

The Craigellachie

Spring 2002

It's Great to be a Grant!

Volume XXV, Issue 2

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Reminders

- Attend the Grandfather Mountain Games in North Carolina, July 12-15. See the article, this page.
- The deadline for articles for the next issue of The Craigellachie is July 15. An exception will be made for photos and articles about the Grandfather Mountain Games. Please email Leigh Haines to let her know your items are coming:
thecraigellachie@hotmail.com.



Rand Allan and C. David Grant at the Loch Prado Games.
Photo by Phil Smith.

Clan Grant 2002 AGM

*Rand Allan
Commissioner SW States
Board Member at Large*

May 3-5: This year, for the first time, the Clan Grant AGM was held on the West Coast of the United States, in Southern California.

We in Southern California felt that the Loch Prado Highland Games and Gathering of the Clans would be the ideal venue for holding our clan's AGM. The Games are sponsored by Clans of the Highlands (COH), a Southern California Confederation of Highland Clans. The focus of COH, of which Clan Grant is a member, is to foster camaraderie amongst the clans, and to promote the education of Scottish and Clan Culture. COH maintains that without the clans, there would have been no highland games or much of what we identify today as uniquely Scottish. Loch Prado is the only Highland Gathering in the United States that is run by the clans, for the clans.

Friday, May 3 - Today was reserved for settling in at our respective hotels or campgrounds. We checked in to the host hotel, where we immediately met David Grant and John and Helen Grant. David, my wife, Christine, and I then proceeded to drive over to Prado Regional Park to locate our space and do the preliminary setup of our clan tents in preparation for the weekend activities. Following the tent set-ups, we returned to the hotel, where a hospitality room was set up to host the arriving Grants. We spent a couple of hours learning a bit about each other. We finally decided to eat dinner and all 11 of us invaded the Olive Garden Restaurant next door to the hotel. After dinner, a few of us returned to the hospitality room to plan the activities for the AGM.

Saturday, May 4 - We arrived bright and early to set up the tents.

COH had placed us in an ideal location. We were under the shade of a tree for most of the day and in direct view of Prado Lake (Loch Prado). There was still a mist on the lake and with all of the clan tents and pipe bands; it was not hard to imagine you were in another country. At 9:00 a.m., the trumpets sounded a fanfare, announcing the opening of Loch Prado. We did a brisk business at the tent booth throughout the day, answering questions for the people who happened by. Around mid-morning, the Southern California contingent of Clan Grant began drifting in. By 11:00 a.m., our ranks had swelled to more than 30 people, the largest group ever to assemble for a Clan Grant AGM.

We began to gather for the Parade of the Clans around 11:30. The honor of carrying the new Clan Grant marching banner was given to the Michael Jackson family youngsters, local members of Clan Grant. For the spectators, the event was quite a treat. All of the clans (about 40+) are split into four groups to assemble at separate areas of the grounds area. At noon, each group, led by a pipe band, makes its way to the central glen of the grounds for a role call of the clans. It was a stirring sight to see nearly 200+ clansmen and women stream into the glen from different areas of the park for the role call. After everyone had gathered, the Chairman of the Games gave a brief introduction and called the roll of clans. Each clan was expected to call out its motto or battle cry. Needless to say, Clan Grant nearly shattered glass with our 30+-voice cry.

Immediately after the Parade of

Continued page 4.

Election Results

Congratulations to our new officers:

C. David Grant
President

Allan F. Grant
Vice-President

Richard L. Grant
Treasurer

Dr. Phil Smith
Secretary

James T. Suttie
Board Member at Large

John A. Grant III
Board Member at Large

Rand B. Allan
Board Member at Large

Up-Coming Grandfather Mountain Games

Shirley Grant Smith

Once again, the clans will gather at Grandfather Mountain, NC, from July 11-13. Clan Grant will have our usual two tents: one in the front row for our members and prospective members to watch the games and picnic; another for clan business and recruiting new members.

