

The Newsletter of the Clan Grant Society-USA

The Society shall publish a Clan quarterly named *Craigellachie*. *Craigellachie* shall be used to promote the interests of the Clan, the cultivation of a spirit of kin and fellowship and social intercourse amongst the Society's members. Further *Craigellachie* shall serve as the official publication of the Society and shall be the primary vehicle for giving the Members official notice of meetings, elections, Board and Officer actions

#### FALL 2014

#### **Membership Matters**

Rand Allan, Membership Secretary rballan@san.rr.com

The Clan Grant Society continues to slowly grow. As of October 19, the Clan Grant Society has a total of 237 active members, 100 of which are currently life members. I would also like to welcome the following new members to the Clan Grant Society, who have joined since the Summer Craigellachie was published: Stephanie Kistler of Fleetwood, PA; Susan Sprang of Black Butte Ranch, OR; Annette Hester of Auburn, WA; Josef Kistler of Ellensburg, WA; Tom and Helen Watgen of Lawrence, KS; William Grant of Greenville, SC; Mary and Duncan Grant of Sapphire, NC; Kym and Del Hickman of Palmdale, CA; and Jennifer Bowie of Thousand Oaks, CA. Welcome to you all.



**Flowers of the Forest** 



### **Margaret Kline**

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

Elizabeth Dorminey, daughter of lifetime Clan Grant Society member Margaret Kline, announced that her mother passed away on November 2, 2012. She was one of the original members of the Clan Grant Society, joining in November 10, 1982.

They had an excellent piper at her funeral, and he joined them for a luncheon afterwards and obliged the crowd by playing lots of tunes out on the lawn of the house where Margaret hosted so many Clan Grant parties during the Stone Mountain games.

#### Clan Grant Society USA Draft Annual General Meeting Minutes August 9, 2014 Denver, Colorado

- Clan members in attendance in person and electronically: Jeniphr Grant, Rand Allen, Christine Allen, Jeff Click, Ed Meininger, Warren Andrews, William S. Grant, Robert E. Grant, Lena Grant, John C. Grant, Adam, Joseph, Stephanie, Steven & Becky.
- Meeting was called to order by President Jeniphr Grant at 1:07 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time.
- Rand Allen presented the membership report: 222 total active members, including dues-paying, life and honorary members. 115 dues-paying, 100 life members (50 purchased & 50 earned via age), 7 honorary members. Since the 2013 AGM, there were 41 new members & 25 lost to death or non-renewal.
- Mick has bowed out as Treasurer, so Jeniphr reported a starting balance of \$5402.00, currently \$4869.33, deposits of \$3119. , & withdrawals of \$4308.10.
- Webmaster Jeff Click reported that the Clan Grant website has a new host and he will be working on the site. He will appreciate any and all comments.
- The Games report was given via email: Jim & Steven attended games in Maryland. Please send reports of games attended to Jim.
- A modification of membership to divide Family & Individual: Family membership will include 2 adults. Motion by William S. Grant, second by Steven from California. Passed unanimously.
- **Discussion of Honorary Membership ended with a vote to add the Chief of the Clan as an Honorary Member since he cannot vote.** Moved by John, seconded by Jeff. Passed unanimously.
- A discussion of Complimentary memberships resulted in a vote that gives the Board of Directors the authority to grant Complimentary memberships. The motion was made by Jeff, with Robert E. seconded. It passed unanimously.
- There are presently 3 open positions in the Clan's leadership, two elected & 1 appointed: Treasurer, Vice President, & Genealogist. A discussion of voting on these positions was held, asking whether we can have special elections, and if there can be an electronic vote taken on candidates for the two elected positions.

It was noted that there were storms in the area of the AGM.

Using a rotating schedule by time zones for AGMs having been agreed upon previously, the next should be held in the Central Time Zone. Oklahoma City seemed to be the choice, but there was no one who lived in the time zone. A question was asked if there could be a poll on the location on the web site & hold a vote online.

