



Clan Grant Society President Notice

December 16, 2008

Dear Clan Grant Society of the USA,

As the Third President of the CGSUSA it is my duty to inform you that I no longer find it possible to commit time and energy to leading the organization. I have decided to resign as president of the Clan Grant Society of the USA effective 30 days from this notice.

With the hard work and friendship of Vice President John Grant III, Secretary Holly Grant Wilson Floyd, Assistant Secretary Gordon Grant, Chaplain Bishop John Grant, Quartermaster David Grant, former Membership Secretary Jean Grant Wilson, former Games Commissioner Allan Grant and First President Howard Parsons, I have as the Third President of the CGSUSA tried to think about how best to look to the future, attract young people and encourage a sense of family and membership.

In these difficult times there are so many important matters that concern each of us. I imagine that life is much the same for you these days as it is for me. The needs of family will always and rightly be what are most important to each us. We have hoped to lead the CGSUSA to an organization fully living its stated purpose according to our Bylaws :

"ARTICLE II - PURPOSE"

The purpose of the Society shall be to preserve and promote the customs, traditions, and heritage of Clan Grant. These purposes shall be carried out through the conduct of the following activities:

- 1 - Literary - including publication of Scottish or Gaelic literature;
- 2 - Charitable - such as helping Clansmen dependents of Clansmen in distress;
- 3 - Historical - especially as may be related to Clan Grant (or its various branches);
- 4 - Educational - such as financial assistance to deserving students, establishment of a fellowship in Scottish literature or music, grants to schools or universities, and support of the Clan Grant Educational and Charitable Trust;
- 5 - Cultural - such as encouraging the perpetuation of Highland dress traditions and customs, promoting Highland Games in the United States, and supporting the Clan Grant Centre in Scotland;
- 6 - Social Recreational - promoting friendship, goodwill, and clanship among the members of the Clan; and
- 7 - Such other activities as the Board of Directors may determine will promote the purposes of the Society.

Is it really enough to say we are satisfying some of these purposes by attending highland games, or is that minimal checking the box and not worthy of our name? To live these purposes, we could be:

- Writing to encourage and share with our members at home and those who are serving for each of us all around the world,
- Involved in the work of an almoner by giving to the families of our names who have less than we do in these terribly hard times,
- About giving hope and securing faith for our members and their extended families through this global economic crisis and every day,
- A bright light giving warmth and compassion to each other,
- Recognizing the work of our membership and celebrating the similarities and differences among families who share membership in and commitment to the CGSUSA,
- Encouraging young and old to study and participate in the arts of our shared heritage,
- Teaching and awarding prizes for the accomplishments of those who serve and those who strive to maintain those arts,
- Helping members to go to college and to study and to travel to learn,
- Know who our members are with a simple directory of members like most churches and social societies around the world do
- Recognizing the service and accomplishments of our members and their families,
- Have an interactive website that enables our members and interested people, potential members across the country to learn about us and interact with all that we are doing,
- Doing in our home towns all across the country whatever we can to address the purposes of our CGSUSA,
- Have a legal entity that enables us fully to do what our purposes call upon us to do.

There is so much more we could be doing, so much more than just attending highland games.

In sum, we could be helping each other. I can only believe that those named above and our membership at large feel the same way. I will remember the lessons learned from this experience with CGSUSA.

I wish you every blessing of this holy season and hope that the joys of the holidays will fill your life throughout the New Year in good health, happiness and prosperity for you and all yours.

Stand Fast.
Cheers,
Dr. Christopher Pratt

*"Cuimhnich air na daoine on tàinig thu." * Remember those from whom you are descended.*





U.S. Highland Games & Gatherings

It's Great To Be A Grant!



To have your upcoming events included in this calendar email: craigellachie@comcast.net or call Holly (904) 268-6341 For other Nationwide Games check out: www.asgf.org

New York City Tartan Day Parade

On Saturday, April 4, 2009, New York City will celebrate the Eleventh Annual New York City Tartan Day Parade. Thousands of pipers, drummers, clans and organizations will march up Sixth Avenue in recognition of the Declaration of Arbroath and National Tartan Day. Online registration and information on all the activities for the parade is free and easy at: www.tartanweek.com.

March 21
Sarasota Scottish Highland Games
Venice Airport Grounds
www.sarasotagames.org
Contact: Bill Grant
grantwb@tampabay.rr.com

April 4-5
28th Annual Hawaiian Scottish Festival
Kapi'olani Park, Honolulu
Hawaiian Scottish
www.scotshawaii.org/
Contact: Richard Souther
rsouther@aloha.com

Note to Commissioners:
Please send in what Games you will be attending so that they can be in our Calendar

Commissioners By State

ALABAMA To be filled	HAWAII Richard D. Souther 2101 Nu'uānu Ave #105 Honolulu, HI 96817-1765 (808) 349-2378 rsouther@aloha.com	MISSOURI Stephen E Grant 6248 S Hunters Trail Springfield MO 65810 (417) 886-5868 sgrant@ky3.com	OKLAHOMA Kelly Grant 25841 N 3950 Road Ochelata OK 74051 (918) 333-9264 kroo@cablone.net Shannon Gosney PO Box 721 Canton, OK 73724 (580) 886-2828 gosneyt@cimmaron.net	TEXAS, NORTH-Cont Sharon Carnes Friend 1604 University Dr Arlington TX 76013 (817) 265-6064 csfriend@shoghal.net
ALASKA To be filled	IDAHO To be filled	MONTANA To be filled	OREGON Charles Wm Burton PO Box 792 Cascadia, OR 97329-0792 (541) 367-2282 scotslad39@yahoo.com	TEXAS, SOUTH Gordon Grant Sr 5323 Beverlyhill St #19 Houston TX 77056 (281) 507-7458 sillyrabbit1@peoplepc.com
ARIZONA Jim F Orth 520 Whitecap Circle Lake Havasu City AZ 86406 (928) 855-3521 tinamou@frontier.net	ILLINOIS See Indiana	NEBRASKA To be filled	PENNSYLVANIA Will Kenyon 2208 Quail Run Rd State College, PA 16801 (814) 865-2261 Willkenyon@aol.com	UTAH Michael James Grant 3124 W. 3875 S. West Valley City, Utah 84119 (801) 957-1938 mike_grant@edwards.com huntinglittlehawk123@yahoo.com Steven C. Grant 2943 Dove Tail Dr. West Valley City, UT 84128 (801) 598-7187 stndfast@gmail.com
ARKANSAS See Missouri	INDIANA Michael L Johnson 619 Prince Dr. Newburgh, IN 47630 (812) 897-3706 reiverrat@msn.com	NEVADA To be filled	RHODE ISLAND See Massachusetts	VERMONT See New Hampshire
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CALIFORNIA-South Rand Allan 6102 Calle Vera Cruz La Jolla CA 92037 (858) 454-3846 rballan@san.rr.com	KANSAS To be filled	NEW JERSEY To be filled	TENNESSEE Shirley Grant Smith 1318 Park Drive Cookeville, TN 38501 (931) 926-8669	WASHINGTON Michelle Poitevin 7906 8 th Ave NW Seattle WA 98117 (206) 789-5827 washingtongrants@gmail.com
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CONNECTICUT See Massachusetts	LOUISIANA Grant Bush 211 Gateway Drive Moss Bluff, LA 70611 (337) 855-2191 maroon22@yahoo.com	NEW YORK Harold A Grant 10734 Claybed Rd Fillmore NY 14735 (585) 567-4867	WISCONSIN To be filled	WYOMING To be filled
DELAWARE See Maryland	MAINE See New Hampshire	NORTH CAROLINA Helen Furr 3125 Zion Church Rd Concord NC 28025 (704) 782-5613 Helen0997@aol.com		
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GEORGIA C David Grant 408 Parkbrook Way Canton GA 30114 (770) 704-6273 dgrant18@comcast.net	MICHIGAN To be filled	N. DAKOTA To be filled		
	MINNESOTA To be filled	OHIO See Indiana		
	MISSISSIPPI To be filled			

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 Presidents

Howard Parsons 1998-2002 / C. David Grant 2002-2006
Dr. Christopher Pratt 2006-2008

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VP Clan Grant Society Notice

December 29, 2008

Dear Clan Grant Society of the USA:

It is with regret that I must inform the membership that I am resigning from the position of Vice President, Interim-Membership Secretary and Games Commissioner with CGSUSA effective 30 days from the date of this document.

I am happy to report that Jean Grant Wilson has requested to have the membership secretaries responsibility returned to her. I do so willingly with immense respect and admiration for the process she has developed to maintain accurate records for the society.

Please be advised a Games Commissioner needs to be solicited. I will be happy to send the games kit, at my own expense, to the new designated commissioner along with an inventory of the items for their use. I will no longer be fulfilling this obligation after Jan 30, 2009.

You must know that I repeatedly rejected running for the V-P position for personal reasons I wish not to share with you. After much intense persuasion from current members of the society, I agreed on one condition, "I would do so as long as Chris was our President". My obligation ended with Chris's resignation.

