

## 2014 KENNEDY AGM

The “Wild and Mighty” Kennedys descended upon Greenville, SC in force for the 2014 Annual General Meeting. As the honored clan, with Lord Charles and members of the Titusville Fire Department Honor Guard representing the Kennedy Society as Kennedy Honor Guard in attendance, the contingent proudly stepped out as the lead clan in the Great Scots Parade down Main Street of Greenville on Friday evening. Although there were thunderstorms with high winds and damaging hail in the area, Mother Nature held off for the parade, where the Kennedy Society, approximately 60 marchers strong, earned “best in show” for their presentation in the parade. Saturday dawned bright and sunny with light breezes that kept temperatures from climbing to heights experienced at former games in Greenville. Kudos to Chris and Sue Kennedy, Gene and Linda Kennedy (Greenville Games tent conveners), Kona and Kathi and Harry Gant and all those who helped put the Kennedy tent display and refreshments together. A centerpiece of the tent’s motif was the exquisite Kennedy quilt on display on the wall of the tent. Pieces of the quilt represented the games where Kennedys have had a presence, visits to Scotland, etc. The tent was full of 50-70 members and guests at all times who came from several states and Canada. In addition to the Honor Guard, Isabelle Carter, member originally from Girvan Scotland, had several members of her family present, The Kennedy Society is proud to have had her great grandson Austin Collins compete in heavy athletics.

The Kennedy Society was thrilled to gain five new members on Saturday: Noel Kennedy from Braundels



Kennedy Society earns “best in show” for their presentation in the parade

Texas, Laurie Allen and her son, Will, from High Point North Carolina, Teresa Slack from Greenville South Carolina, John Robert Carter from Chattanooga Tennessee, and Heather Lloyd from Freemont, North Carolina. Welcome all!

Again, the Kennedy Society, led by the Honor Guard, was lead clan in the opening ceremonies/parade of tartans, while Lord Charles officiated at the review of clans from the grandstand.

A spread of subway sandwiches, chips and cookies was enjoyed by all, as were cold beverages throughout the day.

The AGM meeting and election of officers was held in mid-afternoon where Paul Key was elected president of the Society; Leo Kennedy, Vice President; Glenn Kennedy, Treasurer; and Ann Blackmore Key, Secretary.

Following closing ceremonies, the tents were packed up as quickly as possible so that members could head out to the home of David and Amy Carrick for another parade through the Carrick’s neighborhood, backyard BBQ dinner, official presentation of Chief’s feathers, bestowed upon Paul Key by Lord Charles, a gift of Ailsa Craig granite made by Lord Charles to Chris Kennedy for his service, a paper-art gift from





## 2014 KENNEDY AGM (continued)

the Society to Chris and Sue, and the first Ailsa Craig awards to Kennedy Society members for outstanding service, presented by Chris and Sue, to Bill and Terry Kennedy, Neil and Janet Brussard, Suzanne and Frank Canada, Kona and Kathi Gant, David and Amy Carrick, Karen Kennedy, Sherry Frady, and Glenn and Lynda Kennedy. Other members who will were not in attendance, but who will be mailed their awards include: Gene and Linda Kennedy, Avril Williams, Joanne Englehardt, Lynn Grant, and Cynde Kennedy.

Once again Mother Nature was kind and the rains came just as the party was breaking up. There are inadequate words to express our thanks to Amy and David for opening up their home to all of us. The food, the decorations, the company could not have been more perfect.

The AGM's final official function was Sunday morning when the Kennedy Society Board of Governors met for one of their few required meetings of the year. Chris and Sue graciously guided Paul and Ann through their first official function and valuable input was given by board members and guests present. As transitional decisions are made by the group, in areas such as merchandising, scholarship fundraising and regional structure, they will be shared with the membership through the Kennedy Gazette newsletter.

The 2015 Annual General Membership meeting, with the Kennedy Society of North America as Honored Clan and Lord Charles in attendance has been confirmed to be the Virginia Scottish Games at The Plains, VA, west of Washington, DC. The games will be the last weekend in August or first weekend in September, exact date to be announced at a later time. They normally are the weekend of Labor Day, but in 2015, Labor Day falls later than normal, so we are double checking. The exact date will be published in the Gazette and on the website.

Submitted by Ann Blackmore Key



Heather Lloyd



John Robert Carter



Laurie Allen and Will



Noel Kennedy



Teresa Slack

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## **MINUTES 2014 KENNEDY SOCIETY NORTH AMERICA AGM**

At 1:55 p.m. May 24, 2014, President/Chief Chris Kennedy called the meeting to order by thanking all those who had come a long way to attend, and gave a special thanks to Pam Ashley of the Greenville Scottish Games staff for all the work that she did in making the Kennedy Society presence at the games a wonderful experience.

It was announced by Sue Kennedy, secretary, that there were 17 voting members present and 13 proxies received. Therefore the meeting had the necessary quorum and was allowed to proceed.

In the Chief's report, Chris stated that in his 5-year tenure a lot of progress had been made with more to come. Using his favored quote, he stated that with "many hands make light work," he said that with the volunteer effort such progress can continue to be made. With the addition of a 3rd and 4th regional director, this would be more feasible.

Chris, introduced Lord Charles, who stated that the Kennedy Tour was all arranged, and would begin in Edinburgh on June 20.

Chris also announced that the time-share venture had regrettably not worked out, so it has reverted to the time share property management.

Chris introduced Frank and Sue Canada. Frank, Captain of the Honor Guard and Chieftain, explained that the goal of the Titusville Fire Department Honor Guard is to coordinate with other fire department honor guards to serve small communities with a need for their services.

Chris also introduced a distinguished guest, John Flowers, of Hendersonville, NC, the first chief of the Society.

In his final opening remarks, Chief stated that one area where the Society had limited success and he wished it had been more, was the Kennedy Quiz, especially the Kid's Quiz. He will continue to try to find ways to reach out to the young people, because they are the future of the Society.

Bill Kennedy, Mid-Atlantic Chieftain, in his report he stated that he will be sending emails to all the Kennedy members in the region, he plans to personally call all who have not renewed, and will follow with monthly communication to his members. He announced new games in the planning stages in Virginia and will follow with more updates as information becomes available.

Kona Grant, Great Lakes Chieftain, will convene a joint Kennedy/Clan Claus tent and host Lord Charles at the Niagara Celtic Festival in Olcutt, NY as well as convene at several areas within his region.

Neil Brussard, District Director, Florida, explained how the Titusville Fire Department/Kennedy Honor Guard and started with first formal ceremonies last December 6 and has proudly grown to its present status. He, too, maintains communication with his district. Florida currently has 5 games with Kennedy tents, with emphasis on the events which have a highland games priority rather than festivals.

