

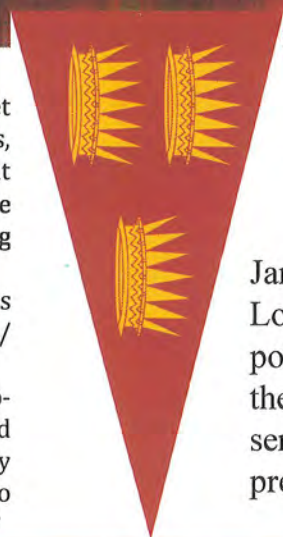


Hello All,  
I am just writing to let you know the exciting news, that the Chief announced at the AGM last weekend that there will be an International Clan Grant Gathering in August 2020!

We have made this announcement as a Newsflash on our Society website at <http://www.clangrant.org/index.aspx?pid=1>

There are no further details at the moment but we would be happy if you could spread the news to all your members, so they can start to consider if they will be able to

*Continued on page 2*

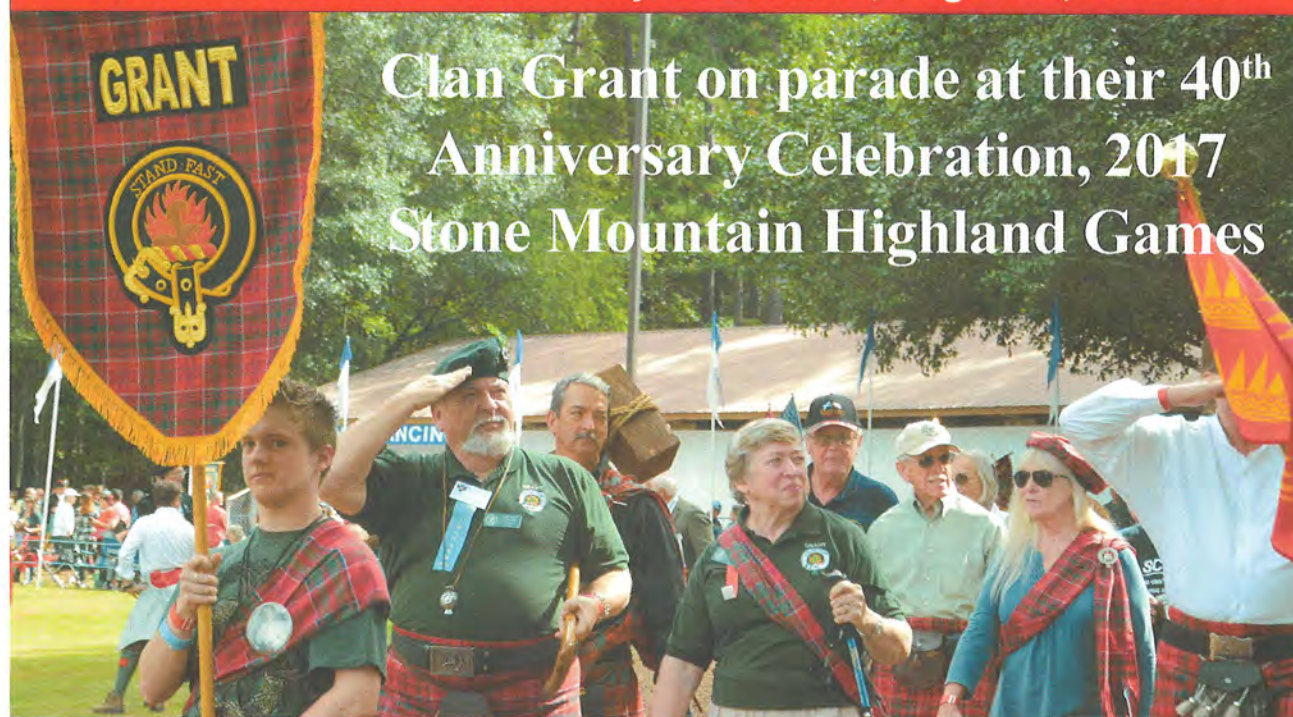


## Dr. "Bill" Grant appointed by Chief

In a handwritten letter, The Rt. Hon. Sir James Patrick Trevor Grant of Grant, Bt., Lord Strathspey, 33<sup>rd</sup> Chief of Grant, has appointed his first Official Representative in the United States. The new Official Representative is Dr. William "Bill" Grant current president of the Clan Grant Society in the

*Continued on page 2*

**Photos of the 40th Anniversary Celebration, Pages 22, 23 & 26!**



## Clan Grant on parade at their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, 2017 Stone Mountain Highland Games

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.





*Dr. Grant at the left, new Official Representative of The Rt. Hon. Sir James Patrick Trevor Grant of Grant, Bt., Lord Strathspey, 33rd Chief of Grant.*



Many thanks to Janette Kaiser for her service as the Treasurer of the Clan Grant Society-USA.

The quach shown was presented as a gift for her service. She was recognized at the 2017 AGM in Stone Mountain Georgia.



*To the right, the new Grant pinsel which will be carried to identify the Official Representative of Lord Strathspey.*

**Official Representative,** *Continued from page 1* in the USA.

The Clan Grant Society celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the 45<sup>th</sup> Stone Mountain Games in October 2017.

This event coincided with the appearance of the Grant pinsel, the banner which proclaims the Official Representative of the Chief is present.

Heraldic Artist, Tom Freeman, produced the new Grant pinsel.



**Clan Gathering 2020,**  
*continued from page 1*

join us in 2020.

