

Bringarach

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



IMBOLC 2006



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



IMBOLC



Imbolc, also known as Candlemas and Groundhog's Day, occurs at the beginning of February. It marks the middle of Winter and holds the promise of Spring. The Goddess manifests as the Maiden and Brigid. The Groundhog is a manifestation of the God. Colors are White, and sometimes Red. It is a festival of spiritual purification and dedication.

Brigid is the Celtic Goddess of inspiration, healing, and smithcraft. She is one of the best examples of the survival of a Pagan Goddess into Christian times. She was canonized as St. Brigit by the Roman Catholic Church and various stories are given of Her origins and Her life. She was a Druid's daughter, described in the Carmina Gadelica as the "daughter of Dugall the brown." She is reported to have predicted the coming of Christianity and to have been baptized by St. Patrick. Popular folk tales describe Her as the midwife to the Virgin Mary, and She is thus always called upon by women in labor. The Christian St. Brigit was a nun, and later an Abbess, who founded an Abbey at Kildare in Ireland. She was said to have had the power to appoint the bishops of Her area, an unlikely role for an Abbess, made stranger by Her unusual requirement that these bishops also be practicing goldsmiths.

*If Candlemas day be fair and bright,
Winter will have another flight.
If Candlemas day be shower and rain,
Winter is gone and will not come again.*

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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.

List A: Accepted MacGregor Names and Septs						
	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	
List B: Aliases where documentary evidence shows a MacGregor connection						
	Bain	Bower(s)	Dochart	Lakie	More	White
	Black	Callum	Dunn	Leckie	Roy	Whyte
	Beachley	Coleman	Landless	Lockie	Skinner	Willox
	Bowie	Comrie				
List C: Aliases with little documentary evidence but a tradition of MacGregor connection						
	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		
List D: Other family names that are known to have been used as MacGregor aliases						
	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
849 River Road
Modesto, CA 95351

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I qualify in accordance with Rule _____ as explained on the reverse of this form and wish to apply for:

- Full Membership @ \$33.00 per year.
- Associate Membership @ \$33.00 per year.

(Available only to those applying under Rule B.)

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

After admission as a member, I agree to pay my annual membership dues no later than January 1st 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:** _____

From the Desk of the Chapter President:



Dear Fellow Gregors,

Happy New Year to each and every one. I hope you all had a most enjoyable Christmas season with family and friends and loved ones. It hardly seems possible we are already in a new year!

Since I last wrote, I attended the Tartan Ball in Sacramento on the 19th November, and as usual, had a very enjoyable time, meeting with friends and acquaintances, enjoying demonstrations of highland dancing and piping, eating, participating in the silent auction, then highland and ballroom dancing ourselves. One of the most amusing aspects of the evening was coincidental; at the club where our event was held, a large crowd of young people had booked an adjoining room for a graduation celebration, which included a lot of more modern, or "younger generation" dancing. Somehow, one of the pipers there for our function, while standing outside our room, got invited in to their celebration and entertained them with several rousing bagpipe tunes to which they found they could easily continue their dancing; this so impressed and delighted them that they invited any of the others of us that wanted to join them as we left our function. Several of us did so, Patricia and I included, and the two of us were very shortly split up by a nearby young couple; the young man dancing with Patricia, and the young lady with myself, for quite an extended period of time! It was most amusing and entertaining, and the young folk were very friendly!

The final Scottish event of the year for us was the Annual Scottish Christmas Walk in the small old gold-era town of Volcano, near Jackson. As usual, many people from various clans and other friendships assembled themselves in town during the course of the afternoon, then as darkness fell, lit up candles and lanterns, and this year we were lucky to be led by a piper, in a procession through the streets of town, ending up at the local Catholic Church, just before the conclusion of evening Mass. The Priest then came out and "fed" the assembled multitude with the traditional blessing in Gaelic. (For the loaves and fishes we had to make our own arrangements, and we had!) Us Gregors, ten of us, assembled ourselves at Giannini's, an Italian restaurant in nearby Pine Grove, which apparently we had done in years past. We had a most enjoyable get-together around a meal that lasted about three hours! They just kept on bringing more courses, but I didn't hear anyone complaining, certainly not me! It was a most amicable occasion, with excellent service amidst the ambience of the Italian decor. Definitely worth repeating in my opinion. Those from our Clan who attended the Christmas Walk, and the dinner afterwards, were Carolyn and Bob Stoops, who had come all the way from their new home in Oregon, Ed and Raiyn Moore, Jerry and Alice White and daughter and son-in-law, and Patricia and myself. The majority of us were staying at the Best Western in Jackson, and arranged to meet for breakfast together at the adjacent Denny's for breakfast the next morning. Imagine everyone's surprise when we found we had the same waitress as we had at the Italian restaurant the night before! This certainly contributed to making the breakfast more amusing and entertaining! Shortly after breakfast, Bob and Carolyn had to leave to go back to Oregon, and after that the rest of us said our "goodbyes" and headed off in various directions to

make our way home. Much to our further surprise, later in the morning, all the rest of us ran into each other again in a used bookstore in downtown Jackson that Ed had recommended earlier in the weekend!