Although I was unable to attend the 2008 AGM, I leave with no remorse or regrets. I have freely volunteered my time and expense during my tenure to assist and promote CGSUSA and passionately given my all during that time. I will continue to full fill the obligations of Clan Grant commissioner of North Texas.

Sincere Regards,
John A. Grant, III

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**Spring Deadline to
submit News is May 1st**

A message from the Chief of Clan Grant

Ceud Mile Fàilte

In the 950 years since our progenitor arrived in Scotland, the history of Clan Grant has been fascinating and varied.

In days gone by, the pressures of the times and difficult lines of communication have meant that too many Clansfolk have lost touch with too much our heritage as they spread to the far corners of the globe. I am delighted that this medium has already allowed so many more to reconnect with the centre – with their roots – and has made possible the correction of many half-truths.

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the work of George H Grant of Tennessee and his late wife Lucille who were principally responsible for the founding of the American Society and to Howard Parsons and C David Grant who kept it going for so long.

In this connection I must express my delight at having had the opportunity to meet with so many American kinsmen and clansmen at the Stone Mountain games in the fall of 2008. You made me feel very welcome. The intricately carved staff you so kindly presented to me will remain a most treasured memento of the visit. I was also particularly delighted that within a hectic program you were able to arrange for me to meet with representatives of our Cherokee kinsmen.

The next two years will be very busy ones for the clan. Both the Homecoming Weekend in Edinburgh in July 2009 and our 3rd International Gathering week based in Strathspey in August 2010 will provide excellent specific opportunities for overseas members of the Clan to pay a visit – and the current exchange rate is an added incentive! I can particularly recommend our 2010 week. I very much hope that as many of you as possible will take advantage of these opportunities to imbue yourselves even more with our lore and to see in what ways you may be able to contribute to the many projects we are anxious to see come to fruition.

In particular I hope that as many as feel able to will consider contributing to the development of Duthil Kirk as the Clan Grant Centre – much work continues to be needed before the potentially excellent facility can function as it might.

Sláinte Mhath and Stand Fast!

Strathspey

Sir James Grant of Grant, Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia

33rd Chief of Grant
Given at Duthil January 2 2009



Membership Matters

By Jean Grant Wilson, Membership Secretary

Well, I am back! I guess I am not supposed to retire yet and with all the changes taking place in CGS-USA I will be holding down membership for a bit longer. I must say that I did miss the contact with our members.....

Thank you all for your quick response to the change in dues from quarterly to annually. Just to recap as I guess I didn't explain things properly. Dues are due during the first quarter of the year between 1 January and 31 March, each year. After that you will be in arrears. New members will be prorated as to the quarter that they join in for their first year.

And thank you for returning the surveys with some very helpful and insightful remarks! To date, genealogy seems to be your main interest. Not as many of you want the directory or the members only section of the website as we thought. And we hope that those of you that did offer to help out really meant it and will follow through.....don't wait to be asked, Volunteer!

So many of you said you would like to add your family tree to our database. All you need to do is send what info you have to Don Grant our CGS Genealogist for inclusion (see page 3 for his contact info). If you haven't done any research yet, just start with your names and go back through the person that connects you to Clan Grant, i.e., mother, grandfather, etc. And be sure to include birth and death dates, as there are many Grants with the same name. You never know whom you may connect with!

The surveys will continue to be collected and the results will be captured and printed in the Spring Craigelachie.

A big welcome to the new members since the last issue:

- Marilyn Grant Hall.....Naples FL
- Gregg Grant Kendrick.....Huntington Bch CA
- Dennis & Penny Johnson.....Pittsburgh PA
- Brian Bower..... Jordan NY
- Clem C Grant.....Spring Green WI
- Colin Sparks.....Lake Tapps WA
- Grant Bush.....Moss Bluff LA
- Bobby E Grant.....Stone Mountain GA
- William G Pierson.....Smyrna GA
- James Standard.....Atlanta GA
- Toby & Debbie Smith.....Valencia CA
- Joanna P Dijeaux.....Auburn CA
- William C Kenyon.....State College PA
- Mary Lynn Grant.....Charlotte NC



Grant Bush and William C Kenyon are two new commissioners. We do appreciate their passion and willingness to help CGS-USA grow!

Don't forget, that if your 2009 dues are not paid before the end of the 1st quarter (31 March), this will be your last Craigelachie.....If there is a red dot on your label, that means that at this mailing, I have not yet received your dues!

Please call me at (904) 268-9049 or email me at CLNGRANT@comcast.net if you have any questions. I am here to help in any way that I can, and to listen!

Stand Fast! and always remember, that membership does matter!

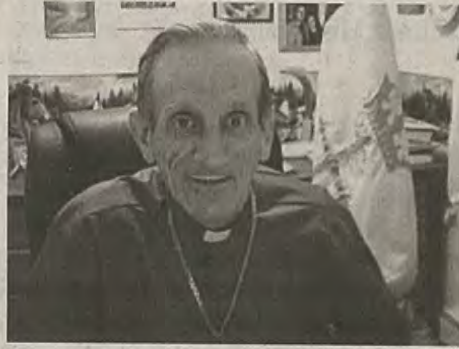
Spring Deadline to submit News is May 1st

Chaplain's Kirkin'

From Your Chaplain,
Bishop John C. Grant, O.B.B.C.

STAND FAST!!

There is an old saying of which we are all very familiar! "A quitter never wins; and a winner never quits!" (or) "When the going gets tough; the tough get going!" Our own Clan Motto gives the instruction: **STAND FAST!**



Well, my dear Kinsmen, in light of recent happening...I will not pass judgment on anyone...those who have chosen to fall by the wayside have their reasons for not...StandingFast! I will however enforce the "Call-to Arms" to all who would want our Clan to succeed and grow! It cannot do that if each one of us is unwilling to contribute our monies, our time, and work to promote unity within our Society.

We, as Grant Scots, indeed have a very proud heritage and if we are going to have anything to pass on to our youth...we had better put our "hands to the plow!"

Opportunities abound for any clan member to serve and for those who would be selfless.....the rewards are wonderful!! Now is not the time for discouragement! NOW, is the time to come together and work to make our Clan Grant Society stronger than ever!!

I will continue to pray God's richest BLESSINGS on our every effort and have nae a doubt that HE will do HIS part.....Will you come forward, serve and STAND FAST?

There is a place for every member to serve!! What kind of an example do we want to set for our Grant Scottish youth?.....and for that matter, for our fellow Kinsmen?

God Bless Each of you!!
Bishop John C. Grant, O.B.B.C.
Clan Chaplain
828-926-8669
evergreen387@yahoo.com



Subject: Duthil
To: Clan Grant Society USA
Date: Monday, November 17, 2008

Many thanks for the £205 contribution from CGS-US towards the development of the Clan Centre at Duthil.

As I hope you will know, the asbestos has now been removed from the boiler and over the course of the winter we hope to get the boiler itself out and clear the trees to create a parking area at the front of the cemetery. Whether anything else will be possible ahead of the International Gathering remains to be seen - as our resources are now very low.

So the £205 is especially welcome at this time.

Sincerely
Adrian Grant
Treasurer Clan Grant Centre Trust
Charity # SC021615

Newsflash from the Board

Clan Grant Society Emergency Board Meeting held by Teleconference February 22, 2009 at 2:45 pm

Attendees:
Holly Floyd, Secretary; Jeniph Grant, Treasurer; Steve Grant, Board Member at Large

This Board meeting was called with the agenda of identifying Interim Leadership as a result of the December resignations of President, Dr. Christopher Pratt and Vice President, John Grant. Business also included establishing a Nominating Committee for a proper Election for 2009.

The meeting was called to order by Jeniph Grant (host of the teleconference). The process of suggesting several names in numerical order was agreed upon. The Board agreed that the calls for acceptance would be made in this order and the first one to accept Interim President would change the next call to be for VP. The results of that process are **Rand Allan as Interim President** and **C. David Grant as Interim Vice President**.

The Board concurred that a 2009 Election would need to be held. The schedule of this Election was posted on Topica and printed here in our Craigellachie for membership.

Nominating Committee:

- John C. Grant
- Allan Grant
- Bishop John Grant
- Carol Grant
- Charles William Burton

Calls were made by Secretary, Holly Floyd, first by telephone to confirm acceptance and then followed by email if unsuccessful. The results (in an announcement format) were emailed to the Board for approval and posted on Topica and now printed in our Craigellachie. Details of the Election timeline were also handled this way.

During this meeting the Board used the same process to fill the vacancy for a Board Member. Presently Clan Grant Society Board Members are Steve Grant and Kelly Grant. By-Laws require there to be three. The one open Board Member position was short from our previous election. As a result, James "Jim" Grant from Delaware was invited serve Interim.

