

SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE

Yes: 1,617,989 (44.7%)

No: 2,001,926 (55.3%)

A referendum on whether Scotland should be an independent country took place on Thursday, 18 September 2014.

In the referendum, 55 percent were against independence and 45 percent were in favor of independence. There was an unprecedented turnout of just under 85 per cent of the Scottish population. However the United Kingdom will stay united.

But the NO vote does not mean a return to the status quo in Scotland's government. Rather it will hopefully lead to further powers over their affairs for each of the four nations of the United Kingdom. Prime Minister David Cameron said, "a new and fair settlement will be created for Scotland and for the other countries of the United Kingdom".

We Scots, by way of our ancestors, watched this exercise in democracy with great interest. We will continue to support our Scottish cousins and hold Scotland, as always, close to our hearts.



CHIEF'S REPORT

Greetings to members of the Kennedy Society everywhere. Since my installation as president and chief at the Greenville AGM in May, it has been a whirlwind summer of travel and preparation for the upcoming Fall games season.

Before joining the Kennedy tour in Scotland, Ann and I made a long anticipated trip to Norway for a 50-year reunion with a high school exchange student friend. The reunion was great and the Norwegian mountain and fjord scenery breathtaking.



After returning to Edinburgh, we met with other Kennedy tour members from the U.S., Canada and Australia. Lord Charles and his Ayrshire historian and tour guide, Denis Reid, did themselves proud with an informative tour of Kennedy castles and sites throughout the Carrick lands. Then, after a brief tour of Belfast and Northern Ireland, we returned for the soggy and soaked re-enactment of the Battle of Bannockburn commemorating King Robert Bruce's defeat of the English in 1314.

The highlight of the trip was our afternoon tour of Culzean Castle, the showplace castle of the Kennedy chiefs. It was a full dress occasion, complete with an entry parade onto the castle grounds, led by the Maybole Pipe Band, the Titusville Fire Department Honor Guard, then Lord Charles and Denis. Ann and I and the rest of the entourage brought up the rear. (This occasion can be viewed on the web at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3AJYLLivp4>).

Refreshments and photo ops were held on the parade ground followed by a guided tour through the opulent castle. Lastly, we were treated to a wonderful three-course dinner in the main dining hall hosted by Lord Charles and his sister Lady Elizabeth. It was truly an enjoyable trip. Others left to pursue their own sightseeing, and Ann and I flew off to Iceland to experience geothermal pools, iceberg lagoons, lava fields, volcanic craters (dormant at that time) and very expensive lobster dinners.

After returning through Boston for the 3rd of July fireworks display (yes, 3rd of July – moved ahead because of the approaching Hurricane Arthur), we returned home to prepare for Fall highland games season. Since then, I have been in "scramble mode." I have been in touch with all of my regional chieftains and directors, all of whom have expressed positive commitments to the Fall schedule of Scottish games in their regions. Plus, we built two new games kits for conveners to use.



CHIEF'S REPORT (continued)

We have two new first-time tent conveners for games in their respective areas. Nathan and Heather Bishop in Kalamazoo, Michigan and Ed and Krissy Kennedy in Colorado. The Bishops hosted the Kalamazoo games and Ed and Krissy are hosting the Kennedy tent at the Longs Peak Irish and Scottish Festival in Estes Park as I write this. They are doing an excellent job as first-timers and my congratulations to them both.

We just completed the Virginia Scottish games this past weekend. Many thanks for the hard work of Joel and Bethany Cassel, tent conveners; Bill and Terry Kennedy, mid-Atlantic region, and to Chris and Sue Kennedy for their valued consul. This location will be our AGM in 2015, the weekend immediately preceding Labor Day, so please mark your calendars. At the same time Mike and

Paula and California Kennedys hosted Lord Charles at the Pleasanton Games. Great job. Just wait until you see the pictures of this visit! We also look forward to several other games this fall with a Kennedy presence, including the Niagara Celtic Festival in Olcott, NY with Kona and Kathi Gant hosting Lord Charles, and other chieftains, and the Scotland County, NC games with first-timers Katy and John Kennedy.

