



# KENNEDY GAZETTE

VOLUME 29, ISSUE 3

SUMMER 2006

## KSNA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- **Chief/President—Nomon R. Kennedy, Jr—**  
nomonken-  
nedy@bellsouth.net
- **Secretary/Newsletter Editor—Mary Mills Ken-  
nedy—**  
marymillsken-  
nedy@hotmail.com
- **Treasurer— Laura Ken-  
nedy Pittman—**  
lpittman@3pdelivery.com
- **Carver Kennedy— Gene-  
alogist -**  
CarverKen@msn.com
- **Bill Kennedy—**  
wkennedyjr@yahoo.com
- **John Kennedy—**  
jak.cb@sympatico.ca
- **Nina Eppes—**  
ninaeppes@comcast.net

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- A Philanthropic Kennedy** 2
- Upcoming Games** 2
- Kennedy Ancestry** 3
- Games Report** 3
- Religion in Scotland** 5

## From the Chiefs

My fellow Society members, another year for us has passed. The workers have done well; therefore this shall be an echo of the Chief's report to the Society from the AGM.

This past year has been a year of rejuvenation for the society. In July of 2005 the Kennedy Society of North America existed on paper only. McDis-Aray could have been our name. Carver Kennedy, Nina Eppes, John A. Kennedy, John Sid Kennedy, William (Bill) Kennedy, Joan Kennedy, Sue Kennedy, Mary Kennedy and K.D. Kennedy were the Board Members working in a spirit of cooperation to make a better society in 2006. To these folks a huge thank you is deserved.

- 27 Highland Festivals & Games had the wild & mighty Kennedy tents present
- The Society grew by 14% adding 29 members
- The bylaws were updated and modernized
- 1185 copies of the newsletter sent out, 4 issues

**One** of the major changes to the bylaws will allow for the AGM to be held in different locations. We would like to have a two-year plan so members can plan for the travel expense & time to attend. The 2007 AGM will be in New England, hosted by Chieftain

Nina Eppes. The 2008 AGM will be in Canada, John A. Kennedy will be the Host. The details for these AGM's will be posted on the web.

A **second** major change was our fiscal year changing from Dec. 31 to June 31. There will be a six month gap between the old and the new. As such the 2007 - 2008 dues will consist of 18 months not the normal 12. You will be allowed to pay anytime between January 1 and June 31 but the full year and half are due. I encourage everyone to pay on your first billing. More on this will come from the treasurer.

A **third** is the use of proxy ballots. You don't have to physically be at the AGM to vote. Just remember only one vote per membership.

The society continues to have a need for game reps in a large part of the country. If you are interested contact your Regional Chieftain or me. We'll help you get started, all you need is the drive. There is lots of work to be done and lots of positions to be held so VOLUNTEER.



*L to R: In front—Chief Nomon Kennedy and John A. Kennedy—Canada Chieftain, Behind them are Bill Kennedy—Midwest Chieftain with the tartan banner and Carver Kennedy—Genealogist/Historian with the badge banner.*

Send your personal stories, kids in special plays, birth announcements, and flowers of the forest to be published in the newsletter. The family is what we are about—let us celebrate those occasions with you.

Nan & I look forward to seeing you at a games soon.

Nomon R. Kennedy Jr.  
President / Chief  
Kennedy Society of NA



Bill Kennedy—Chieftain—and the band Constant Flux played a benefit concert to help the Artist Relief organization—Tipitina's Foundation—helping musicians from Hurricane Katrina.

Show your support of the Kennedy Society of North America by attending and/or hosting a Kennedy Society tent at your local Highland Games.

## Kennedys Worth Singing About

Bill Kennedy, Chieftain and the band "Constant Flux" of Akron, Ohio, played at a benefit held at the Lime Spider in downtown Akron on June 2nd to help musicians affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Bill is a member of the band adding vocals and saxophone to the mostly original repertoire of the uniquely eclectic sounding group. Tom on guitar, his brother Terry on bass, Blane on rhythm guitar and Gary on the drums fill out the sound of this group who mainly plays

for charity.

When Tom, the leader of the band, was approached by a friend who does benefit bookings to see if the band would perform at the Lime Spider to send proceeds to the Tipitina's Foundation ([tipitinasfoundation.org](http://tipitinasfoundation.org)), the band unanimously agreed.

Constant Flux opened the night to a healthy crowd that was anxious to hear the latest the group had to offer. Constant Flux performed for the crowd for approximately 45 minutes with a rousing response.

