



Craigellachie



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 2015

Clan Grant Society – USA

Annual General Meeting
Clan Grant Society – USA
October 17, 2015
Draft Minutes

Members present in person and via telephone link: Jeniphr Grant, C. David Grant, Dr. Phil Smith, Shirley Smith, Dr. Bill Grant, Lena Grant, Sue Myers, Betty Grant, John Maleski, J. Eric Grant, David Grant, John C. Grant, George Grant, Jeff Click, Ann Scherzinger, Robert Grant, Ed Meininger, Jim Grant, Demi Grant, Karen Robinson of Siol Lewis Sept, Bob Grant, Mary Grant, and Caroline Grant, the Clan's youngest member

The Annual General Meeting of the Clan Grant Society – USA was called to order at 1:33 p.m., EDT by President Jeniphr Grant. A quorum was established.

The acting Treasurer reported a current balance of \$5356.61.

By-Laws changes voted on by the Board of Directors concerned membership: As of January 2016, a Family Membership will cost \$35.00 per year, and will include the adult applying and one other person living at the same address. For Life Members, the Family Member will be included in Life Members over 80 years old, a clarification requested by John C. Grant.

The President noted that there is no way in the By-Laws to change officers if an office is vacated during a term. The Board of Directors will change the By-Laws to insure a smooth transition. The President can legally appoint new officers at the pleasure of the Board. Ed Meininger requested that the By-Laws be amended to state that senior members of the BOD, including appointed members, may appoint new officers in case of massive resignations.

Ann Scherzinger, Genealogist, reported that many of the members contacted in recent calls were enthusiastic about Clan genealogy, and she suggested CGSUSA work with the Clan in the UK on their historical database. She would like more members to submit their family trees to her.

Jeff Click reported on the recent telephone survey conducted by the Board. The most frequent reaction was gratitude for phone calls, and one member said, "My God, you guys really exist." The Board attempted

239 calls, and was able to contact 80. Emails were sent to members with nonworking phone numbers if one was available. Follow up letters will be sent to members with nonworking phone numbers and no email. Most members want to be called annually. A suggestion was made to have a Donate button on the website for members who wish to donate to the Clan. Over half of those contacted have visited the website. Members are encouraged to contact people on social media. Members would like more heritage information on the website. Average age of members is 70 years old, with one 11-year-old and one 3 ½-year-old. Members would like to see more Highland Games activity reported. Members belong to Clan Grant because of family, genealogical possibilities and a general interest in their heritage.

The elections were held via surface and electronic mail, and the results are:

Dr. Bill Grant	President
Jeffrey Click	Vice President
Janette Kaiser	Treasurer
Jeniphr Grant	Member at Large
Steven Grant	Member at Large

One fourth of the membership voted.

Jeniphr introduced Bill Grant, who presented Jeniphr with a gift. He thanked Jim Grant for his many years of service. He introduced Karen Robinson, president of Siol Lewis Sept, who made brief remarks.

The question arose about the tax status of the Clan. More donations are needed to be allowed a 501 C 3, tax exempt organization. The Clan presently holds a 501 C 7 status. Half of the Clan's revenue must be donations to hold a 501 C 3.

Working on making Clan items available on the Website.

Phil Smith reminded members that at the last AGM held at Stone Mountain a motion was made and approved to make the President and Chairman of the Board the same. C. David Grant, President at the time, verified this.






President Bill Grant adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m. EDT reminding members that the Clan used to have the saying, "It's Great to be a Grant," and he wants to bring it back. So, It Is Great To Be A Grant!

Respectfully submitted,

Lena Grant
Clan Grant Society Secretary



Clan Grant Society – USA Elected Officers for 2015/2016

 PRESIDENT William Sawyer Grant, Ph.D.	 VICE PRESIDENT Jeffrey R. Click	 TREASURER Janette Kaiser
 SECRETARY Lena Grant	 MEMBER AT LARGE Jeniphr Grant	 MEMBER AT LARGE Jim Grant
 MEMBER AT LARGE Stephen E. Grant		

From the President's Desk

Greefings my fellow clansmen and clanswomen.