On Thursday evening, there will be a "Gathering the Clans" ceremony on the mountain along with a picnic.

On Friday evening, there will be a reception at the University in Boone.

The games will begin Saturday morning and continue until about 5:00 p.m. Saturday evening, Grants will gather at the Mathews' beautiful home for a buffet dinner. Directions are available at our tent.

The Sunday games will begin with an outdoor church service. The "Parade of Tartans" will begin shortly after the service. March with your clan in this great event.

Please plan to attend. It is lovely a affair and we get to know and enjoy each other better. Come and enjoy your heritage. See you there!!

From The Leadership

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Rants and Raves

David Grant, President

A number of years ago when William F. Buckley ran for mayor of New York City, he was asked what he would do if he won. He replied, "Demand a recount!" Please forgive me if I have similar feelings after the results of the recent elections. In spite of what I'm told was a terrific job of assembling, verifying, and counting the ballots by James and Mary-Stuart Pratt, I find the outcome to be suspect, not least because the counting was done in Florida!

OK, so what do we do while I'm hoping to be released from my apparent fate? I see two main areas of Clan activity where we should focus - communications and recruiting. Leigh Haines has revived our Craigellachie after some hiccups when we missed several issues, and we look forward to four issues each year to keep us posted on upcoming Clan events, writeups (and pictures!) on specific games, genealogies, Scottish history, and any other topics you'd like to see.

If you're "connected" (electronically) you can send your e-mail address to Howard Parsons to be included in our listserv and receive more timely announcements and reminders and get out quick messages to the membership. Please observe the rather common sense rules if you use this service.

We can all do a much better job attracting and keeping new members, as well as reminding some of our folks to get current with their dues! I'm asking all commissioners, and others who are willing, to make a call or two from our inactive list, invite aunts, uncles, and cousins to join you at games, and pursue other ways to bring our message to Grants

who have been reluctant to join or who simply don't know about us.

We have a full complement of officers and board members, hard working members in appointed positions, active commissioners covering most of the country, an established newsletter, traditions of attendance at many games across the country, an ample treasury, and we have FUN! What's not to like? But just imagine what we could be and do if we had 2,000 members!

Kudos to Rand and Christine Allan, who hosted our 2002 Annual General Meeting at the Loch Prado games near Yorba Linda, California! We had great fellowship, great food and libations, and a great excuse to see our fellow clansmen (I refuse to use "clanspersons!") on the West Coast. The site is gorgeous, with gently rolling grassy hills overlooking a lake. Rand's weather order resulted in perfect temperatures, mixed sun and shade, and a mostly-moderate breeze, proving he's one meteorologist who knows what he's doing! We had an international flavor, too, with several ladies of Japanese ancestry arriving wearing their Grant t-shirts and carrying more food than about 30 of us could handle. Thanks again, Allans! (More on the AGM elsewhere in this issue)

More kudos:

To Howard Parsons, who stepped forward to be our first president and lead the Clan when a viable candidate was badly needed, and his wife, Judi, who individually and together represented us in all parts of the country at various board meetings and games. They served "well and faithfully" in spite of the at-times difficult transition of the Clan from a small group run by George and Lucille and Phil and

Shirley, with a little help from a few others, to a formal organization with by-laws and a board of directors, and (gasp!) elections! During his four-year term, Howard found two secretaries, a games commissioner, and an editor for the Craigellachie, and these are just the ones I know about. They led 60+ of us from the States to Scotland 2000 and were the honored guests at Jacksonville 2001. We hope to lift more than a "wee dram" if Howard and Judi can make a games before they go to Scotland in the fall. Thank you both.

To Ed Grant, Duthil Commissioner, who recently moved from Minnesota to Hawaii and "retired" from his Clan Grant duties, for collecting contributions for the maintenance and preservation of the official "seat" of Clan Grant (and properly harassing us at times!). We thank you for your faithfulness and dedication. (Ed, how many Minnesota winters did it take to cement this move?)

