



Craigellachie



Winter 2005

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Volume XXVII, Issue 4

Raves & Rants

By C. David Grant, President



Greetings All, and a very politically incorrect Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We hope you've had a nice family time together by the time you read this, and that you're ready for another year filled with appropriate Scottish celebrations.

2006 Annual General Meeting (AGM) - We've planted some seeds to see if we can't continue our tradition of having our AGM's in different areas of the country, and gather somewhere in the Pacific Northwest. It's been several years since Jane and I have been to Oregon for a driving trip up that magnificent scenic coast-line and had just a marvelous getaway. We would hope that our members in the midwest and, say, New York would keep us in mind as well. This year is especially important, since we will be installing three newly-elected officers.

2006 Elections - The offices that need to be filled this year include President, Treasurer (now held by Richard Grant of Tennessee and Montana), and one at-large Board Member (currently John A. Grant of Texas). Former Treasurer John C. Grant (Georgia) has agreed once again to head up our nominating committee, and Membership Secretary Jean Grant Wilson (Florida) will serve as well. How about one more member from another part of the country to give us a committee of three? Please send your nominations/suggestions to them, or let me know and I'll be glad to forward the information to the committee. We'll publish the committee's recommended slate and nominations from the membership at large, and send out ballots to the members in good standing sometime in the spring. Check the by-laws at our website for details about our election procedure.

Recruiting - I'm repeating my call for someone to head up a national recruiting project, to provide focus and direction to all of our individual efforts and bring the good news of Clan Grant to those who may have some interest in our activities.

Treasurer Richard says there are about 200,000

Grants in the US, not to mention those others not fortunate enough (Ha!) to have the Grant surname but who nevertheless have family connections or interest in things Grant. We have the basic structure of our clan organization in place, and more members would directly improve the quality and quantity of programs we could deliver, not to mention the boost to our finances!

A couple of people are exploring ways to have our own genealogical database, which may provide still another reason to join Clan Grant. If you have any interest or expertise in this area, please get in touch with Genealogist Don Grant, Webmaster Scott Grant, or Membership Secretary Jean Grant Wilson.

Upcoming Games - Jane and I plan on attending the Northeast Florida Games just south of Jacksonville and perhaps the Sarasota Games, both held in February. My understanding is that we are to be the Honored Clan in Sarasota - It's nice to know that more and more games are recognizing quality when they see it!

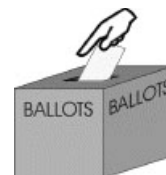
Next on our list is Loch Norman, near Charlotte, NC, in April. John C. Grant and I have attended for the last several years to help Commissioner Helen Furr with the heavy lifting and try to find the ever-elusive whisky tasting. Best we can figure, it must be on wheels to get around North Carolina's rather restrictive liquor laws.

Items For Sale - Remember to look at our Clan Grant items for sale elsewhere in this issue. Take back that atrocious tie or loud perfume and get something really lasting that you'll actually use. We have a good supply of the previous Lord Strathspey's History of Clan Grant, which should be in every member's library. The etched drinking glasses are one of the few things that can improve the taste of a Grant whisky, or other beverage, for that matter! And we have several varieties of shirts, T's, golf and new (to us) long-sleeve denim, all with Grant crests on prominent display. George and I would be happy to deplete our inventories, and enhance your enjoyment of your Grant activities at the same time!

**"See you at the games,
and remember to ...
Stand Fast!"**

Clan Elections

By John C. Grant



Under the provisions of the Clan Grant Society Bylaws the offices of President, Treasurer and one Board Member-at-Large are to be elected in 2006.

Society members are encouraged to participate in the election by seeking or accepting candidacy or nominating others as allowed by the Society Bylaws and voting.

A Nominating Committee will nominate ONE candidate for each office. In addition, groups of any five active members may submit nominations for each office to the Society Secretary (Dr. Philip D. Smith, 442 Freedom Blvd., West Brandywine, PA 19320-1559) in writing.

Submissions must show written consent of nominees who must be active members. March 15th, 2006 is a target date for close of nominations.

Society members are asked to please begin to seriously consider serving in an office and/or joining with other members to nominate candidates as outlined above.

Also, the Nominating Committee would be pleased to receive recommendations regarding members who could be possible candidates.

Please send names and contact information via mail, e-mail or telephone to: John C. Grant, 509 Ashton Manor Dr., Loganville, GA 30052 or jctgrant@aol.com or (770) 466-1814. The Committee would follow-up with the recommended persons.

A Toast to You....

'Gun cuireadh do chupa thairis le slainte agus sonas.'
(May your cup overflow with health and happiness.)

'Slàinte, sonas agus beartas'
(Health, wealth and happiness)

'A h-uile là sona dhuibh 's gun là idir dona dhuibh'
(May all your days be happy ones)

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U.S. Highland Games & Gatherings

Editor Note:

I want to encourage all commissioners to send me a listing of Games where they will be hosting a Grant tent.and even if you do not have anyone to man the tent in your absence, please send a listing of those as well, in hope that a member in your state might like to volunteer!

We need to have Clan Grant represented in as many Highland Games and Festivals that we can!

Stand Fast!



To have your upcoming events included in this calendar email:

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

For other Nationwide Games check out:
www.asgf.org

Jan 21

Central FL Scottish Highland Games
Central Winds Park
Winter Springs, FL
(near Orlando)
-No Tent-
Contact: Jeant Grant Wilson

Mar 4

SE FL Scottish Festival & Games
Sports Plex of Coral Springs
Coral Springs, FL
-No Tent-
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

Feb 4-6

Sarasota Highland Games & Festival
Sarasota County Fairgrounds
Sarasota, FL
-Honored Clan!-
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

April 8

Dunedin Highland Games
Dunedin, FL
-No Tent-
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

Feb 25

NE FL Scottish Highland Games
Clay County Fairgrounds
Green Cove Springs, FL
Contact: Jean Grant Wilson

April 21-23

Loch Norman Highland Games
Rural Hill Farm
Huntersville, NC
Contact: Helen Furr



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To be filled

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The Clan Grant Society, USA was founded in 1977 by George & Lucille Grant by authority of Sir Patrick Grant of Grant (1912-1992) The Right Honourable Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 32nd Hereditary Chief of Clan Grant. And continues under authority of Sir James Grant of Grant, The Right Honourable Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 33rd Hereditary Chief of Clan Grant.

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Membership Matters

By Jean Grant Wilson
Membership Secretary



Starting in 2006 you will see some minor changes in the renewal procedures. With the new postal rates taking effect in January 2006, this is being done to help reduce mailing costs and enabling us to avoid increasing our annual dues. You will still be receiving a renewal letter, but your cheque or money order will now serve as your receipt. As always, please do not send cash through the mail!

Some of you may be wondering what a red dot on your Craigellachie label means. This signifies your dues are either due this Quarter or you are in arrears and will be dropped with the next issue. A Membership application (which appears in each issue) may be used in case your renewal letter has been misplaced. If you do not want to cut up your Craigellachie, you can have it photo copied...

For your information: The initials and numbers at the upper right of the mailing label give your Status; Member #; Renewal year and Renewal Quarter. -In that order.

The Renewal Quarters are, (1) Jan thru Mar; (2) Apr thru June; (3) July thru Sept; and (4) Oct thru Dec.

Thanks to those of you that sent in Christmas gift memberships for family and friends this year.

Looking forward to a prosperous new year for Clan Grant!

Notes from the Editor

By Holly Floyd



2006 should be a year of change for Clan Grant here in the States. After reading C. David's repeated call in his article for a "recruiting position" to solicit new blood to the Clan-- it got me thinking. Although I do not want the "position" in name, I have a good idea. The fact that you are reading this Craigellachie means that each and every one of us can do our part! We can have a blitz of a New year with new memberships!

For example, in this issue there is a membership application (as always) and I would like to challenge all our readers to touch another Grant and encourage one more member (even if it is another family member by gift). This encouragement can only further our campaign! I was at that AGM (that C. David spoke about in his column) and was amazed at the number of Grants in the U.S. that Richard sited during his talk that night. How do we reach them?

Recent personal success in finding a whole branch of our Grant family (see page 11) has shown me what a lovely tool the internet can be. Just google "Grant" and a number of sites come up. If they are in your area, a simple email is all the contact you need to perhaps touch a prospective new member! Perhaps they do not know of any games in their areas, and in some cases (especially if you find them from a website) they are very glad to network with other Grants!

Let's all get involved in 2006! Happy New Year to you and yours and continue to celebrate all things Scottish!



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

For a special on Highlander subscription for our members add \$10.50

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

Grants In The News



Damn the Bagpipes!

Submitted by Ed Grant
Member of Clan Grant, Kailua, Hawaii

Background: In the November 2004 US Naval Institute's Magazine, the *Proceedings*, Messrs. Fitzgerald complained of the use of bagpipes in US military and naval ceremonies, services and other functions. I am proud that **Col. Grant**, a self avowed "highland warrior Clan Grant," has stepped forward and rebutted this defamation of our culture and castigated the editors of the Navy's prestigious professional journal for their lack of respect for our heritage and culture.