David Carrick, the newly appointed District Director for South Carolina, and Eastern Tennessee, will be putting additional effort into those games. His recent concentration was the post games party at the home of him and his wife Amy.

Sue Kennedy stated that minutes of the 2013 AGM had been distributed, asked if there were any additions or corrections, and if not, for a motion to approve the minutes. Neil Brussard made a motion; Bill Kennedy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Chris introduced Megan Carrick, who gave a short report on the Instagram social networking website that she has developed to reach other Kennedy kids and adults. This site has greater control of access. Persons can block access and inappropriate content can be reported. Instructions on how to access the site will follow in a separate communication.

Glenn Kennedy, treasurer, stated that the operational balance in Kennedy accounts is approximately \$5,000. That there 27 Lifetime members. He explained that member dues can be handled not only by check/cash, but also by credit card, the Cube and Pay Pal.

There is also a new form for conveners to use at tents to



## MINUTES 2014 KSNA AGM (continued)

account for all monies taken in.

Glenn reminded that all monies donated for Kennedy expenses are tax deductible with the Society's 501-3C status. He suggested that in the future that our IRS identification number be printed on all renewal notices that go out.

Sue gave the membership report in Lynn Grant's absence. At this point in time we have 17 new members for 2014 and 28 Lifetime members. The Kennedy Society has 275 members on its roster.

Scholarship Report – Sue announced that we had no one apply for a Kennedy scholarship this past year. The scholarship committee will attempt to develop new ways to reach out to potential scholarship applicants to gain their interest.

Website report – Sue gave in absentia from Nina. Nina will continue to maintain the website until such time as we can find new person to handle the duties. If anyone wished to volunteer please contact Paul Key.

Merchandising – The person who had originally volunteered to be purser/quartermaster, will not be able to do. Bill Kennedy presented a proposal to produce key fob/beer openers as the next item to sell for scholarship fundraising.

Sue presented the Nomination Committees slate of officers for a one-year term 2014-2015.

Paul Key – President; Leo Kennedy – Vice President; Glenn Kennedy – Treasurer and Ann Blackmore Key, Secretary.

I'm sure there was but just finesse it for this time – "After a motion being made and a second declared", the slate of officers was approved.

Paul Key continued the meeting at this point. He first re-introduced members of the board to others present at the meeting and also introduced himself with an account of his Kennedy heritage. He vowed to do the best job possible in following Chris.

Next he explained some changes in regional structure to facilitate the volunteer base the Society has and stated there will be more information on changes to come.

As a final order of business, Chris and Sue distributed gifts to those individuals they had recruited as tent conveners for they are the "core" of the Kennedy Society. Those receiving awards included: Gene and Linda Kennedy ((Greenville); Neil and Janet Brussard (Sarasota); Bill and Terry Kennedy (Richmond); Sherry Frady (Grandfather); Suzanne and Frank Canada (Orlando). Those tent conveners who were not present to receive their awards include: Lynn Grant and Curtis Burrow (Loch Normon), Lorraine and Dale Van Fossan (Dunedin), Rob and Karen Kennedy (Smoky Mountain), Joel and Bethany Cassells (the Plasins), and Paige Varney and Father David Kennedy (Ft. Lauderdale). They also presented gifts to the board members present.

Kona Gant then presented the Order of the Benevolent Reindeer to Chris and Sue.

As there was no further business to be addressed, Kona Gant made a motion to adjourn; Bill Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Submitted by Ann Blackmore Key, Secretary



## ANNOUNCEMENT:

Due to the continuing rise in postage costs, there will be no membership cards mailed for those renewing their Kennedy Society membership. However membership cards will be mailed to those who are becoming members for the first time.



## A MESSAGE FROM LORD CHARLES

What a fantastic year 2014 is turning out to be so far. It has been great starting in January with the Winter Springs games in Florida and then followed by a wonderful Burns Night with Kona Gant in Cleveland Ohio. In March I attempted to ski, and snowmobile through the Arctic in Northern Sweden. Then under a month ago, I had my greatest honor in the last 20 years of being your Chief – taking the Salute at Culzean Castle in front of 30 members and six of my American Honor Guard, my sister - Lady Elizabeth, Caroline Glenn of the National Trust, and the other distinguished guests who were present. Words cannot describe the pride I was feeling when you all marched in. The whole night at Culzean was out of this world! In fact the whole trip was second to none! So thank you to all that made that night so special for me and I hope for you.

I would also like to congratulate Paul and Ann Key for taking over from Chris and Sue Kennedy. I wish them well and I will give them all my support over your next 4 years. I ask you all to do the same.

My next visit is to San Francisco at the end of August for the Pleasanton Games, and then on to the Niagara Falls games, September 13 and 14. So come along and join me and The Wild and Mighty Kennedys and help me finish off a fantastic 2014.

Finally I would like to THANK YOU ALL for making my last 20 years such fun and helping to put THE KENNEDYS on the map.

**LORD CHARLES**  
Your ever so proud Chief



## A PROUD KENNEDY MOM:

Our youngest son, John Daniel, nicknamed JD has always been quite the person. I could go on for pages. A few of his achievements include Eagle Scout, US Army veteran (First Armored Division - served in Germany and Iraq), upcoming graduation with a triple major from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. While at Augustana, JD excelled in debate. He also co-founded a student veteran's organization. (One of the professors there is a veteran and when he heard about the informal organization JD and a friend started, he wanted to make it an official college organization. Apparently it has become part of a national student veterans organization. Ever since he got back from the Army he has been talking about wanting to go to Africa because "that's the only continent aside from Antarctica I've never been to."

So JD Englehardt will be traveling to Madagascar in August of 2014 for a year of service. He will be representing his church with an organization called

"Young Adults in Global Mission" (YAGM). YAGM invites young adults to provide support to projects in the local communities. These young adults walk alongside their global companions in a manner that practices interdependence and solidarity. One of the poorest nations in the world, most Malagasy people earn a living as subsistence farmers. Community based healthcare is a high priority including child survival, family planning, and AIDS protection.

The YAGM participants will be providing English instruction as well as participating in many of the ministries of the Malagasy Church.

**NOTE:** The Kennedy Society wishes JD every success in this very worthwhile endeavor and join his parents, Marcus and Joanne Englehardt, in congratulating JD on his graduation from Augustana College. Well done JD!



## A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Greetings, Kennedy Society members everywhere. First, let me take this opportunity to thank you all for electing me to be your president, and for the appointment to chief. It is indeed an honor and privilege to try to maintain the fine work that Chris and Sue have done for the past several years. They will be treasured advisors to me and Ann until we come up to speed with the operation of our fine organization.

