



Craigellachie



The Newsletter of the Clan Grant Society-USA Inc.
Summer 2013

Letter from the President **Rand Allan**



Well, it's summer again. At least I think it is...here in San Diego we still are experiencing June Gloom, our standard June night and morning low clouds and fog, though I hear that our summer monsoon season is about to arrive.

As the seasons change, so does the Clan Grant Society. We've gotten a newsletter editor in the guise of Dr. Bill Grant, so we can communicate with the members once again. We now have a dedicated webmaster with Jeff Click of Westminister, Colorado, managing the website. This year, with the renewal of dedication to the Clan Grant Society, we will also be having elections for all of the Board of Directors. Included in this newsletter is detailed discussion of how the elections will proceed. Please seriously consider running for an office, especially if you haven't been contacted by the nominating committee and are interested in helping to shape the Clan Grant Society-USA and continue the support and preservation of the clan, its history, and its customs. We especially need someone to run for the treasurer position, though all positions are important. Please follow the steps outlined in the article about the elections in order to be nominated for an office. Elections will take place later this summer, with results to be announced at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), this October in Ventura, California. I hope you all will be able to come.

In this newsletter, we have an interesting article about the Good Sir James, who took care of his clansmen during the difficult times of the Highland Clearances, an article about a nearly forgotten early tartan associated with the Clan Grant, an article announcing details of our next AGM, and an invitation to join a family reunion gathering of Canadian Grants in Idaho. Also, take note of the membership application towards the end of the Craigellachie. Note that we have added a line for donations. Although donations to the Clan Grant Society are not yet tax deductible, part of the responsibilities delineated in our by-laws are to provide scholarships to deserving people who wish to further their education of things Scottish, and we are to financially assist with the support of Duthil Kirk in Scotland, the Clan Grant Heritage Center, neither of which we have paid attention to these past few years. Lord Strathspey, our Chief, has taken a leadership role in restoring and improving Duthil Kirk and obtaining artifacts once belonging to the Clan Grant. He has placed a request for funds to help support the Heritage Center and effect needed repairs, which are proving costly. While the Society can help support general maintenance expenses, the individual members will have the opportunity to support specific projects that the Chief will present to us. Donations from individual members will be used for these special projects, so Commissioners, try to come up with creative ways to raise

money for Duthil Kirk at your Games tent. Members consider opening up your checkbook from time to time to donate for scholarships and the Kirk, or consider adding a little something in your membership renewal for next year.

Clan Grant Society Board of Directors Elections

Elections for the Clan Grant Society Board of Directors will be held this summer.

The following positions are open:

- President: 4-year term
- Vice-President: 2-year term
- Secretary: 2-year term
- Treasurer: 4-year term
- Member at Large: 2 year term
- Member at Large: 2 year term
- Member at Large: 4 year term

All offices are generally a four year term, as described in Article IV of our By-Laws (see below), but because of the empty positions and officers stepping down, we are staggering the terms as described in Section 1 below so that there will always be experienced officers on the Board. While the Nominating Committee will present their own slate of nominees, the active general membership is strongly encouraged to submit their own nominees for the offices by mail or email to the Membership Secretary using the guidelines established below in Article IV, Section 5 – Elections. We especially need someone with accounting experience who is willing to step into the Treasurer’s position. If you feel moved to participate more actively to keep the Clan Grant presence alive in the United States, then NOW is a good time to step forward to get involved. Don’t wait for someone to call you and ask you to run for an office.

ARTICLE IV **BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

Section 1 - The Board of Directors. The business and affairs of the Society shall be governed and controlled by a Board of Directors consisting of seven (7) directors, four who shall be Officers of the Society and three who shall be members at large, to be elected from the active members in good standing for four year staggered terms, to commence and terminate at the time of the respective AGMs in each second year. In order to implement the staggered term requirement, an exception to this Section shall be observed with election in the year 2002 of the office of Vice President and Secretary and two of the at-large members of the Board of Directors for a special two year term. The President, Treasurer and the remaining at-large Board member shall be elected at that time to the standard 4 year term. Two years later in the year 2004, the Vice President, Secretary and two at-large Board members described above, or their successors, shall stand for election to a standard 4 year term. (Amended September 17, 2000)

Section 2 - Officers.

- a) The Officers of the Society shall be elected by the active members and shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. There may also be, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, the following additional officers: Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. Regional and State Commissioners may be designated by the Board of Directors and become advisors to the Board. (Amended September 17, 2000)*
- b) **President.** The President shall be the Chief Executive officer of the Society and shall have general supervision over its affairs. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society except meetings of the Board of Directors (unless he/she has also been elected Chairman). He/she shall appoint with the approval of the Board of Directors special administrators including but not limited to the Editor of Craigellachie, Games Coordinator, Historian, Genealogist, Membership*

Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Liaison to Clan Grant Centre in Duthil, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the President with no limit on the term which may be served. He/she shall also make such delegations as may be necessary to administer the activities and affairs of the Society and shall perform such other duties as he/she may be directed to perform by the Board of Directors or the Society. Further, he/she shall represent the Society at public functions and shall sign and execute in the name of the Society all legal instruments and other papers proper or necessary for the transaction of the Society's affairs except as such duty and authority is otherwise delegated herein. (Amended September 17, 2000)

c) **Vice President.** The Vice President shall act under the direction of the President. The duties of the President shall, in his/her absence, devolve on the Vice-President. The Vice President shall coordinate the activities of the Regional and State Commissioners and review needed organization thereof. (Amended September 17, 2000)

d) **Secretary.** The Secretary shall act under the direction of the President. He/she shall keep in a proper book fair and correct minutes of all proceedings of the Board of Directors and of the Society. He/she shall give notice of all meetings of the Society, as well as elections and official actions of the Board and its Officers.

e) **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall act under the direction of the President. The Treasurer shall have custody of all monies of the Society and shall deposit the same in the name of the Society in one or more Federally insured banks and shall disburse the same due by the Society. No member of the Society shall commit the Clan Grant Society, U.S.A., Inc. to any expenditures, directly or indirectly, without the approval of the President and the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep an exact account of receipts and disbursement of monies of the Society and shall submit a written report at each AGM showing current balances and other assets in each of the funds of the Society and his/her receipts and disbursement and the acquisition and disposition of assets in detail since his/her last report. The Treasurer may be required to be bonded at the discretion of the membership with the cost thereof being borne by the Society.

f) **Regional Officers.** The Board may organize the Society into geographical regions each of which shall have a Regional commissioner and/or a Deputy and/or State Commissioners as may be necessary for the efficient administration of the Society. Commissioners may be members of the Board of Directors. (Amended September 17, 2000)

g) **The Chief.** The Chief of the Clan Grant is the titular, hereditary and traditional head of the Clan Grant and all related societies. However, his position in the Society shall be that of an ex-officio non-voting advisor to the Board of Directors.

Section 3 - Terms of Office. The terms of officers and Directors shall be four (4) years. These terms shall begin and end at the time of the respective AGM. There shall be no limit on the number of terms an Officer or Board Member may serve. Officers and Board Members may not hold more than one elected office concurrently. Directors and Officers may resign at any time orally or in writing by notifying the Board of Directors or the President.

Section 4 - Emolument. No elected officer or Board Member shall receive an emolument whatever from the Society. However, the Board of Directors may provide for an emolument for very selective non-elective positions when it unanimously determines that it is in the best interest of the Society to so provide. In such cases the Board of Directors must provide in detail the basis and rationale of such an award. The private property of the Directors, Officers or Contributors to the Society shall not be subject to the payment of Society debt to any extent whatever.

Section 5 - Elections. A Nominating Committee of not more than five (5) Active Members in good standing shall be named by the President at least 180 days prior to the AGM at which the term of office of any member of the Board is to expire. The Nominating Committee shall transmit to the Secretary not later than three months before the AGM one nomination for each of the Offices expiring at the AGM. The Secretary shall give notice of the nominees by publication in the Craigellachie. The slate of Directors must be Active Members in good standing. Any five Active Members may submit a nomination for any elective office. Such nominations shall be transmitted to the Secretary, in writing, not later than 75 days prior to the AGM. All nominations must show the consent of the nominee. On or before sixty (60) days prior to the AGM the Secretary shall mail to each active member a ballot together with a return envelope containing the names of all candidates and the offices for which nominated. All ballots must be received by the Secretary in sealed envelopes, not later than forty-five (45) days prior to the AGM. The Secretary shall indicate on each envelope whether the member is in good standing and shall deliver all envelopes received by him/her unopened to the tellers to be appointed by the President for the particular election. No member shall serve as a teller in any election where he/she served as a member of the nominating committee in that same election. The results of the election shall be presented to the President by the tellers at least 30 days before the AGM. The President shall inform the candidates of the results of the election at least 25 days prior to the AGM.

This year, the Clan Grant Society Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held the weekend of October 12-13, 2013 at the Seaside Highland Games, Ventura County Fairgrounds in Ventura, California. The timeline for elections, therefore, is as follows:

- Nominating Committee formed: April 12
- Nominating Committee to present nominations to the Membership Secretary (Secretary position currently vacant): July 15
- Deadline for general active membership to submit nominations to Membership Secretary: July 30
- Ballots mailed to active members: August 14
- Deadline to send completed ballots to the Membership Secretary: August 30
- Results presented to the President: September 13
- Candidates notified of election results: September 18
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- Officers presented to the general membership at the AGM: October 12

Society Communication and Connections

We need to update our Society by using modern methods of communication, the Board would like to encourage the use of email and social networking to improve the speed of information on upcoming events, as well as notices and reminders for Society business. We have a volunteer who will create a Twitter account and link it to our Facebook page to enable real-time games updates and business issues. Email will allow the same purpose for those who do not access the internet often, we will send the same notices and information to keep you abreast on items of interest to the business of your Society, and we **could** reduce our *Craigellachie* printing by sending it to the membership via the email service. Any announcements with action requirements would be posted with a six-week minimum response time, so those who will not be checking their email regularly will still have the opportunity to receive and respond to the item.

We have some suggestions for those members who do not regularly use email. There are several free email accounts that may be used to establish you as a receiver of our items, such as Hotmail, Yahoo, and Google mail (Gmail). If an internet connection is a problem, libraries provide computers with internet. One of our members has found his solution by having a relative who uses the internet establish the account for him and monitor that account, keeping the member informed of incoming messages and drafting replies.

