



# Craigellachie

A Publication of Clan Grant Society USA, Inc.

## Message from the President

By Rand Allan



Spring 2010

Well, it looks like most of us have survived the winter. This winter has been particularly brutal for many of us in the Eastern US and those of us on the West Coast have experienced the wet version of the East Coast winter. As we move into Spring, a time of fresh beginnings, the Clan Grant Society (CGS) is also moving into fresh beginnings.

Last year saw a period of upheaval and uncertainty within the Society. Several vacant positions required the premature election of a new President, Vice-President, and Board Member-at-Large. We gained a new genealogist and a new Quartermaster. Jean Grant Wilson, dedicated membership secretary and one of the matriarchs of the Clan Grant Society, had to step down from her position to care for family. Thank you for all that you have done for us in the past and we trust you will still be an active presence in our family. We fortunately have an able-bodied replacement in the guise of Gail Grant of Perris, California. Things are settling down into some manner of organization now. The Board of Directors work well together and we are making progress on new things for the Society.

Vice President Steve Grant has taken the reins with polishing up the Officers Handbook. This document, a greatly-enhanced version of the earlier Commissioner's Handbook, will be released directly to the elected and appointed officers, and will be available online to all members. This document outlines the duties of all of the elected and appointed officers of the CGS. This document will be modified and refined as duties of the officers change or become better defined. It will also serve as a reference guide for members who wish to become more active in the CGS but are unsure of what the duties of the various offices entail.

We are about ready to upgrade the CGS website to allow for more functionality. There will be a public site and a members-only site where members can view past issues of the Craigellachie, view CGS documents such as the Officers Handbook, as well as other features still in the development phase.

We have talked about making the CGS a 501(c)3 organization for several years now. This would allow all officers to deduct their expenses directly related to CGS activities and would allow people to make tax deductible donations to the CGS. We hope to get started on the application process later this month. The Clan Grant will

be hosting its International Gathering of the Grants this August 14-21 in the land of the Grants, the Strathspey Valley. The CGS UK has put together a fairly extensive program, including the Abernethy Games in Nethybridge, golf, history seminars, a trip to Culloden, a trip to Fort George at the south end of Loch Ness, a day trip to Inverness, a visit to the Glen Grant Whisky Distillery, dinner ride on the Strathspey Steam Railway, a trip to Elgin, a banquet, and even a hike up THE Craigellachie in Aviemore. Principle Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Chad "Corntassle" Smith, direct descendant of Ludovick Grant, Younger of Creiche, will be leading a delegation from the Cherokee Nation at the Nethybridge Games. You can obtain the full schedule and lodging information at the CGS UK web site. <http://www.clangrant.com> We hope to see as many of you as possible out there. CGS member Gail Pratt, a travel agent with Travel Unlimited in Reno, Nevada, has graciously consented to assist CGS members with their travel plans to Scotland this August. You will find her advertisement in this newsletter.

Commissioners, please email your plans for attendance with Scottish Games to Holly as soon as you know you will attend. Getting an announcement into the Craigellachie will ensure members know what games will be available in their area. After every Game you attend, please write up a small article for the Craigellachie newsletter. If there are Games in your area, but no CGS representation at the Games, consider volunteering for the position. Contact Vice President Steve Grant for assistance. Stand Fast! It's great to be a Grant!

### Need help making plans?

UK Clan Grant is handling the details for the "Gathering". But, members, family and friends might want help scheduling and booking their round-trip airfare reservations from where ever they are departing from (to Scotland and return). Also, some members and their families might want help planning, scheduling and booking travel arrangements for their pre or post travel plans in conjunction with the UK Clan Grant 2010 Gathering (to other areas around Scotland, somewhere else in Britain, Europe or elsewhere which we can accommodate). Travel Unlimited is a "full service" travel agency and we can handle all types of travel arrangements for people: Airfare, hotels, cars, trains, cruises, tours, excursions, etc. I have been an agent for nine years and Travel Unlimited has been in business for 28 years. My specialty area is Britain. I have also been a long time member of Clan Grant USA! **Call Gail Pratt @ 775-824-4551 (home) or at Travel Unlimited @ 775-329-0658** [gailpratt@aol.com](mailto:gailpratt@aol.com)

# 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

### **President**

Rand Allan

6102 Calle Vera Cruz

La Jolla CA 92037

(858) 454-3846

[rballan@san.rr.com](mailto:rballan@san.rr.com)

### **Vice President**

Dr. R. Steve Grant II

7740 West Shore Road

Pasadena, Maryland 21122

(410) 255-6841

[odengrant@msn.com](mailto:odengrant@msn.com)

### **Treasurer**

LTC Jeniphr Grant

417 E. Fourth Plain Blvd

Vancouver, WA 98661

(609) 864-4615

[jeniphr.grant@us.army.mil](mailto:jeniphr.grant@us.army.mil)

### **Secretary**

Holly Grant-Wilson-Floyd

10620 Casa Grande Drive

Jacksonville, FL 32257

(904) 268-6341

[craigellachie@comcast.net](mailto:craigellachie@comcast.net)

### **Clan Chaplain**

Rite Rev. John C. Grant, O.B.B.C.

294 Black Camp Gap Road

Maggie Valley, NC 28751-9585

(828) 926-8669

[evergreen387@yahoo.com](mailto:evergreen387@yahoo.com)

### **Asst Secretary**

Gordon Grant

4506 N 35th Rd

Arlington VA 22207

(703) 241-7789

[grant4506@verizon.net](mailto:grant4506@verizon.net)

## **Board Members At Large**

Jim F Grant

PO Box 248

Odessa DE 19730-0248

(302) 378-9090

[uncle.duck@verizon.net](mailto:uncle.duck@verizon.net)

Kelly Grant

25841 N. 3950 Rd.

Ochelata, OK 74051

(918) 440-6355

David Grant

16390 Rocky Glen Rd

Perris, CA 92570

(951) 943-4020

[Gam750@aol.com](mailto:Gam750@aol.com)

