

Bringarach

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



BELTANE 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



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.

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.



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 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 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 Kith and Kin, Well, supposedly we have moved into Spring, but I don't know that you could recognise it by the weather, which has been rather "Scottish", at least up here in northern California. According to a report I heard recently, the snowpack, and other water storage is up approx 30% above normal, so hopefully we won't have a water shortage this summer. If you southern members are nice to us, we might even share some of it with you! It certainly seems to have been raining almost continuously these past few weeks, and not only interfering with the weekends and other recreational activities (the important things), but also mine and other people's vocations (and presumably in some cases, vacations!). The first "Gathering" I was able to attend this year was the Calaveras Celtic Festival at Angels Camp, held on the weekend of March 11th & 12th. Although by no stretch of the imagination is it predominantly Scottish; there are Scots there, and some tents, kilts, Scottish wares, and collectibles and souvenirs to be discovered and acquired, and some of the same food as found at Scottish Games and Gatherings, along with some other interesting ethnic eatables that appear to have not the remotest connection with "Celtic"! However, the same can be said of some of the outfits and costumes that are displayed there, all of which makes it very entertaining for those of us that enjoy "people-watching", and it is the first event of the year at this end of the state for us to get out to. There were however, several things that were somewhat Scottish-flavored, one of which was the "Highland" weather that weekend. We had been watching the weather forecast during the previous week, trying to decide whether it would be better to go on Saturday or Sunday, and eventually settled on the former, as the chance of precipitation was only 40% compared with 60% for latter. On the drive over there from my home in Weimar; west on Hwy 80 to Auburn, then south on Highway 49 to Placerville and on towards Jackson, there was plenty of fallen snow on the sides of the roads, but not on them, and in the fields and trees, and we were enjoying it's beauty, especially on the occasions when the sun was out. But then it got progressively darker, and then started to snow on us, quite heavily, and sticking to the roadway sufficiently to make it prudent to slow down. Fortunately it wasn't so heavy or long enough in duration to prevent our progress; I was driving and I thought it was fun, although Patricia said if she had been driving she would have turned around and gone home! However, it had stopped before we got to Angels Camp, and we were lucky that we had no more precipitation for the rest of the day, although there was plenty of snow on the ground at the venue, and where it had, or was melting, the ground was rather soggy and muddy, and some unfortunate displayers or vendors who had put up tents outside the night before had suffered from the downfall. It was interesting though to see the familiar usually-green surroundings clothed in snow, along with of course the nearby hills, and I found it easy to imagine being in the Highlands somewhere. The other thing reminiscent of the Scottish Games and Gatherings was the presence of several of the entertainment groups that we have previously seen at those; Wicked Tinkers, Tempest, and Black Irish, whose rollicking performances certainly got the blood flowing and compensated for the outside conditions. As expected, attendance was certainly down at the start of the event, and we heard of quite a lot of people, both participants and spectators, who couldn't get there because of snow on the roads, but the sun came out some and the

crowds had improved later in the day. We stayed until almost sundown, and then on the journey home took a wrong turn and an unintended thirty-minute detour in the dark on the way back to Jackson, where we had dinner at the Dennys where a number of us Gregors had eaten breakfast the morning after last year's Volcano event (again with the same waitress we had at that breakfast, and dinner at the Italian restaurant the night before!) We got to my home about 10.30pm, at which stage the sky was relatively clear, with the moon out. We were rather surprised the next morning to wake up and find we had had some more Highland weather; 5" of snow during the night, and it was still going, and continued in varying degrees of heaviness through till mid-afternoon. And, we have been having quite a lot of snow and rain up here ever since. However, we were lucky with the weather at the next games we attended; in Bakersfield on Saturday April 2nd. It was predicted that it would rain that day, but instead it rained during the night before while we were asleep and didn't notice, and it stayed dry during the event. We drove down there on the Friday, actually choosing to travel on the infamous Highway 99 to provide things-to-look-at compared with the boring but faster Hwy 5. After checking into the hotel about mid-afternoon, we went exploring and checked out the Games venue. It seemed fairly small at the time, and we expected that the event would be also, but we were pleasantly surprised the next day to find how many clan tents and vendors they had crammed into the space, along with Wicked Tinkers and other entertainers. Unfortunately I didn't get as much time as I would have hoped to peruse all of the above, as part of the reason we had travelled down there was to hold the obligatory twice-yearly Council Meeting, which we did at the tent. We almost didn't, as several Council members who had indicated they would be there didn't make it, and we almost didn't have a quorum. However, we did eventually manage to discuss and decide on a number of items of Clan business, despite the as-usual-very-loud Wicked Tinkers performing about 25 yards away! Amongst other items, both Jeff Sykes (he and his brother Chris are our Northern Tent Co-Ordinators), and his father, Ed Sykes, were appointed to Council pending ratification at the next AGM. Ed also accepted the position of Secretary which had been vacant for some months. (Now that there are three members of the Sykes family on the Council, we are expecting a "takeover" at any moment!) As well as the bare minimum number of 5 Council Members present, we had quite a few other Clan members and family and friends in attendance, some having just driven down for the day, and others of us who were staying one or more nights. About 10 of us assembled ourselves at a local buffet restaurant for dinner later in the evening, and had an enjoyable time together. Our next Council Meeting, and AGM, are scheduled for during the Fresno Games on September 16th. The next Games and Gathering we are expecting to attend is the 2-day event at Woodland on 29th & 30th April, and a number of our Members have already indicated they were going to be there. This is a fairly large Gathering in a pleasant well-spread-out area, with lots of trees (in the hopes we have sunshine!), and no apparent restriction on space; lots of vendors and food purveyors, British car display, Scottish animals, piping, dancing, and, of course, the field competitions, etc. As a 2-day event it provides a great opportunity for our Members and friends and family to get together on at least one of the days, and we always have an enjoyable time here. We will probably try and arrange (as usual), somewhere to have dinner together on the Saturday night for those interested. This event is kind-of the first of the local Scottish ones for us here in the north end of the state, then it's "open season" from there on! I certainly hope to see as many of my brothers and sisters as possible during this year; renewing old acquaintances, and making new ones. Don't forget to plan for the events as listed in the newsletter, and remember to invite family, friends, and potential Clan Members to share our heritage and kinship with us. Remember, "Macgregors despite them shall flourish forever".