# New Business: Donations to the Clan were discussed and it was decided that any donations to the clan will go to either scholarship or to the upkeep of Duthill.

- Webmaster Jeff asked if the Clan wants to put the ability to sell things online, which would mean accepting credit cards or some other method of payment. It was agreed that the Quartermaster & Jeff will investigate & the Quartermaster will manage any sales online.
- Webmaster Jeff Click asked if anyone wanted to help with the new web site, and to send a name if one does.

<u>Storms becoming imminent, a motion was made to adjourn by John C and seconded by</u> <u>Warren. The 2014 AGM was adjourned at 1:58 p.m. MDT.</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Lena Grant Clan Grant USA Secretary



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 Honorable Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 32nd Hereditary Chief of Clan Grant. It continues under authority of Sir James Grant of Grant, The Right Honorable 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 / Rand Allan 2008-2013



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### GAMES COMMISSIONER

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Have you "liked" the Clan Grant Society USA's Facebook page? It can be found at:

https://www.facebook.com/clangrantusa?ref=aymt\_homepage\_panel

Try clicking on the link above and take a look around. You will like what you find!

### Clan Grant at the 2014 Seaside Highland Games

Rand Allan, rballan@san.rr.com

From October 10-12, the Clan Grant Society was represented at the Seaside Highland Games in Ventura, California. We started off on Friday evening with a formal buffet where we were treated to a Fashion Show, singing, pipe bands, and folk music performances. We also had the pleasure of meeting the Chief of Clan McBean, James McBain of McBain. Saturday, the Games were invaded by a film crew filming a reality show called Hollywood Hillbillies. I swear the woman who was the subject of the reality show could have been a stand-in for Honey Boo-Boo's aunt. Fortunately, or unfortunately, depending on your point of view, we attracted their attention as they walked down Clan Row, and they spent several minutes filming at our tent. If they ever put the show on cable, look for us at the Clan Grant tent. We had a good laugh while they were there, but I'm not too sure I want to put that on my resume.

The weather was great, with temperatures in the mid-70s and light breezes. It helps to be located across the street from the Pacific Ocean. We sold several shirts and were able to get several new members, Kym and Del Hickman of Palmdale, CA and Jennifer Bowie of Thousand Oaks, CA. Welcome to the Clan Grant Society, Kim, Del, and Jennifer.

The Clan Grant Society will also be represented at the Orange County Scottish Games at the Orange County Fairgrounds on May 23-24, 2015, and at the San Diego Highland Games at Brengle Terrace Park in Vista on June 27-28, 2015. We hope to see you there.



Rand and Christine Allan



Kim & Del Hickman



Jenifer Bowie

Robert Edward Grant, Board Member at large, and family sporting Clan Grant shirts.



Robert, Amber and the girls live in Newport News Virginia

James Grant

*I am sorry you have resigned as Vice President. Your help with Commissioners and the various articles you shared with me for Craigellachie have been very valuable to the Society.* 

I am sure we will all miss your support and leadership.

*My best wishes to you and your family. Dr. William Grant, Ph.D. Editor Craigellachie* 

# Thoughts on the Grant Tartan

By Phil Smith



The Laird of Grant specified in the well-known edicts of 1704 - 5 that his men were to be all dressed in red and green "broad springed." As "Hank" Grant pointed out in his fine monograph on the Grant tartans, there was no sett specified. However, "Hank" went on to point out that if Grant expected them to be ready in forty-eight hours, they must have had the clothing on hand. The present "Red Grant" tartan was set at least as early as 1819. In the 1819 Key Pattern Book of Wilson's of Bannockburn, a well-known tartan weaving firm of that era, the following handwritten entry appears alongside the pattern known as "New Bruce". "Note: How this pattern was named Bruce cannot be found out. In 1819 Patrick Grant of Redcastle, Ross-shire, head of a great branch of the Clan Grant ordered 200 yards of this Pattern as the tartan of his own Clan."