## **Appointed Officers**

### **Membership Secretary**

Gail A. Grant

16390 Rocky Glen Rd

Perris, CA 92570-7749

(951) 943-4020

[gam750@aol.com](mailto:gam750@aol.com)

### **Genealogist**

David Barry Grant

432 Williamston Dr

Winterville NC 28590-9415

(252) 754-2680

[dgrant3@suddenlink.net](mailto:dgrant3@suddenlink.net)

### **Clan Historian**

James Hank Grant

1257 NW 9<sup>th</sup> St.

Hickory, NC 28601

(828) 322-2659

[standfast@charter.net](mailto:standfast@charter.net)

**Games Commissioner**

Jim F Grant

PO Box 248

Odessa DE 19730-0248

(302) 378-9090

[uncle.duck@verizon.net](mailto:uncle.duck@verizon.net)**Quartermaster**

Ed Meininger

62223 Jig Road

Montrose, Colorado 81401

970) 249-7925

[kristyedjighome@aol.com](mailto:kristyedjighome@aol.com)**Webmaster**

To Be Filled

**Editor**

Holly Grant-Wilson-Floyd

10620 Casa Grande Drive

Jacksonville, FL 32257

(904) 268-6341

[craigellachie@comcast.net](mailto:craigellachie@comcast.net)

# Commissioners By State

**Alabama-** To Be Filled

Alaska- To Be Filled

**Arizona-**

Jim F Orth

(928) 855-3521

[tinamou@frontier.net](mailto:tinamou@frontier.net)**Arkansas-** To Be Filled**California-North**

Jeffery L Grant

(916) 628-5292

[Highlander277@yahoo.com](mailto:Highlander277@yahoo.com)**California-South**

Rand Allan

(858) 454-3846

[rballan@san.rr.com](mailto:rballan@san.rr.com)**Colorado-**

Ed Meininger

(970) 249-7925

[kristyedjighome@aol.com](mailto:kristyedjighome@aol.com)**Connecticut-** To Be Filled

District of Columbia- To Be Filled

**Florida-** To Be filled**Georgia-**

C David Grant

(770) 704-6273

[dgrant18@comcast.net](mailto:dgrant18@comcast.net)**Hawaii-**

Richard D. Souther

(808) 349-2378

[rsouther@aloha.com](mailto:rsouther@aloha.com)**Idaho-** To Be Filled**Illinois-** To Be Filled**Indiana-**

Michael L Johnson

(812) 897-3706

[reiverrat@msn.com](mailto:reiverrat@msn.com)**Iowa-**To Be Filled**Kansas-** To Be Filled**Kentucky-** To Be Filled**Louisiana-**

Grant Bush

(337) 855-2191

[maroon22@yahoo.com](mailto:maroon22@yahoo.com)**Maine-** To Be Filled**Maryland-**

Dr. R. Steve Grant II

(410) 255-6841

[odengrant@msn.com](mailto:odengrant@msn.com)**Massachusetts-** To Be Filled**Michigan-** To Be Filled**Minnesota-** To Be Filled**Mississippi-** To Be Filled**Missouri-**

Stephen E Grant

(417) 886-5868

[sgrant@ky3.com](mailto:sgrant@ky3.com)

# Commissioners By State -cont

<b>Montana-</b> To Be Filled	<b>Oklahoma-</b>	
<b>Nebraska-</b> To Be Filled	Kelly Grant	<b>N Texas-</b>
<b>Nevada-</b> To Be Filled	(918) 333-9264	John A Grant III
	<a href="mailto:kroo@cableone.net">kroo@cableone.net</a>	(817) 907-2349
<b>New Hampshire-</b>	<b>Asst Oklahoma-</b>	<a href="mailto:jhg3tx@hotmail.com">jhg3tx@hotmail.com</a>
Lysle E Grant	ShannonGosney	<b>Asst N Texas-</b>
(603) 742-0564	(580) 886-2828	Sharon Carnes Friend
	<a href="mailto:gosneyt@cimmaron.net">gosneyt@cimmaron.net</a>	(817) 265-6064
		<a href="mailto:dsfriend@sbcglobal.net">dsfriend@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>New Jersey-</b> To Be Filled	<b>Oregon-</b>	
<b>New Mexico-</b> To Be Filled	Charles Wm Burton	<b>S Texas</b>
	(541) 367-2282	Gordon Grant Sr
	<a href="mailto:scotslad39@yahoo.com">scotslad39@yahoo.com</a>	(281) 507-7458
<b>New York-</b>		<a href="mailto:sillyrabbit1@peoplepc.com">sillyrabbit1@peoplepc.com</a>
Harold A Grant	<b>Pennsylvania-</b>	
(585) 567-4867	Will Kenyon	<b>Utah-</b>
	(814) 865-2261	Michael James Grant
<b>North Carolina-</b>	<a href="mailto:Willkenyon@aol.com">Willkenyon@aol.com</a>	(801) 957-1938
Helen Furr		<a href="mailto:huntinglittlehawk123@yahoo.com">huntinglittlehawk123@yahoo.com</a>
(704) 782-5613	<b>Rhode Island-</b> To Be Filled	
<a href="mailto:Helen0997@aol.com">Helen0997@aol.com</a>		<b>Vermont-</b> To Be Filled
	<b>South Carolina-</b>	<b>Washington-</b> To Be Filled
	Fred W Wood	
<b>Asst North Carolina-</b>	(864) 877-4695	
Rev. John C. Grant	<a href="mailto:fred@bmc-controls.com">fred@bmc-controls.com</a>	<b>West Virginia-</b>
(828) 926-8669		Ron Grant
<a href="mailto:evergreen387@yahoo.com">evergreen387@yahoo.com</a>	<b>South Dakota-</b> To Be Filled	(304) 472-3373
		<a href="mailto:shepherddawg@cebridge.net">shepherddawg@cebridge.net</a>
<b>North Dakota-</b> To Be Filled	<b>Tennessee-</b>	
<b>Ohio-</b> To Be Filled	Shirley Grant Smith	<b>Wisconsin-</b> To Be Filled
	(931) 926-8669	<b>Wyoming-</b> To Be Filled
	<a href="mailto:sgrantsmith@msn.com">sgrantsmith@msn.com</a>	

For Nationwide Games check out: [www.asgf.org](http://www.asgf.org)



# Grant Games

## Hawaiian Scottish Festival

By Richard Dennis Souther, Hawaii Commissioner

I don't know if you have heard of the "Merrie Monarch Hula Festival" or not – it is considered the "Olympics" of Hula and many thousands of people attend and thousands more go down to work on the parade, helpers to all the hula halau (schools), etc. It is always held the week before the Scottish Festival on the Big Island of Hawai'i, however, in all the years I've been here this is the first year the two have been on the same weekend resulting in not so great attendance at the Scottish Festival. Many fees were raised by the City & County (trying to balance their budget) including the parking all around Kapi'olani Park where the festival is held. The Hawai'i Scottish Association absorbed many of these fees this year which was a blessing to participants.