And, of course, to George and Lucille, who say they have officially retired, and can now enjoy their recent clean bills of health and play at the games. They got us started, befriended our late Chief, Patrick Lord Strathspey, and brought him across the pond not once but twice as an honored guest. My memory is that George's title of Convener Emeritus is permanent, but if it needs to be extended, I hereby do so. Enjoy your retirement.

Please feel free to share any thoughts with me that you care to. I can promise to listen, not necessarily to agree, but give a straightforward reaction. I appreciate plain speaking and open communication.

Can stand and am working on being fast - DG

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On the Hot Seat: Swan Song

Howard Parsons

In some ways, I find it hard to believe that it has been just a few months shy of four years since I took office as the first President of Clan Grant, USA. There have been some remarkable changes in these past years and some remarkable problems as well. There are, of course, things that I had intended to accomplish but did not have the time or where-withal to do so. We have a new President now and I am quite sure that he has his own agenda for the next four years.

As for me, I will be taking a bit of time off from Grant Activities. My wife and I have been members since 1981 and hosting the Grant tent at games since 1985. I've served as regional commissioner for a decade and now with my term in the Hot Seat over, I'm looking for a wee vacation beginning with a three-week holiday in Scotland this summer.

More importantly, I

want to step well away from things in order to give our new President, David Grant, some room. David is a fine man and has my utmost support. The job of President is a demanding one and neither David nor any President should have to contend with a predecessor hanging about telling him how things ought to be done and interfering with his authority. The term "Past President" means exactly that. Besides, if David really wants my help or advice, he knows where to find me.

Finally, I want to thank you for the support that you've given me over the past four years. I especially want to recognize Jean Wilson, Allan Grant, David Grant, and Phil Smith for all that they've done during my term in office. I literally could not have done my job without them.

It has been a pleasure serving you as President and now, it's time for me to go.

Clan Grant will be attending the following games for 2002:

Pacific Northwest

July 27-28: Pacific Northwest Highland Games and Clan Gathering, Enumclaw, WA. For more info: <http://sshga.org>.

Northern California

July 13-14: Dunsmuir House Games, Dunsmuir House, Oakland, CA.

Aug 31-Sep 1: San Francisco Caledonian Club Games at Pleasanton, Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton, CA

Sept 14: Fresno Gathering and Games, Fresno, CA.

Sept 28: Dixon Games, Dixon, CA.

Oct 5: Loch Lomond Games at Felton, Santa Cruz, CA.

Southern California

Jun 22-23: San Diego Scottish Highland Games and Gathering of Clans, Brengle Terrace Park, Vista, CA.

Feb 15-16, 2003: Queen Mary Scottish Festival & Games, Queen Mary, Long Beach, CA.

For specifics on Clan Grant's participation, contact Richard Grant, Games Commissioner.

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Clan Grant AGM



Clan Grant 2002 AGM, continued from page 1.

the Clans, we set up in the picnic area behind our tents for a Bar-B-Q lunch. The local members of Clan Grant got together and prepared a meal of bangers, marinated chicken wings, sodas, desserts, and assorted salads for all of the Grants. During our meal, two new families of Grants came by and joined the Society, so we invited them to the Bar-B-Q.

Following the Bar-B-Q, we held our AGM in the shade of the trees behind the Clan Grant tents. David Grant was installed as president of the Clan Grant Society; Rand Allan of Poway and John Grant of Kansas City were installed as Directors-at-Large; Dr. Phil Smith was re-installed as Secretary; and Allan Grant, Richard Grant of Tennessee, and Jim Suttie were installed in absentia as vice-president,

treasurer, and Director-at-Large, respectively. Shown in picture, left to right, is John Grant, David Grant, Rand Allan, and Dr. Phil Smith.

David Grant outlined some of the basic ideas he wants to focus on during his tenure as president. As we are entering the Information Age in the 21st century, we should be improving our communication capabilities by better utilizing The Craigellachie newsletter, our national website, and the national Clan Grant Internet Listserv to rapidly communicate information to our members. In order to increase our membership, David called upon the commissioners and others of the Clan Grant Society to actively recruit new members and contact existing members to renew their memberships.

