



Craigellachie



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"The Tartan of Tomorrow"

By: Dr. Christopher Pratt

Dear Members and Friends, this is a message to inspire us to learn and invest in Scotland's future fabric, and help weave "the tartan of Tomorrow."

Contemporary Scotland is more than castles and clans; it is our grandparents and our grandchildren, real Scots all, some we know, and even more we have not yet met, resourceful, creative, brilliant. But what do we know of Contemporary Scotland and how can we invest in it?

Contemporary Scotland, like most nations including our own, is grappling with the trials of modern social, economic, and political transition and growth. It seeks to educate its people young and old, to care for its new born and aging, feed its people well, trade with the world, and reach out among close neighbors and faraway partners as it navigates its way into the new millennium.

Look at the important steady growth of interest in Scotland by people all over the world in both membership numbers and in types of activities, social initiatives and business ventures that reach across the pond. No longer is there only interest in our pipes and a wee dram. In this new millennium the pipes open international gatherings on topics our nations share as we learn to live as global neighbors and nations in the new economy. And a wee dram seals agreements and partnerships as it has for a millennium.

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Raves and Rants

Greetings All, and welcome to a new edition of Craigellachie, the first of what I trust will be many quality productions by our new newsletter team of Publisher George Grant, Editor Holly Grant-Wilson-Floyd, and addresser/assembler/mailler Jim and Jean Grant Wilson. George, of course, is our founder and Convenor Emeritus. He will provide direction and support, and advice from his more than 25 years of experience with Clan Grant activities. Holly has agreed to bring her journalism skills to the editorship, and I am delighted at the prospect of improving our communication to and from our clan members. This issue is evidence of the response she has received already from many of you, and I think you'll agree it's a fine first effort.

Jim and Jean (she's our membership secretary) will produce the mailing labels, fold the copies and mail them out using our new postal permit. Jean was already doing more than anyone else in the clan, but stepped forward anyway (She must be even lower on the "learning how to say No!" curve than I am!). And, she's one of the worker bees on the board of the Jacksonville games, now called Northeast Florida!

From the UK

Jane and I had nice Christmas greetings from Lord Strathspey and Judy, UK Society VP and secretary Robert Grant and wife Maryrose, and Inge Turnbull, former resident of Grantown. Inge, along with her late husband, George, whose mother was a Grant, was a delightful hostess on our first visit in 1994. Robert, in addition to his other clan duties, was instrumental in planning our Scotland 2000 "gathering of the clan" and is continuing with Scotland 2005.

We also got a lovely response from Olive, Lady Strathspey, widow of the former chief, Sir Patrick, and mother of Michael, when we encouraged clan members to remember her 90th birthday last year. Last fall I had a very productive conversation with Don Grant, editor of the Standfast, the publication of the UK society. We hope to expand communication on both sides of the "pond" as we prepare for Scotland 2005.

Flowers...

Last year we lost Jim Suttie, long-time California commissioner and clan at-large board member. Jim and Carol hoisted the Grant banner at up to nine games per year! They also hosted our board meeting in Sacramento several years ago. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Carol and their family.

John Lewis of Atlanta, blind since a few days after birth, passed away in early February at age 93. He is survived by Ernestine Grant Lewis, his wife of more than 50 years. East coast historian Hank Grant is her nephew.

Look for more information about these cherished members in Flowers of the Forest.

Upcoming Events

We're off to Moultrie, GA for our first visit to the Odom Library Scottish Weekend, still another Scottish event ably hosted by Beth Gay, editor of The Family Tree, the library's official publication. We'll be attending various seminars on genealogy, tartans, and other aspects of our Scottish heritage, as well as participating in the "Friday the 13th Ceilidh" and the "Gala Valentine Banquet" and enjoying performances by, among others, Smithfield Fair (who entertained us at our last AGM in Arlington, TX) and "our own" Colin Grant-Adams. Our Burns Club friend Frank Shaw writes a book review column for Beth. He and his wife, Susan, are hosts for Fionna Ashmore, director of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (FSA Scot), who is visiting from Edinburgh.

