



Craigellachie



Summer 2004

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Fall Deadline to submit is August 15th!

Unsolved Mystery of the Malt Train Robbery



From The Strathspey and Badenoch Herald Grantown-on-spey, UK

You're liable to find all sorts of things at a kirk jumble sale, but the odds are against finding a crime mystery involving whisky. It's just possible that somebody reading this will be able to solve that mystery.

Two years ago, the "Scots Magazine" published an article by Ann Glen, recalling the heyday of the Strathspey whisky trains. The magazine ended up in the jumble sale, and, leafing through it, I saw the title, was interested, and invested my 10 pence. One hard fact about distilling is that there is apt to be a fair amount of "leakage". I remember once mentioning (in print) the fact that whisky was being smuggled out of Carsebridge; in those days, if I'm right, it was the biggest spirit distillery in Europe. It was a casual remark, made in the passing, but the Customs mounted a full-scale investigation. They didn't approach me and I would not have made them any the wiser if they had - but the distillery is long since closed, so there is no harm in revealing that the whisky was being smuggled out in jerricans under the draff being taken away for cattle feed. The Speyside mystery?

One of the most daring episodes occurred in 1953, the year of the Coronation, and possibly the intention was to stockpile plenty of drams to mark that occasion in style. The first hint that there had been a robbery came on a Sunday afternoon when an Aviemore man, Donald McBean, who was known as Dodger, was out trapping rabbits on Granish Moor just north of the village. While checking burrows in a sand bank, he came across what was left of a hogshead, a 55-gallon cask which had once held whisky. Returning in some agitation to Granish farm, he told the farmer, Pat Mackintosh, about the find. What was he to do? Pat was a

By C. David Grant, President

A Grant Wedding - Our big news for this issue, and for the last six months or so, is the May 29 marriage of my daughter, Katherine, to Mr. Todd Boyce, also from Atlanta. So please indulge a proud father as I fill more space than you may think is warranted!

As this is written, the newlyweds are honeymooning in California, beginning in the Nappa Valley and then driving down the beautiful California coastline, later flying to Las Vegas to attend the June 12 nuptials of two of their wedding guests. Todd passed the bar on his first try after finishing law school and is now an assistant district attorney in metro Atlanta. (The bad news is we have a lawyer in the family; the good news is he's putting away the bad guys!) Katherine is a teacher in the school system where her grandfather was superintendent for 25 years. Their relationship started in a coffee house, blossomed into something more serious, then survived Katherine's year in Boston, so we think this must be the real thing!

The bride's father carefully prepared his rehearsal dinner toast for maximum embarrassment of the bride (of course! But she was polite enough to say she loved the stories ...) and finished by presenting Todd a Grant tartan tie. I used Dr. Philip Smith (without his permission - sorry, Phil!) as an example of someone who wears the Grant tartan, not to mention a kilt, and whose wife is the Grant. No tartan was in evidence at the wedding - had to console myself with the thought that it's the bride's day and all eyes should be on her! I'll need to be as patient with Todd about immersing

him in Scottish culture as I've been with my son, Patrick, who for the first time has worn his Grant tartan sportcoat to a non-Scottish event, a family Christmas party.

becoming Scottish is, after all, a process, not an event! The wedding went very smoothly from what might have been expected at the rehearsal - the bride's father had to practice walking, both alone and with the bride, to successfully navigate down the aisle. Single malt played no role - maybe that was the problem! The bridesmaids were even lovelier than we knew they would be, and the groomsmen cleaned up pretty well themselves. More than a few folks commented on the obvious feelings Todd and Katherine have for each other and the amount of love that filled the chapel ...

The newlyweds had planned their reception to be a celebration of their special day, with dancing, great food and drink, and a festive atmosphere. Family and close friends quickly forgot most inhibitions and joined in the fun. Even the parents participated beyond the obligatory first dances, as their extended recovery time attests! One (and perhaps former) friend with an appreciation of things Scottish commented that he started having an even better time when he remembered I was paying for all of it!

The new couple has promised to make a return appearance at our Friday night reception at the Stone Mountain Highland Games. Please join us in October! A picture of the couple is on page 7...

leading figure in the local Free Presbyterian kirk, and an upright member of the community. He probably took a dim view of rabbit trapping on the Sabbath, too, and he insisted that Dodger tell the police about the cask. That afternoon When Constable Mackenzie, Aviemore's solitary representative of Inverness-shire Constabulary, heard about the discovery, action was swift. The station master at Aviemore Junction commandeered the tank engine which did the shunting in the sidings, and with a brake van in tow, they set off for Granish Moor. Their passage was watched in disbelief from the lineside where some Aviemore railway staff were able to view them. It was most unusual for the "tankie" to leave the confines of the station's sidings. In those days, a regular whisky train worked up the Speyside line from Craigellachie, picking up vehicles at sidings as it went along. How was it possible for a complete hogshead of malt whisky to disappear from such a train which did not stop between Boat of Garten and Aviemore? The booked running time from the Boat (as it was known to the locals) was about 15 minutes or so. The line rises out of the Boat for a couple of miles, and then it is downhill on a gentle grade. When the cask vanished, the train was trundling along under cover of darkness. The driver was Angus McPherson and the fireman Fred Masson, both of Boat of Garten. They and the guard stated repeatedly the engine had not halted on the line. Although the journey time had been longer than usual, this was explained away by the fact that old Angus was a nervous character and was unfamiliar with the layout of Aviemore Junction with its array of signals and mesh of sidings (Boat of Garten shed had recently closed and its men had been transferred to Aviemore). At the junction it was the practice for the train to be re-marshalled with a fresh and more powerful locomotive before setting out for the south. What is even more surprising, as driver Willie Wilkie recounts his recollection of the episode, is that there was no record at the bond to which the casks were to be delivered that any of the consignment had gone missing. The casks

Raves & Rants



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which were on the list, as dispatched from the distilleries, had all turned up at their warehouse destinations. With the retrieval of the damaged cask, there then began intensive investigations. Enginemen and other shed staff were questioned repeatedly but without result. Even poor Dodger was pulled into the net as he worked as a shunter on the railway at Aviemore junction. . .

Were men hidden in the wagon? This would have been a possibility as on occasion wagons might have tarpaulins pulled over them. The actual method employed to remove a cask from a train in transit was the subject of much speculation. First the ropes which tied the casks in place within the wagon would have to be undone. It is said that car tires were pulled over the ends of the selected cask to cushion its fall. The hogshead capacity favored by distillers would have been a manageable size. From Boat of Garten, the railway runs initially through woodland but the line then traverses the open heathery tracts of Granish Moor. About two miles north of Aviemore, the track is on a grassy embankment. This is the presumed scene of the robbery. The bolts could be pulled on the drop door of a wagon, and the cask sent rolling down the bank, there to be retrieved by others in the plot. Once emptied, the evidence in the form of the broached cask was hidden in a sand hill.

Was this big whisky theft the first and only time a whole cask had been filched? The mystery has never been solved. Now, just over half a century later, (with whisky bowling along in huge stainless steel tankers instead of being transported in convenient sized hogsheads), the mystery made public again by a kirk jumble sale is unlikely to be solved. Unless you know different. . .

I suppose it is improbable that anyone who pauchled the hogshead of whisky to drink the health of the young queen is likely to own up personally, but it's just possible that someone will write to say "My father told me that what happened was so-and-so. . ." I kind of hope so.

Clan Grant Society USA, Inc.



The Clan Grant Society, USA was founded in 1977 by George & Lucille Grant by authority of Sir Patrick Grant of Grant (1912-1992) The Right Honourable Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 32nd Hereditary Chief of Clan Grant.

And continues under authority of Sir James Grant of Grant, The Right Honourable Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 33rd Hereditary Chief of Clan Grant.

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is August 15th!**



Notes from the Editor

By Holly Grant Wilson Floyd

In the months between publications of our quarterly Craiggellachie I am always thinking of different ideas in regard to format and then many more hours are spent on the Internet foraging for "Grant News". When I receive an email (especially with an attachment), or get an envelope in the mail, it is so exciting because it means someone has sent something in to share!

Many thanks to all that made contributions for this summer issue. I would like to convey some of my thoughts to you, (which have been running through my mind), in hope that it will inspire even more of you to think about contributing to the features of our newspaper.

I mentioned last time that my Scottish heritage has been instilled all of my life and in turn (as it is to all of you), our responsibility is to pass this on to our children and also their children. Leah and Johnny have pictures and memories of being involved with the activities of our Annual Highland Games each year, they have researched our heritage for English projects and I even had my grandson, Ian, out at the Games this year when he was three months old! It is a wonderful sensation to march in the Parade of Tartans with your family and others to represent Clan Grant! With all that said, I would like to see a "Wee Grants" section (or some other name for it) that would be like a children's corner and highlight news and pictures of our bairns that we've taken at the Scottish events, etc. After all, they are our future!