From the US Naval Institute *Proceedings*, p 70, October 2005 (See M. and M. Fitzgerald, p. 73, November 2004 *Proceedings*)

"**Colonel Oliver M. Grant, U.S. Marine Corps** – As a Marine of Scot heritage (highland warrior Clan Grant) I take special pride in my heritage and culture. I also noticed both authors last name "Fitzgerald" of Irish ancestry. While I understand their point, I was offended in the extreme by their characterization of the bagpipes as a questionable musical instrument, and of their further degradation of those who enjoy them as "fools."

"I also recognize the attempt at being humorous, without (hopefully) giving offense. In this age of political correctness, where the Navy and other services bend over back-ward to honor every culture with ethnic observance weeks, why is the defaming of an instrument associated with my heritage and culture allowed to be published? If this article had been about African drums, or Japanese lyres, would you have allowed it?"

If we're going to be fair, then let's be fair and not defame other cultures, even in a humorous sense. I don't want to sound trivial, but if I am forced to observe other cultures weekly observances, I require the same level of respect. I love the bagpipes. They are my heritage. And yes, they were played in Baghdad, and I loved hearing the Marine Corps Hymn being played by the British bagpipe and drum contingent, as an honor rendered to our Marines. Maybe this article would have been better served if it had been reviewed for political correctness?"

Flowers of the Forest



Mary Galloway Pratt, mother of Clan Grant member Suzanne Pratt Wilson (snoops@netседona.com), died peacefully early Wednesday morning, November 16, 2005, in Sedona, Arizona. Her husband, and a daughter predeceased her. Her sons, Michael, James, Almon and two daughters, Suzanne and Sylvia, survive her. A private graveside service was held in Sedona, Arizona.



Ella Jean Manley, member of Clan Grant, passed away 12 Sept 2005 in England.

Robert Ellis Grant and Jennifer Lynn Perkins got the Scottish wedding they desired! The wedding was performed on Oct. 22, 2005 at the Saint Matthews Episcopal Church in Goffstown NH.

Robert's parents are **Donald E. Grant II** (Dad and Best Man) and **Joy K. Grant**. The Grooms elder brother, **Donald E. Grant, III** was their groomsman. The other groomsman was Josh Heistman and the flower girl was Morgana Rose Shank.

The Perkins family is Wayne (father), Dolly (Mom of the Bride), and Shannen (Bridesmaid). Other bridesmaids were Nicole Bethea and Kim Greco.

Three generations of Grants were in attendance. The kilts were made from the fabric (poly/cotton tartan) purchased from **George Grant** because the Groom is allergic to wool. (See the back page of this issue if you are interested in any of this tartan fabric!)

The newlyweds left the reception and tucked in at the Highlander Inn at the Manchester Airport, Manchester NH. The following day they embarked on their "Highland Honeymoon" which was a week in Scotland. Along with their planned tours they spent some time exploring Grant history and territories.



(L to R) Nicole Bethea, Shannen Perkins, Kim Greco, Jen (Perkins) Grant, Morgana Rose Shank, Bob Grant, Don Grant, Don Grant, III, and Josh Heistman.



The three Grant men in their new kilts and Mother of the Groom Joy Grant.

Scottish Celebrations

Reprinted from the Scottish Snippets

Here are the words related to major festivals and celebrations. They are in chronological order through the year:

First footing - visiting friends and relatives immediately after New Year's Eve. Traditionally, visitors brought a lump of coal for the fire, oatcakes and a quantity of whisky. The "first foot" in a house was always preferred to be "tall, dark and handsome".

Cream of the Water - the first water drawn from the well on New Year's morning.

Handsel Monday - first Monday of the New Year on which handsel (presents) were given.

Burns Night - 25 January, the anniversary of the birth of the poet Robert Burns, in 1759 at which many a "Burns Supper" is consumed and the "Immortal Memory", a speech in praise of the Bard, will be given.

Candlemas Day - 2 February, a Scottish "quarter day" when rents and other payments fell due.

Whuppity Scoorie - a rumbustious celebration by the young lads of Lanark on 1st March.

Bannock Day - Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent, prior to Easter.

April errand - not exactly a celebration but an errand on which an April fool is sent on 1st April...

Preen-tail Day or Tailie Day - the day following All Fool's Day when paper tails were attached to the backs of unsuspecting people as a joke.

Glen Saturday - the first or third Saturday in April when the children of Kilmarnock went to Crawfordland Castle to pick daffodils.

Whitsunday - the seventh Sunday after Easter,

Beltane's Day - a pagan fire festival associated with 1 May, another Scottish legal quarter day.

Glasgow Fair - originally a fair on Glasgow Green but latterly the last two weeks in July when factories and offices closed for summer holidays and Maw, Paw and the Weans went "Doon the Watter" (River Clyde) to the holiday resorts there.

Lammas - 1 August, a Scottish "Quarter Day" when rents and contracts fell due.

Bartle Day - 24 August, St Bartholemew's Day

Michael Day - 29 September, Michaelmas Day

Halloween - 31 October, the evening of All Saints Day and the last day in the old Celtic calendar. It was associated with witches and celebrated with bonfires and "guising" as children dressed up and went round with "tattie bogles" or "neep lanterns" (candles inside turnips).

Guy Fawkes - 5 November, recalling the attempt by Guy Fawkes to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Bonfires, fireworks and "penny for the guy" (effigy of Guy Fawkes providing an excuse for children to plead for money from passers-by).

Martinmas - 11 November, a Scottish "Quarter Day" when rents and contracts fell due.

The Daft Days - the festive season at Christmas and New Year

Swans Nicht - Christmas Eve

Christmas - 25 December when presents left by Santa Claus in a sock (pillow case if you're lucky) are opened. Other presents are left beneath the Christmas tree. The same the world over!

Hogmanay - New Year's Eve, when all Scotland celebrates in the build up to "the bells" chiming midnight and Burns' song "Auld Lang Syne" is murdered once again!

Adventures in British America

Papers Found in Scottish Castle Shed Light on Revolutionary War Era

By JAMES HUTSON

<http://www.loc.gov/loc/lcib/0304/papers.html>

Submitted by Rand Allan-VP Clan Grant

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington and Oliver Russell look over the James Grant papers.

In the spring of 1999, John W. Kluge, chairman of the Library's James Madison Council, confided to Librarian of Congress James H. Billington that he had learned of a manuscript collection in a Scottish castle that might contain important new information about American history. Kluge told Billington that he had recently been entertained at Ballindalloch Castle (in Banffshire, northwest of Aberdeen) by his friends, the Laird of Ballindalloch, Clare Macpherson-Grant Russell and her husband, Oliver Russell, who had mentioned to him that the castle tower contained papers of an ancestor—a British Army officer—who had been active in 18th-century America. The Russells indicated to Kluge that they would welcome the advice of Library of Congress experts about the significance of the collection.

British Maj. John Andre, a contemporary of James Grant. Andre negotiated with American traitor Benedict Arnold for the surrender of West Point before being captured and hanged as a spy. Prints and Photographs Division

In due course, this author was dispatched to Ballindalloch Castle on behalf of the Library to examine what turned out to be the archives of Gen. James Grant (1722-1806), the first British governor of East Florida, 1763-1771, and an officer who served in increasingly responsible commands in the French and Indian War and the American Revolutionary War. The Grant papers, it was immediately apparent, were a remarkably rich trove which provided an abundance of fresh information about a number of significant episodes in the administrative and military history of the future United States during the Revolutionary Era.

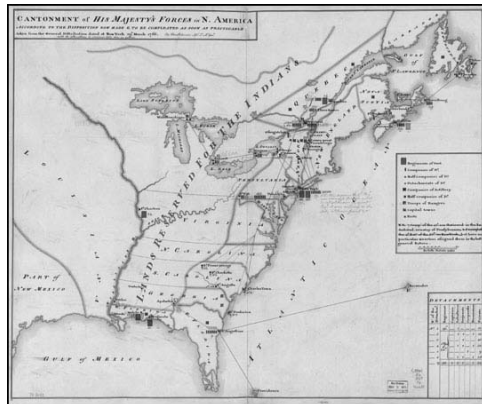
In the interests of scholarship, the Russells generously consented to transfer the James Grant Papers to the National Archives of Scotland in Edinburgh, where officials agreed to house and microfilm them. Robert Clyde, an expert in 18th-century Scottish history, was engaged to organize the collection and oversee its filming. Madison Council member Jay Kislak of Miami Lakes, Fla., a distinguished collector of pre-Columbian and early American artifacts and documents, agreed to fund the filming. The project has now been completed, and the Library has received 50 reels of microfilm representing more than 12,000 items in the James Grant Papers, conveniently organized for consultation by researchers.