Best wishes. Kim Todd

Monymusk Estate, Tel: 01467 651333

## Allied Families/Septs of Clan Grant- USA

Allan \* Allen \* Bisset(t) \* Bowie  
Bule \* Gilroy \* MacAllan  
M(a)cgillroy \* M(a)cilroy  
McKerran - M(a)cKiaran  
M(a)cKessock \* Pratt \* Suttle  
Allan of Rhynagairn  
More of Drunkirk  
Siol Lewis

I have been taught that being a sept of a clan or an allied family simply means that in the past, your family with a name other than the clan who was in charge of that particular place lived on that land. It was common in times of danger to go to the chief's castle and ask for asylum and to be allowed to stay in his "place of safety."

In return, your family swore your oath of "fealty" and promised to fight with that particular clan. (Fealty means a loving oath.) Those vows are as good today as they were hundreds of years ago. *Your editor.*



# President's Message



The AGM at Stone Mountain marked the last year of my two-year term as President and the beginning of my next term of four years.

I am thankful for your support in again making me the President of the Clan Grant Society-USA.

During my 2016 year as President I presided over the 2017 AGM, four board meeting conference calls and a budget and action plan meeting. In addition to serving as President I also served as temporary quartermaster and as an Assistant Editor of *Craigellachie*.

Lena and I attended eight Scottish Games and Festivals in Texas and the East Coast. I served as Games Commissioner at five of these games. Post card invitations to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration were sent to over 100 members on the East Coast. Lena and I personally sent every member a 2016 Christmas Card.

I have continued to write to our Chief keeping him informed of our growth in activities and membership.

It has been both a busy and enjoyable year.

In August, The Chief of Clan Grant made me his Official Representative in the USA.

On behalf of the Clan Grant Society-USA I wish to extend best wishes to Clan Lindsay. We greatly appreciated their attendance at our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration during the Stone Mountain Games on October 21<sup>st</sup> 2017.

The gift of a cake was unexpected and delicious. We were pleasantly surprised to find several members of Clan Lindsay also traced family connections to Clan Grant.

I look forward to visiting the Clan Lindsay Tent at several Scottish Games in the new year and encourage Grants everywhere to visit the Clan Lindsay tent and express our gratitude and friendship.

**STAND FAST**

Dr. Bill Grant, President of Clan Grant Society-USA

USA Representative of Lord Strathspey,

Chief of Clan Grant



## Uncle Grant wants YOU to know...

**Clan Grant** is a great clan with a proud history. There are many Grant families in the USA that do not know their Scottish history or that they are part of a Clan. When our society was first formed we said that we would do the following;

- **Literature** – including publication of Scottish or Gaelic literature;

- **Charitable** – such as helping Clansmen or dependents of Clansmen in distress;

- **Historical** – especially as may be related to Clan Grant (or its various branches);

- **Educational** – such as financial assistance to deserving students, establishment of a fellowship in Scottish literature or music, grants to schools or colleges, and support of the Clan Grant Educational and Charitable Trust;

- **Cultural** – such as encouraging the perpetuation of Highland dress traditions and customs, promoting Highland Games in the United States, and supporting the Clan Grant Center in Scotland;





## Colin Grant-Adams to serve as Clan Grant's travel planner, guide and coordinator

The Chief has announced at the 2017 AGM in Scotland that there will be an International Clan Grant Gathering in 2020.

The Clan Grant Society-USA has responded by naming our own Honored Minstrel, Colin Grant-Adams, as our travel planner, guide, and coordinator. More information will be forthcoming over 2018.

Time to mark your calendars to join Colin, Dr. Bill & Lena Grant and others as we travel to the International Gathering in 2020.

## Ed Smith proclaimed Honorary Clan Grant Society-USA Clan Piper

Clan Grant Society-USA board of Directors proclaimed Ed Smith The Honorary Clan Grant Society-USA Clan Piper at their regular meeting November 18, 2017.

Ed is the son of Dr. Phil and Shirley Smith.

Recently Ed piped at the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the Founding of the Clan Grant Society-USA doing an excellent job.

Ed is the Minister of Kentucky Lake Road Church of Christ in Paris Landing Tennessee.

Duties of The Honorary Clan Grant Society USA Clan Piper: The Clan Piper coordinates the piping activities of Clan Grant Society-USA, gathers and maintains a listing of proficient pipers that may be contacted to provide pipe music; promotes interest and education in playing the pipes; supports Clan Grant Society-USA's gatherings as much as possible, and provides for regular publication of articles on piping in Craigellachie.



### Bunny rabbits undermining Inverness Castle - causing the castle to be unstable

Inverness Castle is under siege. The enemy is neither Viking nor English - but the very cuddly bunny rabbits.



Burrowing as they do in the sandy soil by the River Ness, their network of tunnels and warrens has grown to the point where the stability of the castle walls is under threat.

## **Clan Grant Society – USA Annual General Meeting**

October 21, 2017

Officers/Board Members Present: Bill Grant, Lena Grant, Jeff Click, Jeniphr Grant, Janette Kaiser, Jim Grant, Rand Allan, Karen Cook, Steven Grant, George James

Also in attendance were approximately 35 additional members, including 4 founding members of the Clan.

The Secretary determined that there was a quorum.

President Bill Grant called the meeting to order, welcoming members in attendance in person and via conference call.

Jim Grant moved & J. Eric Grant seconded a motion to accept the minutes as emailed.

Janette Kaiser gave the Treasurer's Report. John C. Grant moved and George James seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. A copy is attached.

Rand Allan gave the Membership and Donation Report (see attached).

