

FALL 2020

NEWSLETTER OF THE CLAN GRANT SOCIETY-USA  
**CRAIGELLACHIE**



Shown above is the Clan Grant plant badge: the pine sprig.



John Lowrie Morrison  
*Winter Sunset - The Bridge at Stochavullin*



**The Clan Grant Society - USA is a member of  
The Council of Scottish Clans and Associations, Inc.**

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.



## President's Message!

**Dr. Bill Grant, Ph.D.**

**President, Clan Grant Society - USA**

**Happy  
Birthday**

**NOVEMBER,  
DECEMBER,  
JANUARY  
CELEBRANTS!**

Thank you for your continued support of our Clan Grant!

My personal thanks to our board members and Beth Gay Freeman for holding together the fabric of our organization this past year. Further thanks to Bob and Mary Grant of Georgia for conducting our 2019-2020 election.

Many thanks to our 19 games commissioners for hosting Grant tents in 2019 and standing by in 2020.

Thank you, Rand Allan, former society President, for serving as our membership secretary. Our condolences to Rand on the loss of your mother this year.

Condolences to Holly Floyd on the loss of her mother, Jean Grant Wilson of Florida, who served as an inspiration to us all. Judi Parsons, we are devastated at the passing of our first elected President, Howard Parsons, who authored the 40<sup>th</sup> year toast to the Chief of the Clan Grant. Howard

will be truly missed. Further to our other members, who have had family members pass away during the 2019-2020 year, our condolences.

This past year is certainly proven to be a sad year with the coronavirus pandemic. I am reminded of our ancestors

who survived the smallpox epidemic of 669 as well as the bubonic plague of 1349-50, not to mention the Spanish flu of 1918.

We shall stand fast and be strong.

Remember you do not just have a family; you have a Clan.

Pray for the chief and each other and that 2020 - 2021 proves to be a brighter year for us all.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you, my clan members, and my blessings upon you all.

*Dr Bill Grant, Ph.D., FSA Scot*

6<sup>th</sup> Elected President of  
The Clan Grant Society-USA  
Representative of the  
Chief of Clan Grant in the USA



**So many Corona-virus jokes out there, it's a pundemic.**



## Our Clan Chief



Sir James Grant of Grant,  
Lord Strathspey

*More  
masked Grants!*  
**Robert and  
Mary this  
Craigellachie!**



## Thanks, Grandma!



## THANK YOU

FARMERS • TRUCKERS • PHARMACISTS  
HEALTH CARE WORKERS • SANITATION WORKERS  
GROCERY WORKERS • RESTAURANT WORKERS  
FACTORY WORKERS • DELIVERY DRIVERS

• GAS STATIONS • TEACHERS •  
• VOLUNTEERS • DPW WORKERS •

Essential  workers

Hello to our Clan Grant kinfolds -

Here is a photo of Mary and me wearing our Clan Grant masks.

Thank you, Lena Grant, for making and sending these to us. They fit great and look really cool.

Mary and I have been working a lot in our yard during the shelter in place order. (The yard has never looked better.)

Mary has been making masks for friends and for the local hospital to give to visitors.

We have made music videos for our daughter-in-law's Montessori school and done some practising on our own.

Mary is exercising a lot and has grown more tomatoes than we can use.

It is so hot here in Georgia that we have finally had to figure out how to get to the cabin in the NC mountains.

We still are looking forward to our 40th wedding anniversary trip to Scotland.

Even though the trip to the Clan Grant gathering was cancelled this summer, we are planning to go as soon as we can.

We hope that all of our fellow Clan members are surviving the quarantine as well as we are.

Stand Fast!!! Bob Grant, Chaplain



# *Clan Grant Society - USA* *Flowers of the Forest*

## **David Noble Cook - Edward Grant**

Our president, Dr. Bill Grant, Ph.D., received correspondences notifying the Clan Grant Society- USA of the deaths of two of our members.

**David Noble Cook** of Paris, Tennessee, has passed away. He was born

31 August 1926 and died on July 16, 2018.

**Edward Grant** of Amelia Island, Florida, has also died.

If anyone has further information, please email <bethscribble@aol.com> so that we may publish their obituaries.

## **Clan Grant Society - USA report by Membership Chairman, Rand Allan**

**Active members – 271**

**Lifetime members – 100**

**New members since Jan 1 – 7**

**Members who chose not to renew  
this year - 69**

<rballan@san.rr.com>



## **2020 Election Report of Clan Grant Society – USA**

All nominations for the 2020 election of the Clan Grant Society – USA were submitted to the Secretary of Clan Grant by August 3, 2020. The positions to be filled and the nominees were as follows:

Positions and Nominees: \* President: Dr. William S. Grant; \* Treasurer: Karen Cook; \* Member at Large: Jeniphr Grant; \*Member at Large: Jim Grant.

Ballots were sent out to members and were returned to the teller, Mary Grant, by September 2, 2020.

Results of the election were submitted to the President of Clan Grant-US by the middle of September. The final vote tally for the 2020 election for the Clan Grant Society of the USA is as follows: All candidates were elected with a tally of 83 votes for election and none against.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Grant, Chair Nominating Committee  
Chaplain, Clan Grant-USA



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Visit the clan's dedicated online shop.  
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### CLAN GRANT'S TARTAN PARTNERS

NEW!  
COMING IN NOVEMBER:

Luxury 100% Lambswool Travel Rug  
in Grant Tartan. Limited Inventory.



*Thank you, Grant and Sons*

*LTD Distillery!*

The *Craigellachie* is the publication of the Clan Grant Society.

We are delighted that William Grant and Sons LTD Distillery, the makers of Grant's Scotch, are sponsoring *Craigellachie* now. Thank you, William Grant & Sons!