I had just moved shortly before and was still in the process of unpacking, etc. as the festival approached. I did send out e-mails, but did not send out letters this year (time and money). Attendance at the Clan Grant booth this year was way down. Only two people actually inquired about the Society and they were both from the mainland, one from Massachusetts and one from Minnesota [Stephen L. Keogh & Bryan R. Kinningham]. In total I don't think more than 60 people stopped by in the two days asking general questions about Scotland, tartans, etc. of which I was happy to help out. Three of the clans who are usually present each year in the clan tent were absent. I have not heard any actual attendance count from anyone, but it was obvious it was way off from previous years. The vendors tent was almost empty on the several times I had a chance to go by. The over-all economy may have been a factor also. One of the State Representatives, Jon Riki Karamatsu [Japanese] and the Mayor Mufi Hanneman [Samoan] did stop by but they weren't there to check out their Scottish roots.

I'm sorry to have so much bad news. For those of us who did attend, we had a great time renewing friendships. Some of us only see each other once a year. The parade of clans was bigger this year with a unit from the United States Army participating from Schofield Barracks. I believe they were recent returnees from overseas. I hope the Scottish Games on the mainland will do better than we did.



## Wisconsin Scot & Scotties

Kathleen Poritz attended the Wisconsin Scottish's Hogmanay, their yearly fund raising event. Donations were to be marked with name, and Clan. Grant Clan was represented by her donation of Scotty shaped Shortbread cookies tied with a red licorice bows, Hamish's People Kibble (black licorice scotties, butterscotch chips, oatmeal cluster cereal and popcorn snack), and of course no surprise, a bottle of Grants for the raffle. Kathleen Poritz is shown above with her Scotty "children" Hamish Macbeth, Tartan Trouble and MacDon Henley.



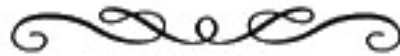
Kathleen Poritz also attended The Kirking of the Tartans at All Saints' Cathedral in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in April of this year. There was traditional prayers, hymns, bagpipers even a soul stirring combo of the Celtic Nations Pipe and Drum Band with the cathedral's pipe organ, blessing of tartans with a wee bit of Scotch whisky, a reception and scotch tasting. I was most pleasantly surprised to hear the Grant Clan announced during the Tartan Blessing (the clan of the tartan being blessed is called out). I have never met another Grant Clan member in my area before. Harry H Collins and son represented the Grant Clan along with me at this event!



# Flowers of the Forest

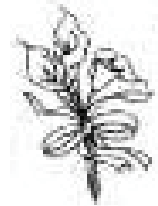
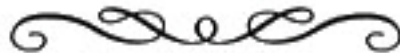
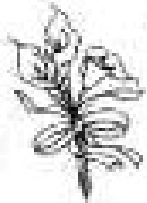


**Richard (Dick) A. Grant**, former Clan Grant Southern California Commissioner, passed away on Thursday, February 25, 2010, due to congestive heart failure. In case Clan members would like to send a letter or card to his wife, Alice, her address is: Alice Grant, 312 Trinity Street, Bridgeport, TX 76426-2740.

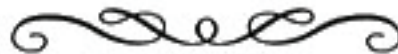


A long-time member of Clan Grant, **Hugh B. Dunn, Jr.** passed away on February 28, 2010. Hugh joined the Clan at the Ligonier Games in 1980 and attended every game thereafter until the slope of the land became too much for him to walk! He and his wife, Emma Jean would always stop by the tent and chat awhile. The rest of his family often came, too, and soon his Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren attended, mere babes-in-arms! Hugh lived in Belle Vernon, PA most of his life. He played the drums with several organizations, including the Clan Grant Pipe Band of Donora, serving as Chief in 1955-56. The Marines also claim him as one of “theirs”, and he served in the South Pacific. He lost his wife in a tragic car accident in 2003—and her memory was always in his thoughts.

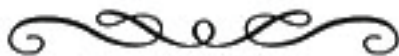
Louise Clark, daughter of **Mr. Hugh Bowie Dunn, Jr.** wrote to say her dad passed away on Sunday, Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010. He was a long time member from Greensburg, PA.



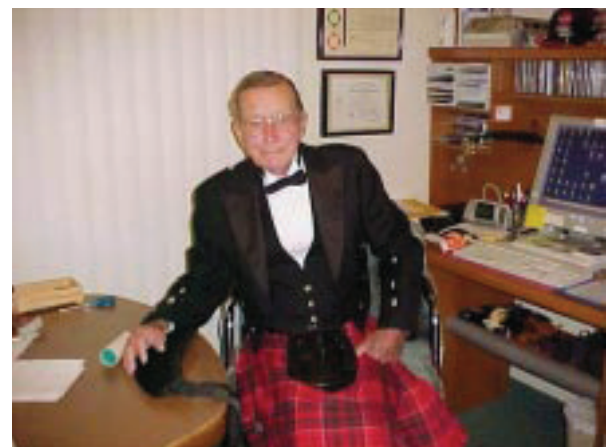
Member, **Wolf Dieter Klose** lost his wife of 42 years on Jan 15th 2010, they were married on Jan 15th 1968.