Games Coordinator George James presented his report as attached.

Jeff Click, Vice President, told the gathering about the Clan web site, including security updates and renewing the contract for the site with GoDaddy; that the Clan is now using the free email service MailChimp to reduce costs; and the addition of an online Clan Grant store in coordination with House of Tartan.

President Grant summarized the Clan's past year as given in the attached report.

The election results, certified by teller Robert E. Grant & given by President Bill Grant are as follows:

Bill Grant, President (4 year term); Jeff Click, Vice President (1 year term); Lena Grant, Secretary (1 year term); Karen Cook, Treasurer (4 year term); Jeniphr Grant, Member At Large (4 year term); Jim Grant, Member At Large (4 year term).

Dr. Bill thanked Janette Kaiser for her outstanding and hard work as Treasurer.

The Bylaws committee reported that it hoped to have a revised set of bylaws for consideration of the Board at the November meeting.

An email from Don Grant, Vice Chairman of Clan Grant UK was read, congratulating Clan Grant USA on arriving at its 40-year anniversary.

Comments from members: Beau Grant said that anyone who wanted to take over running the Clan Facebook page please let him know; Steven Grant commented on the US Grant Hotel in San Diego; Jeff Click passed along a message from the Genealogist requesting members please send their family lines to her.

President Bill Grant adjourned the meeting at 1:35 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted, Lena Grant, Secretary, Clan Grant Society - USA

Dr. Bill Grant, President





Hi Everyone,

Our new website for Clan Grant visitors to the Strathspey area is LIVE. Please check it out at:

[www.clangrantvisitors.org](http://www.clangrantvisitors.org)

The website has been created for visitors to the Strathspey area, to help with planning a trip to the annual Clan Gathering, visiting Clan Grant sites of interest, booking accommodation, searching for places to eat etc., and also offers advice to those coming to research their family history.

We would welcome any constructive criticism, and if you notice any errors please let us know. We would also welcome any suggestions of places to visit for the listings in case we've missed anywhere amazing.

Best wishes, Kim Todd

On behalf of the Clan Grant Society UK

Monymusk Estate

Tel: 01467 651333

## VA Scottish Games



The Virginia Scottish Games is a unique annual festival that began as a celebration of Alexandria's Scottish Heritage and continues to celebrate the Scottish Heritage of the whole Commonwealth of Virginia.

**Yep! It surely is great to be a Grant!**





# Games Commissioners      Games Coordinator: George James

Richard Grant	856-582-4653	<a href="mailto:richardpgrant@comcast.net">richardpgrant@comcast.net</a>	Fairhill. MD
Lysle E Grant	603-330-0155	No email	Loon Mountain VT.
Will Kenyon	814-571-7570	<a href="mailto:willkenyon@aol.com">willkenyon@aol.com</a>	Ligonier, PA
Fred W Wood	864-498-0296	<a href="mailto:fred@bmc-control.com">fred@bmc-control.com</a>	Greenville, SC
R. Steven Grant	410-255-6841	<a href="mailto:odengrant@msn.com">odengrant@msn.com</a>	Mid-Maryland Celtic Festival, MD
Gary M Grant	770-585-9346	<a href="mailto:Garym_grant@yahoo.com">Garym_grant@yahoo.com</a>	Stone Mountain, GA Blairsville, GA
Rand Allan	858-454-3846	<a href="mailto:rballan@san.rr.com">rballan@san.rr.com</a>	Orange County, Ventura, CA
Paul D Grant	703-593-2864	<a href="mailto:paulwhenhome@gmail.com">paulwhenhome@gmail.com</a>	VA Scottish Games
Robert Grant	801-631-6790	<a href="mailto:Bob_grant@comcast.net">Bob_grant@comcast.net</a>	Moab, UT
Carl Allen	214-918-4458	<a href="mailto:Pastorcarl07@gmail.com">Pastorcarl07@gmail.com</a>	Salado, Arlington, San Antonio, Texas
Pruitt Young Allen	240-271-2389	<a href="mailto:pruitytallen@hotmail.com">pruitytallen@hotmail.com</a>	Grandfather Mountain, NC
George James	830-460-0628	<a href="mailto:tubageorge@hotmail.com">tubageorge@hotmail.com</a>	Upper East Tennessee Celtic Society, TN

Bet you didn't know, "It's great to be a Grant!" was declared by the previous Lord Strathspey, Sir Patrick, at the Grandfather Mountain Games, in the 1980s. George and Lucille had arranged for him to come over.

## CLAN GRANT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL (Membership # \_\_\_\_\_)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_  
 2<sup>nd</sup> ADULT (if family membership) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_ APT # \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
 2<sup>nd</sup> ADULT EMAIL (if family membership) \_\_\_\_\_

To save money, we send out our newsletters by email.

☐ Check here if you want to receive a paper copy of the newsletter (additional fees may apply)

### DUES (please circle):

**INDIVIDUAL** (single voting adult)    \$20 1-year    \$40 2-years    \$55 3-years    \$400 LIFE MEMBER

**FAMILY** (2 voting adults, same address)    \$35 1-year    \$70 2-years    \$100 3-years    \$700 LIFE MEMBER

Note: Membership runs from January 1 through December 31. New members joining after June 30 will pay half of the listed amount for the current year of membership, and the full amount upon renewal the following January.

### DONATIONS:

Clan Grant Centre Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We also offer subscriptions through the Clan Grant Society at discounted rates to THE HIGHLANDER Magazine \$15.50/year (3 years max): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Make all checks payable to CLAN GRANT SOCIETY

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

We need your birthdays too! The day and the month and the year. Please send the complete birthday with your membership application.