Please use the time between now and the AGM to try to establish an email addresses if you do not yet have one, and help us determine if the use of our mass email service is effective in conducting the business of the Society. Once you establish your account, please send a message from that email address to Rand Allan for input into the database. Rand's email address is rballan@san.rr.com. This will ensure you receive the communications we will be sending. At the AGM we will discuss whether to keep the paid mass email service, based partially upon the comments from members who are getting the information.

Those with current email addresses should confirm that Rand has the address you want the Society to use in his database. When you receive the TEST message, just send a reply. If you want to change the address we are using, send the new address on your reply.

Thank you all for aiding us in this effort to improve our communication within the Society.

Scottish Games

(Thanks to the Seaside Highland Games web site)

- The Games uphold a Scottish tradition dating back into the mists of the past. The earliest Games were held more than a thousand years ago under the sponsorships of kings and clan chiefs. The Ceres Games in Fife, Scotland, claims to be the oldest continuous games, dating from 1314. However, the Braemar Gathering claims to have older roots, dating back to King Malcolm III of Scotland, who came to the throne in 1057.
- Competition served a variety of martial, sporting and religious functions. The Clan Chiefs used them to recruit staff. Winners of races made excellent couriers and the strongest men made fine bodyguards. The athletes and wrestlers, retained by rival chiefs, were often matched in competition at important gatherings. Dancers and pipers were taken into the chief's household, not just for entertainment value, but the glory their prowess would reflect on their masters on such occasions.
- Down the centuries, the men of the villages gathered once a year - perhaps their only holiday - and passed the day exercising their strength in athletic competition and playing the bagpipes and performing traditional dances.
- Today, Scottish Games are held in all parts of the world where Scots, by birth or ancestry, have made their home. Games are so popular now in the United States, that one or more Games can be attended somewhere in the country almost every week of the year.
- The Seaside Highland Games were organized to fill the void of a Scottish presence in California's Central Coast and to round out the year of Scottish Games activities. Seaside Park is located on the beach in the city of Ventura, about 1 hour north of Los Angeles and about 30 minutes south of Santa Barbara.



I hope to encourage you to communicate your ideas about the newsletter, articles, questions, pictures, book reviews, and family happenings.

You can reach me by email at: uilleamgrant@yahoo.com . My address is: 3700 S Westport Ave, #3936, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57106 or call me at 757-617-1652. Hope to hear from you and encourage you to contribute to our Clan Grant Society-USA newsletter.

Dr. William Grant, Ph.D.
Editor

Book Review: *The Good Sir James*

by G.M. Fraser [Available from librario.com and amazon.uk.com]

Martin Fraser's *The Good Sir James, the Life and Times of Sir James Grant of Grant*, tells the story of perhaps the ablest chief in the long continuum of the Chiefs of the Clan Grant. It also provides valuable insights into the period of the late 18th and early 19th centuries in the Scottish highlands.

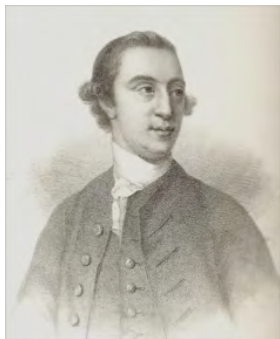
The author is a retired physician and descendant of James Grant of Heathfield, long-time clerk and factor to the Good Sir James. The book is based primarily on information gleaned from the vast collection of Grant/Seafield documents held in the National Archives in Edinburgh.

Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet (1738-1811)

Sir James Grant was well-educated and well-traveled. He was a dedicated public servant and an ardent improver of his vast estates. Moreover, he was keenly aware of his over-riding responsibilities to his family, tenants and clansmen.

Sir James was the founder of Grantown. At various times, he served as a Member of Parliament, Cashier of Excise for Scotland, Lord Lieutenant and Sheriff of Inverness-shire. Patriotic to a fault, Sir James raised and served as Colonel of not one, but two regiments for the government during the conflict with France in the last decade of the 18th century.

These facts merely reveal some of Sir James's many accomplishments, but they do not portray the type of person he was.



During much of his tenure as Chief of Grant, the highlands were devastated by periods of famine and epidemic. The country was continuously pummeled with all manner of inclement weather – drought, floods and unrelenting snowstorms. Crops were laid waste and starvation was rampant.

Sir James Grant repeatedly dipped into his own coffers to purchase grain and food stuffs for his starving tenants and clansmen. Although he was perfectly within his rights to do so, he hardly ever turned a tenant out of his home and more often than not overlooked unpaid rents. In an age when many highland lairds were evicting their tenants and 'clearing' people from their lands, Sir James desperately searched for ways to provide employment and prevent the people of Strathspey from emigrating.

During all this time, Sir James's personal debts continued to mount. The massive financial burdens were brought about by the profligacy of his father and grandfather and further exacerbated by his own tenants' inability to pay their rents. He also had to deal with the tragic personal loss of children, the mental illness of his eldest son and heir, Lewis Alexander, the eventual loss of his wife and finally his own declining health.

The story of Lewis Alexander, younger of Grant, who succeeded his cousin as 5th Earl of Seafield in 1811, has always been a mystery steeped in rumor and speculation. Dr. Fraser reveals for the first time the truth about the young Earl's brilliant early career, his abrupt retirement from public life and subsequent life-long struggle with mental illness.