I will close with a mention of the Kennedy Key Chain project for Scholarship headed up by Bill Kennedy of the Mid-Atlantic region. Please contact him for your supply of key chains to sell at your respective games.

Submitted by Paul L. Key, KSNA

A MESSAGE FROM LORD CHARLES

I have just returned from the best, most fun, and exciting adrenalin - seeking trip I have had in the last 3 years.

I started off with The Pleasanton Highland Game near San Francisco. It was organized by Chieftain Mike Kennedy & his charming wife Paula. Our tent was overflowing with people, both Kennedys and colleagues of Mike's & Paula's. Our tent was full of good fun, great laughter, and cheer. Among the people I met were father and son David Holmes who became a life member and was a great help. David also very kindly offered to show me around after the games. It was a great start to my visit.

It was then off to tour San Francisco - 3 full days of adventure starting with a Rocket jet boat ride around the bay - the whole boat was drenched by the end. Then on to a more sedate duck ride.

Whilst at the games David Holmes had kindly offered to show me around. So on the Wednesday we crossed The Golden Gate bridge and went to look at the Redwoods in The Muir Forest. These trees are 1000s of years old, tall and very big. We then stopped for lunch - sitting outside looking over bay.

Whilst lunching David asked what else I would like to do? Without hesitating I said Zip Lining (I had already found a canopy tour about 50 miles away and had made enquiries.)

David choked saying he have been given strict instructions that I could do anything else but that. I mentioned I was going anyway, and it would be easier for me if he came along. It did not take long for him to realize I was serious.

On the Thursday we set off and started our Adventure, I was wearing long trousers so if they asked any questions - I had an old Rugby wound. So at 11am we were kitted out and off we went.

The course consisted of seven stages and two rope bridges 150ft up and a total of 1500ft.





A MESSAGE FROM LORD CHARLES (continued)

It was the most exhilarating experience I have had in years; it was GREAT! So David many thanks. You are a great sport!

It was then time for Niagara Falls via Philly where I spend two very enjoyable days with Shannon Kennedy, a long standing Kennedy member. I met, wined, and dined with quite a few of her friends. It was a good restful weekend and wonderful to see Shannon in such good form.

I stayed in The Sheraton hotel on The USA side of the Falls - very comfortable and the hotel had Stella on tap. Whilst there, I visited The Canadian side and revisited places I had been to some 18 yrs ago. Very enjoyable.

Kona & Kathi Gant picked me up, and it was off to the Niagara Celtic Festival some 20 miles away. That night we went for dinner with the games organizers along with Kona's brother Dirty Harry and his wife Pat, and Paul and Ann Key.

The next day was a day of relaxing before putting our tents up and meeting some of the others. It was also great to see Chief Ann & Paul, Vice Chief Leo & Sandy Kennedy, and Bill and Julie Kennedy.

The Saturday started damp overcast, with a hint of sun. Sadly at the opening ceremony the heavens opened and it came down in buckets. Everybody was drenched. So much so Harry and I had to disappear to the local bar as my kilt socks were so wet my false leg started to fall off and it need to be re adjusted. The Sunday was much dryer and warmer. The games were outstanding and full of happy fun loving people. The games were extremely well organized, with a very relaxing atmosphere, and held at an outstanding location. A fantastic end to 3 weeks of fun.

So a big THANKS to all those I met during my stay. I will remember for years to come all the good spirited, fun loving, high adrenalin people who made my visit so memorable.

Take Care until we meet again,

LC

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GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

JULY 10-13, 2014

This year for Grandfather Mountain the weather was the best I have seen in all the years that I have been doing this game. Thursday night was clear, clear enough that you could actually see the faces of the people on the field. Suzanne Huff did an excellent job of performing the calling for the Kennedys. Friday was a bit slow, but everything picked up by Saturday. The current Chief, Paul Key, and his lady came to visit along with several other

of our friends. We had one new member join. Let us all welcome Margaret Sweeney to the Kennedy Society. And, then we had old friends that came to visit and maybe helping us next year with an extra tent. Thank you Mr. St. Sing. Sunday dawned bright and cool, with several of us still in attendance. All in all it was one of the best weekends.