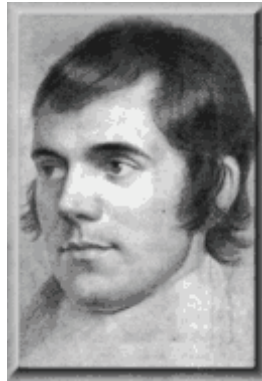
**Mrs Robert Massey** Died on Dec 29, 2009 .



**James E Wilson**, 79, of Jacksonville, FL, passed away peacefully on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Jim was born in Bedford, IN. He retired from the Marine Corp in 1969. He and his wife, Jean Grant Wilson gave much of their time to Clan Grant USA. They were married 57 years. Our Editor, Holly Floyd and her sister, Lorri Newbill remember him with love. His ashes will be interred at the new Jacksonville National Cemetary with full honors, along with a private celebration of his life at a later date.



# Grants' Celebrate Robbie Burns Supper



On January 23, several of the Southern California members of the Clan Grant Society celebrated the Robbie Burns Supper at Rancho Carlsbad Recreational Center in Carlsbad. Close to 300 people attended the event with entertainment provided by Highland Way, a local Scottish entertainment group. In attendance from the Clan Grant Society were President Rand Allan, his wife Christine and mother Barbara, David and Gail Grant, and Steve and Aina Grant.



The Tartan Hall in Franklin, North Carolina rang out with good ole Scottish laughter and dancing once again on January 23, 2010 as clans and kinsmen gathered to celebrate the 251st. Birthday of Robert Burns and the 14th. Presentation of his Birthday Celebration by The Friends Of The Scottish Tartans Museum; with an evenings program chaired by Maureen and David Blencoe that did "Robbie" proud!!

The Piper for the evenings festivities was the Resident Piper of The Scottish Tartans Museum located in Franklin, NC, Highland Piper Jean Hayes who's music stirred the Scottish Blood of every true Scot present!! The Master of Ceremonies was Bob McCollum. The Selkirk Grace was offered by Mr. Al Bullman. And of course, Burn's Night would NOT be Burn's Night without the PRESENTATION OF THE HAGGIS!! Mr. Arthur Hayes (Clan Hayes) did an outstanding and most entertaining....." Presentation!!" The Haggis Presentation procession was led by Piper Jean Hayes followed by Sword Bearer, Bishop John C. Grant, The Chef and Bearer of the Haggis, Mrs. Martha Peak followed by The Bearer of the Brew, Mr. John Hayes. An excellent presentation of the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns was given by Mr. David Blencoe followed by the Toast to Robert Burns!

An exceptional meal of Roast Beef, Lamb, Neeps & Tatties, Green Beans, Carrots & Scones with Raspberry Trifle for Dessert left everyone with contented tummies, smiling faces and ready for the dance-floor!!! Dancing was enjoyed by the "Bravehearts" present!! LOL There was the traditional Toast to the Lassies and Laddies and the final Toast of the evening given by the Honorable Joseph Collins, Mayor of the City of Franklin. Special music for the entire evening was provided by The Robbie Burn's Band under the direction of Mr. Robbie Park. A very special presentation on the Bag-Pipes was given by Mrs. Jean Hayes. AND, of course, one could never leave a Robbie Burn's Celebration without the singing by all present of "Auld Lang Syne"!! What a wonderful Scottish and colorful evening was enjoyed by all with many guest adorned in their traditional Kilts and Scottish Dress.....Aye now.....ya say ya don't own a Kilt.....well, here is a wonderful opportunity for YOU>>>>>>You can go on line at: [www.scottishtartans.org](http://www.scottishtartans.org) and there you can purchase a \$5.00 Ticket to win a Four-Yard Box Pleated Kilt made by Mr. Matthew Newsome, the Curator of the Scottish Tartans Museum located at 86 East Main Street in Franklin, North Carolina. The ONLY Tartans Museum in the United States. The drawing for the Kilt will be held at the Taste of Scotland Festival on Fathers Day Week-end and you DO NOT have to be present to WIN!! You can also sign-up to join: The Friends Of The Scottish Tartans Museum and be a part of the wonderful organization that sponsors The Robert Burn's Night Celebration each year in Franklin, NC and many other Scottish activities throughout the year that support The Scottish Tartans Museum. Well Folks, "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to Robbie Burn's and I hope I see you at the 252nd. Birthday Anniversary of our proud Son of Scotland!! Submitted by Bishop John Grant

# From our Vice President



Submitted by Steve Grant

Dr R. Steven Grant and his wife Lisa now have a wee Grant to keep up with!



Hello to all good Grants out there. As we enjoy a bit of thawing out thoughts turn to the up coming highland games and celtic festivals. As for me I'm working out how many laps I'll have to do in the pool in order to fit into my kilt again after a very festive holiday season. At this time I would like to touch on some ongoing projects which we have been working on for the society. First the clan web site and the coming improvements. This has been a challenging project and one which needs the input of as many members as we can get in order to help adapt it to everyone's needs and wants. Coming soon will be content driven information and history about your clan, an officer's page, The Craig in its digital format, and pictures of members celebrating and enjoying their Clan Grant heritage. The photo's which I speak of need to come from you, the clan members. After you have finished enjoying a game, or any other clan function, you will have the opportunity to send in your pics so that they can be displayed on the web site. Second is a long awaited officer's handbook. This tome will include the specific duties of each board member, elected and appointed, so that if you the member has any questions you will know who the correct person is to contact. Finally, the third item which I wish to bring to your attention is the AGM for the coming year. The idea has been circulated that if enough USA Grants are planning to attend the international gathering that we could have our meeting in Scotland. I would like then to solicit the membership and see just how many of us will be attending the gathering in Scotland this year. We the board continue to strive to improve our society. We encourage all members to let us know what is working, what is not, and if you have an idea or thought on any subject please let us know.

