



# Craigellachie



Summer 2005

A Quarterly Publication of Clan Grant Society USA, Inc.

Volume XXVII, Issue 2

## Raves & Rants

By C. David Grant, President



**Greetings All** - Jane and I have gotten off to a slow start this year in our Scottish activities with various ailments and other signs of approaching senility, but we're quickly getting back to what passes for "normal" these days. We both had bouts with flu earlier, and Jane recovered just in time for some surgery. Now six weeks later, she's driving and exercising (except for those abdominals!) and claims to be better than new. And Board member William Burton and Helen Grant, wife of Board member John A. Grant, have both had more serious health issues. Let's all be careful out there - we have many more enjoyable Grant gatherings ahead of us!

**Loch Norman Games** - Jane sent me off by myself (so she could get something done at home!) to these games, held in mid-April just outside Charlotte, NC. I joined Grant hosts Helen Furr (NC commissioner) and her sister, Patricia, as we tried to hold down all of Helen's accumulated Grant tent furnishings in the cool temperatures and high wind that greeted us on Saturday. My old day jacket has suffered the same fate as some garb belonging to a friend in Clan Munro - he claims some of his clothes shrunk when he left the light on in his closet! So I was scrambling for warmth with a pullover and at times a rain jacket over that. US Army Major Eric Grant and daughter, Katurah, surprised us with a brief visit on Saturday. Katurah had graciously given her Mommie, Tessa, the day off to shop with her Aunt Jai. Eric and Jai's parents are former treasurer John C. and Thelma Grant, who live right up the road from us outside Atlanta. Also coming by the tent were DNA project guru Jon Grant and his young son. It's wonderful to see the young ones finding lots to enjoy at the games! Natalie also came by, and returned Sunday for the parade of tartans.

**Scotland, 2005** - We have heard from many of you who are planning to attend the Clan Grant International Gathering in August. By the time you read this, our hosts' suggested reservation deadline of May 31 will have passed, but most activities should still be open for those of you who may yet decide you can go. Check previous issues of Craigellachie or the UK Society website for the reservation form, and come spend a great week in Scotland with your fellow clansmen, visiting different areas associated with the Grants! And please let Board Secretary Dr. Philip Smith or me know you are planning to go so we can count you with the US delegation.

**DNA Project** - Jon Grant e-mailed me with a gentle reminder just before Loch Norman, so I checked out the website ([www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com)) one more time. Then he and I discussed the issue some more at the tent. The general idea is to compare your particular "signature" from various markers with those of other male Grants, to help determine where your ancestors may have come from and what group(s) you may be related to. Lots of back and forth later, and I've actually spent some money to put my own samples in to be tested for the project. OK, it may be lazy genealogy, but I'm at least curious to see the results. I told Jon that if my more immediate Grant ancestors here in Georgia were any indication, I'm descended from a long line of dirt farmers! Webmaster Scott Grant is also involved in analyzing the test

## The Issue of Septs Announcement from Lord Strathspey

The question of "Septs" has been a vexed one for a long time. What do we think that a "sept" actually is? What is the nature of its connection to the "parent" clan?

A few years ago George Way and Romilly Squire had to face these questions head-on when they wrote and edited the "Scottish Clan and Family Encyclopedia": they chose a minimalist course: a name would only be recognized as a "sept" of another name if there was good positive evidence for it. Tradition, romanticism and wishful thinking would not be enough. Recent researches into Grant Clan history have confirmed the wisdom of the view these experts took and the recently instituted Clan Grant DNA project (and others) is adding further grist to the mill.

On the other hand we have the natural instinct, to be "inclusive" - not to turn anyone away who wishes to associate - and this seems particularly true over the pond in the Americas. Their experience is further complicated by other factors: (a) there has been a confusion between Scottish and Irish traditions and practices including, in some cases, situations where real Irish associations have been believed to be Scottish; (b) in some places, the clan surname was so prevalent that people used alternatives to identify themselves and each other. Thus we may refer to "Glenmoriston" knowing full well that his surname is Grant. But others hearing us might not know this and so may assume that is his surname.

### The Bottom Line

Let us be clear that there is no name apart from Grant that can be wholly, uniquely and confidently associated only with the Grants. To this extent there are no septs per se at all - so there cannot be a list, however small of "Sept

names" and no-one with a name other than Grant can claim an association with the Grants by virtue of their name alone.

### The Good News

(a) On the other hand it is true that there have always been a significant number of people living in Grant territory and owing their allegiance to the Chief of Grant who nevertheless did not bear the name Grant. All these people and their descendants, irrespective of the name they bear, can lay claim to this association if they can prove it.

(b) In principle there is no restriction on who can be a member of any clan. In recent times both George Way and Romilly Squire - neither particularly Scottish by ancestry - chose (as it happens) to become members of the Clan MacMillan. Of course this was only possible with the agreement of the Chief of Macmillan. It was accomplished by the signing of a Bond of Mutual Assistance.

(c) None of this has any bearing at all on membership of the Clan Grant Societies.

### The Way Forward

Lord Strathspey has decided that the best interests of the Clan are served most effectively by facilitating the regularizing of the position of people who thought they were "sept" members through the use of such bonds. The bond is between the individual and the chief - so it lasts as long as they both live, unless officially abrogated for good reason. Such has been the interest shown by those to whom the idea has been floated informally that bonds will be made available also:

- (i) for those with no historic connection, but who wish to become members of the clan and
- (ii) to those Grants who wish to have their membership of the clan overtly endorsed in this way.

In olden times the specifics of the Bonds could be quite onerous. On the one hand the chief provided such Social Security / Welfare as there was. On the other hand the clansman had to pay his rent, work on the Chief's land and turn out to fight at his command. These new bonds, however, will be fitted for the 21st Century.

For the would-be clansman it should be appreciated that one requirement, for example, will be a basic knowledge and understanding of Clan History and Lore. Other requirements have yet to be decided - but they will be made clear in due course. Regarding the details of the "Letters Patent" of the Bond, it is envisaged that the crest will be there, the bond will be signed by both parties and it is intended that a seal will be applied. In the case of "sept" members, it is expected that the nature of the claim of historic association will be specified (and will have had to be demonstrated, of course). Other details - of the wording, the style etc. on the letters patent of the bond - have also yet to be finalized, but to give a flavor of the way thinking is going, we append here two examples of the sort of text which is being considered.

Despite this fluid state of thinking, it is considered useful to give non-Grant clansmen and would-be clansmen now the assurance that their position will be fully regularized just as soon as possible and that there is no intention to be in any way arbitrarily exclusive.

## In This Issue

Rants & Raves.....	1, 9
Announcement by Lord Strathspey.....	1, 6
US Highland Games and Gatherings.....	2
Clan Grant Commissioners.....	2
Clan Grant Officers.....	3
Membership Matters.....	3
Notes from the Editor.....	3
Grant Gathering 2005.....	3
Dating Family Photos .....	4
Scotland's Master Swordmakers.....	5
Notes from Shirley.....	6
Tartan Day in New York.....	7
In Kilt and Plaid.....	7, 10
Membership application.....	7
Grant Games.....	8
Grants in the News.....	9
A Castle Old and Grey.....	9
Stand Fast Craigellachie!.....	9
Clan Chatter.....	10
How I Spent the 4th of July in Scotland.....	11
Grant Guidies.....	11

**Fall Deadline to submit is Aug 30th!**

Continued on page 9

Continued on page 6

# June 25 U.S. Highland Games & Gatherings



To have your upcoming events included in this calendar email:

[craigellachie@comcast.net](mailto:craigellachie@comcast.net)  
or call Holly at (904) 268-6341

For other Nationwide Games check out:

<http://www.asgf.org/9.html>

**June 25**  
Tacoma Highland Games  
Frontier Park  
Graham, WA  
Contact: Michelle Poitevin

**July 9-10**  
Skagit Valley Highland Games & Scottish Faire  
Edgewater Park  
Mt. Vernon, WA  
Contact: Michelle Poitevin

**July 9-10**  
Athena Caledonian Games  
City Park, Third Street  
Athena, OR  
Contact: William Burton

**July 10**  
Payson Highland Games  
Payson, Utah  
Contact: Allen Johnson

**July 7-10**  
Grandfather Mountain Highland Games  
MacRae Meadows  
Linville, NC  
Contact: C. David Grant

**July 15-16**  
Milloula Highland Games  
Missoula, MT  
contact: Richard L. Grant

**July 16**  
Portland Highland Games  
Mt Hood Community College  
Gresham, OR  
Contact: William Burton

**Aug 6**  
Spokane Highland Games  
Spokane Cty Fair & Expo  
Spokane, WA  
Contact: Michelle Poitevin

**Aug 19-21**  
Celtic Highland Games  
Riverbend Park  
Winston, OR  
Contact: William Burton

**July 29 - 31**  
Pacific NW Scottish Highland Games & Gathering  
King County Fairgrounds  
Enumclaw, WA  
Contact: Michelle Poitevin

**August 20**  
Maine Highland Games  
Thomas Point Bch, Brunswick, ME  
Contact: Lysle E. Grant

**August 27**  
Quechee Scottish Festival  
Polo Field  
Quechee, VT  
Contact: Lysle E. Grant

**Sept 9-10-11**  
Kelso Highlander Festival  
Contact: Michelle Poitevin

**Sept 23-24-25**  
New Hampshire Highland Games  
Hopkinton State Fairgrounds  
Contoocook, NH  
Contact: Lysle E. Grant

**Sept 30 - Oct 2**  
Middle TN Highland Games  
Murfreesboro, TN  
contact: Richard L. Grant



## Commissioners By Region

**Games Commissioner:**  
Allan F. Grant  
651 C Street  
Pasadena, MD 21122-4924  
(410) 437-1399  
[afg29@comcast.net](mailto:afg29@comcast.net)

**Commissioner Emeritus:**  
WA, OR, CA, NV & AZ  
Eugene G Grant Jr  
1250 Crestmont Drive  
Angwin CA 94508-9634  
(707) 965-2830  
[genegrant@mac.com](mailto:genegrant@mac.com)

**Atlantic-Upper:**  
MS, RI, CT  
Michael Struck  
PO BOX 1690  
N. Falmouth, MA 02556  
(508) 540-1963  
[actionappraisals@adelphia.net](mailto:actionappraisals@adelphia.net)