Chief Paul with new member Margaret Sweeney



FOLLOW JD ENGLEHARDT IN MADAGASCAR:

Kennedy Society readers may remember the article in the last Gazette on page five relating the story of JD Englehardt who is representing his church in Madagascar with an organization called YAGM (Young Adults in Global Mission). Marcus and Joanne Englehardt, Kennedy Society members, wanted our readers to know the whole Madagascar young adult group can be followed at: <http://sambatra.wordpress.com/> and JD's posts can be followed at <http://jdanielengelhardt10.wordpress.com/>.





NIAGARACELTIC

FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2014

The 14th Annual Niagara Celtic Heritage festival and Highland Games was a grand time of celebration and community for the Kennedy Society of North America. Lord Charles, Chief Paul Key, Secretary Ann Key, Kennedy's Kona & Kathi Gant, and Harry and Pat Gant had the privilege of a private meet and greet on Thursday



Our Leaders: Deputy Chief Leo Kennedy, Chief Paul Key, and Great Lakes Chieftain Kona Gant with Lord Charles

evening with organizers, Phil and Beth Banks and two of their talented daughters, Katie and Vickie. This gave all of us an opportunity to share, and to set the tone for the upcoming week-end.

We delighted in setting up clan tents with Clan Claus and the Kennedy Clan as neighbors sharing a full 40 feet of space. We were thrilled to have 20 Kennedy's and Clauses

with us to enjoy the week-end. And what an impressive group of feathers we had with us – from Lord Charles, to Paul Key, to Leo Kennedy, to Kona Gant.

Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate on Saturday. It poured rain on us as we gathered for the opening ceremonies highlighted with inspirational remarks from Lord Charles. In addition to highlighting the methods of the Kennedy Clan for obtaining land (raping and pillaging!), he also shared his own personal determination to not allow disability to define him. And he encouraged the crowd to push their own limits. This was met with cheers and agreement from all in attendance.

Following opening ceremonies, a representative from each clan carried a torch to light a bonfire in the center of the grounds. Lord Charles threw in the Kennedy torch. Jim Smith threw in the Clan Claus torch. This symbolic fire is

built on the ashes from the previous years' fire and burns for the entire week-end. It is a center piece of gathering, sharing and camaraderie throughout the festival. With a September chill in the air, it was the perfect setting to spend some quality time with others and to share a story or two.



Lord Charles at bonfire

Then it was on to surprise Lord Charles to celebrate his 58th birthday! Thanks to Beth Hand, a Clan Claus baking elf who delighted us with 200 cupcakes decorated in Kennedy tartan blue, green and yellow! We enjoyed a rousing round of Happy Birthday to our leader! The 96th Highlander's Pipe Band stopped by to entertain us as well.



Beth Hand with birthday cake for Lord Charles

One of the highlights of the week-end was the opportunity to watch our sponsored Highland Athletes, Jennifer Patterson, Matt Hand, and John Katalinas. Early on Saturday morning, Lord Charles made them each honorary Kennedy's for the week-end. And they again wowed us with their ability and skill. Jen Patterson was given the Clan Award for Best Athlete again this year! Congratulations Jen!



Lord Charles congratulating Jen Patterson



NIAGARA CELTIC FESTIVAL (continued)

On Sunday, the sun came out and heightened the warmth of the festival. We had the pleasure of watching as Lord Charles brought Leo Kennedy's friends, Ken & Sue Freshley into the Kennedy family. We also welcomed two other new members during the week-end. Throughout the week-end, as Lord Charles noted, there was great connection with all. The week-end ended with a solemn sword ceremony to recognize those who we have lost in the previous year. One representative from each Clan, carries a sword for this moving show of solidarity and respect.

This festival is very inclusive – Clans, Re-enactors, Sterling Invaders, Renaissance participants, authors, poets, dancers, pipe bands, pets, and revelers all join together. It is a delightful atmosphere of friendship, shared history, and true connection with each other that makes this one of our favorite festivals of the year! We hope that even more Kennedy's will join us next year!