"It is Great to be a Grant."

The motto of my college alma mater, VPI & SU, is **Ut Prosim**, "that we may serve." I believe that it is my challenge and my duty to serve you, the members of Clan Grant Society – USA.

I don't know if you have thought of this before, but you are unique. Not only do you have a family: you have a CLAN! Members of Clan Grant have been recognized over the years for service and bravery, some four of our Clan having been awarded the Victoria Cross. If you remember your US history, then you know Ulysses S. Grant led the Union armies to victory in our Civil War and was later elected President of the United States.

To share a small part of my background: I am married to Lena Grant our Society secretary. We will celebrate our 48th wedding anniversary in the fall of 2016. Our family has been blessed with two sons and four granddaughters.

When we are not wintering in Mission, Texas, where we volunteer as gardeners at the National Butterfly Center, we garden in Chesapeake, Virginia where I raise milkweed to give away in support of the Monarch butterflies. Lena and I additionally spent many hours as Boy Scout volunteer leaders, Red Cross volunteers and I am a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason. Previously I served as your *Craigellachie* editor.

I believe that being a member of Clan Grant Society – USA is both **a thing of the blood and a thing of the heart**. You do not have to trace your bloodline to a Grant to be a member of our society. Our bylaws state, "Membership in the Society shall be open to any person who is lineally descended from the surname "Grant" or a recognized Clan Grant surname or who is generally interested in or in sympathy with the purposes of the Clan Grant Society – USA."

Our Society offers you an opportunity to learn. What is our clan history? What is your genealogy? We also offer an opportunity to associate with a wonderful group of individuals who have, over the years, led and supported the Clan Grant Society – USA. Do you want to know more about Scotland? Would you appreciate the opportunity to visit? Do you enjoy Celtic music and poetry? All these are available to you through your membership.

There are opportunities for service to others. This is a welcoming Society and we encourage you to step up and get involved. It takes manpower to set up tents at Scottish games and to man them during the usual two days of festivities. Like many organizations, we create a quarterly newsletter that has to be printed as well as posted on the Internet. Our quartermaster oversees supplies and equipment. The genealogist is there to help you, answer questions and direct your research. And all these folks could use your help from time to time.

With your help I see a bright future for Clan Grant Society – USA. We need to offer your family members an opportunity to participate in this grand affair. There are Grants out there that do not know that they are part of a Clan. Help us and we will help you. Isn't that the way a Clan should operate? I believe it is and I hope you do too.

Lena and I look forward to seeing your family at the Scottish games.

IT IS GREAT TO BE A GRANT
YES IT IS GREAT TO BE A GRANT

BE STRONG, BE PROUD AND BE OF SERVICE TO OTHERS
I WILL AND I HOPE YOU WILL TOO.



Dr. Bill Grant
President of Clan Grant Society – USA

From the Vice-President / Webmaster Desk

Greetings one and all,

It is going to be a busy next 6 months! I now oversee the games program as well as the website. After our membership reach-out campaign, we found several areas of focus for the coming months. Some of these are outlined in the AGM Notes earlier in this publication.

Website: We will be working on bringing an online store to our website. This will allow members to pay their dues and renewals via credit card online. It will also allow us to make donations and hopefully be able to purchase some Grant goodies! If you have ideas on what we should have in the store, please drop me a line and let me know.

Games: We will be looking closely at all aspects of our games participation and coordination as a Society to see where we can improve. We will be reaching out to the members in areas where we have a concentration of members to see whether there is interest in hosting (or assisting at) a game. We will also be redoing an old games manual to lay out what is involved with hosting a game and trying to rebuild our supply of games kits. Again, if you are interested in helping please reach out to me.

Finally, as always please let me know if you have any questions or problems with our website and I will be happy to assist you!!

Stand Fast!



Jeff Click
Clan Grant Society Vice-President / Webmaster

Grant Clan Family Trees Wanted!

The Clan Grant Society – USA maintains a database of family trees forwarded to us by our members. However, through the transitions to various Clan genealogists and different programs, it appears that some family trees may have been corrupted or even lost. With your help, we are hoping to rebuild the database and make it useful again.