The Christmas/New Year period in the northern California area was characterised by quite a lot of "Highland" weather, with a lot of days of rain, mist, fog, and some areas of flooding; the rain having been going on continuously for a couple of days as I write here on January 2nd. Things are decidedly soggy!

Probably the next Scottish event for most of us is the traditional Burns Dinner, in celebration of Robbie Burn's birthday in January. Hooray, more haggis, and I'm actually not being facetious; I genuinely like the stuff I have been served, and go back for 2nd and 3rd helpings! After all, it's just "Scottish meatballs", although I believe the chef who makes it for our Burn's dinner doesn't include all the traditional "innards", (or roadkill!) However, I've never much liked the taste of whiskey, so Patricia is delighted to get my share of the stuff they serve with the haggis.

Following the Burn's Dinners is the Queen Mary Scottish Festival and Games in Long Beach on the 18th and 19th of February. We don't know whether we will make it to that or not, yet.

As of this writing, it looks as though the next Clan Gregor Council Meeting is going to have to be scheduled for one of the first two weekends in March, to try and avoid clashing with the afore-mentioned Queen Mary Festival, and subsequent Scottish events. This will, however, be subject to availability and approval of Councilors. Any items of business anyone would like to have discussed would need to be submitted to me somewhat prior to that time so it can get on the agenda. We still have no Secretary followingCarolynn Black-Stoops relocation in Oregon, and her resignation.)

Well, when I started writing this on 2nd January (so I could send it in early for a change), we were having Scottish weather, and here today on the 14th we are having the same. I thought I had sent this to our editor already, but senility and "old-timers" disease has struck again, and my memory has once again let me down! I have however today e-mailed our Clan Councilors re the proposed dates for the next Council meeting.

I hope you are all having a successful and enjoyable start to the year 2006, which will continue as the year progresses.

I look forward to re-uniting with as many of you as possible as the Scottish events calendar unfolds throughout the year.

Regards, Glynn Clark, President.

The 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 – 9742 Delafield Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 – e-mail: cbasile@socal.rr.com
Submission deadline for next issue: April 10, 2006

GÆELIC JOURNEY

Hal`o, Is mise Cynthia, Agus
Hello, my name is Cynthia, and
Bliadna mhath Ur!
(Bri-ana Vha Ur!)
Happy New Year

Tha mi an d`ochas gun c`ord Ag ionnsachadh G`aidhlig Am bliadhna. *Gaelic*
(ha mi an do-has gun cord agarn-sa-hookh gah-lig am Bri-ana.) *Sounds like*
I hope that you will enjoy learning Gaelic this year. *English*

A bheil sibh deiseil?
(A vail shiv jeshel)
Are you ready?

Tugainn!
(Tooh-keen)
Lets go!

C`ait a bheil thu a` dol?
(Catch a veil ou a` dol?)
Where are you going?
.....



Donnchadh: Hal`o Calum, Ciamar a tha thu an-diugh?
Duncan (Hal-o Calum kim-ar a-ha ou an-jew?)
Hello Malcom, how are you today?

Calum: Tha gu math, tapadh leibh. Ciamar a tha sibh fein?
Malcom (Ha gu ma, tapa leiv, kim-ar a ha sheer-hain?)
Good, thank you. How are you yourself?

Donnchadh: Gl`e mhath!!!
Duncan (Gle vah!!!)
Very good!!!

Calum: Ca`it a bheil thu a` dol?
Malcom (Catch a veil ou a-dol?)
Where are you going?

Donnchadh: Tha mi a dol a ghabhail pinnt.
Duncan (Tha mi a dol a ghah-vahl pinge.)
I am going for a pint.



Calum: Tha mi ag iarraidh pinnt cuideachd.
Malcom (ha mi agearrie pinghe ku-jokh.)
I am wanting a pint also.

Donnchadh: Ceart ma-tha, tugainn!
Duncan (Kearst ma-ha tooh-keen!)
Right then, lets go!

Continued next issue...