Mostly Personal

In my continuing quest to amortize all these Scottish duds we've acquired, I recently became a knight of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem (SMOTJ), mercifully called Knights Templar. Two of our Burns Club friends, Ed Conley and Richard Graham, finally wore me down, and Jane and I traveled to the priory confab in Orlando this fall for the very impressive induction ceremony. I read several books in preparation and discovered that the Templars were first formed during the Crusades and the early knights took vows of poverty and celibacy. I had to tell Ed that I wasn't particularly interested in either one, at least not intentionally, but was reassured that the modern organization was much more reasonable about such matters! Our local commandery

Continued on page 5

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Howard Parsons

Clan Grant Elections

Clan Grant Society, USA, will elect four officers for four-year terms in 2004—Vice-President, Secretary and two Board Members at-Large. A nominating committee is at work and will propose one candidate for each office. In addition, a group of any five Active Members may nominate one or more candidates. Nominations must show the consent of the nominee(s) who must be Active Members. The Society Secretary (Dr. Phil Smith, 442 Freedom Blvd., West Brandywine, PA 19320-1559) must be notified in writing of nominations not later than May 01, 2004.

Society members are encouraged to take an active part in the officer selection process by accepting candidacy, nominating others and voting. For additional information, contact Allan F. Grant (afg@comcast.net) or John C. Grant (jctegrant@aol.com). The full text of Clan Grant Society bylaws can be found at WWW.clangrant-us.org/.



~ Editor's Notes ~

When I got my AA degree in Journalism over twenty five years ago I never imagined how useful it would be in years to come! As your new editor of our Craiggellachie it has developed into quite a hobby and is truly something I enjoy which helps during this time of my life that I can only describe as "the empty nest".

Both my children are grown now: my daughter, Leah is married and living in Kings Bay, Georgia with her husband and our new grandchild, Ian. My son, Johnny, is still at home although he is rarely there—so busy with FCCJ and work. My husband of 27 years, John, is happy to see me take on a project that keeps me busy since his passion is on the golf course. By day I work for Blue Cross and Blue Shield so when I have free time it is great to hear from all of you!

My Scottish roots have been cultivated all my life, particularly by my mother, Jean Grant Wilson. I also have fond memories of my maternal Grandparents, (my Nana and Papa) a/k/a Margaret (Peggy) and Hugh Grant who brought mom and her sister to America in 1947.

Now that you know a little more about me I would like to have a bit of background on you! I hope my first attempt at publication goes well and ask that all members feel free to contact me so that I may come to know everyone in the Clan! The encouragement from so many of you, specifically the support of Don Grant, the editor of the UK Standfast is greatly appreciated. If you have any suggestions or just news to pass along please email me at Craiggellachie@comcast.net. This newspaper is for Clan Grant members and it's one of the best ways for all of us to come together as we are scattered all across the USA.

It has been great fun piecing your news, pictures and comments together to produce a showcase of what Clan Grant is all about. Please continue sharing with me, so that I can share with all!

Auch aye the nooh,
Holly Grant Wilson Floyd

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Make cheque payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY and mail to:

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

Advice For Grants Going Home

By: Phil Smith

Plan on visiting Scotland in August 2005, for the Clan Grant Gathering. The group will be visiting many of the places described below.

The first time visitor to Scotland and the Grant country is best advised to make a two-step trip of about two weeks. At current dollar/pound exchange rates, figure on \$150 a day per person. Get your passport and buy American Express Traveler's checks in pounds sterling (most banks or your local AAA office). Most major credit cards are accepted in the UK and you save 5 to 10% over changing dollars on site. Take about £50 cash with you. You do not have any idea where and when you might land and British banks have unexpected "Bank Holidays. You do not need a visa. You usually fly at night and arrive in the U.K. in the morning hours. There are flights directly to Glasgow from some U.S. and Canadian cities. If it is a better schedule to fly to London or Manchester and take an internal flight to Edinburgh or Glasgow, allow far more time to connect than the travel agent wants to give you. Your flight may be late; you have to get your baggage and go through passport and customs; you have to find out where the local flights depart from often from another terminal. Allow at least two hours, maybe more. If you have spare time, have a cup of tea.

Take a four or five day bus tour of Scotland starting from Glasgow or Edinburgh. You will see the major high points of the Highlands, usually going out to Skye. Hotels will be smallish, meals good, lots of photo opportunities, and a good guide. You will probably see Urquhart Castle ruins, once under the command of the Grants. Glen Urquhart starts at Drumnadrochit (The Ridge of the Bridge) but you will not see it — but you will see the Great Glen and Loch Ness. You can see a lot of things and get over jet-tag at the same time. Back in Glasgow or Edinburgh, depend on the Tourist Info places to arrange overnights at hotels or B&B (Bed and Breakfast) one-day ahead-then rent a car.