It is also my desire to have correspondence on a regular basis from all our commissioners so that anyone that sees the Craiggellachie could know that we have representation of Clan Grant all over the United States. The listing of Games is included in this issue so vacation plans can be made to include "a wee bit of Scotland". Many of us have enjoyed hosting a Grant tent and the idea of sharing how we do it only helps to make it easier, more interesting to those seeking their roots, and lets other clan members know how they can help.

Many of our readers are actively doing research of their heritage and I would like to encourage you to send in short articles (as Michael Jackonis did), so that others who are looking along the same lines might know. In my family we have been wondering whatever happened to my Papa's, brother's, son- Hamish Grant, as they lost touch in 1942 in South Africa. It's not so far fetched to believe that someone could read this and mention it to Hamish.

We also have many native Scots within our clan and it would be very sentimental reading for some to hear about their experience of growing up in Scotland. All I ask is that you entertain the idea of sharing through the Craiggellachie!

I also want to ask if anyone out there might have back issues of the Craiggellachie that they would be willing to part with. I would like to start a file that might be passed to future editors. (And it would be interesting to read!)

In closing, I hope that you enjoy the small changes in this edition, and that each and everyone will find something of interest within.....

Stand Fast and Moran Taing,
Holly

Clan Grant Election Update

A Clan Grant election for four offices (Vice-President, Secretary and two Board Members-at-large) will be held in 2004. A nominating committee has been at work and announces the following slate of candidates:

- Vice-President-----Rand B. Allan
La Jolla, CA
- Secretary-----Dr. Philip D. Smith
West Brandywine, PA
- Board Members-at-large----- William Burton
Lebanon, OR
- Board Member-at-large--Dr. Christopher G. Pratt
New York, NY

Any five active members, acting as a group, may submit a nomination or nominations for any office up for election. All nominations must show the consent of the nominee(s). Such nominations shall be transmitted to the Secretary (Dr. Philip D. Smith, 442 Freedom Blvd., West Brandywine, PA 19320-1559), in writing, and post marked not later than July 31, 2004. The secretary will mail to each active member a ballot containing the names of all candidates and the offices for which nominated. For additional information, contact Allan F. Grant (afg29@comcast.net) or John C. Grant (jctgrant@aol.com) or (770) 466-1814.

The full text of Clan Grant Society bylaws can be found at www.clangrant-s.org/.

Clan Grant Membership Application

I (We) wish to become a member of the Clan Grant Society

New [] Renewal [] Membership # _____

Date of Birth _____

Names _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PH _____ E-Mail _____

Make all cheques or money orders payable to
Clan Grant Society
Mail to: Jean Grant Wilson - Membership Secretary
3815 Millpoint Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32257-8933

PAYMENT OF DUES: Cheque # _____

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

Membership Matters

By Jean Grant Wilson
Membership Secretary



A big thanks to those of you that have sent in their changes for the database! It is so important to keep it current. All information on your records are held confidential and never go outside the Society. We also need to know about marriages, divorces, deaths, and births! And don't forget that if you move and don't tell us the post office will not forward your *Craiggellachie*.

A big welcome to all the new members in this quarter! We hope you will enjoy your membership and participate in the activities of the Society. Do you have some expertise to offer? Remember, volunteering is only as "big a chore" as you make it and reaps great rewards!

I am pleased to see that more of you are joining our Listserv. It is important also to let me know of any changes in your email address. Be sure to include both your old and new address when doing so. That way you will not miss any "news flashes" that go out through Topica. If you haven't added your email address yet, please do so by sending it to me at clngrant@comcast.net. One thing to remember when you join, just click on Clan Grant. If you click on any of the other topics you will receive other adverts and newsletters! The Clan Grant Listserv is a private mailing list open *only* to members of the US Society. Names will not be sold or distributed in any way!

And, as I am also the commissioner for Florida Games....

It is the slow time for Games in Florida during the summer months, thank goodness! It also gives me time to request coverage and plan out the year. I am still desperately looking for volunteers for some of the Games during the winter, fall and spring. I can not travel to away Games these days so would greatly appreciate your help! There must be some of you FL Grants out there that would like the opportunity to help out and participate in Clan activities?

I will list some of the Games below and if there is no name after it, won't you consider hosting the tent. You never know, but you might enjoy it! Why not give it a try once and see?

All entry fees are covered by the Society and you will experience a great fun day.

- Tallahassee Games: 30 Oct 04 -
- Ocala Games: 6 Nov 04 -
- Central Fl Games/Orlando: 15 Jan 05 @ Winter Springs
FL - Michael Bongerz
- Sarasota Games: 5 Feb 05 - Wm Grant & Murray Grant
FL State Fair/Tampa: 11 Feb 05 -
- Zephyrhills Games: 12 Feb 05 -
- NE FL Games (Jax): 26 Feb 05 @ Green Cove Springs,
FL - Jean Wilson
- SE FL Games: 5 Mar 05 @ Pembroke Pines, FL -
- Dunedin Games: 2 April 05 -

There are, of course, other games around. If there is one near you that isn't listed and you would like to try hosting a tent, please let me know by phone (904) 268-9049 or clngrant@comcast.net.

Having a tent at a Games is just one way to get the Clan Grant name out there for other Grants to see.

A Grant Reunion - Made Easy?

By: Betty Power

Our "branch" has been around for quite some time now. We have been tracking their progeny since the mid 1800s, though some of the "limbs" have yet to be completed. With this in mind, cousin Kathy and I undertook the daunting task of putting together a family reunion. Our matriarch, Rita Grant Christensen, is closing in on her 86th birthday and is the only remaining sibling of a large family unit. What an opportunity to glean additional information for our database. We dared not wait, for although our Grant women tend to be long lived, who knows what tomorrow may drop on one's doorstep?

What one should do: Start early! A year in advance is not too soon. The earliest notification possible is greatly appreciated by most.

What we did: Along about February when the snows just wouldn't quit, Kathy and I started a long string of phone calls firming up the idea of getting this reunion off the ground. We planned for July 2003, a mere 5 months away!

Location: The cousins, first, second & third, removed once, twice or not at all, live up and down the east coast from Boston to Florida and north from Vancouver, B.C. to North Dakota with stops in between. How do you pick a central location? There is always the "Throw a Dart" method, but we looked at age groupings, what recreational opportunities would be required, ease of transportation, lodging and last but not least medical facilities in case of emergencies. When all this was sifted through, we arbitrarily decided to hold our gathering in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. This is where I live, a place that many were interested in visiting for the first time or again.

Who to invite? This should be an easy one, but today when families are so extended with second or third marriages, stepchildren and divorced spouses, it isn't. We started with our own spouses: their families were not invited, nor were divorced spouses, though any children of that union were. Stepchildren who were not a part of a Grant household were likewise uninvited. Boyfriends, no way!

Who came? Spouses, stepchildren, foster children, boyfriends and in-laws! It did not matter one bit. They joined in and got a real look at "family" in generational terms – three generations each for the men and the women.

Accommodations? Our home is a small, mountain retreat with limited sleeping quarters for eight. Our own children would have first choice of staying at the homestead, so I set out to find other resources. We live in a private community that has rental homes, so the rental agency was the first stop. There were several places available, but going fast as our reunion date included July 4th weekend. I got photocopies of the homes, along with all rental information to forward to all interested parties. Next, I went downtown to Jim Thorpe to check out any and all Bed and Breakfast Inns and last was the local, and not so local motels. Now, I have to tell you this was not an easy task. Gathering the costs was nothing. It was tracking the mileage from one place to another and writing down directions that took hours and hours. Only then was I able to forward information. I made NO reservations. It was up to those attending to make their own lodging arrangements. It worked! Everyone had a place to lay their head and grab some shut-eye when they wanted or needed to.

Food: When? Where? How much?

By early March word was out and there was sufficient interest being shown to start thinking about feeding the horde. I was familiar with a caterer who did small parties. She was available on July 5th and the dinner was set. We got a menu together that included something for everyone from the toddlers to those who were vegetarians. (Don't forget to consider dietary restrictions when planning.) Now the question was where this dinner should be held. Our community hall was available, but restrictions limited the number who could attend. Next stop was the local fire hall, which was available and had no capacity restrictions that would bar our way. Deposit down and we were set. I also reserved a pavilion at the local State Park so that we would have a spot for horseshoes, softball, swimming, boating, picnicking etc. during the daylight hours of the 5th.

Armed with a list of the local shops for groceries, beer/spirits, specialty shops, Churches of all denominations and their service hours, theaters, medical facilities, local restaurants, recreation facilities and lodging, all with clocked mileage to my home and directions from the four corners of the States, plus the dinner menu and cost for the 5th, I was ready to heat up the information highway with the distribution.