# Glenfiddich®

FAMILY RUN SINCE 1887

# 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)



# Clan Grant Notecards!

## The perfect any occasion gift.

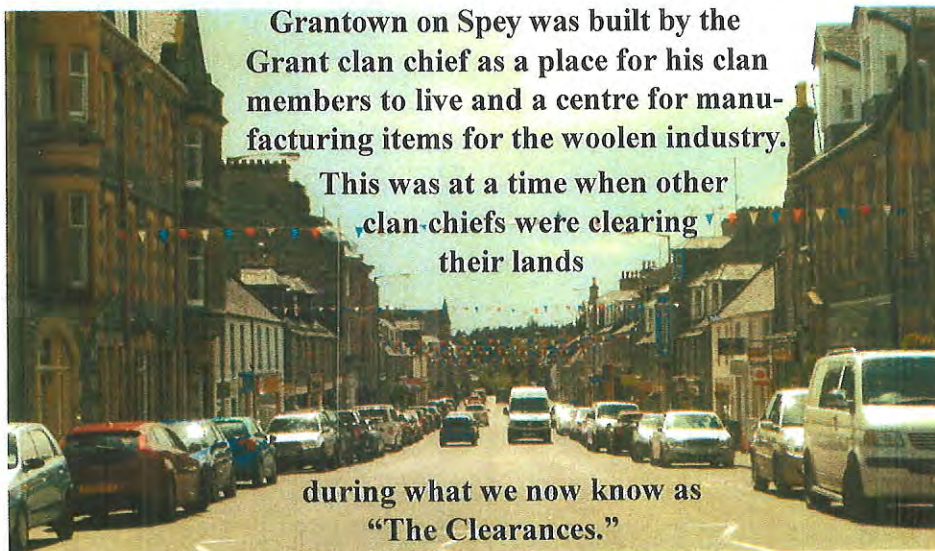


Help us build the **Greg Grant Educational Fund** by purchasing either 5 cards with envelopes for \$10.00 or 10 cards with envelopes for \$15.00. All proceeds go to the Educational Fund.

Send your check to Clan Grant Society-USA, 6640 Arena Road Ozark AR 72949. Include a note indicating the quantity ordered, your name and the address to which you wish your order shipped.

Thank you for supporting your Clan and those who need educational assistance.

## Downtown Grantown on Spey, Scotland



Grantown on Spey was built by the Grant clan chief as a place for his clan members to live and a centre for manufacturing items for the woolen industry.

This was at a time when other  
clan-chiefs were clearing  
their lands

during what we now know as  
"The Clearances."

Clan Grant  
Society-USA  
member

If you receive an  
email from "Clan  
Grant Society-  
USA"

[marketing@  
clangrant-US.org](mailto:marketing@clangrant-US.org)

It is official and  
from  
your Clan.

Most likely, it  
is the link to  
open the latest  
*Craigellachie*,  
our quarterly  
newsletter.

*We go through a  
lot of effort and  
expense to  
provide you this  
quarterly  
newsletter.*

*Please open the  
email and click on  
the link!*

Dr Bill Grant,  
Ph.D.,  
FSA Scot

President Clan  
Grant Society-  
USA





Yet  
more  
masked  
Grants  
appear!



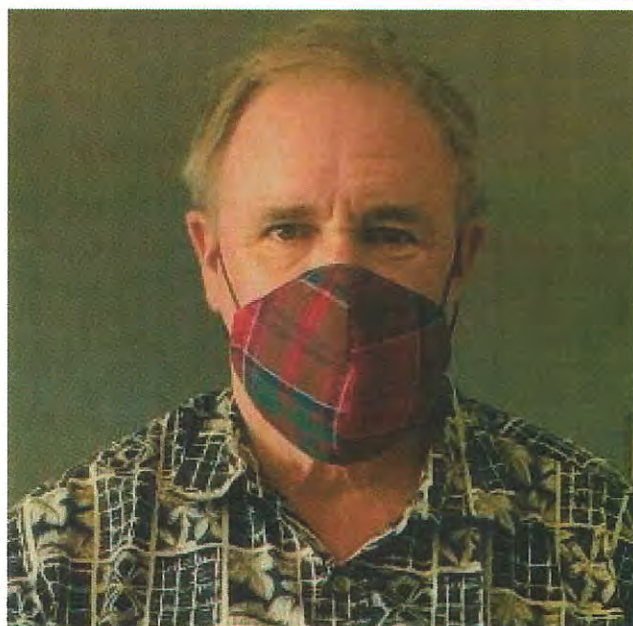
Karen Cook writes, "A quick note from Kansas.

Life is pretty much unchanged for us on the farm. In the small rural town I work in, our population is only 3800.

Our restaurants and other businesses are open. We are under a mandatory mask regulation within those businesses.

Other than that, large gatherings and public events have been canceled, as it seems to be all over the country.

Wishing everyone the best and a safe journey through this crazy time of life."



Rand Allan models his Clan Grant mask.

**Lookie what I found! It was 2006, but, where? Who?**

If you have any information, please write your editor, <[bethscribble@aol.com](mailto:bethscribble@aol.com)>





# Congratulations!



*From the Clan Grant Society, USA to*  
**WILLIAM GRANT & SONS**  
INDEPENDENT FAMILY DISTILLERS SINCE 1887

In 2019, William Grant & Sons was once again named Distiller of the Year by the International Spirits Challenge.

The company has received the highest accolade of Distiller of the Year from either the International Wine and Spirits Competition or the International Spirits Challenge 12 times in the last 13 years.

These consistent wins demonstrate the exceptional quality of liquid produced by the company, which underpins all of its brands.





# Grant Septs

The Official Word from the Chief



With thanks to **Rand Allan**, Membership Secretary, Clan Grant Society USA  
Steward to the Clan Grant Sept of Allan of Rhynagain <rballan@san.rr.com>

A Sept is much like a subdivision of a Clan. A Clan is analogous to a large, extended family and came into being for many reasons. It could have been due to divisions, sometimes violent, or it could have been a restless son wishing to settle elsewhere with the full blessing and support of the Clan and its Chief.

Septs are often, but by no means exclusively, identified by the prefix "Mac", meaning "son of". Thus MacKerran is the Sept formed by the son of Kerran, himself a Grant. In some cases, Septs rose to positions of power and dominance whilst the original Clan faded to nothing. There are many proud Clans in Scotland whose original Clan name is lost forever. Equally, a Sept might be called simply after its founder, as in the case of the Allan Sept, founded in the fourteenth century by Allan Grant. To further complicate things, Allan's son followed in his father's footsteps and went on to found the MacAllan Sept - yet it should be remembered that both Allan and his son were Grants.

Whilst much of this history is lost to us, the following names are considered by some to be 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 and Suttie.

