



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

SUMMER 2015
Clan Grant Society USA

Greetings Clansmen and Clanswomen!

The western US has been very hot this summer, and our fire season is expected to be unusually long and severe. I hope those of you east of here are enjoying a milder time and found good use for the rainfall we did not get. I travelled to China for 19 days, to teach English to high school students in Shanghai for two weeks, followed by a few days in Beijing for sightseeing. I managed to ascend the Great Wall despite my walking difficulties. Wow, was it hard going, though!

2015 AGM: Although we were looking for an AGM in Central Time Zone, we did not find any volunteers, so we will try to go there next year. **For this year, we will meet at the Stone Mountain Games (<http://www.smhg.org>) in Atlanta, GA, 16-18 October.** The AGM will be held at 1:30PM EST directly behind the Clan Grant tent.

Please join us there, or purchase a call in capability to connect with us via telephone for \$15 (check to CGS, USA and mailed to me for deposit) with the phone number you will be using in the "FOR" line of the check. I will register the numbers and send connection instructions via email for those who choose to participate in this manner. I would like your participation at the AGM as we will be discussing changes to the bylaws to allow for alternative methods of maintaining the Board of Directors when emergent circumstances require the departure of a member, such as interim appointments or emergency elections.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES FOR 2016: The Board of Directors has discussed and decided on the following changes to memberships available beginning in January 2016 (the date of membership renewals) –

Family Memberships – for two adults at the same address, 1 year \$35.

Life Membership (Family) –

- a. If already purchased a life membership and desirous of including a second adult at the same address, additional \$200.
- b. If purchasing after January 2016, the first member pays the current amount of \$400, and the second adult at the same address pays \$300.
- c. Honorary life memberships for attaining the age of 80 will be granted to both of the adults at the same address upon reaching the age requirement.

Our regular memberships are still available at \$20 per year. The intent of the addition of the family memberships is to include those persons who are involved in our Clan activities to be more active and entitle them to be members in their own right with voting privileges at AGMs.

VACANCIES: We are still seeking volunteers for our vacant Vice President and Treasurer positions, and one transitioning Member at Large. We will accept nominations (with five members in support of the nominee) to Dr. Bill Grant, our Nominating Committee Chairman (academicdad@yahoo.com). We will use the website along with mailed ballots when we determine the nominees. Please let our Secretary know if you will use the website and do not need a ballot sent to you (for cost savings of printing and mailing). Thanks!

WEBSITE: We have a fantastic new website created and updated by Jeff Click!! There is general information for potential members, and a specific area with expanded information for members. Our Historian, James “Hank” Grant, put forth significant efforts and updated and expanded the information available for you about the Clan Grant. He has also rewritten the FAQ responses for potential members. I encourage you to review this information and incorporate it into the stories you tell at the games.

LOGINS FOR WEBSITE: Thanks to the about half of you who have checked in with Jeff Click to get your member login to our new site, and this is a reminder for those others to get your login, and take a look at the content. Comments, questions, and articles are welcome. We are placing information within the members’ only section, to get to know each other better. Jeff may be contacted via email at: jclick@msn.com.

MEMBER INVOLVEMENT: We continue to experience difficulty in getting articles about the games in which we are participating. As with any organization, no job is complete without the paperwork. In our case, that paperwork is the photos and reports of the games participation. I would like to recognize new

members in each issue of the *Craig*, see members in attendance, and any outstanding events that take place at particular games across the country.

Additionally, as with other volunteer organizations, there are a few active members who are trying to keep the Society afloat with little assistance from others. This is especially trying, as we continue to request minimal information about the activities, encourage reporting to let others know what the Clan is doing, and to get participation at our annual meeting. We have expanded how we allow AGM participation, and still had less than 1% of our membership engaged in the meeting. This does not bode well for our future, and I would like to engage the membership in a dialog about what you desire from your Society, and what you are willing to do to ensure it continues. Please email me your comments and suggestions to the email president@clangrant-us.org; or (alternatively) we could discuss this in the general discussion forum of the “member’s only” section of the website.