Ever since the current Lord Strathspey asked his clansmen and women to wear the 1860's sett - and ever since I saw the Locharron Mills version of that sett -- I have been scratching my head (that's how the hair disappeared). The relative widths of the red and green are equal in the so-called "1860's" by Lochcarron -|but it wasn't always so, especially in the middle of the last century

The red "Grant" that Grant of Redcastle purchased had wider green than red stripes: Green 178, Red 156 threads, about fourteen percent larger in the green. The "Grant Kilt" sett in the same book was a "busier" pattern, but green was still larger, Green 76, Red 74 threads. This is about the same ratio as used by some mills today, a 50-50 ratio.

By mid-century, the reverse was true, red was larger, much larger. Illustrations in Keltie's *Scottish Highlands: Highland Clans and Regiments* (1871) and in James Grant's *The Tartans of Scotland* (1886), both in our personal collection, clearly show that the red had grown. Red 36 to Green 28. This represents almost thirty percent more Red area than Green.



As late as 1950, the Red still predominated, this time by as much as a third. D. C. Stewart wrote concerning the "Red Grant" in his now classic *The Setts of the Scottish Tartans*, "The usual design [#70] is ... Red 64, Green 48."

What does all this mean? Since tartan is in `'color blocks" as defined in the "Red Grant" by the azure stripe, for example, the original 1819 sett has almost twice as many threads within the azure square as the red beyond it i.e. smaller blocks of red. A striking difference at any distance. The 1860's sett is almost the reverse, with more red than green it appears to be "squarer" in design - especially since the four blue stripes in the center are of equal width. When Shirley Grant-Smith and I stand side by side, others often ask, ``We know that Shirley's is a 'Grant' but what tartan is Phil wearing?" So, how do your garments compare? The "Red Grant" on

So, how do your garments compare? The "Red Grant" on a target by our fireplace is Red equals Green. Kilts by different manufacturers are often equal Red and Green Others have more Red than Green few the reverse, more Green than Red as it was in the tartan purchased by Grant of Redcastle. In any case, the 1860's sets" of the "Red Grant" isn't the way it was in the "real 1860's." The Locharron designers clearly believe that the current version "looks better." But then, it really doesn't matter as long as they are all red and green "broad springed."



# **Clan Motto**

The Grant's ancient motto is "**Stand Fast!**", which refers to a historical incident with the Norse King "Haaken", considered to be a distant forebear of the Clan, according to the Clan's oral tradition.

As this story goes, Haaken was set upon by a group of enemies at which point he ripped a tree sapling out of the ground and used it to successfully hold off his attackers, all the while exhorting his supporters to stand fast, or not back down from the battle. "Stand Fast" became the motto of his family and stems from this incident. The Grant's modern motto in Scotland

is "Craigellachie", which is the name of the mountain nicknamed "The Rock of Alarm", where the old Chiefs of Clan Grant would have signal fires lit to call their men to battle. The United States Clan Grant Society retains the ancient motto as the motto of Clan Grant.

# Clan War Cry

## The Grant's war-cry is "Stand Fast,

**Craigellachie!"** (pronounced "Kra-GEL'-a-key"). Stand Fast is the Clan's motto, and Craigellachie is the "Rock of Alarm" - the gathering place of the Clan during times of crisis, when signal fires were lit on its summit to rally the Clan to battle. If you have family or other announcements you would like to share in Craigellachie, the quarterly newsletter of the Clan Grant Society–USA, email to:

Dr. William S Grant uilleamgrant@yahoo.com



# Membership

Why become a member? 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

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.

## **Publications**

Membership includes the Quarterly newsletter, "*The Craigellachie*", via email or regular mail. It is also available in the Members Only section of the website. The Society can also offer a reduced subscription rate for the following excellent publication:

The Highlander - \$15.50/yr

## Other Items

Additionally, the Society also collects donations for two areas within our group. Both of the these are listed on the membership application.