Tele-Conference Board Meeting held March 1, 2009 at 2 pm

Attendees: Interim President, Rand Allan; Interim VP, C. David Grant
Secretary, Holly Floyd; Treasurer, Jeniph Grant
Board Member, Steve Grant; Kelly Grant and Interim Board member Jim Grant

This board meeting was called to primarily discuss the timeline for our **2009 Election**, and our **2009 AGM** in order for Clan Grant Society to go forward. The recent Officer resignations have caused the Society to fall into a state of emergency prompting Board action to appoint interim office holders, including the vacant Member At Large. Your Board is committed to upholding the spirit and word of the Bylaws within the current emergency, as well as allowing full membership participation in our election process and avoidance of any conflict of interest. Although this was not to have been an election year, the Board has decided to hold elections for all of those offices with interim leadership, and appointed a Nominating Committee. It will be up to the Nominating Committee to quickly rally and identify at least one nomination for the Office of President, Vice President, and one Board Member at Large. We encourage participation of the membership by calling for additional candidates to be submitted to the Nominating Committee. Such nominations must be brought forward to the Committee by any five Active members in good standing by **April 15th**. Collectively all Nominees that have agreed to be on the ballot shall be submitted to the Secretary, Holly Grant-Wilson-Floyd by **May 1st**. This will allow Bios on the Nominees to be printed in the Spring Craigellachie in **May**. Ballots will be mailed by the Secretary to our membership by **June 1st**. Ballots will be returned to the secretary by sealed envelope and they will be forwarded to the teller. The results of the election will be presented to the Interim President, Rand Allan by **July 1st** so that this can be communicated out to the membership on Topica immediately and printed in our Summer Craigellachie in **August**. The New Officers and Appointed Office terms will commence immediately upon their notice by Rand Allan, and be properly installed at the AGM, which will be held at Stone Mountain Georgia, the third weekend in **October**. The Board decided to hold monthly Board teleconferences the first Sunday of every month with email communication between. If you desire a topic to be discussed by the Board, please communicate directly to one of the board members.

Please see page 15 for Terms of Office for the 2009 Election to bring our Officers back in line with our staggered terms per our Bylaws.

Observations on the Origins of the Clan Grant Part I

By James "Hank" Grant, Historian

There has been considerable speculation in recent years regarding the origins of the clan and name of 'Grant' in Scotland.

In fact, there has been speculation about the clan's origins for centuries. Some historians have suggested that the Grants are descended from Norwegian interlopers who established a foothold in North Britain after a brief sojourn in Ireland during the first millennium of the Christian Era. Others have insisted that both the Clan Gregor and Clan Grant descend from a younger son of Alpin, King of the Scots, in the 9th century. One observer even opined that the Grants relocated to Scotland from Iceland after a cataclysmic volcanic eruption. Sir William Fraser, in his massive three-volume history, *The Chiefs of Grant*, proposed that the line of the present Chief originated in the 13th century when ambitious Anglo-Norman adventurers acquired territory in the environs of present day Inverness.

Confusion also attends even the derivation of the name 'Grant'. According to some theorists, the name is from the Gaelic *grannda*, which describes a person of unhandsome appearance, or perhaps from *Sliabh Grianais* or *Griantachd*, ancient geographical locations in and around Strathspey. Others – those who subscribe to the Anglo-Norman origin of the clan – believe the name is from the French *le grande*, or the Latin *grandis*, meaning large or big.

Rev. Lachlan Shaw was the first significant historian to comment on the origins of the Grants in Scotland. The following is quoted from his *History of the Province of Moray*, published in 1775:

"From what country to fetch the Grants originally I know not. Some make the names Suene, Allan, &c., indications of a Norwegian extraction. Others make the surname, Grande, of French original. These two may be compounded by fetching them from Norway into Normandy in France, and thence into Britain with William the Norman Conqueror. But, if we allow them a Scottish origin, the name will bear us out. For, in the Irish, Grant signifies Gray or Hoary. And one tribe of the Grants is called Keran, or Kiaran, much the same with Gray or Grant. But in this I determine nothing."

Over a century later, J.F.S. Gordon published a revised and updated version of Shaw's work. The following quotation from that edition, published in 1882, indicates that Gordon was just as puzzled as Shaw:

"The surname of Grant is of great antiquity in Scotland: but historians do not exactly agree about their origin – some alleging that they are of the ancient Scots, denominated Caledonians when the Picts inhabited the south of Scotland; others that they came from Denmark; others from England; and other again from France.

Although we cannot with certainty fix the precise time of their settlement in Scotland, or whether they were of the aborigines of the country, yet we have incontestable proof from our histories and records that they were a powerful family, and made a considerable figure in that kingdom about 600 years ago."

The truth is, very little is known about the early history of the Grants in Scotland. And, what little information we have is of conjectural veracity – probably compiled from oral traditions and manuscripts authored by a number of shade-tree historians before the 18th century. For every tidbit of documented history that is known, there are volumes that remain unknown.

Although traditional accounts suggest an earlier origin in the highlands, the documented history of the name Grant commences in the mid-13th century in the vicinity of Inverness. This fact is not particularly helpful, however, since there were also Grants in England and Ireland at the same time. It is not known if they were branches of the same tree.

Perhaps the most significant strand of evidence to suggest that the Grants originated in the highlands is not from documented sources in Scotland, but from a more recent study of the distribution of the surname Grant in the British Isles. This research indicates that the highest concentration of the name in the United Kingdom during the period 1784-1819 was in the shires of Inverness, Moray and Banff – districts that have been inextricably linked to the Clan Grant. The incidence of Grants there was approximately five to six times higher than in any counties in England, a circumstance that would support the claim that the name Grant spread from north to south, and not in the opposite direction.

(<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~grantdna/surname-dist.html>)

As compelling as this data might be, the dearth of reliable documentation relating to the Grants in Scotland prior to the 16th century virtually precludes any prospect of determining the precise origins of the clan and name.

What we do know, however, is that the Grants gained a foothold in Strathspey in the 14th century. During the next one hundred years, several chieftains, whose relationships to each other cannot be documented, consolidated their holdings through prudent political, matrimonial, religious, and paramilitary alliances. Their descendants emerged in the 16th century as the *de facto* chiefs of a cohesive entity known as the Clan Grant.

* * *

There seems to have been a common practice among powerful and influential men to commission histories and genealogies to record their family's heroic and noble ancestry. The purpose of these memoirs was to validate honors that were about to be bestowed, or at least in the offing, such as a knighthood or earldom, or perhaps to justify a marriage to a daughter of a neighboring laird or personage of higher rank. The annals of Scotland's clans and families include many anecdotal family histories and pedigrees – some well documented, others apocryphal.

Ludovick Grant of Freuchie (c. 1650-1716), the Chief of Grant in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, was a powerful landlord who held vast estates in Strathspey and other districts in the Highlands. His holdings would have been the envy of most men. Yet, he did not possess the one thing he must have coveted most, an Earldom.

Having served as Sheriff of Inverness, member of the Scottish Parliament, colonel of his own regiment, and an active participant on important government commissions, Ludovick surely assumed that he would be elevated to a title commensurate to his achievement. After all, many of his neighbors and contemporaries were noblemen of the highest order – Dukes, Earls, Baronets, or at least young scions who would eventually inherit the prestigious titles of Scotland's most influential clans and families.

In fact, Ludovick's father, James Grant of Freuchie (1616-1663), had died before a warrant that would have made him Earl of Strathspey and Lord of Freuchie could be confirmed. (Fraser, I, 288-289)

Ludovick must have thought that he would be in line to receive this honor, particularly after he raised a regiment for the government in 1689 at his own expense – an important gesture for which he was never fully reimbursed.

Nevertheless, his vast estates, previously known as the Barony of Freuchie, were erected into the Regality of Grant in 1694, and he was thereafter known as the Laird of Grant, and his principal residence, theretofore known as *Ballachastle*, was renamed Castle Grant. Yet, Ludovick was never granted the honor he surely coveted, the Earldom of Strathspey.

There is no particular evidence to suggest that Ludovick attempted to enhance his prospects for this high honor by producing an impressive family history, but it is certainly reasonable to consider the probability.

Enter the Reverend James Chapman. Chapman was Minister of the parish of Cromdale from 1702 until his death in 1737. Of course, Ludovick, the Laird of Grant, held sway over the entire parish and its parishioners were his clansmen. It is doubtful that any decision of importance could have been made by the kirk session without the Laird's imprimatur. This would have included the selection of the minister. Such was the power of the Laird of Grant.

Chapman reportedly compiled a history of the Grants which was "found in his repositories" at the time of his death. (Shaw/Gordon, I, p. 94) The work was probably cobbled together from oral traditions and other previously written manuscripts.

In fact, there are several 18th century manuscripts that record the lineage of the Chiefs of Grant. Assigning precise dates to these is very difficult since they were undoubtedly compiled over a period of many years and updated from time to time – perhaps at the behest of subsequent Chiefs. At least one of these manuscripts, dated 1729, has been attributed to James Chapman.