We enjoyed meeting many of you and getting to know you better at the AGM at the Greenville games and the ensuing evening party at the home of the Carricks. Thanks again to David and Amy for their true southern hospitality.

Shortly after the AGM, we departed on our month long holiday in Europe which included the Auld Country Tour of Scotland and Northern Ireland for the Kennedy Society. Again, we were treated to a fine mixture of Kennedy members from as close by as Greensboro, NC and as far distant as Australia. A wonderful time was had by all. A special thank you to Lord Charles and his associate tour guide Denis Reid for their excellent handling of the tour and the highlight gala banquet at Culzean Castle. Also, kudos to the Honor Guard for once again doing the Kennedys "proud".

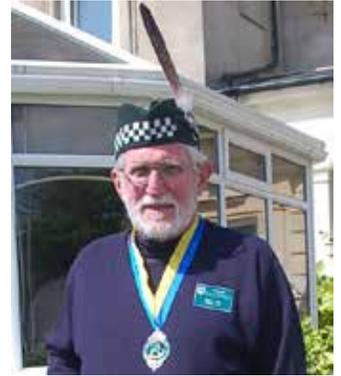
Next, let me reiterate that I am not the computer geek in the family and I'm too old to teach this old dog those new

tricks! That is why I have Ann (your new Society secretary) and other board members to bail me out. However, I am available at both home phone and cell phone which are listed in this issue of the Kennedy Gazette and on the website. Please bear in mind that in addition to Kennedy Society duties, we still operate our retirement business, The Heelan' Hound vending company for tartan dog apparel. At some games, we will be wearing two hats, promoting both the Kennedy Society and our dog apparel. At other games we will be at the local Kennedy tent.

We have a lot of work to do. So we look forward to seeing many of you along the way. If you would like to help in the clan tent at your local game or be a tent convener, please feel to contact us for details. Thanks again for your support.

Slainte'

Paul Key, Chief KSNA



## HEY KIDS

### LOOK WHATS NEW JUST FOR YOU!!

We have an Instagram account that will allow you to follow the Kennedys! You can "like" the pictures and comment on them. This is an open account so anyone can follow it.

If you are not familiar with Instagram - it is an app available on both Android and IOS phones, iPads, etc. Once you have downloaded the app and created your personal account, you will simply want to follow the "kennedy\_society\_of\_na". Think of this as another friend. Please

realize the underscores are important to include when searching for this.



Note to Parents, Instagram was chosen since it is a safer environment for younger folks to use social media. Further, we recommend parents create and control the account for younger children so you can monitor what they are seeing and posting!



## LOCH NORMON HIGHLAND GAMES

APRIL 11-13, 2014

Scottish Games and Festivals come in all sizes, and they are all unique expressions of our shared Scottish heritage and culture. No game does a better job in bringing this Scottish culture “to life” than these games held at Rural Hill near Charlotte North Carolina.

The Kennedy tent came to life with tent conveners Lynn Grant and Curtis Burrow leading the way. From the “calling of the clans” lead by Curtis on Friday night to the Sunday afternoon “sit around and enjoy yourself” style endorsed by Lynn, we all enjoyed ourselves immensely and appreciated their hospitality.

In addition to seeing old friends, we made some new friends as well, as we welcomed new Kennedy Society members Tom and Diane Kennedy from Huntersville NC and Dave and Melissa Thatcher from Charlotte North Carolina.

Megan Carrick from Greenville SC came to us on crutches this year, but she was in the spirit of the games as she decorated her crutches with scottie dogs to show her enthusiasm.

Talk about enthusiasm – look at those Kennedy boys – Will, Drew, and Ryan from Charlotte, NC as they show their pride in carrying our Kennedy flags! To quote an old saying: “a good time was had by all!”



Will, Drew, and Ryan



Tom and Diane Kennedy



David and Melissa Thatcher



Megan Carrick



## FT. LAUDERDALE HIGHLAND GAMES

MARCH 1, 2014

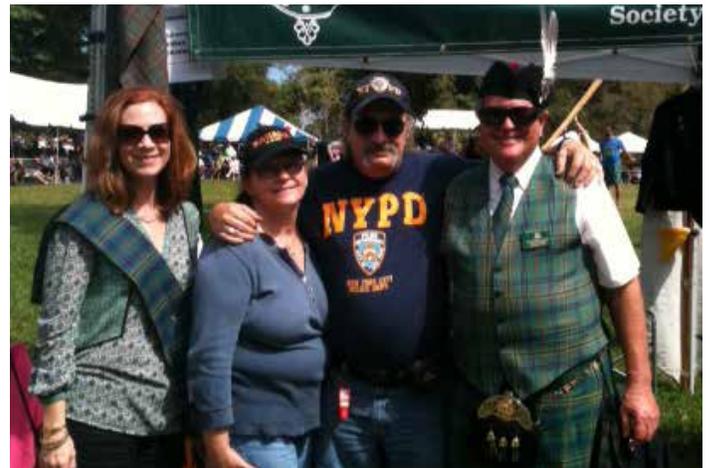
We couldn't have asked for a better day at the Fort Lauderdale Scottish and Highland Games. The games took place on March 1, 2014 along with the tent being hosted by Father David Kennedy with the help of Paige and Eden Varney. The sunshine stayed throughout the day, even into the evening, and we had the Florida breeze to cool us down. To make things even better, the entire field was buzzing with excitement for the games and greeting their heritage tents! This day held importance to our clan in several different aspects. We welcomed new members, Pat and Mary McIerney, from Sunrise Florida and even had the opportunity to hear some of the members of the Rosie O'Grady band play inside of our tent! One of the pipers, Matthew Hutchinson, is close to our heart as a member of the Kennedy Clan himself. He brought with him Ernie Mullins as they played songs they knew and had a blast. All eyes were on the Kennedy tent! People stopped by to hear the music and observe the tent and merchandise, giving our tent the attention of almost every person to pass by.

To make the day even better, we were blessed with the presence of great people in the tent. Also joining us throughout the day were Chris and Sue, previous chief and wife. Among them, Suzanne and Frank Canada showed their love and support to their clan. To make the day even more eventful, the Kennedy Clan took pride in being present in the Opening Ceremony, led by Father David, and accompanied by Suzanne and Frank Canada, Paige

and Eden Varney, and Chris and Sue Kennedy.

As the day faded into night, everyone gathered in the tent and glanced at the games, ate authentic Scottish foods and laughed together. This included getting to know our new members, speaking to people interested in our tent, and bidding farewell to friends and members of our clan. The day was overall beautiful, sunny, and full of excitement.

