

## **Janean Ray**

### *Celtic Beltane Games - Stone Throw*

This event is like the modern-day shot put as seen in the Olympic games. Instead of a steel shot, a large stone is used weighing an average of 16–22 lb. for men (or 8–12 lb. for women). The “Open Stone” throw as seen here, the thrower uses any throwing style so long as the stone is put with one hand with the stone resting cradled in the neck until the moment of release. Average distances can be upwards of 50 feet. I was fascinated by the games and the strength of the participants. When the theme was announced I instantly thought of this photo as an example of motion. Everything on this gentleman is moving. His kilt, his shirt, his muscles, his face, and of course the stone. Because of the "wind up" it's almost as if everything about him is twisting in different directions as if to unwind in order to advance the stone in a forward motion. Reminds me of the rubber band balsa wood airplanes where you wind up the propeller for the plane to go forward. Movement and Motion - hand in hand to accomplish a goal.

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### *First Love*

We all remember our first love. Songs and movies have told our stories. From the "Summer of '42", "Splendor in The Grass", "Dirty Dancing", and "Grease", just to name a few, teenage love is probably the most intense feeling you'll ever experience. You have butterflies in your stomach, your heart pounds, your hands sweat, and you can't eat or sleep. If you're a boy, you need to remain calm, cool and collected especially around your friends. If you're a girl you chat constantly on the phone giggling with your girlfriends... you pass notes in class, you write his name all over your book covers, photos are all over your walls and mirrors in your room, but when your with him you are quiet, poised and shy. There is no other feeling or emotion that compares but when it ends, you feel as though you're going to die – that there will never be another – that no one will ever love you like they did. But as we all know, we go through those feelings and emotions time and time again. The emotions are real, the happiness is real, and the pain is real. Most people can't tell you the name of someone they dated in college, but they do recall the name of their first love.