# Clan Grant Stands Fast

"Grampy" Bob Grant



President Dr. Bill Grant; Grampy Bob Grant's report of the Moab Celtic Festival a.k.a. *Scots on the Rocks*, this weekend in Moab.

A great time was had, but at a heavy cost to about 15 Clans including the Clan Grant.

I arrived in Moab Thursday about 2:30 pm.

The wind was blowing lightly. Several groups were putting up their clan tents. Friday morning, bright and early, I drove over to the Old Spanish Arena, to notice that 3 or 4 tents were damaged and had been blown all over the field.

I put the Clan Grant Society tent up. With lots of good people helping and coaching me on how to anchor the tent down against strong winds, we got the tent ready for the day. All of their advice was very worthwhile to me.

The Clan Grant tent made it through Friday and Friday night very well considering its battle with the wind (15-20 mph hour wind gusts). It was fine Saturday until about 3:45 pm.

Saturday morning I set up the Clan Grant Banners and flag, and try to get used to wearing my kilt.

All thru the day I had to make small adjustments on the anchor ropes because of wind gusts.

I had to hold one the corner poles down every time a wind gust came along.

About noon, my daughter and granddaughter came by to see the opening ceremony. I joined in the Clan Walk portion.

Just before the ceremony, we were informed of a secret wedding (the groom did not know he was going to get married) that was going to be done during the Clan Walk.

This was the highlight of the festival for me, plus being asked to assist Cody S. Hoagland in photographing the Friday Tattoo ceremony - plus the entrainment program after it.

Back Saturday afternoon, all of us continued battling the wind gusts until the first microburst hit us. I looked up to see a complete green canopy tent fly over three tents and land about four feet in front our tent.

Several other tents were taken out, also. Then about 15 minutes later, we had our Clan Grant tent top blown off in another microburst. There were about fifteen tents destroyed Saturday afternoon because of wind.

Clan Grant did stand fast!

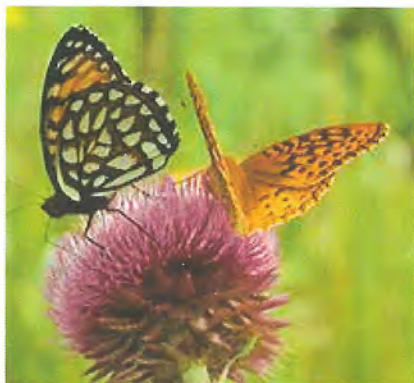
## BEFORE



## AFTER







## Thistle treats!



Thistle flowers are amongst the favorite nectar sources for a number of butterfly species, including the pearl-bordered fritillary, the small pearl-boardered fritillary, the high brown fritillary and the dark green fritillary.

Thistles and these creatures that feed on thistle-seeds also attract the North American goldfinch.



# Grants attend the 2017 Ligonier Scottish Highland Games in Pennsylvania



*William and Jenny Kenyon with Dr. Bill Grant and his wife, Lena Grant, at the 2017 Ligonier Scottish Highland Games.*

## Great Grant News!

The Clan Grant Society USA has had 15 new members and 3 members who had let their membership lapse for several years, yet rejoined as new members recently.

**R.B. Allan,**  
Membership Secretary  
<rballan@san.rr.com>



*Clan Lindsay presents Clan Grant with a CAKE!*



## Bourbon is Scottish, too!

History credits the Rev. Elijah Craig, a Baptist minister, with being the first in 1789 to make bourbon.

He was a Scotsman.

Kentucky is the place for bourbon because of the limestone which makes the water almost iron-free.

The first bourbon recognized by brand outside of Kentucky probably was produced by Dr. James Crow...a Scotsman who settled near the Rev. Craig's place.

He was known by the locals as Jim Crow.



## Webmaster's **REPORT**

**Jeff Click, Webmaster and Vice-President**

Greetings all,

Well it has certainly been a full year for us as a Society since the last AGM. We have added the ability to pay for your membership via credit card on our site. We have quite a few individuals join as new members using this, as well as some of you renewing your membership. We have also renewed our hosting service and domain name for another 3 years.

Some of you may remember that last year we dropped using the "Constant Contact" email service as it was going to end up costing us a lot of money for a small amount of usage. I was able to use the capability in our website to send out emails, although it did require a bit of manual prodding each time. But it was also free, which is a great price for us Scots. Well we have now lined up MailChimp as a new service. For the amount of usage that we normally require, it will also be free for us.

*Continued on page 25*







*Highland Cathedral* is a popular Scottish bagpipe melody, often played at funerals.

It was actually written by two German musicians, Ulrich Roeber and Michael Korb, for the 1982 Highland Games.

It has subsequently undergone various orchestrations and had lyrics added in English and in Scottish Gaelic.

The tune was also the anthem of the Royal Hong Kong Police when Hong Kong was still under British rule.

It was played at a ceremonial lowering of the governor's flag at Chris Patten's residence, Government House, on the last day of British Rule in 1997.



## Clan Grant castle for sale at £950,000!



*A majestic castle that was once the seat of the Clan Grant chiefs of Strathspey, in the Scottish Highlands, and previously owned by former Rangers chairman Craig WYTE is on the market*

Castle Grant, a mile north of Grantown-on-Spey, Morayshire, has a rich history, dates back to the 16th century and is "A" listed.

The vast 13,000sq ft, 10-bedroom home comes complete with ballroom, drawing room, billiard room, cinema room and butler's room, set in 35 acres of parkland and mature woodland. Whyte bought the property and was part way through expensive renovations when he split from wife Kim.