Ballindalloch Castle, Scotland, where the papers of Gen. Grant were found

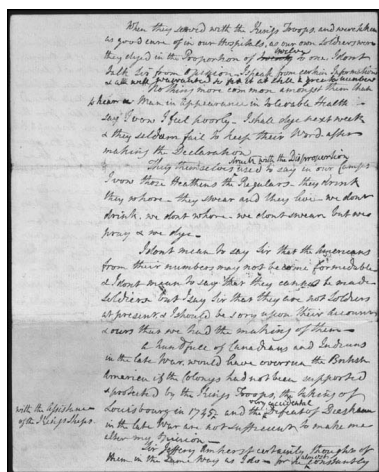
James Grant joined the British Army in 1741, rose to the rank of major general in the 1770s, and was on the army payroll as late as 1805, the year before his death. Grant fought in America throughout the French and Indian War. He marched with Gen. Edward Braddock against Fort Duquesne in 1755 and was captured, trying to cover Braddock's retreat. Although his records are silent about his comrades during this campaign, he must have encountered the young Virginia militia officer, George Washington, against whom he later fought in 1776 and 1777.

A British military map of America, dated March 29, 1766, by Daniel Paterson: "Cantonment of His Majesty's forces in N. America according to the disposition now made & to be completed [sic] as soon as practicable taken from the general distribution." The map includes Grant's posting in St. Augustine, East Florida. Geography and Map Division



Grant was back in action in 1757 with the First Highland Division. As the "youngest lieutenant colonel in the American Army," Grant was ordered from Nova Scotia to South Carolina in 1761 to command an expeditionary force against the Cherokee, whom he reduced to terms by destroying their crops and driving about "5000 People including Men Women & Children starving in the Woods." The Cherokee campaign is well documented in Grant's papers as are his subsequent military activities. Grant's chastisement of the Cherokee served him well in later negotiations with the Creeks in Florida who preferred to stay on the good side of the man they called the "Cornpuller."

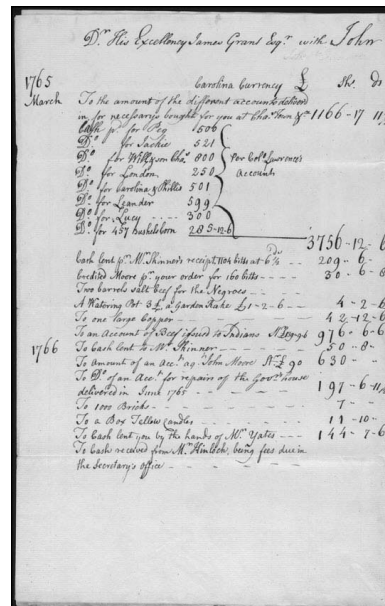
Grant's notes from his 1775 speech before Parliament Grant shared the British regulars' scorn for the American troops with whom he served in the French and Indian War. He regaled



which served for a necessary house which likewise for a Table, when the Head was put upon it." In notes for a speech before Parliament in 1775, Grant related that American soldiers marveled at "those Heathens the Regulars—they drink, they

whore, they swear and they live—we don't drink, we don't whore, we don't swear but we pray and we dye."

A bill of sale for slaves to Grant from the future president of the American Continental Congress, Henry Laurens. Grant, on the other hand, was not so blinded by contempt for the Americans that he lost all perspective. "I don't



mean to say," he told Parliament, "that the Americans from their numbers may not become formidable and I don't mean to say that they cannot be made soldiers. But I say Sir they are not soldiers at present and I should be sorry upon their account and ours that we had the making of them."

In 1763, Grant was appointed governor of East Florida, which Spain ceded to Britain at the Peace of Paris and which Britain retroceded to Spain in 1784. The Grant papers profusely document every aspect of the British settlement of East Florida and will be an indispensable source of information for all students of Florida history. When Grant arrived in St. Augustine in August 1764, with an entourage that included three French-trained chefs, he found "a New World in a State of Nature," which he energetically tried to transform into a thriving outpost of the British Empire. Throughout his tenure, Grant relied heavily on South Carolina for supplies, settlers and capital. East Florida was, in many respects, a satellite of the older colony to the north and, as a result, the Grant papers are filled with information about its politics and commerce. Of special note are the close relations Grant established with a future president of the American Continental Congress, Henry Laurens, who is represented in the Grant papers by more than 75 letters, many as long as eight pages and some containing bills for the sale of slaves in whom Laurens trafficked.

A map of East Florida as Grant knew it, created by Sam Roworth, ca. 1760, Geography and Map Division Grant's principal problem, as he saw it, in developing East Florida was the numerous gargantuan properties awarded to absentee proprietors by their political cronies in Britain. To encourage settlement, Grant resolved to set an example himself by becoming a "spur to people who I thought slow and dilatory." In practice, this resulted in Grant's establishment in 1769 of an indigo plantation, manned by a troop of 70 black slaves, which within two years was producing an annual profit of £1000 sterling. Others imitated Grant's initiative, as he hoped they would, and Floridians were soon producing a high-grade cash crop. As settlement began to increase, Grant believed that the success of the colony was assured, reporting to the Board of Trade that East Florida "has done more in [my] time, than any Continental Province ever did since the first establishment of the British Empire in America."

In his notes to follow, Grant records intelligence about Washington's army he received from American spies in 1776. Whether Grant's East Florida was, in fact, a success has been

Kelso Highlander Festival

Submitted by William Burton,
Board Member at Large and
Oregon Commissioner

Flags are folded, Tents are struck, Banners are packed away, leaving the Kelso (Washington) Highlander Festival 2005 as a memory.

Despite Saturday's thunderstorm which inundated Tam O Shanter Park, the spirit of camaraderie ran high, with most vendors and clan representatives staying the course.

Sunday morning just after 9:30am, when the sun began to shine and warm things up, the Parks Dept. crew came in with a load of sand & gravel. Using a bucket tractor, most of the "lochs" were filled in, and everyone was in a joking mood, bantering with the work crew about the loss of "Fishing holes", "Scenic Lochs" and "Castle Moats".

Since the Kelso Highlander Festival is a city-sponsored free event, no gate tally was available for how many folk actually attended the venue. Despite the inclement weather, turn-out seemed quite fair, and many questions were answered about Clan structure, Tartan registry, and Scottish History.

Clan Grant managed to STAND FAST, with responsibilities shared by Washington State Commissioner Michelle Poitevin, and Oregon State Commissioner William Burton. Several membership applications were passed out, with hopes that they will be filled in and forwarded to our capable Society Secretary, Jean Grant Wilson.

For many clan representatives, this is the tenth gathering of the year. With school in session, it seems an end to the season, still most folk managed to stay until the 5pm closing, when many a sad "farewell until next year" was voiced.



Pictured are: (L to R) Michelle Poitevin, WA state Commissioner, William Burton, OR state Commissioner, and Kristina Grant, Clan Society member from Seattle WA. whom helped out at the 'tent'. Far LeftCarolynn Quinn, granddaughter of the Burtons'.

The Oklahoma Scottish Games and Gathering Tulsa, OK

Submitted by Kelly Grant and Shannon Grant Gosney, Oklahoma Games Commissioners

The Oklahoma Scottish Games and Gathering was held September 16-18 at the River Parks West in Tulsa, OK. This was the first year to have the games at this venue. I can't say I was happy with the change as there was less parking and the River Parks is less user friendly than the previous venue. But, I was just happy we had a Gathering! Anyplace Scots gather is a good place!

Thankfully, with the Lord's Grace, everything went wonderfully. I can report that Clan Grant participated in every clan event we could, from the Fire Ceremony, to the Parade of Clans, to the Kirking of the Tartans.

We had fewer Grants in the Parade of Clans this year, only Shannon, her daughter Kate, and me. My father, Jick, and Shannon's other



(L to R) Shannon and Kelly Grant at the Scottish Games and Gathering in Tulsa, OK



In front of the Grant tent from left to right is Kelly, Kate Gosney, Paige Gosney, and Shannon.

daughter Paige, couldn't be there because Paige was showing pigs at the Oklahoma State Fair in Oklahoma City. Jick drove to OKC to get Paige after she showed her pigs and they made it to the games on Saturday afternoon.

The Oklahoma weather made for the most entertainment at the games this year. One would have thought the games were in Western Oklahoma instead of Northeastern Oklahoma the way the wind was blowing. Thankfully our tent held up, but it was touch and go for a bit while I was putting it up. Unfortunately our neighbors, Clan Stewart, weren't as lucky. On Sunday the wind caught their tent and it was almost send airborne when my "third baseman's" reflexes (I played third base softball in college) took over and I grabbed the tent leg that was flying by me! All I can say is it's a good thing they had the Grants next to them. If not, they may have blown to Kansas!

Sunday, Shannon carried the Grant Tartan at the Kirkin' of the Tartans church service. And it is at the Kirkin' that the most amazing thing happened to us (at least we think so). Before the games I had met with a man by the name of Bill Glasgow who goes to the church of a friend. Mr. Glasgow is dying and will never get to see the one place in the world he would dearly love to see, Scotland. Mrs. Glasgow asked me to come and share my trip to Scotland with her husband and while there I found out that Mr. Glasgow used to be very active in the Tulsa Games. The Glasgows' asked me to find a certain piper that they knew, while at the games, and ask him to get a hold of them because they wanted this piper to play at Mr. Glasgow's funeral. I didn't know where to start looking, but I shouldn't have worried because God was in control. At the church service on Sunday, the piper who was playing was the piper that the Glasgows requested I find. It is the most amazing story to me because I believe that God was answering the Glasgows' prayers. You see, the Glasgows couldn't afford to pay a piper for the funeral and Mr. Tetrick, the piper from the games, not only said he would do it for free, but the entire Tulsa Pipes and Drums would be at the funeral.