Now on to the commissioner's report. It was a busy time toward the end of the year for the mid-Atlantic region. Al Grant and I attended the Baltimore St. Andrews Society's annual dinner. New friends made and old ones reacquainted with. A very committed (needed to be committed?) and large group of Grants were on hand one cold and snowy Saturday morning for the Alexandria Christmas Walk. Glen-Antifreeze was much needed and shared by all. After the fastest march I can remember all those able tucked in at one of the many great celtic pubs for some much needed hot food. Finally, on yet another snowy Saturday, Micheline, Al and I had a wonderful dinner with the St. Andrews Society to celebrate Robert Burn's birthday. My sincerest thanks to all those stand-fast Grants who make the clan, and their attendance, part of their lives. Now, as the snow starts to disappear from the lawn, thoughts are focused on the coming games. The following is a list of the spring games which will have a Grant tent to welcome everyone. Participation is encouraged at what ever level you wish. Members are always welcome to help with setup, take down, or you can just bring the family by for a visit and enjoy the hospitality for which we Grants are known for. I will be contacting those local Grants about a month prior to each event to help with scheduling reminders. Here are the games which will have a Clan Grant tent at them this spring:

06 JUN 10: McHenry Highland Festival, 9am – 5pm

If you have any questions regarding attending these games (directions, pearls on parking...) or if you would wish to set up a tent at a festival not listed, please contact me ASAP either through my email or my cell phone. I will announce the fall schedule in the next Craig. For planning purposes I will be looking into northern VA, Williamsburg, and Richmond for the fall. At this time, those who I know that are in the know are telling all that the Anne Arundel Highland Games will be no more-a sad sign of the times unfortunately. I will bring any new information about this to everyone's attention when I can.

Now on a personal note, Lisa and I welcomed our daughter, Trista Alexandra Grant, into this world on 18 DEC 09 (yes, yet another snowy weekend!). Weighing in at 7# 2oz at birth, she is now over 12# and has a smile that would melt your heart. She will be introduced formally to the clan at our international gathering in Scotland this August later this year.



# Membership Matters

Last year, we changed our membership year to start on January 1. All members' dues are now owed beginning January 1 of each year. We did this in order to simplify the management of our membership database. Unfortunately, our previous membership secretary had to step down for family health reasons right at the end of December, and it took a while to obtain and bring Gail Grant, our current membership secretary, up to speed, so we were not able to send out our renewal notices in a timely manner. You recently should have received your membership renewal notice. If you have already sent in your membership, you have our grateful appreciation. Unfortunately, as of this writing, only 1/3 of our members from last year have renewed their membership. It is imperative that you send in your membership renewal as soon as possible. Your membership dues allow us to reimburse Commissioners for hosting a tent at the Games, allow us to purchase items to turn around to sell for the members, helps to fund the production of our newsletter, *Craigellachie*, and helps to pay for all of the miscellaneous expenses necessary for running an organization. If you have not received a membership renewal statement, please contact membership secretary Gail Grant at [gam750@aol.com](mailto:gam750@aol.com), or call her at 951-943-4020. Thanks in advance for helping to get our membership back in line.



New Membership Sec, Gail Grant



Our Bishop John leads the haggis in NC Burn's Supper



## Chaplain's Kirkin'

There is an old statement that says: "Hard work is an accumulation of easy things you didn't do when you should have!" If every present member of Clan Grant would look around.....and we all hate to admit it.....but there are a lot of gray hairs!! How much time and real effort is presently being spent, if any, on earnest effort to bring young blood into our Clan and insure the future of all that our rich heritage has to offer!! Our Clan Motto: **STANDFAST!!** Are we Standing Fast? Are we doing our very best as the Elders of the Clan to share our rich heritage with younger folks? If every present member would put forth the effort to mentor just ONE young person and help them join the Clan and help them learn about their heritage.....our future would **STANDFAST!!** Waste of time is the most extravagant and costly of all expenses!! Leisure is a beautiful garment, but it will not do for constant wear!

Are we running a "Good-Ole-Boys-Club" or are we working hard to secure the future of The Clan Grant Society-USA? Invite a young person to a Highland Games or to any Scottish function that you may be attending.....be a Clan Mentor!! To those of you that are mentoring a young person.....**GOD BLESS YOU and STANDFAST!!** To those of you who are not.....how about putting forth the effort to do so!! You have enjoyed the benefits of membership.....now here is your opportunity to give back and be a part of insuring the future of our Clan! Will you **STANDFAST??** God Bless Each of you!! **STANDFAST!!**

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

# Our DNA by Jon Grant

For those reading about DNA testing for the first time...the Y-Chromosome is passed virtually unchanged from a father to his son. The vast majority of the time the father passes an exact copy of his Y-Chromosome to his son. This means that the markers of the son are identical to those of his father. However, on rare occasion there is a mutation or change in one of the markers. Stated another way, and with few exceptions, if your great-great-great grandfather had four sons and each generation produced four sons, they would all have the same Y-Chromosome markers. If one of these sons acquired a mutation in their markers, that mutation would be passed down to future generations.

As far back as 2003, a handful of Grant genealogists discussed the merits of DNA testing. This new technology was seen as a complementary approach to conventional genealogy. For many of us, we couldn't find the next clue that we needed to extend our research back another generation. In genealogical terms, we hit a brick wall and DNA testing offered us hope of finding others who shared a common ancestor, and the next clue in our research. We agreed that DNA testing was a great resource and the Grant DNA Project officially began in May of 2004.

For anybody who dabbles in technology, you'll understand that technology improves rapidly over increasingly shorter periods of time. DNA testing is no exception. In 2004, we established our standard Y-Chromosome 25 marker test with Family Tree DNA ([www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com)). As technology improves, Family Tree DNA offers additional testing which serves to refine results for our project members.

We quickly realized that our individual DNA markers meant nothing unless they were compared against a larger database of results. That meant that we needed to recruit others to join us. We periodically post updates on message boards and even hand out flyers at Highland Games around the country. Five years, and 192 people later, we have found a handful of individuals who share a common ancestor with the Clan Grant Chief. We appear to have identified the DNA signature of Matthew Grant's line (which includes President/General Ulysses S. Grant). We have the DNA signature of Peter Grant who was exiled by Oliver Cromwell in 1651 following the Battle of Dunbar. Others have found distant cousins who have been able to provide the clue which attaches lost branches to their respective family trees.