(Two of these traditional accounts can be accessed on the Internet at the following: <http://www.clangrant.org.uk/index.html>)

Chapman's extraordinary account describes the mythical ancestors of early Grant

Flowers of the Forest



chieftains who allegedly descended from the Norwegian warrior-god *Wodine*, or Odin, in the 7th century. In his detailed genealogy of subsequent generations, Chapman dutifully records that succeeding representatives of the chiefly line were more heroic, more honorable, more pious, and more nobly born than the one before. Such is the nature of folkloric genealogies compiled by historians for hire.

In addition to ennobling his benefactor (or benefactors) with an ancient and glorious lineage, Chapman also attempted to establish genealogical relationships between some noteworthy branch families of the clan and the line of the Chief.

In earlier times, one of the fundamental concepts of clanship was the notion that rank and file members of the clan were directly descended from some previous chief. This idea of extended family – the blood relationship to an eponymous chiefly ancestor – was the glue that bound the clan together. Consequently, it was important for early historians to document these relationships in their memoirs of the clan. These efforts notwithstanding, a number of important branches of the clan cannot, even today, be indisputably connected to the line of the Chiefs of Grant. Some of these important branch families are the following:

- Clan Allan – The Grants of Auchernach in Abernethy and their senior cadet Burnside, and others,
- Clan *Chiaran* – The Grants of Dallachapple in Cromdale and their senior cadet Glenbeg, and others,
- Clan Donnachie – The Grants of Gartenbeg and Inverlaidnan in Duthil, and the 2nd Grants of Dalvey who became Baronets of Nova Scotia,
- Clan *Phadruig* – The Grants of Tullochgorm,
- The original Grants of Ballindalloch in Inveravon parish, and their principal cadet, the 1st family of Dalvey, later of Dunlugas in Banffshire, and others,
- The Grants of Glenlochry in Abernethy parish, later of Kilgraston, Perthshire,
- The Grants of Blairfindy in Glenlivet,
- The Grants of Bonhard in Perthshire

In recent years, researchers in the U.K. have carried out extensive research on the clan's origins in Scotland. Abstracts of some of their work are available on the website previously noted in this article. Their research, although still works in progress, should be of great interest to members of the Clan Grant. The authors are certainly to be commended for their intellectual curiosity and diligence.

Even still, I find that my personal opinions on the origins of the clans have not changed appreciably in twenty-five years. I use the plural "clans" since *clann* is the Gaelic for family. As previously noted, there were a number of families of unknown origin affiliated with the early chieftains of Grant. Given the paucity of reliable historical information from the late medieval period, it is almost futile to speculate on the origins of these clans.

Although I would admit that "Where there is smoke, there is usually some fire", it is my personal view that the 18th century anecdotal pedigrees of the Clan Grant are more folklore than verifiable history. I am, therefore, inclined to concur with the opinion expressed in the late 19th century by Sir Francis James Grant, Lord Lyon King of Arms, that the "...origin of the family of Grant, like most families of Highland descent, is lost in the mists of antiquity." (Sir F.J. Grant, p.1)

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- *Ane Account of the Rise and Offspring of the Name of Grant*, transcribed by Charles Harcourt Chambers in 1872 from a copy at Altyre, the home of Sir William Gordon Cumming, Bart., printed for Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk, Bart., in 1876
- "Birkenburn MS" (Miscellaneous notes reportedly compiled by Rev. Francis Grant, later copied and edited by an unknown transcriber), circa 1782, National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh, MS. 3658
- "The Genealogy of the Grants said to be written by Mr. James Chapman, Minister of Cromdall &c. in Anno 1729," MacFarlane's Genealogical Collections, Vol. I, *Publications of the Scottish History Society*, Vol. 33, ed. James Toshach Clark, Edinburgh, 1900

Pat Grant, wife for 43 years of Bill Grant from Sarasota, Florida, died of a stroke on August 2, 2008. Pat was an incredibly friendly, outgoing person who brightened every room she was in. She was active in and ran a number of local artistic groups. Over 300 came out to her memorial, which was held on only 3 days notice.



Emmett R. Crump, Jr., Key organizer for the U.S.S. Grant Reunions passed away on December 14, 2008 in Ormond Beach Florida. We will forever remember him for the articles he wrote on the USS Albert Grant and subsequent reunions that were held.

Bayard Victor Grant, Col. USAF Ret., 92, of San Marcos, Texas, died Sept. 14, 2008, of pneumonia. Born in Brattleboro, VT, on May 3, 1916, son of Charles Victor Grant and Ida May Robb Grant. He grew up in the small town of Brattleboro, lived through The Great Depression and put himself through college. After graduating from the University of Vermont in 1939, Bayard worked and continued his education, joined the National Guard, and was inducted into the Army in March 1941. He served in the Signal Corps, attended Officers Candidate School, and was commissioned in 1943. He went on to serve in the Army Air Force, and retired from the Air Force in 1970 at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio. His military service allowed him to travel the world, which he enjoyed greatly. After his military career, Mr. Grant was a realtor in San Antonio and also taught real estate at San Antonio College. He enjoyed his second retirement by continuing an active outdoor life through horseback riding, target shooting, and working on his "ranch" in Seguin, Texas. Although he suffered from paraplegia in his later life, he always looked forward to each new day with a strong heart. Bayard married the love of his life, Eula Janet Bruce, of Barre, on Feb. 13, 1942. They enjoyed many happy years together until her death in 1989. He leaves their two children, David Grant and Loraine (Lori) Grant Monahan (husband Kevin), as well as relatives in Vermont. Bayard was laid to rest next to Eula in Barre, VT, on Nov 1, 2008.



"Cuimhnich air na daoine on tàinig thu."

*** Remember those from whom you are descended.**



Clan Grant International Gathering 2010

Hosted by Clan Grant Society UK
Draft programme (ie potentially subject to change)

Friday August 13th

Evening: Clan Grant Society AGM (time and place to be confirmed)

Saturday August 14th

Morning and Afternoon: Abernethy Games including Clan March etc.

<http://www.nethybridge.com/highlandgames/>

Evening: Banquet at the Hilton Hotel, Colyumbidge. (Dress: kilts, Black tie)

<http://beta.hilton.co.uk/coylumbidge>

The evening will commence with a group photograph to be taken by Stewart Grant.

<http://www.swpp.co.uk/members/Grant5947.htm>

Copies will then be available for purchase from his studio in the Square, Grantown.

Dinner will be followed by dancing to the Graeme McKay Band.

As requested there will also be a "quiet area" for those preferring not to dance.

Midnight: Auld Lang Syne

Sunday August 15th

Morning: Volunteers needed to take the tent down

Morning: An informal Golf competition organised by Prof. David Grant (details tba)

Afternoon: A walk up Craigelachie (yes this is the real spelling!) led and guided by a local

Ranger <http://www.walkhighlands.co.uk/cairngorms/craigellachie.shtml>

Afternoon: (venue tba) Adrian Grant, Clan Seannachie, will give a talk and answer

questions about clan history etc. www.clangrant.org.uk

Evening: Adrian Grant will do a second session particularly for the walkers and golfers

Monday August 16th

Morning: Visit to the Battlefield at Culloden and new Visitor Centre

<http://www.nts.org.uk/Culloden/Home/>

Lunch at Visitor Centre

Afternoon: Visit to Fort George

<http://www.aboutbritain.com/FortGeorge.htm>

<http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/nairn/fortgeorge/>

Tuesday August 17th

Morning: Excursion into the Moray Firth for Dolphin watching

<http://www.inverness-dolphin-cruises.co.uk/>

followed by a tour of the Highland Archive Centre in Inverness courtesy of Alistair

Macleod, Archivist

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/what-to-see/archives/>

[highlandcouncilarchives](http://www.highland.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/what-to-see/archives/highlandcouncilarchives)

(this will be of special interest to those interested in researching their family history)

There will also be an opportunity to explore Inverness City Centre.

<http://www.inverness-scotland.com/>

Lunch: bring or pick up a "piece" to eat on the bus....

Afternoon: trip to Dundreggan (Glenmoriston) to see

and learn about the reforestation project

<http://www.treesforlife.org.uk/dundreggan/>

and the "7 men of Glenmoriston" of the Jacobite era

Wednesday August 18th

Morning: A special tour of Glen Grant Whisky Distillery.

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

Glen Grant distillery also has extensive gardens which were laid out in Victorian times - and ideal stroll for those for whom whisky is not their "thing".

Lunch will be provided courtesy of the distillery and there will also be an excellent opportunity for retail therapy at the gift shop.

Afternoon: early return to give you a chance to put your feet up!

Evening: Dinner on the Strathspey Steam Railway [There is a maximum of 50 tickets available - these will be allocated on a first come first served basis.]

<http://src.insch.info/>



Thursday August 19th

Morning: Visit to Braemar Castle

http://www.braemarscotland.co.uk/visiting_braemar/Braemar%20castle.htm followed by lunch in Braemar. This visit is exclusive to the Clan Grant group as it is normally only open at weekends.