Our recent “listening tour” of the Grant Clan membership indicates that many of our members joined for clan connections and genealogy information. With that in mind, we are requesting that any of our members who have developed their family trees forward them to us so that we may further our database. While we have over 11,000 names currently in the database, only eleven of our 200+ members clearly represented. It is hoped that even members who are certain their information was included at one time will consider resubmitting their trees. We are, of course, looking specifically for your Grant line.

Family trees that are clearly represented are as follows:

- James Andrews
- Jeff Click
- Candace Grant
- David Grant
- Hank Grant
- Judith Grant
- Lee Grant
- Shirley Smith

- Richard Welch
- Steven Williams
- Linda Worley

The membership tree database is currently maintained using Family Tree Maker. If your family tree is in this format, you can simply forward a copy via email to our genealogist. Other family tree programs allow you to make a GEDCOM file which can also be forwarded via email. This can also be read by Family Tree Maker and easily included. Hard copies of your family tree can be sent directly to our genealogist so that it can be entered by hand. Your Grant family line information that should be included where possible:

- 1) You, your spouse and your children
- 2) Your parents & their siblings
- 3) Your (Grant line) grandparents & their siblings
- 4) Any further (Grant) generations
- 5) Birth and death dates
- 6) Birth and death places

Our genealogist requests that you try to limit the information sent to your Grant family line as much as possible. Otherwise, with the (hopeful) inundation of family trees, deletion of unrelated people and facts could prove to be an arduous task. After entering your tree, additional pertinent information and any matches to other members that are found will be forwarded to you.

The database is not currently in a format that is searchable by anyone except the clan genealogist. She is happy to accept your questions and will conduct a search of the database on your behalf.



Ann Scherzinger
Clan Grant Society Genealogist

THE NEWEST GRANT returns 2 ½ years later to the Clan Grant Society – USA AGM at the Stone Mountain Highland Games

Robert C. and Mary A. Grant announced the birth of their granddaughter. Her name is Caroline Elspeth Grant. She was born March 1, 2013 to our son and daughter-in-law, Robert Clarke Grant and Kristin Ramey Grant. They live in Marietta, GA. When this appeared in the Fall 2013 Craigellachie Bob enrolled granddaughter Caroline as a three-year member of Clan Grant Society – USA. This fall she returned with her grandparents to attend our AGM with Bob and Mary Grant.



GENEALOGY CORNER

By Ann Scherzinger

Clan Grant Society Genealogist

TIPS FOR BUILDING YOUR FAMILY TREE IN THE INTERNET AGE

With the advent of the internet, a variety of programs for building your family tree have become readily available. But, while these various programs promise easy access to resources that could only have been dreamed of in the past, building a tree on the internet is not foolproof by any means. If you enjoy a good mystery or solving puzzles, tracing your family tree can be an engaging and sometimes addicting hobby.

For purposes of this article, I will be referring to Ancestry.com because it is the program that I use and where I have made some laughable mistakes. However, you should be aware that, unless you are using an introductory free trial, most on-line family tree programs require membership in order to explore their databases of public records. You can still enter your family, of course, but you won't get far in substantiating it.

Getting Started

Before you enter any information in these databases, you will want to gather some basic information: you, your spouse and your children; your parents' and grandparents' names; dates and places of birth as much as possible. Now you're ready to enter some information.

Let the fun – and the mysteries! - begin!

As soon as you enter some of your basic information, "hints" begin to appear. Any public records in which the name(s) you have entered appear become available for your review. These can be censuses (through 1940 only), city & phone directories, military records, school annuals, other people's family trees and, often, much more.

Now is when you will need to employ some discretion as to which "facts" you choose to include as documentation for your own family tree.

A Cautionary Tale

My first family tree was my dad's. That was pretty easy. We're not a notable bunch and quickly became obscured by the mists of time and the fog of generally poor record keeping 150-200 years ago. I could trace it, more or less, to the early 1800's and then the information peters out.