Before you go, buy a copy of "Touring Scotland", a Scottish Tourist Board publication, and a large-scale map. The book will tell you good things to see — and most important when they are open and closed. Also know that each village has a mid-week closing day, Tuesday here, Wednesday in the next village Tradition! Also check days when the banks will be closed. It's no fun to run out of money over a three-day weekend — another reason for Traveler's Cheques and a credit card.

Don't be afraid to eat in "pubs" — the "public rooms" of hotels. They serve good food, inexpensive and lots of it. It is unusual to find food after 2 P.M. "High tea" is any meal served from 5 to 7 p.m. Dinner is after 8. It is usual to check into a hotel and then set a time for when you are to eat dinner. Then enjoy the public room until you are called.

Don't forget that Scotland is in the far north. Edinburgh is at the same latitude as Moscow or Hudson's Bay. Therefore, it is cold. A "heat wave" is when it reaches sixty-five. Don't also be surprised by the barren hills. Scotland is a wet desert — it was not stripped of trees by the advance of civilization.

Go north on the M80-A9 or M9-A9 toward Grantown-on-Spey. Although it is only a three-hour drive, allow a day to get there....Places that you may not have stopped at before are Stirling Castle and Killicrankie. With easy "off-on" access to the A9, Pitlochery is one of the best places to shop in Scotland. Then drive up the A9 to Aviemore. You will pass the ruins of Ruthven Barracks (pronounced "ROO-ven") where a squad of royalist soldiers stood off a larger force of Jacobites. Craigellachie, the bluff above Aviemore, doesn't look like the clan badge — it's flatter. It is best photographed from the south on the A9, from the parking lot in Aviemore, or by driving out across the Spey on one of the smaller local roads. Visit the Heritage Centre in Grantown and take a walking tour of the village. Be sure to visit the Grantown Museum.

Plan your trip to be in Grantown around the second Saturday of August. Clan Grant gathers at the Nethybridge Games at that time. Don't go anywhere in the Highlands without an accommodation reservation on the eleventh or twelfth of August. That is the beginning of grouse hunting season and is called "The Glorious Twelfth." You will be lucky to find a room.

There will be plenty of Grants around the Nethybridge Games, usually including the Chief, and some Grant dinners or receptions. Visit Duthil Kirk and Castle Grant — at least take a picture of the outside if it is not open. Also visit the Heather Centre near Dulnain Bridge.

Visit a Grant distillery (there are several) and Ballindalloch Castle as you drive down the Spey toward Elgin. Brochures are available in Tourist Information Centres. If you are a Glen Urquhart Grant — most Grants who came via Nova Scotia are — then go to Inverness and drive up to Drumnadrochit. From there run up the glen and back. The glen is still very much the same as it was in the 1700's. This is a one-day trip because you will want to see Culloden and the Inverness Museum. The two best museums in the Highlands are the West Highland Museum in Fort William and the Highland Folk Museum in Kingussie.

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News From "Hame"

Oath of Allegiance Before the Saltire

(From the Scottish Snippets)

Immigrants to Scotland who are successful in applying for British citizenship, will in future swear an oath of allegiance before the Saltire, the national flag of Scotland under plans announced this week. New citizenship ceremonies are to be tailored to reflect the part of the UK in which they are performed. So the anthem "Flower of Scotland" will also be played. The aim of the new ceremony is to reinforce the obligations as well the rights of being a citizen and make it a significant day for all involved.

Below Stairs on View

(From the Scottish Snippets)

The Scottish National Portrait Gallery is to provide a rare insight into the lives of servants during the last 400 years with an exhibition of paintings which opened this week. "400 Years of Servants' Portraits" includes rarely-viewed portraits of John Brown, Queen Victoria's gamekeeper and personal servant and a portrait from 1714 of Alastair Mor Grant, champion of the Laird of Grant whose ancestral home is Grant Castle near Granton on Speyside. Traditionally, it was the aristocracy who had their portraits painted, but the exhibition includes images of butlers, maids, cooks, grooms, governesses and ghillies. The exhibition will run until May 31st.

Raves & Rants- Continued from page 1

supports a residence facility for challenged adults and also holds a social event or two.

We have been active members of the Atlanta St. Andrews Society for several years and have enjoyed those activities. The pictures several issues ago of John Angus Grant dressed as Santa's elf come from our annual Christmas party. And the Burns Night Dinner was the first of two we attended this year. Two years ago I joined the Burns Club of Atlanta, one of my very favorite groups of folks, with about as much talent and wonderfully irreverent humor as I've encountered anywhere! Our monthly meetings are held in what I believe is the only replica of the original Burns cottage in Alloway. Our version was built in 1910 at what was then the end of the streetcar line. Those early members must have been as concerned about the hazards of traveling after an evening's entertainment as we are! The cottage, along with Emory University, was the site of the annual symposium of the Burns World Federation several years ago. This group's Burns Night Dinner is usually more raucous than the more staid St Andrews version, even with much more restricted seating!