Bill Kennedy has been playing saxophone for 34 years and has mainly played "Bar Room Blues & Sleazy Rock and Roll" in many bands from Key West to Denver. Bill now resides in Hartville, Ohio and plays weekly with Constant Flux as well as occasionally filling in for the sax player of the band "Off the Record," who frequently plays at the "House of Blues" in Cleveland. If you are ever in the Ohio area, please give Bill a call or e-mail to see where he's playing next.

## Upcoming Games & Festivals

Following are the games coming to your area soon. Please come out and show your support OR offer to become a games representative in your area by contacting Nomon Kennedy.

**August 19**—Maine Highland Games—Thomas Point Beach, Brunswick, ME—*(a Kennedy tent "may" be manned at this event)*

**September 2-3**—Caledonian Club of San Francisco Scottish Gathering

**September 7-10**—Longs Peak Scottish/Irish Festival—Longs Peak, CA

**September 22-24**—New Hampshire Highland Games—Loon Mountain—Lincoln, NH

**September 29-October 1**—Flora McDonald Highland Games—Red Springs, NC

**September 29-October 1**—Loch Hartwell Highland Games—Hartwell, GA

**October 6-8**—Tennessee Highland Games—Murfreesboro, TN

**October 8**—Scotland's Highland Festival—Scotland, CT

**October 21-22**—Stone Mountain Highland Games—Stone Mountain, GA

For direct links to all the games, please visit the Games Calendar page at our web site—<http://www.kennedysociety.org/calendar/games.htm>.

The above games are games/festivals at which a Kennedy Society tent will be manned.

If there is a games near you, and it is not listed, volunteer to man (or woman) a tent by

contacting your local Chieftain or Chief Nomon and we will get you the information needed to become a part of the Kennedy Society's highly paid (it's all volunteer), highly respected (only by your fellow members), and highly regarded (that one is true), volunteer staff.

*As a reminder: The AGM will be held in 2007 at the New Hampshire Highland Games in September. Lord Ailsa plans to attend these games. The website is [www.nhscot.org](http://www.nhscot.org).*

# Scottish and Irish Kennedy

(SUBMITTED by Carver Kennedy—Kennedy Genealogist/Historian)

An often-asked question at Kennedy tents (and elsewhere) is “Are the Scot and Irish Kennedys related, and who came first?” One answer, which seems to be the most accurate one, is that they are not related, except perhaps back 1000 or more years. Ireland and the western and north-western parts of Scotland were occupied and settled by Celts from middle Europe back in the late B.C.-early A.D. time period. They came by sea, probably from what is now France, and settled in Ireland, Wales and along the western shores of Scotland. There most certainly was travel and migration overland and by boat between the areas, so that it is quite probable that somewhere in history there are common ancestors. However, there is no documented proof of such a relationship.

The Celts spoke a common language, Gaelic, and this is probably where the “Kennedy” connection comes from. There is a word in the Gaelic language, “ceannaideach” or “cinneidigh,” which depending whether you are enemy or friend has several meanings. One meaning is “Head of the tribe or clan.” Other meanings are not so kind. They include “big-headed,” “grim-headed” and “ugly-headed.” These terms could have been applied to people in both lands over the centuries. There are few written records in the early Celtic societies. Theirs was a spoken history passed down from generation to generation, similar to some U.S. Native Indian tribes.

There were several spellings of the name. There was no written ‘K’ in Gaelic, and ‘c’ was pronounced as a hard ‘c’ or like

the English ‘k’. When the English finally subdued the Irish and then the Scots, they imposed the English language on both peoples. Few Irish or Scots could read or write English (or Gaelic for that matter). When asked their name by English-speaking record keepers, their reply sounded like “Kennedy,” “Kanaday,” “Canaday,” “Kennady,” or other variations to the Anglo-Saxon ears, and was so recorded. Over the years, as English became the common language, “Kennedy” became the most common spelling, although many of the alternate spellings continue to be used today. As Scots (and Irish) migrated to other countries, more variations were developed, either due to unfamiliar ears hearing the Scot brogue, conversion to a foreign language or perhaps personal preference.

Thus the probable reason for “Kennedy” occurring in both Ireland and Scotland is not a known common ancestor but a common original language.

**“A tale never loses in the telling.”**  
**Scottish Proverb**

## Games Reports, Updates, and Highlights

From beautiful Lehi, Utah, Alex, Dan, Ellen, and Graham Kennedy report from the **Utah Highland Games**. Thanksgiving Point in Lehi was the venue with plenty of room for bands, food, and clan tents.