At the end of March all the information was disseminated to any and all of our Grant relatives. My deadline for reserving a spot was the last Saturday in May, about 5 weeks from the event date. This gave me time to cancel or change all contracted vendors. It also gave me a little leeway for those who NEVER respond on time.

End result: If I tell you it was perfect, would you believe me? Well, it was as close as one can get. All lodging was ready although perhaps, not in the conditions we are used to in our own homes - a few ants, some forgotten dust, no air conditioning, which would have been a blessing. The pavilion worked like a charm for one and all. Those who wished to "play" did so, while the rest sat and caught up with one another. The weather had not been as nice prior to or after the time period from the end of June when the first group arrived until mid July when the last one left. Yes, there were folks coming and going for a two-week period. It was great! Everyone was "in" on Friday, July 4th. My husband and I hosted a welcome BBQ at our home. We had 53 in attendance of the 127 living family members. I consider this amazing since there was so little notice given. Everyone brought something, so my "cooking" time was nil and my "getting to know you again" time was maximized.

Cousins from Ottawa, North Dakota, Massachusetts, New York, Tennessee, North Carolina, Ohio and Pennsylvania came. Rita was the eldest and our grandson, Thomas, at 8 months the youngest. We saw cousins whom we had not seen in 35 years! My own family had moved many times over the years with the result that our children had never met their cousins! Update the family tree? We forgot!! So interested were we in getting caught up on all the news, it just never happened. We did, however, manage to take generational photos, which are priceless.

Next time – Scotland 2005??

Fall Deadline to Submit is August 15th!



The Planners-John & Betty Power with
Kathy & Tom Cahill



The Grant Women-Betty Power, Margaret Fearnley, Rita
Grant Christensen, Penny Slater, & Kathy Cahill



Michael Grant McDonald,
Odie Christensen & Jim McKiernan



Rita Grant Christensen (85) &
Thomas John Power (8 months)

Comments and a tip: It is a LOT of work to put something like this together. The hardest piece was finding items for memory bags to distribute at the dinner. I wanted Grant items that were not too costly so that everyone attending went home with something. I surfed the net until I thought my eyes would fall out, finally contacting Jean Grant Wilson who put me on the right track. Thank you Jean!

Every family received a button that said, "It's Great to be a Grant", a Clan Grant bookmark, a Clan Grant booklet, a copy of the family tree and an application for the Clan Grant Society.

Costs were minimal and born by all attending, for instance the cost of the dinner included the cost of the hall rental and was passed on to all. The few extras (pavilion rental and memory bag item costs) were split between Kathy and I.

It was wonderful; the best thing I have ever done for my family and myself. Don't wait! Start planning right now!!

What Makes a Grant Tent

Tips on hosting a Grant Tent by: William Burton

I'm no expert, and am still in the process of learning, but have assisted my wife in convening for her Clan MacNachtan at no less than ten gatherings in 2003, and so far two in 2004, with our third of the year as of May 22. I am more than willing to share my experience with anyone who wishes to start representing the Clan at a Game, or Gathering.

To "Convene" takes a bit of persistence, outgoing personality, and a genuine interest in people, Clan Grant, the Society, and things Scottish. You can't expect people to visit with you if you haven't anything interesting to look at, handle/touch, or speak of at your site. You can't take it personally if they decide not to pay any attention to you either. You've got to be "on stage" for the public any time you convene. To them, YOU are the Clan. A lack of a smile, a sharp word, or impatience shown, can leave a very bad taste in a searcher, and cause them to give up their search because of "That guy and his poor attitude!" (I've seen too many people sitting in the back of their tents, behind a shield of books or maps, crocheting, eating their lunches, sleeping, and arguing among themselves!)

We have a 10 x 10 tent that we set up, and dependant upon the space available, a 6ft or 8ft table, usually down one side of the tent so that it doesn't block access. We keep extra chairs, and when at outside venues, invite folk in to sit a spell in the shade. We keep a thermal cooler of ice water, and cups also, just as a gesture of Scottish Hospitality. Once the table is set, we place a tablecloth over, then a goodly portion of material of the Clan Tartan. Upon this we display our books. I purchased a small wire stair step stand for this purpose, to keep the table neat. Most folk won't come over to the table if it looks cluttered, or with too much to read. Pictures are of great use, if you can find one of your Clan's Castle, or specific Shield.

"Tartan for Me" is the one most used in helping folk. But we include such books that show World, County, and District Tartans. One we rely upon is "The Highlander" and its Annual Directory. We can look up the addresses of other Clan societies, and give the searchers that address to enable their contact with their own group. We have a couple of interesting cookbooks that draw attention to our table, as well as a paperweight with Clan Crest, and a cut-glass decanter for both the MacNachtan, and Wm Grant & Sons Whiskeys. We decorate with flowers, and swags of tartan materials

(scarves are easily obtainable through vendors &/or eBay sellers) you'll find out after some trial & error what is a "draw" for people to come over and look. Maps are almost an essential, and there are several good ones available from Bartholemew.

We sit CLOSE to the table, and call out to folk that pass by... "Hello, are you enjoying your day?"... "Have you found your Clan?"... "Can we answer any questions?" ... which draws the folk to us, where we endeavor to help them, even when they are of a different "rootage".

I think one needs to have a smattering knowledge of Scottish History, and/or a wee bit understanding of the "thread count" of Tartans, the story of why the Thistle is Scotland's National Flower, the Lochness Monster, and so on. (Anything that will add color to your gab!!) This will also make it more fun for you, and less dry when you have no resource for actually tracing a person's family/genealogy.

It may sound overwhelming, but it isn't really. We have purchased some stackable, plastic storage boxes that everything fits nicely into, and a hand truck that facilitates the moving of the stack from tent site to vehicle. A list, and color-coordinated boxes help keep things in sequential order, lessening the stress of "fitting things together".

You just have to start !! Get a feel for what is needed...make some visits to other conveners' and see what they have to offer, then copy their tactics to make your tent just that much better.

If anyone in the Society is interested in contacting me, I will gladly list the books and maps my wife & I have bought and used. We also keep a sign-in sheet on a clipboard and ask the visitors to sign in. Then prior to the next years gathering, drop a note snail-mail, or e-mail to invite them back to our tent.

I hope this is of some help if you are considering being a Clan Representative, and that it might give others who are all ready Conveners or Commissioners, ideas on what is possible to do on a limited budget. We have been at this for four years now, and have made purchases, budget permitting, over a period of time to accumulate what we feel is a good representation of Scotland, and our Clans....

Good fortune goes with you as you attempt and consider... Contact me if you need more help. Best Regards..... William



Photo is of a Grant tent in Florida.....Take a picture of your Grant tent at the next Scottish event to be shown in our *Craigellachie!*

News from Home

The new £1.6 million Scottish Family History Centre will be fully operational in 2006.

Deputy Justice Minister Hugh Henry gave family historians their first glimpse of the physical layout and organization of the campus that will create a 'one-stop-shop' for genealogy research. It will bring together services provided separately by the General Register Office for Scotland, National Archives of Scotland and Court of the Lord Lyon.

The new Family History Centre will span the adjacent General Register House and New Register House buildings, both A-listed buildings at the East end of Edinburgh's Princes Street to create an integrated Register House campus.

Deputy Justice Minister Hugh Henry said, "The buildings contain a treasure trove of information reflecting the personal histories of Scots over many centuries. The creation of a single-family history campus will unite the efforts of three Offices providing genealogy research services. It will produce a first class facility - a visitor attraction in its own right. This will be a magnet to ancestor hunters both in Scotland and across the world. It will increase our understanding of our past and help to boost tourism."

Tourism and Culture Minister Frank McAveety said, "Research shows that many visitors to Scotland give 'family roots and ancestry' as the main influence on their decision to holiday in Scotland. Scotland is fortunate in having some of the best genealogical resources in the world. The development of a Family History Service provides a valuable opportunity to attract more visitors and maximize use of this tremendous resource."

The Scottish Executive announced the launch of the £1.6 million Scottish Family History Centre project in December 2002 and work has subsequently begun on defining the physical layout and organization of the new campus.

Two new public search rooms will be created. Other benefits include enhanced facilities for visitors, exhibition and retail spaces, and improved disabled access. Online and other facilities will be integrated to provide an enhanced service to family historians.

The plans have been developed in consultation with Historic Scotland as both buildings have grade 'A' listed status. Building work will start early in 2005 and take approximately 12 months to complete.

At present, three separate institutions hold the main records which individuals use as the basis for their family history:

- General Register Office for Scotland (GROS)
 - National Archives of Scotland (NAS)
 - Court of the Lord Lyon
- They occupy two buildings – General

Register House and New Register House – which lie in close proximity at the East End of Princes Street in Edinburgh. The Scottish Family History Research Service will build on work already begun by the partners in creating digital images of their records, and online versions of indexes and catalogues. This project will enable staff to give a fuller, more tailored service to genealogists to provide enhanced exhibition facilities, and to exploit more fully the visitor potential.