**Atlantic-Middle**  
DC, DE, MD, VA  
Judi Parsons  
414 Carrsbrook Dr.  
Charlottesville, VA 22901  
(434) 973-5409  
[judi@parsonage.net](mailto:judi@parsonage.net)

**California-North**  
Scott Grant  
309 Valley High Drive  
Pleasant Hill CA 94523-1080  
(925) 356-0454  
[scott@thegrants.com](mailto:scott@thegrants.com)

**Carolina- North:**  
Helen Furr  
3125 Zion Church Rd  
Concord NC 28025-7031  
(704) 782-5613  
[helen0997@aol.com](mailto:helen0997@aol.com)

**Carolina-South:**  
Fred W Wood  
204 Bent Creek Drive  
Greer, SC 29650-1102  
(864) 877-4695  
[fred@bmc-controls.com](mailto:fred@bmc-controls.com)

**Florida:**  
Jean Grant Wilson  
3815 Millpoint Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32257-8933  
(904) 268-9049  
[clngrant@comcast.net](mailto:clngrant@comcast.net)

**Georgia:**  
C David Grant  
1842 Alderbrook Road NE  
Atlanta, GA 30345-4112  
(404) 634-9051  
[d-grant@mindspring.com](mailto:d-grant@mindspring.com)

**High Plains:**  
CO, KS, NB, and N TX  
John A Grant III  
P.O. Box 735  
Mansfield, TX 76063  
(817) 907-2360 / 2349  
[jhg3@comcast.net](mailto:jhg3@comcast.net)

**MidSouth:** LA & MS  
To be filled

**MidWest:** IL, IN, KY,  
MI, N MO, OH & TN  
Michael L Johnson  
1333 E Old Degonia Road  
Boonville IN 47601-8504  
(812) 490-5726  
[reiverrat@msn.com](mailto:reiverrat@msn.com)

**MidWest-Upper:**  
MN, ND, SD & WI  
To be filled.

**New England:**  
ME, NH & VT  
Lysle E Grant  
36 Tuttle Lane  
Dover NH 03820-4917  
(603) 742-0564

**New York:**  
David Grant  
7357 Stone Spring Road  
Fillmore NY 14735-8631  
(716) 567-8873  
[dalgrant@yahoo.com](mailto:dalgrant@yahoo.com)

**Deputy for Western NY:**  
James M Grant  
57 Watertree Drive  
E. Syracuse NY 13057-1909  
(315) 463-6754

**Oklahoma:**  
Kelly Grant  
25841 N. 3950 Rd.  
Ochelata, OK 74051-211  
(918) 333-9264  
[kroo\\_4@yahoo.com](mailto:kroo_4@yahoo.com)

Shannon Gosney  
PO Box 721  
Canton, OK 73724-0721  
(580) 886-2828  
[katiemacsmom@yahoo.com](mailto:katiemacsmom@yahoo.com)

**Oregon:**  
William Burton  
575 Harrison St.  
Lebanon, OR 97355  
[scotslad39@yahoo.com](mailto:scotslad39@yahoo.com)  
(541) 258-6384

**Ozarks:**  
SW, MO & N. AR  
Stephen E Grant  
6248 S. Hunters Trail  
Springfield MO 65810  
(417) 886-5868  
[sgrant@ky3.com](mailto:sgrant@ky3.com)

**Pennsylvania:**  
Shirley Grant Smith  
442 Freedom Blvd  
W. Brandywine PA 19320  
(610) 466-9425  
[sgrantsmith@msn.com](mailto:sgrantsmith@msn.com)

**Southwest:**  
AZ, NM NV & S. CA  
Rand B. Allan  
6102 Calle Vera Cruz  
La Jolla, CA 92037-8916  
(858) 454-3846  
[rballan@san.rr.com](mailto:rballan@san.rr.com)

**Texas-South:**  
Gordon Grant, Sr  
5310 Beverlyhill St #36  
Houston TX 77056-6934  
(713) 623-8377  
[sillyrabbit@ev1.net](mailto:sillyrabbit@ev1.net)

**Deputy for N Texas:**  
Sharon Carnes Friend  
1604 University Drive  
Arlington TX 76013-1777  
(817) 265-6064  
[dsfriend@comcast.net](mailto:dsfriend@comcast.net)

**Utah:**  
Allen A Johnson  
3300 W 1080 S #1061  
Salt Lake City UT 84119-7112  
(801) 557-5668  
[allen.johnson@acs-inc.com](mailto:allen.johnson@acs-inc.com)

**Washington State:**  
Michelle Poitevin  
5409 Phinney Ave N. Apt B  
Seattle, WA 98103  
(206) 850-5827  
[washingtongrants@gmail.com](mailto:washingtongrants@gmail.com)

**West Virginia:**  
J. Kevin Grant  
1501 Cost Avenue  
Stonewood, WV 26301-4881  
(304) 622-5594  
[kage62aug@aol.com](mailto:kage62aug@aol.com)

Ron Grant  
60 Hickory Flat Road  
Buchannon, WV 26201  
(304) 472-2601  
[shepherddawg@verizon.net](mailto:shepherddawg@verizon.net)

## 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.*

### Past President

Howard Parsons 1998-2002

### President

C. David Grant  
1842 Alderbrook Road NE  
Atlanta, GA 30345-4112  
[d-grant@mindspring.com](mailto:d-grant@mindspring.com)

### Vice-President

Rand B. Allan  
6102 Calle Vera Cruz  
La Jolla, CA 92037-8916  
(858) 454-3846  
[rballan@san.rr.com](mailto:rballan@san.rr.com)

### Treasurer

Richard L. Grant  
6560 Bridle Way Drive  
P.O. Box 67  
Arrington, TN 37014  
(615) 395-9232  
[rlgoldcars@aol.com](mailto:rlgoldcars@aol.com)

### Secretary

Dr. Phil Smith  
442 Freedom Blvd.  
W. Brandywine, PA  
19320  
(610) 466-9425  
[tartanschlur@aol.com](mailto:tartanschlur@aol.com)

### Board Members At Large

William Burton  
575 Harrison St.  
Lebanon, OR 97355  
(541) 258-6384  
[scotslad39@yahoo.com](mailto:scotslad39@yahoo.com)

Christopher Pratt  
189 W. 89th St. Apt 10-C  
New York, NY 10024  
(646) 314-8464  
[jcpratt@rcn.com](mailto:jcpratt@rcn.com)

John A Grant III  
P.O. Box 735  
Mansfield, TX 76063  
(817) 907-2360  
[jhg3@comcast.net](mailto:jhg3@comcast.net)

## Appointed Officers

### Membership Secretary

Jean Grant Wilson  
3815 Millpoint Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32257-8933  
(904) 268-9049  
[clngrant@comcast.net](mailto:clngrant@comcast.net)

### Genealogist

Don Grant  
546 Oakland Ave. SE  
Atlanta, GA 30312  
(404) 525-5648  
[grant.donald@comcast.net](mailto:grant.donald@comcast.net)

### Webmaster

Scott Grant  
309 Valley High Dr.  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
(925) 356-0454  
[webmaster@clangrant-us.org](mailto:webmaster@clangrant-us.org)

### Games

Allan F. Grant  
651 C Street  
Pasadena, MD 21122  
(410) 437-1399  
[afg29@comcast.net](mailto:afg29@comcast.net)

### East Coast Historian

Hank Grant  
1257 NW 9th St.  
Hickory, NC 28601-2417  
(828) 322-2659  
[standfast@charter.net](mailto:standfast@charter.net)

### Editor

Holly Grant-Wilson-Floyd  
10620 Casa Grande Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32257  
(904) 268-6341  
[craigellachie@comcast.net](mailto:craigellachie@comcast.net)

## Membership

### Matters

By Jean Grant Wilson  
Membership Secretary



My goodness, where did these last 3 months go? Seems like I just wrote my last article for the Craig!

The first thing I would like to talk about is the Listserv.... This is a free private email mailing list, open ONLY to current members of the Clan Grant Society. Through it, we can send out general announcements, CGS news and carry on discussions without having to remember the email address of everyone in the Society. At your request, through me, you will be sent an invitation from "Topica" to join by the Listserv Administrator via your email address. Be sure to ONLY click on the "Clan Grant box" or you will automatically be subscribed to other mailings that Topica sends out. (Although, many of these other Topica newsletters are of real value, most people don't want to open the floodgates!) Now you are ready to receive what is sent out from Clan Grant. BUT, remember, unless it is an open discussion that you want to reply to, DON'T click reply. If you do, your answer will go out to everyone on the list. The email of the person that sent the original email will be in the top of each email posting. It can be retyped or cut and pasted into a new email. Some things are better kept private between you and whomever you are replying to! Topica.com does not sell, share or in any way give out the names and email addresses on the Clan Grant Listserv. While you may get spam (who doesn't?), it will not be due to Topica. Most of you members have email but only a handful are on the Topica list. So come on, take the plunge! and request to be added by emailing me at [CLNGRANT@comcast.net](mailto:CLNGRANT@comcast.net). This is one way to help keep the society's costs down. All this modern technology was very scary to me at first. But once I did it, it was fine...

Next, some of you will notice that there is a red dot next to your renewal date on the Craigellachie label. This means that your dues are in arrears and need to be paid. If they aren't, you will be dropped from the mailings and Listserv list! During the first week of each quarter I send out renewal notices to those due in that quarter so you should have gotten a reminder. Renewal applications can be cut or photo copied from this newsletter or downloaded from the Clan Grant website, [www.clangrant-us.org](http://www.clangrant-us.org). As membership secretary one of the things I love most about what I do is hearing back from the members!

By the time you read the next Craigellachie, those lucky ones will have returned from the 2005 Clan Grant Gathering. My heart will be with you all on that weekend.....



## Grant Gathering 2005



The Clan Grant Society of the United Kingdom presents information about and timetable of events for the Second International Gathering of Clan Grant taking place from 13th to 20th August, 2005, (Inclusive) in the Clan homelands of Strathspey in the Highlands of Scotland. The Second International Gathering is being organized by Robert Grant, The UK Society's Vice Chairman and Secretary. Address: Creg ny Baa, Skye of Curr, Dulnain Bridge, Inverness shire, PH263 PA, Scotland. Tel. no. 44 (0)1479 851712. E-mail: [robertjgrant2clangrantcentre@tesco.net](mailto:robertjgrant2clangrantcentre@tesco.net) and also Prof. Arthur S Jones CBE. The UK Society's Treasurer. Address: Begsdell, Caskieben, Kinellar, Aberdeenshire, AB21 OTB, Scotland. Tel. no. 44 (0) 1224 790340. E-mail: [arthursjones@onetel.com](mailto:arthursjones@onetel.com).