As seems to be the trend, Friday evening started with thunderstorms, but Saturday turned cool with clear skies— a perfect Utah day. Honored clans were the Gailbraiths and the Grahams. The Kennedy Society was new to the games this year, and a welcome addition. One potential new member, Nancy Kennedy, a law student at BYU, passed through the tent and promised to pass the word that the Kennedys were there to stay!

From the **Blairsville Highland Games** in Blairsville, GA, Carver and Martha Kennedy sent their report. Other members at the tent were Ed C. and Laura Kennedy Pittman. This was the third year for the KSNA to be in Blairsville, with an ideal location for GA and TN residents. Carver stated that the games were well organized and the town provided great support. Even though no new Kennedy-named people were signed up, the games were enjoyed and the support was great! They plan to host a tent there next year as they believe attendance is surely to rise given the wonderful location.

The **Grandfather Mountain Highland Games** were held July 6-9 in Linville, NC. The games were the site of this year’s Annual General Meeting for the KSNA. (photos on Pages 1 and 6)

The Kennedy Society sponsored two tents again this year and the tent location was excellent! On Saturday, over 37 people signed in as visitors to the KSNA tent, and many more forgot to sign in. Two new members were signed in, and as usual, there was a huge interest in genealogy.

The AGM was held at 1:00 p.m. Nomon Kennedy was re-elected Chief; Mary Kennedy was re-elected Secretary/Newsletter Editor; and Laura Kennedy Pittman was elected as Treasurer, replacing K.D. Kennedy, who resigned.

The weather was cool, but no rain. As usual, these games were well-organized and conducted. The biggest crowds were on Saturday. The KSNA will continue to support these games.

# State Games Representatives



So many States—so few volunteers. Volunteer to host in your State.

Below are your state games representatives. If you are interested in hosting the games in your state, please contact Chief Nomon Kennedy.

## Arizona

Jeff Kennedy—  
jfknn@netscape.com

## California

Mike and Paula Kennedy

## Colorado

Sarah K. Kassay—  
kassays@aol.com

## Georgia

Laura Kennedy Pittman—  
laura-k-p@hotmail.com

Chris Kennedy—  
barrmann1@msn.com

## Louisiana

Heather Mobley

## Northern New England

Patrick Kennedy—  
pw\_kennedy@hotmail.com

## Southern New England

Leo Kennedy—  
hdviking@aol.com

## New York

Andrew Kennedy

## Pennsylvania

Malinda Glowa

## Texas

Trey and Mary Kennedy  
marymillsken-  
nedy@hotmail.com

*If your e-mail address is not listed, please send it ASAP to Nomon or Nina. Thank you!*

## The KSNA Winning Team



We may not have been World Cup finalists, but we are your winning team for the KSNA!

Ever wonder who to contact for your KSNA needs? The information can be found on our website at

www.kennedysociety.org OR keep this newsletter as your reference. Here is your winning team!

### Chief

Nomon R. Kennedy, Jr.—  
nomonkennedy@bellsouth.net

### Chieftains

#### Northeast

Nina Eppes—  
nina.eppes@gmail.com

#### West Coast

John "Sid" Kennedy—  
siddorken@aol.com

#### Southeast

Carver G. Kennedy—

carverken@msn.com

### Canada

John A. Kennedy, CD, FSA  
Scot—jak.cb@sympatico.ca

### Vice Chieftains

#### Midwest

Bill Kennedy—  
wkennedyjr@yahoo.com

#### Southeast

Chris Kennedy—  
ckennedy@homemedpro.com

### Genealogist/Historian

Carver Kennedy—  
carverken@msn.com

### Treasurer

Laura Kennedy-Pittman  
lpittman@3deliveryp.com

### Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Mary Mills Kennedy—  
marymillsken-  
nedy@hotmail.com

### Membership Chair

Sue Kennedy—  
suekenn@bellsouth.net

### Scholarship Committee

Joan Kennedy—  
jolouisek@comcast.net

Nelson Kennedy—  
nfkjak@tfc.net

Janet Kennedy Stork—  
janetks@aol.com

Special thanks goes out to each of these individuals who give their time and efforts willingly and unselfishly to improve the operations of the Kennedy Society of North America.

Please contact any member of the team should you have questions or wish to become more involved, in any way.

# Lord Ailsa's 50th Birthday Surprise

As many of you may be aware, this year we are celebrating the 50th birthday of Lord Ailsa on September 13. At the recent Gatlinburg

Games in Tennessee, Lord Ailsa was presented with a beautiful new kilt kit by our Chief, Nomon Kennedy.

50th birthday in September.