Even though we didn't win a trophy for our tent, I can assure you that we had the best looking tent at the games. Shannon is a great decorator and we had many things that we had brought back from Scotland with us. In fact, I could have made money selling a lot

the stuff we decorated with. Everyone that came by the tent, not just Grants, wanted to buy the Walkers Shortbread tins we had brought home with us.

We had many visitors to the tent, including Jamie Grant from Aberdeen Scotland who was in Oklahoma on business. But most of our visitors were first time visitors to the games. Our tent was close to the entrance and as we had the best looking tent (wink, wink) people gravitated toward us for information about the games. We even caught up with some people from Tulsa that we had met in Scotland in August while on Skye.

This marks the second year for Shannon and I to be Commissioners for the Games in Tulsa and we had a blast! Can't wait for the next games!

Until next year, Stand Fast!



(L to R) Paige then Kate (Shannon's Daughters) They are fighting in the Kiddie Glen



Shannon Grant at the Kirkin' of the Tartans

Clan Grant Badges

PRICE IS \$10.00 EACH (Includes US postage)

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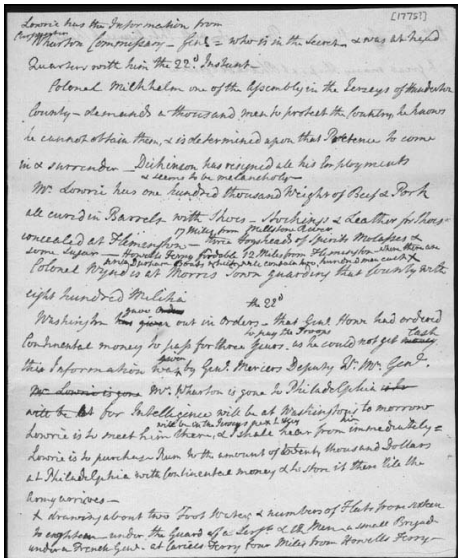
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Make cheque payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY and mail to:

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

Continued from Page 5

Adventures in British America



the subject of much historical debate. Bernard Bailyn has recently criticized the colony's leaders for failing to develop a population of yeoman farmers. Grant would have welcomed industrious freeholders, but the free men and women who turned up in East Florida were, in his view, a contemptible rabble. White frontiersmen living off the land he derisively dismissed as "crackers." Individuals imported by various entrepreneurs were all too often the dregs of Britain's "gin lanes": "Sinkboys, Bunters, Cinder wenches, whores and pickpockets." The thousand or so Greeks whom Andrew Turnbull planted at his exotic New Smyrna settlement were a cut above the blighted British immigrants, but Grant, who diligently tried to help these "Minorcans," was never optimistic about their chances. To the general, it was axiomatic that "Africans are the only people to go to work in warm climates" and, therefore, he saw the future of East Florida as a plantation economy based on the enslavement of blacks.

The wealth of documentation in the Grant papers about the population and economy of East Florida will permit readers to reach their own conclusions about the fortunes of the infant province. At a minimum, they will conclude that the colony was not a somnolent wasteland, presided over by a "commissioner of the mildew," as a clever but misinformed earlier historian labeled Grant.

Grant left Florida in 1771 for treatment in London of a "bilious fever," doubtless brought on by years of high living (he presided over revels that routinely lasted until four in the morning). His health restored, Grant returned to America with the British Army in 1775 and was stationed initially in Boston, where he occupied John Hancock's house. Grant entertained with his customary gusto. "General Grant," wrote a comrade, "is going on in the old style—keeping the best table in the army—and seeing a good deal of company." In Grant's case conviviality was not inconsistent with military competence, as his performance in August 1776 as commander of the British left wing at the smashing victory over the Americans at Long Island attested. The next year Grant was in the thick of the campaign in the middle colonies, commanding the British right wing at the battles of Brandywine and Germantown.

In a 1912 illustration by Henry Mosler, Washington and his army cross the Delaware River on their way to the 1776 American victory at Trenton. Prints and Photographs Division

By far the most intriguing military documents in the Grant papers relate to the American victory at Trenton, Dec. 26, 1776, and to the subsequent action at Princeton. Grant was the British theater commander in the Trenton area and, after "the cursed Affair happened," he explained to his superiors that he "had certain Intelligence the 24th at eleven at night of the Rebels intended attack" which he communicated to the Hessian commander, Johann Rall, at Trenton who received the information "the 25th at five o Clock in the evening." Yet Rall took no action and surrendered his whole command to Washington the next morning—an "infamous Business" that Grant could "not account for."

Grant's reports on the battle of Trenton raise several questions, the most urgent of which is the identity of the spy in Washington's inner circle. Grant explained that "No Man in America knows the Channel through which it [the intelligence] came," and there appears to be no clue to the puzzle in other espionage reports from British spies in the Grant papers.

The debacle at Trenton did not cost Grant the confidence of his superiors. On Oct. 27, 1778, he received orders to lead an expeditionary force to capture the French West Indian island of St. Lucia. Grant succeeded in taking the island and in repelling a subsequent French counterattack.

At the end of the Revolutionary War, Grant returned to Britain and received handsome compensation for his property losses in East Florida. He never returned to the North American continent.

The Grant microfilms may be consulted in the Manuscript Division Reading Room in the Library's James Madison Building, 101 Independence Ave. S.E., from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and at the Kislak Foundation in Miami Lakes, Fla.



Holidays at the Grant house may be more crowded than most. With an impressive Scottish history over 800 years long, your list of relatives tends to get a bit long.

On December 2, Steve Grant got to polish the brogue that his ancestors would have used as special guest narrator of "A Scottish Christmas" in Mountain Grove.

Grant's Scottish heritage and his strong ties to the original Clan Grant of Scotland are common knowledge to him.

"My mother was a Grant and married a Grant. My great great grandfathers were brothers, he explains.

In 1982 Grant took his first of three trips to Scotland. While there he bumped into the Clan Grant Society and immediately found the family he knew was out there.

"I followed them around to various historical places and people of interest," he says.

Though this trip took place 23 years ago, Grant still remembers his first encounter with a local Scotsman.

"My first stop was Grantown-on-Spey, which is sort of the center of the universe for all the clansmen and cousins. In securing a room at a B & B, the innkeeper quickly inquired, 'Are ye a Grant?' I declared I was indeed. He boomed out,

'A Scottish Christmas' in Mountain Grove

Submitted by Steve Grant, Ozark Commissioner
Reprinted from www.News-Journal.com

'well laddie, ye luke like 'um!'

With that greeting Grant began his genealogical search which is still ongoing.

"I have yet to connect with my original ancestors and their original home," he says.

But the connections he has made have been fascinating.

"Stand Fast, Craigellachie" (pronounced "K-ray-g-El-uh-hee") is the Slogan of the Clan. This cry was used to rally the Grants to arms from a burning beacon at the summit of Craig Elachie, a high hill in Strathspey near the town of Avie more.

The Grants were the first Clan to adopt a common Tartan, their distinctive red and green, and later, their green and blue hunting tartan became famous as the "Black Watch" tartan. This elite regiment was co-founded by a Grant and had many Grants among its original men.

The Grants also lived in the famous Castle Urquhart, whose ruins overlook Loch Ness to this day.

But, as Grant says, "History does not reveal if they saw the Loch Ness monster."

Although the first recorded Clan Chief was Sir Lawrence le Grant in 1263, they continue to boast an impressive list of celebrities into the 20th century.

A Grant invented the golf tee and actor Hugh Grant traces his ancestry to the Grants of Rothiemurchus. Singer Amy Grant also claims her Clan.

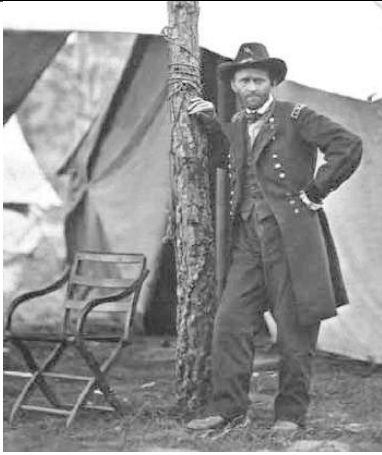
Steve Grant can add his name to that list. One week after his 20th birthday, he stepped in front of a KY3 camera and became the youngest man to regularly anchor a TV newscast in Springfield, MO. He helped originate Ozarks Today that quickly grew into one of the most popular weekday morning newscasts in the Nation.

Ten years ago, Grant was appointed Ozarks Commissioner of the Clan Grant Society. He represents his Clan at Scottish events and brings official greetings from the present Clan Chief, Lord Strathspey, the 33rd Chief of Grant.