Lord Strathspey issued the following announcement in 2005 - printed in *Standfast Magazine*, Summer 2005 and in *Craigellachie* (magazine of the Clan Grant Society of the USA), Fall

2005

## Introduction

The question of Septs has been a vexed one for a long time. What do we think that a sept actually is? What is the nature of its connection to the "parent" clan?

A few years ago George Way and Romilly Squire had to face these questions head-on when they wrote and edited the *Scottish Clan and Family Encyclopaedia*: they chose a minimalist course: a name would only be recognised as a "sept" of another name if there was good positive evidence for it. Tradition, romanticism and wishful thinking would not be enough. Recent researches into Grant Clan history have confirmed the wisdom of the view these experts took and the recently instituted Clan Grant DNA project (and others) is adding further grist to the mill.

On the other hand we have the natural instinct, to be "inclusive" - not to turn anyone away who wishes to associate - and this seems particularly true over the pond in the Americas. Their experience is further complicated by other factors: (a) there has been a confusion between Scottish and Irish traditions and practices including, in some cases, situations where real Irish associations have been believed to be Scottish; (b) in some places, the clan surname was so prevalent that people used alternatives to identify themselves and each other. Thus we may refer to "Glenmoriston" knowing full

*Continued on page 13*





# A very rare photograph of Colonel Grant

**Roger Fenton Grant - Colonel Grant  
(1819 - 1869)**

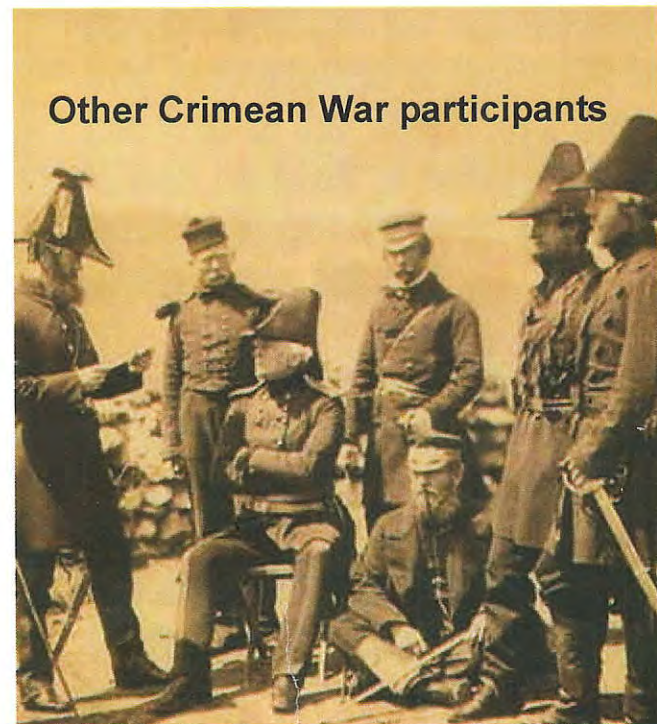
This photograph of Colonel Grant shows him standing facing slightly left with buildings behind him.

He is wearing the tartan kilt of his regiment the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders and rests his left hand on his sporran.

During the Crimean War the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders, also known as the Black Watch, formed part of the Highland Brigade.

This photograph is not in the Library of Congress series.

It was submitted to Pinterest by Debbie Grant Fortney.



**Other Crimean War participants**





## ORDER FORM

Include your check and mail to

Clan Grant Society-USA  
6640 Arena Road  
Ozark AR 72949

| ITEM                              | Price per unit | Number of units | Total |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------|
| <b>DONATIONS</b>                  |                |                 |       |
| Clan Grant Center Fund            | \$10.00        |                 |       |
| Clan Grant Games Support          | \$50.00        |                 |       |
| Donate to our Society             | \$10.00        |                 |       |
| Scholarship Fund                  | \$10.00        |                 |       |
| <b>Books *</b>                    |                |                 |       |
| History of Clan Grant             | \$35.00        |                 |       |
| The Birth of the Modern Highlands | \$30.00        |                 |       |
| <b>Pins and Note Cards*</b>       |                |                 |       |
| Clan Grant Pin                    | \$7.00         |                 |       |
| Note Cards 5                      | \$10.00        |                 |       |
| Note Cards 10                     | \$15.00        |                 |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      |                |                 |       |

\* includes free shipping

Enclosed, check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_





# Clan Grant Flower of the Forest

Barbara Balthis Allan

**Barbara Balthis Allan**, 93 years of age, passed away peacefully on July 26, 2020, at home with her family.

Barbara was born on December 17, 1926, in Glendale, California to the late Herbert and Catherine Balthis. She was the youngest of two, her brother Herbert, Jr. (Buddy) passing at an early age.

Barbara was educated in the Glendale school system and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Art from the University of California Santa Barbara, where she also was Homecoming Queen.

While attending UCSB she met her late husband, Robert Allan, and married on February 1, 1952 in Glendale. They spent their

early years in Garden Grove, CA raising their family, and Barbara began teaching at the local elementary school.

The family moved to Carlsbad, California in 1973 where they owned a rental business. She served as a substitute teacher in the local school district.

Barbara was a long-time member of Carlsbad Community Church, becoming very involved with the congregation and

her pastor Phil Hoyer.

Barbara painted and worked with ceramics throughout her life, and the family spent fond times at the ocean sailing, fishing and enjoying the outdoors.

*Continued on page 13*



*All of Clan Grant is hoping warm memories will  
bring peace to the hearts of your family.*



well that his surname is Grant. But others hearing us might not know this and so may assume that is his surname.

#### **The Bottom Line**

Let us be clear that there is no name apart from Grant that can be wholly, uniquely and confidently associated only with the Grants. To this extent there are no septs per se at all - so there cannot be a list, however small of "Sept names" and no-one with a name other than Grant can claim an association with the Grants by virtue of their name alone.

#### **The Good News**

(a) On the other hand it is true that there have

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### **Barbara Balthis Allan,**

*continued from page 12*

Barbara leaves her beloved children Rand, Clan Grant membership secretary (Christine), ( Robyn (Tim), Scott (Joni), and Mark (Saby), her 10 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, her sisters-in-law Margaret and Pauline, as well as a host of nieces and nephews.

She lived a long, full life and will be missed.

Private services will be held at a future date.



always been a significant number of people living in Grant territory and owing their allegiance to the Chief of Grant who nevertheless did not bear the name Grant. All these people and their descendants, irrespective of the name they bear, can lay claim to this association if they can prove it.