Next came my mother-in-law's tree. Oh! This was MUCH more interesting. They even had had a professional genealogist trace their tree back in the 1970's. It was a wealth of information!

After entering the first three generations or so, LOTS of information began to pop up. Censuses, which I should have looked at first, went by the wayside as I explored these names in other people's family trees. Eventually, I was able to relay to my husband and his darling mother that they were descended from the kings of England.

Or not.

By nature, I am both reasonably honest and reasonably thorough. I wanted to believe that they did, indeed, sport royal blood. Still, there was a name in their tree that I considered could be a weak link. So I set about trying to shore up the facts around the person in question so that the integrity of the tree could be supported. No luck. No kings. Not royal. Darn! Still, the research was not without

some gratification as I was able to document their connections back to the earliest and most notable families of Virginia.

Obviously, I should have started with the facts! (But speculation is so much more fun!!)

Lessons Learned

Mine the censuses. These provide the verifiable foundation to a family tree and they are a fountain of information. You can see where they lived at the time, who lived in the household, their approximate birthdays, occupations and education. Some censuses even indicate where they and their parents were born. Don't forget to look up and down the page for other clues. Often there are other relatives living nearby. Note: spellings of names can vary widely from what you expect from census to census.

Facts found on U.S. Find-a-Grave.com, while not infallible, are generally pretty good. It can provide links to other family members and some good clues.

City directories appeared much earlier than telephones did. These are annual and can include not only where your relatives lived that year but also their occupations.

Military records such as draft registrations often provide more information and often in the handwriting of the person in question.

Other people's family trees are not useless but their often documentation can be spotty. Look for trees that are well documented and actually look at the tree before including it as a source in your own family tree. What sources do they list or is it all other peoples' family trees? However, even poorly documented trees can serve as clues.

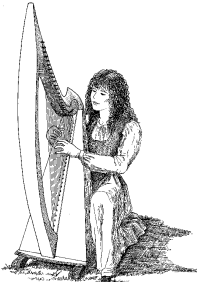
Ancestry.com includes something called "Millennium Files." I thought this was a great resource until I realized that the files were simply compilations of information that members had included in their own trees. Look at this, of course, but take it with a grain of salt.

Most of all, try not to hold too firmly to family stories that have been passed down. People often do not relay these stories entirely accurately for a variety of reasons that I'm sure you can guess at as easily as I can. Also try not to freak out if you find a fact that doesn't jibe with your views or philosophies. Accepted societal mores have changed remarkably in the last two hundred years. There is no shame in finding that there were illiterate family members or even slave-owners in your family's past. Both were an accepted part of the fabric of society in those days. Try not to judge. Their histories are part of our own.

Now get out there and solve a family mystery or two!

How I Became the Celtic Harp Teacher For an Entire School

By Candace L. Coates



Over the course of a six month period dating from early January of 2015, I homeschooled an advanced beginner in the fine art of playing the Celtic harp. Miss Sara had played other instruments before starting private harp lessons with me. Her mother, Ms. Terri Raciti, was a piano and Latin teacher at the small private Catholic school, St. Therese Classical Learning Academy, located in Middletown, NY. As her daughter, Miss. Sara, progressed with her private harp lessons, I built a gradual rapport with the family. I then discovered that her mother was also the school Headmaster.

I had spent years researching and developing Celtic harp programs and lecture series for use in grade school assembly programs to short courses which I presented at several local colleges. Since Ms. Raciti was, after all, the Headmaster, I thought I would give her a brief verbal outline of my Celtic harp lecture series and an overview of my college-level presentation.

I asked if she would be interested in being able to offer group harp lessons in a classroom setting during their normal school day as a non-credit (non-graded) elective. The response was extremely positive and I was asked to submit a formal written proposal which she would submit to their board members. Terri said she definitely wanted the program and within a week after handing in the proposal I received confirmation that it passed.