Other side-bars give interesting profiles of the Rev. John Grant, an eccentric Presbyterian minister, and another John Grant, of Rothymoon, an apparent white-collar criminal who continued to correspond with Sir James and Lady Grant regarding his impending transfer to a penal colony in Australia.

The Good Sir James is an easy, informative read and highly recommended to anyone who wants more than a superficial exposure to this interesting life and the times in which he lived.

— James Grant

Clan Grant at the Orange County Fairgrounds Scottish Games

Rand Allan, Southern California Commissioner

On May 24 and 25, the Clan Grant Society hosted a tent at the Orange County Fairgrounds Scottish Games, the second-largest Scottish Games in the Western United States. The weather was cool and breezy, and the crowds were plentiful. Over 10 Grant families came by to visit, and several people took brochures, newsletters, and applications for Grant friends who could not attend the Games. One of our Grant members even brought his girlfriend over to the tent to learn more about his family's heritage. T-shirt sales were brisk, with over \$130 in sales over the weekend.



The (almost) Forgotten Tartan

© James Grant

During the early 18th century, literally thousands of spinners, dyers and weavers produced tartans in the highlands and islands of Scotland. Virtually no written records exist from those artisans. Likewise, written documentation relating to tartan production during the period of the proscription (1747-1782) is essentially non-existent. Consequently, much of what is known today about early tartans has been learned from studying old plaids and kilts in private collections and gleaned from the records of a lowland textile mill, William Wilson & Sons of Bannockburn, near Stirling.

Wilson & Sons was actively engaged in weaving tartan in the late 18th century – primarily for the British Army, but also for the lowland retail trade and for export. Many of the firm's records have survived and are held in various museums, libraries and private collections. These documents include correspondence and accounts, as well as technical data on dyes and thread-counts for specific setts or patterns. Some even include small swatches of old tartan.

Tartan historians have relied on these records to reconstruct the history of Scottish textiles in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The Wilson & Sons' Key Pattern Book contains a valuable trove of information about tartans from the pre-Victorian era. Although compiled circa 1819, some tartans in the Key Pattern Book probably date to the 1770's – perhaps even earlier.

Researchers and weavers have had access to these records for many years. Hand-written transcriptions of thread-counts were made by the well-known sculptor, J. Pittendrigh MacGillivray, in 1907. Many records were organized and typed by Captain Stuart Davidson for the Scottish Tartans Society in the 1960's. It was not until 1996, however, that Lt. Col. Peter E. MacDonald edited an invaluable synopsis of Wilsons' records entitled *The 1819 Key Pattern Book: One Hundred Original Tartans*.

Hand-woven by the author, February 2013

'Grant Tartan' from Wilsons' Key Pattern Book (1819)



At least six settings of a tartan designated simply 'Grant' were included among the records of William Wilson & Sons. That tartan was a blue-green-black sett similar in appearance to the standard military or government tartan – the Black Watch – but with the addition of a yellow over-stripe flanked on each side by a red stripe on the large green color bar. The tartan has been erroneously called 'Hunting Grant' on several Internet websites, but there is absolutely no historical basis for this assignation. The Grant 'hunting' or 'undress'

tartan is the same as the tartan of the 42nd or Royal Highland Regiment – the Black Watch – and has been for several centuries.

It is this reporter's opinion that this blue-green-black sett with the red and yellow stripes was in fact the uniform – the breacan an feile or belted-plaid – of the 1st Strathspey Fencible Regiment and the 97th Regiment of Foot, also known as the Inverness-shire Highlanders. Both regiments were raised by Sir James Grant of Grant during the last decade of the 18th century during Britain's war with France.

(For more information on Sir James Grant, see the book review in this issue of *Craigellachie: The Good Sir James, the Life and Times of Sir James Grant of Grant* by G.M. Fraser, Librario, 2012.)

Detail of the herringbone selvedge mark on the Grant Tartan from the Wilson & Sons 1819 Key Pattern Book

Margaret Oliphant MacDougall, a mid-20th century tartan researcher and historian who also served as the Burgh Librarian and Curator of the Inverness Museum, first proposed that this tartan mentioned above came to be associated with the Clan Grant through Sir James Grant's regiments.

Miss MacDougall stated in a 1964 letter to the Scottish Tartans Society: “I really must try to get to Castle Grant to see if a uniform remains of the old Strathspey Fencibles. When the 97th Regt. (Inverness-shire Highlanders) was disbanded the kilts, uniforms, and other equipment was sent to Castle Grant for use of the Fencible Regt. The pattern ... was taken from the Order Book of Wilson of Bannockburn. There is no doubt in my mind that Wilsons made this originally for the 97th Regt....”¹

(Unfortunately, Miss MacDougall’s trip would have been futile since Castle Grant had already been closed down due to dry-rot infestation. All the weapons and accessories from the armory were transferred to the government museum at Fort George.)