Finally, our big news is the upcoming May wedding of my darling (of course!) daughter, Katherine! It's hard to believe that the little 12-year-old who was a member of the last victorious Grant tug-of-war team at the Stone Mountain Games is all grown up! We even like her choice – does it get any better than this? She and Todd will make a wonderful couple. And no, I didn't encourage this just to increase the membership of the clan ... I hope I'm smart enough to realize I don't have that much influence, anyway! Rest assured that I'm deeply involved in my role as father of the bride – writing checks! Contributions gratefully accepted

Tartan of Tomorrow- Continued from page 1

The new Scottish government has shown an important willingness to adapt. With the parliament and government only 4 years old, Scotland has undergone the most radical constitutional change in 300 years. Scotland is seeking to learn from the past, create the future and share with the world its leadership. There have always been successes to share, in the best of times and in the times of enormous challenge when perhaps the greatest demonstrations of Scottish spirit have been seen.

As with all nations, Scotland faces enormous challenges still. With much of the government's priorities for the nation in health, education, social work, security, fishing, etc, local economic development is the key. And the key to economic development is an intense sense of entrepreneurship, a key the new Scottish government is actively encouraging throughout Scotland and discouraging a sense of dependency.

We all need to invest in our selves, create our own opportunities to be entrepreneurs, to think, "What can I do next?" Government cannot provide the answer; it is up to each of us individually. The answer is in our spirit to be inquisitive, insightful, creative and innovative. It is an old and well known message I learned from my dear father, a fine Scot's gentleman who taught me more than I know and knew more than I can imagine. "We must each first take responsibility for ourselves and then we must take responsibility for others."

Grant Games



Bill Grant at the 11th annual Sarasota Highland Games in Florida, with his grand daughter Mia Grant and her friend Catherine Decker. He was wearing his father's kilt which is 100 years old. It is the kilt of the Liverpool Scottish regiment which is made up of Scots living in the Liverpool area. Many Scots emigrated there in the mid 1800s to work in the shipyards.



Murray Grant and Bill Grant at the Sarasota Highland Games, January 31, 2004.



Ed and Marie Grant, C. David Grant, and Stoney Grant in the Grant Tent at the 9th Annual NE FL Scottish Highland Games, Feb. 28th, 2004



Michael Bongertz and Alice Mews at the Central Florida Scottish Highland Games, January 17, 2004

Plan Now For Grandfather Mtn. Games

The second week of July, Specifically, 8-9-10-11 are This years dates for the 36th Annual Highland Games.

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.

Clan Grant USA began here.

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 Home In Linville for a buffet.

The Mathew families are Life Members and have hosted the Clan For the past 20 years.

Please make your plans to attend And share a wonderful experience.

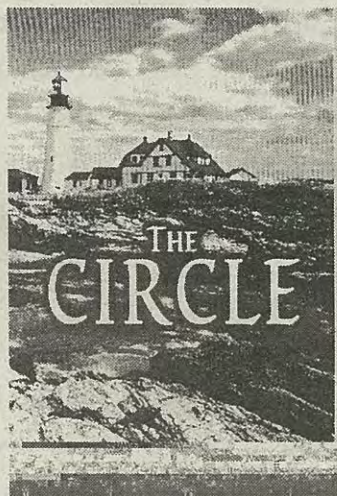
Wayne R. Grant, commissioner for the state of Oregon wrote to invite members with this list of events:

Athena Caledonian Games
July 10-11, 2004
Athena, Or.

Portland Highland Games
July 17, 2004
Mt. Hood Community College
Portland, Or.

For More Information: www.oregonscottish.org/

Grants In The News



Suzanne Wilson is a member of Clan Grant. Having traveled the world her entire life growing up, she has a broad foundation of experience to write from and she does so.

THE CIRCLE, written under her pen name A. L. Austin, is a fictional blend of romance, myths and legends set within historical New England where she has lived for over thirty years raising her daughter who still lives there. Most of her books take place in the Maine town she loves.

Suzanne is currently out west finishing her graduate work and writing other books.