The Boatrights presented 'A Scottish Christmas' at the Mountain Grove High School Cafeteria on December 2. Steve Grant, as narrator, wove the story of a Christmas in the Highlands around the sound of the bagpipes, fiddles, whistles and much more. Musical performance featured the Boatrights, Alex Sutherland & His Cronies, the Mountain Grove 5th Grade Choir and Piper and Joel Wren.

General Grant: Dispelling the Myths

by Scott Grant – Northern California Commissioner, Webmaster and West Coast Historian



Ulysses S. Grant at Cold Harbor – June, 1864. Voted the most famous photograph taken during the Civil War by the editors of Civil War Times Illustrated.

“I should like to see history truthfully written.”
Ulysses S. Grant

Certainly myth has transformed many historical persons into grotesquely distorted caricatures, but few personalities have been maligned as greatly and as unjustly as that of Ulysses S. Grant. Grant's life is a broad and epic tale, and many authors have spent volumes in the telling of it. My intent in this article is merely to dispense a few of the more interesting facts about U.S. Grant's life, and to dispel a number of the biggest myths (which is more charitable than calling them outright lies). In order to understand the myths about Grant it is first necessary to examine how Grant's reputation has changed between the 19th and 20th centuries (and continuing into the 21st).

U.S. Grant was unquestionably the most popular man of the 19th century in America. More popular even than Lincoln, a fact seldom remembered today, he was perhaps the most photographed man of the 19th century as well. Grant's trip around the world, between 1877 and 1879, made him the best traveled and best known American statesman in history to that point in time, and his popularity and fame became a worldwide phenomenon. He was greeted as a conquering hero by everyone from Queen Victoria, to the Duke of Argyll, to the Emperors of China and Japan.

How was it then that Grant's reputation could take such a turn? It began with the rise of the “Lost Cause” romanticism that took hold in the South after the war. As Southern historians began to write their accounts, and Confederate veterans (mostly the generals) began to write their memoirs, speak at veterans reunions, etc, General Lee began to be elevated by them to demi-God status, a venerated symbol of the Lost Cause. Lee's name and reputation became almost sacred, never to be challenged or besmirched. Many of these historians and veterans found it necessary to explain the South's defeat in ways that exempted Lee from any blame. (General Longstreet, one of Lee's most trusted commanders, his “Old War Horse”, found this out in the most painful way when he dared to question Lee's actions at Gettysburg in his memoirs. Longstreet quickly earned the wrath of Southerners and found himself on the outs with his old comrades.) Therefore Southerners, especially the veteran generals, found it necessary to besmirch and malign Grant in order to elevate Lee. Here is where the myths began to take hold: Grant “was a drunk” (though one wonders how it enhances a cause's hero to claim he was beaten by a drunkard rather than a great general); he only beat Lee by “overwhelming numbers”; he was a “butcher” who cared nothing for his men...gruff, crude, slovenly, stupid, a poor tactician and strategist, etc.

But Grant's bad reputation was sealed in the twentieth century...by a book. In the 1920's a book by W.E. Woodward (whose previous project was a book trashing George Washington) called “Meet General Grant” was published. It was a best seller, selling tens of thousands of copies. The

book trashed Grant thoroughly, grossly misinterpreting even the most innocent events of Grant's childhood, and creating the impression that Grant was a thoughtless, unimaginative, clod; a cold, gruff, unfeeling, simpleton who simply blundered into the Civil War, through it, and then blundered through two terms as President. Woodward's venomous account was so utterly far from the truth that it was laughable to anyone who knew U.S. Grant. But the book had a devastating impact on Grant's reputation, especially since Lost Cause adherents leaped upon it as affirmation of their own vision of Grant.

Hollywood picked up on Woodward's portrayal, and movies sealed the deal. Grant was portrayed in hundreds of movies through the 20th century, usually as a gruff, slovenly, cigar smoking, clod and drunkard. (One film even had him “hiccuping” and falling over backward in his chair). In other words, Hollywood created a “caricature” of Grant that set his image, in the public's mind, in stone. Only a few films, notably the mini-series “The Blue and the Grey” which was done in the early 1980's, treated Grant with any kind of respect for the truth, but by then the damage was done. To this day, if you mention the name U.S. Grant (especially in the South, as this author learned when visiting Vicksburg and Shiloh), the first sentence out of another person's mouth will typically contain the words “drunk” or “butcher”.

What follows is a list of the “myths”, followed by an explanation of the facts:

Myth: “Grant's father was from Rothiemurchus in Scotland”

Since this article is for the Clan newsletters, I'll tackle it first. This myth says that U.S. Grant's father was someone named “Black Sandy”, who, after a fight with a young lady, tore her ear off (I have heard other variations on this story). To escape prosecution he supposedly fled to the United States.

I am not quite sure how this interesting myth got started, but the fact remains that it is a myth. U.S. Grant's genealogy is well established and thoroughly researched; his father Jesse was intensely interested in genealogy (indeed, it seems the whole male line was), and Grant's own memoirs open with an account of his family's genealogy. Ulysses S. Grant was descended of Matthew Grant of Windsor, Connecticut (b. Oct. 27, 1601 in Woolbridge, Dorset, England) and his wife Priscilla Grey. Matthew and Priscilla sailed from Plymouth, England on March 20, 1630 on the “Mary and John” arriving in Boston on May 30, 1630. Matthew ended up in Windsor, Connecticut where he became the town surveyor. Noah Grant, U.S. Grant's great-grandfather, fought in the French and Indian War and his son, also named Noah Grant, was a captain in the Revolutionary War.

U.S. Grant's ancestors were English Puritans from southern England and any connection to the Clan Grant would be before 1601 A.D. It should be noted, however, that the Grant's always considered themselves of “Scotch” ancestry, and U.S. Grant's wife Julia took to dressing their youngest son Jesse in a kilt outfit she had made for him. It seems this Scottish tradition ran strong in the Grant family although it must have been a distant connection. There is also an unconfirmed legend that says that General Grant carried a swatch of the Grant tartan with him throughout the Civil War.

Myth: “Grant was a drunkard”

Grant's reputation for drink began in 1854 after he was assigned as quartermaster to a remote outpost in California called Fort Humboldt. Grant was a sensitive man, with a deep attachment to his wife and family, they were his emotional anchors. Grant often wrestled and played with his younger boys on the floor of his home or his headquarters, when visitors were present, and showed demonstrable affection for his children in public places. This was considered shocking to the reserved and

uptight standards of Victorian society. Grant's early letters talk about his children constantly, his love for them, and demonstrate his great attachment to, and affection for, his wife Julia.

When Grant left for the West in 1852, he was unable to take his wife and family with him both for financial reasons, and the fact that his wife, Julia, was pregnant with their second child.

Away from his family, Grant initially tried to distract himself and earn extra money through a number of business ventures on the side, all of which failed for one reason or another. This left him devastated, and the loneliness and isolation of Fort Humboldt began to take a terrible emotional toll on him. Mail was unreliable and he received no letters from his wife for months at a time. One night he had a vivid dream in which he saw his wife dancing the night away with other officers, ignoring him as he stood watching. Soon after this, a letter finally arrived from his wife; on it she had traced the outline of his second child's little hand – a child Grant had never seen and who, by 1854, was nearly two years old.

Grant began to drink heavily at Fort Humboldt. While every officer who knew him attests that he was always fit for duty, the fort was commanded by a martinet of an officer who harbored an old grudge against Grant (this officer had once been in charge of the commissary at West Point and Grant, in a rare bit of pique, was flippant and insubordinate to him.) The commandant used the drinking (a vice of nearly every man at the fort) charge as an excuse to get rid of Grant. Accounts differ as to whether Grant was asked to resign or resigned on his own, but in 1854 Grant resigned from the army on the same day he received notice of his promotion to Captain, and left California nearly penniless. He arrived in New York, having to borrow money from an army friend (Simon Bolivar Buckner, who would end up surrendering Fort Donelson to Grant in February, 1862) to get home to his family.

There is no conclusive evidence that Grant ever drank to excess again after his return from California in 1854 – period. On the contrary, many letters exist from other Union officers, as well as Grant's own staff, expressing the surprise they felt at the wild stories circulated about the General. But army gossip had spread the story of the “drunken quartermaster” far and wide, and Grant suffered for it ever after. Because of the rumors, Grant's staff officer's kept watch over him and did their best to remove any sign of liquor from his presence, especially at public functions, whenever they could (whether this was because they didn't want the bad press, or because they truly feared his temptations, is a matter of speculation).

An account of Grant going on a tremendous, drunken spree during the Vicksburg Campaign has also formed the basis for many authors assertions that Grant was “a drunk”. This outlandish account was written by a reporter named Cadwallader, who was with Grant during the Vicksburg Campaign, but it was written long after the war was over and goes to great lengths to portray Cadwallader as a hero who saved Grant from himself (going so far as to lock Grant in his cabin) and thereby saving the Union by proxy. Many authors have taken this story at face value (most notably author Shelby Foote, featured in Ken Burns' “Civil War”), in spite of evidence to the contrary. Accounts written by another reporter with Grant during the Vicksburg Campaign (an account written at the time rather than long after the war) as well as a letter written by one of Grant's staff officers at the time, give indisputable evidence to counter this story. Yet even today those who accuse Grant of being a drunkard usually reference Cadwallader's tale; a story that is absurd on its face, and which other historical evidence contradicts. This story says more about those who want to believe it, than it does about

Grant.