STAND FAST!!

Jeniphr Grant



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



ELECTED OFFICERS

President - Jeniphr Grant 36206 Allen Rd S Roy, WA 98580 jeniphr.grant@gmail.com (609) 864-4615

Acting Vice President - Jeff Click 2604 NE 142nd St., Vancouver, WA 98686 jclick@msn.com (360)-635-4312

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Member At Large - Jim Grant PO Box 248, Odessa DE 19730-0248 uncle.duck@verizon.net (302) 378-9090

Member At Large - Robert E. Grant 828 Lipton Dr., Newport News VA 23608 hk661dsp@yahoo.com
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APPOINTED OFFICERS

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Clan Commissioners



GAMES COMMISSIONER

Jim F Grant PO Box 248 Odessa, DE 19730, (302) 378-9090,
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Greetings from your Clan Webmaster,

We currently have 78 active members for our new website. An additional 66 have been sent their login account details but have never signed onto the site. And we have 51 individuals that do not have an email account listed with us so we cannot set up their accounts. For those of you that are using the website, please reach out and let me know if you are satisfied with all of the changes and any suggestions that you have. I hope the rest of you will give it a try as soon as you are able. Please let me know if you have any difficulties or can't remember your login details.

We hope to be adding some more historical document later this summer from Hank Grant, our clan historian. I have also included a couple of articles from our Scottish Highland Newsfeed on our website for your reading pleasure.

Jeff Click
jclick@msn.com – 303-513-1178)

From “The Scotsman”

Highland horse teams re-enact mail coach run

ALISTAIR MUNRO

Sunday 31 May 2015

A COMMEMORATIVE event to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the last ever horse-drawn mail coach run in the UK will take place in the Highlands this week.

The re-run, called Mail Coach 100, will see four teams of horses running separate nine-mile stages along a 36.5-mile route in Badenoch.



An early Royal Mail coach.

Picture: Contributed

A return trip will then be made by a motorised charabanc which replaced the Badenoch mail coach in 1915.

The event will re-enact deliveries, with letters being exchanged by children at primary schools throughout the region.

By the end of the 19th century coaches had become outdated throughout most of the country with improved rail links and the introduction of motor cars.

But they continued in the north of Scotland until modernised rail connections were introduced.

Event organiser, Ruaridh Ormiston, owner of Newtonmore Riding Centre, said: “I took up coach driving 30 years ago, so I have always had a keen interest in it.

“I knew from the old museum at Kingussie the old mail coach had run until World War One. I researched it and found it was actually the last horse drawn mail coach in the country.”

As well as being joined by paying visitors on the trip, Ormiston will be joined by four grandsons of the last coachman, James Gillies, who had recounted to them tales of his time on the mail coach.

They will also show their grandfather’s old notebook, while one, Gillies Campbell, will tell the stories passed down to him.

The coaches will visit the MacPherson Museum, which has Gillies’ old pistol, which he carried to protect him from mail robbers.

Ormiston said: “We have also found the niece of one of the last passengers. Bella Macdonald, who was 14, boarded the last coach at Tulloch Station to travel to look after her failing granny at her croft near Nethy Bridge. “She never left Nethy and eventually inherited the croft and then passed it on to her niece, Marina Dennis, who is well-known in crofting circles.

“Marina will accompany us to tell stories and to speak to Roy Bridge School, where Bella’s brother taught for about 30 years.”

Dennis said: “My aunt left her parents’ croft to help with a family croft in Strathspey. She remained on the croft for the next 75 years of her life. I inherited the croft in 1985 and remain there.”

Ormiston will also have an old-style mail sack to carry the letters between children at primary schools in Laggan, Newtonmore, Kingussie and Roy Bridge. And in addition to the four teams of horses, there will be a proper coach guard and coach horn blower, who will be dressed in period costume.