Hopefully all that will be attending have made their reservations for gathering events. Please send to Prof. Arthur Jones together with the relevant payments. Cheques should be made Payable to the Clan Grant Society UK. In the case of payments from outside the UK, payment by Sterling Money Order would be appreciated. For all other information contact Robert Grant.

The year 2005, as well as being the year of our Second International Gathering, marks the 125th anniversary of the holding of the first Nethybridge Highland Games. It is planned to hold some special events to mark this important anniversary on Games day, Saturday, 13th August, 2005.

The Second International Gathering of Clan Grant will consist of eight days of events. Each day it has been arranged for a coach to take visitors to each event and return at the end of the day. The point of contact for accommodation information is the Highlands of Scotland Tourist Board, Grampian Road, Aviemore, Inverness shire PH22 1 PP, Scotland. Tel. no. 44 (0) 1479 810363. Email: [aviemoretic@host.co.uk](mailto:aviemoretic@host.co.uk) or visit [www.Visitscotland.com](http://www.Visitscotland.com).

## Notes from the Editor

I am ever grateful to everyone that contributed to this issue of the Craigellachie! Without you we would have nothing to print and as you can see (due to content sent in) my column has been reduced to this little bit! My motto is that if you take the time to send something in- I will do my best to print it! Also if there is an error please let me know as well, because I won't know unless you tell me! While I'm on the subject of content, let me tell you that I plan to compose a short survey that will be printed in the next Craigellachie with the results to be directed back to me anonymously. Then I'll compile whatever is sent back and share out the results. This is a method we use at my "other job" and it accomplishes two things. We will hear suggestions, comments and constructive criticism from the whole clan and in turn this can help contribute positive changes within the Society and helps everyone to work smarter with their individual projects!

Before I close, I must tell you that I am not able to commit to attending the Grant Gathering in August due to health issues. This is a great disappointment to me as I was looking forward to meeting so many Grants that I currently correspond with! I ask that those that will be attending, to please share your experiences and photos with me soon after your return so that, as always, I can share with all! \*smile\* Auch aye the nooh.....Holly

## Last Minute Plans?

We would love to have another couple join us on our tour of the west coast of Scotland! A deposit has been made to hold our reservations. The itinerary calls for the group to meet in Edinburgh on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August and leave on Monday, traveling through Glasgow and west to the Clyde coast to Wemyss Bay taking the ferry to Rothesay on the Isle of Bute. We would stay two nights in Rothesay, visiting Mount Stewart, the museum, and perhaps even shopping. Tuesday we would return to Wemyss Bay and take a cruise on Loch Lomond and then journey to Oban for the evening. Wednesday continues the trip northward to Glencoe with a visit to the new visitor's center there and ending the day in Ft. William. On Thursday we pass through Ft. Augustus and Inverness and stop at the Culloden Battle field and possibly the Clava Cairns and Cawdor Castle. The next week is the Grant Gathering with its busy schedule. We would stay at the Grant Arms Hotel in the center of Grantown-on-Spey. On Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> the group would return by train to Edinburgh or Glasgow, where we would bid "adieu" to all! If you are interested in going please call Phil or Shirley Smith immediately at 610-466-9425 for further details.

# Dating Family Photos

By Don Grant, Clan Genealogist

The most obvious first step is to see if you recognize anyone in the picture (clearly the photo was made in their lifetime). How are the subjects dressed? A useful tool in dating can be a reference book on period fashion. Furthermore, photographic styles fall into distinct periods.

The earliest types of photography were Daguerreotypes, Collotypes and wet plate (this includes ambrotypes and tin or ferrotypes).

The first of these, Daguerreotypes were popular from 1839 to 1870. It was composed of a thin coating of polished silver on a copper plate, placed in a decorative (usually brass) frame and covered with glass. Daguerreotypes are very fragile and cost the equivalent of about a weeks' wages in the mid nineteenth century.

Collotypes or Talbot types (for the inventor of the process) were created with a paper negative and printed to paper as well. These are sometimes also called salted paper prints. There are few original surviving examples of these, due to their fragile nature.

Ambrotypes were in use from 1852-1865 and are basically underexposed negatives made on a glass plate, that appear as a positive image when placed on a dark background. Frequently, cheeks, lips and jewelry were later hand-colored on the face of the print. They cost less than half the price of daguerreotypes.

Tintypes were in use from 1856-through World War I and are positive one-out images made on a piece of metal instead of glass or paper. These inexpensive images quickly became very popular and were the first photos widely in use by the working class in America. Tintypes may be brownish or black in color and the most common size was about 2 1/2 " x 3 1/2". They were also frequently hand-colored on the subjects face and jewelry. The corners are frequently clipped to aid in their insertion into cardboard frames. Both wet-plate and daguerreotypes are mirror images of the subject. Tintypes were produced in the millions in the United States and are very common finds at antique shows today. These are the common sizes:

	Full plate	6 1/2" x 8 1/2"
†	Half plate	4 1/2" x 5 1/2"
†	1/4 plate	3 1/8" x 4 1/8"
†	1/6 plate	2 1/2" x 3 1/2"
†	1/9 plate	2" x 2 1/2"
†	Gem	1/2" x 1"

The earliest tintypes were on heavier metal (0.017 inches thick) that was never again used. They are stamped "Neff's Melainotype Pat 19 Feb 56" along one edge. Subsequent Tintypes fall into several distinct periods:

Civil War Period 1861 - 1865.

One-sixth and one-fourth plate size Datable by the Potter's Patent paper holders, decorated with patriotic stars and emblems.

After 1863 the paper holders were embossed

rather than printed. Tintypes of this period were also frequently marked with canceled tax stamps adhered to the backs.

Brown Period 1870 - 1885.

In 1870 the Phoenix Plate Co. began making plates with a brown-tinted surface.

This period is also marked by "rustic" photography with painted backgrounds, fake stones, wood fences and rural props. Neither the brown tint nor the rustic looks are to be found in pre-1870 tintypes.

Gem Period 1863 - 1890.

Tiny portraits, 7/8 by 1 inch, or about the size of a small postage stamp called by the name Gem.

These flourished until about 1890, when the invention of roll film and personal cameras made them obsolete. Gem portraits were commonly stored in special albums with provision for a single portrait per page. Some Gems were cut to fit lockets, cufflinks, tiepins, rings and even garter clasps.

Carnival Period 1875 - 1930.

Itinerant photographers frequented public gatherings, such as fairs and carnivals. They came equipped with painted backdrops of Niagara Falls, a beach, a boat, and other novelty props for comic portraits.

Postmortems. In the nineteenth century it was common to request a photographer to make a deathbed portrait of a loved one.

Carte de visite (1859-1900)

Small visiting card portraits (usually measuring 4 1/2 x 2 1/2"), also referred to as CDVs

The process, which had its heyday in the 1860s and 1870s, was very much the reason for the demise of the ambrotype. The process produced paper prints that used albumen (the whites of eggs), a lot less fragile than the glass plates produced by ambrotypes. Usually, multiple lenses were also used in making CDVs—a camera would have four or eight lenses—to produce multiple images with a single exposure of the camera.

Cartes de visite, which typically were mounted on 2 1/2-by-4-inch card stock, started to be replaced by bigger prints known as cabinet cards. Cabinet cards were produced as multiple images as well, but the final image was a little larger even than the 4-by-6-inch images that are standard today. Larger prints were more desirable, and cabinet cards finally supplanted CDVs by the early 20th-century.

Cabinet card (approx. 1866 - 1906).

A card stock product, nearly four times the size of previous photographs on card stock. Cabinet cards can be dated by color of stock, borders, corners and size.

The earliest American made cabinet cards have been dated only 1866. Design and colors of these cards followed those of the cards of that time. Cabinet cards are rarely found after 1906.

Card Colors:

1866 - 1880 White card stock of a light weight.

1880 - 1890 Different colors for face and back of mounts.

1882 - 1888 Face of buff, matte finished, with a back of creamy yellow, glossy.

Borders:

1866 - 1880 Red or gold rules, single and double lines.

1884 - 1885 Wide gold borders.

1885 - 1892 Gold beveled edges.

1889 - 1896 Rounded corner rule of single line.

1890 - 1892 Metallic green or gold impressed border.

1896 Impressed outer border, without color.

Corners:

1866 - 1880 Square, lightweight mount.

1880 - 1890 Square, heavy board with scalloped sides.

Photographs mounted on card stock.

The most popular mount sizes were:

Carte-de-visite 4 1/4" x 2 1/2"

Cabinet card 6 1/2" x 4 1/2"

Victoria 5" x 3 1/4"

Promenade 7" x 4"

Boudoir 8 1/2" x 5 1/4"

Imperial 9 7/8" x 6 7/8"

Panel 8 1/4" x 4"

Stereograph 3" x 7"

The turn of the century brought with it the post card format.

Beginning in 1906 and lasting up until the Second World War.

Initially, the back sides were blank. Later, a line dividing the message area from the address panel was added. In the teens, preprinted copy, such as the photographer's studio information was not uncommon.

From the 1920s forward, small snapshots were the norm.

The most important thing that the family genealogist can do, however, is to make sure that photos which can positively be identified are unobtrusively marked with the date and subject matter, whenever possible. This will save some future history-hound a lot of headaches. Remember that your present will eventually be some descendant's murky past. So do your great great grandchildren a favor, and leave them a note that says you were thinking about them way back at the turn of the 21st century.

Stand fast (it makes a better photo if you do)!



Carte de Visite



Cabinet Card 1886



1903



1906



1933



Tintype 1886



Postcard 1912



Don Grant and his son, Will

# The Allan Family: Scotland's Master Sword Makers

By: Allen Johnson, Utah Commissioner



As most of us know, Scotland and swords have been synonymous topics. From very early on, historians have noted the fierce nature and exceptional skill of the Scot in armed combat. Many eyewitnesses also marveled at how the 18<sup>th</sup> century Scot walked about constantly "arrayed in a most warlike manner", always being

equipped with his weapons. During the 18<sup>th</sup> century we see some of the most beautiful and skilled examples of swords known to man. A single family interestingly enough mainly constructed these basket hilt broadswords. Today the Allan family has a strong presence in our society. During the whole of the 1700's the Allan family of John Allan Sr., sons Walter Allan and John Allan Jr, along with journeyman James Grant produced some of the most exquisite weapons seen to date.

