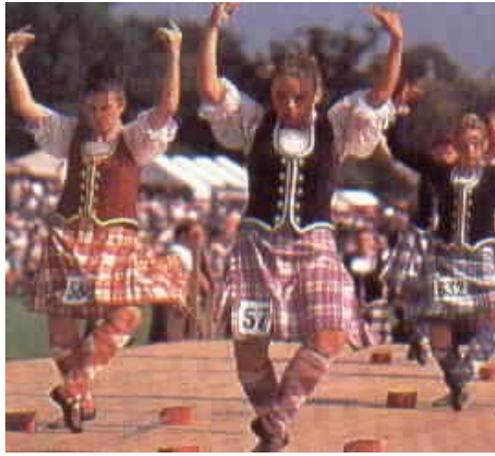


# Bringarach

Newsletter of the Clan Gregor Society - Western U. S. A. Chapter



## BELTANE 2005



Welcome to the Clan Gregor newsletter. Inside you'll find information, pictures, and anecdotes, detailing the recent happenings in the Clan Gregor. We certainly hope you enjoy what you see. More so, we hope you will wander through and visit the pages following this one that list the septs and aliases recognized by the Clan Gregor. If you find your family name among these, joining the Gregor clan may be a move you wish to consider.

The newsletter contained here is only part of the entire publication, released especially for preview purposes. The entire newsletter is just one of the benefits of becoming a Gregor Clan member, the others being fun, fun, and fun!

A membership form follows the septs and aliases page.

Again, we certainly hope you do enjoy your visit and most definitely hope you will join the Gregor clan!

Thank you,

Carl Basile

Editor, Griogarach Newsletter



# BELTANE



Also known as May Eve, May Day, and Walpurgis Night, happens at the beginning of May. It celebrates the height of Spring and the flowering of life. The Goddess manifests as the May Queen and Flora. The God emerges as the May King and Jack in the Green. The danced Maypole represents Their unity, with the pole itself being the God and the ribbons that encompass it, the Goddess. Colors are the Rainbow spectrum. Beltane is a festival of flowers, fertility, sensuality, and delight.

Prepare a May basket by filling it with flowers and goodwill and then give it to someone in need of healing and caring, such as a shut-in or elderly friend. Form a wreath of freshly picked flowers, wear it in your hair, and feel yourself radiating joy and beauty. Dress in bright colors. Dance the Maypole and feel yourself balancing the Divine Female and Male within. On May Eve, bless your garden in the old way by making love with your lover in it. Make a wish as you jump a bonfire or candle flame for good luck. Welcome in the May at dawn with singing and dancing.

For information about being published in the Clan Gregor Newsletter contact:

Carl Basile

Editor

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**NAMES, SEPTS AND ALIASES OF CLAN GREGOR  
AS RECOGNIZED BY THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY**

With a few exceptions, spelling variants are omitted but are accepted. M', Mc and Mac are considered interchangeable. Many names were adopted as a result of proscription and some families retained the new names when the proscription was lifted in 1774, while many others re-adopted their rightful name of MacGregor.

