

# Bringarach

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



LAMMAS 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!

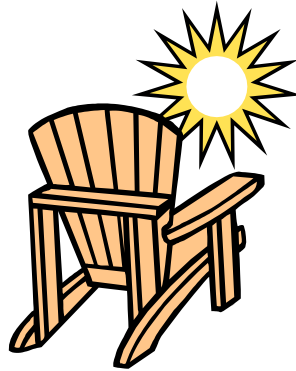
Thank you,

Carl Basile

Editor, Griogarach Newsletter



# LAMMAS



Lammas, or Lughnassad, occurs in late July and early August. It marks the middle of Summer and the beginning of the harvest. It is the first of three harvest festivals and is usually associated with ripening grain. It heralds the coming of Autumn. The Goddess manifests as Demeter, Ceres, Corn Mother, and other agricultural Goddesses. The God manifests as Lugh, John Barleycorn, and vegetation Gods. Colors are Golden Yellow, Orange, Green, and Light Brown. It is a festival of plenty and prosperity.

Have a magical picnic and break bread with friends. Do a meditation in which you visualize yourself completing a project you have already begun. Make a corn dolly charm out of the first grain you harvest or acquire. Bake a sacred loaf bread and give a portion of it to Mother Earth with a prayer of appreciation. Make prayers for a good harvest season. Do prosperity magic. Harvest herbs in a sacred way for use in charms and rituals. Kindle a Lammas fire with sacred wood and dried herbs. If you live in or near a farming region, attend a public harvest festival, such as a corn or apple festival.

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.



**CLAN GREGOR**  
**WESTERN USA**

**APPLICATION  
FOR  
MEMBERSHIP**

A Chapter of the  
Clan Gregor Society  
of Scotland

Membership Director  
849 River Road  
Modesto, CA 95351

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 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 Griograch" 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES AND SEPTS OF CLAN GREGOR**

As recognized by the Clan Gregor Society, August 1999

Many variant spellings exist and are recognized. M', Mc and Mac are considered interchangeable.

## From the Desk of the Chapter President:



Dear Griogarach,

The weather has certainly warmed up since the last newsletter. This third weekend in July the temperature is in the 100's where I live in the No California foothills, probably not something our ancestors in Scotland had to contend with. We would most likely be complaining about their temperatures at the other end of the scale! As my two youngest daughters came to stay with me from June 12th till July 12th, I got the swimming pool out from it's winter hibernation the week before, and it continues to be very enjoyable in this heat.

Usually when these two daughters, now 12 and 17, are here for their summer visit I am out of circulation for the Scottish Games, as I have never been able before to persuade them to be seen with their Dad in a "skirt"! However, this year a minor miracle occurred; I was able to talk them into attending the Games at Dunsmuir House in Oakland on the 8th July, and even get them to go in costume! The three of us spent the previous day at Pier 39 in San Francisco, and then stayed the night in a hotel in Hayward, so as to be close to the Games site the next morning, as I had heard that parking was limited and one needed to get there early to get a spot. I had hoped to arrive about 9.00am; we were about half an hour later than that, but still managed to find a space under a large tree for shade. I had never been to these Games before, so didn't really know what to expect. I was a little nervous after waxing so enthusiastic as to encourage attendance, that they would not live up to promotion! I was pleasantly surprised. The venue is beautiful. The driveway meanders along a valley with a stream, and a pond with ducks, and large trees providing lots of shade along the edges, and open spaces for the events. After entering the gate we came first upon a display of raptors, and learnt a lot talking with one of the young women attending them. Next were some of the dance competitors, and then the Clan tents, including, to my total surprise, our own Clan Gregor tent, manned by the faithful Sykes family. I was truly amazed and delighted to find them there, as our tent hasn't been there for a number of years, and I was enjoying socializing with Candy & Chris when my daughters reminded me that in my haste to get there early they hadn't had breakfast yet! The food concessions were gathered around the front of the old Dunsmuir House itself. The food item that my 17 year old was most looking forward to was sausage rolls; unfortunately the people that I am normally used to seeing selling these were not in attendance at these Games. We started the day by sharing the "Scottish breakfast", which worked very well as each of us wanted different components of it. I was afraid that the vendor attendance might be rather light, but once again I was pleasantly surprised, and amongst others I was able to introduce my daughters to several that we have come to know and become friends with over the years. I was expecting the girls to be most interested in the numerous jewellery (UK spelling) displays, followed by the clothing offerings. Totally unexpectedly to me, they were most interested in the weapons tent, largely influenced it appeared, by having just seen the first showing of the second "Pirates of the Caribbean" movie at midnight before we left for San Fran. the next morning. (Guess whether they slept most of the way down, while their old Dad, who had declined staying out that late, drove?!) Most of their lengthy inspections of the weapons were accompanied by such remarks as "ooh, this looks like a pirate sword", or, "doesn't this just look like a pirate knife", etc! After spending quite some while with the