Charles E. Whitelaw, who passed away in 1939, recorded what is considered today as being one of the definitive works on Scottish weaponry and is published today as, "Scottish Arms Makers", a biographical dictionary of makers of firearms, edged weapons and armour working in Scotland from the 15<sup>th</sup> century to 1870. He noted that this was the "high water mark" of weapon making in Scotland and called it the "finest and most elaborate basket hilts in existence". While he makes good note of the work of John Allan Sr. and Jr. as well as James Grant, he remarks that Walter Allan was an "outstanding artist in this line in the country and a man of wonderful versatility". Indeed most regard Walter Allan's swords to be the finest examples of the Scottish basket hilt.

At the time, people could not just decide to be a sword maker and set up shop the next day. There was a sort of Union set up called the Incorporation of Hammermen. Permission had to be attained by the Incorporation in whatever town you wished to work in order to set up shop. After gaining permission from the Town Council one would then be asked to submit an essay or "sey" as it is sometimes recorded. This essay was actually some example of their work as assigned by the council. The individual would then come back with his finished product to be reviewed and told whether or not he was admitted to the burgess.

You will see titles associated with these different makers. Titles like 'armourer', 'cutlers' and 'sword slipper'. Since armour was in heavy decline most 'armourers' were just sword makers. The term 'sword slipper' is one seen in Scotland frequently. According to Whitelaw it refers to one who is a "dresser or sharpener of blades rather than a blade forger." Seeing as though most of Scotland's blades were imported from Europe, this makes perfect sense. These sword slipper or sword assemblers would take the blades (usually coming from Germany or Solingen, Prussia but some from France, Italy and Spain as well) and fit them to their locally made hilts.

Here are the working dates for the Allan's and James Grant:

John Allan Sr. 1714-post1731  
Walter Allan 1732-1761  
John Allan Jr. 1741-?  
James Grant pre 1759-post1788

John Allan Sr. was originally a journeyman to armourer John Simpson in Glasgow. On March 24<sup>th</sup> of 1714 he was admitted to the burgess of Doune (also sometimes recorded as 'Down') a town about 8 miles outside of Stirling as an armourer and sword slipper. Interestingly enough, it was recorded that John was to be admitted without the regular payment or conditions to the Incorporation. This is most likely because John Simpson, also just happened to be Master of the Incorporation of the Hammermen of Glasgow.

Simpson was surely familiar with Allan's skills and warranted he needed no review of his craft.

Walter Allan was admitted to the Incorporation on Feb 12<sup>th</sup>, 1732 per the acceptance of his essay which was assigned as "the hilt of a cutlass". On August 5<sup>th</sup> of that year he returned with what was recorded as "a mounting of a hinger". This "hinger" or more commonly known as a "hanger" was a short, curved, single edged blade with a simple hilt and a D-shaped knuckle bow that extended down to the pommel off the wrist guard. Five years later he was elected Deacon of his incorporation. During the time Walter Allan was working, we have records of several journeymen and servants being employed with him. As mentioned before, one of these was James Grant.

James Grant was admitted as a freeman in 1759 with Walter Allan. Generally speaking a Journeyman was engaged for a few weeks or months whereas a servant was engaged for a year or more. Grant's swords reflected the style of his mentor, Walter Allan and he was noted by Whitelaw as being "most highly skilled". Since Grant was admitted in 1759 (after the Disarming Acts following the 1745 rising) he was likely employed mainly with producing more of the stock basket hilts that were being used in the Highland Regiments in the British Army. He was admitted as a burgess in Stirling after he submitted a broadsword hilt for his essay (the terms 'basket hilt' and 'broadsword' in Scotland are virtually synonymous). John Allan's younger son, John Jr., was admitted to the burgess as an Armourer of Stirling on August 1<sup>st</sup> of 1741. Unfortunately, little information is available about his essay or much of his work..

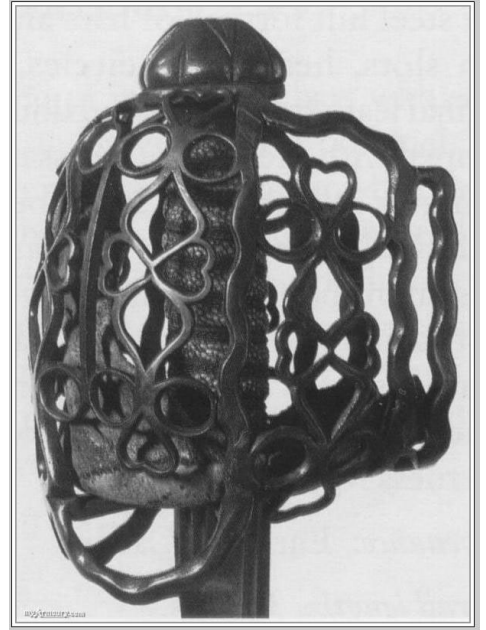
All these makers had a similar style that set them apart in their craft. William Reid in his article entitled, "Walter Allan, Armourer in Stirling" noted that all three members of the family (presumably Grant as well since his style reflected the Allan's) "tended to use round section bars in conjunction with flat plates pierced with stars, circles and hearts". He also observed that "In most of the Allan's more ornate hilts the pommel sits in a ring riveted or welded to the top of the guard while on most standard hilts of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the arms of the guard are tucked into a shallow groove under the pommel." Another notable feature of some of their hilts was to produce a wavy effect to the side bars and plates. This produced a very distinct and exotic look that is easily recognizable.

When looking at these hilts its easy to see why these men were so sought after. Not only were they great works of art but very serviceable as well. It was not uncommon to fit an older hilt with a newer blade as the styles of swordplay changed over the years. This attests to the longevity of their craftsmanship as well as creates a difficulty in dating these swords. To further complicate things, it's also known for older blades that were still in good condition to be outfitted with the latest style of hilt. Looking back we can surely be proud to hold these skilled men as our kinsmen and admire their work that still stands as some of the best crafted swords in the world.

Sword collector and Scottish enthusiast, Thomas MacDonald has been gracious enough to permit me to display the address to his picture website in which he has hundreds of photos of antique as well as high quality reproduction arms and armour. Search through his collection of museum photos for examples of the Allan's work. Look here: <http://www.picturetrail.com/gallery/view?p=6&uid=717149&>  
Sources Consulted:

Scottish Arms Makers  
By Charles E. Whitelaw  
Arms & Armour Press, 1977 London

Walter Allan, Armourer in Stirling  
By William Reid  
From "The Scottish Art Review"  
Vol. 9, No. 1, 1963



Observations on the Dating of Scottish Basket Hilted Swords  
By C. R. Rolland  
From "The Seventh Park Lane Arms Fair" catalogue  
1990, Copyright David A. Oliver LTD.

Special thanks to Thomas MacDonald for his assistance

## Notes from Shirley

**Wishing These Good Health:** Carole Richmond (OK) is recovering from cancer surgery. Carole, a member since 1995, has been interested in Ludovic Grant's genealogy. . . George Wood (FL) is undergoing kidney dialysis. . . and Gail Pratt (NV) is having an extended leg injury recovery! She is a Brit Agent for her travel agency and normally goes to Britain every year. Except this one! . . . Allan Grant and Micheline (MD) say they are feeling "pretty good"! She's recovering from open heart surgery for an aneurism!

**More Weddings:** Laurie C. Grant and Ronald Omlor recited wedding vows on December 4th! Laurie is the daughter of Laird and Joan Grant (PA) Dad Laird helps at the Ligonier Games and is very much appreciated! . . . David Grant (FL) tells of his wedding to obtain all the parts to his formal wear for his wedding! He first contacted Peter MacDonald, hand weaver in Scotland for the yardage. He later drove up the Blue Ridge Parkway to meet Wanda Mc Swain, kilt maker in NC. (Some 500 miles) Upon his return a month later he had a "fitting." The groom proved resplendent with his hand knitted hose, a hand engraved sterling silver belt buckle and silver buckles on his brogues. (See picture elsewhere) He now owns both the Grant Hunting and the Grant Modern kilts! . . . Sue (Bisset) Barker (AL), daughter of the late John Bisset, writes that her nephew Bill was married in York, PA last Fall. Her brother, Bill, Sr., teased his son saying that if he'd marry a certain girl he would play the bagpipes at his wedding! (He did not play them at the time). Junior did marry the girl and his Dad surprised the whole family! He not only played the pipes for the wedding but he wore his father's (John Bisset) kilt! Sue says, "He looked exactly like my Dad! Dad would have been so proud; we felt his presence there for sure!" (John was one of our earliest members. He went to Scotland with us and to any number of Highland Games in the U.S. . . . Ruth Olschewske (NY) is attending her brother's wedding this August—and plans to take her mother with her for the big event!

**And our Travelers:** John and Thelma Grant (GA) spent several weeks in Texas and New Mexico "visiting Big

Bend National Park, looking for relatives, and visiting Presidential Libraries! . . . Dorothy and Alexander Laird Grant have just returned from "wintering over" in Florida. . . "Maggie" Kline and daughter, Betsy, hope to go to Scotland in August. Betsy spent a week in Paris, courtesy of her employer! . . . Remember our *other* David Grant? The world traveler (via wagon) Grant?... While sending out information on the Grant trip in August, a copy was accidentally sent to him! David Grant politely answered and apologies accepted for sending an itinerary to a "native!" His reply? "There is no need to be embarrassed—the natives are friendly! At least to fellow clan folk!" (Whew! What a relief!) Meanwhile, as a follower of Baha'i, David has a nine-day Pilgrimage to the World Centre on Mt. Carmel in Haifa to attend in October, so he decided to be a "real" pilgrim and walk some of the way. He expects to visit Cluny Abbey in France and perhaps Gallipoli. His father fought there 90 years ago (and lived to tell!) So he's, "On the Road Again!" . . . Alison Grant (NY) plans to be Scottish Dancing in the Hebrides this August with her family and friends! . . . Christopher Grant is moving from Tacoma, WA to Casa Grande, AZ in stages! If you can't catch him in one state, hopefully you'll catch him in the other! . . . Janet Kimball (NH) took an auto tour of Scotland last year and claims there is nothing like it! (We agree—traffic circles, narrow roads, fast drivers, driving on the left, etc.) . . . Last, but not least, Diana Dron (CA) a would-be traveler! Unfortunately she pulled jury duty and the trial is expected to last well into the summer! As an old farmer would say, "What a bummer!"