<b>List A: Accepted MacGregor Names and Septs</b>						
	Alpin	Greig	MacAdam	MacEan	MacLiver	Malloch
	Fletcher	Grewer	MacAlpin	MacEwin	MacNee	Neish
	Greer	Grier	Macara	MacGregor	MacNie	Patullo
	Gregg	Grierson	Macaree	MacGrigor	MacNeice	Peter(s)
	Gregor	Grigg	Macaldowie	MacGrowther	MacNeish	Petrie
	Gregory	Grigor	MacChoiter	MacGruder	MacPeter(s)	
	Gregorson	Gruer	MacConachie	Macilduy	MacPetrie	
	Gregson	King	MacCrowther	MacLeister	Magruder	
<b>List B: Aliases where documentary evidence shows a MacGregor connection</b>						
	Bain	Bower(s)	Dochart	Lakie	More	White
	Black	Callum	Dunn	Leckie	Roy	Whyte
	Beachley	Coleman	Landless	Lockie	Skinner	Willox
	Bowie	Comrie				
<b>List C: Aliases with little documentary evidence but a tradition of MacGregor connection</b>						
	Argyl	Crerar	Grayson	MacCanish	Nelson	Stalker
	Arrowsmith	Crowther	Grieve	MacGeach	Neilson	Stringer
	Begland	Denison	Gudger	Macgehee	Nucator	Tainsh
	Bowmaker	Docherty	Guiness	Macghee	Orr	Telfer
	Brewer	Dorward	Gun	MacGill	Paterson	Telford
	Caird	Dowie	Kirkwood	MacGrew	Peat	Tossach
	Callander	Fisher	Leishman	Macinstalker	Peterson	Walker
	Clark	Gair	MacAndrew	Macnocaird	Shankland	Weliver
	Craigdallie	Goodsir	MacAngus	Macnucator		
<b>List D: Other family names that are known to have been used as MacGregor aliases</b>						
	Balfour	Erskine	Johnson	MacEwan	MacNicol	Robertson
	Euchanan	Ferguson	Johnston	MacFarlane	MacPherson	Sinclair
	Campbell	Gordon	Livingston	Maclan	MacWilliam	Stewart
	Cunningham	Graham	MacAlastair	MacInnes	Menzies	Stirling
	Douglas	Grant	MacDonald	MacNeil	Murray	Wilson
	Drummond	Hay	MacDougal	MacLaren	Ramsay	

The Clan Gregor Society instituted in 1822 is one of the oldest clan societies. Today the Society is a growing organization with membership throughout the world. Its most active objectives are to extend the links of kinship and friendship between MacGregors wherever they may be and to provide a focal point for all members of the Clan and, indeed, any interested visitors who wish to *learn* more of our past. The Society promotes and encourages research into Clan Gregor and the publication or information pertaining to its history, tradition, and genealogy. The Society extends, a warm welcome to persons bearing names included in list A and to those with maternal descent from an eligible person. Persons bearing names or descent from names in Lists B and C who can show evidence of descent or a family tradition or MacGregor connection are also eligible for membership. Names in list D are properly the domain of other Clan and Family societies, however we would welcome enquiries from persons bearing these names who can show their descent from a MacGregor who adopted the name as an alias.



A Chapter of the  
Clan Gregor Society  
of Scotland

# CLAN GREGOR

## Western USA

Membership Director  
5003 Ocean View Blvd.  
La Canada, CA 91011-1239

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I qualify in accordance with Rule --- as explained below, and wish to apply for:

- Full Membership @ \$33.00 per year.
- Associate Membership @ \$33.00 per year. (Available only to those applying under QUALIFICATION B. below)

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

After admission as a member, I agree to pay my annual membership dues no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year in order to maintain ACTIVE status in Clan Gregor Western USA. If I become more than 90 days in arrears in payment of my annual dues, I understand my status will be changed to INACTIVE and I will cease receiving "The Griogarach" Newsletter and all Clan communications. I am aware that a portion of my annual dues is remitted to the parent Society in Scotland. I am also aware that only active Full Membership status is eligible to cast one vote at the Annual General Meeting.

**PLEASE PRINT:**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPOUSE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CHILDREN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU CONSENT TO INCLUDING THE ABOVE INFORMATION IN THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY?  YES  NO

**CLAN CONNECTION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BIRTH DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BIRTH PLACE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF MEMBER TAKING APPLICATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

-----Please do not write below this line-----

Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Date to Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Entered Membership Database: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES / COMMENTS:

## From the Desk of the Chapter President:



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Clan Gregor,

Welcome to another season; Beltane in the Gaelic calendar, if I got it right! I hope you all survived the winter, and are looking forward to enjoying the spring, and the upcoming Games program.