Written by Eden Varney  
Co-tent convener, Age 13





## SHOULD SCOTLAND BE AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY?

A referendum on whether Scotland should be an independent country will take place on Thursday, September 18 2014. Following an agreement between the Scottish government and the United Kingdom government, the Scottish Independence Referendum Bill, setting out the arrangements for this referendum was passed by the Scottish Parliament on November 14 2013 and received Royal Assent on December 17 2013.

### Who can vote?

Everyone living in Scotland who is 16 years or older will be able to vote. This means English or Welsh citizens who reside in Scotland can take part. However, Scots who are living elsewhere in the UK or overseas will not be entitled to cast a ballot. It also means that the residents of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland get not to vote on a historic change to the makeup of the United Kingdom. This is only a vote for the people of Scotland to decide.



Below are some of the pros and cons of the debate: Should Scotland be an Independent Country?

### LAWS

#### CONS:

Since the ACT OF UNION (an agreement between Scots/English which preserved certain Scottish rights and conditions) Scots law was guaranteed protection to continue to operate as a unique system, there are really no cons to consider.

#### PROS:

1. Many laws which are enforced in Scotland are decided and passed in England, are intended for England without much consideration for the Scottish people. Example: the winter allowance for pensioners in Scotland is the same as it is in England, despite the much colder and harsher climates which exist in Scotland.
2. Scotland has its own laws which are not applicable to England. The law includes the unique verdict of Not Proven in criminal court when neither defense or prosecution have proven their point.
3. In the House of Lords, 26 seats are taken up by bishops from the Church of England. The Scottish parliament has a more democratic system which does not reserve places for church members.
4. Proven governmental record – Since 1998, the Scottish Parliament has proven more than capable of running Scottish affairs. Once Scotland is independent, taxes and social security rates will be set in line with the wishes of the Scottish people. Decisions will no longer be imposed by parties in Westminster.

### ECONOMY

#### CONS:

1. Scottish gas and oil will last only another 40 years. (See note above which negates this claim)
2. Scotland could not stand alone financially. Scottish taxes raise 27 billion pounds and public spending in Scotland is 40 billion pounds.
3. The British government claims Scotland could not compete on a global scale. Unity is strength. In its unity with the UK, Scotland is part of a rich, and influential state. Many people say that going independent is a large economic



## SHOULD SCOTLAND BE AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY? (continued)

4. gamble, especially in times of recession and rising unemployment.
5. Britain owes some large debts to foreign countries, which Scotland is partly responsible for. If independence should occur, Scotland would have to negotiate which debts would be paid off. So many ties are with the rest of Britain that this would be a very tedious process and would take several years.
6. Scotland may not be able to keep the pound as currency.

### PROS:

1. Scotland would have a much stronger economy. Scotland owns huge shares in oil which Scotland would not have to split with England if Scotland was independent. There are large deposits of oil and gas in the Clyde still to be tapped.
2. Scotland and England would share the use of the pound as currency. The Scottish government says the economy is diverse, with other key elements including food and drink, tourism, universities, financial services and manufacturing.
3. England claims that Scotland could not compete on a global scale. However, many small nations such as Norway, Sweden, and Denmark compete quite well.

### DEFENSE

#### CONS:

1. Scotland has not a standing army since the disbanding of the Scottish regiments. Scotland needs to remain within the UK for overall defense purposes.

#### PROS:

The Scottish government's white paper advised that Scotland could maintain an armed service including land, sea and air forces.

### ON THE WORLD STAGE

#### CONS:

1. A United Kingdom carries more weight in European and World politics. Remaining a part of the United Kingdom will give Scotland security and strength.
2. Scotland's membership in the EU is not clear. Experts and politicians have disagreed on whether Scotland's status as an EU member state could be established before Scotland becomes independent. EU membership brings economic benefits, as well as greater global clout.

#### PROS:

1. Even with the dropping supplies of oil and gas in Scottish waters, Scotland could survive with the European Community.
2. As an independent nation, Scotland gains it's own voice in the UN and NATO.
3. Overall, Scotland is respected and known worldwide for its contributions to the world in terms of its inventions and industrial achievements.

### SUMMARY:

Scottish independence is a very difficult decision. It is fraught with generations of bad feelings across both borders. Independence is loaded with good questions and strong arguments for all aspects of the issue. We Scots - by way of our ancestors - will continue to watch this conflict with great interest and hope that cool heads and shrewd minds will make an informed decision.





## DUNEDIN HIGHLAND GAMES

APRIL 5, 2014

Nestled along the shores of the Gulf Coast of Florida, is the quaint and picturesque city of Dunedin. Founded by Scottish families back in 1899, it was J.O. Douglas and James Sumerville, who named the settlement “Dunedin” after the Gaelic interpretation of their hometown of “Edinburgh”. Dunedin continues to maintain and embrace its Scottish roots.

Nearly 5,000 people attended the 48th annual Dunedin Highland Games & Festival held on Saturday, April 5th, at Highlander Park in Dunedin, Florida. “The games, by all accounts, were our biggest and best ever” according to Alan McHale, president of the Dunedin Highland Games Committee. “In athletics, two world records were broken, and with 110 contestants in the piping and drumming solo performance, we had the highest turn out within the state of Florida. The weather of course was perfect, and the entertainment went on well into the night.”

As of 2014, The Dunedin Highland Games piping and drumming events are now sanctioned by the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association, allowing participation beyond the state of Florida. Altogether, there were sixteen bands from New York, Georgia, Texas, North Carolina and Florida that performed during the opening and closing ceremonies at this year’s games. Also new this year was a Kids Athletic Zone, where children participated in a caber toss, sheaf toss and haggis hurling, in addition to crafts, face-painting and the traditional sack race.

In addition to Highland and Country Dancing expositions, amateur and professional athletic competitions, and sheep-herding dog demonstrations, festivalgoers also took pleasure in listening to a variety of talented Celtic musicians. Among them was famous recording artist, and fellow KSNA member, Arvel Bird. This incredibly talented violinist and Native American flutist weaves together his Scottish Clan Kennedy and Southern Paiute roots, to create his own unique style of beautiful Celtic fusion music. You can learn more about this “Braveheart Meets the Last of the Mohicans” artist, by visiting his website at [www.arvelbird.com](http://www.arvelbird.com).