Another Grant Clan member, Candace L. Coates, has released her second CD entitled "Flights of Fancy" as of January 29th, 2004. The CD is a collection of beautiful original harp melodies. This recording is a unique, and relaxing listening experience. Each selection is a sparkling performance, which will capture your heart and imagination. It has a tranquil quality that many listeners enjoy. Copies may be ordered directly from Candace. Cost is \$18.00 plus \$4.00 shipping.

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PHIL AND SHIRLEY GRANT'S 50TH

Please join in congratulating Board Secretary Dr. Philip D. Smith, Jr., FSA Scot, and former clan secretary (and general do-everything) Shirley Grant Smith as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently. Phil, of course, is the author of Tartan For Me! and the superb 3-volume set of tartan plates. Shirley has done the work of several people over the years and keeps up with more Grants than anyone else we know about. Our best wishes and our hopes and prayers for many more go with you!

Thanks, everyone. We had a nice party and thanks to everyone for all the nice cards and things said to us! (not about us, ha!) A few sent presents even though we requested that none be sent. If you do not receive a "thank you" note, it's because the cards and the gifts got separated and no one kept track for us! So if you did send something—and you do not hear from us within the next several months, (I seem to be slowing down, ha!) let us know! And if you didn't send us anything, let us know and we'll put it in the next Craigellachie! (Just kidding—but we would like to hear from you so we have something TO put in the next Craigellachie. Otherwise, I'll invent it!) Stand Fast, gang!

Shirley (and Phil*)



Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Grant and William Burton at Burn's Supper

Keeper of the Records

By Don Grant, Clan Genealogist

Howdy!

This is my first column for the Craigellachie since becoming the new clan genealogist. So, first, an introduction. My name is Donald Grant. I live in Atlanta, GA and make my living as an art director for an ad agency. I'm married and have two children. My wife's name is Leslie; the children are Lucy (4) and Will (7mos.). My own interest in genealogy goes back a decade or so within the context of my own immediate family. Someone in my family has been working on untangling our family lines for 40-50 years. So, those of you who get frustrated after 6 mos. of research will find little sympathy.

What I will be glad to help with is research. I have the hard-copy archives of Clan Grant USA here at my house as well as memberships with several online search services. I'm lucky enough to live within 15 miles of a branch of the National Archives as well as the State Archives of Georgia. I've been able to help several people so far, mostly in response to emailed requests. I've also received a half-dozen or so hard copy family data sheets from new members. Those have been included into the existing Clan archives. Much thanks to both (I think there's just been two) of my predecessors in this position for all their hard work and diligence. The records really are in a very user-friendly state.

In case anyone's interested, my lineage runs this way (we think):

Donald Raymond Grant Jr. (me) 1968
 Donald Raymond Grant Sr. 1946
 Clarence Donald Grant 1925 – 1997
 William James Alexander Grant 1880 – 1955
 Burrell Eaves Grant 1848 – 1918
 William Colin Grant 1824 – 1891
 Susan Grant ca.1780 – ca.1880
 Clementine Grant ca.1755/64 – bef.1825
 William Grant ca.1725 – 1795 (off the boat as it were; we think)

If you're tied into the Grants of Western NC, I'd love to hear from you. Also try Marty Grant's website: www.martygrant.com. Marty has done a truly amazing amount of work; I consider him to be the premier Grant genealogist in the southeast. He's also a very distant cousin. And he's published a book recently on our Grants. Don't feel left out if you're not a cousin, however, as Marty has done quite a bit of research on most of the Grants in the southeast.

I also recommend:

www.ancestry.com This is a paid service and not especially cheap but they have a lot of information.

www.genealogy.com another pay site but also useful

www.familysearch.com this is the LDS site and free of charge

www.rootsweb.com also a free site but affiliated with ancestry

ALWAYS REMEMBER TO TREAT INFORMATION YOU GET ONLINE AS SUSPECT UNTIL IT'S CORROBORATED BY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION.

In closing, I'd encourage everyone interested in their own lineage to interview the oldest people in their family. They have priceless anecdotal family treasures stored in their heads and when they're gone those treasures can NEVER be recovered. Census and deed records will always be around but they can't tell you how someone felt or thought or what they sounded or looked like.

And those of you who are blessed by life's experiences pass your knowledge onto others. Introduce your children and grandchildren to your own grandparents and great grandparents through pictures and stories.

Until next time, stand fast and don't forget where you come from!

The photo is of Lucy and me at the 2001 Stone Mountain Highland Games



Advice for Grants -Continued from page 4

There will be plenty of Grants around the Nethybridge Games, usually including the Chief, and some Grant dinners or receptions. Visit Duthil Kirk and Castle Grant — at least take a picture of the outside if it is not open. Also visit Lady Pauline Ogilvie-Grant's Revack Lodge — a lovely restaurant and gift shop — and Rothiemurchas near Aviemore.