The first Clan Council meeting of the year duly took place as scheduled at the central location of Pismo Beach at the beginning of February, and resulted in what I felt was a very successful get-together. We had what may have been a record turn-out, with all active Councilors & Officers in attendance, (some traveling considerable distances), and during the course of the four-hour assembly managed to discuss and handle a large amount of Clan business & scheduling, including some items which had been needing resolving for some time. The facilities at the Oxford Suites, where we stayed and held the meeting were very appropriate, and the staff there very helpful and friendly in providing everything we needed, in beautiful and comfortable surroundings. With most attendees (and significant others) staying at least one night, and participating in socialization as well as the meeting, it appeared to me to be a very productive and enjoyable weekend, with the benefits thereof being realized in the months to come.

This meeting was the first held since the change of President, and I would like to hereby recognise and express thanks on behalf of Clan Members for the many years of service and dedication to our Clan by our former President, Carolyne McGregor-Long. Although no longer President, she still remains on our Western Chapter Council to contribute to the Clan, and also to the American Clan Gregor Society as Deputy Chieftain of California.

Also at the Council meeting we accepted the resignation of our long-time tent convenor, Don Motter, and recognised his faithful service, along with his desire to give other Clan Members the opportunity to serve. Fortunately, we were able to accept the offer of Chris and Jeff Sykes to take up the position of Northern Tent Convenors, and as of the time of writing this, they have done a great job in providing the tent at both the Fremont and the Woodland Games, and appear to be having fun working out how to put together all of Don's talented creations!

A number of us Clan members assembled ourselves at the Angels Camp Celtic Festival earlier this year, and although this event is definitely not predominantly Scottish, (the variety of sights, sounds, costumes, souvenirs, foodstuffs, etc is quite remarkable, not to mention entertaining!), it is the first such event to attend in the area after the hibernation of winter, and a good opportunity to get together and provide an antidote for "cabin fever" (would the Scottish equivalent be "shieling sickness"?!)

Yesterday, (Saturday 23rd April), was the first day of the annual Scottish Games in Woodland. Although the weather was somewhat overcast, with some alternating sunshine and sprinkles, the Games as a whole had a good attendance, helped of course by the enthusiastic support of quite a few Clan Gregor Members, some from quite some distance away ( e.g. Joe Foss, part-time from Panama City in Panama), and also the newly-acquired "friend?" of one of our members, who she is endeavouring to entice away from Clan

Ramsay! (I won't mention any names, Linda!)

Of the many upcoming Games and gatherings for the year, I would like to remind you of a couple of the more significant from the point of view of popularity and the need to get moving on making reservations for desired accomodation well in advance. The Pleasanton Games, billed as the largest in the world, and scheduled for Labor Weekend as usual, (3rd and 4th September this year), include a huge demand for accomodation in the area. After a lengthy internet search this morning we made reservations at a place called Sierra Suites. ([www.sierrasuites.com](http://www.sierrasuites.com)., telephone (925) 730-000, for those that might be interested) It seemed to be a nice place, with very reasonable rates, especially after applying the AAA membership discount, and 3 miles from the Games site.

Similarly for the Ventura Games, also a 2-day event, (scheduled for October 8th and 9th), and also the venue for our Clan Gregor Western Chapter Annual General Meeting to which all Clan members are invited, and the next Council meeting, we made reservations this morning at the Best Western of Ventura ([www.bestwestern.com](http://www.bestwestern.com), telephone (805) 648-3101) This is only 1 mile from the Games site, and was reasonably-priced for the area, once again offering AAA membership discount. Our Vice President, Todd Raines warned me of not leaving the bookings too late, and having to pay \$245 a night at the Marriott as they had to one year! Not at all in keeping with our traditional Scottish frugality! As well as working on arranging a meeting site for us, Todd has also made tentative reservations for dinner for Clan Members for after the Games on the Saturday night, so keep that in mind also, and let Todd know if you intend to attend.