More than 40 clans and societies were set up inside of the clan village, all of whom enjoyed sharing fascinating aspects of their Scottish culture and Celtic heritage. The Kennedy Society of North America was fortunate enough to secure a beautiful and shady, lakeside location for their tent. Society Chief, Chris Kennedy, and his wife Sue, had traveled down from Georgia on the day before the games, and joined up with the Dunedin Kennedy clan, residents since 1987. Kicking off the festivities with the first annual Pipe Band and Clan March through downtown, the Scottish clans, pipe bands, event coordinators and city dignitaries were so delighted by the amount of cheering spectators that had come out to support awareness of Dunedin’s Highland Games. Directly following the parade, a lovely Tartan Reception was held for all of the participants. Great fellowship, delicious food, open bar and fine Celtic entertainment, made for an unforgettable proper Scottish ceilidh, enjoyed by all.

Lorraine Kennedy VanFossan





## SMOKY MOUNTAIN SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND GAMES

MAY 17-18, 2014

On the 17th and 18th of May, 2014, the 33rd Annual Smoky Mountain Scottish Festival and Games was held on the beautiful campus of Maryville College in Maryville Tennessee. The weather gods were much kinder to us this year. After drenching rains and five inches of rain in our tent last year – cool weather (low 60s) and a brief rain shower marked Saturday, while nice sunshine and near 70 degrees greeted us on Sunday.

We were honored to have both our outgoing Chief and his wife, and our incoming Chief and his wife with us (Chris and Sue Kennedy of Gainesville GA, and Paul and Ann Key of Misenheimer NC, respectively). Our location near the Patrons' tent ensured good traffic flow and quite a few visitors found their way to our tent. The basket of tootsie roll pops was a real draw for the younger set! We were right across from Paul and Ann's "Heelan Hound" tent where all sorts of Scottish dog accessories were on offer.

In addition to local and out of town "cousins" and friends, we gained new members: Richard and Mary Kennedy from Maryville TN and Brian Kennedy who has Kennedy relatives in Ireland.



We all felt it was a great weekend and were able to confirm that our two Wheaten Terriers, Clipper and Riley, love haggis!

Rob and Karen Kennedy  
Smoky Mountain Games Tent Conveners



Richard and Mary Kennedy



Brian Kennedy



Rob and Karen with Clipper and Riley



## LORD AILSA'S FROZEN ADVENTURE

Lord Charles Kennedy, Marquess of Ailsa, or to give him his full title: Archibald Angus Charles Kennedy, 8th Marquess of Ailsa, 19th Earl of Cassilis, 21st Lord Kennedy, 8th Baron Ailsa may sound like he has not faced adversity in his life however diabetes does not care for title or pomp. He is, however an irreverent spirit, with a capacity for a little mischief and whole lot of adventure.

I first met Lord Charles in his home town of Ayr a month before he was due to set off for Sweden on his fundraising trek for Diabetes UK Scotland. He is the Hereditary Clan Chief of the Clan Kennedy and has been a notable presence at Clan gatherings here and abroad over many years. The man I meet is quietly spoken, unperturbed by any physical frailty and wholly focused on the task ahead. Lord Charles was first diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes 15 years ago. Now aged 57, and minus one foot and the toes of the other, he has been known to use a mobility scooter to get around. On the day we meet, however, he is operating without aid in preparation for the challenges ahead. "In Sweden, I'll be on a snowmobile for the 200 mile journey and will, of course, have two professional guides to navigate the terrain. The challenge is in handling the temperatures, the absence of home comforts and a landscape that, while beautiful, can be treacherous. Being on my own two feet at home is just me getting ready; the key resource that I need is mental toughness and I think that I've got plenty of that".

Setting off for Sweden to begin a 1000 mile trip starting in Kiruna in the Arctic Circle to Ostersund south in the middle of Sweden, earlier this year. Lord Charles was seeking to replicate a journey he had made several years previously – before the amputations. He knows exactly how arduous the journey will be but embraces the prospect and particularly wants to shine a light on the idea of rising above the constraints of infirmity. Sweden in February and March is at its coldest, temperatures can plummet to lower than - 40°C. Northern Sweden lies in the Land off the Midnight Sun and so has continuous daylight during part of the summer but during the winter the inverse is true with a perpetual dusk save for a couple of hours of bright sunlight adding further hazard to any undertaking. This hostile territory also contains great beauty with the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) dancing across the darkened sky.



The journey itself starts formally in The Ice Hotel, the world's first and largest hotel built of snow and ice. It is situated in Jukkasjärvi, a small village in Northern Sweden, which is described as "Europe's last wilderness 200 km north of the Arctic Circle." From this relatively serene start, Lord Charles' party moves out in to the planned journey, which was due to take 5 days to complete. 12 years ago the journey was taken on 600cc ski mobiles, this time it's double the power. Just as well as the winds were beginning to cut in.

Lord Charles and his group took it easy through lake after lake (frozen of course) but soon met a wall of hot air, which created a mist and limited visibility. The wind grew stronger and the machines got slower. Lord Charles reflects, "At this point we really didn't know what we were getting in to." They managed 60 miles on the first day, stopping at Nicalupta and took rooms in a hotel. As they sat in the bar having a beer, hurricane Jorun came through the area at 150 mph.

Next morning was calm and they left at 7.30am and set off to get across "the hill" ("higher than Ben Nevis"). Snow was drifting and difficult. "If I'd dismounted the snowmobile, I would have immediately sunk in to the snow". Happily, he didn't. They managed the hill only for the weather to close in. Later they were to find out that they were in the middle of the worst storm in 20 years. "I didn't know if I was going up or down and was effectively hallucinating". Even when they were through the worst of the storm, they were traveling on a ridge with a 200ft precipice on either side, a hazard they traversed but after 5 hours they were completely exhausted.

They eventually got to the HQ of the National Park, Santa Luokta where the sun was intense and they were told that they'd come through "the eye of the hurricane". The danger



of the journey was brought home when a group of 8 skiers who had spent the night in the storm, arrived at the hotel in a traumatized state. Lord Charles spent much of his time offering support to members of the group.

On the third day of the journey, they were effectively stuck with no access out of the base. Passing the time with cups of tea and exchanging stories to perk up the mood. However, on Day 4 the group managed to find a passable route to take them back to the start of the journey.

When we met for lunch on his return, the journey was still very much in Lord Charles' system. "Never been to that pinnacle before. Couldn't beat it!" And he hopes it offers some inspiration to others. The sense of exhilaration following the completion of the trek was rejuvenating, he wants to convey the sense of satisfaction that he achieved because of losing his leg three years ago. It has been a huge challenge but facing this with a Positive Mental Attitude and an open mind has helped him overcome what life has thrown his way.

"People with diabetes should never give in. There's always a challenge. But don't forget it's about the team."