End in Edinburgh. Visit the Castle and the Royal Museum if nothing else. If you want to buy woolens, the best buys are at the "Clan Tartan Centre" in Leith — great shopping. Have your stuff mailed back — you avoid the VAT and US customs per-person dollar limits. You will pay customs on receipt if any is due.

Scotland is a small country; about the size of South Carolina, so you can cover a lot of ground in a day. The country north of Inverness or Ullapool is spectacular but see it on your next trip. Inverness is a lovely city for shopping and walking along the river. The Eden Court Theatre has nice programs as does Balnain House, a centre for Highland music.

If you have two or three days left over, take a tour of the Southern "Highlands". Drive West to Glasgow, down the coast through Ayr and Carrick (visit Culzean Castle) and drive up Glen Trool to the Bruce Monument; stay in Dumfries. Then drive at an angle from Dumfries to Moffat and on to Selkirk. Spectacular country! See Melrose Abbey, Abbotsford, and be back in Edinburgh in another hour.

Don't try to see it all. You know you'll be back. Save the Borders and Hadrian's Wall (now in England) for another three or four days. And remember, pounds spend as fast as dollars but they cost twice as much! For further information, you can contact the British Tourist Authority, 531 Fifth Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10176 or call 212-986-2200 (Los Angeles, Chicago and Dallas also have agencies).

If you plan to go over to see Duthil Kirk or want to attend any possible Clan Grant activities, it is a courtesy to contact the Clan Grant Society in Scotland. Please write (airmail) several months in advance to The Secretary, Clan Grant Society, Clan Grant Centre, Duthil, Strathspey PH23 3ND, Scotland. Have fun and don't forget your "brolly" (umbrella), your woolens, and your "Wellies" (rubber boots)!

Flowers of The Forest

James Suttie

By George Grant

I first met Jim and Mary Suttie at the Santa Rosa Games. Lucille and I were Guests of Gene Grant, Clan Grant Commissioner for the West Coast. Gene built a two-wheel trailer with fold out sides, lift up top. That when opened made the Clan Grant Booth. He traveled to almost all the games in northern California, with one trip to Los Angeles. Jim and Carol met Gene at these games to help.

Jim had just retired with a health problem, his heart. Jim's enthusiasm was infectious enabling him to recruit new members.

Soon the pressure of Gene's business and his health caused him to turn over a large part of the games to Jim and Carol. They drove a station wagon, packed with everything for a clan tent, including the tent. Everything had a place and fit perfectly in the wagon.

Jim became a major force in the Scottish Organizations on the west coast. He and Carol were on organizing committees for several Games; Officers in West Coast Game Co-ordinators; President of one of the Games.

It is not possible to think of Jim without Carol. They had a fine marriage, anchored by respect. When the Clan Grant Board Meeting was held at the Sacramento Games, they organized all activities for us and made sure all the Clans knew we were there.

Jim and Carol were focused on making Clan Grant The best organization their efforts could produce. We are all in their debt. It was a privilege to know Jim. Flowers of the Forest will be played for Jim at Grandfather Mountain Games this year.

John Lewis

By David Grant

Jane and I just returned from the memorial service for John Lewis. John and Ernestine Grant Lewis were fixtures at our Saturday night gatherings at Maggie and Duane Kline's During Stone Mtn Games weekend. John died last Mon at age 93 (!). He had been blind since he was 6 days old, but never let that slow him down! He was an accomplished musician with degrees from Mercer University, masters from Columbia, and piano studies at Julliard.

He was a staunch Democrat, and several of us from more to the right of the political spectrum enjoyed bantering with John. He held strong opinions, and you'd better be prepared with your arguments.

We got to speak briefly with Ernestine, who gets about with a walker, and visited with Hank and Linda, who had come down from Hickory. Hank told us that when Ernestine and John were first dating, she brought him to meet her family. They didn't take to him right away, and Hank asked his relatives if it was because he was blind, or if they thought he couldn't support a wife. They said no, it was because he was a Democrat!



Milton Camp's sister, Harriet Baird from Melbourne, Florida passed away on December 16th, 2003.

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

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Notes From Shirley

By: Shirley Smith

(Some of the following "notes" were written a year ago so bear this in mind!) I have tried to update it but thought you would like to know what's happened in the past before we get to the present! Please resume writing your letters to me as I am about out of news for "Notes!" unless you want me to bore you with just our family news! You don't have to be fancy—just let me know what you've been doing! I'll call you if I need more information and embellish it if I don't!