From Tartanday.gov.uk



Duthil Kirk Past & Present

By: Don Grant, editor of UK Standfast

With regard to Duthil Kirk, since Sir Archibald Grant has been Chairman, he has set out his objectives for the UK Society. One of these was to revamp the website and then to revitalize the plans for Duthil. Much of the previous attempts to restore Duthil have been reported in Standfast (the magazine from the UK Clan Grant Society), but in brief:

- * The Kirk was given to the Grant Society in 1986 after it's life as a church was over.
- * It needs constant maintenance to keep it weather proof. What funds that are available have been used for this purpose.
- * The National lottery started to grant money for heritage projects and the society submitted a proposal.
- * Our proposal was rejected and it was suggested that we co-operate with the Grantown on Spey Museum, which received £250000.
- * The suggestion was not appreciated as the GOS museum has a different purpose to our proposed centre.
- * The original proposal was for the kirk to be a full time museum and visitor centre.
- * A revised proposal was submitted, but to no avail.
- * The only people it seems not to receive a "grant" are the "Grants"!!!!
- * There have been changes in the area now that the Cairngorm National Park has been established and Duthil falls within the boundary.
- * Sir Archibald is therefore still seeking alternatives for funding and I expect that he will report back to the society and what details he reveals will be published in the next issue of Standfast.

Keeper of the Records

By Don Grant, Clan Genealogist

"If forward progress is blocked, try a lateral"

Good advice for the football field- also good in genealogy. Often when tracing our ancestors in linear fashion, we come up against what lots of folks call "brick walls." That's when a family line just seems to stop suddenly. This is when the serious work begins. Start looking into siblings, cousins, aunts and uncles. Some of the best photos and stories I've found regarding direct ancestors came from indirect sources (distant cousins). Tracking your ancestor's close relatives can also help you sort out migration patterns; if you know where the person in question can likely be found then you have a place to start looking. Keep this in mind, as published census indexes can be incorrect. Everything that you're using for research was most likely originally transcribed by someone who was unfamiliar with your ancestor, and their name may be misspelled, sometimes terribly so. It's a good idea when searching online to search by soundex or inexact spelling if given these options. Occasionally, an ancestor may be listed by a middle name or nickname, so be open-minded in your search parameters. Sometimes it just comes down to going through a census record line by line; painful but necessary. Occasionally, you can try a "Hail Mary" and simply go online to Google (or Yahoo if you prefer) to research your ancestor. It's amazing what you can get back with this. I found the inscribed powder horn of my great- great- great grandfather, William Colin Grant, by randomly searching the web with variations of his name and home county as search parameters. But try as you might, there's going to come a time when you just have to

get in the car, empty your bank account to fill it up and hit the open road in search of people who haven't traveled themselves in quite some time. State archives, county courthouses and local historical societies are all places that eventually every genealogist ends up.

You're looking for any scrap of paper with your ancestor's name attached. Deed records can help you fill out family groups when no will exists. Court records can provide invaluable detail; some of it occasionally unsavory. Be warned, however, those old record books are heavy. I've come away from several courthouses with a nasty headache the following morning. One very nice record that you may come across even when there's no will is an estate settlement, sometimes these name entire extended families. Don't get discouraged, though, if your efforts are less than fruitful. The good thing about ancestors is they stay put just waiting for you to find that one clue that'll lead to an exciting, if one-sided reunion. And when you're done (as if anyone ever gets done with researching their family history) you've probably seen a lot of places that you might otherwise have passed up visiting and you're probably qualified for a second career as an FBI Profiler. And if, perchance, you should manage to trace your departed namesake over the pond and hook into some august lineage that was kept in perpetuity by some clerk of the clan, don't fret, there's always your spouse's family. Now, get out there and dig up some dead people. And keep me posted on what you find. Stand Fast, (you'll need to, you've got a lot of work ahead of you)!



William Colin Grant & his powder horn



Grant Items for Sale

- 1876 Grant Tartan Fabric 50/50 Poly/Cotton 60 inches wide\$14.00 yd
- Grant Knit Golf Shirts; Teal with Gold Badge (s-m-l-xl).....\$17.50
- 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
- Etched Clan Grant Highball Glasses, 6 oz, set of 6.....\$ 35.00

Make check payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY and mail to:

George Grant
301 Masters Road,
Hixson, TN 37343



Ph: 423-842-4581

Postage will be at current Post Office rates
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Name _____ Member # _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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Peter Grant A Scottish-American Soldier, Settler & Slave

By Michael Jacksonis
(Clan Grant member and 11th generation descendent of Peter Grant)

I offer this glimpse into my (and Clan Grant's) family history in hopes of encouraging regular contributions to *Craigellachie*, our extended family newsletter, about the people and events that made us who we are today. A common trait in Scottish culture is a keen interest in our ancestors. It strengthens our sense of identity, tradition and continuity through the years. One of the fascinating, and little known, chapters in Scottish and American history concerns "Cromwell's Slaves," of whom Peter Grant was one.

In 1650 the English Civil War had spread into Scotland. Scottish forces supporting the Stuart king Charles II faced England's Puritan leader Oliver Cromwell and his New Model Army at the Battle of Dunbar. The Scots had backed Cromwell up against the East coast of Scotland, and were able to hold the high ground expecting to starve the English into surrender. Capitalizing on a tactical error by the Scottish general Leslie, the English under Cromwell launched an early morning attack on September 3, 1650, and routed the Scots.

Peter Grant, from Inverness, was a 19-year-old participant in that fateful battle. The Scottish Presbyterian Covenanter's clerical committee had already purged their army of many of the best warriors, considering them "unbelievers," and then persuaded Leslie to leave the high ground and camp for the night prior to a September 3 assault on the English. Cromwell seized the advantage by attacking before sunrise in a downpour. Nearly 3,000 Scots were killed, many more wounded and around 9,000 were taken prisoner. Peter Grant and his fellow captives were marched half-naked and ill fed from Dunbar to England. After nearly continuous marching, day and night, only 3,000 reached Durham alive and over half of those died shortly thereafter. The survivors, many of whom were more rugged Highlanders, faced an uncertain future. Peter Grant was one of 150 that were ulti-

mately sold into slavery for shipment to the Lynn Iron Works in Saugus, Massachusetts (near Boston) at 30 pounds each. The December voyage of these soldiers-turned-slaves across the icy Atlantic in the tiny ship *Unity* lasted six surely miserable weeks. Upon arrival, they were put to work in the iron foundries for the duration of their seven-year contracts of servitude. By 1659, however, Peter Grant's prospects had turned around. He had regained his freedom and was able to purchase land in Kittery (now Berwick) Maine. His brother James had thus far shared the same fate, but he died shortly after arriving in Maine, possibly at the hands of Native Americans.

In 1664 Peter married James' widow Joanna, the daughter of Lieutenant George Ingersoll. Peter had been brought before the Church court and accused of living with her, and having a child out of wedlock. Peter and Joanna asserted that the child, Elizabeth, was fathered by James and they were apparently acquitted of the charge. Although they had seven children together, only sons William and James had families. Those families grew through the years and made significant contributions to the development of New England and the birth of this nation. Peter's descendants served in the American Revolution and in the Civil War, and he himself was a prominent citizen and an original member of the Berwick Church. Peter and Joanna had a long life together, dying within few years of each other c.1712. Their gravesites are unmarked, but are likely located in the Grant cemetery along the Salmon Falls River.

I am amazed at the amount and detail of information about Peter Grant that has survived through the years. The Library of Congress and the National Archives are fantastic sources and helped me immeasurably. I was even able to locate a reprint of Peter Grant's last will and testament. I encourage you to gather your Grant family stories and share them with us all!

All About C.O.S.C.A.

<http://www.cosca.net/>

In 1972, Dr. Herbert P. MacNeal, while researching his own Scottish heritage, made his first trip to the mountains of Western North Carolina for the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. Over the next couple of years, he found many others among the attendees who shared his both interest in his Scottish heritage and a desire to share this heritage with others. As he visited the various Clan and Society tents upon Macrae Meadows, it became obvious to Dr. MacNeal that there was no liaison between these autonomous organizations. Dr. MacNeal envisioned an overall organization that could provide this missing link between the independent Clans, Societies and Scottish groups. This organization would be tasked with facilitating an open exchange of ideas and information in promoting their common Scottish heritage. Meeting with Clan leaders in 1974, Dr. MacNeal found there was an interest in forming an umbrella organization. Eventually, the fledgling organization from which COSCA descends was born with election of Officers and the establishment of a mission to preserve and promote the customs, traditions and heritage of the Scottish people. The name of the new organization was The Council of Scottish Clan Associations. Visit or refer someone you know to the website for more information. Clan Grant is a member of C.O.S.C.A. and has been for many years.