Miss MacDougall’s proposal that this tartan was connected to one of Sir James Grant’s regiments was endorsed by John R. Dalgety, another 20th century tartan expert. Dalgety was managing director of Alexander Dalgety & Sons, a well-known clothier and tartan supplier in Forfar.²



James D. Scarlett MBE, the noted weaver, tartan researcher, historian and author, also suggested that this tartan was a military sett and more than likely connected to the Grant regiments.³

The former keeper of the Scottish United Services Museum, William A. Thorburn, stated that a number of clan or family tartans were adaptations of the government sett – frequently over-striped with thin lines of other colors to differentiate the pattern from the Black Watch. These tartans were identical to those first worn by regiments raised by the chief or other gentry of a clan. In fact, he reiterated many aspects of the Scottish national

dress are adaptations of the highland military garb.⁴

W.G.F. Boag, Assistant Keeper of the Scottish United Services Museum in the early 1980’s, agreed that the sett above was almost certainly a military tartan: “...by the 1790’s it was becoming very common for regiments to difference their Black Watch tartan by the addition of a coloured line...frequently at the whim of the colonel of the regiment or even at the suggestion of the weaver who made the material for them.”⁵

Another well-known military historian who authored books on both of Sir James Grant’s regiments, H.B. MacKintosh, suggested that both regiments wore the same tartan. Referring to the tartan of the 97th Regiment of Foot, MacKintosh stated: “The tartan was the same as that worn by the First or Strathspey Fencibles (of which Sir James Grant was Colonel), which has the small red stripe in it. (When the 97th Regiment was reduced, the tartan, hose, and such other materials as were suitable were taken over by the Strathspeys.)”⁶

Alistair Lorne Campbell, younger of Airds, offered the following observation: “I think there is every reason to suspect that the 97th and the Strathspey Fencibles wore the same sett, particularly as the colonel was the same in each case. There would be noticeable economies available to the colonel and enormous practical advantages.”⁷

(In 1986, Alistair Campbell, younger of Airds, was chief executive of the Clan Campbell. He was later appointed Unicorn Pursuivant of Arms (1987) and Islay Herald of Arms Extraordinary (2008) in the Court of the Lord Lyon. He is the author of *Two Hundred Years: The Highland Society of London* and *A History of the Clan Campbell*.)

Coincidentally, there were also three volunteer (militia) companies raised in Strathspey in 1798. Two of the companies were centered in Abernethy parish and were known as the Strathspey Battalion of Volunteers. Each company was comprised of approximately eighty men. Captain Robert Lawson, Balliemore, commanded the Eastern Company, and Captain James Grant, Birchfield, the Western. A third company was raised in Kincardine parish and was originally commanded by Captain John Peter Grant of Rothiemurchus.⁸ It is possible that this same tartan was worn by these volunteer companies since they were

comprised entirely of men from Strathspey.

In the late 18th century, the plaids supplied to the military by William Wilson & Sons were produced in three qualities. The officers' plaids were woven of finer yarn than those of the enlisted ranks; likewise, the sergeants' plaids were of finer quality than the privates'. This 'Grant' tartan was documented in the Key Pattern Book with a number of different thread counts representing differing qualities of yarn – exactly the way a military tartan would have been produced.⁹

There is other reliable circumstantial evidence that indicates this tartan was the uniform plaid of Sir James Grant's regiments.

In February 1793, King George III authorized the raising of seven 'fencible' regiments in Scotland to supplement the British Army during the crisis with France. A fencible regiment was a military unit organized for the defense of the homeland.

Five of the seven regiments wore a military uniform adapted to the highland garb – belted plaid, diced hose, highland bonnet, and scarlet tunic with white waistcoat. It is known that two of the five regiments wore the standard government tartan. The Northern or Gordon Fencibles and the Breadalbane Fencibles wore the Government sett with thin yellow over-stripes. The other regiment was Sir James Grant's 1st Strathspey Fencibles.

In June 1793, Lieutenant John Grant, an officer in the Grant Strathspey Fencibles, wrote a letter to John Gloag, the agent in Edinburgh who procured the tartan for the regiment's uniforms. Lieutenant Grant specified in that letter that the regiment's tartan should be "...the same pattern you sent which had the small red stripe in it."¹⁰

That comment is the only known documentary reference to the tartan worn by Sir James Grant's regiments. Although the memorandum only mentioned a "small red stripe" with no reference to a yellow

stripe, it is the author's opinion that Lieutenant Grant was attempting to distinguish the tartan selected for the Strathspey Fencibles from the sett already chosen by the Duke of Gordon for the Northern Fencibles. That tartan had a yellow stripe.

Sir James Grant and Alexander, 4th Duke of Gordon, were friends and neighbors, as generations of their predecessors had been. Their vast estates were contiguous, and although the Duke enjoyed the precedence of rank, the two powerful lairds must have shared a genuine, but cordial rivalry. Indeed, there was a disagreement about the recruiting territories of their respective regiments which had to be referred to higher authority. The minor dispute was quickly and amicably resolved.¹¹

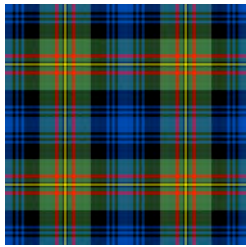
Documentary evidence reveals that the Duke of Gordon made his decision on his regiment's tartan on April 20th, 1793, and chose a tartan from three samples sent by William Dickie, Bedford Square, London. The tartan was "...the same with the 42nd Regiment (Black Watch), with alterations of the yellow stripe properly placed; the quality of the plaid (the) same in every other respect."¹²

Lieutenant Grant's correspondence to the Edinburgh agent indicates that the decision on the Grant regiment's tartan had not been made in June 1793 – two months after the Duke of Gordon's selection. It is only logical to assume that Sir James Grant would want to outfit his regiment in a distinctive tartan and not one identical to his neighbor's, which had already been chosen. Therefore, he chose a tartan with a red line added to distinguish the Strathspey Fencibles from the Duke of Gordon's Regiment.