During the proposal phase of the project I had contacted my colleague Melissa Irwin at Rees Harps and had obtained help from the Vice President of Rees Harps, Pamela Rees, as I had no experience in writing a formal proposal. I also found that Rees Harps has a harps-in-the-classroom program. As a result of the proposal being accepted, the company awarded me a new harp. I had also contacted another colleague, Peter Reis, the President of Harps International, because Peter was very interested in how many students enrolled in the class.

When I contacted Peter with a confirmed count of four enrollees, Peter told me he wished to donate five harps to the school program. All I needed to do would be to go to the CT showroom to pick the harps up. I notified Ms. Raciti by telephone and told her about the generous gift of the five Triplet Nino floor harps. She was speechless!

The harps needed close to sixty new bass strings between them. The custom made harp strings were donated by Kelly Stallings at North Shore Strings. Our first meeting of the school's harp class was October 6th and we started working on learning to read music as our first lesson. I brought the harps into school on the 19th and my four young ladies had their first hands-on lesson with the harps the following day in class. Just to see the look of awe and joy on their youthful faces as they cautiously plucked the strings on these beautiful harps made all the difference.

I have been performing on the Celtic harp myself for twenty-two years and I have been teaching the fine art of playing the harp for seventeen years. Thanks to the kindness and generosity of my colleagues and contacts in the harp world, I will be able to pass on the tradition and the love of the Celtic harp to a new generation of harpers. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me at highlandharp@yahoo.com.

The 2015 Stone Mountain Highland Games and Clan Grant Society – USA AGM

By Dr. Bill Grant

This was the first time Lena and I attended the Stone Mountain Games. The very first impressive thing you see is Stone Mountain. I can best describe it as a gigantic granite egg, lying on its side thrust half-way out of the ground. The area around Stone Mountain is hilly with several lakes.



Friday, we went to the games area where we were greeted by the volunteer staff and guided, by electric cart, to the Clan Grant Society – USA’s tent. Gary Grant, our games commissioner, had set it up and we added our folding chairs. I later learned that Barbara Grant, Gary’s wife, was scheduled for heart surgery on Friday afternoon. I was and am impressed by both of these Grants for their strength and commitment to our Clan. I cannot thank them enough that, under such trying circumstances, they ensured our tent was set up.

Friday was a day where most events happened at the host hotel. We visited the grounds and enjoyed the growing number of clan tents being erected and all of the various food and merchandise vender tents on

display.

Saturday, we arrived early so that we could park close to the entrance knowing that some 40,000 people were expected to attend. What fun! Bagpipe and drum music was everywhere. People in kilts and period Scottish outfits were to be seen in great numbers. There were plenty of tartans to be seen since some 100 clans were represented.



As Saturday progressed we met many new-to-us Grants including former President C. David Grant and former Secretary Dr. Phil Smith and his wife Shirley Grant Smith. President Jenipher Grant joined us at the tent after flying in from the west coast. John Grant and his two sons, Arston and Col. Eric Grant, and many other Grants and Clan Grant Society – USA Members visited during Saturday’s festivities.

Lena and I did take the opportunity to visit the vendors tents and had our first bridie. It was very tasty. The athletic contest was great and the pipe band competition was inspiring. We met lots of folks in the food area and had a genuinely great time. After a long day Saturday, we met Past-President, Jeniph, at what proved to be several dinners at Waffle House, her favorite place to eat in Atlanta. Who knew? Having worked with Jeniph on the board for the last several years and participated in many phone calls, it was very rewarding to finally meet her and share life experiences.



Sunday arrived bright and early with our return to the games fields. Again the air was filled with the sound of bagpipes and drums as well as harp music. The highland dance contest was both colorful and very interesting. We attended a concert by Colin Grant-Adams, a most talented musician and life member of Clan Grant Society – USA. Later that afternoon, I have to admit I discovered the taste of ten-year-old GlenGrant Scotch thanks to Arston Grant.



I would also like to apologize to Arston for being so generous in sharing the bottle with several visitors to our tent.

Thanks to John C. Grant for taking the time to explain how the Forrester Clan operates their on-line Clan store and more thanks to C. David Grant and Dr. Phil Smith for sharing their memories of the founding of the Clan Grant Society – USA and its early years. That's when I discovered we used to say "Its Great to be a Grant." You will hear that many times from me over the next several years.