Afternoon: Visit to Tomintoul (the highest inhabited village in Scotland). <http://www.visittomintoul.co.uk/>

You can just soak up the atmosphere or choose between

a "Nosing and Tasting" courtesy of Whisky Castle <http://www.visittomintoul.co.uk/Whisky%20Castle.htm> and

a tour of the small Folk Museum (free entry). The tea shop at The Clock House seats 60 and there are gift shops.

Friday August 20th

Morning: Visit to Elgin. The visit will begin with a tour of Elgin Cathedral <http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/elgin/cathedral/> followed by a talk by Graeme Wilson, Moray Council Archivist http://www.moray.gov.uk/LocalHeritage/Assets/html_pages/single_pages/archives.html

(this will be of special interest to those interested in their family history) and then on to Johnston's Woolen Mill for lunch. <http://www.johnstonscashmere.com/> This is a working mill and tours are available.

Afternoon: Visit to Speyside Cooperage which promises to be fascinating <http://www.speysidecooperage.co.uk/>

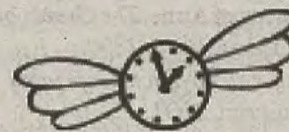
Evening: Ceilidh to be organised by Norman Grant



Saturday August 21st

Gather at the Nethybridge Hotel for a talk by Adrian Grant, Historian to the Chief of Grant in the Revack Suite and Farewell Lunch (the dining room will be open exclusively for our group).

http://www.strathmorehotels.com/neth_site/index.htm



Everyone needs to
make their plans early for the

2009 Gathering or 2010 International Event!

Don't forget about our AGM to be held at

Stone Mountain, Georgia in October 2009!

We all know how time flies!



Researching Your Family Tree

Re-print from ElectricScot.com



If you were thousands of miles away from Scotland it used to be very difficult to research your Scottish family tree. But, thanks to the Internet, it has become dramatically easier with the Scottish Records Office providing their database of 20 million records on-line. But that is not the whole story so here are some words of advice on how to go about finding your Scottish roots.

First of all, get as many details as possible from other members of the family - especially the older generation! Getting copies of birth, marriage or death certificates can be extremely helpful but even recollections of names and places can put some of the jig-saw into place.

New Register House

The important thing to remember is that all useful records have been centralised in General Register Office of Scotland in Edinburgh. (In England lots of the records are still in county records offices, making life a lot more difficult for genealogists!). New Register House holds all the "hatches, matches and despatches" for the whole of Scotland. The births, marriages and deaths are on a computerised database and copies of all the church parish records have been microfilmed and are available for research. A fully searchable on-line index of these records is available at ScotlandsPeople.com. The records available are the indexes of all surviving Old Parish Registers of births/baptisms and banns/marriages from 1553 to 1902, indexes to the Statutory Registers of births from 1553-1902, and marriages from 1553 to 1854, indexes to the Statutory Registers of deaths for 1855 to 1925 and an index to census records for 1881, 1891 and 1901 (with images of actual pages for 1891 and 1901). One additional year of births/deaths/marriage index data is added per annum. For a payment of six pounds sterling, about ten US dollars, a customer can view and download up to 30 computer-screen pages of index data (within a 24 hour period). For an additional ten pounds the customer will be able to highlight a particular index entry and send an electronic order for an extract of the full record to which the index entry relates.

The information on the births and marriages prior to 1855 is based on the "Old Parish Records" (OPR) as is the "International Genealogical Index" or IGI (see below).

If you get the opportunity to visit Edinburgh and New Register House you can access all these records if you obtain a "day ticket". Don't worry if you don't know where to start or how to use the records and the local PC database - the staff there are extremely helpful. But do remember that New Register House gets VERY busy in summer and space is limited - on a first come, first served basis.

International Genealogical Index

The "International Genealogical Index" or IGI is produced on microfiche by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (the Mormons, but often referred to in genealogy pages as "LDS"). That lists all the births and marriages, by Scottish county and has been created from all the available old parish records so entries go back to the 16th century (though with lots of gaps, depending on the records surviving - and how good the minister of the day was at keeping the records up to date!) This is available at the Family History Centres in the USA and main libraries in Scotland. The information is also available (with similar birth/marriage information for USA and a number of other countries) at their Database Web site.

Other Major Sources of Scottish Genealogy Information

GENUKI: Scotland is part of the UK and Ireland Genealogy project, and there is a vast amount of information including an extensive description of (non-Web) genealogical archives and bibliography of publications on Scottish family history, plus libraries, cemeteries, census information, gazetteers, maps, newspapers etc. Each of the Scottish counties (as structured before the 1975 local government reorganisation destroyed centuries of the traditional counties) is looked after by an

expert in that area; the information held is therefore not identical but reflects what is available in a given area.

The Scotland "GenWeb" Project provides help for genealogical researchers investigating Scotland to find local resource and reference information. The Scotland GenWeb is a part of the UKGenWeb Project. As with GENUKI: Scotland, each of the former Scottish counties (prior to restructuring in 1975) is allocated to an expert in that county.

I would suggest trying to get a copy of a book on genealogy research. Try some of the on-line book stores if you cannot get one locally. "Tracing your Scottish Ancestors" by Cecil Sinclair or "Scottish Roots" by Alwyn James are both good.

Professional Researchers

There are also professional firms available who will carry out research for you (for a fee, of course!). Good hunting!

You could also get in contact with our Clan Genealogist Don Grant, shown here with his son, Will, and daughter, Lucy.

Don Grant
546 Oakland Ave. SE
Atlanta, GA 30312
(404) 643-9682
grant.donald@comcast.net



New Grant Bairns



Florida Member, Lorri Newbill, is new grandma to Julian Cannon Newbill Norris born January 29th. Proud parents are Rebecca and Greg Norris. This also makes Jim and Jean Wilson, Great Grandparents again!



501(c)(3) or not?

During the 2007 and 2008 Annual General Meeting, and at other times, our tax exempt status has been questioned, and it was decided to investigate whether or not it would be feasible for us to be reorganized as a 501(c)(3) organization from your current status as a 501(c)(7) organization. The benefits of doing so would be to increase the deductibility of expenses and contributions to the Society for the donors, make the Society eligible for government and other foundation grants, allow us the lowest bulk mailing permit for distribution of our publication, and increase the credibility of the organization. I present the following information for your consideration.

The stated and allowable purposes for 501(c)(3) organizations are Religious, Educational, Charitable, Scientific, Literary, Testing for Public Safety, to Foster National or International Amateur Sports Competition, or Prevention of Cruelty to Children or Animals Organizations; and organizations organized under this code must follow stringent requirements for defining and proving their purpose, activities, funding sources, or dedication of assets. Alternatively, 501(c)(7) organizations are established as Social and Recreation Clubs; the tax rules are more relaxed. "Social clubs are organized for pleasure, recreation and other non-profitable purposes for the benefit of their members," and that they were granted tax exempt status "because securing returns from social clubs was a source of expense and annoyance that resulted in collection of little or no tax, rather than because of any presumed beneficial purposes" (<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/eotopicg94.pdf>). We are currently a 501(c)(7) organization.

Our current by-laws state "the purpose of the Society shall be to preserve and promote the customs, traditions, and heritage of Clan Grant. These purposes shall be carried out through the conduct of the following activities:

1. Literary - including publication of Scottish or Gaelic literature;
2. Charitable - such as helping Clansmen dependents of Clansmen in distress;
3. Historical - especially as may be related to Clan Grant (or its various branches);
4. Educational - such as financial assistance to deserving students, establishment of a fellowship in Scottish literature or music, grants to schools or universities, and support of the Clan Grant Educational and Charitable Trust;
5. Cultural - such as encouraging the perpetuation of Highland dress traditions and customs, promoting Highland Games in the United States, and supporting the Clan Grant Centre in Scotland;
6. Social Recreational - promoting friendship, goodwill, and clanship among the members of the Clan; and
7. Such other activities as the Board of Directors may determine will promote the purposes of the Society."

We have done very well within the Cultural, Historical, and Social categories, especially in Games attendance, genealogy and wear of the regalia.

I believe we could expand our current activities and provide more for the membership if we operated within all those stated in our by-laws. Please think about the future of CGS, USA; what you want from your organization; what you are willing to do to see that future take shape. Check the reference listed herein, collect the facts, and develop your opinion regarding this issue. Provide your comments on Topica to begin a dialogue with the members, or just address your Board of Directors. We are soliciting input.

Jeniphr Grant, Treasurer
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Recommendations

to Clan Grant Society

By Jim Morton, CPA experienced in tax exempt organizations

November 17, 2008

There are many Scottish clan societies that are exempt under 501(c)(3) under this category. Basically if you help "educate" the public on Scottish history and Clan Grant in particular, then you can qualify under 501(c)(3). As I have mentioned before, most clans that get qualified as a c7 usually stress their social aspects too much as opposed to their educational purpose.