Sunday, May 5 - This was a day to relax and just enjoy the day and each other's company. A quick Kirkin' of the Tartans

was held by a Presbyterian Minister of Clan Scott. A smaller crowd of Grants participated in the Sunday Parade of Clans (we only rattled the window panes this time). We held a second full Bar-B-Q with Saturday's leftovers and invited our friends at Clan Hall over to help finish up the food. While we were eating lunch, this big, burly man with tattoos and long hair came sauntering up to Phil Smith. He announced that he heard tell Phil was a

their tartan for years and had about given up all hope of ever finding it. I declared this a day of celebration for his clan and pulled out a bottle of Grant's Scotch. His eyes got all big and wide, and he exclaimed "My God! Not only do they have their own world expert on tartans, they have their own whiskey, too!" We celebrated with a round of Grant's Scotch, then he pulled out his personal favorite and we shared another round.

Later in the day a woman



world expert in tartans and wondered if Phil would be able to help him with his problem. It seems that his clan is a very small clan and several decades ago, they lost all knowledge of their clan tartan. Phil stated that he knew of their clan and he did indeed know their tartan, whereupon he pulled out his book of tartans and showed him the pattern of his clan's tartan. The man grabbed Phil's hand and exclaimed that his clan had been searching for

came by the tent. She stated that her grandkids' mother was a Grant and had recently died in an accident. She came to the tent because she wanted to show her grandkids that they had a heritage beyond their parents and immediate family. Although their mother was gone, there was a whole new world of kin that she wanted them to learn about. We sold her two t-shirts and sat and talked with them for a while about Clan Grant.

Photo Album

We listened to Kenneth MacAlpine of the Clan MacAlpine Society as he talked about ideas to bring the Siol Alpin Clans into closer association with each other. The Siol Alpin Clans (Grant, MacGregor, MacAlpine, MacAulay of Ardencaple, MacFie (MacDuffie), MacKinnon, MacNab, and MacQuarrie) believe themselves to be related to each other through common ancestors in the royal clan of King Kenneth MacAlpine, who ruled Scotland in the 9th century A.D. One of ways Kenneth suggested to bring the clans closer together was for the members of each clan to wear their plant badge, the Scots Pine, which is common to only the Siol Alpin clans. The plant badge is the ancient form of clan identification before there were clan tartans or belt-and-buckle badges. It is primarily worn in the balmoral cap behind the belt and buckle badge, or lacking a cap, in the shirt as you would wear a flower in your lapel. This not only identifies us as a member of Clan Grant, it also identifies us as one of the Siol Alpin clans. A second suggested way suggested by Kenneth for the Siol Alpin clans to gain a closer association with each other is to group our tents together at the Highland gatherings held throughout the United States. This physically closer association with the Siol Alpin clans serves to reinforce our ties with each other.

Throughout the weekend, there were a whole host of activities for the participants of the Highland Gathering. In keeping with the COH tradition of activities for the clans, all athletics, dancing competitions, harp competitions, and



Grant, who gave talks on "Exploding the Tartan Myth and Gaelic - a Living Language." Phil continued to consult with clans and individual clansmembers throughout the weekend. His advice was greatly appreciated by many.

At 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, the games concluded and we packed up the tents, said our good-byes, promised to keep in touch with our newly discovered kin, and drove home, happily revitalized and excited about new beginnings and possibilities within Clan Grant.

piping competitions were held strictly at the amateur level. There were archery activities for the kids, lots of food, a haggis ceremony, sheep herding, and historical re-enactments.

For the first time in the United States, haggis hurling was an official sporting event. Tradition holds that haggis hurling first began generations ago when the Scottish wives would throw a haggis across the stream to their husbands for their lunch and the men would catch the haggis in their kilt to avoid rupturing the haggis. You decide if it was true or not. There were haggis-hurling competitions for children, women, and men. Since this was the first event ever held in the United States (It's big in Canada and the UK.), the winner of each

category walked away with a national record for the event.