Grants In The News

National Tartan Day, April 6th 2004, was an amazing success and celebrated by many through out the world!

As you know the mission of National Tartan Day is to celebrate and educate about the historic and current contributions of Scots and those of Scottish descent to the world and in particular to America recognizing the longstanding ties between Scotland and the United States. It is a day to commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Abroath in 1320.

As in the past the National Tartan Day parade in New York City is the anchor of the national day in the US to celebrate our heritage. National Tartan Day in New York is lead by the Scottish-American community through the National Tartan Day - New York Committee with the assistance of three Scottish-American organizations in the City, The Saint Andrews Society of the State of New York, 1756, The New York Caledonian Club, 1856, and the American Scottish Foundation, 1956.

A special thank you to Dr. Christopher Pratt for keeping our clan abreast of the importance of this day as he was on the Tartan Day committee in NYC this year.

<http://www.tartanweek.com/>



NYC National Day Parade was a success!
Dr. Christopher Pratt is pictured right in the center.



Dr. Christopher Pratt, the 74th Chief,
NY Caledonian Club 1856



NYC Cab in parade ---- SCOTS, WA HAE!



Dr. Christopher Pratt & his wife, Jimmie Cochran Pratt represent Clan Granat in NYC



Ms. Katherine Cherry Grant and Mr. Todd Steven Boyce, both of Atlanta, were united in marriage May 29, 2004, at the First Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia. Matthew Means, cousin by marriage of the bride, officiated. The bride, escorted by her father, (C. David Grant), wore a strapless, corset-backed, gown of matte satin, and a finger-tip veil. She carried a bouquet of roses in varying shades of pink tied with silver and raspberry pink ribbons.

"May the best ye hae ivver seen be the worst ye'll ivver see.
May the moose ne'er lea' yer girmal wi a tear-drap in its ee.
May ye aye keep hail an hertie till ye'r auld enuech tae dee.
May ye aye juist be sae happie as a wuss ye aye tae be."
The above, in translation, reads:
"May the best you have ever seen be the worst you will ever see.
May the mouse never leave your grain store with a tear drop in its eye.
May you always stay hale and hearty until you are old enough to die.
May you still be as happy as I always wish you to be."

Texas Grant Wins Contest!

Grant Garrison, son of Dale & Corrine Smith Garrison, of Odessa, Texas, recently entered a coloring contest to enter to win Tickets to the Celt Fest 2004 held in Odessa. Grant was selected the winner and received the Grand Prize package of 4 free tickets, a free T-shirt and 2 free CDs. He is the grandson of Phil and Shirley Grant Smith, of West Brandywine, PA. Grant pulled out his grandfather's reference books to color in the plaid. The Celt Fest is new to Odessa and featured the 7 Nations band, Alex Beaton, and Geoffrey's of Edinburgh. This was the first year of the Celt Fest. Grant is the oldest of seven grandchildren of Phil and Shirley Smith.

Clan Grant Badges

PRICE IS \$8.00 EACH (Includes US postage)

Please PRINT CLEARLY as you wish the name tag to read. Second line is optional!

Badge # 1 _____
name

line 2 optional (Title or Office or City/State)

Badge # 2 _____
name

line 2 optional

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ - _____ Membership _____

[Please note: To take advantage of bulk pricing, there may be a delay in placing this order.]

Make cheque payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY and mail to:

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

Weather Dampens 2nd Festival in Eugene Oregon

By William Burton

The morning broke with a typical Oregon mist, which quickly turned to a heavy rain sending many visitors scurrying for cover and dry footing. After what seemed the longest hour- and a-half of the day the sun broke through, lifting the gray mood of the conveners, vendors, and visitors.

Spirits brightened as did the skies, but it was not long lasting, for with the sunshine came the winds. Forceful enough to keep all displayed flags at full snap, the wind also toppled several unsecured tents of conveners and vendors. Word was quickly spread to assure everyone the un-cooperative weather was still better than the year before.

Typical Scots, and Native Oregonians, used to the inclement and sudden changing weather, braved the elements from set-up and opening hour at 10 am, until the Festival was declared closed at 4 pm.

This venue, an open gate festival, gave no official tally of attendees, but estimates were in the 1200 range. As the second attempt for the Festival in Eugene Oregon, ten clans were represented, and fourteen vendors displayed and sold goods.

Clan Grant displayed a quilted banner and large wooden Clan Badge, (both home made), which drew attention to the tent, where many questions were answered for enquiring folk. Although no new memberships, nor renewals were obtained, several packets of information on Clan History and Tartan, with Membership Applications were passed out.

A young lady, who had been searching for family roots for over three years, came to the tent and was delighted to find that they were a Sept of Clan Grant. Her husband's sir-name is Suttie, and he plans to have the Clan Crest tattooed on his shoulder.

Only one attendee acknowledged the receipt of Invitation that had been sent out prior to the festival, and stated it was because of that mailing, he scheduled time to attend. Although the numbers are not too impressive, feelings were high for the turnout of both Clan representatives and vendors.

The attendance had more than doubled from the previous (first) year's attempt, and growth seems both promising and imminent for this Venue. displayed and sold goods.



William Burton mans the Grant Tent in Eugene, Oregon, May 22, 2004

Notes from Shirley



By Shirley Smith

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST: We regret our oversight in not letting our readers know in the last issue of "Craigellachie" about the death of Trevor Grant, Ed Grant's son. Ed had just sent us a picture of Trevor and his new bride, a surprise to Father Ed! We had laughed about "kids" and the unexpected things they pull! Then came the note from Ed saying that Trevor had died in his sleep on August 20th. He would have been 35 in October. Although he had had a cancer there was no expectation of death—the news stunned everyone. We still think of him as a handsome young lad with his lovely sister when we first met them many years ago. Trevor moved to New York in the mid-nineties.

Our sympathy goes out to the whole family: Ed and Susie, Trevor's bride, Asha Tabat-Grant, his sister and brother-in-law, Susan and Jeff Berg and their two boys, Ryan and David (CA), and to his Uncle Joseph, as well as to all the other relatives. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

We have additional information on our former Commissioner, Bob Grant, in Hawaii, thanks to a friend of Christopher Pratt, J. S. Wang, who was an acquaintance. Bob was always very modest in his letters and we were surprised to learn of all of the activities he participated in! Born in Springfield, MA Bob lived in Kailua, HI for over 34 years, passing away at 74 years. He has been described as, "A striking, handsome figure in his Grant Tartan and he brought dignity and order to every task he undertook." Until his health deteriorated, he would, "Set up the Grant table at the Annual Highland Games. In fact, every year, he would go in the phone book and send a Christmas card to all the 'Grants' listed!"

Bob served as President/Historian of the Saint Andrews Society in Hawaii for the past three years and had just been honored by the Society. That same night he announced that he and his wife planned to take the "Trip of a Lifetime" to Scotland in two weeks! He died during half of his tour in

the city of Wick on a park bench with his wife, Shirley, at his side. In addition to his talents in serving Clan Grant, Bob held the position of Treasurer for the Hawaii Scottish Association. He retired as a Coast Guard Officer Commander and is interred in the Hawaii State Veteran's Cemetery with full Military Honors. He spent 20 years in Hawaii investment and commercial real estate enterprises. He leaves his wife, Shirley, four children and three grandchildren. "Aloha" to a great Grant.

AND A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO: Marie Grant! (FL) In March, Marie was hit by a car backing up as she was walking from her car to the pool. She was hit hard, knocked down and under the rear of the car, and dragged before the driver stopped. They took her by helicopter to Shands Trauma Center in Jacksonville. She had a badly broken neck and severe bruises and a cut ear—but no other broken bones! After a week and a half they moved her to Brooks Rehab Hospital and as of the first of May she was to come home to finish healing. She is expected to fully recover but currently is on a walker and a quad cane—and is on a "mechanical soft" diet. Edmund states that she has a great spirit and the ability to focus on the objectives of the therapy program, rather than the pain. She was lucky not to have more permanent damage to her spine—but has always been strong and active which probably helped in her recovery.

AND THE GOOD NEWS: Beryl (NY) writes that Hal has recovered completely from his colon cancer! And although she had minor surgery in January writes that both are doing great now!

A note from Joseph Grant announces that he is now a Grandfather! His son, Joe and wife, Kelley, had Justin Ryan in November, weighing in at 6 lbs. 13 ounces! Expect to hear more about this baby! If nothing else makes people stay in touch, it's grandchildren! Congratulations to all!

KEEPIN' BUSY: A lovely letter from Lady Strathspey (ENG) tells us that Michael finished working in Dubai (United Arab Emirates) on a Naval barracks project and was currently involved in planning work to build a village of bamboo houses on stilts for the 2006 Asian Olympics games in Qatar!