I'm certainly looking forward to the opportunity to attend the Ventura Games for the first time, to be able to distribute the meeting venues more evenly, and to have the opportunity to meet a whole lot of our Clan Brothers and Sisters in the South that I haven't met before, as well as renewing friendships with those of you I already know.

Although I made a flippant suggestion above regarding "shieling sickness", one of my favorite poetic quotes relating to Scotland is what is apparently known as the "lone shieling" stanza from the "Canadian Boat Song", which reads thus:

"From the lone shieling of the misty island  
Mountains divide us, and the waste of seas-  
Yet still the blood is strong, the heart is Highland,  
And we in dreams behold the Hebrides"

This is quoted every month at the top of the staff acknowledgements page of the magazine "Scottish Life", to which I subscribe, and love, but with no acknowledgement as to author or origin, and I had more than once wondered about it. Thinking of this again this afternoon, as I wrote the President's message, I thought I vaguely remembered seeing the rest of the poem somewhere in the past, and wondered again about who had written so poignant a verse, and under what circumstances. Being the most computer savvy of the two of us, (which isn't hard!) Patricia was kind enough to go search for it on the internet for me, and after quite some time, on the [www.electricscotland.com](http://www.electricscotland.com) site, was successful. According to what she found, the poem first appeared in the September 1829 issue of "Blackwood's Magazine", and though the actual author is unknown, the poem, or song, is attributed to one or more Canadian Scots exiled by the infamous "Clearances", and makes reference to them in a subsequent verse. Although I have (so far) not been blessed to see our Scottish Homeland myself, it is my dream to one day see and explore and ponder on the lands and historical sites of our Clan Gregor ancestors, and although this verse seems to refer to the Hebrides rather than the Highlands of the mainland, the sentiment still applies, and what it says never fails to move me, sometimes to tears.....

Here's to a great year of Games and Gatherings. Let us all strive together for harmony, and contribute what each of us can to ensure good times and enjoyable memories together as Brothers and Sisters of our Royal Clan Gregor.

And let us always remember our heritage.....

Best wishes to you all .....Glynn Clark.

**T**he Editor welcomes and encourages items for publication to the Griogarach. All items should be in keeping with the objectives of Clan Gregor Western USA and the Clan Gregor Society of Scotland. Clan Gregor Western USA hereby assumes absolutely no responsibility for any action taken by any person based on information in this publication. There has been no intention whatsoever to defame anyone living or dead. The Editor will consider all submitted items for publication but assumes no responsibility, nor certifies accuracy of any published item. The Editor reserves the right to edit all materials accepted for publication.

Address for contributions:

Carl Basile, Editor – e-mail: [cbasile@socal.rr.com](mailto:cbasile@socal.rr.com)

**Submission deadline for next issue: July 10, 2005**

### **Newsletter On-Line**

<http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/gregor/>



# Epistolary Salutation

Dear Carolyne,

It was with some misgiving and sadness, and some selfishness that I read of your status change. Clan Gregor won't be the same without you at the helm. I feel you have made it a very solid organization that has grown, and continues to. I've been amazed at your stamina and devotion and dedication, and I thank you!

My Gaelic Blessing for you:

Deep peace of the running wave to you,

Deep peace of the flowing air to you,

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,

Deep peace of the shining stars to you,

Deep peace of the gentle night to you,

Moon and stars pour their healing light on you,

Deep peace to you.

Very special thanks to you,

Chuck Warner



Photo: Bob Stoops

**United Council Griogarach**

Beltane / Spring 2005

*Clan Gregor Society Western USA Chapter*



**We have a Website where you can find:**

[News](#) | [About Us](#) | [MacGregor Movie](#) | [Recipes](#) | [Calendar](#) | [Photos](#) | [Membership Form](#) | [Shop](#)

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**Hooded Sweater**

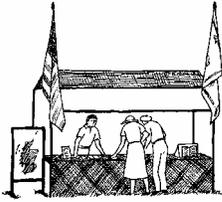
**Tee Shirt**

**Mug**

**Mousepad**

**=== All This and Much More! ===**

*Visit our website today at  
[www.clangregorwest.com](http://www.clangregorwest.com)*



# Calendar Of Scottish Events



**Important note:** Always check and confirm the event prior to making travel arrangements etc. This is the most up to date information available at press time.

