOPD is currently working with the Health and Safety Executive on safety guidance for motor sport events and is also recognised by the Department of Transport as a Governing Association for Corporate and Off Highway auto-related events.

Mr Spencer's wife, Julia, said they were delighted at the news.

"As we are one of the first three in the UK to gain this accreditation, you can imagine that we are highly delighted," she said.

In a statement, the IOPD said: "Landwise, Safedrive (UK) Ltd and Spectrum are the first off-road driving centres in the UK to achieve recognition for a standard of care and professionalism usually only found in mainstream motor sport."

## WINTER DEADLINE

NOVEMBER 1

sonal business had been neglected during my absence, but that was one heck of a way to extend a trip, regardless of how rewarding!

(Note: I have a lot more, specific information and data on many facets of the trip which have been alluded to in the text, but not included. Anyone wishing to query me for those details, please do so. My address and phone number are listed under "Hawaii" in the Commissioners Roster elsewhere in this issue.)

## COMING EVENTS

### OCTOBER

- FLORA McDONALD HIGHLAND GAMES  
Flora McDonald Campus  
Red Springs, NC (910) 843-5000.....2-4
- ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT  
15TH ANNUAL SCOTTISH FESTIVAL  
Goshen Fairgrounds  
Goshen, CT (203) 366-0777.....3
- CELTIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL  
Bedford Boys Ranch  
Bedford, TX (817)923-3138.....10-11
- TALLAHASSEE SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL  
Fallschase  
Tallahassee, FL (850) 847-7257  
e-mail: tlhscotgam@aol.com.....10
- WESTERN KENTUCKY HIGHLAND GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL  
Carson Park  
Paducah, KY (502)443-2064.....10
- 8TH BAR HARBOR SCOTTISH PERFORMING ARTS WORKSHOPS AND CONCERT  
St. Saviour's Church  
Bar Harbor, ME (207) 244-7193.....10
- RADFORD HIGHLAND FESTIVAL  
Radford, VA (540) 831-5182.....10
- THE GORDON SETTER CLUB OF AMERICA  
NATIONAL SPECIALTY & OBEDIENCE TRIAL  
Inn at the Crossings  
Warwick, RI.....11-13
- STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES & HIGHLAND GAMES  
Stone Mountain Park  
Atlanta, GA (770) 521-0228.....15-18
- CELTIC NEW YEAR IN RENO  
Washoe County Fairgrounds Events Center  
Reno, NY (702) 332-3336.....23-25
- BEL MOUNTAIN HIGHLANDER FESTIVAL & GAMES  
Bel Air High School  
El Paso, TX (915) 591-0055.....24-25
- SUN CITIES SCOTS OF ARIZONA  
BIENNIAL KIRKIN' OF THE TARTAN  
Shepherd Of The Hills United Methodist Church  
Sun City West, AZ (602) 584-0293.....25
- NOVEMBER**  
KIRKIN' OF THE TARTAN  
Lexington Presbyterian Church  
Lexington, VA (540) 463-3873.....1
- ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON,  
D.C. TARTAN BALL  
Ritz-Carlton Hotel  
Tysons Corner, VA (703) 553-9752.....6
- ILLINOIS ST ANDREW SOCIETY 153RD  
ANNIVERSARY DINNER  
Chicago Hilton & Towers  
Chicago, IL (708) 447-5092.....13

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