Daughter Amanda still loves working in London in spite of "Striking Undergrounds"! She visits Lady Strathspey often, which is much appreciated by her mother. The Lady Strathspey celebrated her 90th birthday last fall. We wish this very special Lady, "Many Happy Returns of the Day!"

Ed and Sara Smith, and their children Philip, Abigail, Hannah and Paige (MI), children of Phil and Shirley (PA), left in May for two months in South Africa. Ed is working with a missionary training local preachers and teachers and Sara will be working with the women. The grandchildren will be keeping diaries!

Steve Grant (MO) is celebrating 30 years at KY3 as an anchorman and 50 years of Life this May! Congratulations! Wife, Stephanie, has been redecorating her nursing home, and as Steve says, "It could double as an art gallery!" She received accolades from her company for the 3rd time in 5 years as "Regional Center of the Year" and several "Quality-Care" awards. Son, Luke, is residing in his own apartment now, so they have joined the ranks of "empty nesters".

Our grape growers/wine producers, Eric and Nancy Marshall (PA), are receiving honors at the North East Community Fair! They are growing a new hybrid Chardone grape, developed by Penn State and Syracuse Universities, which last year produced a crop with a 5% sugar content. They made 6 gallons of wine from this two-year old crop. Their Vidal grapes fermented to an excellent dry wine and by combining the two and calling it "Tango" they placed first and best of show! This in spite of 150" of snow the previous winter which damaged a lot of plants followed by a cool, wet summer delaying the ripening of the fruit! Eric still teaches history, plays the organ and bagpipes for wedding and funerals and directs a church choir; sails every summer on "Piper's Due" (last summer to Port Dover, Canada) plus fulfilling many other community obligations! Nancy retired from teaching but continues to participate in numerous educational organizations as well as writing notes and cards to shut-ins and visiting them in nursing homes. She is President of the Friends of the Library in North East.

Linda, Hank & Betsy Grant (NC) seem to be accumulating cats! First

there was "Buster" and this year a new edition, "Fluffy"! With these names should we be expecting more? And, going to the dogs (?) are George and Lucille with their Daschound, "Blackjack."

In case you haven't been keeping up, a number of people have been trying to trace "their" Peter Grant lineage from Nova Scotia! It's amazing how many Peter Grants there are/were! See the article in this issue.....

Just to prove we don't forget our members "out west", Rand Allan (Commissioner, S.W. CA) and his wife, Christine, sent a long letter about their family! (He's so busy getting members set up in the west that we don't usually get a personal letter!). The Rands spent last year fixing up their Poway home to sell and updating Christine's parents' home in La Jolla in preparation for their move there!

Daughter, Jenni graduated from Claremont College in May and is currently working on her Master's Degree in Library and Information Science at the University of Michigan. She is engaged to Matthew Goldman and plans call for a spring wedding next year! Rand is happy with the progress he has made in reviving Clan Grant in the Southwest! He has 10 families in Arizona, and new members in both Southern California and Nevada! (At away, Rand!) He plans to attend the International Gathering in Scotland next year.

Speaking of the International Clan Grant Gathering (August 2005) our Scottish hosts really do a great job! If you are inclined to visit Scotland, this is the time to do it.

A tentative schedule for the International Gathering includes: Day 1 (Saturday), Nethybridge Highland Games and that evening a semi-formal dinner; Day 2 (Sunday) UK's AGM at Duthil Kirk Clan Centre; Day 3 (Monday) Visit to Rothiemurchus Estate, Travel on Cairngorm Mtn. Funicular railway with lunch at the summit; Day 4 (Tuesday) visit the Highland Theme Park and Highland Folk Museum; Day 5 (Wednesday) Lock Ness Cruise (round trip from Inverness with lunch at Drumadrochit—yes, Nessie is "Ours!"); Day 6 (Thursday) Ballindalloch Castle and Grantown Museum; Day 7 (Friday) Tour of Wm. Grant & Sons distillery with lunch in visitor's suite; Day 8 (Saturday) tour of Castle Grant and farewell lunch.

And if you can't go next year, this

year's annual Clan Grant Gathering at Nethybridge Highland Games is set for August 14, 2004! There is a fee to enter the grounds but there is a very large Clan Grant tent in case of inclement weather! Be sure to wear either the Clan Grant kilt or skirt, as you will be expected to march in the parade!

A Clan Grant Memorabilia fund is being set up to encourage members and others to donate artifacts and other Clan related items to the Society. These materials will be kept permanently at the Clan Centre. Several books have already been donated, two Canadian family histories and a first edition of "Memoirs of a Highland Lady" by Elizabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus.

News from Abroad

The first wild boar sighted in Scotland in 200 years has been skinned and butchered and is hanging in Sir MacPherson's freezer, near Laggan. The gamekeeper for the estate did the shooting and with no regrets! It seems the police had sent the message to shoot the boar on sight, as it was dangerous to the public. Approximately six feet in length, the large animal had dark, rough fur, weighed an estimated 100 pounds and was about two years old. Two policemen first sighted it near the A86 but while tracking it, the boar escaped through a wire fence. Wild boars are classified under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act and any kept as pets must be registered. If they escape, their disappearance must be reported to the police. This boar's origin is still unknown!

Lord Seafield's estate office recently hosted an "open" day with informational displays on agriculture, conservation, sports, forestry, etc. Pony rides, air rifle practice and fly-casting contributed to some of the "fun" activities for the day. Lord Seafield pointed out that this event counteracts the claims that landed estates are, "Anachronistic and out-of-touch" with the general public. Estates today are modern family businesses, investment and employment being two of the largest items deemed necessary to run an estate. "We must also show concern for conservation of our natural resources...and the people who live in it," he stated.

Highland Games & Gatherings

July 10-11

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
Linville, NC
www.gmhg.org
Contact: George Grant

Athena Caledonian Games
Athena, OR
www.oregonscottish.org/
Contact: Wayne R. Grant

July 17

Portland Highland Games
Portland, OR
www.oregonscottish.org/
Contact: Wayne R. Grant

Aug 14

High Desert Celtic Festival & Highland
Bend, OR
www.oregonscottish.org/
Contact: Wayne R. Grant

Aug 21-22

Douglas County Celtic Highland Games
Winston, OR
www.oregonscottish.org/
Contact: Wayne R. Grant

Aug 28-29

Sweet Home Highland Games
& Clan Gathering
Sweet Home, OR
www.oregonscottish.org/
Contact: Wayne R. Grant

Sept 18

Charleston Scottish Games
& Highland Gathering
Mt. Pleasant, SC
www.charlestonscots.com
Contact: Fred W. Wood

Sept 18-19

Oklahoma Scottish Games & Gathering Queen Mary Scottish Festival and
Tulsa, OK
www.tulsascottishgames.com
Contact: Kelly Grant or Shannon Gosney

Oct 15-16

Stone Mountain Highland Games
Stone Mountain, GA
www.smhg.org
Contact: C. David Grant

Oct 30

Tallahassee Highland Games
Tallahassee, FL
www.tallahasseehighlandgames.com
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

Nov 6

Ocala Scottish Games
Ocala, FL
www.ssnf.org
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

Jan 15

Central FL Games/Orlando
Wintersprings, FL
www.flcot.com
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

Feb 5

Sarasota Highland Games
Sarasota, FL
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson
www.sarasotagames.com

Feb 11

FL State Fair
Tampa, FL
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

Feb 12

Zephyrhills Highland Games
Zephyrhills, FL
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

Feb 19 & 20

Long Beach, CA
Contact: Rand Allan

Feb 26

Northeast FL Scottish Highland
Games
Green Cove Springs, FL
www.neflgames.com
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

Feb 26 & 27

Arizona Scottish Gathering &
Highland Games
Mesa, AZ
Contact: Rand Allan

Mar 5

Southeast FL Highland Games
Pembroke Pines, FL
www.sassf.com
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

April 2

Dunedin Highland Games
Dunedin, FL
www.dunedinhighlandgames.com
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

April 30-May 2

Aiken Highland Games
Aiken, SC
Contact: Fred W. Wood

May 22

Eugene Scottish Festival
Eugene, OR
www.oregonscottish.org/
Contact: Wayne R. Grant

Grant Guides

Submitted by Rand Allan, SW Commissioner
Sharing recipes after he attended the Bakersfield 9th
Annual Scottish Gathering & Games

Oatmeal Soup

Kitty Forbes, Aberdeenshire, ca. 1850

1 T Butter (or margarine)	2 C Chicken Stock
1 Lg Onion, finely chopped	1/2 C Cream
1 T Parsley	2 T Oatmeal
1 C Milk	salt and pepper to taste

Heat the butter and when foaming, add the finely chopped onion and soften, but do not brown. Then add the oatmeal and seasonings and cook for a few minutes. Add the stock, stirring all the time, brining to the boil and simmer, covered, for half an hour. Then liquidize, or sieve, return to the pan, reheat with the milk and serve with a little cream in each dish and a sprinkle of chopped parsley. It is a delicious soup, easy to make with a delicate flavor.