Regards to you all.
Ard Choille Macgregor.....
Glynn Clark, Chapter 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:

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Submission deadline for next issue: July 10, 2006

Newsletter On-Line

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



Feuds and Funerals

by Edward Moore

Much has been written about the long-standing feud and strife between the Clan Gregor and Clan Campbell. However, what is lesser known is the amount of intermarriages that have occurred between the two. Even Rob Roy's mother was a Campbell as was his grandmother. The following bit of history concerns, this prolific woman.

Jean Campbell was the daughter of Sir Robert Campbell of Glenorchy, a sister of the tenth Laird of Glenorchy and the aunt of Grey John Campbell of Breadalbane. She made marriage and childbirth her profession, having three husbands and sixteen children.

When very young, she married Archibald Campbell, the heir of Glenlyon, and was left a widow with two sons, Robert and Colin, and two daughters, Mary and Margaret (Rob Roy's mother), when about twenty-five years old. After the death of Archibald in 1640, she married Patrick Roy MacGregor, of Roro, 13th chief of the Clan Gregor. She bore him two sons and two daughters. He was a vigorous and mettlesome gentleman (by report), but no match for her, and when he went the way of his predecessor, she married Duncan Mor Stewart, the Third Laird of Appin by whom understandably perhaps, she had children also.

The much married lady lived long, and the heavy settlements made upon her by her first husband and his father, along with the spend-thrift habits of her son, Robert, ruined sadly the, till then, fairly flourishing Campbells of Glenlyon. Jean Campbell, on the death of her third husband, returned to Chesthill.

Her son, Robert Campbell, of Glenlyon had to live modestly but at least he spared his mother the indignity of a quiet funeral. He gave her a memorable send-off. When Jean Campbell died, the Stewarts of Appin, the MacGregors of Roro, and the Campbells of Glenlyon held a wake that was remembered in Breadalbane for two hundred years. As a preliminary to draw a crowd, there were full-scale Highland games.

The days between the death of the valiant old woman and her interment were filled with riotous drinking, feasting and games, as was the custom. All three clans competed against each other in foot racing, wrestling, fencing, throwing the stone and hammer and tossing the caber. The Campbells outmatched their opponents, until a MacGregor of Roro threw a stone between the fork of a high tree and could not be beaten. Believing that a Glenlyon Campbell should be the first at his mother's funeral as it had been in her marriage bed, Capt. Robert Campbell sent for one of his herdsman. This shepherd, a giant of a man, was a Robert MacArthur who lived fifteen miles up the glen.

After walking the fifteen miles, the shepherd was there by daybreak and as the dawn came creeping over the sky he practiced and re-practiced the tricky throw. Before the MacGregors were out of their beds he was satisfied. Later that morning, without removing his cumbersome belted plaid or bonnet he threw the stone between the same tree-fork and yards far beyond the MacGregor's mark. The delighted Robert Campbell broached more whisky and there was a double measure for everyone, to celebrate that mighty throw, and afterwards, the fun was so fast and furious that they had no time to bury her ladyship that day. So they left her burial till the following morning after another twenty-four hours of games and drinking.

This was the same Sir Robert Campbell who would gain infamy as the "Butcher of Glenlyon" and be associated with the massacre of the MacDonalds at Glencoe.

References

Campbell, Duncan (1886). The Lairds of Glenlyon. Clunie Press:Strath Tay
Prebble, John (1966). Glencoe – The Story of the Massacre. Penguin Books

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

John Pechin: Sierra Nevada Tent
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Contact: Clan Gregor Society
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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



Clan Gregor Society Western USA Chapter



We have a Website where you can find:

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Hooded Sweater

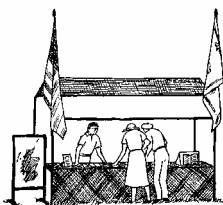
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www.clanregorwest.com*



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. 13 - 15	Ventura, CA	Seaside Highland Games	Seaside Highland Games
Dec. 2	San Diego, CA	Black Sheep Winter Open	San Diego Black Sheep