There are two other points to note about Grant and his reputation for drinking:

— Grant suffered from terrible migraine headaches all his life. He was frequently left incapacitated by them, sometimes having to be taken home in a wagon. The headaches seem to have been stress induced and the most famous example is the one which occurred right before Appomattox. Grant was kept awake all night by a powerful migraine and one of his staff officers found him early in the morning pacing in the front yard of a home they had commandeered. When a letter from Lee arrived later in the day, announcing Lee's intention to surrender, Grant said the headache vanished instantly. Gossips putting two and two together always assumed that the sight of a nearly debilitated Grant was the result of a "hangover". Grant's doctors often prescribed "a glass of beer" as a medicinal remedy, though Grant actually refused to follow this advice more often than not as his own letters show. Grant was also notorious for his injudicious eating habits, often eating pickles, clotted cream, etc, all in one sitting – thus he often suffered terrible indigestion. His physicians frequently recommended some form of liquor as a medicinal remedy for his indigestion too (again, with Grant not complying more often than not).

— Grant had a strange intolerance for alcohol. Many letters from his staff, other generals who were with him, friends, and acquaintances in his youth, attest to this. One wrote that alcohol, "seemed a virulent poison to him". Another said that, "one drink would show on him", his speech slurring, and "two would make him stupid". This strange intolerance for alcohol seems to have been the reason Grant refused his doctor's advice, and rarely if ever drank in public. Many are the accounts that take special note that at a given dinner, or meal, how Grant would "turn his wine glass over" or put his hand over the glass, declining.

Did Grant drink? Yes, certainly he went through a short period of alcohol abuse. But the fact remains that beyond the period in 1854, there is no conclusive evidence that he ever again drank to excess, certainly never in the field or the midst of battle, and the White House staff attests to the fact that they never saw him drink to excess during his Presidency. Thus Grant's reputation as a drunkard is, while not without basis, a gross distortion unsupported by historical evidence.

When a lady from a Sanitary Commission in the North met Grant in camp near Vicksburg she had this to say: "In the first five minutes, we learned by some sort of spiritual telegraphy, that reticence, patience, and persistence were the dominant traits of General Grant. [He was a] quiet, repressed, reluctant, undemonstrative man...neither was General Grant a drunkard, that was immediately apparent to us. This conviction gave us such joy that we looked each other in the face and breathed more freely...the clear eye, clean skin, firm flesh and steady nerves of General Grant gave the lie to the universal calumnies then current concerning his intemperate habits."

Myth: "Grant was a coward who used alcohol to steel his nerves"

Closely tied to the previous myth, this one accuses Grant of being a "white knuckle drunk" whose alcoholism was fueled by a lack of nerve. This myth is particularly insulting to the memory of General Grant, and it is very easily refuted.

Grant's bravery and heroism were demonstrated first in Mexico at the battle of Monterey. As Quartermaster for his regiment, he was stuck in the rear, but having nothing to do when battle broke out, Grant worked his way to the front. With his unit surrounded, under fire and running out of ammunition, his Colonel asked for a volunteer to ride back to camp to request more ammunition. Grant volunteered. Demonstrating his legendary horsemanship, hanging off the side of his horse "Comanche style" and using the animal as a shield, he rode through the streets of Monterey under a hail of bullets, even leaping obstacles along the way, to get the message to headquarters.

At Mexico City, the army was pinned down under the walls of the fortress of Chapultepec. Grant scouted the position of the Mexicans behind the walls, then came across an artillery company and took command of it. He saw a nearby church with a high bell tower and ordered the company to disassemble their Howitzer and bring it up the narrow steps of the bell tower in pieces; reassembling it at the top, they began dropping shells on the enemy behind the walls driving them back and allowing the U.S. Soldiers to storm the walls. Grant received a brevet promotion for this act of ingenuity and heroism.

During the Civil War, when all looked lost after the first day of battle of Shiloh, Grant's officers said the army ought to retreat across the river. Grant's reply was, "Retreat? No, I intend to attack at first light and whip them". When General William T. Sherman approached Grant later that night he found him standing under the sheltering branches of an oak tree, in the midst of a violent thunderstorm, smoking a cigar. Sherman said that something in Grant's eyes told him "not to mention retreat". Instead, Sherman said, "Well, Grant, we've had the devil's own day, haven't we?" Sherman said that Grant puffed his cigar, lighting up his face in darkness, and looked at him with a fierce gleam in his eyes, saying, "Yes. Lick 'em tomorrow, though." Grant ordered an attack at first light; he broke the Rebel army and drove it from the field in full flight.

During the battle of the Wilderness, when both of Grant's flanks had nearly collapsed, the officers of the Army of the Potomac were in a panic. One brigadier general was nearly hysterical, regaling Grant with the superhuman abilities of Lee, telling Grant the army would be destroyed. Grant cut loose with a rare burst of temper saying, "Oh, I am heartily tired of hearing about what Lee is going to do! Some of you seem to think he is going to do a double somersault and land in our rear, and on both of our flanks at the same time! Go back to your command, and try and think about what we are going to do to Lee!" Later in the battle, when one officer suggested that the fighting was close and Grant's headquarters should be moved further to the rear, Grant said, "I think it would be rather better if you brought some guns[artillery] up here and defended this position". A Union officer told Grant he feared that if they were driven from their present position by Lee that the army would be defeated and their supply trains would be captured. Grant told him, "Major, when this army is defeated, and I am driven from this line, it will be when I have so few men left they won't require any supply trains".

Other examples of Grant's courage and "Stand Fast" determination:

"No other terms than unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted. I propose to move immediately upon your works." - in a message sent to General Simon Bolivar Buckner at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862

"As for me, I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer." - in a message to General Halleck from Spotsylvania Courthouse, May 11, 1864.

"If you see the President, tell him from me that whatever happens there will be no turning back." - said to a journalist at the Battle of the Wilderness.

"The enemy hold our front in very strong force, and evince a strong determination to interpose between us and Richmond to the last. I shall take no backward steps." - a message sent to General Halleck at the Battle of the Wilderness.

And finally, what noted Civil War author Shelby Foote had to say about Grant in Ken Burns' "Civil War" documentary that aired on PBS: "Grant the general had many qualities, but he had a thing that's very necessary for a great general. He had what they call 'four o'clock in the morning courage.' You could wake him up at four o'clock in the morning and tell him they had just turned his right flank and he would be as cool as a cucumber...Grant, he's wonderful."

Myth: "Grant was a cold, unfeeling butcher"

The full line goes something like this, "Grant was an unfeeling

butcher who cared nothing about his men and simply fed them into a meat grinder". The term "butcher" can be traced most specifically to Mary Lincoln, who was shrieking in the White House after the battle of Cold Harbor, saying, "Grant is a butcher and not fit to command an army. He loses two men to the enemy's one...I could command an army as well as him."

The full military argument against the "butcher" label cannot be made in such a limited space, but the British military historian J.F.C. Fuller provided the best defense of Grant in his classic works, "The Generalship of Ulysses S. Grant" and "Grant and Lee: A Study In Personality and Generalship". I would also direct the reader to the eminent Civil War historian Bruce Catton's works, "Grant Moves South" and "Grant Takes Command". More recent works by author Gordon C. Rhea, covering Grant's Overland Campaign of 1864, put the "butcher" label to rest, showing that Lee lost more than Grant on a percentage for percentage basis. Rhea also asserted in an interview that if anything, Lee is more deserving of the "butcher" label than Grant. This "butcher" accusation against Grant stems most directly from the legend of Grant losing "7,000 men in 15 minutes" at the battle of Cold Harbor - a story that has been repeated by many respectable authors and historians (again, Shelby Foote comes to mind), but author Rhea investigated this account in detail and provides a powerful argument against it in his work "Cold Harbor". Rhea went back to the original battle reports and source material and his conclusion is that Grant actually suffered about 3,500 casualties in the first hour, which is not excessively high compared to other Civil War battles. Lee lost upwards of 6,000 men during Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg - over a 50% casualty rate. It is ironic that Grant earned the label "butcher" for Cold Harbor, but Lee is given a pass by Lost Cause adherents for the results of Pickett's Charge – the aftermath of which is highly romanticized by the account of Lee riding out into the midst of his retreating men saying, "It is my fault. It is all my fault". Grant said of Cold Harbor that he regretted ordering the assault more than any other, and that he felt no advantage whatsoever had been gained to compensate for the terrible results of that day. It was the only mistake he admitted to having made during the war.

As a man, Grant was an extremely gentle, kind and sensitive human being. He despised the bloody work of his father's tannery when he was a boy and refused to work at it. Grant would only eat his meat if it were cooked so well done as to be merely a piece of charcoal, because the very sight of blood on his plate made him physically ill. Hunting was a common pastime for all boys growing up on the frontier, but Grant refused to hunt because he hated killing. There are numerous statements on record of Grant's sensitivity to his men, and he never risked their lives callously. When his army was stalled before the Confederate citadel of Vicksburg, his wife asked him why he did not simply make a direct assault on the city. Grant replied to her, "Mrs. Grant, I will move upon Vicksburg, and take it too. But you must remember that every one of my men has a mother, wife or sweetheart and their lives are as dear to them as mine is to you."