Submitted by Kathi Gant



New Lifetime Members Ken and Sue Freshley

NIAGARA CELTIC FESTIVAL ADDENDUM

Because there were so many things happening, I'm adding a few comments on our weekend in New York. First of all, we owe a huge thanks to Kona and Kathi Gant and all of Clan Claus for hosting us Kennedys in such grand fashion. Those of us who had not been to Niagara Falls sneaked in a visit before setting up our tents. Lord Charles even rode his scooter across the bridge to see the Canadian side of the falls. Mother Nature played her cruel tricks with cold rain on Saturday, but Sunday the day brightened. With Lord Charles in attendance, we received a warm welcome from the games committee, other clans, and pipe bands. His birthday was celebrated many times over with cake, presents (among them a Celtic carved box and coon skin cap), Scottish balladeers and well wishes from Kennedys from up and down the east coast. It was good visiting with Leo and Sandy Kennedy and Bill and Julie Kennedy. Lord Charles acclaimed Ken and Sue Freshley as Kennedys, after which Ken filled out application as a Life Member. Sharon Moore also joined our ranks. This game had something for all, Celtic costumes as well as kilts, jugglers, balladeers, re-enactors, food courts at both ends of the games, 3 or 4 music stages, plenty of canine members of the families, a petting zoo and pony rides, large Celtic market and 35 clan tents.

Submitted by Ann Blackmore Key



Chief Paul with new member Sharon Moore



KALAMAZOO SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND HIGHLAND GAMES AUGUST 23, 2014

Yes there is a Kalamazoo Michigan; yes, I DO have a gal in Kalamazoo (zoo, zoo, zoo, zoo, zoo), my beautiful wife Heather, and yes, the Kalamazoo Scottish Festival and Highland Games were held on August 23rd 2014.

This year was the 22nd annual festival for the Kalamazoo Scottish Festival Association, and the first for my wife and I as tent conveners for the Kennedy Society. We weren't entirely sure what to expect but with the expert advice from Chris and Sue Kennedy and then from Paul and Ann Key, after Paul took over as our President/Chief, things could not have gone smoother and we had a fantastic time on our first time out.

The Kalamazoo Festival is not the biggest in the state of Michigan but the heart and atmosphere make up for its size. Among the thirteen or so clans represented at this year's festival we felt very welcome. Many of the folks had been convening tents for quite awhile and immediately after announcing that the Wild and Mighty Kennedy's had arrived, we were welcomed with open arms and made to feel like we were old friends. It was a great feeling

We have been having an unusually cool summer in Michigan this year, but it was predicted to be a hot, humid and rainy day; however the rain never came and the heat was buffeted by a nice breeze that blew throughout the day and kept us somewhat cool. We were happy for this weather rather than the weather predicted as it could have been a lot worse! This also meant that there were plenty of people in attendance and we enjoyed being able to help folks discover their Scottish/Irish heritage and learn about the Kennedy's and the Kennedy Society.

My wife Heather's contribution to the Kennedy tent was particularly popular as she made three pans of homemade goodies for everyone that visited by the Kennedy tent. She made traditional shortbread (with non-traditional Heath candy bar bits), oatmeal raisin cookies, and oat date bars from a family recipe.

Along with Heather, my mother, Cindra (Kennedy) Bishop also joined us at the tent and became the newest member of the Kennedy Society at the festival. She grew up in southwest Michigan and it is from her side of the family that I trace my Kennedy roots. She created a display with a timeline showing the history of the Bangor Michigan Kennedys that we had on display at the tent. The timeline started with my oldest ancestor we know of, Joseph Kennedy, who came from the plantations of Ulster to the United States around 1743, and settled in Goffstown New Hampshire. His Grandson, my Great-Great-Great-Grandfather Franklin Kennedy, eventually traveled to Bangor Michigan in 1849 and built the farm that was in our family for over 150 years. The timeline concluded with Heather and myself as we start our family together.

Aside from the heat, it was a spectacular day of fun, food and new friends. We look forward with anticipation to next year's Kalamazoo Scottish Festival! We hope you may be able to join us!