(b) In principle there is no restriction on who can be a member of any clan. In recent times both George Way and Romilly Squire - neither particularly Scottish by ancestry - chose (as it happens) to become members of the Clan MacMillan. Of course this was only possible with the agreement of the Chief of Macmillan. It was accomplished by the signing of a Bond of Mutual Assistance.

(c) None of this has any bearing at all on membership of the Clan Grant Societies.

#### **The Way Forward**

Lord Strathspey has decided that the best interests of the Clan are served most effectively by facilitating the regularising of the position of people who thought they were "sept" members through the use of such bonds. The bond is between the individual and the chief - so it lasts as long as they both live, unless officially abrogated for good reason. Such has been the interest shown by those to whom the idea has been floated informally that bonds will be made available also (i) for those with no historic connection, but who wish to become members of the clan and (ii) to those Grants who wish to have their membership of the clan overtly endorsed in this way.

In olden times the specifics of the Bonds could be quite onerous. On the one hand the chief provided such Social Security/Welfare as there was. On the other hand the clansman had to pay his rent, work on the Chief's land and turn out to fight at his command. These new bonds, however, will be fitted for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

For the would-be clansman it should be appreciated that one requirement, for example, will be a basic knowledge and understanding of Clan History and Lore. Other requirements have yet to be decided - but they will be made clear in due course. Regarding the details of the "Letters Patent"

*Continued on page 15*



# Clan Grant Society - USA

## Festival Commissioners

| Month | First Day | Second Day | Size of Games | Scottish Games and Festivals                           | Games Commissioner   |
|-------|-----------|------------|---------------|--|----------------------|
| 4     | 5         |            | large         | San Antonio Highland Games and Celtic Music Festival   | Carl Allen           |
| 4     | 27        |            | medium        | Celtic Gathering of Southern MD:                       | R Steven Grant       |
| 5     | 11        | 12         | medium        | Arlington TX: TEXAS SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES | Carl Allen           |
| 5     | 18        |            | large         | Fair Hill Scottish Games Elkton MD:                    | Richard Grant        |
| 5     | 25        | 26         | Large         | Greenville SC Gallabre Scottish Games                  | Fred Wood            |
| 5     | 25        | 26         | Large         | Scottish Fest Costa Mesa CA                            | Rand Allan           |
| 6     | 1         | 2          | medium        | Glasgow KY Highland Games                              | George James         |
| 6     | 1         |            | medium        | Garrett County Highland Fest                           | R Steven Grant       |
| 6     | 1         |            | Large         | Utah Scottish Festival and Highland Games              | Bob Grant            |
| 6     | 8         | 9          | small         | Blairsville GA Scottish Festival & Highland Games      | Gary Grant           |
| 6     | 15        | 16         | small         | Taste of Scotland Franklin NC                          | Robert C Grant       |
| 6     | 16        |            | medium        | Mid Maryland Celtic Festival, MD                       | R Steven Grant       |
| 6     | 22        |            | Large         | Tacoma Highland Games, WA                              | Jeniphr Grant        |
| 6     | 22        | 23         | medium        | San Diego Scottish Highland Games                      | Rand Allan           |
| 7     | 1         |            | Large         | Pacific Northwest Highland Games, Enumclaw, WA         | Jeniphr Grant        |
| 7     | 13        | 14         | large         | Grandfather Mountain, NC Highland Games                | Pruitt Young Allen   |
| 7     | 13        | 14         | small         | Payson Scottish Festival                               | Bob Grant            |
| 7     | 20        |            | medium        | Portland Highland Games                                | Jeff Click           |
| 8     | 3         | 4          | small         | Monterey CA  | Amanda Hazan-Sanchez |
| 8     | 17        |            | medium        | Topsham Maine  | Lysle Grant          |
| 8     | 24        |            | medium        | Quechee Scottish Festival, VT                          | Lysle Grant          |
| 8     | 31        | 1-Sep      | large         | Virginia Scottish Games                                | Paul D. Grant        |
| 8     | 31        | 1-Sep      | large         | Pleasanton CA: Highland Games                          | Amanda Hazan-Sanchez |
| 9     | 1         |            | medium        | Ligonier PA  | Will Kenyon          |
| 9     | 8         | 9          | small         | McMinnville Scottish Games                             | Jeff Click           |
| 9     | 13        | 14         | small         | Upper East Tennessee Celtic Soc                        | George James         |
| 9     | 21        | 22         | medium        | Loon Mt New Hampshire                                  | Lysle Grant          |
| 10    | 5         |            | medium        | Felton CA  | Amanda Hazan-Sanchez |
| 10    | 12        | 13         | large         | Seaside Games Ventura CA                               | Rand Allan           |
| 10    | 13        | 13         | small         | Kitfest  | Phoebe Pennypacker   |
| 10    | 19        | 20         | large         | Stone Mt Georgia Highland games                        | Gary Grant           |
| 10    | 26        |            | medium        | Central Virginia                                       | Howard Parsons       |
| 10    |           |            | medium        | Tyler Scottish Festival                                | Carl Allen           |
| 11    | 1         | 2          | large         | Charleston SC Highland Games                           | Fred Wood            |
| 11    | 2         | 3          | medium        | Mohab Celtic Festival, Scots on the Rocks              | Bob Grant            |
| 11    | 9         | 10         | medium        | Salado Scottish Gathering and Highland Games           | Carl Allen           |



**Grant Septs**, *continued from page 13* —————

of the Bond, it is envisaged that the crest will be there, the bond will be signed by both parties and it is intended that a seal will be applied. In the case of "sept" members, it is expected that the nature of the claim of historic association will be specified (and will have had to be demonstrated, of course).

[Other details - of the wording, the style etc. on the letters patent of the bond - have also yet to be finalised - and in any case each one will be unique to the particular circumstance. Despite this fluid state of thinking, it is considered useful to give non-Grant clansmen and would-be clansmen now the assurance that their position will be fully regularised just as soon as possible and that there is no intention to be in any way arbitrarily exclusive.]

### **Recognised Septs**

Currently these are the Sept families which have had their status formally recognised by the Chief.

The Mores of Druncork were recognised by Sir Patrick, the late Chief.