**Lord Ailsa's 50th birthday gift from the KSNA.**



The kit was made by Caledonia Fine Arts and included a sporran, belt buckle, dagger, chain belt, and cuff links. Each piece was engraved with the Kennedy crest and the chain belt alternated chain and thistle to mimic the crest.

Over fifty KSNA members contributed to the gift for Lord Ailsa's



**“As you slide down the banister of life, may all the splinters face the right way.”**

## Religion in Scotland (contributed by Carver Kennedy—Kennedy Genealogist/Historian)

What is now Scotland was in ancient times a fragmented land inhabited by four major races/peoples with widely different beliefs. In about 397 AD, St. Ninian established the first Christian center at Whithorn, on the southwestern-most shore of Scotland. It is located on the north side of the bay formed by the Solway River or Firth where it empties into the sea and which historically has been the western end of the boundary between England and Scotland. From this far south location, St. Ninian began his task of converting the whole of Scotland which stretched to the north and east. It was a very slow and frequently impossible task.

In 563 AD, a member of the Royal family of Ireland who had fallen into disrepute arrived on the small island of Iona. This island is off the southwest end of the island of Mull in the Inner Hebrides islands, which are off the west coast of Scotland. The man's name was

Columba, and he is credited with expanding St. Ninian's work and beginning the successful conversion of the people of what is now Scotland to Christianity. He sent missionaries to the mainland and to the other western islands. They slowly worked their way across Scotland and by the 7<sup>th</sup> Century all of the four races/peoples were converted, at least nominally, to Christianity. This Christianity was Celtic Christianity, brought from Ireland, not Roman Catholic as had been brought to most of England and Europe by the Romans.

In 1034, Scotland was finally united into one country under King Duncan I. In 1040, Duncan was killed by MacBeth, an event documented by a Shakespeare play of the same name. MacBeth was then killed in 1057 by Duncan's son, Malcolm, who became Malcolm III. Malcolm's second wife made the major change in Scottish religion. Margaret was an English Princess who fled to Scotland

when the Normans from France took over the English throne. Margaret was a pious Roman Catholic, and set about Anglicizing the Celtic-based church in Scotland. She brought in English clergy and converted Scotland into a more civilized kingdom similar to the one in Norman England.

The next major change in religion in Scotland was made after the Reformation. John Knox converted most of southern and eastern Scotland, the Lowland area, to his own version of the Protestant faith, The Church of Scotland or Presbyterian Church. He was so successful in the more densely populated Lowlands that in 1560 the Scottish Parliament voted to outlaw the Catholic Church. This conversion led to a most violent period in Scottish history, with fighting and revolts among factions and religions and clans, and with England. This turmoil lasted some 200 years until it was finally ended by the English victory at Culloden in northeastern Scotland in 1746.



Avise la Fin

## Kennedy Society of North America

1104 Courtney Lane  
Lewisville, TX 75077

[www.kennedysociety.org](http://www.kennedysociety.org)



## Updates, cont'd.

More photos from Grandfather Mountain:  
*Right L to R:* Karen Kennedy, John A. Kennedy—Canada Chieftain, and Chris Robinson (a friend of Karen's). Does John look waaaay too happy to anyone else?



the Kennedys including: John A. Kennedy—Canada Chieftain, Chief Nomon Kennedy, Carver Kennedy—Genealogist/Historian, and Bill Kennedy—Midwest Chieftain.

*Below L to R:* Chief Nomon Kennedy, John A. Kennedy—Canada Chieftain, and Carver Kennedy—Genealogist/Historian



decision to use the buildings on the Lorain County Fairgrounds. The Clans ended up in the "beef" building, so there was plenty of shade from the sunny day and no winds to take away the displays.

The Ohio Games saw a new event in the "Callin' of the Clans" on Friday night, followed by a torch-light ceremony.

If you would like to look at the website, the link is [www.ohioscottishgames.com](http://www.ohioscottishgames.com). Bill says he had many visitors this year. The Ohio Scottish Arts School also holds a week long school around the festival. Their web address is [www.ohioscottishartsschool.org](http://www.ohioscottishartsschool.org).

Bill says "As a side note—I proposed to Julie Burke at the games this year." Lovely, Bill—**BUT WHAT DID SHE SAY???**!!!!

Kennedy Society members with Internet access are strongly encouraged to join the Kennedy\_Society Yahoo Group so you can receive announcements and share information by email. Please visit the Kennedy\_Society group home page at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kennedy\\_society/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kennedy_society/) and click the Join link.



*Above:* America's Most Wanted? No—only

The **Ohio Games**, held June 24, were hosted by Chieftain Bill Kennedy this year. Ohio had flood level rains the week prior to the games so The Scottish American Cultural