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](#)

**Visit Our Shop for Your Clan
Gregor Merchandise!**



Hooded Sweater

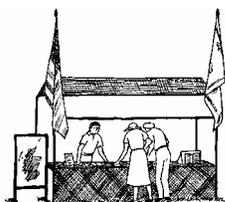
Tee Shirt

Mug

Mousepad

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

*Visit our website today at
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. 18-19	Long Beach, CA	Queen Mary Scottish Festival and Games	The RMS Queen Mary Queen Mary Entry Form
Feb. 25 - 26	Mesa, AZ	Arizona Highland Games	Caledonian Society of Arizona
Mar. 11 - 12	Angels Camp, CA	Calaveras Celtic Festival	Calaveras Celtic Festival
Mar. 11 - 12	Pomona, CA	L.A. County Irish Fair & Music Festival	Friends of the Irish
Apr. 1-2	Waikiki, HI	Hawaiian Scottish Festival - On the beach at Waikiki	Hawaiian Scottish Assoc.
Apr. 2	Bakersfield, CA	Bakersfield Scottish Highland Gathering and Games	Kern County Scottish Society
Apr. 8-9	Las Vegas, NV	Las Vegas Celtic Gathering and Highland Games	Las Vegas Celtic Society
Apr. 29 - 30	Camarillo, CA	Black Sheep Spring Open @ Camarillo Celtic Fair	
May 27-28	Pomona, CA	Pomona Highland Games	United Scottish Society
June 3	Ferndale, WA	Bellingham Highland Games	
June 4	Modesto, CA	Modesto Highland Games	Modesto Highland Games
June 10	Utah	Utah Scottish Festival & Highland Games	
June 17	Prosser, WA	Prosser Scottish Festival	
June 18	Campbell, CA	Campbell Highland Games	Campbell Highland Games
June 18	Aurora, OR	Oregon Weigh for Distance Championship	Oregon Highland Games
June 23 - 24	Graham, WA	Tacoma Highland Games	
June 24 - 25	Vista, CA	Scottish Highland Games of San Diego	SD Scottish Highland Games
July 8-9	Mt. Vernon, WA	Skagit Valley Highland Games	
July 9 - 10	Oakland, CA	Dunsmuir Highland Games	Dunsmuir House and Gardens
July 16	Flagstaff, AZ	Arizona Highland Celtic Festival	No. AZ Celtic Heritage Soc.
July 16	Portland, OR	Portland Highland Games (American Championships)	Portland Highland Games Assoc.
July 22 - 23	Reno, NV	Reno Celtic Celebration - Heavy Athletic Games	Reno Celtic Celebration
July 29 - 30	Enumclaw, WA	Pacific Northwest Scottish Highland Games	Seattle Scottish H.G.A.
Aug. 5	Spokane, WA	Spokane Highland Games	Spokane Games
Aug. 6	Aurora, OR	WEST COAST HEAVY EVENTS	Oregon Highland Games
Aug. 6 - 7	Monterey, CA	Monterey Highland Games	S.S.M.P.
Aug. 12	San Diego, CA	Black Sheep Summer Open	San Diego Black Sheep
Aug. 12	Greenbank, WA	Whidbey Island Highland Games	http://whig.org
Aug. 12	Bend, OR	High Desert Celtic Festival and Scottish Highland Games	http://www.hdcs.net
Aug. 19 - 20	Winston, OR	Douglas County Highland Games	Douglas County Scottish Soc.
Aug. 26 - 27	Sweet Home, OR	Celtic Festival and Highland Games	
Sept. 3 - 4	Pleasanton, CA	C.C.S.F.'s 138th Annual Scottish Gathering and Games	C.C.S.F.
Sept. 9 - 10	Kelso, WA	Kelso Highlander Festival	
Sept. 16	Fresno, CA	Fresno Highland Games	Scottish Soc. of Central Cal.
Sept. 16	San Francisco, CA	Black Sheep Fall Open	Monterey Black Sheep
Sept. 16	John Day, OR	Eastern Oregon Highland Games	
Sept. 24	Dixon, CA	Dixon Scottish Games	Dixon Scottish Games
Oct. 1	Ben Lomond, CA	Loch Lomond Highland Games	Loch Lomond Celtic Society
Oct. 7 - 8	Ventura, CA	Seaside Highland Games	Seaside Highland Games
Dec. 2	San Diego, CA	Black Sheep Winter Open	San Diego Black Sheep

The Northern and Sierra Nevada schedule was compiled by:

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For additional games information try: 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

For more information on the Arizona Tent activities contact
Karen Mauch at mauchk@yahoo.com