In saying this, he isn't just referring to his team in Sweden though Stenake and Lars guided him through the 1000 miles with skill and care. He is anxious to acknowledge the efforts of his healthcare team – the nurses and doctors who have tended to him and worked with him over the years and through the most difficult times of managing his diabetes, specifically Professor Collier, his team at Ayr Hospital and also his team in America. Helping to raise funds for Diabetes Scotland is part of his appreciation of their work.

The sense of elation and pride in Lord Charles is easy to see, he has conquered great adversity with this trek. As I finish my interview with the man, he states Adapt, Improve and Overcome, these words he uses for his time in Sweden but on reflection they are also a perfect commentary on how to live your life with diabetes.

As well as helping to raise awareness of diabetes and it's complications through his trip he has also raised funds for Diabetes UK and he would like to pass on thanks to all of the many people who have supported him in this including his main supporter, Hutton Chemicals.

## Introducing CopperFox Design

Nine years ago, not long after starting my business, I had the pleasure of meeting Sue Kennedy. She had been referred to me for help with developing a digital version of the KSNA crest that would be scalable for quality printing at any size.

Since then, we have worked on various projects together including certificates, cards, posters, banners, stamps and more. The budget for these projects is often rather limited, but Chris and Sue have always respected and valued my time and as a result, I have always been glad to help in any way that I could.

While at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in 2012, I was dubbed an honorary member of the Kennedy Society. Chris, Sue and everyone else present made me feel like part of the family. It is a treasured memory for me and my eight year old son thought getting touched on the shoulder with a really big sword was very cool!

With the recent transitions of Chris, Sue, Paul and Ann, Sue asked if I would be willing to help her with this newsletter. Sue, Ann and I met one afternoon and went over the details. Ann held this project very dear and I hope to be able to live up to her precedent. You have likely noticed a few changes in layout, but that is more due to an incompatibility in software than from a desire to come in and make changes.

In closing, if there is ever anything that I may be able to help you with, please don't hesitate to be in touch. CopperFox Design offers graphic design solutions and can help you take an idea from concept all the way through production.

Best,  
Nathan Lamonde



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## THOUGHTS FROM THE OUR CHAPLAIN...

Now that 4th of July has passed for us below the border and Canada Day has passed for those who live above the border, it is a good time, since we are all in the patriotic mood. To think about our Scots heritage among those things for which we should be thankful. There is more to our nation's past, present, and future to be thankful for than is represented by fireworks, hot dogs and hamburgers. Also there is more to our Scots heritage the pipe bands, single malt whiskey, and haggis. Our goal should be to encourage all of our people to appreciate the totality of our heritage...both good and bad for that matter. God brings good out of evil, right?

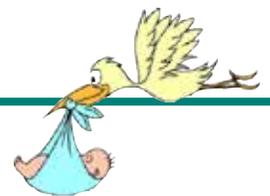
The Reformation, for example has made a big difference in the way people live their lives. Scotland went from a Catholic nation to one divided between Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, and Episcopal Churches, with the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian ) as the established Church. The Presbyterian Church has divided over such issues as ownership of church property, who appoints the clergy, and of course theology. The reputation of the dour nature of Scottish people is probably derived from the attitudes given off by Calvinism as mediated by John Knox. Few other countries have had such bitter wars over religion than has Scotland. People are tired (historically) of divided

Christianity, with people killing each over religious views. I'm not saying that what we believe is unimportant, but we need to be able to disagree and still be friends. If we can get there perhaps we could persuade Muslims to a similar solution to their troubles.



At any rate, I am pleading for a fresh look at the good things Christianity has brought to Scotland. Any understanding of Scottish history clearly shows this. This life is full of the good and the bad... the sheep and the goats. There are plenty of those in Scotland. Let us all try to be on the side of the angels, and not give the devil the time of day!

Aye,  
David+  
Chaplain



## ANOTHER GRANDSON FOR LORD CHARLES AND A NEW BABY BROTHER FOR ANGUS!

**It is with much joy that we announce the arrival of Fraser David Kennedy Cadell!**

Baby Fraser was born to Lady Rosemary Kennedy and Nicko Cadell on the 26th of March, weighing a "healthy" 9lb 9oz measuring 56cm (22 inches) and is the spitting image of his big brother.

Lady Rosemary says, "Angus has taken to his wee brother really well, keeps bringing his toys to share and drops them into Fraser's bassinnet! It's lovely but I have had to save Fraser from the larger puzzles and juice bottles."

We wish them all the best and hope that the proud parents can manage to get a little rest along the way.





## ATHLETE'S CORNER

### STONE THROW

This event is similar to the modern-day shot put as seen in the Olympic games. Instead of a steel shot, a large stone of variable weight is often used. There are also some differences from the Olympic shot put in allowable techniques. There are two versions of the stone toss events, differing in allowable technique. The "Braemar Stone" uses a 20–26 lb stone for men (13–18 lb. for women) and does not allow any run up to the "trig" to deliver the stone, i.e., it is a standing throw. In the "Open Stone" using a 16–22 lb. stone for men (or 8–12 lb. for women), the thrower is allowed to use 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. Most athletes in the open stone event use either the "glide" or the "spin" or the "shuffle" techniques. The athlete will have three chances to throw for his best mark for each stone event. Competitors are subject to fouls, when a thrower steps outside any of the four sides of the throwing box. Throwers have to be in control of themselves after the stone has been put into the field for them to receive a mark for the distance or will receive a foul. If anyone receives a foul from the event judge, then that mark for

the throw does not count. Once everyone has made their marks the top three scores will receive honors in that event after the games. These scores will be tally together with the other events to determine the second runner up, first runner up and "Athlete of the day".

I hope this has given you the insight on the event that most people enjoy to watch, but sometimes don't know why it is an event. Our readers at future Scottish highland festival can pass along the knowledge to your family and friends in attendance.

Avise La Fin,  
David Fulford



## ESTES PARK COLORADO'S RECOVERY IS NEAR 100%!

Who can forget the amazing pictures that Ann and Paul Key took of the flooding in Estes Park Colorado, just a day or two after the Longs Peak Scottish and Irish Festival last year? In a matter of days, Boulder County received almost 27" of rain (a full 7" more than the annual average rain fall for that area), and we all watched in horror as the flooding swallowed up our towns, businesses and homes. In the end, the flood waters spread across a range of almost 200 miles from North to South, affecting 17 different counties and warranting Federal Emergency declarations in the area. Recovery and rebuilding started immediately with communities, organizations, and individuals banding together to help in any way they could.