The Allans of Rhynagairn were recognised in 2008 by Sir James, our current chief.

The Siol Lewis - Cherokee descendants of Ludovick Grant, younger of Crichtie (none of whom bear the surname Grant) have now been recognised officially (since the International Gathering in 2010).

The Siol Cudbright - Métis descendants of Cuthbert Grant sr. of Cromdale.

### **Further Advice**

A huge amount of background work on Sept families has been undertaken by Hank Grant of our sister society in the USA who has collated information from gravestones, OPRs etc. Would-be Grant Sept families may well find it advisable to have recourse in the first instance to this fund of knowledge in pursuit of the proof of their claim. Otherwise, please email info to us using our contact form quoting your Clan Society membership number and providing all the detail you have amassed so far.

### **The Clan Grant Centre Trust**



## **2020 AGM for Clan Grant Society – USA Vice-President's Report**

Greetings all, 2020 has been a trying year for the country and the Society as well.

We had a major outage on the website in January when GoDaddy was moving our hosting to a different machine. They didn't get everything moved over correctly and then lost the pieces from the original machine. It took us a while, but we recovered most things. We have increased the frequency with which we have a backup of the system run to try and prevent another major difficulty from occurring.

I will be working on an upgrade to the Drupal platform that we currently use during this coming winter. We are currently using version 7, while they have just released version 9 this past summer. In order to make sure that we are using supported software, I will be looking to upgrade to either version 8 or all the way to 9. Fortunately, this software is open source so we do not need to pay for using it.

Speaking of the website, I would like to put out a request for an assistant webmaster. This position will be to be my understudy in case, God forbid, anything untoward should befall me. Having a computer background would be helpful, but not mandatory. As a part of this upgrade, I will be creating a support document for use by those needing to interact with our website.

Finally, I hope that you and your families are staying safe and I look forward to seeing some of you in 2021 when we can finally have some Highland Games again!!

Stand Fast!

Jeff Click, Clan Grant Society - USA Webmaster & Vice-President





## GLENFIDDICH INDIA PALE ALE CASK FINISH

| PRODUCT DESCRIPTION                    | SIZE  | ALC. BY VOL. | UNITS PER CASE | SCC            | UPC          | PALLET INFORMATION |                  |                  | WEIGHT (LBS)<br>PER CASE | OUTSIDE SHIPPER DIMENSIONS |       |        |
|--|-------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------|--------|
|  |       |              |                |                |              | CASES PER TIER     | TIERS PER PALLET | CASES PER PALLET |                          | LENGTH                     | WIDTH | HEIGHT |
| GLENFIDDICH INDIA PALE ALE CASK FINISH | 750ML | 43%          | 6              | 10083664873699 | 083664873692 | 16                 | 4                | 64               | 19.89                    | 12.6"                      | 8.54" | 12.68" |

*Skilfully crafted. Enjoy responsibly. Glenfiddich Single Malt Whisky, 40% Alc./Vol. ©2016 Imported by William Grant & Sons, Inc. New York, NY.*

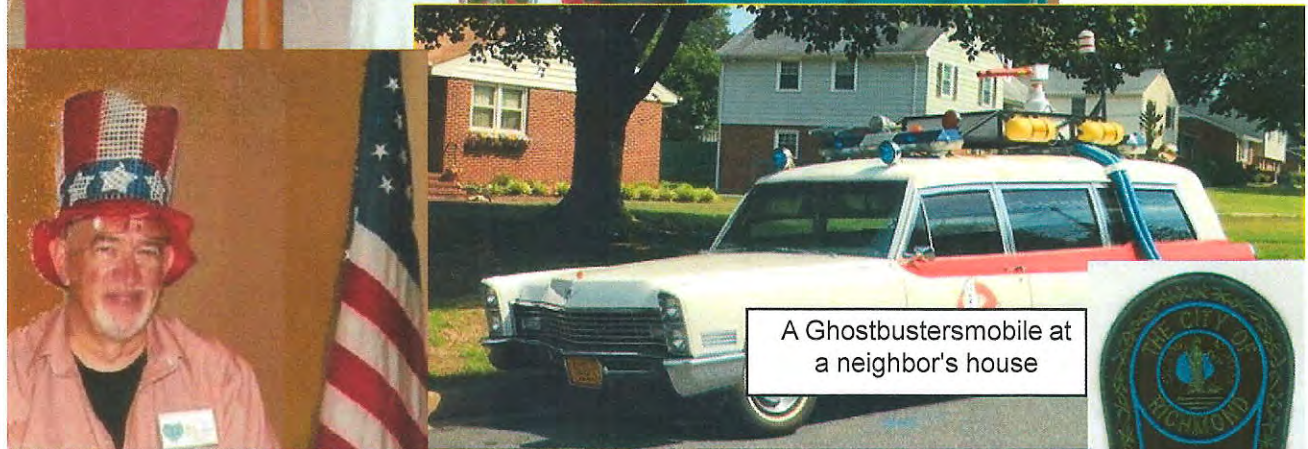


# Clan Grant's C.S. Kessler shares lots of photos with us all



The wedding of C.S. Kessler and Barbara at their 2013 Grant themed wedding held during their Sunday Mass. This is the wedding party.

Happy Barbara!



A Ghostbustersmobile at a neighbor's house



A photo of their home!



C.S. was formerly with the City of Richmond Sheriff's Office.

C.S. Kessler <cskessler1963@gmail.com> <djlovindan@yahoo.com>

Remember when we were young and couldn't wait to grow up, so we could do whatever we wanted, whenever we wanted?

aunty acid

How's that working out for you?

**It IS  
GREAT  
to be a  
Grant!**



## Greetings Clan Grant members

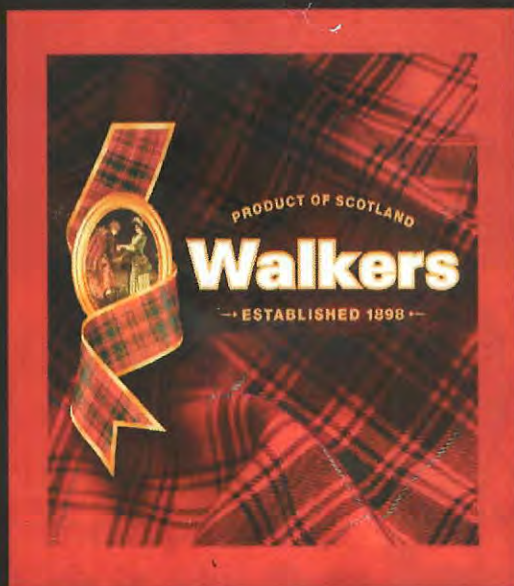
This message is to inform you that a new node:content-type has been created at the Clan Grant website. It is entitled: Ulysses S. Grant?