The cost is \$124 for the 25 marker test. Most people who choose to participate are opting for the 37 or 67 marker tests. However, we're sticking with the 25 marker test as our standard because it is in line with our goal of keeping down the costs in order to grow our project membership. Just know that you can always upgrade to another test in the future (without having to provide another DNA sample).

Why Family Tree DNA? Family Tree DNA is the recognized leader in their industry. They were chosen by The National Geographic Society and IBM as a partner in tracing our ancestral origins in the Genographic Project. They have implemented strict controls related to the handling of our DNA samples. I like to remind everyone that this testing is solely for historical and anthropological study. We're simply looking to connect genetic cousins. Family Tree DNA does not share your name and the testing laboratory never sees your name.

**NO BLOOD REQUIRED...**The Family Tree DNA test kit consists of three swab kits—designed for a single persons use. Each tube contains a fluid designed to arrest bacteria growth, so you can scrape your cheek and return your kit in any type of weather (hot or cold). The freshness of your sample will remain intact for months.

Your kit also includes instructions for collecting your DNA sample (available in many languages) and the all important Release Form. The Release Form is your written consent that allows FTDNA to share your name and email address with someone who matches your genetic fingerprint exactly. Using one cheek scraper, scrape forcefully inside the cheek many times (about 60 seconds). Put the tubes inside the plastic bag that has your kit number and seal it. Insert the plastic bag and the release form in the self-addressed envelope provided, and send it back to Family Tree DNA via US Mail (postage within the US is \$1.22).

Link to our project: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~grantdna/index.html> Link to join our project: <http://www.familytreedna.com/group-join.aspx?code=J53444&Group=Grant> For additional information, feel free to contact Allen Grant at [sagrant2007@comcast.net](mailto:sagrant2007@comcast.net) or Jon Grant at [govols@carolina.rr.com](mailto:govols@carolina.rr.com).

# Scottish Tribal Link Celebrated

By Laura Seawright

“Digging Up Your Roots” was a BBC Radio Scotland’s family history programme that aired at 1200 GMT on Sunday, 10 January, 2010.

An extraordinary link between Scotland and a Native American Indian tribe is set to take centre stage at an International Clan Grant gathering. It is believed that up to a half of the Cherokee Nation could be descendants of Ludovick Grant, who was a laird’s son from Creichie in Aberdeenshire. A delegation from the tribe are planning a visit to the Clan Grant International Meeting this summer to discover the roots of their celebrated ancestor.

Ludovick Grant was captured while fighting for the Jacobite army in the battle of Preston in 1715 and was due to be hanged. However, he escaped death and instead was transported to South Carolina, where he was an indentured servant. Following his release from his seven years of servitude, he began working as a trader for the Cherokee people.

According to Marjorie Lowe, a descendent of Ludovick, the fact that he was the son of a Scottish laird would have been meaningless to the Cherokees.

“Many of our Cherokee leaders were descended from this one intermarriage” says Marjorie Lowe Descendent of Ludovick. “Each person was judged on his own merits and they did not recognise any kind of social hierarchy except their matriarchal clan system,” she told BBC Radio Scotland’s Digging Up Your Roots programme. “So Grant, no doubt, was accepted as a peaceful person who brought trade goods which they desired.

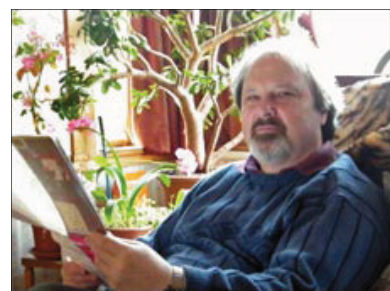
“Since Ludovick lived among the Cherokees for more than thirty years and intermarried we can surmise that he was accepted fully as an adopted Cherokee citizen.”

Ludovick met a Cherokee girl known as Eughioote, and according to the Clan Grant, they had a daughter named Mary. Seannachie Adrian Grant said: “Although Ludovick only had the one daughter with his Cherokee wife, nevertheless she went on to be the ancestress of so many Cherokees that a huge proportion - something like a third or a half - of all Cherokees now count Ludovick Grant as one of their ancestors.” Ms Lowe added: “Many of our Cherokee leaders were descended from this one intermarriage, others too numerous to mention, would include justices of the Cherokee supreme court and many council members.”

However, while creating a legacy with the Cherokees it also appears that Ludovick had left a wife behind in Scotland. The laird’s son had married a woman called Margaret Redwood in Edinburgh in 1710 - five years before he was captured and sent abroad.

In 1736 she sought a court order requiring Ludovick to act as a proper husband. This document, known as a Process of Adherence, was viewed as a first stage in seeking a divorce. But Adrian Grant still has some sympathy for Ludovick. “I think it’s quite poignant that Margaret’s daughter [from a previous marriage] was called Mary, and Ludovick called his own daughter Mary,” he said. “So one can’t help feeling that he did have some regrets about the situation he found himself in. “But then he was lucky to be alive, he really should have been hanged for his pains.”

Story from BBC NEWS



Marjorie Lowe and Adrian Grant shared this information. Yet another reason to make it to the AGM in August!

# A Grant Connection in Shropshire: Pitchford Hall

By James Grant, Historian

The recorded history of Pitchford, an estate near Shrewsbury, Shropshire, England, can be traced to the time of William the Conqueror. The earliest known proprietor of the estate was Sir Ralph de Pytchford in 1086. His descendants held the property until 1301, when it was sold to Walter de Langton, Bishop of Coventry. During the next two centuries, Pitchford passed to other owners before finally being sold in 1473 to Thomas Ottley, a rich wool merchant from Shrewsbury. Ottley's descendants held the estate for over five hundred years.

The manor house called Pitchford Hall was built in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century on the site of an earlier medieval structure. The building is a half-timbered E-shaped country house designated a "Grade I" Listed House of historic and national importance.

## *Pitchford Hall, near Shrewsbury, Shropshire*

One of the manor's many interesting features is a secret chamber, accessed through sliding wooden panels, used by visiting priests when Roman Catholics were being persecuted during the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Prince Rupert, the nephew of Charles I, also hid from the forces of Oliver Cromwell in the "Priest's Hole" in 1644, while twelve of his bodyguards took cover in a tunnel underneath the manor.