He moved out after their marriage fell apart and the castle was repossessed after he reportedly refused to pay the £7,000-a-month mortgage for two years.

The 16th-Century pile was originally put on the market for £1.1m in April 2014 after the Bank of Scotland seized the property, with Sergey Fedotov, director general of the Russian Author's Society, and the current owner paying a reported £1 million for it.

Fedotov, 40, is a Russian tycoon who was jailed in Russia in June for 18 months for carrying out a £4million fraud to fund his lavish lifestyle.

It was originally known as Freuchie Castle. According to Clan tradition, the castle was taken from the original owners, the Comyn clan, by a combined force of the Grants and MacGregors, and it became Castle Grant in 1694.

The Grant family held onto it until the 1950s. When it was sold in the 1970s, many of the contents, including the arms, weapons and paintings, were sent to museums throughout Scotland.

Soldiers were stationed in the castle during World War II, and they are thought to be responsible for the rotting timbers – because they re-

*Continued on page 12*



## Grant castle, continued from page 11

peatedly mopped the floors.

The constant moisture caused dry rot, which slowly demolished the timbers of the upper floors of the building. Despite some renovations, they are still in need of extensive repairs.

The castle has changed hands several times in recent decades.

It is said to have a ghost, that of Lady Barbara Grant, a daughter of one of the chiefs in the 16th century, said to have been locked in a closet by her father for refusing to marry the man he chose for her.

Legend has it that she died of a broken heart and stalks the tower and can sometimes be heard crying.

The east and west wings, designed by Scottish architect John Adam, were added in 1765. Particular design features of the building are the U-shape and the raised inner courtyard.

Many of the original period features remain, particularly in the ballroom, drawing room and billiard room while many improvements over the years include wood burning stoves, en suite facilities, modern bathrooms and a fitted kitchen.

The third floor, attic and a second attic are in a state of disrepair but offer excellent further development potential subject to the appropriate permissions.

Kevin Maley, partner in Strutt & Parker's Inverness office, said: "The Strutt & Parker Inverness office were involved in the sale of Castle Grant just over three years ago. Since then the owners have embarked on a major refurbishment which is still ongoing.

"Much of it was unforeseen, structural and remains a work in progress; that work is, therefore, not aesthetically pleasing on the eye but it will hopefully preserve the ancestral seat of the Clan Grant chiefs for many more generations to come.

"A significant amount of investment is still required but it offers a superb development opportunity. I expect national and international interest in this wonderful property."

Castle Grant is situated within the outstanding Cairngorms National Park, a haven for outdoors, sporting and wildlife enthusiasts; nearby, there are excellent fishing opportunities on the River Spey and the River Dulnain, several popular golf courses, a ski slope, sailing, kayaking and windsurfing on Loch Morlich and Loch Insh as well as the stunning Moray coastline.



*A contingent of Lindsay's bringing CAKE to the 40th Anniversary Clan Grant party at the Stone Mountain Games October 21, 2017.*

## How long is a mile?

The word for "mile" comes from the Latin "mille," meaning "a thousand."

A Roman mile was the distance a Roman legion could march in 1,000 paces (equivalent to 2,000 steps), whereas the modern mile is longer, coming in at 8 furlongs, 80 chains, 320 rods, 1,760 yards, or 5,280 feet.







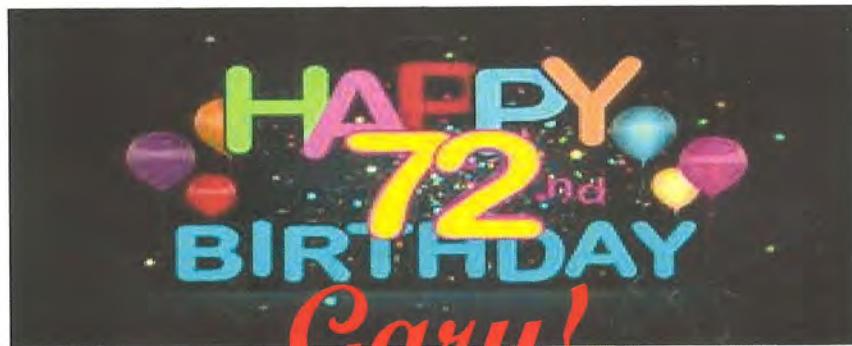
*Above is Marjorie Grant, wife of Clan Grant's Games Coordinator, Lysle Grant.*

## Maine Highland Games netted three new Clan Grant Society members!

Tradition was front and center at the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Maine Highland Games and Scottish Festival held near Topsham, Maine recently.

"It's all about the history," said Douglas Williams, an Augusta native of the Clan McFarland. "People come from all over and learn about their families."

Three new members were recruited for Clan Grant at these games.