Wander on over and take a look.



*Cheers,  
The Clan Grant  
Society Website*

# GRANTS



<https://www.walkersshortbread.com/uk/>

# oops!

In the last issue of *Craigellachie*, the issue should have been "Summer" issue.

I was told at a Scottish game awhile back that Grant Imahara's mother was a Grant.

I took my friend at his word.

Sorry for the errors.  
Aye, beth



# Elected & Appointed Officers Clan Grant Society, USA

Official Clan Grant Society-USA, Inc. Address: 414 Carrsbrook Dr. Charlottesville, VA 22901

## ELECTED OFFICERS

|                 |                       |  |                     |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--|---------------------|
| President       | Dr. Bill Grant, Ph.D. | <a href="mailto:academicdad@yahoo.com">academicdad@yahoo.com</a>     | 757-617-1652        |
| Vice President  | Jeff Click            | <a href="mailto:jclick@msn.com">jclick@msn.com</a>                   | <b>303-513-1178</b> |
| Secretary       | Lena Grant            | <a href="mailto:lenagrnt@gmail.com">lenagrnt@gmail.com</a>           | 757-617-0625        |
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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 the authority of Sir James Grant of Grant, The Right Honorary 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.

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





# Foot Shape Genealogy

AncestralFindings.com



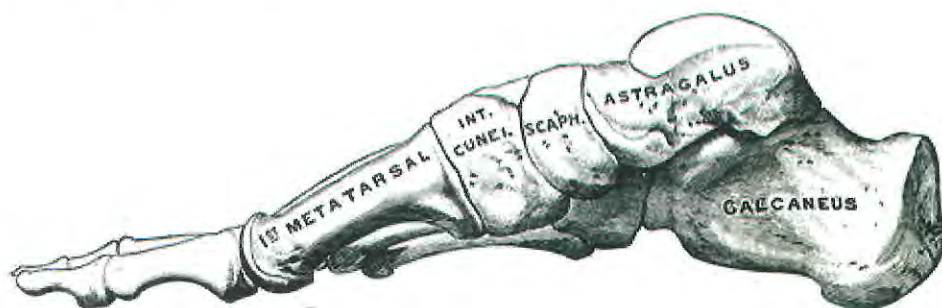
Have you ever heard of foot shape genealogy? It is a concept out of the 19th century that still has some adherents today. It is based on the belief that the shape of your foot can tell you one of five ancient ethnic groups to which your ancestors belonged. Here is what you need to know about it.

Researching your genealogy is much easier today than in the past. With online records and digitized copies of just about any document ever created, it is possible to trace a large part of your family tree without even leaving your house. However, using records and family lore is not the only method people have used in the past to trace their family trees. In the past, there was a theory that one could determine their ancestry via the shape of their feet. In fact, some people today still believe this method.

While the foot shape method is questionable in its accuracy, the way it is used to supposedly determine one's ancestry is fascinating. If you have exhausted all genealogical resources and want some extra ideas on how to trace your ancestry, foot shape may not give you an accurate result, but it will definitely give you some entertainment. Here is what you need to know about it.

The exact term for this particular type of genealogy is "foot and toe ancestry." The premise is that by examining the shape of your feet, you can hazard a pretty accurate guess as to where your most ancient ancestors originated. Foot and toe ancestry is based on five basic "foot shapes": Celtic, Greek, Egyptian, Germanic, and Roman. Each foot type has a unique design to it, known as the outline of the foot, and the toe lengths are also particular to each foot type.

If you are a member of the Clan Grant Society - USA, you'll be most interested in the Celtic Foot. Among the foot types, the Celtic foot type is the most complex and unusual. With "Celtic feet,"



the foot itself is quite large, but the big toe is short. The second toe... the one right next to the big toe... is exceptionally long, and the other toes are smaller, getting progressively smaller until they end in a

*Continued on page 21*



tiny pinky toe. The Celtic foot is a bit of a combination of Greek and German foot types, particularly with the exceptionally long second toe, which is also a hallmark of the German foot type.

Do your feet and toes look Celtic? Try researching an unknown branch of your family tree if you don't know of any Celtic background and see if you come up with any Celtic ancestors. Or, maybe you have a long big toe, one that is longer than all the other toes. If you do, that is an Egyptian foot.

While there is absolutely no scientific data to support the idea that the shape of our toes and feet can tell us anything about our ancestry, there has been research done on toe size and shape in different populations around the world. As an example, around the world, it is more common for the second toe to be the longest toe, as in the Greek foot of "foot genealogy" theory. Yet, it is ridiculous to think that Aborigines in Australia had Greek ancestors if they have a second toe that is longer than the other toes (which most of them do).

It could be that it is better for balance when walking upright. Because the longer second toe is so common among most people (there are exceptions, but it is the most common toe sizing), it would seem there has to be some reason common to most humans.

And, why were the classifications of feet divided into Celtic, Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and German? As far as Egyptian, Greek, and Roman feet go, these are the idealized forms of body shapes in classical art. These were the types of art that were revered in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when foot shape genealogy first came into vogue. And, the corresponding foot shapes do tend to match the foot shapes used in art depicting people of these civilizations. For example, in art from ancient Greece, most people depicted do have foot shapes like the Greek shape in foot genealogy. Interestingly, the Statue of Liberty is a Greek-style sculpture, and it

also has the Greek foot shape seen in Greek art and in foot shape genealogy.

While the commonality of the classical Greek foot shape in ancient Greek art may indeed mean that the majority of ancient Greeks had this shape of foot, it could also simply mean that foot shape was considered the beauty standard for feet in ancient Greece and was used in art whether most people had the so-called "perfect shape" or not.