As a primary focus of COH is education, instructional classes were held in genealogy, the Gaelic language, harp playing, and storytelling. An added bonus to the weekend activities was a lecture series by Dr. Phil Smith of Clan



In the News

Queen Mother, Scottish Descendent, Passes Away

Often called the most popular member of the royal family, the Queen Mother died in her sleep on March 30, 2002. She was 101 years old.

Born the Honourable Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon, the Queen Mother was descended from the Scottish royal family. In January 1923 she married the Duke of York, son of King George V. The Duke and Duchess of York became King George VI and Queen Elizabeth when King Edward VIII abdicated in 1936. They had two daughters, Elizabeth, the present queen, and Margaret, who died February 9, 2002, at age 71.

Queen Elizabeth became increasingly popular, especially during World War II. During the darkest days of the Blitz, the Queen insisted that she and her family would remain in London, enduring the same dangers that her subjects did.

King George VI died in 1952 and Princess Elizabeth, the present queen, ascended the throne. The Queen Mother maintained an active life, making more than 40 official visits abroad and serving as patron to some 350 organizations.

In the Kitchen

Shepherd's Pie

by Julie Jensen McDonald

A delicious one-dish meal. It's especially good when made with leftover roast leg of lamb.

3 T butter
1/2 C milk
1 onion, chopped
1 C well-flavored stock
2 carrots, chopped
Cornstarch paste (2 T cornstarch in 2 T water)
1 lb cooked meat, finely chopped
Stiff mashed potatoes, to cover
1 T chopped parsley
2 T grated Cheddar cheese
Salt and pepper, to taste

Melt butter in a large skillet and add onions and carrots. Cook until soft, but not browned. Add the meat and cook until both meat and vegetables are cooked through. Season with parsley, salt, and pepper. Add milk and stock and heat thoroughly. Thicken with cornstarch paste and remove from heat. Butter a large ovenproof casserole dish. Pour mixture into casserole dish and smooth top. Leave to cool. At this point, you may stop and continue later. Preheat oven to 350°. When the meat has cooled, make the mashed potatoes. Spread over the top of the casserole, making sure to cover well. Dot with a little butter and sprinkle with the grated cheese. Bake for 30 minutes or until the top is

golden brown.

Tip: It's a good idea to put the casserole on a large cookie sheet to catch any drips in the oven.

Melting Moments

by Julie Jensen McDonald

A delightful, plain, small cake that literally melts in your mouth. Excellent for afternoon tea. Try them spread with jam, or as an accompaniment to ice cream.

2/3 C butter
1 t baking powder
1/2 C granulated sugar
2 large eggs, beaten
1 t grated lemon rind
milk, if needed
2 C cornstarch

Preheat oven to 425°. Grease or line the small size, non-stick muffin pans with miniature cupcake papers. Cream butter and sugar together until thoroughly blended and of a light and fluffy texture. Add lemon rind and mix well. Sift cornstarch and baking powder together. Add this alternatively with the beaten eggs to the butter/sugar mixture, adding just a little of each at a time and mixing well after each addition. If dough is too stiff, add a little milk. Fill the prepared muffin pans half full and bake about 10-12 minutes, or until a delicate golden color. Cool on wire racks. (Makes 24)

Heritage Hunter

Genealogical News and Resources

Marge Woodruff, Keeper of the Records

Now that you have entered the data that you have been able to find on the PEDIGREE CHART and/or FAMILY GROUP SHEETS (see last two editions), I know you are impatient to jump in with both feet. But before you run out to the library or start searching the Internet, you must first:

1. Decide with which branch of the family you want to begin — Grant.

2. Learn a little about the geography and history of the area in which the family lived.

3. Set as research goal - look at the blank place in your family group sheet and decide what you want to learn about your family.