Here we are, 10 months and hundreds of millions of dollars later. The scars are still there, and the devastation is evident everywhere, but I am happy to say that according to the Estes Park Chamber of Commerce, "Recovery from last year's flood is close to 100%. The village fared very

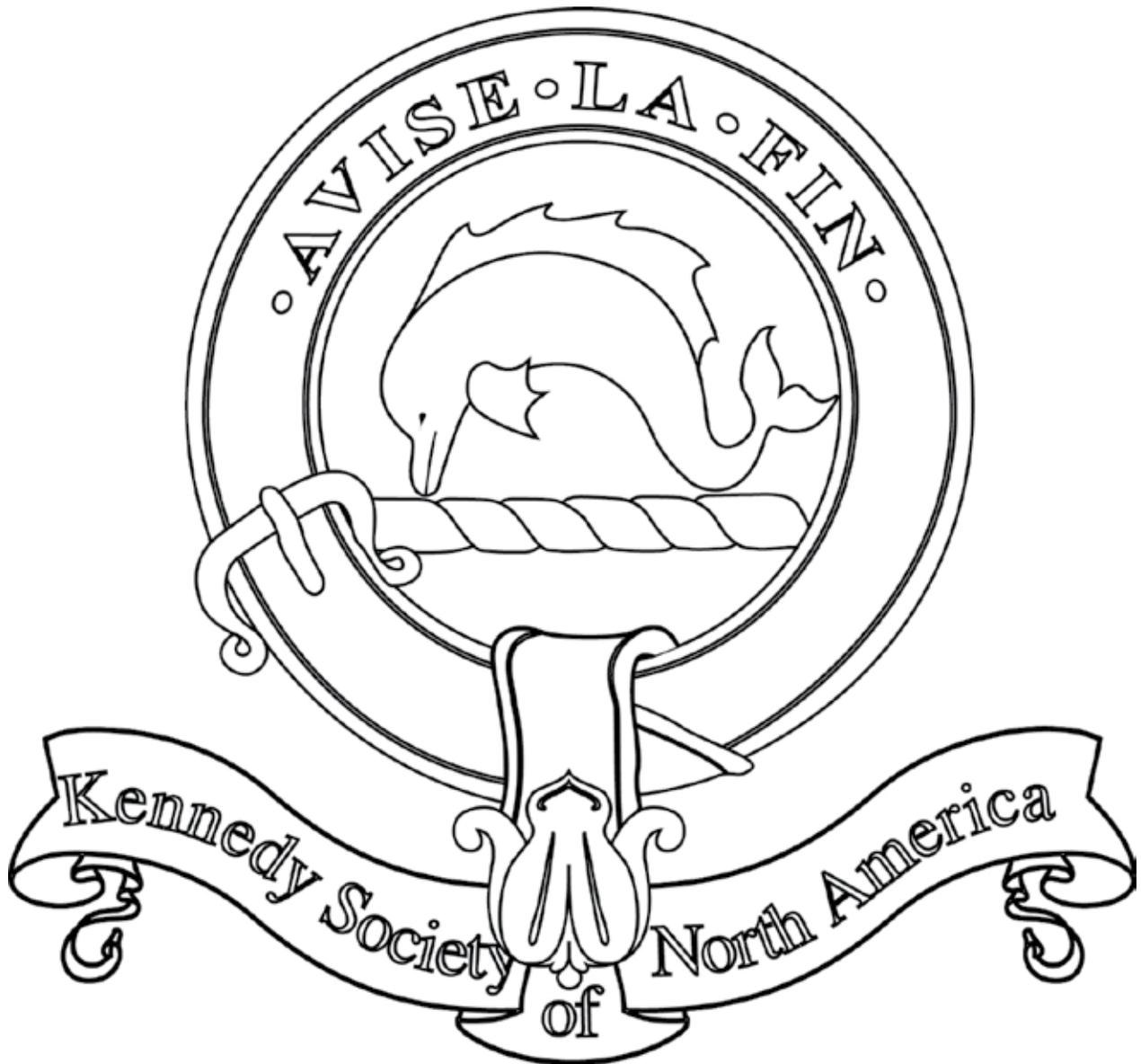
well, the river walk went undamaged and all of the affected Estes Park businesses have reopened. We are so grateful for the support Estes Park has received from friends across the globe, and look forward to welcoming you."

So load up the family, because the 38th annual Longs Peak Scottish and Irish Festival is still on, and scheduled for September 4th - 7th, 2014. Our KSNA clan will be one of many represented there, and I would like to personally invite everyone to come celebrate not only our heritage, but the perseverance and strength of our community. There is something amazing that happens in the mountains when the pipes start to play, and the clans gather at the foot of Longs Peak. We look forward to joining voices with you as the Wild and Mighty Kennedys rally on the field and in the streets this year!

Until then we remain,  
Ed and Krissy Kennedy



**KIDS COLORING PAGE**





## SCOTTISH WORD SEARCH

T A N W V T V N L T H Q G T J  
H Q R P V J A H S W L W U F P  
I A R Y T E C Y H H E I Z U J  
S X I T Z N L P Z U W P B R Y  
T E E L G T A D Z A X L T Z Q  
L S U I T Q N Q W C L B M V U  
E C X S S K I L T R L Q P C T  
D A D J A S V Q M M I U E T V  
X E E R X S E G C U W D F A E  
V J R S O N H N M T S D D R N  
Q F P I F W J S I R L O T T N  
O E A N T L S D U T R B J A D  
C H I E F L D X G L M J Q N F  
U R G F T J A Q V V S M C S X  
G S C A B E R S I C C H N A Z

CABER  
CULZEAN  
SALTIRE  
TARTAN

CHIEF  
KILT  
SASH  
THISTLE

CLAN  
NESSIE  
SWORD





## KENNEDY SOCIETY 2014 TOUR

Imagine being surrounded by your friends, your family, your clan, identified by the tartan you all wear. Now imagine marching with your clan to Culzean Castle, the seat of your family for centuries. The pipes and drums are reverberating ahead through the ancient oak trees. The standard bearers halt you at the great stone arch but you can still hear the call of the music. Then the standard bearers step back and you move forward for your first view of Culzean, perfectly framed by the arch. It is magnificent. On we go toward the stronghold until we are surrounding Lord Ailsa with Culzean to our backs, the sea to our left, and the kilted figures of the Kennedy Honor Guard and the Maybole Pipe and Drum Band to our faces. The Honor Guard is an imposing sight with their military precision and great axes. The pipes and drums play on with great ceremony. I have lived this dream! This was the culminating event to the first week of the Clan Kennedy Tour 2014. And I have to admire Lord Charles for arranging this amazing first impression.