The horses used for the last stagecoach journey were commandeered for use in the First World War where eight million horses died on both sides.

Seats on the coaches are being sold for £30 each with proceeds going to Cairngorms Riding for the Disabled, based at Newtonmore Riding Centre. The charity is hoping to set up its own carriage-driving section for disabled visitors.

The mail coach began making deliveries in the UK from 1784. The coach was drawn by four horses and had seating for four passengers inside. Further passengers were later allowed to sit outside with the driver. The mail was held in a box to the rear, where a Royal Mail guard stood.

They were first introduced thanks to John Palmer, a theatre owner from Bath, who believed mail being delivered by horseback was inefficient and vulnerable to robbery.

Palmer realised that the coach service he had previously used to transport actors and materials between theatres would be ideal for a countrywide mail delivery service.

He suggested to the Post Office in London that they take up the idea. He met strong resistance, but eventually the then Chancellor of the Exchequer William Pitt allowed him to carry out an experimental run between Bristol and London. Pitt then gave permission for the new service.



Ruaridh Ormiston leads some of the horses that will be used in the anniversary event.
Picture: Contributed

From “Scottish Business News”

H & I businesses shine at the Scotland Food and Drink Excellence Awards 2015

Five Highlands and Islands businesses were awarded food ‘oscars’ at the 2015 Scotland Food and Drink Awards earlier this week.

The ambitious companies recognised at the ceremony were:

- Isle of Skye Sea Salt Co which came first in the Soups, Preserves & Accompaniments category;
- Golspie Mill which won the Bakery & cereal Based category;
- The Argyll Smokery which won the Fish & Seafood category;
- Bruichladdich Distillery & The Agronomy Institute of UHI which came first in the Innovation category;
- The Scottish Salmon Company, who won the Business of the Year category.

With 23 award categories celebrating excellence across Scottish food and drink, the Scotland Food and Drink Excellence Awards showcase a broad spectrum of food and drink companies from across the country.

HIE’s Senior food and drink development manager, Iain Sutherland, said: “HIE is delighted to be working with our industry partners, Scotland Food & Drink to help many companies in every part of the Highlands and Islands to increase sales and reach new markets. We would like to congratulate them but also applaud the runners-up from the Highlands and Islands on their fantastic achievement. We hope the accolades will help them all to develop their businesses and contribute to the outstanding success of the Scottish food and drink industry. We would like to acknowledge the companies from our region which were shortlisted for the awards.”

A record breaking 239 entries were received for the Excellence awards, up 56% from 153 entries in 2014. In the course of their assessment of the award applications, the retail and foodservice judging panel tasted over 260 products during a two day tasting session, examining submissions from 116 businesses across Scotland.

The winners were announced by broadcaster Kaye Adams at a ceremony at Edinburgh’s National Museum of Scotland on 27 May. Dubbed the Scottish food and drink ‘Oscars’, the ceremony sold out in record time and was bigger than ever before with more than 800 guests attending on the night. Attendees were treated to a drinks reception and delicious dinner, showcasing the very best of Scotland’s larder.

The awards are organised by Scotland Food & Drink in partnership with The Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland. The title sponsor is Asda and the awards are supported by Think Local.

Chief Executive of Scotland Food & Drink, James Withers, said: "This year's Awards have been a huge success with a record number of entries and our biggest ever award dinner with over 800 people there to celebrate the sector. The skill, passion and innovation that mark our industry is represented in the diversity of the finalists and winners. Food and drink is now a national success story for Scotland and the Awards let us shine a light on just some of the people and world-class products that are behind that success. Crucially, it gives us the complete confidence that our industry will continue to grow in markets at home and overseas in the years to come."

Clan Grant Society USA
Annual General Meeting
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.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Lena Grant
Clan Grant USA Secretary



Thank you for your contributions to Craigellachie.
This is my last Newsletter as your editor.
I have enjoyed meeting many of you and Sharing
your articles and experiences.

Dr. William Grant



THE END