The first is for the Scholarship Fund. This is stated in the Bylaws as providing educational assistance such as financial assistance to deserving students, establishment of a fellowship in Scottish literature or music, grants to schools or universities, and support of the Clan Grant Educational and Charitable Trust.

The second is for the collection of funds for the maintenance and upkeep of the Clan Centre in Duthil. You can see more information in the article: Clan Center. Further questions can be sent to the membership team using the 'Contact Us' form and selecting "Membership Inquiry" as the Category.

Click on the link below to:

Download Printer Friendly Membership Application In PDF



Make all cheques or money orders payable to <u>Clan Grant Society</u>. Mail to: Rand Allan 6102 Calle Vera Cruz La Jolla, CA 92037

## Greetings to all the Clan Grant Society,

Those of you that have visited our website have realized that it is showing its age and support for its content has not been as timely as we would like. We have realized this and have been researching the best way to fix problem and bring our electronic presence up to date. I won't bore you with all of the technical details, but suffice it to say we have changed our underlying platform into something that is much easier to support and will bring many more features to our Society. The software is an open-source platform called Drupal, and the best thing for those of us with Scots blood, is that it's free!

I have been working with this software along with the board and ops team to update and modernize both the look and feel of the website as well as the content. Here are the goals we had in developing this new website:

- 1. Increase the usability and ease of support of the site
- 2. Provide a place where members can interact with one another to foster a true sense of community.
- 3. Provide value to our members in terms of content and functionality.
- 4. Spruce up our image to the rest of the world.

You will recognize the general areas that we previously had on the site, but in addition we will also have a "Member's Only" area where all sorts of goodies are awaiting you! This is not a ship it and forget about it release. We want your feedback and ideas!! We would like this website to be an electronic social gathering place where we can share the happenings of our lives, ask questions, be informed and altogether make our Grant Community stronger. The site now has a calendar where we will list all of the known games, events and meetings. As a member, you can post events in here as well if you do not see them already listed. Visitors to the site can see the calendar, but cannot add events. We have also added a 'Contact Us' form, which allows you to send a message to different categories: Website Feedback, Membership Inquiry, and Genealogy Inquiry.

Here is what we have so far in the Member's Only area:

Online Craigellachie - download current and past

Craigellachies.

Scottish Highlands News Feed

Currently 6 different news feeds from the Highlands. Feel free to suggest more!

**Discussion Forums** 

An area where you can post topics/questions to open another and receive answers. When a new topic is posted, current members are sent an email informing them that a new topic has been posted. When you post a topic, you will be informed when someone replies to you! Current Forums are:

**General Discussions** 

Games Commissioners Discussions - specifically for Games Commissioners

Member Galleries

Post photos of trips you have taken and games that you have attended!

**Board Blogs** 

This section is where the Board will post information and discussions with you in an on-going fashion. Especially between Craigellachie publications. Members will be notified when a new blog enter has been submitted.

Member Votes and Polls

This section will be where we ask you as members for feedback in terms of polls and an actual place to permit voting on issues or special elections. The first poll in there is how you link the new site!!!

Clan Grant Forms

Various forms that are useful for our members

Additionally, you can see who the other members are by using the 'View Users' link in your menu at the bottom of the page. You can also send private messages to them when you view there profile. Only members can see your profile.

At the end of the day, all the effort we have put into the site requires the participation of you, the members, to be truly effective. Please take the time to look through the site and let us know what you think. Here is a list of some other items that we are thinking of for future releases: Historian's Corner Adding a Clan Store

If you have other requests or ideas, please let us know!! We are hoping to have the new site rolled out by the end of October. We will be adding current member accounts during October and will be reaching out to 'fallen away' members letting them know of the new and exciting things that are happening. If you are currently reading this in the Craigellachie and do not currently use the Internet, not to worry. If you are interested, I can talk you through the details. Just drop me a line in the post and I will call you.

Stand Fast, Jeff Click Webmaster - Clan Grant Society