**Genealogists At Work:** Christine Petit has been working on her family's genealogy for some time now, aided by her uncle and brother. They have traced the Gaul, Grant, and Crowley lines. If interested, contact her at [cpettitone@adelphia.net](mailto:cpettitone@adelphia.net). She reminds us that some of the information in the files has not been well verified but research "in the rough"! Christine does try to document her sources. . . . A letter from Boyce Keith Smith arrived asking for information on the Grants of Cowgalton in East Lothian. The family descended from William Congalton of that ilk, temp. William the Lion. His G-G-G-Grandfather was Henry

Grant, who married Lady Isabella Catherine Keith Falconor, the daughter of Anthony Adrian Keith Falconor, 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Kintore. Don't worry—we are sending this one to Scotland but just in case you know something about this family. . .

**A Few Quickies:** "Maggie" Kline spent a fortune to have her trees trimmed when along came the ice storm that hit the South just before Christmas! It knocked holes in her roof, tore the gutters and pulled wires down! She continues, "The County still has a mountain of pine branches to haul away!" . . . The "lost" Margaret Morris (IN and working on her Ph.D) is found! She's in the final stage of the program at Purdue University in West Lafayette. She hopes to finish in 2006! Her two "boys" are grown up! Grant is now 21 years old and Josh reached 24 last May. . . Michael Wagner, a student in Colorado, plans to teach abroad when he graduates. . . Hugh Dunn writes that he misses the Clan Gatherings but at 86 he is slowing down! He had been in charge of an organization called Clan Grant O.S.C. in Donora, PA in 1955-56. They had over one hundred members but eventually it went out of existence. Their biggest day was always the day of the Scotch picnic. He notes that, "It was also the biggest day of the year for the pub across the street, too!" Hugh played in a pipe band for a number of years. . . Jean Grant Wilson, our faithful Membership Secretary, has had computer troubles! (So what's new?) She upgraded her computer. That was her first mistake! Never, never do anything to a computer! They have a mind of their own and especially if you follow the instructions! Jean was out-of-commission for quite awhile! Be glad she's back in business—she bails me out regularly! "Thanks, Jean for all you do!"

**And Finally, Congratulations:** To our most recent "Life" members: Alexander Laird Grant, Galen Honea (TX), and Mary Dunn (MD). If you are over 80 and have been an active member you qualify for Life Membership. This includes free membership and the clan newsletter! We don't want you to miss out on a real Scottish bargain—so just let our Membership Secretary, Jean Wilson, know your birth date!

### Septs -Continued from page 1

#### Feedback Please

Comments are invited from anyone with an interest in this matter. Lord Strathspey has asked Adrian Grant to take on the duties of a secretariat in this matter, so all comments should be sent via him:

Adrian Grant  
7 Shiels Avenue  
Freuchie, Fife  
KY15 7JD, Scotland

or via email: [acgrant@standfast.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:acgrant@standfast.wanadoo.co.uk)

All comments will be given proper consideration, but if you wish a snail mail reply please enclose return postage.

#### Exemplar Letters Patent

(a) The first example takes the instance of a Jane Penuel Wainwright who has no ancestral or geographic connection with the clan, but who wishes to be a member. The bond might read:

Bond of Mutual Assistance between Sir James Grant of Grant Bt., Baron Strathspey, 33rd Chief of Grant, and Jane Penuel Wainwright of Epsom, Surrey, England

Whereas the great renown and high esteem of the Clan Grant has been so much noised abroad that it has come to the attention of Jane Penuel Wainwright and that she has made herself and has become so well versed in and imbued with

the history and lore of the Clan Grant that she earnestly desires to be associated with and participate in it uniquely

and Whereas Jane Penuel Wainwright has, on at least one occasion, attended upon Sir James, answering the call to Stand Fast at Craigelachie, and

Whereas Jane Penuel Wainwright has solemnly undertaken to uphold, promote and maintain the good name of of the Clan Grant and its Chief, fostering sisterhood with fellow clan members, and to Stand Fast against all those who would malign the same or otherwise seek to bring discredit upon them,

Wherefore be it known, by these present and by the seal attached hereto that I, Sir James Grant, do welcome and confirm the aforesaid Jane Penuel Wainwright as a member of the most honorable Clan Grant as if a clansman born, undertaking in my turn and to the best of my capacity to assist Jane Penuel Wainwright in the discharge of her duties as a member of our noble Clan to the mutual honor, fame and well-being of the name Grant.

Dated this 23rd Day of September 2002

(b) The second example is the anonymised text of an actual bond issued fairly recently to enroll a member into another clan:

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL MEN

that I, The Right Honorable Bob McDDd, Earl of Xxx, Lord McDDd in the Peerage of Scotland, Earl of Yyy and Baron

Zzz in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Hereditary Sheriff of Gggg, Chief of the Honorable Clan McDDd, having taken high counsel on the petition of Jock Tamson, Baron of Aaa, Knight of the Order of Mmm, to enter into a BOND of ALLIANCE and MAINTENANCE with the Honorable Clan McDDd and CONSIDERING THAT our forefathers have been used to grant such petitions for the greater protection, security and advancement of the Clan THEREFORE as the said Jock Tamson, born Kirkcaldy 15th April 1903, although having Arms matriculated in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in obedience to the Statute cap. 1672 owes allegiance to no other Great House of the Realm and in consideration of the oath of loyalty and service offered by the said Jock Tamson I DO HEREBY accept the said Jock Tamson as a member of the Clan McDDd with all the rights, privileges and obligations pertaining thereto as if a Clansman born;

In witness whereof I have subscribed These Presents and my Seal is affixed hereto at Balchearnach this 23rd day of September in the 14th Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Second, By the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of Her Other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, and in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Two.

**Fall Deadline to submit  
for next issue  
is August 30th!**

# Tartan Day In New York

VisitScotland's unique "Scottish Village" in Grand Central Station in New York, attracted a quarter of a million visitors during Tartan Week in April. The village was a purpose built, modular structure comprising a series of zoned areas, each featuring aspects of Scottish life and culture.

The 700-year-old sword which belonged to Sir William Wallace was also displayed there. The competition to win a free trip to Scotland, ran in conjunction with the exhibition, attracting 22,000 entries.

Tourism Minister Patricia Ferguson expressed delight at the figures as the US is an important overseas tourism market for Scotland.



Christopher Pratt leads the parade!



The Sir William Wallace Sword



Patricia Ferguson, MSP and minister for TCS, Dr. Christopher Pratt and George Reid, MSP and presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament

# In Kilt and Plaid

*Editor's note- To give proper credit for this reprinted story, Paul Rogers had contributed it in 2002 after finding it on the Electric Scotland website. "In Kilt and Plaid" is a charming account of a Highland Games that he passed on to Don Grant, the editor of Standfast where I discovered it in the winter issue of that year. Enjoy!*

All dust has been swept from the causeways by the clear wind from the firth, as if in preparation for this great gala-day of the North. Unusual stir and movement fill the streets of the quiet Highland town, and the bright sunshine glitters everywhere on jeweled dirk and brooch and skeandhu.

The clean pavements are ringing far and near with the quick, light step of the Highlander, and, from the number of tartans to be seen, it might almost be thought that the Fiery Cross was abroad, as in days of old, for the gathering of the clans.

Sad enough are the memories here of the last war summons of the chiefs. High-hearted, indeed, was the town on the morning when the clans marched forth under "Bonnie Prince Charlie" to do battle for the Stuart cause. But before an April day had passed the gates received again, flying from fatal Culloden, the remnants of the broken chivalry of the North, and the streets themselves shook under the thunder of the Lowland.

The wounds of the past, however, are healed, the feuds are forgotten, and the clouds of that bygone sorrow have been blown away by the winds of time. A lighter occasion now has brought gaiety to the town, and the heroes of the hour are decked with no ominous white cockade. Already in the distance the wild playing of the pipes can be heard, and at the sound the kilted clansmen hurry faster along the streets; for the business of the day is on the greensward, and the hill folk, gentle and simple, are gathering from far and near to witness the Highland Games.

A fair and appropriate scene is the tourney-ground, with the mountains looking down upon it, purple and silent the Olympus of the North. The eager crowd gathers thick already, like bees, round the barricade. Little knots of friends there, from glens among the hills, discuss the chances of their village hero. Many a swarthy mountaineer is to be seen, of pure Celtic blood, clear eyed and cleaned limbed, from far off mountain clachan. Gamekeepers and ghillies there are, without number, in gala-day garb. And the townspeople themselves appear in crowds. On every side is to be heard the emotional Gaelic of the hills, beside the sweet English speech for which the town is famous, and only sometimes the broader accent of a Lowland tongue.

The lists have just been cleared, and the "chieftain" of the day has gathered his henchmen around him. The games are, about to begin.

Yonder go the pipers, half a dozen of them,

their ribbons and tartans streaming on the wind. Featly they step together to the quick tune of the shrill mountain march they are playing. Deftly they turn in a body at the boundary, and brightly the cairngorms of their broad silver shoulder brooches flash all at once in the sun. No wonder it is that the Highlander has the tread of a prince, accustomed as he is to the spring of the heather beneath his feet, and to music like that in the air. The Highland garb, too, can hardly fail to be picturesque when stalwart fellows like these wear it.