weapons the first time, we continued on to peruse the many other vendors spread out around the place, then wandered off further down the valley to look at the various re-enactment displays set up. Having reached the end of the road we retraced our steps...back to the weapons tent for another bout of fantasy!..... We had discovered on the first trip along the valley that there was going to be a shinty game at lunchtime, and that our own Ed Sykes was participating in it, so we left the weapons to go get some lunch to eat while watching the game. In the absence of sausage rolls, my 17 year old settled for a Scottish meat pie, as I did myself, and the 12 year old partook of ye olde "Scottish?" corndog. We managed to find limited shade under some bushes above the field; by now it had become quite warm, as the sea breezes apparently didn't make it that far inland, but we enjoyed eating while watching. After this, I suggested that they had better get themselves back to the weapons if they wanted to buy their choices before someone else did; it still took a lot more inspecting, handling, and deciding before they settled on their favourite one each. They were thrilled with them, and played with them on and off for the rest of their stay! As we had seen most everything by this time, we decided to inspect Dunsmuir House last, in the hopes it was cooler inside, which it was. It was a very interesting tour, although we stayed probably only about a 1/2 hour, as we were getting tired from the heat by then. When we got back to the car we were delighted to find that the morning selection of parking place under the large tree had paid off; we were one of the few in the shade. Although I was delighted that the girls had not complained about the hotness of their costumes, they certainly lost no time in changing out of them to something a lot lighter for the trip home! They later agreed they had enjoyed themselves, and would probably go to another if it wasn't so hot. Unfortunately, they are not usually with me during the cooler times of the year when the Games are on, so we'll just have to see what the future brings.

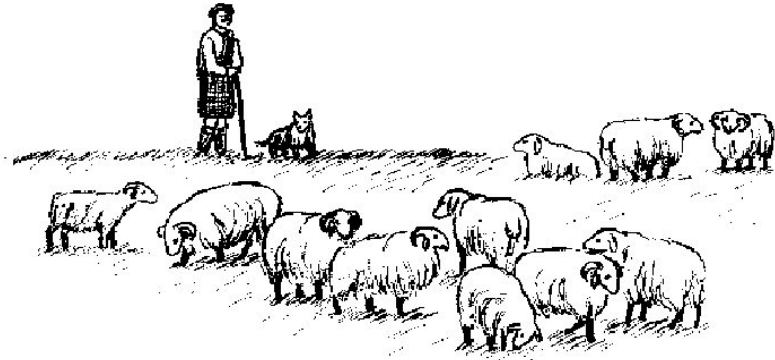
I see from the schedule that you brothers and sisters up in the northwest have ten different Games to choose from in the three months between July 16th and September 16th, and although I am not familiar with exact locations I realise you will unlikely get to all of them as some will be less geographically convenient than others . It looks like the next one we will get to is the usual three-day Pleasanton event on Labor Weekend. Unfortunately this year we will not have the pleasure of the company of our faithful long-time member Joe Foss, who, due to circumstances beyond his control is moving permanently to Panama a year earlier than he originally intended. He has generously donated to the Clan however, a couple of military-style shirts, and a piper's belted plaid, to be sold to the highest bidder, with the proceeds to go to the Clan. More details of size, approx worth etc, to be forthcoming.

Congratulations to long-time member Linda Corey, who with her sweetheart recently participated in a traditional Celtic "handfasting" ceremony at their home in Oregon, along with bagpipe music and Celtic decorations, etc.