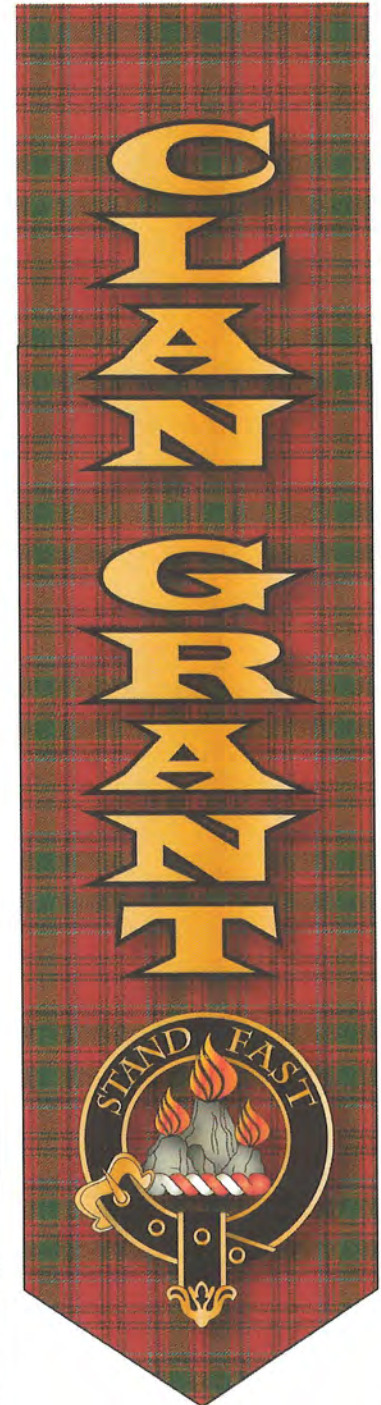


*Gary and Barbara Grant, with grandchildren, celebrating Gary's 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday!*

*Gary is one of our Clan Grant Society USA Games Commissioners.*

Let your editor know when it is YOUR birthday!

**The Clan Grant Society, USA has a new vertical banner!**





# Upper East Tennessee Celtic Society Celtic Festival and Scottish Games in Tennessee great success for Clan Grant!



**Welcome Susan C. Derher, new Clan Grant member.**

## George James, Games Coordinator

Here is a brief report of the 25<sup>th</sup> Upper East Tennessee Celtic Society Celtic Festival and Scottish Games held on 22-23 September, 2017.

The Clan Grant-USA tent was set up on Friday, 22 September. The venue provided a table and a tablecloth, and George James provided the chairs. There was a Firelight Ceremony and Calling of the Clans on Friday evening, which was piped by Clan Grant-USA member Nathan James. About a dozen Clans were represented.

On Saturday, the gates opened at 10am. About 1,000 people came through during the day, many stopping at the Clan tents. I am excited to report that Susan C. Derher from Johnson City, TN signed up as a member of Clan Grant-USA. Susan has done a lot of family research, and is a member of several Clans. She has some Grant in her history, and was delighted to sign up.

Our Clan Grant tent was manned by Games Coordinator George James, and Nathan James. The Cousins James are also "The Jacobites By Name," a traditional Celtic band specializing in Scots music. The band performed on the festival schedule, and played at the Ceilidh on Saturday night.

It is reported that there are a lot of Grant surnames in the Upper East Tennessee area, and I would definitely like to represent the Clan at future events held there. The Upper East Tennessee Celtic Society held it's 25<sup>th</sup> annual Celtic Festival and Scottish Games at the Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site in Johnson City, Tennessee. This is the first year at a new venue, and it went well. We even had a proclamation presented by TN State Senator Rusty Crowe recognizing UETNCS's support of and promotion of the cultural heritage in the region. He also plays a mean harmonica, and was accompanied by The Jacobites By Name as he played "Danny Boy."

George James, Games Coordinator  
Clan Grant-USA



It wasn't until the eighteenth century that people started to follow standard ways of spelling words.

In Shakespeare's day, people spelled words as they thought they sounded and that went for names too.

Shakespeare spelled his own name numerous different ways.

In fact, over eighty different versions have appeared at one time or another including: Shakepeyr, Shaxpeare, Shagspere, Shagsper, Shakspere, Shaxper, Shaxpere, Shakesshaft and Shakesper!





# Can you spend one Saturday or a Saturday and Sunday once a year at a Scottish Games? You'll have fun!

If your answer is YES. Then Clan Grant wants to send you to a local Scottish Games or Celtic Festival. We will help you to get tickets, register a tent and help you through the simple tasks of setting up and hosting a Clan Grant Tent.

We will provide a popup tent, banners, flags, books and material. In addition, we can connect you with an experienced Games Commissioner to ensure that your Scottish Festival experience is a positive one.

To learn more about this way to support your Clan and to have a great excuse to attend your local festival, contact George James our Games Coordinator by email [tubageorge@yahoo.com](mailto:tubageorge@yahoo.com) or Dr. Bill Grant, our President, [academicdad@yahoo.com](mailto:academicdad@yahoo.com)

We look forward to seeing you at the Games.



## Anniversary Clan Grant!

Anniversary gifts received from Scotland, the Chief and The Clan Grant Society - UK, included: three books - one of which was custom printed; a beautiful quach mounted upon a custom wood base and engraved, "2017 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Clan Grant USA from The Chief and Clan Grant UK."





61% of American Presidents are of Scots or Scots-Irish descent, including Donald Trump.

Trump's mother was a Scottish Macleod.

**Thank You!** Jeff Click!

I am pleased to announce that we have a contract with House of Tartan for a Grant On line store.

Thanks to a year long effort by Jeff Click, Many Thanks.

We are hoping the link and structure of the store will be complete before the AGM.

This will be a service to our members and provide the Society an important source of funds.

*Dr. Bill Grant, President, Clan Grant Society*

**YOU!**



**COULD BE ONE OF US!**

**Allied Families & Septs of Clan Grant**

Allan • Allen • Bisset(t) • Bowie  
Buie • Gilroy • MaccAllan  
M(a)cgilroy • M(a)cilroy  
McKerran • M(a)cKieran  
M(a)cKessock • Pratt • Suttie

**IT'S GREAT TO BE A GRANT!**

[www.clangrant-us.org](http://www.clangrant-us.org)

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## Clan Grant Society Elected Officers for 2017-2018

### PRESIDENT

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Congratulations to **Carl Allen** our Texas Games Commissioner for winning a belt buckle, contributed by Jean Grant Wilson, based on recruiting the most new members at the San Antonio Games (14) in 2017.