The program of the games is very full, and several competitions are therefore carried on at the same time. Here a dozen fleet youths speed past on the half-mile racecourse. Some lithe ghillies yonder are doing hop, step, and leap to an astonishing distance. And, further off, five brawny fellows are preparing to "put" the heavy ball. Out of the tent close by come some sinewy men, well stripped for the encounter, to try a bout of wrestling. A pair at a time, they wind their strong arms about each other, and strain and heave to give their rival a fall. One man scowls, and another smiles as he picks himself up after his overthrow a very fair index to the character of each. Most of them, however, display the greatest good-humor, and every one must obey the ruling of the umpire. Gradually the two stoutest and heaviest men overcome the rest; and at last, the only champions remaining, they stand up to engage each other. The grey-headed man has some joke to make as he hitches up his belt before closing, and the bystanders laugh heartily at his pleasantry; but his opponent evidently looks upon the contest too seriously for that. Hither and thither they stagger in "the grips," the back of each as rigid as a plank at an angle of forty-five degrees. Now they loosen hold for a breath, and again they grasp each other, till at last, by dint of sheer strength, the gray-headed wrestler draws the younger man to himself and, with a sudden toss, throws him clear upon the ground. The slim youths at the pole-vaulting look like white swallows as they swing high into the air on their long staves to clear the bar; and a roar of applause from the far end of the lists, where the dogged "tug of war" has been going on, tells that one of the teams of heavy fellows straining at the rope has been hauled over the brink into the dividing ditch. The brawny giants who were throwing the axle a little while ago are just now breathing themselves, and will be tossing the mighty caber by and by. And ever and anon throughout the day there float upon the breeze the wild strains of the competing pipers pibrochs and strathspeys and "hurricanes of Highland reels."

Meanwhile the grand pavilion has filled. Lord and lady, earl and marquis and duke are there. And beside these are others, heads of families, who count their chieftainship; it may be, through ten centuries, and who are to be called neither esquire nor lord, but just of that ilk. Chiefs by right of blood, they need no other title than their name.

Continued on Page 10

## 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





**Sarasota Highland Games & Festival**

Submitted by **William B. Grant**

It was a little nippy but, all in all, we had a glorious day for the February 5th "Twelfth Annual Sarasota, Florida Highland Games and Scottish Festival." There appeared to be record crowds to see the pipe bands, the athletes, the sheep dog drills, the dancing and all the other myriad activities that make these games so memorable. New member **Gary L. Grant** joined the Society at our tent.

**Donna Grant Smith** walked with me in the Grand Parade of Clans. (photo is below) **Jill Grant Fisher**, in spite of her infirmity, stayed with me in the booth for most of three hours. (photo of her and I in front of the booth at the top) We missed **Murray Grant** this year but, what with the problems he has had with his feet, he was a trooper to have given us as many years helping out at this festival as he did.



**Oregon Stand(s) Fast**

Submitted by William Burton  
Oregon Commissioner

Two new members to Clan Grant Society USA were enrolled during convening of "The Oregon Scottish Festival" at Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany, OR., on 9th April 2005. This festival has been sponsored by The Oregon Scottish Society, which is based in Salem OR. Former Oregon Commissioner, **Wayne Grant**, held the honored position of "Laird of the Floor" for the indoor venue.

Upon the payment of Clan dues, the new members were presented with a Temporary Membership card, a swatch of Red Clan Grant Tartan, and a 3" Button showing both the Tartan and the Clan name, by State Commissioner **William Burton**. (Sorry, no pictures available.)

New members are: **Lupe Felix**, of Newberg OR and **Cindy Grant** Pendergast of Salem OR.

Oregon's Clan Grant Commissioner has committed to convene and display information about the Clan Grant Society USA during several games and gatherings that can be found on the Calendar within this newsletter.

**Grants Games**



Thanks to the commissioners that sent in photos and news of their Games! We encourage everyone to share your Scottish Games with your photos and a few words!.....either submit by e-mail to: [craigellachie@comcast.net](mailto:craigellachie@comcast.net) or by regular mail send info to 10620 Casa Grande Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32257



Picture above is Natalie West, also in attendance.

Top left: The Clan Grant representation at the parade on Sunday. **Bethany Furr**, **Aaron Furr** (Grandchildren of Helen Furr) **C. David Grant**, **Patricia McIlroy Stepanian** and **Natalie West**.

Picture at left: **C. David Grant** at the Clan Grant tent in Loch Norman, N.C.

**Loch Norman Highland Games**

Submitted by Helen Furr. North Carolina Commissioner

Clan Grant was represented at the Twelfth Annual Loch Norman Highland Games in April. Manning the tent was **Patricia McIlroy Stepanian**, **Helen McIlroy Furr**, both from Concord, NC and **C. David Grant** from Atlanta, Ga. The weather cooperated nicely with a bit of wind on Saturday, but a very nice day on Sunday. Saturday was a busy for everyone, with a lot of interest in the display of a beautiful staff brought in by **C. David Grant**. The staff was beautifully carved with highlights from his life by an artist in Atlanta and presented to him upon his retirement as Scoutmaster. Sunday we participated in the Tartan Parade with **C. David Grant** leading the Clan Grant marchers. They were, **Bethany and Aaron Furr**, carrying the banner, **C. David Grant** with his staff, **Natalie West** and **Patricia Stepanian**.

*Our acting games commissioner, former VP Allan Grant, has put together three kits for new games hosts who do not have their own kits. He can be reached at (410) 437-1399 (home) or (410) 303-4992 (cell). Please give Allan as much prior notice as you can so he can assess priorities and send at the cheapest delivery rate!*



**Clan Grant Badges**

PRICE IS \$10.00 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

**Meet Colin Grant-Adams**

Our own Colin Grant-Adams will be performing at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in North Carolina, July 6-10 on Thursday during the Opening ceremonies and also on the Main Field, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. He will not be in grove 1, but will be playing different times out on the main field in front of the reviewing stand as well as in the sponsor's tent.

Colin will also be doing a Northwest Tour at the end of July to the First part of August. This will include performing at the Northwest Pacific Highland Games in Enumclaw, WA (July 29-31), and the Florence Events Center, OR (Aug 6th).

The Middle of Aug to the first part of September will be his Northeast Tour including the Maine Highland Games (Aug 19-20) and the Capital District Highland Games in Albany, NY.

If anyone is up for a Cruise on the Mississippi, Colin will be working that as well in January of 2006. Celebrate Robert Burn's Birthday on the Mississippi, January 13-20 during a Benefit For the Internet Family Tree. Join Scottish/Folk Singer/Songwriter/ Colin Grant-Adams, Beth Gay, Editor of the Family Tree, Alastair McIntyre of Electric Scotsman and more. There will be seminars, ceilidhs and a Burns Supper.

For more information:

Colin has a link on his web site:

[www.colingrant-adams.com](http://www.colingrant-adams.com)

Phone Judy Thompson  
(404) 378-1080

Email: [judy@judysctt.com](mailto:judy@judysctt.com)





## Grants In The News



Pictured above are **Lucille and George Grant** with **Fr. Louis Lambert**, taken at Sacred Heart Church in Tampa, Florida on their recent vacation in February. The Church is located in downtown Tampa and opened in 1905. It is a historically beautiful, large, ornate church. While there they attended Sunday mass and after the service they spoke with Fr. Louis Lambert, S.J., and mentioned that Lucille had been christened and baptized in the Church and additionally that they were married on May 4, 1951 there. Fr. Lambert replied, "I served at your wedding". They almost fell over! Fifty-four years ago Fr. Lambert was an altar boy at the church and is now a Priest there! What a coincidence- not only his presence at their wedding, but that they should all meet again! How lucky could they be!

## True Band of Brothers



Matthew, Aaron and Gordon Grant, Jr.  
Submitted by G.K. Grant, Commissioner, S.TX

Back in 1997 and 1998 there were three young lads cleaning up ribbons and medals at the highland games in Houston. Well those "wee lads" are grown now but they are still collecting ribbons and medals only on a grander scale.



On May 29, of this year, **Denise and David Grant** of Gainesville, FL celebrated their 1<sup>st</sup> year anniversary. Above are the original wedding photos and show what a beautiful affair it must have been. David Grant said it took a couple of years of research to accumulate his formal attire. They make a beautiful couple!



## Our new Commissioner for Washington State!

**Michelle Poitevin** lives in Seattle, Washington with her ten-year old son, **Gabriel**. She studied Arabic in the US Air Force and subsequently at the University of Washington. She works for a local real estate developer building single-family homes. Although Michelle thoroughly enjoys this work, she intends to become a pastry chef in eight years when her son enters college. Michelle has been an active participant in Scottish cultural activities in the Puget Sound area for many years and enjoyed helping the **former commissioner, her sister Christina Masters** whenever possible. An avid fan of the Glasgow Celtic Football Club, **Michelle** is a member of the Charlie Tully Seattle Celtic Supporters Club. She frequently watches matches broadcasted live (4:30am!) with the club and has traveled to Celtic Park in Scotland. One of her lifelong pursuits is linguistics and she has recently begun learning Gaelic. **Michelle** has big plans for the **Grants in Washington** this year and is looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible!

## A Castle Old And Grey

by Alexander Anderson

I never see a castle  
That is gaunt and grey and grim,  
But my thoughts at once go backward  
To the past so misty and dim.  
To the time when tower and turret,  
Kept watch far over the vale;  
And along the sounding draw-bridge  
Rode knights in their suits of mail.  
I see the sunshine glancing  
On helmet, pennon, and spear;  
And hear from the depth of the forest,  
A bugle calling clear.  
I fill the hall with visions  
Of ladies rich in their bloom;  
And stately knights in armour,  
And waving with feather and plume.  
If I climb the broken stairway,  
Where the stone is smooth and fine,  
I hear a rustle and whisper,  
And footsteps in front of mine.  
Whisper of youth and maiden,  
As they met in the long ago;  
His deep and strong and manly,  
Hers tender and sweet and low.  
But maiden and youth have vanished,  
Away from the scene and the light;  
Gone, too, the high-born lady,  
And the plumed and armoured knight.  
Only the grey old castle,  
Of crumbling stone and lime,  
Still stands to speak of the ages,  
And the iron footsteps of Time.

## Raves & Rants

Continued from page 1



results. Please get in touch with Jon or Scott if you're interested in your own results - they can show you how to get a discount since Grants are already participating in the study!

**AGM in Scotland?** - Still investigating where and when to hold our AGM during our August visit to Scotland. We're certainly open to other suggestions, especially if we have someone who will volunteer to host!

**Upcoming Games** - Come join us for the Grantfather Mountain Highland Games held July 7-10 at MacRae Meadows on the mountain just outside (and above!) Linville, NC. These games are the oldest in the Southeast, celebrating their 50th anniversary this year. We usually have a large Grant presence and enjoy Saturday dinner right at the foot of the mountain at the beautiful home of Doris Matthews and her late husband Bill, whose mother was a Grant. Doris, daughter Judy Jones and son-in-law Dale Jones continue their dealing in Scottish apparel, jewelry, and other items as Near & Far Scottish in Charlotte.