There is no truth to the myth that Grant, as a man, was cold and unfeeling, quite the contrary, and there is also no truth to the military argument that Grant was a "butcher" who callously wasted his men's lives. Though numerous historians have proved the falsehood of these common accusations against Grant as a man and a general, the ghosts of Woodward and the Lost Cause continue to propagate these myths to this day.

Myth: "Grant won only by overwhelming numbers"

The full line of this myth usually goes something like, "Grant was a head down fighter who simply slugged his way to victory using his overwhelming numbers of men and supplies

Grant Myths Continued from page 9

to wear Lee down.”

Grant is often derided as having had no tactical or strategic superiority to Lee, implying that it was only numerical superiority that allowed Grant to win. This is an absurd argument, but many Lost Cause adherents state it as if it were an axiom. It is interesting to note that Lee is praised for his generalship against inferior Union generals, winning in spite of the enemy's overwhelming numbers, but when Grant is brought into the equation, suddenly the equation changes, and then it is not because of Grant's superior generalship over Lee that the Union won, but then becomes a victory “only by virtue of overwhelming numbers”.

When someone once derided Grant in front of Lee, suggesting that Grant was a military accident who only won by “overwhelming numbers”, Lee is said to have replied, “Sir, your opinion is a very poor compliment to me. We all thought Richmond protected, as it was, by our splendid fortifications and defended by our army of veterans, and could not be taken. Yet Grant turned his face to our capital and never turned it away until we had surrendered. Now, I have carefully searched the military records of both ancient and modern history, and have never found Grant's superior as a general. I doubt his superior can be found in all history.”

By Lee's own assertion then, Grant was far and beyond Lee's superior as a strategist. This can be most clearly shown by one classic example; when Grant was poised outside of Vicksburg, it was Lee who brushed off Jefferson Davis's suggestion that he send part of his army to deal with Grant. Lee was dismissive of the belief that Grant could fight in Mississippi's brutal heat at that time of year. Lee had little ability to think about strategy on a global level, rather concentrating on what was happening in Virginia. And rather than recognize what the loss of Vicksburg would mean to the South from a global strategy perspective, Lee chose to counter the position Grant had put the South in by attempting another invasion of the North, which culminated in his disastrous defeat at Gettysburg. It was only George Meade's failure to pursue him that allowed Lee and his army to survive.

It was Grant's grasp of global strategy that allowed for Union victory. Grant recognized that the Union's chief flaw up to the point at which he took overall command, was independent actions by the various Union armies, allowing the South to shift their forces between points to shore up vulnerable regions and allowing the South time and again to regroup and resupply after a defeat. Grant's plan, put into action in 1864, was a combined movement of all armies against the South. He knew that by applying coordinated, unrelenting, pressure, using the superior force of the North, somewhere the South would crack. The South cracked at Atlanta, allowing Sherman to march to the Sea virtually unopposed, while the remnants of the South's western army shattered itself against George Thomas's forces at Franklin and Nashville. It was Grant's strategy and Grant's strategy alone that led to Lee's surrender at Appomattox, not overwhelming numbers. Irwin McDowell, George McClellan, John Pope, Ambrose Burnside, Joseph Hooker, and George Meade all had the same superior numbers as Grant, and none of them brought about Lee's surrender because they did not have Grant's strategic abilities or the will to use the army they had been given.

As far as Grant being a “poor tactician”, one need only look at Grant's Vicksburg Campaign to see what a ridiculous accusation this is. Vicksburg shows Grant at his absolute best. Using deception, intelligence, and maneuver to every advantage, Grant cut loose from his point of supply, living off the land; he positioned his smaller force between a larger, but divided, enemy force and then struck out against each of them individually, forcing one to retreat and completely routing the other in battle. Grant's losses in the Vicksburg Campaign were incredibly low given the nature of the campaign, the number of battles fought, and the ensuing siege. The result

for this low level of casualties was the loss of Vicksburg, called the “lynchpin of the South” by Jefferson Davis; it also resulted in the loss of control of the Mississippi River for the Rebels, and a divided Confederacy without access to the manpower and resources of the Trans-Mississippi region. The Vicksburg Campaign is still studied today at the U.S. Army War College and is considered by most historians to be one of the greatest military campaigns in history.

The eminent military historian T. Harry Williams said of Grant: “There is no difficulty in composing a final evaluation of Ulysses S. Grant...With him there need be no balancing or qualifying, no ifs and buts. He won battles and campaigns, and he struck the blow that won the war. No general could do what he did because of accident or luck or preponderance of numbers and weapons. He was a success because he was a complete general and a complete character. He was so complete that his countrymen have never been able to believe that he was real.”

Myth: “Grant was an unimaginative bumbler”

There are many variants on this myth, always coming back to the same basic tenet, that Grant was an unintelligent, bumbling character reminiscent of Peter Seller's as “Chauncy the Gardener” in the movie “Being There”; someone who simply lucked into being at all the right places at all the right times during the war, and his success was no more than a mere accident. It's hard to even know where to begin against such an incredible accusation except to simply explain a bit about Grant's development and personality.

Grant was extremely shy and modest. He seemed to inherit this quality from his mother, herself a shy, modest, pious woman who rarely spoke. Grant's father Jesse, on the other hand, was an intelligent, industrious, and very successful businessman in Grant's boyhood town of Georgetown, Ohio. But the downside of Jesse's intellect was that it also made him an opinionated, loud mouthed, braggart and he was not well liked by many citizens in Georgetown. Many biographers speculate that Grant was embarrassed by his father's opinionated nature and he gravitated toward the reticent behavior of his mother.

Grant's shyness was so great that he was terrified of public speaking of any kind. He told his earliest schoolmaster, upon hearing he would be required to make a presentation before the entire class, that he wouldn't do it, and he didn't care what punishment he received because of it. When Grant received his promotion to Lieutenant General and stood on the balcony of the White House (with Lincoln at his side) to read his acceptance speech, his voice trembled, could barely be heard, and his hands shook. Whereas most officers found it “manly” and were proud of displaying their physiques in front of their men and other officers in camp, Grant was so modest that he absolutely refused to undress in front of anyone; he carried a portable, rubber bathtub with him through the war that he would set up in his tent, and he would seal the flaps of the tent before he would bathe.

Many observers of General Grant during the war comment on how he would listen intently to opinions expressed around headquarters, rarely saying anything. His officers only ever knew his plans after he had thought on them, letting them mature in his mind, and they received them in written orders. He is said to have never held a “council of war” in his life. In the 19th century, the opinion of a man's intelligence was formed on their oratory skills, and their ability to speak before an audience. So for a man like Grant - so shy, so modest, so unable to express himself in front of a large audience - the verdict was that he was slow, stupid, unimaginative, etc.

Yet to judge Grant's intelligence one need only look to the record of his achievements, and to his own Personal Memoirs, which convey Grant's brilliant intellect. Mark Twain called the Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant the greatest military biography since Caesar's Commentaries. These would be enough to discredit the myth, but we also have the collected

Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, published by Southern Illinois University Press and edited by John Y. Simon. These books contain all of Grant's writing, both personal letters to his wife, friends, father, siblings, etc, as well as all military correspondence - orders, reports, etc. The letters are a revelation, and it is easy to see why Grant was the man who won the Civil War - one fine example are his letters to his then fiancée Julia conveying the drama of the Mexican War; they contain beautiful, clear and stark descriptions of the scenery of Mexico, the details, excitement and action of the battles, and his sympathetic feelings toward the Mexican people. The letters show the rich, detailed, and expansive inner life Grant led.

Those who knew Grant attest to the fact that he was extremely intelligent and well spoken. But it seems this was only on display when he was among small groups of people, and usually only those he knew (and trusted) fairly well. He is frequently described as an excellent conversationalist, well versed on almost any subject. Even more surprising, almost everyone who encountered this side of Grant states that he was a “talker” and they sometimes had a hard time getting a word in edgewise. Grant liked to ask lots of questions, and he was apparently a good listener too. But the surest way into becoming an intimate with Grant, said one officer, was to be a night owl. Grant loved to stay up late, usually until 1:00 or 2:00 a.m., and anyone who could stay up with him, talking, was someone he took to readily.

The following comment is from someone who found out that there was more to Grant than met the eye: “We all form our preconceived ideas of men of whom we have heard a great deal, and I had certain definite notions as to the appearance and character of General Grant, but I was never so completely surprised in all my life as when I met him and found him a different person, so entirely different from my idea of him. His spare figure, simple manners, lack of all ostentation, extreme politeness, and charm of conversation were a revelation to me, for I had pictured him as a man of a directly opposite type of character, and expected to find in him only the bluntness of a soldier. Notwithstanding the fact that he talks so well, it is plain he has more brains than tongue. He is one of the most remarkable men I have ever met. He does not seem to be aware of his powers.” - Former Vice-President of the Confederacy Alexander Stephens who met Grant towards the end of the war.