For updated information, go to : <http://www.saaa-net.org/> or <http://www.unitedscottishsociety.com/>



Date	Location	Event Name	Sponsor / Host
Feb. 19-20	Long Beach, CA	Queen Mary Scottish Festival and Games	The RMS Queen Mary
Feb. 26-27	Mesa, AZ	Arizona Highland Games	Caledonian Society of Arizona
Mar. 12-13	Pomona, CA	L.A. County Irish Fair & Music Festival	Friends of the Irish
Apr. 2	Bakersfield, CA	Bakersfield Scottish Highland Gathering and Games	Kern County Scottish Society
Apr. 2-3	Waikiki, HI	Hawaiian Scottish Festival - On the beach at Waikiki	Hawaiian Scottish Assoc.
Apr. 16-17	Las Vegas, NV	Las Vegas Celtic Gathering and Highland	Games Las Vegas Celtic Society
Apr. 22-24	Woodland, CA	Sacramento Valley Scottish Games	Caledonian Club of Sacramento
May-05	Prescott, AZ	Prescott Whisky Games	Clan MacNab
May 28-29	Pomona, CA	Pomona Highland Games	United Scottish Society
June-05	Modesto, CA	Modesto Highland Games	Modesto Highland Games
June-05	Campbell, CA	Campbell Highland Games	Campbell Highland Games
June 25-26	Vista, CA	Scottish Highland Games of San Diego	SD Scottish Highland Games
July 9-10	Oakland, CA	Dunsmuir Highland Games	Dunsmuir House and Gardens
July-05	Portland, OR	Portland Highland Games (American Championships)	Portland Highland Games Assoc.
July-05	Flagstaff, AZ	Arizona Highland Celtic Festival	No. AZ Celtic Heritage Soc.
July 23-24	Reno, NV	Reno Celtic Celebration - Heavy Athletic Games	Reno Celtic Celebration
July 30-31	Enumclaw, WA	Pacific Northwest Scottish Highland Games	Seattle Scottish H.G.A.
Aug. 6-7	Monterey, CA	Monterey Highland Games	S.S.M.P.
Aug. 19-21	Winston, OR	Douglas County Highland Games	Douglas County Scottish Soc.
Sept. 3-4	Pleasanton, CA	C.C.S.F.'s 138th Annual Scottish Gathering and Games	C.C.S.F.
Sept. 17	Fresno, CA	Fresno Highland Games	Scottish Soc. of Central Cal.
Sept. 24	Dixon, CA	Dixon Scottish Games	Dixon Scottish Games
Oct. 1	Ben Lomond, CA	Loch Lomond Highland Games	Loch Lomond Celtic Society
Oct. 8-9	Ventura, CA	Seaside Highland Games	Seaside Highland Games

The Northern and Sierra Nevada schedule was compiled by:  
Candace Sykes: Northern Tent  
John Pechin: Sierra Nevada Tent.

Contact: Clan Gregor Society  
P.O. Box 1423  
Stockton CA 95201

Contact John Pechin at: [john.pechin@grassvalleygroup.com](mailto:john.pechin@grassvalleygroup.com).



For additional games information try: [www.maclachlans.org](http://www.maclachlans.org) if you know of a Scottish event, let us know so we can post it to the calendar.

For more information on the Southern Tent activities contact Todd Raines at: (949) 215-7796 - or [lido3890@aol.com](mailto:lido3890@aol.com)

For more information on the Arizona Tent activities contact Karen Mauch at [mauchk@yahoo.com](mailto:mauchk@yahoo.com)