There are also the concepts of homogenous groups of people in the foot shape genealogy theory, and these concepts are essentially modern inventions. Beginning in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, ideas of "the German people" and "the Egyptian people" came into vogue, with westerners looking at these nations as being made up of one type of ethnically

homogenous people. However, it is an erroneous assumption. Germany was a variety of different countries, such as Saxony, Prussia, and Bavaria

until it was united into one nation like Germany, and the ancient Romans knew the German people to be made up of a diverse mix of cultures all living together or near each other. In fact, the term "German" is an ancient Roman invention, because they looked at the people living in the modern area of Germany as barbarians. So, they lumped them together as "Germans," thus dismissing the diverse cultures as one uncivilized group.

It was much the same with ancient Egyptians. Ancient Egypt did have culturally homogenous Egyptians, but it also had a wide variety of ethnicities and cultures from all over the ancient world living there. As the most technologically advanced and modern of the ancient cities of the Middle East, it attracted immigrants from hundreds and even thousands of miles around.

Ultimately, using foot shape genealogy probably has nothing to do with your actual ancestry. However, it is a fun pastime to use with the younger generation as a tool to get them interested in genealogy.



*Continued from our last issue*  
**An important read for all Grants!**  
*Memoirs of a Highland Lady*

The Autobiography of Elizabeth Grant of  
Rothiemurchus  
afterwards Mrs Smith of Baltiboys 1797-1830

The Highland lady was a clanswoman of the Rothiemurchus Grants, and is therefore of special interest to American readers, since it was from that same branch of the ancient Scottish family that Gen. Ulysses S. Grant claimed descent.

You will find in the next pages more of the first chapter of this most fascinating story.

There are twenty-two chapters in all. They are FREE at:

<https://www.electricscotland.com/history/highlandlady/index.htm>

With many thanks to Alastair McIntyre and [electricscotland.com](http://www.electricscotland.com).



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*We continue with Chapter 1*

I hardly remember these old ladies, aunt Elsie not at all, though it was in their house that Jane and I were domiciled.

Aunt Peggy made more impression, she was fat, rosy, merry, idle, told funny stories, made faces, and winked her eyes at good jokes when sometimes her laughing listeners rather blushed for her.

My mother was much more attached to her aunt Nesham, the only and the maiden sister of her mother; her house was just opposite to my uncle's, and it was the home of my two unmarried Ironside aunts, Mary and Fanny.

Aunt Jane Nesham was a charming little old lady with powdered hair turned over a cushion, and a little white muslin turban stuck up on the top of it. She wore tight-fitting cross-folded gowns with full skirts, the whitest and the clearest of muslin kerchiefs puffed over her neck, a row of pearls around her throat, and high-heeled shoes.

Her house was order itself, her voice gentle and her smile the sweetest.

She had been in the Highlands with my father and mother before my recollection.

The cousins Nesham lived in the village, at least the then head of the family with one or two of his unmarried sisters and a young wife.

Mrs Griffith and a disagreeable daughter had a small house there, and the clergyman, the schoolmaster, the doctor and Squire Hutton, and there was a populous neighbourhood.

Such was Houghton as I first remember it.

How different from what it is now!

There are no gentry, the few neat rows of pitmen's houses have grown into streets belonging to a town. It is all dirt and bustle and huge machinery and tramways, one of which cuts through the fields of the Ironside inheritance. These frightful

*Continued on page 23*



tramways were our childish delight; such a string of wagons running along without horses reminded us of our fairy tales, and the splendid fires blazing on all sides enchanted us, after the economical management of scanty fuel we had been accustomed to in London. We liked our young cousins too, three or four of whom were old enough to play with us.

The next stoppage on our northern journey was at Edinburgh, where we remained long enough for an abiding impression of that beautiful city to be made on a young mind. The width of the streets, the size of the houses, the brightness and the cleanliness, with the number of gooseberries to be bought for a penny, impressed me before I was capable of appreciating the grandeur of its position. It was then very far from being what it became a few years later, how very very far from what we see it now!

The New Town was but in progress, the untidy appendages of building encumbered the half-finished streets, and where afterwards the innumerable gardens spread in every quarter to embellish the city of palaces, there were then only unsightly greens abandoned to the washerwomen.

My father had always business to detain him here. We put up at Blackwood's Hotel, at the corner of the North Bridge in Princes Street.

The Queen's Ferry was the next landmark, to speak in Irish fashion; no steamer in those days, no frame to run the carriage on from quay to deck.

Ugly, dirty, miserable sailing vessels, an hour at the quickest crossing, sometimes two or three, it was the great drawback to the journey.

The landing at Inverkeithing was as disagreeable as the embarking, as tedious too; we seldom got beyond Kinross that night, where Queen Mary,

the Castle, the lake, red trout, and a splendid parrot all combined to make it one of our favourite resting-places.

At Perth, we were always met by my father's only surviving uncle, Sandy, the parson, his mother the Lady Jean's favourite son, and her youngest.

He was of the Episcopalian Church and had at this time the care of a chapel at Dundee.

He was a popular preacher, had published very fair sermons, was an accomplished person for his times, gentlemanly in manner, taller than the "little Grants," more of a Gordon, in fact, in appearance.

He had had a good deal to do with my father's education, and his own five ill-brought-up sons had been my father's principal companions towards his college days.

My mother never thought kindly of this uncle, to whom my father was much attached. She judged him perhaps harshly, an easiness of temper may have been fully as much the cause of the loose discipline he maintained as want of principle, to which she ascribed his errors.



*Old Houghton, Scotland*

It took us three days to reach home from Perth, Blackbird, Smiler, and their pairs (whose names I have not remembered) who met us there, not being in as great a hurry to return to the Doune as we were.

There was no good ford near the house in those days, the shifting river not having revealed the rather deep one near the offices that we used so constantly afterwards; besides, there was then no road from the bridge of Alvie down the heathery bank to the boyack and so round its shallow waters to the river-side.

We had to drive on, after a good peep of our dear home, two or three miles past the burn at Lynwilg, towards Aviemore, and then turn off down a seldom-travelled road through the birch woods-

*Continued on page 24*





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**Memoirs of a Highland Lady**, *continued from page 23*

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I smell them now—to the ford at Inverdrue, where there was a carriage-boat at the ferry a little higher up the stream, so that travellers could cross in all states of the river.