Myth: “Grant was slovenly”

Grant certainly wasn't a clothes horse; he was, perhaps, the most unpretentious general, with the least ostentation, in the entire war. His typical dress was a plain slouch hat, a private's coat with no epaulets or other decoration other than his shoulder straps, and worn, muddy boots. The reason for this seems to be an episode that occurred earlier in Grant's life when he made a trip to Cincinnati decked out in his dress uniform, and was roundly mocked by a street urchin, and some of the town toughs. It is also speculated that Grant modeled his informal style on Zachary Taylor, his first commander in the Mexican War.

In his personal appearance, Grant placed little stock. While his hair was always combed, and his fingernails were always trimmed and clean, his beard sometimes needed a trim and could become a little scraggly, which his wife took him to task for. However Grant was something of a clean freak when it came to his personal space, and though his desk could be cluttered, he didn't like a dirty or messy environment. But Grant was self-conscious about his appearance. Long after the war, a reporter traveling with Grant on his around the world journey asked the General what his first thoughts were upon meeting Lee at Appomattox. Grant replied, “I was thinking about my muddy boots.”

Myth: “Grant was gruff”

This seems to be something people believed because of Grant's shy and quiet nature, which has already been discussed. Grant is universally described as having had a

“beautiful”, “clear”, “melodious” voice, and as being quiet, respectful, articulate, and well spoken. Women who met him describe him as “shy”, “kindly”, “gentle”, “soft spoken”, “intelligent”, “exceedingly polite”, and “humble”. See the comment by Alexander Stephens, former Vice-President of the Confederacy, up above.

Myth: “Ulysses S. Grant wasn’t Grant’s real name”

This myth is true! Grant’s birth name was Hiram Ulysses Grant. “Ulysses” came from Fenneman’s “Telemachus”, which Grant’s father Jesse had read and then loaned to his mother-in-law. She admired the description of the character of Ulysses. When the baby came along, the relatives got together and put their favorite names into a hat. Jesse knew his mother-in-law favored Ulysses so that’s what he put into the hat (sucking up to the mother-in-law is timeless). The father-in-law favored Hiram and that got a couple of votes too. So with a tie vote they compromised on “Hiram Ulysses” and Jesse succeeded in buttering up both in laws.

The name change occurred when the Congressman who submitted Grant’s name to West Point wrote out the recommendation on the last day of his term, in a hurry. He was a friend of Jesse Grant and knew that the father always called the boy “Ulysses”; he thought the boy’s middle name was “Simpson” after the mother, and so submitted the name as Ulysses S. Grant (the Congressman never actually wrote “Simpson” out - that was something folks added later. Grant always joked that the “S” in his name stood for “nothing”, though officially others used “Simpson”). When Grant showed up at West Point he was told there was no “Hiram Ulysses Grant” on the roles and if he wanted to correct it he would have to go home and reapply through the War Department. Rather than go through this bureaucratic hassle he simply accepted his registration under “Ulysses S. Grant”. So, the “S” never stood for anything but he used the name the rest of his life.

E-Mail: scott@thegrants.com

For further reading on Ulysses S. Grant I recommend the following books:

The Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant by Ulysses S. Grant

The Memoirs of Julia Dent Grant by Julia Dent Grant

In The Days Of My Father General Grant by Jesse Grant

Grant by Jean Edward Smith (the best one volume study of Grant)

Captain Sam Grant by Lloyd Lewis

Grant Moves South by Bruce Catton

Grant Takes Command by Bruce Catton

Campaigning With Grant by Horace Porter

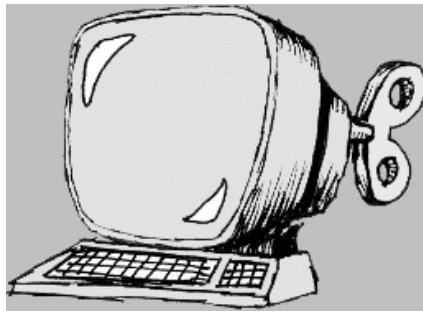
The Battle of the Wilderness by Gordon C. Rhea

The Battle for Spotsylvania Courthouse and the Road to Yellow Tavern by Gordon C. Rhea

To The North Anna River by Gordon C. Rhea

Cold Harbor by Gordon C. Rhea

Spring Deadline to submit is Mar 30th!



How the Internet can be a valuable tool in doing ones genealogy!

Submitted by Jean Grant Wilson, Florida Commissioner

Several years back in the Clan Grant UK’s magazine named *Standfast*, I asked if any one knew of the whereabouts of my cousin, Hamish Grant. I had last seen him while we were visiting at the zoo in Johannesburg, South Africa. I was 8 years old at the time and thought that he was older than I.

Over the years my family lost track of my fathers older brother and his family. But I always wondered where Hamish was. Then after all our Grants from my fathers family had passed on my sister and I really felt the need to find Hamish! I contacted some CGS-UK members from South Africa and all the Scottish publications that I could think of, but to no avail.....

Then this past year our oldest daughter, Holly, got into our Grant genealogy in earnest! With the help of the Internet she was able to acquire the birth, marriage, census, and death certificates of all the older ancestors in Scotland. But still the James Wm Grant Jr family was a mystery! She tried going through the South African Government but that was a huge road block, such red tape you have to go through!

Holly even hired people over in South Africa to do the leg work for her but it was like Hamish had just fallen off the end of the earth. She did get all the birth and death certificates of his dad, so we now knew his full name - Hamish Walfort Montgomery Grant.

Anyway, this one Saturday morning Holly got up with determination that Hamish was out there. She said a prayer and “Googled”, Hamish Grant, and emailed all that she could find. AND, low and behold she got one reply, “I am he!” She was so excited but didn’t want to tell me until she was sure. I was wondering why she was asking me all these questions about Hamish and his father now.

Well, it turns out, after exchanging many emails and family photos, that this was our Hamish and we were over the moon! He is now living in England with his wife ShirL. They have 3 grown married daughters, one of which lives here in the states not too far from Florida.

This past month has been so exciting for all of us, getting to know our new branch on our family tree. My sister flew down from Michigan and we made a phone call to England. Now the next step will be a face-to-face meeting.....



If you have a re-union story or any other type of Grant related information to share please sent to:

Holly Floyd, Editor

P.O. Box 10620 Casa Grande Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32257

or email:

craigellachie@comcast.net

Memories of Scotland are always welcome!

Grant Guidies

Crispie Mars Bars

Mars bars, with their nougat centre with toffee on top and covered with milk chocolate, are a favourite the world over. And the snap, crackle, pop of rice crispies are found everywhere, including Scotland. Put the two together and you get a treat that’s enjoyed by children (big and small) everywhere. And not a deep fried Mars bar in sight!

The conventional way to melt chocolate is to put it in a bowl above a pan of warm water but the recipe below suggests using a microwave - not very traditional, but effective!

Ingredients:

Three 65g (large) Mars bars, chopped up
3 ounces (90g or ¾ stick) margarine
Three to four cups of rice crispies
8 ounces (250g) chocolate
1 ounce (30g or ¼ stick) margarine

Method:

Combine the 3 ounces of margarine and the chopped Mars bar pieces in a microwaveable bowl and melt on a *medium* heat. Do not overheat. Stir in the rice crispies until they are well covered by the mixture. If the mixture becomes too hard when you stir in the rice crispies, put back in the microwave for a few seconds.

Line a 9" (23cm) square tin with greaseproof paper (vegetable parchment or waxed paper) and spread the mixture evenly into the tin.

Melt the one ounce of margarine and all the chocolate in a microwaveable bowl on a medium heat and spread over the mixture in the tin. Do not overheat the chocolate. If you do, add two or three drops of cooking oil and beat with a spoon until it has smoothed out again.

Allow the mixture and chocolate to cool and cut into squares.

- Helensburgh Toffee

There are many different varieties of toffee, tablet and fudge catering for the sweet tooth of many Scots. This “toffee” named after Helensburgh (a town overlooking the lower reaches of the river Clyde) has the consistency of thick fudge, rather than chewy toffee.

Ingredients:

2 ounces (50g or half stick) unsalted (sweet) butter
1 pound (450g or two cups) caster (superfine) sugar
Two teaspoons (10ml) golden syrup (light corn syrup)
7 fluid ounces (200ml or small can) condensed milk
4 tablespoons (60ml) milk
Half teaspoon (2.5ml) vanilla essence (extract)

Method:

Melt the butter in a heavy-based saucepan, then add the sugar, syrup, condensed milk and milk. Heat very gently until all the ingredients have dissolved. Then bring to the boil, stirring constantly. Continue to heat, stirring gently until the mixture has reached 115C/240F on a sugar thermometer (or until a teaspoonful of the mixture forms a soft ball when dropped into cold water). Remove from the heat and add the vanilla essence. Beat well until thick and creamy. Pour into shallow greased tins (pans) and mark into squares with a knife. Leave to cool and set. Cut into pieces and store in an airtight container.

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.

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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

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 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:
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