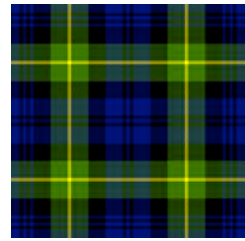
Moreover, two other tartans of the same period also featured yellow stripes on the blue-green-black government tartan – the Breadalbane Fencibles, a sett later known as 'Campbell of Breadalbane', and the tartan of Sir John Sinclair's Caithness Fencibles. It is not surprising that Sir James Grant selected a pattern with the addition of a red stripe to 'difference' his tartan from all the others.

Based on this evidence, it is logical to assume that this blue-green-black sett with red and yellow over-stripes was the tartan of at least one of the regiments raised by Sir James Grant in the last decade of the 18th century – and almost certainly both.

After the Strathspey Fencibles and the 97th Regiment were disbanded at the end of the 18th century, former members of the regiments probably continued to wear the military tartan as civilians. It is also logical to assume that Wilsons discontinued production of the tartan when the regiments were disbanded.



As existing plaids succumbed to normal wear and tear with the passage of time, the tartan was probably forgotten by the Clan Grant and the denizens of Strathspey. In the rare instances when they had occasion to obtain another plaid or purchase tartan for a kilt, they simply reverted to another readily



Strathspey Fencible Regiment Northern or Gordon Fencible Regiment

available pattern with which they already had a long-time association – the government or Black Watch tartan – the sett that eventually became known in the Victorian era as the Grant Hunting Tartan.

It is disappointing that this military tartan – the blue-green-black sett with the yellow and red stripes, which is actually quite beautiful – seems to have been entirely forgotten by generations of Grant clansmen. Had it not been recorded in the annals of William Wilson & Sons, and had those notations not been transcribed by Pittendrigh MacGillivray, Stuart Davidson and Peter MacDonald, the Clan Grant's historical connection to this tartan might have been lost and forgotten forever.

¹ T. Stuart Davidson, Report on Grant Tartans for the Scottish Tartans Society, ca. 1966 ² Letter of correspondence to the author: John R. Dalgety, September 11, 1984 ³ Scarlett, Tartan: the Highland Textile, London, 1990, pp. 29, 98-99 ⁴ Thorburn, W.A., 'Military Origins of Scottish National Dress', Costume – the Journal of the Costume Society, #10,

London, 1976, pp. 29-40 ⁵ Letter of Correspondence to the author: W.F.G. Boag, May 10, 1984 ⁶ MacKintosh, H.B., The Inverness-shire Highlanders or 97th Regiment of Foot 1794-1796, Elgin, 1926, p. 29 ⁷ Letter of Correspondence to the author: Alistair Lorne Campbell, younger of Airds, September 4, 1986 ⁸ Forsyth, William, MA, DD, In the Shadow of Cairngorm, Inverness, 1900; reprinted 1999, p. 261 ⁹ MacDonald, The 1819 Key Pattern Book, Perth, 1996, p. 31 ¹⁰ MacKintosh, H.B., The Grant, Strathspey or First Fencible Regiment 1793-1799, Elgin, 1934, p. 26 ¹¹ Ibidem, p. 27-28 ¹² Bulloch, John Malcolm, Territorial Soldiering in the North-East of Scotland 1759-1814, Aberdeen, 1914, p. 15



Invitation to a Canadian Grant Reunion

We are writing to invite you to our 2013 Canadian Clan Grant Reunion. Well, perhaps we should actually be asking permission to come into your territory – since our 2013 Reunion will be in the U.S. !

Our Reunion will be August 8-11, 2013 in Soda Springs and Pocatello , Idaho . The main focus is placing a new grave marker on the grave of our ancestor, Richard Stanislas Grant (1822-1852). Richard was a relatively unknown freighter on the Oregon and California Trails. His father Captain Richard Grant (1794-1862) was the Chief Trader at Fort Hall (Hudson Bay Company) and his brother John Francis (Johnny) Grant (1833-1907) established the Grant-Kohrs Ranch in Deer Lodge, Montana . For the past 161 years, Richard’s grave has only been marked by a lava rock. We thought it was time to do something more formal.

Both Richard Stanislas Grant’s wife, Emilie, and Johnny Grant - plus many of their family members - eventually moved back to Canada . This is why we Canadians are their descendants.

Our group is not a formal Grant society. Instead, we (Anita Grant Steele, Steward of the MacRobbie Grants of Trois-Rivieres, Mike Grant, and Penny Grant) own and manage a website <http://www.clangrantcanada.ca>. We welcome contributions to the website from anyone interested. The Steward of the Siol Cudbright, Sandra Horyski, is a frequent contributor.

Please check out the details for our 2013 Reunion at <http://www.clangrantcanada.ca/events/clanevents.html>. We hope you and other members of the Clan Grant in the US can come!