In 1807, the last of the Ottleys died without an heir. Pitchford was conveyed to a distant cousin, the Hon. Charles Cecil Cope Jenkinson, a half-brother of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Liverpool. Lord Liverpool became Prime Minister in 1812.

Charles Jenkinson succeeded his brother as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Liverpool in 1828, and frequently entertained important guests at Pitchford Hall. In 1832, Princess Victoria stayed at Pitchford for a week. The future Queen referred to the manor in her diary as a "...curious-looking but comfortable house."

Lord Liverpool died in 1851, and his daughter, Louisa Jenkinson, inherited Pitchford. Lady Louisa married John Cotes. After her death, the estate passed to her son, Lt. Col. Charles James Cotes. Colonel Cotes died in 1913, unmarried and almost penniless, having spent all his money on restoring and modernizing Pitchford Hall.

## *The Grant Connection*

The estate then passed to Colonel Cotes' sister, Victoria, who married as her second husband, Lt. Gen. Sir Robert Grant, GCB, a descendant of the Glenurquhart family, the Grants of Sheuglie. After a distinguished career in the Royal Engineers, Sir Robert Grant died in 1904. His son, General Sir Charles John Cecil Grant, inherited Pitchford Hall.

General Sir Charles Grant also had a distinguished career in the Army. He joined the Coldstream Guards and served in the Boer War in South Africa. He was obviously a man of extraordinary administrative skills, serving most of his career as a staff officer. During World War I, he was the principal liaison officer between General Sir Henry Wilson, Chief of the British Imperial General Staff, and French Marshal Ferdinand Foch, Commander in Chief of the Allied Armies. His final posting was Commander in Chief of the Scottish Command and Governor of Edinburgh Castle. While living in retirement at Pitchford Hall, he was honorary colonel of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry. General Sir Charles Grant married Lady Sybil Primrose, daughter of the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Rosebery. Lord Rosebery became Prime Minister in 1894.

Lady Sybil Grant was a great eccentric. She used henna to color her hair bright orange and wore extraordinarily flamboyant clothes. She insisted that Pitchford Hall was haunted and was terrified of the sound of running water. Lady Sybil wrote and published a number of books of fiction and poetry. She was also a philanthropist and donated more than 2,700 volumes to the National Library of Scotland. She rarely ate in the dining room, preferring instead to have her meals brought to her by the butler on a silver salver – sometimes to an enormous tree house on the Pitchford grounds. She was known to shout instructions to her staff from the tree house using a megaphone or “speaking trumpet.” Lady Sybil was fond of Gypsies and provided land on her father’s estate near Epsom for their use. She and her sister, the Marchioness of Crewe, were both exceedingly wealthy in their own right, but wore the same wedding dress “...in order to economize.”

General Sir Charles Grant was an avid angler and expert marksman. He lived in one wing of Pitchford Hall, surrounded by a vast library stocked with books on hunting, fishing, and military matters. Lady Sybil lived in another wing. The two communicated by passing notes throughout the day, carried by the butler and other servants. They frequently met for tea in the afternoon, sometimes served on the lawn when the weather permitted.

In 1935, the Duke of York, later King George VI, and the future Queen Elizabeth, stayed at Pitchford Hall after presenting the “colours” to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of The King’s Shropshire Light Infantry. Later, during World War II, Pitchford Hall was selected as one of the sites for the evacuation of the royal family in case of a German invasion of the British Isles. Fortunately, this never occurred.

In 1945, Sir Charles Grant matriculated his coat of arms in the Court of the Lord Lyon in Edinburgh, incorporating the arms of the families Grant of Sheuglie, Cotes, Jenkinson and Primrose, as follows:

*Quarterly, 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, Gules on a fess engrailed between three antique crowns Or a lion passant guardant of the first imperially crowned proper between two cinquefoils of the field (for Grant of Sheuglie), 2<sup>nd</sup> counter-quartered 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> ermine 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> paly of six Or and Gules (for Cotes), 3<sup>rd</sup> Azure a fess wavy Argent charged with a cross pattée Gules in chief two estoiles Or and as an honourable augmentation upon a chief wavy of the second, a cormorant Sable beaked and legged of the third holding in its beak a branch of sea-weed inverted Vert (for Jenkinson, Earl Of Liverpool) Arms accollee with Primrose.*

General Sir Charles John Cecil Grant, KCB, KCVO, DSO, died in 1950. For some reason, which has never been made known, Sir Charles and Lady Sybil disinherited their only son, Charles Robert Archibald “Robin” Grant, who was born in 1903. Pitchford Hall was left to the National Library of Wales, to which Sir Charles Grant had already bequeathed the Pitchford and Ottley papers. In a rather ironic reversal, after the death of Lady Sybil, the library relinquished the bequest in favor of Robin Grant in return for a substantial monetary consideration.

Robin Grant married three times. His second wife was Pamela Wellesley, granddaughter of the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Wellington. They had a son, the Rev. Anthony Richard Charles Grant, a Roman Catholic priest, born in 1934. Robin Grant conducted extensive renovations and refurbishment to Pitchford Hall, essentially transforming the structure from an austere manor house into a beautiful, comfortable home.

Upon Robin Grant’s death in 1972, the estate passed to his stepdaughter, Caroline Romaine Combe, and her husband, Oliver Colthurst, 2<sup>nd</sup> son of Sir Richard Colthurst, Baronet. The Colthurst family has held Blarney Castle, and the famous Blarney Stone, in County Cork, Ireland, since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Oliver Colthurst was a stockbroker in London, Caroline a fashion editor for *Vogue* and *Harper’s Bazaar*.

Regrettably, due to the enormous expenses required to maintain Pitchford Hall and the financial collapse of a subsidiary of the insurance giant Lloyds of London, the Colthursts were forced to sell the estate in 1992. Most of the family’s heirlooms, antique furniture, carpets, portraiture and other decorative furnishings collected over a period of five centuries, were liquidated by the London auction house Christie’s. (Cont on last page)

# Clan Grant heritage made accessible for all

The International Gathering in August will see the launch of CDs containing almost all you need to know about the history of our clan - and more. The current plan is that there will be 2 CDs

## CD 1

The first one contains the whole of Sir William Fraser's "Chiefs of Grant"

When this was published only 150 copies were printed.