*Glasgow Highland Games Clan Grant tent at top left and Clan Grant attendees at the Taste of Scotland Scottish event in Franklin, NC below the KY photo. Dr. Bill Grant, Grant president at right.*

## A lovely memory...

In 2008, Steve Grant, Sir James Grant, Holly ??? and Floyd Bishop Grant had a good time at the Stone Mountain Highland Games.





# Family medical history and genealogy

*This may be the most important article you ever read!*

**Bryan Mulcahy, MLS**

November is the month when most people think about Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. There is another day that has become just as important from a family history perspective. In 2004, the U.S. Surgeon General declared November 23rd as National Family History Day. Although it is overshadowed by Thanksgiving, which falls on the same day, National Family History Day should be just as important to people of all ethnic backgrounds.

Your family medical history, sometimes called a medical family tree, is a record of illnesses and medical conditions affecting your family members down through the generations, along with the relationships among the members of your family. The process begins by interviewing immediate family members, parents, grandparents, and siblings, since they provide the most important links to genetic risk.

A family medical history can reveal the history of disease in your family and enable you to identify patterns that might be relevant to your own health. This knowledge benefits both you and your physician, because together you can:

1. Identify your potential risk of having certain diseases
2. Consider treatments or changes in diet, lifestyle habits, etc. to reduce the risk of disease
3. Identify which diagnostic tests to order
4. Determine the type and frequency of screening tests
5. Determine whether you or family members should get a specific genetic test
6. Identify a condition that might not otherwise be considered
7. Identify other family members who are at risk of developing a certain disease

8. Assess your risk of passing conditions on to your children

How should you go about compiling this type of information? Begin communicating with your family. Consider kicking off the project at a family gathering, such as a holiday or reunion. Keep in mind, however, that some loved ones might be uncomfortable disclosing personal medical information.

The U.S. Surgeon General has created a website called My Family Health Portrait <https://familyhistory.hhs.gov/FHH/html/index.html> to help you

create a family medical history. Cyndi's List also features a website <http://www.cyndislist.com/dna/family-health-history/> with links to other sources identifying the most current information and services available.

If you encounter reluctance from your family, consider these strategies:

1. Explain that you're creating a record to help you determine whether you and your relatives have a family history of certain diseases or health conditions. Offer to make the medical history available to other family members so that they can share the information with their doctors.

2. Provide several ways to answer questions. Some people might be more willing to share health information in a one-on-one conversation. Others might prefer answering your questions by phone, mail or email.

3. Establish a comfortable rapport. As your relatives talk about their health problems, listen without judgment or comment.

4. Keep your questions short and to the point. Be a good listener.



*Continued on page 20*





## Medical genealogy, *continued from page 19*

5. Respect privacy. As you collect information about your relatives, respect their right to confidentiality.

You might want to consult family documents, such as existing family trees, baby books, old letters, obituaries or records from places of worship. Vital records, such as birth certificates, marriage licenses and death certificates, may be available in county record offices. If you or your family members maintain electronic personal health records, use them.

For adoptees, ask your adoptive parents if they received any medical information about your biological parents at the time of your adoption. Adoption agencies also might have family medical information on file. If you were adopted through an open adoption process, you might be able to discuss your family's medical history directly with members of your biological family.

If possible, your family medical history should include at least three generations. Compile information about your parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, siblings, cousins, children, nieces, nephews and grandchildren. For each person, try to gather the following information:

1. Gender
2. Date and place of birth (be specific in terms of location)
3. Ethnicity
4. Medical conditions

5. Mental health conditions, including alcoholism or other substance abuse

6. Pregnancy complications, including miscarriage, stillbirth, birth defects or infertility

7. Age when each condition was diagnosed

8. Lifestyle habits, including diet, exercise and tobacco use

9. For deceased relatives, age at the time of death and cause of death

Pay special attention to conditions that develop earlier than usual, such as high blood pressure in early adulthood, or conditions that affect multiple relatives. Include information about where your mother's and your father's family members came from abroad before coming to America because some health problems occur more often in specific ethnic groups and geographic areas.

Give your doctor a copy of your family medical history and ask him or her to review it with you. Your doctor might ask you questions for clarification and can help you interpret the relevance of certain patterns in your medical history, including the need for preventive measures or screening tests.

As children are born and family members develop illnesses, update your family medical history. Share relevant updates with your doctor. It might take time and effort, but this tool can help improve the health of your family for generations to come.



# family genealogy *Corner*

Ann Scherzinger

Hello and welcome to the many new members of Clan Grant Society U.S! We are thrilled to have you on board!

Many people who join the Society have an interest in finding out more about their family roots. Did you know that Clan Grant Society U.S. maintains a database of the family trees of many of our members? More than fifty family trees have been contributed by our members. We would love to add your family tree to ours! You could find a long-lost cousin; it's happened before!

Family trees often begin simply with pen and paper. Naturally, you will want a list that includes your name; your spouse and children; your parents; and as many grandparents, etc. that follow the Grant line as possible. Include as many dates (birth, marriage, death) and any relevant locations as you can remember or find.