Stand Fast!

Penny Grant

1401 Sherwood Dr., Nanaimo, BC V9T 1G8 250-7511375 <http://www.chucklingchimes.ca>
grantpa@telus.net



The cap badge is worn on the balmoral or glengarry bonnet. It is now made of silver or white metal and shows the clan crest, which must be surrounded by a strap and buckle unless worn by the clan chief. The badge is normally worn on the left side of the cap, on a cockade of ribbon. Alternately, if you are familiar with your traditional clan badge, this can be worn in the bonnet, tucked into the cockade, or behind the metal badge (for Clan Grant, this is a sprig of Scots Pine). A Clan Chief wears three eagle feathers in his bonnet, and his sons or sub-chiefs will wear one eagle feather. A clansman should never wear any feathers, especially eagle feathers (which are illegal in the U.S., anyway) in their bonnet!



Officers of the Society



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

And continues under authority of Sir James Grant of Grant, The Right Honourable Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 33rd Hereditary Chief of Clan Grant.

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

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Clan Commissioners



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Reminder About Reimbursements

In accordance with the Society bylaws, “the Board of Directors shall approve an annual budget for the effective conduct of the Society's financial transactions and the President shall carry out these transactions as directed by the approved budget. The Treasurer shall oversee these transactions.” Additionally, the Board has decided that reimbursements of the standard costs for clan representation at a Scottish Games or Festival is a reimbursable expense for those who are establishing and manning a Clan Grant tent. Unfortunately, most of our activities are never reported to the Treasurer for reimbursement or inclusion in our budgeting process, nor are they reported to the *Craigellachie* Editor for inclusion in our publication.

The Board is aware that the membership attends games or festivals as a participant (hosts a clan tent) across the nation, and that many of the games commissioners and tent sponsors are not submitting their expenses for reimbursement or their discussion of the event they attended for publishing. This creates problems and potential issues for our Society.

1. The many expenses incurred are not included in the annual budget.
2. There is no way to capture and document two of the Society’s activities in support of our stated purpose in the bylaws: “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; and Social Recreational - promoting friendship, goodwill, and clanship among the members of the Clan.”
3. If we are audited without this documentation, we may be deemed as not fulfilling the requirements of a tax-exempt organization and lose our current status.
4. Additionally, it may prevent our ability to justify 501(c)(3) status that will allow tax-deductible donations and expenses.
5. The legacy this will leave us is a greater difficulty in finding willing members to perform the duty of hosting a tent, since they will feel they are required to shoulder the entire expense themselves.
6. Although there have been several AGM discussions about increasing the annual dues, without justification for such an increase based upon our participation in events and the inclusion of their reimbursements in our budget, we cannot even discuss this with all the data needed for a good decision.

In an attempt to change this, the Board is allowing tent hosts to submit their receipts from 2012 participation, as well as those for 2013, to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

Reimbursement requests may be sent to the Treasurer as scanned documents by email to jeniphr@yahoo.com, or by mail to Jeniphr Grant, 36206 Allen Rd S, Roy, WA 98580. Please ensure you include your contact phone, in case there are any questions about the request. The items required include:

1. A Request for Reimbursement Form.
2. A copy of the games registration form that shows what services were included in the fee paid.
3. A copy of the cancelled check or credit card receipt used to pay the games organization.

The Society reimburses the baseline expenses that any clan participant would incur to attend the event, as stated on the form. This means that if the “standard” clan tent space includes a tent, one table and two chairs and you order an additional table, the Society will pay for the tent, first table and two chairs, but not the second. This is also true for parking passes and entrance tickets. However, if you have an extenuating circumstance that requires additional parking or entrance ticketing, etc., permissions may be granted by passing the request to the Games Commissioner, who will bring it up to the Board.

Keep in mind that there are two ways a tent host can have their expenses paid: prepayment or reimbursement. If you would like to use prepayment, you must fill out the games registration form completely and send it to the Treasurer so that it is received at least two weeks in advance of the required submission date on the form. The form may be scanned and emailed or put in regular mail (allow a week for mailing time). Please include a good phone number, so receipt of the request may be confirmed. Reimbursement is as stated above.

Your assistance in processing requests for reimbursement allows us to maintain our status, documents our activities and puts a bit of money back into your pocket. Thanks for all you do out there to spread the word about our Society and your continued participation. Stand Fast!





Why give a membership?

**Are your children and brothers and sisters as well as your parents
members of the Clan Grant Society-USA?**

Membership in the society helps to support and further the efforts of the Clan Grant Society USA in preserving our common Grant heritage, and furthering the aims of the society as defined in our [bylaws](#). When you join the society, you may develop bonds with other members who are united by their deeply felt connections to their heritage, their ancestors, and desire to preserve the traditions of that heritage through their support of, and participation in, the Clan Grant Society USA. Clan Grant is not just a historical society, it is a *living clan* whose members consider themselves extended family and kin and who keep their heritage alive through participation in many gatherings and events around the country. Your ancestors are calling you, honor them by joining the society today!

Membership in the Society is open to any person who is lineally descended from the surname "Grant", a recognized Clan Grant sept name, or anyone who is generally interested in or in sympathy with the purposes of the Clan Grant Society. An entire family is covered under one membership. A family is considered to be the parents and any children under the age of 18 years.