Scottish Meat Roll

3/4 lb steak, chopped	2 eggs, hard-boiled
1/4 lb smoked ham, ground	salt and pepper to taste
1 C breadcrumbs	pinch of nutmeg
1 egg	

Mix ham and steak together and add the egg, breadcrumbs, salt, pepper, and nutmeg. Form the meat mixture into a roll, enclosing the hard boiled eggs in the center. Place in a jar or pudding bowl and seal with aluminum foil. Put bowl in a pan with enough water to steam, and steam for two hours. Turn out onto a serving dish. Can be served hot or cold.

Haggis

Submitted by Shirley Smith
From workshop by Liz Frost at Grandfather Mt Games

A handful of Suet (or butter or Crisco)
Calves Liver and Heart (equal parts, ½ and ½)
make 2 cups of meal
Boil meat; cool, crumble or put through food processor
Save water (Or can use beef bouillon)
9-10 ounces Oats (steel cut: need about 2 cups of Oats)
Should end up with ½ oats and ½ meat mix
2 small Onions, chopped and added to meat/oats
1 can Evaporated Milk (most of the can)
1 jar Mayonnaise (small? Takes most of the jar at any rate!)
1 handful fresh Parsley
½ handful Basil
½ tsp Mace

If using a cloth, you will not need much extra liquid, as the water will get in. (Linen is good but do NOT use polyester!) Wet the cloth and wring it out. Add a coating of flour and put mixture on to the cloth. Bag should be a good half full but allow plenty of room for expansion! Do not tie too tightly. If using a stomach, be sure it is clean. Will need to add either the water saved above or make a beef bouillon broth. Again, allow for expansion and tie loosely. Sew either the cloth or the stomach up with needle and thread. Put into boiling water and boil—a large Haggis will take 2 hours and a smaller one about an hour. Serve hot. I'm convinced that whiskey is used only to kill the taste—but this recipe really isn't so bad—try it first! (The "steel oats cut" truly makes a difference, too!)



For those of you that aren't very handy in the kitchen, you can get your haggis online or by mail—direct from Scotland.

**To have your upcoming events
included in this calendar email:**

**craigellachie@comcast.net or
Call Holly at (904) 268-6341**

**For other Nationwide Games check out:
www.maclachlans.org/games.html**

**Fall Deadline to submit
is August 15th!**

Grandfather Mountain Games

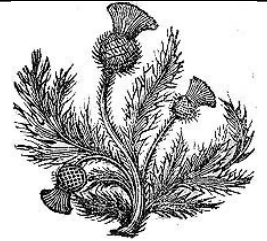
Submitted by George Grant

Next month, specifically July 9th through the 11th, the 36th Annual Highland Games will be held at Grandfather Mountain in Linville, NC. These are the games that started the "Highland Games Movement" in the U.S. There will be 12 to 15,000 people on MacRae Meadow, site of the gathering near the top of Grandfather Mountain. Also Clan Grant USA began here. We will have two tents, one for members (1-65 on the front row) to visit and enjoy events on the field. The other (2-68 on the back row) is used to interest our cousins in the Clan Grant and sign them up as members. Several members will share a condo at Sugar Mountain and act as hosts. Saturday evening, after the games, Clan Grant will gather at the Mathew's home in Linville for a buffet. The Mathew families are Life Members of Clan Grant and have hosted this event for the past 20 years. Please make your plans to attend and share a wonderful experience!





Flowers of the Forest



Emma Jean Dunn - Delmont, PA - 12 May 2003

Wm. Grant Armstrong - Ballwin, MO - Jan 2003

Robert H. Grant - Dunedin, FL - 19 Jan 2004

Reuben Oliver (R.O.) Grant - Thomasville, GA - 4 April 2004

Almon F. Pratt, Sr - Oregon - 20 May 2004

Thomas Willfred Warren - Atlanta, GA - May 31 2004

Reuben O. Grant

By Colleen Grant Hardin

Reuben Oliver (R.O.) Grant died April 4, 2004, at his home in Thomasville, Georgia.

R.O. was a true Scotsman; his mother was Helen MacKenzie and his father was Reuben Oliver Grant, Sr. He was born in West Monroe, Louisiana, on January 12, 1914, and he worked as an accountant for many years.

R.O. always drove a comfortable car, and he loved to travel. True to his Scots heritage, he loved seeing what was over the next hill. He lived for many years in Texas, in the Houston area and later in Wichita Falls. R.O. was an avid hunter and fisherman; he preferred his cabin in the Texas Piney Woods to living in town. In later years, he moved to Thomasville to live with his brother, Ralph Gordon Grant, who survives him, along with two nieces, Peggy and Beth, and many cousins.

R.O. is buried in Antioch Cemetery, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana, in the Grant family plot, where his father, grandfather Reuben Henry Grant, great-grandfather William Miles Grant, and many other family members also are buried.

R.O. was very modest and wanted no obituaries, so this is our remembrance of a very special member of our family.

The Seven Year Hitch, which was published by Simon & Schuster, in 1999 and in paperback in 2000.

Before the journey began, he had worked, amongst other things, as a jackaroo and sheep-shearer in Australia, in ecology and wildlife management for the Nature Conservancy (now incorporated into Scottish Natural Heritage), as a crofter and prawn creel fisherman on Skye and as part of a film-crew on Orkney.

David was schooled in Edinburgh, at George Watson's College and Merchiston Castle School. After a year in the paper-making industry, he went to Aberdeen University, graduating with an MA degree in 1963. Two years in Australia followed, before a return to university, Edinburgh this time, to take an MSc degree in ecology and wildlife management. In 1999 he completed a Certificate of English Language Teaching to Adults.

In 2000, David undertook a solo kayak expedition from

Robert H. Grant

By George Grant

Our friend, Robert H. Grant, has "gone a'wa." He died on Jan. 19th, 2004.

Bob and Vivien Skinner were married April 4, 1981 so April 2004 would have been 23 years of marital bliss. Both were previously wed and widowed and they first met in grammar school in Dunedin, FL. Both Vivien and Bob's parent's were pioneers in the Florida Citrus industry. Vivien's father, John Skinner, developed the citrus concentrate process in his packing plant in Dunedin. Bob's Dad was a broker selling fresh citrus in the eastern U.S.

During WWII, Bob worked for Eastern Airlines and after the war worked for Food Machinery Corporation selling citrus processing equipment, for 35 years. Vivien was active in Dunedin serving several terms on city council. They were both active in local affairs, serving on many committees of the City of Dunedin, The Historical Society, and their church, First Presbyterian of Dunedin.

Bob and Vivien were active supportive members of Clan Grant. Hosting a buffet at their home after the Dunedin Highland games. Lucille and I would stay with them at their beautiful home during the Games and playing golf with them at Dunedin Country Club. Bob and I played in a Hospital benefit golf tournament at Crossnore, NC where they had a cabin. For several years at Grandfather Mtn Games, the Grants would gather at the cabin for steaks and good fellowship. Bob's grandfather owned a coffee plantation in Jamaica.

Bob and Vivian visited the place, still there, still growing coffee. They wrote a delightful article for *Craigellachie*, sharing the adventure with us. Bob was an enthusiastic and lifelong stamp collector. He loved to share his collection with anyone at all interested. Also he will be remembered for his unfailing goodness, gentlemanly manners and friendship. *Flowers of the Forest* will be played for him at Grandfather Mountain. Lucille and I will miss him.

Almon F. Pratt, Sr

By Suzanne Wilson

Almon F. Pratt, Sr, born Portland, ME December 7, 1920 died in Sun City, AZ on May 20, 2004. He leaves behind a widow Ann, two children, Almon, Jr. of Enemclaw, Washington and Suzanne Wilson of Sedona, AZ., one surviving grandchild, Sarah Wilson Nunan of Kennebunkport, ME. A granddaughter, Tamara Pratt Cooke and a great-grandson, David Cooke (age 7) predeceased him. Mr. Pratt was a WWII veteran and world traveler.

Thomas W. Warren

By C. David Grant

Thomas Willfred ("Tommy") Warren passed away on May 31, just a month before his 88th birthday.

He was the husband of Mary Jane Warren, long-time member of Clan Grant, who comes by the Grant tent at Stone Mountain each year to renew her membership and share a joke or two with us, as well as pitching Burns Club of Atlanta coffee cups for the benefit of the club (occasionally offering to put something in the cup to help the sale along!). The cups depict Tommy's drawing of the club's cottage in south Atlanta, a replica of the Burns Cottage in Alloway, Scotland.

Tommy was a member and past president of the Burns Club of Atlanta, a past vice-president of the St. Andrews Society of Atlanta, LTC of The Old Guard, and a member of Clan Buchanan.