The highlight of Sunday's activities was the parade of tartans where all the clans march into the games field and pass by the reviewing stand. As the new President, I was privileged to follow our standard and salute the Honored Clan Chief, who returned my salute. What a sense of pride to be marching with all these Grants.

Our visit concluded with dinner with Jeniphr at, you know it, Waffle House. I have to admit to a degree of sadness that we could not spend more time with all these fine Grants. But next year we have already made our reservations at Stone Mountain for next year. I am looking forward to attending the Games and listening to the bagpipes and visiting with my fellow Clan Grant members. If you can, please make plans to join us on the third weekend in October. You will have a grand Grant time and remember "It's Great to be a Grant!"



Sad Announcement

Passing of the Clan Grant Society – USA First Chaplain, John Charles Grant



Maggie Valley: Colonel John Charles Grant, age 74, passed away on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at Haywood Regional Medical Center.

A native of Cambridge, Massachusetts, he was the son of the late Charles and Juanita Purgy Grant and also preceded in death by his wife, Sharon Grant, who died in 2005. He was a US Air Force Vietnam veteran and was currently serving in the SMU 108th Scottish Highlanders Honor Squad. Proud of his Scottish heritage, his parents were from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and his grandfather was from Grant On Spray, Scotland. His family owns a castle in Loch Ness and another in Grant Town, Scotland. Charles was the Christian Catholic Bishop of North Carolina and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 2014.

He is survived by two sons, Timur Grant of Russia and John Grant of Maggie Valley, an adopted daughter; and a brother, Donald Grant of Waynesville. He is also survived by his Cherokee blood brothers, Ellette Jackson (Crow Horse) and Daniel Pleasant (Spotted Horse.)

A memorial service was held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at Saint Andrews on the Hill with Father Timothy McRee officiating.



The Surname Grant in Early Scottish Documents

James Grant, historian, Clan Grant Society – USA

Very little is known about the early history of the Grants in Scotland and much of the information available to us is of conjectural veracity. Although traditional folkloric accounts suggest a much earlier origin, the documented history of the name *Grant* in Scotland commenced in the mid-13th century.

There were many more Grants and families of that name in England, Wales and Ireland at the same period and before. We do not know if all these families were branches of the same tree.

Very few Scottish documents refer to the name *Grant* before the dawning of the 14th century. In fact, this reporter has been able to identify only seven.

‘Dominis Laurentio et Roberto dictis Grant’ witnessed an agreement in 1258 between Archibald, Bishop of Moray, and Sir John Bysset, a significant landholder in the vicinity of Inverness. Although not specifically stated, Lawrence and Robert were probably brothers, or at least relatives. The document is the earliest known reference to the name ‘Grant’ in the annals of Scotland. Lawrence was Sheriff of Inverness in 1263 and rendered accounts to the Exchequer at that time. His tenure was probably short-lived. In 1266, that office was held by Alexander Cuming, 2nd Earl of Buchan. In that same year, Lawrence was bailiff of *Inuerchoich*.

‘Domino Roberto le Grant’ (almost certainly the same man mentioned above) received a charter to the property of *Clonmanache* from a *John Prat*, circa 1258. Today, *Clonmanache* is a sporting estate known as Coulmony, on the River Findhorn, about fifteen miles north of Castle Grant.

[*Nota bene*: The titles *Domino*, *Dominis* (plural) are the dative or ablative forms of the Latin noun *Dominus*, which referred to a landed baron, feudal lord, landlord or master. When translated into English, *Dominus* could be rendered “Sir,” or even “Lord”. In medieval times, the title *Dominus* also referred to a lesser ecclesiastic, *i.e.*, a priest or chaplain, but not a bishop.]