Before running around from place to place, take some lessons in genealogy. I can only offer so much assistance by way of a newsletter four times a year. If you are on the Internet, go to www.genealogyabout.com. This is an excellent group of lessons. Also try www.dearmyrtle.com/lessons.

If you are not using a computer, check your local library, Church of the Latter Day Saints History Center, or genealogy society to get information on when lessons are given.

If you already know something about researching, then find other people who may have your needed information. Check with me to see if I might have some data in the Clan Grant library. If you are on the Internet, check some of the major genealogy sites. Here is list of some of the major ones: www.familysearch.com (This will get you into the LDS records.), www.ancestry.com, www.rootsweb.com, www.cyndislist.com, and www.genealogy.com.

As you research, always document where you found your information. You should always document so that you can verify that it is accurate — never *ever* take someone's Internet information as the truth.

On the bottom or back of the Pedigree Chart, record the source for each item of information you collect. Look for original records or reproduced images of them. Create virtual road maps so that you can quickly return to the exact source if you ever need to find it again.

When citing sources, one of the most important things to keep in mind is that you should always cite the exact source. For example: descriptive title, date, author, and publisher. A source entry for a newspaper article might include the date the item was found plus the page, column, and paragraph number. If you find something in a Bible, write down where that book can be found, i.e., in whose possession, or at which library or historical society. If you have the original certificate or image of a document, write down where it can be found or how you received it. In other words, the who, what, when, where, and why of every piece of information helps provide clues later. Read *Roots Web Guide to Tracing Family Trees No. 12* at www.rootsweb.com/~rwguide/lesson12.htm. Another good resource is *Genealogy.com: How to Cite Sources* by John Wylie. It can be found at www.genealogy.com/genealogy19_wylie.html.

Happy Hunting,

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Grant Miscellaneous

Grant Items For Sale

Please make check payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY and mail to:

George Grant
301 Masters Road
Hixson, TN 37343-3017
1- 800- 445-2185

- Clan Grant Knit Golf Shirts; Teal with Gold Badge.....\$ 17.50
Please specify, S - M - L - XL
- Grant Pewter Kilt Pin (no postage).....\$ 15.00
- Grant Coat of Arms Bronze Plaque 6"X4".....\$ 40.00
- Grant Wooden Wall Plaque 7"X8".....\$ 50.00
- Grant Wooden Wall Plaque 10"X12".....\$ 120.00
- Grant Coat of Arms Key Ring with Leather Fob.....\$ 30.00
- History of Clan Grant by Lord Strathspey.....\$ 35.00
- Traditions of Scotland by Gilbert Summers.....\$ 25.00
- Etched Clan Grant Highball Glasses, 6 oz, set of 6.....\$ 35.00

Postage will be charged at current Post Office rates and discussed at time of order.

SHIPPING ADDRESS:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Membership #: _____
E-mail: _____

Name Tag Order Form

\$8.00 EACH (Includes US postage)

Please PRINT CLEARLY. Second line is optional! Please note: We collect as many requests as we can before ordering. There may be a delay before your nametag is ready! Please make check payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY and mail to:

Jean Grant Wilson
3815 Millpoint Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32257-8933

BADGE # 1

Name _____

Line 2 (optional) _____
(ex: Title or Office or City/State)

BADGE # 2

Name _____

Line 2 (optional) _____
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SHIPPING ADDRESS:

Name: _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Membership #: _____ E-mail _____

Grant Miscellaneous

Clan Grant Society Membership Application

NEW RENEWAL Membership #: _____ Date of Birth _____

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Business Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

E-mail _____

Dues: \$20.00 1-year \$40.00 2-years \$55.00 3-years Life Membership \$400.00

We also offer discount subscriptions to: The Highlander \$10.50 per year Scottish Life \$11.95 per year

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3815 Millpoint Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32257-8933

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c/o Jean Grant Wilson
Membership Secretary
3815 Millpoint Drive
Jacksonville FL 32257-8933

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