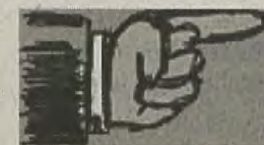
As for the private foundation aspect Clan Grant would not be in any danger of being assigned PF status. The process for exemption under c3 is basically two fold — activities and funding. First the activities, do you serve a c3 purpose? For Clan Grant the answer is yes, you are educational. Second are you a PF or a public charity? This is based on your source of income. A PF is an organization that receives the majority of support from a limited number of individuals — think of the Bill Gates foundation where he was the only initial donor. Public charity is one in which support comes from a wide spectrum of individuals - membership dues. Clan Grant would qualify as a c3 based on its educational activities (helping the public at games, through its website, etc.) and receives more than one-third of its financial support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions (subject to certain exceptions).

The only things that the c3 can't do is participate in any political activities such as endorsing a candidate or piece of legislation.

Concerning being specific as to what you do, on the contrary I recommend that the corporate charter be as vanilla as possible using standard language that can be found in IRS publications and that the by-laws be short and concise.

If the process goes forward you will have to amend your corporate charter, maybe even completely restate since there have been many amendments to it and its a little confusing to follow. I would also suggest an amendment to the by-laws to reduce the number of questions you are likely to get by the IRS agent who reviews your application.

Hope this answers the concerns. It does not require an attorney. The application to IRS goes to a single national point. Any corporate charter amendments must be done in VA where you are incorporated.



Clan Grant has talked about this for well over a year so it is time to go forward with this endeavor for the good of the Society.

We decided to go for it as a unit, now we need to have our bylaws tweaked and the paperwork filled out!

Please contact the Jeniphr Grant if you are interested in volunteering your time to this special project!

The current Treasury balance, including out-year funds as of March 1st, 2009 is \$5,683.21.



Rand Allan
Steward to the Allans of Rhynagairn
CGS Commissioner of Southern California

We've hit a significant speed bump in the Clan Grant Society (CGS). Because of personal situations, both the President and the Vice President have announced their resignations in January, leaving a hole in the management hierarchy of the CGS and creating a situation that the founders of the Society never anticipated when they produced our By-laws.

Consequently, the remaining Board members have decided to install an interim President, Vice-President, and Board Member-at-Large until they can hold formal elections.

I have agreed to step in as interim President until elections can be formally held. C. David Grant will be serving as interim Vice-President, and Jim Grant will be serving as interim Board Member-at-Large. As acting President, I have a number of issues to deal with. This recession has dealt a blow to everyone's ability to afford many of the niceties of life. It is no less a blow to the Clan Grant Society. Revenues have decreased since last year and expenses have soared.

I will be instructing Jeniph Grant, our treasurer, to compile a report detailing our expected revenue and expenditures for the coming year and provide recommendations for resolving the disparity between revenue and expenses. Commissioners, if you have not yet been contacted, I ask you to contact Jeniph with a list of each Highland Game that you normally attend during the year along with the cost of registration, rental, and any other items that your local Games Organizers require for our participation in their events. Along with the cost of the publication of the Craiggellachie and mailing, this forms the basis of our general expenses. I will also ask the Membership Secretary to provide a list of current and expired members so we can examine our incoming revenue.

State Commissioners, one of your tasks is to bring new members into association with the Clan Grant Society. This will help increase our revenue. I would ask you to redouble your efforts to increase membership. We also have shirts, tote bags, and other items to sell at the Games. If your local Games permits the sale of clan items, please avail yourselves of this capability. In Southern California, we use the t-shirts as an informal warm-weather uniform identifying us as Grants. Contact our Quartermaster, David Grant, for supplies. The sale of just two t-shirts provides the equivalent in revenue to one membership in the CGS.

We will also be reviewing our by-laws to make changes that will allow us to function more effectively as a society and deal with situations like this in the future.

The recession is also difficult on our commissioners, who frequently have to put out hundreds to thousands of dollars annually to pay for items such as customizing their tents, purchasing items of Scottish wear, lodging, food, travel, and other expenses related to their function as Commissioner that are non-reimbursable by the CGS. The CGS is currently a 501(c)7 non-profit organization, which is intended for small social clubs to avoid paying taxes on revenue and deduct expenses by the club. Officers of the club, however, are not able to deduct their expenses related to their work with the club, and members cannot deduct any donations to the club. Becoming a 501(c)3 non-profit organization will enable officers and Board Members of the CGS to deduct their sometimes substantial personal expenses on their taxes and will allow members of the CGS to deduct all donations to the CGS. We have been working on completing the application and hope to have it submitted later this year.

The CGS is currently hampered by a pronounced lack of participation in the process of running the organization. This means a few dedicated people constantly fill multiple positions which frequently results in burnout and a reluctance to continue valued service within the CGS. We have a number of positions where we desperately need help.

- Games Commissioner - The position is currently open. This position requires the commissioner to provide the basic tent supplies to new commissioners, instruct them in getting started, and check with the commissioners to make sure they have the basic necessities. The Games Commissioner coordinates with the Quartermaster to obtain an inventory of basic supplies for new and existing State Commissioners. Estimated work load is about one to two hours per month, minimum.
- State Commissioners - The State Commissioners are the backbone of the CGS. These people are the local face of the CGS and host clan tents at the local Scottish Highland Games, educate the people on their Scottish heritage, bring in new members, sell clan society merchandise, and serve as the social focal point for CGS members in their region. There are a number of states that have no CGS representation at the Games. If you are in one of these states and want the CGS to be represented at the Games, step up and become involved. Don't wait for someone to ask you to participate. If you are in a state with a State Commissioner, step in and help them run the tent at the Games. It will be most appreciated and

help prevent job burnout. Those who are passionate about their heritage find that sharing this passion with others can be most rewarding. Expect time commitments to be about 4 days per Game in preparation and participation time plus whatever extra time you wish to put into it for other activities.

- Membership Secretary - this position receives the membership applications and annual dues. At the end of each calendar year, the membership secretary sends out welcome letters to new members, membership renewal notices to the existing members of the CGS, and follow-up reminders after membership expires. The membership Secretary also prepares an annual report to be presented at the AGM and prepares quarterly articles in our newsletter encouraging membership. Jean Grant Wilson, our current membership secretary, is looking for someone qualified to assist with the task of maintaining a member database and assisting with miscellaneous tasks.
- Genealogy - Do you enjoy maintaining your personal family tree? Then involvement with this position is for you! In the early Scottish Clan society, the lineage of the family was all important. It not only defined the relationship of immediate and distant family members to each other, it frequently defined their personal relationship to the Chief of the Clan. This second purpose is not as useful nowadays since we're scattered around the globe, but occasionally, surprises do crop up. The CGS Genealogist is not there to do your research for you as he/she is generally not a trained professional, but they are primarily there to help people to learn how to build their own family trees, where to look, procedures to follow, professional services to tap into. While our genealogist, Don Grant, serves as a resource to the members of the CGS, one service that the genealogist does provide is that we maintain the primary lineage of every member of the CGS and compare the lineages of members for the purpose of finding "lost" cousins within the CGS. If you would like to help assist the Genealogist to receive the primary lineage of each new member, enter it into the Clan Grant Family Tree database, and examine it for matches, then please contact Don Grant. Members who have not done so are encouraged to send in a lineage chart detailing the line of parents, grandparents, G-grandparents, GG-grandparents, etc. to your connection with the Clan Grant, then following that line of Grants as far back in time as your records permit. If your records match with another member's records, you will be put in touch with the other member to compare and combine your records.
- Liaison to the Duthil Kirk Clan Grant Centre - Duthil Kirk is the old church in Duthil, Scotland (near Grantown-on-Spey) where many of the former Chiefs of Clan Grant are buried. When the kirk was closed many years ago, the CGS in the UK purchased the kirk with the intention of turning it into a museum of Clan Grant memorabilia, but little was done. Finally, a few years ago, a trust was established for the kirk and work to restore and convert the kirk to a centre for the Clan Grant commenced. Work has been slow, but is progressing forward. When it is finished, the Centre will house historical artifacts of the Clan Grant and serve as a focal point for the Clan Grant. Our Chief purchased the Olde Manse next door several years ago and is currently restoring the 1500s home for use as the residence of the Chief and helping to oversee the refurbishment of the Clan Grant Centre.

Once 501(c)3 status has been achieved, a liaison will be needed to receive donations from members of the Clan Grant Society and transfer monies to the Duthil Kirk Foundation in Scotland. These needed funds will be used to help restore and maintain the kirk.

Where do we go as a Society?

In the late 1800s, the Chiefs of Clan Grant basically abrogated their responsibility to lead their people and exiled themselves to New Zealand for several generations. During this time, the people of the Clan Grant gradually lost their attachment to the Clan, and knowledge of our history slowly started to fade away. In the mid-20th century, Sir Patrick Grant of Grant, the current Chief's father, returned to Scotland as Chief of Clan Grant, but the link between the Chief and his people was broken, and the developing Clan Grant Societies of the 20th century were pretty much left to their own devices. Our own Society essentially functioned as Clan Grant America, making our own decisions about our clan's history, policy, and artifacts. The Clan Grant Society in the UK did the same thing, and the two societies gradually drifted apart.