‘John le Graunt, esquire’ was taken prisoner at Dunbar Castle in 1296 while fighting against the English. (King Edward I had invaded Scotland to punish John Balliol for his refusal to support the English army in a dispute with France.) *John le Graunt* was imprisoned at Gloucester Castle, in England. He later signed a pledge of loyalty to Edward I in order to secure his freedom in 1297. The pledge stated an obligation to serve the King *‘beyond the seas and elsewhere on pain of forfeiture’*. In 1298, *Johannes le Graund* was granted a letter of protection by Edward I, along with *Johannes Bysset* and others.

‘Robert le Graunt, esquire’ was also taken prisoner at Dunbar with *John le Graunt* (above), who was probably a near relative. *Robert le Graunt* was imprisoned at Bristol Castle and received stipends from time to time for his expenses while in prison. He also signed an obligation to serve Edward I in order to gain his freedom in 1297. Several documents record payments made to the officers of the *gaol* on his behalf. In those documents, *Robert le Graunt* is referred to as *‘Ralph le Graunte’* and *‘Radulphus le Graunte’*.

In 1291-92, *‘Patrick le Grant* (also referred to as *Patritius le Grawnt*) was *‘castellan of Clony.’* He gave a receipt to Sir John Comyn’s bailiff for his pay while serving as keeper of the castle of Clunie. (Clunie Castle was about four miles west of Blairgowrie in Perthshire.)

‘David le Grant, vicecomite de Strivelyn’ (Sheriff of Stirling), also *David Graunte*, keeper of the *‘castrum de Strivelyn’* (Stirling Castle), rendered £14 6s 4d to the Exchequer in 1295 for the lands of *Patricii de Graham* and *Johannis de Baltaffy*. He was later ordered by English invaders to deliver up the castle of Stirling to Richard de Waldegrave. The identity of this *David le Grant* is unknown. He probably served only one year as Sheriff of Stirling since Richard de Waldegrave held that office in 1296.

‘Robert de Graunt del counte de Fyfe’ (Robert the Grant in the county of Fife) signed the *Ragman Roll* at the parliament held in Berwick-on-Tweed, on August 28, 1296. This document listed members of the

nobility, gentry and clergy of Scotland who gave an oath of allegiance to Edward I of England. *Robert de Graunt* was probably a clergyman, since most of the men who signed the roll with him were churchmen. He was almost certainly not the same *Robert le Graunt* previously mentioned since that man was in prison at that time.

These seven men with the surname Grant were the only instances this reporter has been able to identify in the annals of Scotland during the 13th century.

Conversely, there were literally hundreds of Grants in England, Wales, and Ireland during the same period and before. Significant numbers of Grants were noted in the civic, commercial, judicial, military and ecclesiastical records of the counties of York, Lincoln, Buckingham, Nottingham, Oxford, Norfolk, Shropshire, and Hampshire. Indeed, Grants were documented in just about every English county, as well as Wales and Ireland during the 13th century. Some were noted in documents as early as the 11th century.

Noticeably missing from the list of Scottish Grants (above) is the name Gregory le Grant, who, according to some traditional accounts, served as Sheriff of Inverness in the 13th century. He was also said to be the father of Laurence and Robert le Grant. There is no evidence that this person existed. In fact, he was almost certainly fictitious. The error was undoubtedly caused by a misreading of the Index to *The Accounts of the Great Chamberlains of Scotland*. In that index, the alleged 'Gregory Grant' was actually *Gregorius de Cambusmychell*, who, like Laurence le Grant, served at one time as bailiff of Inverquoch and rendered accounts to the Exchequer. Cambusmichael was an ancient parish north of Perth on the River Tay. On a roster of the known Sheriffs of Inverness, the only Grant was *Laurence de Grant* in 1263.

* * *

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Member Recipes

From: Nora Feavel

This is a recipe that I have used often and love!

Orange Chocolate Whisky Mousse

This Dish is a Chocolate lovers dream. It is a well-known fact that Chocolate and Oranges go very well together, but add a bit of whisky and you have entered the realm of ecstasy.

Serves 4

- 1 Cup of Semi-Sweet Chocolate chips
- 4 Large Eggs separated into whites and yolks
- 4 Tbs Scotch Whisky
- 4 Tbs Heavy Whipping Cream
- 1 Orange rind, finely Grated

Step 1: Place the chocolate chips, Whisky, and Cream into a Double boiler and melt, stir constantly.