He and Mary Jane belonged to Christ United Methodist Church of Roswell. Tommy usually began his introductions at the Burns Club by saying, "I'm glad to be here. At my age I'm glad to be anywhere!"



David Renwick Grant

At the end of 1997, David Renwick Grant – and his family: ex-wife Kate, children Torcuil (1980), Eilidh (1981) and Fionn (1984) – returned from travelling around the world with a horse and caravan, an unique journey which took them seven years; across fifteen countries on three continents and, incidentally, into the *Guinness Book of World Records*. He has written the story of the family's epic global journey in

Sweden to the Black Sea, following an old Viking trade route via the rivers Daugava/Western Dvina, Ulla, Berezina and Dneiper. Along the way, he kept a look out for traces of Vikings, observed the way of life in places he passed and kept a note of the wildlife he saw, and visited local Baha'i communities. A book, *Spirit of the Vikings*, is pending.

David recently moved to the Aberfeldy area and is staying in Weem, UK, where he continues to write, as well as turning his hand to a variety of other things to stave off starvation...

Don't Forget-Do It Now!

If you have an article or photos of interest please submit for publication by August 15th, 2004.
"Our *Craigellachie* is your Clan"
so share a wee bit of yourself.

Weavers of Tomorrows Tartan

By Dr. Christopher Pratt

As discussed in earlier messages, contemporary Scotland is more than our beloved clans and castles. Scotland, as with all nations faces enormous challenges. An important key to the new Scottish government's priorities for the nation in health, education, security, land, agriculture and fishing and so on is economic development. Economic development means growth in Gross National Product, GNP. The key to economic development, to increasing GNP is productivity. And productivity can increase as a result of new technology and more workers.

Contemporary Scotland is a fertile place for new technology, but its available workforce is limited, in some cases by preparation, and certainly by number. The population of Scotland is simply not growing. Everyone is going to need to contribute, to invest themselves in building productivity, increasing GNP. Sustainable increases in GNP will require an intense sense of entrepreneurship, private investment - personal investment. Personal investment means a vibrant educated and engaged workforce.

Discussing the contrast between Scotland's high education standards and commercialization, the First Secretary explains that, Scotland produces the highest percent of graduates in Europe, but still lose too many of them after they've graduated. Scotland still have an excellent research base, but too often the commercial development of that research takes place elsewhere in the world. Scotland's new government is taking steps to redress that balance and looks forward to working with all who are interested in building a better Scotland.

The Scottish Executive knows, a vibrant engaged and educated workforce must come first from among Scots. The momentum of human capital in Scotland rests with the Scots, individually and collectively. Scots may carry on with the expectancy that government will provide, or choose to personally invest in their own future. In order to overcome the sense of dependency in Scottish life, there needs to be more than encouragement and support throughout Scotland there needs to be full participation in education and work.

There also needs to be room for others to contribute and succeed in Scotland. A true strength for contemporary Scotland may well be its ability to make room for people. *These people may be returning Diaspora; they may also be those who love Scotland, those who believe, and those who need an opportunity.* All these should be expected to work alongside Scots, to embrace the land and to give of themselves, to learn about contemporary Scotland and invest in it as well. Together contemporary Scots, and those who will join them, need to be *"the weavers of tomorrow's tartan."*

There needs to be a strategic approach to bring people to join them who will contribute to contemporary Scotland there with knowledge and skills, people willing to learn and to apply themselves to build productivity. Immigration planning and policy should also be coordinated with economic development, and it should intersect with education, especially

with higher education, Scottish higher education. Immigration policy needs also to be coordinated with occupational deficiencies, levels of educational attainment, and the current and forecasted business cycle.

Two years ago the work of promoting Scotland in the US began in earnest with the creation of the office of the First Secretary for Scottish Affairs at the British Embassy in Washington, DC. This has proven an excellent step by the Scottish Executive. The position has created extraordinary opportunities and performance in achieving the goals of the office on behalf of the new government and the people of Scotland.

The First Secretary has placed the vital importance of contemporary Scotland center most in the US discussion. The goal is to make it the clear focal point, a link for Scots and Diaspora regarding ways to contribute to and enhance Scotland's place as a leader in the new economy and position in the North American marketplace.

Traveling extensively across the length and breadth of the US on behalf of Scotland, the First Secretary more than just represents, but brings together those interested in Scotland, and creates an interest and desire to learn more among those just discovering Scotland. Insights and ability to identify those ideas and issues around which opportunities can be developed to bring people together and to bring value to Scots and Scotland are proving significant.

The First Secretary brings Scottish organizations, those present in the US and those from Scotland seeking a presence here, together with appropriate organizations in the US to foster collaboration among universities and faculty in Scotland and the US, and diligently provides advice on how to leverage each other to the benefit of both. Most appropriately, the First Secretary encourages students to travel and study in Scotland to learn about the plethora of opportunities available there. All of this has the potential to lead not only to Scotland's ability to attract new populace, new people to live and work there, but to attract smart people, educated, entrepreneurial young women and men to become part of contemporary Scotland. Through a constellation of people, a balanced mix of Scots and those who will join them, economic development, increased GNP, and a new spirit of entrepreneurship can fire a new age in contemporary Scotland. Craigellachie!



More Raves & Rants

By C. David Grant, President

Elections - Many thanks to VP Allan Grant and former treasurer John C. Grant for acting as our nominating committee and coming up with the fine slate of officer and board candidates. Look elsewhere in this issue for the complete list. Remember that our by-laws provide for four-year terms for all positions now, but the terms are staggered to provide for greater continuity of experience.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Have had several people consider hosting an AGM, but so far no takers. We can do one here at Stone Mountain in October, but it would be nice to have a new location, sometime in the fall. Any takers? We're already working on a site for next year, since we'll be having another gathering in Scotland in August, 2005.

Games Websites - There have been several questions raised recently about what games are being held and where. Clan MacLachlan maintains the COSCA schedule on their website www.maclachlans.org/game and The Association of Scottish Games and Festivals is another good source www.asgf.org

Non-Profit Status - The Clan Grant Society USA, Inc. was incorporated in 1997 as a Virginia corporation, under provisions of Section 501(c)-7 of the Internal Revenue Code. Our filings each year provide a listing of current officers and certify, among other things, that our revenues do not exceed \$25,000. Under this de minimus basis, we are exempted from filing further financial details. This was a convenient category for our first foray into incorporation, but we also lose out on some benefits, such as tax deductibility of expenses for officers and board members. My understanding is that this would require us to form a 501(c)-3 charitable and educational trust or fund and operate our present organization as a purely social one. Any lawyers out there willing to tackle this one?

Scotland 2005 - UK Society vice-president and secretary Robert Grant tells me the final program of activities for our international gathering in August, 2005, will be available this August, so everyone will have a year to make their plans. Scotland 2000 was just an outstanding week, so please reserve your time ... and money!

Clan Grant Golf Shirts

Golf (polo) shirts, short sleeved, embroidered with Grant clan crest & 100% cotton.

Navy, White or Forest Green. S (few) M, L, XL.....\$37 plus shipping
XXL and larger\$40 plus shipping

T-shirts, 100% cotton, forest green with 3-color crest on back, small logo on front. Design originally ordered by Rand Allen for Southern California Grants.

Children's sizes 6-8 and 10-12, Adults S (few), M, L, XL.....\$17.00 plus shipping
XXL and larger..... \$20 plus shipping

Contact: C. David Grant, 1842 Alderbrook Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30345-4112
PH: (404) 634-9051 or d-grant@mindspring.com

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

“Craigellachie” (pronounced “kray-GEL-uh-gee”) the so-called “Rock of Alarm”, the gathering place for the Clan when the signal fires were lit on its summit to rally the Clan to battle. “A mountain inflamed, proper”.
A buckled strap with the Clan’s motto of “Stand Fast” on it encircles the badge. The buckled strap indicates a clansman’s allegiance to their clan and Chief, and indicates that the badge is not their own. This is as close as a clansman comes to a “coat-of-arms”.
The clan plant badge for Clan Grant is the Scots Pine - a sprig of which was typically worn in the clansman’s bonnet to identify his clan.

The Grant’s motto is “Stand Fast”, and has a few possible origins. One story suggests that the motto stems from the original Tenons Ferme (“Stand Fast” or “Hold Firm”) motto of the Norman family “Le Grand”. Another possibility is that it refers to a historical incident with the Norse King “Haaken”, considered to be a distant forebear of the Clan, according to the Clan’s oral tradition.
As this story goes, Haaken was set upon by a group of enemies at which point he ripped a tree out of the ground and used it to successfully hold off his attackers. “Stand Fast” became the motto of his family and stems from this incident. For the latest research into the Clan’s origins see the Clan Grant History site.

<http://www.clangrant-us.org>



Fall Deadline to submit is August 15th!

Craigellachie

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

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