If you get thoroughly bitten by the genealogy bug, there are many programs and websites available to help you to organize and maintain your family tree. If you are purchasing family tree software, it should be GEDCOM compatible. A GEDCOM is a type of file that enables you to share your files with others who may not have the same software program. We can easily add this to the Grant Clan Society-USA family tree database. There are currently more than 7500 names in our database!

On-line resources abound. Some are free and others are fee-based. Ancestry.com is free to enter your family tree but is fee-based for searching the many documents that are available for view. FamilySearch.com is free for both entering your tree and basic research but seems to have fewer documents available for research. Both are excellent and easy to use.

Whether electronic or paper, the information that you provide to us should be simple and straightforward. The Clan family tree database is not published and is maintained privately on the computer of the Genealogy Coordinator. If we find that you have any relatives in our database, we let each of you know privately. This allows each of you to decide if you want to connect with the other.

Our website also has tips to offer on the subject of searching Scottish roots directly from the Clan Genealogist in Scotland. Check it out at: <http://clangrant-us.org> You will find the entire article in the drop-down menu under "The Society."

*Ann Scherzinger (wife of VP Jeff Click) is the current Genealogy Coordinator. Contact her at [genealogy@clangrant-us.org](mailto:genealogy@clangrant-us.org)*



## First Royal Mail

The post office at Sanquhar, Scotland, established in 1712, claims to be the oldest working post office in the world.

## Curling, anyone?

The town also has the world's oldest curling society, formed in 1774 with sixty members.







October 21, 2017, Stone Mountain  
Highland Games,  
near Atlanta, Georgia

**Celebrating**  **Forty Years!**  
1977 2017



**It's Great to  
be a Grant!**







# A Toast to the Chief



"For over seven centuries, the Chief of Clan Grant has served as the living embodiment of our family. Like a rock, Standing Fast.

Cousins, to our Chief, Sir James Grant of Grant, the Lord Strathspey."



October 21, 2017, Stone Mountain  
Highland Games,  
near Atlanta, Georgia

Celebrating



Forty Years!



*The Clan Grant Society - USA was founded in 1977 by George & Lucille Grant, by the authority of Sir Patrick Grant of Grant (1912 - 1992). The Right Honorable Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 32<sup>nd</sup> Hereditary Chief of Clan Grant. It continues under authority of Sir James Grant of Grant, The Right Honorable Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 33<sup>rd</sup> 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.*

## **Elected and Appointed Officers Clan Grant Society - USA**

### ***Elected Officers***

\* **President - William S. Grant, Ph.D.**, 3916 N. Potsdam Ave., PMB #3936, Sioux Falls, SD 57104 <academicdad@yahoo.com> 757-617-1652.

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\* **Secretary - Lena Grant**, 3916 N. Potsdam Ave., PMB #3936, Sioux Falls, SD 57104. <lenagrnt@gmail.com> 757-617-0625

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\* **Membership Secretary - Rand Allan**, 6102 Calle Vera Cruz, La Jolla, CA 92037. <rballan@san.rr.com> 858-454-3846.

\* **Quartermaster - VACANT**

\* **Webmaster - Jeff Click**, 2604 NE 142nd St., Vancouver, WA 98686. <jeffclick@msn.com> 303-513-1178.

**From Clan Grant...Best Wishes for the very best holiday season ever.  
We hope it is filled with joy and happiness and LOTS of figgy pudding!**



# Online store - House of Tartan - to work with the Clan Grant Society, USA

Greetings Clan Grant Society-USA Members

We are pleased to bring to you an online store and partnership with the House of Tartan. The House of Tartan is an internationally recognized company specializing in Scottish apparel and other items intended to provide a one stop shopping experience for those of you looking to show your pride in being a Grant! You will now find a 'Store' main menu item on our website that will take you to a page where two options will be provided.

The first option is our own Society store, which will allow you to donate to our causes, as well as a few additional items for purchase over time. NOTE: We do need a Society Quartermaster for those of you that may be interested! The second option is a button that will take you to our own Grant subsection of the House of Tartan website. All items purchased from here will return a small portion of the profits to our

Society.

We are pleased to be able to provide you this link in time for the Christmas shopping season. Drop in and take a look around. I think you will be pleased with what you find. New items will continue to be listed on the site as House of Tartan brings their full catalog to the store.

Please drop us a line and let us know how the Society and House of Tartan are doing in supplying items of interest.

Stand Fast!

Dr. Bill Grant

President Clan Grant Society-USA



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**Jeff Click**, *continued from page 10*

Huzzah!

We have added an online store capability to our website as well. Our store allows donations to our various causes and will eventually have a few other items such as books or t-shirts. For example, we hope to be able to offer Dr. Phil Smith's (a society member!) book on Tartans. However, we need to get the Quartermaster position filled. So if you are interested, please contact our president, Dr. Bill Grant.

In addition, we have placed a link on our site to our new partner, **The House of Tartan**. The link provides the ability to buy **high-quality Grant tartan wear** as well as other Grant items. We finalized the contract last month and you can start ordering right now! A portion of sales will come back to help our Society. I hope you will go out and take a look!

Finally, I raise a glass in toast to the great year we've had as a Society in our 40<sup>th</sup> year of existence. We are growing and people such as yourselves are reaching to see how they can lend a hand. May we have many more years ahead of us!

Contact information for the House of Tartan, Ltd:

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Weekdays 10:30 to 17:00 GMT  
Saturday 10:30 to 14:30 GMT  
or by appointment  
(Sunday closed)

<https://houseoftartan.com/scottish>



October 21, 2017, Stone Mountain  
Highland Games,  
near Atlanta, Georgia

Celebrating



Forty Years!