A NOTE OF THANKS: Marie Bowie thanks everyone for their expressions of sympathy on Kyle's death. You might want to drop her a line when you have a moment—she needs our encouragement. Her son, Lou, and daughter, Amy and their combined children are close by and look after her.

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST: Our Commissioner in Hawaii, Robert Grant, passed away recently. Bob joined in 1989 and represented the Grants faithfully at the Games! The Grants that attended were mostly from California and only there for a visit! (But Bob encouraged everyone to visit!) He was also a member of the Caledonian Club and several years ago made a long trip to Scotland! His wife, Shirley, a grown son, and a sister, Carol Riley survive him. Carol resides in Indian Harbor Beach, Florida and has also been a member of Clan Grant. (I am not aware of others in his family, but we extend our sympathy to each one. We will miss him.)

THOSE UNDER THE WEATHER BUT IMPROVING: We nearly lost Lucille Grant over the holidays (Dec. '02), in case you had not heard. But we are happy to report that she is coming along well after such a close call. She will be in therapy for a while but Lucille is not one to give up and that has probably saved her life. She and George have put years of effort into Clan Grant and we certainly wish her the best of health from this day forward! (Dec. '03)—Lucille made it to Grandfather Mountain last

July and Stone Mountain in October! They flew down to Florida to her school reunion during the latter games and enjoyed a day there! George and Lucille keep occupied with a Dachshund that entertains them now!

Richard Grant had to resign as our Texas Commissioner due to health problems. Last year he underwent gall bladder surgery—the old-fashioned stay-in-bed-six-weeks-or-more-kind. Then more problems arose and he was still "under the weather"! But the latest good word is that he is improving! (Jan. '04) Haven't heard any more....

Let's not leave out our former editor, Leigh! '02 was a year she doesn't want to remember! It was one of those "up and down" kind. As we know, her computer problems did not help! (Jan. '04) But we want to thank her for trying to get the paper out. It's not an easy job and she had more than her share of troubles. Thanks, Leigh!

AND THOSE ON TOP OF THE WEATHER: Ed Grant, our ex-Commish from MN, now residing in Hawaii (the land of warmth and eternal spring according to Ed and the travel brochures), emerged this winter long enough to drop us a note! He thinks Yankees need cold weather to bring out the spirit (of Christmas)! Somehow we're going to have to encourage him—maybe by towing icebergs down from Alaska? (Dec. '03) Ed's card this year shows Santa in his shorts, surfing by sleigh, and pulled by four dolphins over the waves! Ed is becoming quite proficient—Hau'oli Makahiki hou—in Hawaiian! Susie must be a good teacher!

Everett Grant planned to leave Frederickton, New Brunswick to visit his sister in FL, driving down and back with friends—figures it is only 4,000 miles! After last winter, he may decide to go faster and fly! (Just kidding!) And since we haven't heard from him recently, he may still be buried in snow! Everett served as chief cook and bottle washer for a deer hunting party. (They did get a doe, one out of 6400 shot that season!) He says the deer population in New Brunswick is estimated at 60,000! Sorry, he didn't mention moose or bears in case you are wondering! ('04) Well, he didn't get to go to FL—but wasn't buried in snow, either! However this October they had 8" of rain in New Brunswick in just two weeks' time! The farmers in low lying areas couldn't get to their crops—and big round bales of hay were floating in the fields! Early in November he reports the temperature down to -5C and only +4C forecast for the next day! Said he doesn't drive at night because of too many moose and deer on the roads—so they are still there! Haven't heard from him since November so we're back to the "may be buried in snow again" routine!

AND A NEW GENERATION OF GRANTS: Dr. and Mrs. Christopher Pratt proudly announced the arrival of their first grandson (Macallan Delaney Pratt) on New Year's Eve in Portsmouth, NH, weighing in at 7 lbs. 3 oz. and 22" long! Macallan and his mother, Andrea, had a difficult birth so he went to Boston's Children's Hospital immediately but is doing well now. Congratulations to all! (Many of you met Scott, the proud father, at Grandfather Mountain!) (Dec. '03) Well, Macallan is a year old now! Happy Belated Birth Day!

A special "Hot News" from Washington, D.C., dated March 1st (2003), informs us that Melissa and Bill Grant announced the arrival of Eleanor Sophie Grant on Feb. 28th at 8:53 p.m. She weighed in at 7 lbs. 9.4 oz. and 21" long! "BOTH MOTHER AND DAUGHTER ARE BEAUTIFUL. DELIVERY WAS NORMAL," say the proud grandparents, George and Lucille. George writes, "A complete genetic analysis will not follow. Pictures will!" ('04) (And we've yet to see them!)