Once over the water we were at home in Rothiemurchus, our beloved Duchus, [A Gaelic word having much the same signification as domain. The crest of the family is an armed hand holding a broadsword, with the motto "For my Duchus."] which, through all the changes of our lives, has remained the spot on earth dearest to every one of us. We have been scattered far and wide, separated, never now all to meet again; we

have grown up and married and have had new interests engrafted on our old feelings, and have changed our homes and changed all our surroundings, and most of us have lived long, busy years far away from the Highlands, yet have we never any one of us ceased to feel that there was the magnet to which all our purest, warmest, earliest, and latest affections were steadily drawn. No other spot ever replaced it, no other scenery ever surpassed it, no other young happiness ever seemed to approach within a comprehensible distance of our childhood at Rothiemurchus.

*This is the end of Chapter 1*

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To continue this memoir, visit  
<<https://www.electricscotland.com/history/highlandlady/index.htm>>



# A bunch of ways to call someone **STUPID**

With thanks to Bill Grant, Ph.D.

\* Not the sharpest knife in the drawer

\* From Star Trek-The Next Generation: Earth, the micro-civilization composed of invisibly small sentient crystals called humans "ugly bags of water"

\* When she whispered in his ear, she heard an echo

\* When she whispered in his ear, she blew out his pilot light

\* "Bout as smart as a lug nut

\* Dumber than a box of rocks

\* Do you still think an iambic pentameter is an Olympic event?

\* He's kind of like an Irish Setter. Big, handsome and noble-looking, but not a lot upstairs

\* She's an intelligent blonde.

**I don't mean to brag, but I put together a puzzle in 1 day and the box said 2-4 years.**

**Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe.**  
- Albert Einstein

**The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.**  
- Albert Einstein

Golden Retrievers are also good with children.

\* Gross ignoramus - 144 times worse than a normal ignoramus

\* Almost as sharp as a bowling ball

\* Rockhead

\* If brains were dynamite, you would be hard-pressed to blow your nose.

\* Slower than a turtle in molasses

\* Numbnuts

\* One neuron short of a synapse

\* Two toys short of a Happy Meal

\* Not the sharpest knife in the drawer.

\* He raised the IQ of an entire state by leaving it.

\* The boys' elevator doesn't go to the top floor.

\* If he had a brain cell, he would be dangerous.

If he had another brain cell, it would die of loneliness.



## Clan Grant Society - USA

# FLOWER OF THE FOREST

Howard T. Parsons, Jr.

**Howard T. Parsons, Jr.**, 68, of Charlottesville, Virginia, died October 4, 2020, following an extended illness.

Born January 30, 1952, Howard was the oldest son of Howard T. Parsons and Lucille T. Parsons of Hopewell, Virginia. He graduated from Hopewell High School in 1970, and majored in Biology at North Carolina Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount. It was there that he met fellow student and future wife, Judith Lyn Vilagos, who survives him after almost a half-century of mutual love and devotion.

Entering the information technology field after graduation, Howard worked in Richmond and Atlanta before coming to Charlottesville in 1982 to join Michie Publishing Co., now LexisNexis, as a programmer, later becoming a senior systems analyst.

After 2008, he worked as an independent consultant while writing the Young Adult fiction series *Tales from Colony Island*, about mermaids who live with and interact with humans. The first book was published 2015, with a second anticipated for release in Spring 2021.

An avid reader and connoisseur of pipes and Scotch whiskey, Howard's interests ran the gamut from classic trains and new technology to Scottish culture and history.

He served as U.S. branch president of Clan Grant, and was an active member of Clan McPherson and the St. Andrew's Society of Baltimore. He also served a term as Commander of the Veterans of the 290<sup>th</sup>

Combat Engineers, a World War II veterans group his father cofounded in the 1950s.

Howard was also a Mason, and a member of Kena Temple Shrine.

He was also an avid canoeist and hiker, and helped perform maintenance work on the Appalachian Trail.

In addition to his wife of 45 years, Howard is survived by a brother, James T. Parsons of Bristow, Virginia, and two cats, the latest in a long succession of beloved feline companions.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to N.C. Wesleyan College general scholarship fund, your local SPCA or rescue facility, or food bank.

Condolences may be sent to the family through <[www.teaguefuneralhome.com](http://www.teaguefuneralhome.com)>.





# What a lovely surprise from a new Clan Grant member, Juanita Goin

From: "Juanita Goin" <juanitagoin@hotmail.com>  
Subject: RE: Welcome New Clan Grant Member  
Date: September 11, 2020 at 3:34:38 PM EDT  
To: "ROBERT GRANT" <rgrant9094@aol.com>

*Ceud Mìle Fáille, Juanita!  
That's 100,000 welcomes!*

Good Afternoon Mary,

I joined Clan Grant several years ago, but, due to some circumstances beyond our planet's control....let my membership lapse. (I now have a sticky note reminding me of when I need to pay my dues)

My hobby is genealogy! I have been researching family for over 20 years. I became the staff genealogist for the John More Association, Inc. by appointment in 2010. I've held that position for about 10 years now and plan to continue for many years to come!

I am a descendant of John More and Elizabeth "Betty" Taylor who came from Rothiemurchus, Scotland in 1772. They settled in what is now Delaware County, New York and established the town of Moresville.

Our association consists of 16,931 descendants with 11,611 of us still living as of today's date. We meet every 5 years in Delhi, New York for our reunions, this year being an exception due to Covid-19. If memory serves me right, it's the first time we've not met since World War II.

Every year, here in Dunedin, Florida, there is a Scottish Festival and Games. I've not attended one yet, but, am hoping to do so next year. It would be wonderful to see a Clan Grant booth and meet other members.

Thank you for sending my membership certificate and the booklet. I have a feeling the booklet just might come in handy answering questions for some of our JMA cousins.

Juanita L. Goin JMA# 28412111

Director of the Record, Genealogist and

Member, Board of Directors

John More Association, Inc.

"Genealogists always know who is in your genes!"

Robert the Bruce's dying wish was that after his death his heart be taken on crusade. His friend, Sir James "The Black" Douglas, fulfilled this wish, carrying the Bruce's heart into battle against the Moors in Spain. After the battle, it was found again on the battlefield, and returned to Melrose Abbey in Scotland, where it was buried.





# Grant's Ale Cask

Finishing our whisky  
in barrels that have  
previously held ale  
gives extra flavours  
of ripe fruit, intense  
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brûlée creaminess.



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VANILLA

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