Dues are \$20.00 for 1-year, \$40.00 for 2-years, or \$55.00 for 3-years. Note: New members joining from July through December will pay only \$10 for their first year of membership. New members joining from January through June will pay the full membership fee.

Lifetime membership in the Clan Grant Society is \$400.00. Members over 80 years of age are considered life members and are exempt from the payment of annual dues after the first year of membership. If a life member dies, their spouse automatically becomes a life member.

Have you considered giving a membership to your children or other family members? The Clan Grant Society-USA needs to continue to expand. Help us by doing your part today



CLAN GRANT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

[] NEW [] RENEWAL Membership # _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

NAME _____ SPOUSE _____

STREET _____ APT # _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ - _____

HOME PHONE_(_____) _____ BUSINESS_(_____) _____

E-MAIL _____

To save money, we send out our newsletters by email. Check here if you want to receive a paper copy of the newsletter.

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

DONATIONS: Clan Grant Centre Fund: \$ _____ Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

Note: Membership runs from January 1 through December 31. New members joining after June 30 will pay only \$10 for the first year of membership.

We also offer subscriptions through the Clan Grant Society at discounted rates to the following:

THE HIGHLANDER \$15.50 per year (3 years max): \$ _____

Make **ALL** checks payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY

Mail to: Rand Allan
6102 Calle Vera Cruz
La Jolla, CA 92037

Cash \$ _____ Check # _____

2013 AGM to be Held at the Seaside Highland Games

This year, the Clan Grant Society Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at the Seaside Highland Games, <http://www.seaside-games.com/>, located at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in Ventura, California on the second weekend in October (Oct 11-13). The Seaside Games are located right on the coast (the beach is literally across the street) and is one of the few Games in the United States that has been run by the Clans, for the Clans. There are a couple of events you won't want to miss. On the evening of Friday, October 11, the Four Points Hotel, one of the Games' host hotels, will have a whisky tasting session and A Scottish Evening....a full formal banquet with entertainment and a Scottish fashion show...a quite enjoyable evening and well worth the price.

Clan Grant has a table for 10 reserved for the occasion, and can reserve a second table if necessary. Beside for the traditional clan tents, athletics, and bagpipe band competitions, the Seaside Games also features a Scottish fiddling competition, varied musical entertainment, a children's glen, British food, Highland Re-enactments, plenty of Scottish, Irish, and Celtic vendors, herding demonstrations, Scottish country dancing, highland dancing competitions, a British auto exhibition, and a darts tournament. Aside from the Scottish activities, downtown Ventura and nearby Ventura harbor offer many fine dining establishments for an enjoyable evening out on the town.

There are several ways to get to the Seaside Games. Besides for driving to Ventura for our California natives and people renting vehicles from Los Angeles International Airport and Bob Hope Airport in Burbank, you may wish to consider taking the Amtrak train to the Games. The Pacific Surfliner route runs from San Diego to Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo, and will drop you off right across the street from the Ventura County Fairgrounds. People flying into the Bob Hope Airport in Burbank can hop the train at the airport terminal. There are also connecting lines from the Pacific Northwest, the northern states, the Midwest states, and the Southern States. Rates are quite reasonable and the time spent on the train is similar to the time it takes to drive to the Games.

If taking the train or driving is not your forte, the Crown Plaza Hotel, a few hundred yards down the street from the Amtrak station and the Fairgrounds, offers a shuttle service between the Los Angeles International Airport and the Hotel, or the Burbank Airport and the hotel for a nominal fee. You can log on to the Seaside Highland Games website to purchase your Games, whisky tasting, and banquet tickets, and reserve your hotel at the Games rate. For people driving in to the Games and planning on partaking in the Friday evening activities, I would recommend the Four Points Hotel, and for people taking the shuttle from the airports or the train, the Crown Plaza Hotel is a good bet.

Also, be sure to notify Rand Allan, rballan@san.rr.com or (858)454-3846, of your plans so we can know how many people to expect at the AGM and the banquet.



Clan Grant Society-USA REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Name: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Submit one form per game attended, and provide an additional sheet as a cover to provide recapitulation by category if more than one game is included.

Name and Location of Game Attended: _____

Allowable Expenses are those that all Clan participants must pay to be allowed to participate (receipts and cancelled check attached):

Tent Rental Fee _____
(CGSUSA pays for 1 standard sized shelter)

Table Rental Fee _____
(CGSUSA pays for 1 - 6-8 foot table for display)

Chair Rental Fee _____
(CGSUSA pays for 2 chairs to main the tent)

Space Fee _____
(CGSUSA pays for location, if charged separate from tent rental, especially if bringing own tent)

Entry Tickets _____
(CGSUSA pays for two tickets per day, if not included in regular clan fees.)

Parking _____
(CGSUSA pays for one vehicle per day, if not included in regular clan fees.)

Total _____

Requests for exceptions to these limitations may be made to the Board, through the Games Commissioner.

Send completed forms and receipts to: Jeniphir Grant, 36206 Allen Rd S, Roy, WA 98580 or jeniphir@yahoo.com.
Questions, please call Jeniphir at 609-864-4615.

Craigellachie

C/O Rand Allen
6102 Calle Vera Cruz
La Jolla, CA 92123