Continued from page 10

And then we have a note sent to Jean Wilson from Hamish Grant, "Subject: Lisa's Surgery". "My wife, Lisa, went into surgery at 1:00 p.m. today (3/13/03) to have a growth removed from her uterus. The operation went well and she is resting comfortably at Methodist Hospital in Peoria, room 503. The benign growth was removed without a problem at 1:25 p.m. and weighed 8 lbs. 7 oz. and was 20" long. It was also covered with dusty brown hair. It was so cute that we decided that we should bring it home on Sunday. We named it Peter Thomas Edward. :-)" ('04) Congratulations—and hope that everyone has had some "shut eye" by now!

LATE NEWS (last year, in fact!): Frank and Sherry Springer celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary and finished the exterior of their 1898 house in the historic district of New Bern, NC! The district covers about 20 blocks between the joining of the Neuse and Trent Rivers. Sherry is now a board member of the local Scottish Heritage Society of Eastern Carolina and is planning to produce a variety of costumes. She is really excited about the cotton Grant tartan, as wool is too hot for that area! Sherry and Frank attended the Flora McDonald games and the kirking in the 1898 Presbyterian Church this past year in Red Springs, NC. The church has a restored pipe organ and a hundred year old harp, which was played by a local harp teacher. She notes that the program was quite impressive! Son, Loyal, is still piping! He is busy with funerals, weddings, parades and fireman funerals—and then attends school! Dawn, their daughter, has two children, 5 and 2 years, and also helps with her husband's logging truck business.

Margie Garza (CA) and her sister, Karen, went to Scotland in '021—and introduced themselves to Bob Grant, the U.K. Secretary, who met them at the Clan Center (Duthil) and showed them around. Margie says, "After a few minutes of talking, we felt like we've known him our entire life!" (Everyone feels this way about Bob—what an ambassador!) They were prepared for cold weather (upon the advice of everyone in the States!) but the higher they got into the Highlands, the better the weather became! In fact, they only had one day of rain in 16 nights! And that was their first day in Edinburgh!

Chris Pratt became the 74th Chief of the New York Caledonian Club ('04) two years ago now—and has become a great communicator via e-mail!) His wife, Jimmie, serves as Director. He attends every New York Tartan Day (April 6) parade!

As you know, John Grant, Commissioner for Kansas, and his wife, Helen, moved to Texas but headed back to Kansas to be with their family over the holidays. John now works for Lockheed! They are in a good position to help Allan with our AGM in Arlington this June! ('04) And how they did! Our Annual General Meeting in Dallas went well and they fed us until we couldn't move! We all had a wonderful time—and look forward to our next yearly get-together!

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Grant (our Webmaster) announced the newest clansman of Clan Grant! Alexander Scott Grant was born Jan. 9th!

Jean Wilson asked for a translation for a poem that she wants to frame and put by the front door. In case you don't make it to her house, we thought you'd like to read it anyway:

AN OLD GAELIC WELCOMING PRAYER

May you always find three welcomes.

In a garden in the summer,

At a fireside during winter,

And, whatever the day or season, in the kind eyes of a friend.

ANOTE FROM ABROAD: Robert Grant, Vice-Chairman/Honorable Secretary, fills us in with some developments at Duthil. Sir Archibald is Chairman of the Society now, replacing Sir Patrick of Dalvey. At the time of the writing, they were waiting to hear if the planning authority would okay the use of Duthil as a Clan Centre, dropping the notion of a museum as being economically unfeasible. A National Park, incorporating most of the Clan homelands, and the consequent emphasis on the environment and culture, made the Society hopeful for a "go ahead." To convert the Duthil building, five things need to be done: (1) rebuilding the stairs to meet modern fire regulations; (2) major roof repairs; (3) creation of a car park; (4) the placing underground of all services entering the building; and (5) creating a second exit from the building to meet modern safety regulations. These operations will require some expenditure. Bob points out that by careful management of the U.K. Society's affairs and those of the Trust during the past four or five years, a cash reserve has been established.

THAT'S ALL FOR NOW, FOLKS! Be sure and drop me a line and let me know what's up!

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Clan Grant Knit Golf Shirts; Teal with Gold Badge	\$ 17.50
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History of Clan Grant by Lord Strathspey	\$ 35.00
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