To give plenty of notice/reminder etc, I wish to hereby inform/remind everyone (particularly those who last year claimed they didn't know about them, despite advance notice!) that the Annual General Meeting of Clan Gregor West, followed by the Council Meeting, is designated to be held in conjunction with the Fresno Games scheduled for September 16th, 2006. Please mark this on your calendars. Note; I would emphatically prefer that those intending to attend make themselves available so these meetings are not again required to be held DURING the Games. The last Council meeting, held by necessity at the tent DURING the Ventura games, was "somewhat difficult", to say the least, due to visitors constantly popping in and out of the tent, and the joyous strains of the Wicked Tinkers performing next door, with their usual enthusiasm and volume! Consequently, they could be heard a lot better than those trying to participate in the meeting!

Hopefully, with the Games season in full swing, you are all taking advantage of the opportunity to attend and participate, to renew old friendships, make new ones, and keep our Macgregor heritage alive and flourishing.

Remember, "Macgregors despite them....."  
Glynn Clark, President.



**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: November 10, 2006**

### Newsletter On-Line

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





# GÆLIC JOURNEY

Hello, I am Cynthia D. Greer Schroer. I am new to clan Gregor. I joined last year and am very happy we have a nice family. I enjoy playing the harp, painting, and writing. I also speak a wee bit of Gaelic and want to learn more. Would you like to learn Gaelic with me?

Cynthia

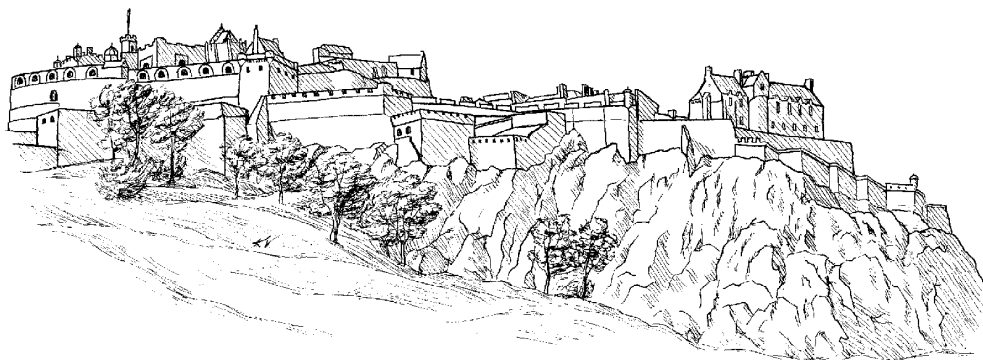
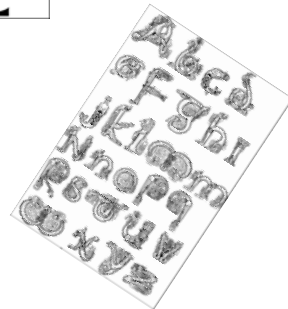
Exercise One: Greetings

Alasdair: Hello Joan. Good morning!  
Hallo Seonag. Madainn mhath!  
(hallo sho-nahk mahteen vah)

Joan:  
(sho-nahk) Good morning!  
Madainn Mhath!  
(mahteen vah)

Alasdair: How are you?  
Ciamar a that sibh?  
(kaymuhr uh ha shiv)

Joan:  
(sho-nahk) I'm good. Thank you.  
Tha gu math, tapadh leibh.  
(ha goo mah, tahpuh leeve)  
How are you yourself?  
Ciamar a tha sibh fhein?  
(kaymuhr uh ha sheev hain)



*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**

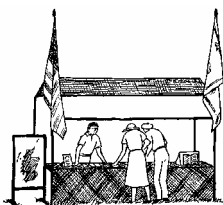
**Tee Shirt**

**Mug**

**Mousepad**

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

*Visit our website today at  
[www.clangregorwest.com](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. 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	<a href="http://whig.org">http://whig.org</a>
Aug. 12	Bend, OR	High Desert Celtic Festival and Scottish Highland Games	<a href="http://www.hdcs.net">http://www.hdcs.net</a>
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. 13 - 15	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:

Candace Sykes: Northern Tent

John Pechin: Sierra Nevada Tent  
john.pechin@grasvalleygroup.com

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



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)