**Games kits** - Acting Games Commissioner (and former Vice President) Allan Grant is amassing various Grant items to stock several kits, some for very active commissioners and some to send where they are needed. Please get in touch with Allan if you have suggestions for items to include or for someone who might be willing to host a tent and spread the news about Grants.

## Stand Fast Craigellachie!

- For centuries our fathers slept  
Within their Chieftan's sway:  
Where ospreys plung'd and salmon leaps  
In the tempestuous Spey.  
Their dear-loved homes they viewed with pride,  
Their simple joys to count:  
They rallied to their Chieftans' side  
When blazed the fiery mount.

CHORUS:

So proudly let our glorious chant  
Still echo through Strathspey.  
"A Grant! A Grant! A Grant! A Grant!"  
Stand fast Craigellachie!

- Now Grants are found o'er a' the earth,  
And seas may surge between  
The land that gave their fathers birth  
And many a foreign scene.  
Yet still "Three Crowns within a Shield"  
Their symbol dear remains;  
And suld Strathspey shall be their bield,  
While blood runs in their veins.
- Though now Clan Grant is scattered wide  
Its writ shall ever run:  
One sentiment that can not hide  
Unites all souls as one.  
Nor time, nor spare, nor lands apart,  
The wish can e'er supplant  
The dearest wish of ev'ry heart,  
To greet the Laird o' Grant.

The composition above was written by **David Grant Blyth**, specifically for the Clan. **Robert Grant** advises that it is on display at the Duthill centre in Strathspey.

## Clan Chatter

**John A. Grant, III** (our High Plains commissioner and board member at large) along with his wife, **Helen** have had a computer virus but are up and running again. At the end of March they reported that their house building was soon to finally begin. The builder and others were all lined up but waiting for revised house prints. Maybe by September they will be in their new home in Texas! Best wishes to you both!

**Robert Grant**, President Clan Grant Society Australia, reports things are going well. They had distributed their first newsletter just in time for the Highland Gathering at Geelong. In recent months they also represented Clan Grant at Ringwood (both near Melbourne). For more information just contact: [clangrantau@yahoo.com.au](mailto:clangrantau@yahoo.com.au) or [rjgrant2@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rjgrant2@ozemail.com.au).

For those of you tracing emigrant ancestors, sometimes, it's difficult to track down ancestors who settled long ago on another continent. SCOTS Heritage magazine has a new feature that will help readers and genealogists find those elusive ancestors. Each quarter SCOTS will publish two pages of **genealogical queries** relating to missing emigrant ancestors. Queries will also be published on the SCOTS Genes message board at [www.scotsgenes.net](http://www.scotsgenes.net) giving researchers a double chance of finding those folks who travelled so far, so many years ago. There is no charge for an entry on the website message board but a fifty word query in the printed SCOTS magazine costs \$25 and each additional 10 words over 50 will be a further \$5. You can book your query for the August issue, or view the internet message board at [www.scotsgenes.net](http://www.scotsgenes.net).

**George & Lucille Grant** reported 2004 as a happy year for them! On December 21<sup>st</sup> of last year their 4 children arrived for Christmas with their families. A wonderful time for everyone! Then on December 27<sup>th</sup> their children gave them a joint **75th birthday party** at their golf club. George's birthday is Nov 10, Lucille is Nov 30. About 60 people attended. Lucille's sister and husband flew down from Wisconsin and her two brothers and brides came up from Florida. After much coaxing from their children they went to Florida in February of this year for two months of warm weather. They had a house in Tallahassee, but traveled around to see old friends. They attended the 50th anniversary of George's college graduation in Tampa, and celebrated Lucille's younger brother's birthday. One Sunday they decided to attend Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Tampa, where they were married. **See page nine** for the wonderful surprise they had there!

The most recent buzz on **Listserv** (our on-line Grant connection) was a lively discussion on the possibility of Clan Grant world-wide purchasing **Castle Grant**. The one million pound asking price is staggering but what a wonderful dream if all contributing members could be part owners! There were many 'eye-opening' reports about the Castle- its condition, its needs, the 'feelings' of both the present owner toward the Society obtaining title, and basically whether members would be willing to participate as part owners. Seems that it is a huge dream that would need a lot of research so as not to become a nightmare! As a side note, **Don Grant** (editor of UK Standfast) said "There is no opportunity to persuade the Scottish heritage to get a grant for restoration etc, as there are so many places touting for funds. We could not get any money for Duthil, a mere £300k, because of a request from the Grantown museum that was already allocated from the Lottery fund prior to our final bid. We were advised to collaborate with the Museum. Sadly it seems hard for the Grants to be awarded a Grant!"

**Carol Grant** from Woodinville, WA, says her son, **Daniel Grant**, will be singing at the 2005 Clan Gathering in Scotland during the banquet. She is taking a group of five to Scotland, which includes the Lake district and Ireland so they are getting excited about the event! She and her friend **Lili Carlson** will be returning after attending the Millennium Clan Gathering in 2000. It was such a wonderful time meeting Grants from all over the world that she had planned from that time to go back!

As a follow up to the re-printed **DNA** article that was in the last issue of the *Craigellachie*, it seems the *Strathspey & Badenoch Herald* decided not to print a contributed article (with the associated fee) that **Adrian Grant** had originally submitted, but rather to have their reporter interview him over the phone. However, the response to the article (which was also syndicated to the Aberdeen-based *P&J*) has been very good. **Adrian Grant** says that the DNA project co-ordinator **Jon Grant** assures him that Grant DNA project participants will also be able to let their data be used by the National Geographic Society/IBM project which has recently been announced. National Geographic and IBM scientists are assembling a massive worldwide database cataloging male and female genetic markers. The Geographic Project will collect 100,000 samples of indigenous populations around the world over the next five years. This will be the core of the database. To learn more go to [www.nationalgeographic.com/genographic](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/genographic).

Did you know? On the wearing of Tartan, according to the **Court of the Lord Lyon**, H. M. New Register House, Edinburgh: A lady of Scottish family, married to someone not entitled to a Clan, Family or District Tar-

tan, shall continue to wear her own tartan in skirt, etc, but wears her sash over the right shoulder, and tied in a bow over her left hip.

Seems **Michael Johnson**, our **Midwest Commissioner** runs an Antique and Collectibles business, primarily in war relics. It's his new business with his fiancé, **Vickie Armstrong** that he is honing the edges on- Ghost Photography which includes EVP which is the electronic recording of ghost voices. He realizes that this is a controversial field but he tells people go out with them one time and if you didn't believe in god or a supreme life force you will. They are currently working on a particular area that is so strong a regular recorder will pick up a "voice". Michael has already done a Civil War documentary and two on the Bethaney Church & cemetery local Hauntings. The last one was has not aired yet. It was in the Bethaney Church film where they started the photography and EVP.

**Dr. Raymond Grant** of British Columbia & Alberta Canada will be conducting the re-dedication of their wedding vows of **Rosemary and Richard Grant** from Alaska at the Grant Gathering in August. It will be held in the Aviemore Hotel conference center. He has laid out a very elaborate formal ceremony. The celebration will precede the formal dinner on 13 Aug 2005 after which the Ceilidh with singing & piping will be held. Preparations are under way and of course they are very excited!

**Tartan TV** is currently airing on PBS stations covering around a third of the USA, with access to over 33 million households. If Tartan TV is not yet available in your area, there is a good chance that the shows will become available soon. If not, you might like to alert your local PBS station to the availability of the series by getting in touch with them. The first series of thirteen programs started with the classic show on **Tartan Day in New York**, featuring an interview with **Sir Sean Connery**. They have now completed 52 shows in total, and these will be appearing on American public television over the months and years to come. It's the result of several years of hard effort by its founders, singing star **Fiona Kennedy** and CEO **Robert Sproul-Cran**. Tartan TV provides a global showcase for the best of what Scotland has to offer. It is on air every week as a half-hour magazine program on Public Television in the USA and has also been available over the past two years in Canada. <http://www.tartan.tv/Web/Site/NewSite/WhatIsTTV/TartanTVonPBS.asp>

**Steve Grant**, Ozarks commissioner for Clan Grant, sent in a reprint of a 40 year old article about Grantown that was in *The Scots Magazine* dated October 1965. He found it while re-shelving his book collection. Entitled "The Town the Grants Built" by Donald G. Noble the author described the history of Grantown and the many people

that helped to contributed to the development of it. The very descriptive notes of these characters and the details of the growth are fascinating. Due to the article's length it could not be reprinted however if anyone is interested please send the editor a self addressed stamped envelope and a photocopy will be returned.

## In Kilt & Plaid

(cont. from Page 7)

The presence of so much that is noble and illustrious lends a feudal interest to the games, and imports to the rivalry something of that desire to appear well in the eyes of the chief, which was once so powerful an influence in the Highlands. The young ghillie here who has outstripped all but one competitor at throwing the hammer feels the stimulus of this. He knows not only that his sweetheart's eyes are bent eagerly upon him from the barrier at hand, but also that he has a chance of distinguishing himself before his master and "her ladyship," who are watching from under the awning yonder. So he breathes on his hands, takes a firm grasp of the long ash handle, and, vigorously whirling the heavy iron ball round his head, sends it with all his strength across the lists. How far has it gone? They chalk the distance up on a board 95 1/2 feet. There is a clapping of hands from the crowd, and a waving of white handkerchiefs from the pavilion. He is sure of winning now, and the shy, pretty face at the barrier flushes with innocent pride. Is he not her hero?

There, on the low platform before the judges, go the dancers, two after two. They are trimly dressed for the performance, and wear the thin, low-heeled, Highland shoes, while the breasts of some of them are fairly panoplied in gold and silver medals won at former contests. Mostly young lads, it is wonderful how neatly they perform every step, turning feately with now one arm in the air and now the other. Cleverly they go through the famous sword dance over crossed claymores; and in the wild whirl of the Reel o' Tulloch seem to reach the acme of the art.