Step 2: Remove the melted chocolate and allow to cool for 5 to 10 minutes.

Step 3: Taking the egg yolks, whip them at high speed in a mixer until fluffy and add the finely grated orange rind. Slowly FOLD the egg yolks into the melted chocolate.

Step 4: Now take the egg whites and in a clean bowl whip until stiff. Then slowly FOLD the egg whites into the chocolate mix. Spoon the mixture into individual dishes or glasses and chill for 3-4 hours.

From the Kitchen of the Celtic Caterer,
Recipes from all 8 Celtic Nations, Book 1 – Scotland, pg. 124

Member Trips

Our Trip to Scotland By Aina Grant

Stephen and I have been to Scotland for the Grant Clan reunion for the last number of years. This was our third. We decided to attend after hearing from James Grant in Canada that he and Barbara were attending. So we changed our plans to visit other parts of Europe, revisit beautiful Scotland and see good friends again in Granttown-on-Spey. We brought our kilts along –not a light item to carry on the trip. We put them in our carryon luggage so we don't have them taken out of our check-on bags. We also packed our ponchos from REI that withstand torrential rains. Amazing! We used them once in Oban when we went out for dinner. Weather was cool and refreshing. Coming from California, it was so good to see green, green grass everywhere. Even my hair was calm and not frizzy like it gets in California humidity.



The highlight of our trip was the Abernethy games and seeing old friends as well as meeting new ones. Stephen got to carry the US flag in the opening ceremony-he was like a proud peacock to have that honor. After the games, the Grant dinner was at the Grants Arms Hotel and was excellent. I had the pleasure of sitting next to Sir Archie. I was enthralled by his humor and description of golf. Dinner was followed by the Cadallih - good fun.



Our photo of the gathering in front of the Grant Castle was taken by Charlie Grant of Scotland. The Castle, however, is in scaffolding and in much needed repair. It was sold and bought by a Russian-all I know. Bought for 1.47 million pounds with the promise that he will put 5 million pounds in restoration.

The next day we attended the AGM at Duthill and said good-bye to the clan members, dear Lord Strathspey and wonderful Judy.



Next step was driving to Oban. The county is beautiful but, in taking the slow road, I had a bit of vertigo. There were many turns with curvy roads-obviously not built by the Romans. On the way, I had Stephen stop on the road because I saw goats-not just an ordinary goat but ones with black and white hair, soft like fur. I do not know what kind of goats they were but I love them. I wonder what the customs would charge if I brought one home.

We had a nice time in Oban-would visit again with its fresh sea air and smell of fish, and rain (yes that's poncho time). Outside of Oban is a must visit to St. Conan' Kirk. There is a tomb with what is believed to be a bone from Robert the Bruce's tomb in Dunfermline Abbey. What spectacular views and beautiful gardens. The whole area is so historical and enchanting. One flowering bush (don't know what it's called) was so fragrant it seemed kissed by the tree fairies.

The rest of our trip was to Iverary and Glasgow, then on to Ireland. But that's another story. We loved Ireland. We wore our kilts only one day and people in the street took our pictures. One person said, "they wear those in Scotland" I guess I do need to know the protocol for kilts in other countries. From Ireland, we flew back and stopped in New York and attended the Long Island Scottish Irish games.



Two weeks later attended the Estes Park Scottsfest. I was chosen to stand in the middle of the Coast Guard honor guard while they did their gun drill around me. I guess this is one time when you just say keep smiling and say:

Stand Fast! It's Good To Be A Grant

Our Trip to Scotland/England
By Nora Feavel

My sister, Sue, and I did the Amazing Britain tour through Trafalgar. It includes tickets for the "Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (only shows in August). It is a 10-day tour starting in London, working through Scotland, the highlands over to Glasgow and back through the Lakeview District of England then back to London. I have attached a few pics, the Tattoo was difficult to photograph, but you can purchase the DVD at a later time, on line.

Standfast!



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 / Jeniphr Grant 2013-2015



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