Now you can buy facsimilies over the internet. To get the lot you would need to buy 6 volumes at around \$35 per volume (and then there is the postage to pay!!!). All in all not much change from \$250 - roughly £175

On the CD you will find images of every page - but far better than just that, the whole of Volume I and the contents and index pages from volumes II and III have been converted into text. By presenting them like web pages it is also very easy to adjust the size of the print to suit any eye - and the computer can search the text for you!!

The CD is, therefore, a snip at just £50.

## CD2

The second one is being called "A Clan Grant Compendium" - and so it very much is.

This CD is divided into 4 sections:

**Section 1** contains all the other Clan Histories we can find which are no longer in copyright. People would find many of these very hard indeed to access - especially, for example, the Birkenburn Manuscript which exists only as a single copy at the National Library of Scotland. But from these you can see how the Grant story has been told down the ages - from 1618 to 1905 (Earl Cassillis' "Rulers of Strathspey"), tracking the changes.

**Section 2** contains, again in text form, all the entries for the Statistical Accounts of Scotland for Grant parishes. These are available online - but in a very inconvenient format. So this will be a boon to anyone wanting to learn more about the history, geography etc. etc. of any of the "Clan Lands".

**Section 3** is called "A Loch Ness Miscellany" containing many books of direct relevance to the Grant holdings around that loch. Included in Rev McKay's "Urquhart and Glenmoriston" which is on line in an inconvenient form and available in print-on-demand facsimile for around \$35 (c£25). But it also contains two works far more difficult to get hold of: "The Grants of Glenmoriston" by Rev Andrew Sinclair, "The Grants of Corriemoney" by Francis Grant WS and there is more....

**Section 4** is called "Tales of Strathspey, the Avielochan Collection". This makes available a series of 80+ tales collected by James Grant of Avielochan and published by Landmark Press in 1984 under the title "The Piggy Back and other Tales of Strathspey". We are very lucky to have all the relevant permissions to make this out-of-print work accessible. These stories give an excellent flavour of what life was like in Strathspey 100 and more years ago.

This CD will be offered also at the remarkably affordable price of £50.

If you are going to the gathering and want to be sure of being able to pick up a copy of either or both CDs there, please email [info@clangrant.org](mailto:info@clangrant.org) - to Adrian Grant. After the Gathering these CDs will still be available. Hopefully the next issue of Standfast will explain how they will then be able to be purchased. It should be emphasised that this is no sloppy compilation - considerable care has been taken over presentation - and that in many cases pages images have been included, so that it is possible to check the original if you suspect a typo. Apart from many hundreds of hours of work, it has cost some £1600 to put these works together (mainly the cost of employing a typist and webmasters). Once this sum has been recovered (just 16 sets will do it!!) all residual income will go to the Clan Grant Centre Trust. So when you buy them not only will you have access to a huge body of relevant work without having to clutter up your bookshelves, but you will be making a painless donation to the future of Duthil!!





# Grant Games Queen Mary Highland Games



Over the Valentine's Day weekend, Rand Allan and his wife, Christine, hosted the Clan Grant table at the Queen Mary Scottish Games at the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California. The weather was abnormally warm for February, but attendance was still terribly low, likely because of the recession. Many of the traditional vendors had gone out of business, but we still had our fair share of other vendors, clans, pipe bands, and athletes. In spite of the poor attendance, several Grants stopped by to visit. Among the visitors were members Francine Patton, Natalie Sovronec, Faith Grant, and recently joined member Sarah Grant and her children Jonathan, Elizabeth, and Rebekah. Also, a big welcome to our newest members, Howard Grant of Huntington Beach, his wife Wendy, and daughter, Sarah, who received special training about clans and our clan plant badge. Howard and his family live a couple of blocks away from Christine's childhood home. We will be attending the United Scottish Society Highland Games the last weekend in May at the Orange County Fairgrounds and at the San Diego Highland Games the last weekend in June at Brengle Terrace Park in Vista (we'll try to have a bar-b-que potluck lunch on Sunday). We again will be attending the Seaside Highland Games the second weekend in October at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Hope to see you all there. Submitted by Rand Allan.

Please visit the Clan Grant Society USA Facebook Fan Page. You can post your photos, links, videos, tall tales, and lore to the Fan Page for all to enjoy!

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Clan-Grant-Society-USA/153991109093>

Meanwhile, we are also on twitter as well. <https://twitter.com/ClanGrantUSA>



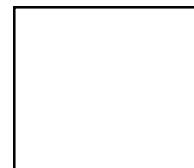
## Pitchford hall - cont

The Colthursts subsequently retired to the village of Beaulieu-sur-Sonnette, Charente, France. Although the displenishment and subsequent liquidation of the Pitchford estate must have been an extraordinarily traumatic experience, Mrs. Colthirst apparently retained at least a remnant of a sense of humor and whimsy. She purchased a used black London taxicab with almost a million miles on the odometer and had it shipped to France. She used the vehicle for short trips to the village and around the nearby countryside – excursions that were no doubt the subject of interesting and amusing anecdotes for the Colthursts, and the locals as well. References:

- “A History of Pitchford Hall” by Caroline Colthurst
- King's College, London, Liddel Hart Centre for Military Archives: Papers of Gen. Sir Charles John Cecil Grant, KCB, KCVO, DSO (1877-1950)
- Court of the Lord Lyon, Edinburgh: Arms of Gen. Sir Charles John Cecil Grant, KCB, KCVO, DSO (1877-1950).
- Peerage News, Obituary: George Silver Oliver Annesley Colthurst (1931-2008)
- *Charente Libre*, April 6, 2007, # 82, “Black Cab Makes it to the Charente”

# Craigellachie

c/o Gail Grant  
Membership Secretary  
16390 Rocky Glen Road  
Perris, CA 92750



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