But in the friendly rivalry of skill and strength the day wears on. The races in sacks and over obstacles, as well as the somewhat rough "bumping in the ring," have all been decided; the "best-dressed Highlander" has received his mead of applause; and the sun at last dips down behind the hills. Presently, as the mountainsides beyond the river are growing gray, and their shadows gather upon the lists, the spectators melt by degrees from the barricades, and in a slow stream move back into the town. By and by the Assembly Rooms will be lit up, and carriages will begin to arrive with fair freights for the great Caledonian Ball. But, long before that, the upland roads will be covered with pedestrians and small mountain conveyances with family parties, simple folk, all pleased heartily with their long day's enjoyment, and wending their way to far-off homes among the glens, where they will talk for another twelve months of the great feats done at the gathering here by Duncan or Fergus or Hamish.

## How I Spent the 4th of July in Scotland

By: James G. Francis, Ohio member

The main reason for visiting the Highlands, at least in my mind, was to see Grantown-on-Spey, the origin of my maternal ancestry. The strong Scottish stock is quite evident in Mother and her brothers and sisters. Therefore, it was not by chance that three days were planned in and around Grantown during my trip in 1969.

The town lived up to my expectations and the accommodations at the Grant Arms were excellent, but for one point which shall be spoken of later. The surrounding area of rough and narrow roads was equally exciting to see. It was soon learned that near the town was the abandoned Grant Castle. Actually, the castle was a very large manor house, part of which dates to the 1500's. It is located on the top of a hill and hidden from the road by a dense and dark grove of trees, some of which once lined the broad roadway to the castle, now overgrown. On the morning of my first visit the leaden skies and constant wind gave the scene a feeling of "Wuthering Heights". The castle is empty of inhabitants other than the ghost supposed to haunt the tower. Through the barred windows of the first floor could be seen old pictures, furniture and rugs in great heaps and piles on the floors. I went away happy to have seen it, but sad at not being able to rummage through its contents.

I mentioned before that one problem existed in the Grant Arms. That problem was the age and social level of the other guests. These included a bus tour group from London visiting gardens, a retired colonel from India whose hearing aid produced loud birdcalls at breakfast and who would fly into a great profane rage if he found the pepper grinder on his table (much to the embarrassment of the ladies and the joy of the dining room staff), and a grand dame of the Victorian era always dressed in purple or green lace shawls, shaped much like a British Man "O" War and with a great capacity for gin, wines and spirits in general.

Needless to say, I felt out of place in such a stuffy atmosphere. I decided that the public bar was cheaper than the Hotel Bar, and a lot more fun. The hotel staff soon recognized my presence among them and after two evenings with them, they were ready to accept me. And so the stage was set for my last evening in Grantown and the most memorable 4th of July I have ever had.

Following supper and the writing of some cards, I adjourned to the public room about 9:30 pm. Being Friday night, the excitement and activity of the group was more than usual, with almost the entire dining room and kitchen help there. Two of the more interesting were Billie, a waiter, and Roger, a vegetable chef. Billie, it was learned, hailed from Glasgow and spoke a brand of Scottish extremely difficult to understand, that is when he did talk. Usually his conversations were of one syllable, affirmative or negative sounds. Roger, on the other hand, was educated to his trade in Switzerland, and spoke very intelligently and well.

This particular night about 11 pm when most of the staff, including Roger, had left, I threw out the question "Has anyone ever been inside the Castle?" to which Billie, with a pint of beer in one hand and a double shot of whisky in the other, grunted affirmatively. I asked what was there, and he replied not much other than old pictures, furniture and some equipment, uniforms and badges from the Jacobite occupation. Immediately I wanted to know more. One thing led to another and soon plans were made to try to enter the castle.

Billie went to get a coat and torch and I went to change—into black pants and black jacket in keeping with the black deed about to be attempted. On returning to the pub I found

we were to be joined by Roger, whose explanation that he had climbed the Matterhorn seemed to explain the reason for his being with us.

So, at 11:30 the three of us left the Hotel. The strong wind was still blowing and the low-hanging clouds more often than not obscured the full moon.

Parking the car off the road, we approached the castle quietly, listening for any sound to disturb the night. The castle was more foreboding in the eerie half-light, its black windows showing nothing of what lay within.

Billie had said that there was a ladder in the burned shell of the servants wing and this would enable us to reach the small window in the stairway in the courtyard that had proven to be an entrance to him a year before. We looked, but to no avail. It was gone.

Undaunted, we climbed the broken steps leading to the central courtyard, opened the squeaking iron gate, and approached the dark corner and its second floor window. We found a side of a large packing case used by the soldiers from the last war who were billeted there, and reasoned that this might serve as a makeshift ladder. So, propping it against the wall, and repeating his skill at the Matterhorn, Roger climbed the rickety frame and crumbling stucco toward the window.

With Billie, the Glasgow waiter, giving advise, and me holding the torch (equipped with failing batteries) Roger began to pry. The window had been freshly re-puttied! With a rather profane grunt Billie headed off into the darkness to try to find aa bar to pry with. Roger began to kick at the wall, sending clods of rotten stucco cascading down to me, observing that the whole place was coming apart.

Billie returned with a long wooden pole and passed it up to Roger. Soon Billie was on the rickety frame with Roger, and they both were grunting and heaving at the window. Roger came down to give Billie more room and tore a large hole in his pants in the effort. Now Billie began beating on the window frame, but not for long as the sound boomed through the courtyard and over the black and silent hills. I looked around to see Roger about a third of the way up one of the old drainpipes from the roof gutters. In rather violent terms Billie asked him what he was doing, to which Roger replied that this was how he climbed part of the Matterhorn (up a drainpipe?)

I could tell things were getting somewhat out of hand, so I suggested I look in the car trunk (boot) for a tire-iron. I trotted off with the booming sounds of Billie's efforts resounding through the castle and trees. I found the tire wrench (spanner) and ran noiselessly back toward the house. In my absence Billie was on his way down the makeshift ladder.

It was obvious that my town partners in crime had had a cooling of their ardor while I was gone. They both began to mumble words of wisdom about what would happen if we were caught. Billie had managed to cut his finger on the glass and Roger and torn a fingernail on his attempt at the Matterhorn. They both decided that not much would happen to them if the police came, but since I was an alien (though I have never considered myself as such) dire things could befall me. I found myself being dragged along rather hastily with them and couldn't understand their rush until Roger asked Billie if he had heard the door slam too. His grunt indicated he had. I laughingly suggested that it probably was the ghost. They did not see the humor in this remark, and proceeded to leave the scene at an even faster clip!

We drove back to the hotel in silence. We all had a moment of panic when met at the door by the constable, but it turned out he was looking for one of the kitchen help who had been in an altercation earlier that night.

*How will you be spending your 4th of July?*

## Grant Guidies Cloutie Dumpling

Sometimes spelled "Cloutie" it gets its name from the "clout" or cloth in which it was traditionally boiled. There have been many variations over the years as cooks have experimented. You may be glad to know that it doesn't have to be made in a "clout"! At Christmas, cooks often wrapped small coins (in the old days a silver three-penny piece was popular) in greaseproof paper and placed them in the dumpling. If you do avoid coins, warn those eating the dumpling later so as to avoid broken teeth!

The following Cloutie Dumpling recipe is reprinted from the UK Standfast. The original story spoke highly of Lyn Thompson's recipe that she agreed to share so others in the clan could make it in their homes. She is Sir Patrick Grant's Personal Assistant and has been at Grants of Dalvey since about 1998/9.

### Lyn Thompsons Cloutie Dumpling

#### Ingredients:

12 oz self raising flour	1 large tablespoon syrup
4 oz white Breadcrumbs	1 large tablespoon treacle
4 oz suet	
3 cups mixed fruit (currants, raisins & sultanas)	
7 oz sugar	2 small apples cored and grated
1 teaspoon ground ginger	2 large eggs
1 teaspoon cinnamon	
A good glug of brandy, whisky or sloe gin	
Pinch salt	
Enough milk to mix to a stiff dropping consistency.	

#### Method:

Wring out a large 2'0" square of cotton in scalding water. While still very hot spread flat on a table and using the heel of the hand rub a generous amount of flour well into the cloth. This will protect the dumpling during boiling and form the "skin" when cooked.

Sieve all the dry ingredients together in a bowl, and add the wet ingredients, leaving the milk until last. Mix together (your hand is the best utensil for this job) and place in the center of the fabric square. Pick up first the four corners and then gather up the rest of the cloth so that the dumpling is securely tied in. Leaving a little room for expansion, tie the string round the neck of the bundle, very tightly, leaving a loop of string with which to pick it up later.

Place on top of a plate in a large pan of boiling water, making sure the water is about half up the side of the dumpling, and put the lid on. Cook, on a rolling boil, for about 2½ - 3 hours. Make sure that it doesn't boil dry, and do not lift the lid during the first half hour.

When cooked, lift out of the boiling water by the string loop and place on a large plate. Remove the string right away, and working quickly and carefully separate the cloth from the dumpling, with a flat bladed knife if sticky. It will have a white coating on the outside, and it is very important to retain as much of this on the dumpling as possible. When the cloth is removed from the top and sides, place another plate on the top and turn upside down so that the rest of the cloth can be removed. Often a small area on the top does not retain the skin.

The dumpling should finally be placed in a moderate oven to brown off. When ready it will look chestnut-brown and shiny.

Eat hot, straight from the oven as a pudding, cold with a dram on Hogmanay, or even fried in the morning with a bit of bacon and eggs etc. before heading for the hill. The Scots are well known for their ingenuity and this is, for sure, a versatile dumpling!

## Clan Grant Shirts

Golf (polo) shirts, short sleeved, embroidered with clan crest and "Grant," 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 Allan for Southern California Grants.

Children's sizes 6-8 and 10-12, Adults S (few), M,L, XL  
 \$17 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](mailto:d-grant@mindspring.com).

### SHIPPING ADDRESS:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Grant Items For Sale

PH: 423-842-4581

1876 Grant Tartan Fabric .....\$14.00 yd  
 50/50 Poly/Cotton - 60 inches wide

Clan 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  
 Lord Strathspey's History of Clan Grant.....\$30.00

Make check payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY and mail to:

George Grant  
 301 Masters Road.  
 Hixson, TN 37343

Postage at current Post Office rates.

### SHIPPING ADDRESS:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_



# Craigellachie

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

PRESORTED  
 STANDARD  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Orange Park, FL  
 Permit No. 849



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