When Sir James Grant of Grant, our current Chief, assumed the office in 1992, he also faced a people and Clan Grant Societies that were completely detached from their Chief. Over the years, he has worked to learn the responsibilities of his office and is slowly beginning to

New Commish for PA

William C. Kenyon is proud to join the Clan Grant Society as the Games Commissioner for Pennsylvania. He plans to attend the games at Ligonier in September 2009, and will have a Clan Grant booth there.

Currently, William is an Associate Professor at Penn State University, where he teaches Theatre Design and Technology. His design specialties are in the areas of Lighting & Sound. He holds a B.F.A. with Honors from the University of Connecticut, and an M.F.A. from Brandeis University. Prior to teaching, William, and his wife Jenny, who is also a designer, lived and worked in New York City. William specialized in design for dance, and toured internationally with the American Indian Dance Theatre for many years. When not working at the University, Mr. Kenyon continues to design and tour internationally, with a focus on Native American dance and drama. William still works as a designer for the American Indian Dance Theatre, and for the historical drama Unto These Hills in Cherokee, NC. His work has been seen in Palestine, Israel, France, Poland, Qatar, New York, Washington DC & in over 100 major touring venues across the US.

William is a Grant through his father's mother, and has passed the name on to his daughter, Delaney Grant Kenyon, who is now 8. His family attended the Fair Hill, MD games for many years, before he went off to college. He's been back to Scotland once so far, including a visit to the Grant Castle and a morning swim in Loch Ness. He looks forward to visiting again soon with his family. When not otherwise occupied, William travels the US, climbing the highest point in each state, and backpacking whenever he can. He is an avid hiker, paddler, climber, cyclist, and scuba diver.

William looks forward to meeting Grants from all over the world, and looks forward to attending the games this summer.



Burns Night in S. California

Submitted by Rand Allan, Southern California Commissioner

On January 24, Clan Grant Society members Rand and Christine Allan and his mother, Barbara, David and Gail Grant, and Stephen and Aina Grant, attended the Annual Rabbie Burns Dinner, hosted by the North County Scots at the Officer's Club in Camp Pendleton near Oceanside, California. For our first course, we had a healthy plate of some of the better-tasting haggis I've



had in the States along with a good-sized dollop of 'neeps. Primary entertainment was by the Highland Way, a popular local Celtic band, and we also had highland dancing demonstrations and entertainment with the bagpipes. Following a sumptuous dinner (and a couple of glasses of



scotch), drawings and door prize giveaways were held and Stephen and Aina Grant came away with a big basket full of Scottish delectables. I would encourage you all to attend a local Burns Dinner celebration next January. It's a great way to meet people of like mind and get a good culture fix in the process.

Burns Celebration in NC

Submitted by Christopher Pratt

A wee gathering, only about 40 this year at the Faculty Club WCU, with Burns, haggis, tatties and neeps, pipes and drums, sing malt, Guinness, dancing and loads of fun and silliness.

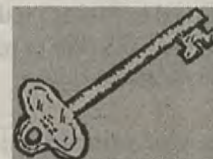


New Commish in LA

Grant Bush lives in Lake Charles, LA and is the grandson of Sidney Smith Grant of West Louisiana and his family migrated to West Louisiana from Texas. Grant is a Board member with the Celtic Nations Festival in West Louisiana. The organization holds a multi Celtic festival each year including a Burn's Dinner, St. Patrick's Day Festival, and a spring Celtic Golf Tournament. Grant is a speaker at the Burn's Dinner and has been the vendor coordinator for the festival. Grant intends to represent the Clan Grant Society at their festivals and in the future among other festivals held in Louisiana as our new commissioner. Picture is of Grant and his daughter, Jordyn.

Communication is the Key

Submitted by Bryan "Beau" Grant

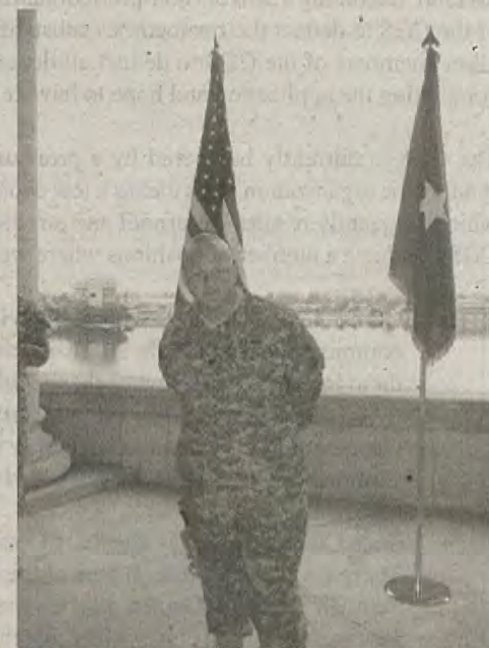


As we move Clan Grant forward with an energized revamp of the website, that will soon arrive, we need to be able to service our younger members in the ways that they are used to. All those buzzwords you shake your head at and wonder why young people stay glued to a silicon box for the better part of the day... Facebook, Twitter, Paypal, Blogs, Chat, RSS Readers, webalbums, etc etc. While some of us can blissfully avoid using all these gadgets, the young adults use them to socially engage with one another. Literally, they find spouses and jobs with these tools.

As a Clan, we discussed at the AGM the need to make inroads into this technology so that the Clan can better service current members, as well as attract a raft of younger members that will sustain our vision into the future.

The very first baby steps are creating the ability to take dues and payments over the Internet. For the time being, the plan is to use Paypal since it is very accessible and charges minimal fees for low transaction volume profiles. We can still pay the old fashioned way. This is simply one of the building blocks in our effort to revamp our website and introduce features that many of us will be able to enjoy for years to come. Bryan "Beau" Grant will be working with Howard Parsons on this project so if you have any more ideas for our website send them to craigellachie@comcast.net.

Editors Note: Communication is the key to our Clan Grant Society now more than ever and we currently have three very viable means to keep everyone informed. First we have our website at <http://www.clangrant-us.org>. Secondly there is *Topica* which is an online way to keep up with breaking news or start discussions. Anyone that would like to join Topica should send an email to our Member Secretary, Jean Grant Wilson at clngrantatcomcast.net and a link will be provided. Thirdly, we have our *Craigellachie* newsletter, to which I always welcome news to share! Just send to Craigellachie@comcast.net



Ted Lockwood got "pinned" LT COL in a ceremony that was held on a balcony of al-Faw Palace, one of Saddam's palaces in Iraq.

Interim President Cont

exercise his authority over the Clan. With the able assistance of Clan Seannachie (historian) Adrian Grant and Clan Grant Society historians and researchers in the UK and the US, the Chief has been reassembling the ancient history and artifacts of the Clan Grant that were lost or distorted by well-meaning but careless researchers of earlier generations. He is well on his way to becoming a serious and active participant in the management of his Clan and deserves our support.

The Chief of any clan is the ultimate authority of matters involving the clan as regards administrative structure, officers, septs, tartans, history, ownership of clan property, etc. In the past 150 years, there was no active leadership within the Clan and it was necessary for the Clan Grant Society in the US to function as if we were the Clan Grant. I believe it is now time for the CGS to start acting as the social representative of the Clan Grant within the United States. To that end, members of the Clan Grant Society should defer to the guidance of their Chief in matters pertaining to the Clan Grant, as will the Clan Grant Society. As the Chief has no desire to interfere with the day-to-day activities of the Clan Grant Societies, we will continue to be solely responsible for matters pertaining to the social and educational activities within the United States.

We Need Your Help

This society cannot operate in a vacuum. Presumably, you joined the Clan Grant Society because you wanted a closer connection to your heritage with the Clan Grant. It is not enough for you to join the CGS just for what it can give you. People that join for that reason only will learn about their heritage, collect a few newsletters, get bored, and leave.

The CGS is functioning as the social and educational arm of the Clan Grant in the United States. Get involved and give your service to others so that they, too, can be enriched in their heritage. Become a State Commissioner. Help a State Commissioner. Have computer web skills? Become the webmaster. Designing the perfect web site is great and is needed, but we also need dedicated people to maintain these great functions. The web site represents the collective history of the Clan Grant and the Society. Have a new idea of something to do within the CGS? Contact the Board of Directors and present what you'd like to do. Are you interested in genealogy? We can use the help keeping track of the CGS family tree. If you're interested in doing something, don't wait to be asked to help since we probably aren't aware of your interest.

Speaking from experience, involvement with the Clan Grant and the Clan Grant Society can be a rewarding experience as you meet new friends, dig deeper into your heritage, and assist other people to learn about their heritage. Contact your State Commissioner or the Board of Directors to volunteer to help.