By this time the members of our tour were no longer strangers. We met Lord Charles, Denis Reid and our extended Kennedy family at our Edinburgh hotel on the first afternoon after arrival. Some folks were old friends from the Kennedy Society who had visited Scotland on previous tours with Lord Charles. Many were here for the first time. We all had the Kennedy name in common somewhere in our family tree. Not surprisingly we had a lot more in common than the name and never lacked for conversation. I was on the tour with my husband at his encouragement—I am the Kennedy. And for us one of the highlights of the tour was getting to know other couples and individuals who were the participants—Kennedys from Canada, Australia, and all over the U.S.

Lord Charles was a delightful surprise. For nearly twenty years I have read about him in the KSNA newsletters but we still felt awkward about meeting him in person. You know he is titled after all! Well, Lord Charles went out of his way to put us at ease. Over the course of the tour he had me laughing to tears with his witty stories. He can also put on a very dignified show. I already mentioned that it was Lord Charles who arranged the ceremony and dinner at Culzean. It was done perfectly. From what was said, this was the highlight of the tour for many of us.



Kennedy Honor Guard, Maybole Band, Lord Charles and Neil Brussard



Lord Charles



Dining Room at Culzean





## KENNEDY SOCIETY 2014 TOUR (continued)

In the week preceding the Culzean Gala we had so many new experiences that it seemed like longer than just a week. From Edinburgh we went to Northern Ireland by bus and ferry then back to Scotland for several relaxing days in Ayr. It was here that we met the members of the Kennedy Honor Guard contingent from Titusville, Florida. This group added much to our enjoyment of the next few days.

Denis Reid was our tireless tour leader from Girvan which is in the heart of Carrick. He is an expert on Kennedy history of that region and a long-time friend of Lord Charles'. Every time the bus passed through that part of Ayrshire, Denis shared a Kennedy history lesson. We learned a little to and from the Cairnryan ferry for Ireland and then the longer version on the day tour of the Carrick area. It all bears repeating because the Kennedy's have centuries of history there. It was also a little easier to understand Denis' quick Scottish accent the more often he told a story.

Some of us continued on the extended tour. So after many heartfelt speeches and goodbyes, we separated in Stirling, a day after the Culzean Gala. After a gorgeous drive through the highlands we arrived at Oban Bay on the western coast. This was most memorable for the day we spent taking ferries to the islands of Mull, Staffa, and Iona. We had remarkable weather and smooth water. I don't know if it was the peace surrounding the abbey or the perfect day but we all wanted to stay longer on Iona.

This was my first experience of Scotland. There was so much to love about the tour but also of the country itself—the historic towns, the scenic coasts, the castles, the hedges, sheep and dairy cows as far as the eye can see. Everywhere we went from the south to the highlands and islands there were these beautiful pink spikes of flowers. Denis informed me that they are foxgloves and they grow in Scotland like weeds. The fuschias grow to the size of bushes there. There was bracken, gorse, and heather everywhere. They have puffins. No billboards. Scotland is a lovely country to visit. I can't wait to go back.

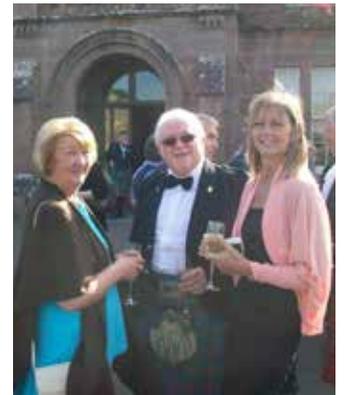
Colleen Caldwell  
Morgantown West Virginia



Kennedy Mausoleum



Lord Charles and Lady Elizabeth

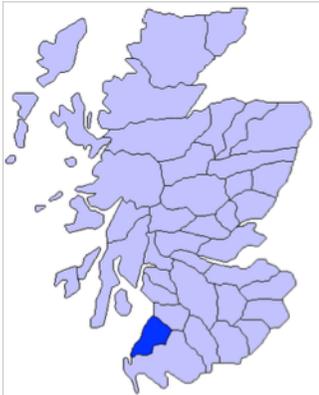


Denis and Mae Reid with  
Caroline Glenn





## THE KINGDOM OF CARRICK



In ancient Scotland it was known that there were two kingdoms – the Kingdom of Fife and the Kingdom of Carrick. The area is best described as a region of glens and hills with occasional farms, forests, and its location gave it access to the sea. It's rocky coastline with many hidden coves and inlets made it as favorite location for smuggling.

The “Kings of Carrick”, the Kennedy family, looked on the old capital of Maybole as their hometown and many famous members of this family have gone from it to become prominent figures in Scotland's history.

Carrick was the home of the widowed Margaret, Countess of Carrick, who in 1271 married Robert de Bruce. It was their son who would take and hold the Scottish crown as King Robert I in the late 13th and early 14th centuries. Carrick saw some involvement in the Scottish wars for independence which culminated in Bruce's victory at Bannockburn.

The Kennedy Family has been associated with Carrick since the end of the 12th century. David, 3RD Lord Kennedy, who was created Earl of Cassillis in 1509, took his men from Maybole to fight at Flodden in 1513. He was killed, as was his sovereign, James IV, in the disastrous battle. Gilbert, 3rd Earl of Cassillis, was a famous Scottish statesman. He was one of the representatives who went to France to arrange the marriage of Mary, Queen of Scots, with the Dauphin.

“UP THE COAST OF BALLANTRAE, THROUGH THE ANCIENT KINGDOM OF CARRICK, BEWARE, THE WILD AND MIGHTY KENNEDYS ARE HERE!”

Editor's Note: In each future Newsletter we will attempt to highlight an historical article and a contemporary article. All suggestions of topics or articles are encouraged!



Maybole Castle

## DEADLINE FOR FALL ISSUE:

SEPTEMBER 15

Please submit copy and pictures for the fall issue no later than September 15th. Submittals, comments and questions may be sent to:

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# The Kennedy Gazette

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 34 ISSUE 2

## WHERE WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE WILL BE A KENNEDY TENT

AUGUST - DECEMBER 2014

- August 23 - Kalamazoo Highland Games in Kalamazoo MI
- August 30- 31 – Pleasanton Games in Pleasanton, CA (Lord Ailsa plans to attend)
- August 30 - 31 Virginia Games, The Plains, VA
- September 4 - 7 Longs Peak Games, Estes Park, CO
- September 13-14 – Niagara Celtic Festival in Olcott, NY (Lord Ailsa plans to attend)
- September 19-21 - New Hampshire Games in Lincoln, NH
- October 4 – Scotland County Games in Laurinburg, NC
- October 18-19 – Stone Mountain Games in Stone Mtn, GA
- October 25-26 – Central Virginia Games in Richmond VA

**Please check the Kennedy website for other games in your area.**