I guarantee your help will be joyfully accepted and we'll find something for you to do. To paraphrase that famous statement by President Kennedy, "Ask not what the Clan Grant Society can do for you, rather, ask what you can do for the Clan Grant Society". You will find that when you freely give to others, what you originally wanted will ultimately be given to you as well.

Stand Fast!
It's Great to be a Grant!



Rand Allan and his wife, Christine.

Clan Grant Membership Application



Please circle one: NEW RENEWAL

Membership # _____

Date of Birth _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street _____ Apt# _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Work Phone (_____) _____

EMail _____

How are you related to Clan Grant? ie: maternal/
paternal? _____

Please check if you wish to be added to the Clan Grant Listserv. (Topica)
This is one way we have of getting info out to members and keeping our costs
down!

Make ALL cheques payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY

Mail to: Jean Grant Wilson
Membership Secretary
10538 Docksider Dr East
Jacksonville FL 32257-6374

DUES: \$20.00 1-year \$40.00 2-years \$55.00 3-years
LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$400.00

Note: Starting in 2009

Membership will run from January 1 through December 31.
New members joining after June 30th will pay only \$10 for their first year of
membership.

We also offer subscriptions through Clan Grant at a discounted rate to the
following magazine:

THE HIGHLANDER \$15.50 per year [regular price is \$26.50]

It's Great to be a Grant!

Grant Games



Athletes challenge each other at every game!



32nd Annual Central Florida Scottish Highland Games

Submitted by Keith Mewes

The 32nd Annual Scottish Highland Games held at Central Winds Park in Winter Springs, Florida, on January 17 and 18, was a success. Both days started out a little cool with the temperature in the high 30s but warmed up with some nice sunshine for all the activities. The temperature on Saturday reached 64 and Sunday reached 72.

The games were well attended with over 14,000 excited visitors and everyone seemed to have a great time. There was plenty of piping and entertainment. The "wandering" minstrels Tinker Dam paid the clan tent area a visit and serenaded us with some old Celtic songs. The clan activities included the Parade of Tartans at noon.

After the first day's games concluded we met at the Winter Springs Town Center to march in a Scottish parade led by Scottish Pipe Bands and was followed by a free live concert featuring the Wyndbreakers, the Hooligans and Albenach.

Sunday morning at 9:30 was the Kirkin O' the Tartans followed by another Parade of Tartans at noon. Of course the athletic competition and exhibitions were watched by the enthusiastic crowds. There was a good time had by all.

While manning the Grant tent I saw many old friends but many new ones were made. David Grant and his family and his sister Katherine Grant Arbelo marched with us in the parade on Saturday. They had come from Ft Myers, FL.

Brenda Grant Allison came from Inverness, FL and Catherine Grant from Tennessee.

The farthest visitor was Robert Grant who came from Maine. They all had interesting "Clan Grant" stories. This year my twins, Annie and Heidi accompanied me.

FL Games Commissioner, Jean Wilson, is grateful for Keith Mewes and his mother Alice and their enthusiasm for representing Clan Grant in Florida.



Grant Interest in PA

Dennis Johnson in Pittsburgh PA recently became a member of Clan Grant and is very excited about joining and exploring his roots even more. He attended Scottish Day at Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh and had a great time there with good music, dancing and food. He sent his photo as well as one with his mother, Vivian Elaine Grant Johnson, and her cousin Darlene Grant Gernert both of Fairhope, Pa. Southwest Pennsylvania.

Greetings from the Mid-Atlantic:

A quick note from your commissioner
Dr. R. Steve Grant II



Welcome to 2009, and what a year already and its only February. As the highland festival season was coming to an end, at the Stone Mountain Games as our chief looked on, I was installed as a member-at-large to serve the board of Clan Grant Society USA. I am honored as well as excited at fulfilling these duties as they will be to better our beloved Clan Grant Society. I look forward to the challenges ahead as well as being an integral part of their solutions. We have a wonderful group with endless potential and I am proud to call myself a member of Clan Grant.

I would at this time like to present the coming year's festival schedule and invite not only those from the area, but all those associated with Clan Grant to stop by for a relaxed visit, good conversation, and of course there's always a wee dram for those who wish. While I try to cover as many games as possible, it is not practical to attend all of the stated games. Therefore where noted, if anyone wishes to host the tent at a games that I am unable to attend please contact me and I will make sure that you have all that you need for a successful games. Here's the list so far:

April 25	Southern Maryland Celtic Festival	Will attend
May 16	Colonial Highland Festival	Will attend
June 6-7	McHenry Highland Festival	Will attend
June 13	Potomac Celtic Festival	Unable to attend
September 12-13	Virginia Scottish Festival	undecided
October 03	Williamsburg Scottish Festival	Will attend
October 10	Anne Arundel Highland Festival	Will attend
October 24-25	Richmond Celtic Festival	undecided

Anyone who has the time and wishes to help out with the tent will be more than appreciated (and compensated for their effort with whisky!). Again, all are welcome as we look forward to a great season filled with friends old and new.

We have many challenges ahead of us in our society. It will take the collective dedication and sacrifice of all those, good members of Clan Grant to not only see us through but to help establish an even brighter future. So, with that said, its time we rolled up our collective sleeves and get to work. Stand Fast.

**Spring Deadline to
submit News is May 1st**

Needed Skills and Positions for CGS



There were four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.
 An important job had to be done. Everybody was asked to do it.
 Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.
 Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job.
 Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.
 It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!

**Thank you for Sending Back your Surveys! Lots of good information included!
 More to be shared on that in our next issue!
 We invite all members to participate in our Election and make plans to attend our AGM in October at Stone Mountain, GA ---- It's a perfect time to make your votes count!**

Would you be willing to serve in any of these positions?

Elected Officers:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary/Assistant
- Treasurer/Assistant
- Member at Large

Appointed Office:

- Games Commissioner
- Commissioner
- Webmaster
- Assistant to the Genealogist
- Piper
- Clan Bard
- Youth Activities
- Duthil Fund Administrator

Do you possess any of these skills?

- Financial/bookkeeper (CPA)
- Web development/Internet communications
- Attorney/lawyer (especially non-profit)
- Non-profit management
- Data entry skills (Excel and/or Access)
- Fundraising
- Foundation Experience
- Advertising

- Grant-writing
- Secretarial skills
- Photography
- Marketing/PR (to get CGS out there in public eye)
- Musicians
- Athletes
- Scholarships/Charities
- DNA Project Administrator

2009 Election Schedule

Provide your Nominations now to:

- John C. Grant jctgrant@aol.com
- Allan Grant afg29@comcast.net
- Bishop John Grant evergreen387@yahoo.com
- Carol Grant Fern1212@aol.com
- Charles William Burton scotslad39@yahoo.com

April 15th- deadline to send nominations from membership to Nominating Committee

May 1st - deadline for Nominating Committee to present Slate of Nominees to Secretary

Slate of Nominees to be posted on Topica and printed in our Craig with Bios soon after.

June 1st- Ballots to be mailed to Membership

July 1st- Returned Ballots counted and winners communicated to Rand Allan, Interim President.

August - Although Elected Officers and Board Members will immediately assume office when notified by our Interim President in July, the Outcome of the Election will be officially posted on Topica and in our Craigellachie

October- Installation of Elected.

Please note that due to our Emergency State, the Board was unanimous in preserving our staggered terms in accordance with our current By-Laws.

The terms noted for this election are:

- President- one year
- Vice President- three years
- Board Member- three years

Clan Grant Badges

CALL FOR CURRENT PRICING AS IT IS CHANGING WITH THE NEW YEAR!

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 _____

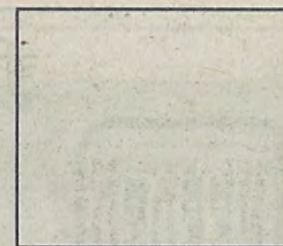
Mailing address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone (____) _____ - _____ Membership # _____

Make cheque payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY USA and mail to:

David Grant
 16390 Rocky Glen Rd
 Perris, CA 92570
 (951)943-4020
Gam750@aol.com

Craigellachie

c/o Jean Grant Wilson
Membership Secretary
10538 Docksider Dr East
Jacksonville FL 32257-6374



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



Don't forget, that if your 2009 dues are not paid before the end of the 1st quarter (31 March), this will be your last Craigellachie!

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

Denim shirts, long-sleeved, logos as above, stonewashed blue only
S, M, L, XL reg \$39 plus shipping

Other sizes including tall, special order, extra cost.

Contact: C. David Grant,
408 Parkbrook Way, Canton, GA 30114
PH: (770) 704-6273 or dgrant18@comcast.net



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

- 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).....\$37.00 to \$40.00
- Grant Coat of Arms Bronze Plaque 6"X4" \$40.00
- Lord Strathspey's History of Clan Grant.....\$30.00

Make check payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY USA and mail to:
David Grant
16390 Rocky Glen Rd
Perris, CA 92570
(951)943-4020
Gam750@aol.com



Postage at current Post Office rates.

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Phone _____ Member # _____
Email _____