Submitted by Nathan Bishop



Nathan, Heather and Cindra Bishop



Cindra Bishop's timeline display



Nathan and Heather ready for parade



TALE OF THE CAT

Nathan Bishop is one of our newest tent conveners from Kalamazoo, Michigan. In August, as a first-time convener, he enthusiastically did a fantastic job of hosting the Kennedy tent at the Kalamazoo Highland Games. With our trip to Scotland this summer, it was often difficult to touch bases with Nathan or to train him long distance by phone and email. However, he rose to the challenge.

We often played telephone tag, and I, laughingly listened to the message on his phone answering machine, which went something like this, “Hi, this is Nathan. I can’t reach the phone right now because I’m pinned down on the couch by my cat. Please leave a message and I’ll get back to you.”

Seems that Nathan wasn’t kidding, the family cat named Topper had him pinned! Topper may look angry in the pictures with him on Nathan’s chest, and also in repose on Heather’s chest, he is not angry at all. He is actually a Scottish Fold, a breed which originated in Scotland.

In 1961 a shepherd by the name of William Ross spotted the first known Scottish Fold cat at a farm near Coupar Angus in the Tayside Region of Scotland, northwest of Dundee. Ross asked the owners if he could have one of the kittens, and proceeded to develop the breed from the original, Susie, a white barn cat.

The unique thing about this cat was that her ears folded forward and downward on her head. The resulting look gave the impression of a “pixie,” “owl,” or “teddy bear” that has captured the hearts of many American cat fanciers including Nathan and Heather.

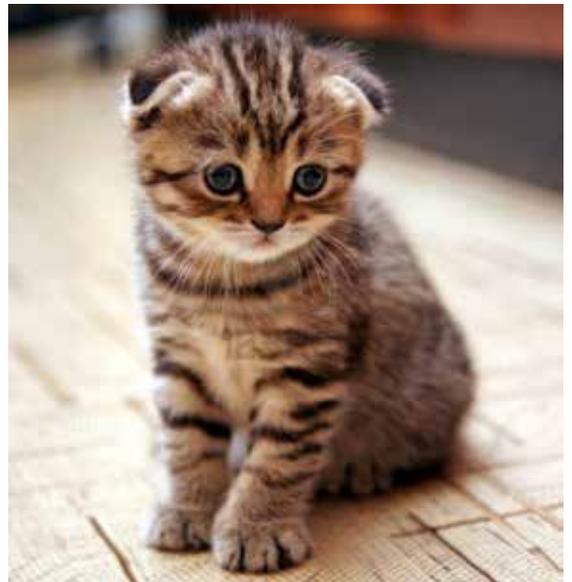
Scottish Folds come in two types: folded ear and straight (normal) ear. The folded ear is produced by an incomplete dominant gene and is the result of a spontaneous mutation.

Scottish Fold kittens are born with straight ears. At about three to four weeks of age, their ears fold...or they don’t! Due to the rarity of the Fold, and to the fact that not every kitten born has folded ears, it is very hard for the supply to keep up with the demand.

Scottish Folds are hardy cats, much like their barnyard ancestors. Their disposition matches their sweet expression. They have tiny voices and are not extremely vocal. They adore human companionship and display this in their own quiet way.

Nathan, although everyone knows that we’re dog lovers ourselves, this beautiful feline pet of yours can keep you from the phone any day. We’ll leave a message or we’ll call back when Topper’s had his time with you both.

Submitted by Paul Key





THE 149TH SCOTTISH GAMES, PLEASANTON CALIFORNIA SEPTEMBER 29-30, 2014

This year we had the honor of Lord Charles attendance at the games in Pleasanton. We were hoping he would bring the Scottish weather with him, but once again the temps were in the 90's. However despite the heat attendance was estimated to be at least 50,000 visitors. Fortunately we had set up and tear down assistance from fellow clan members Mike & Liz Malinao, David Holmes Sr. & Jr., and Russell Kennedy. With the usual high temperatures, all this help was greatly appreciated!

Saturday was our busiest day. There were many new visitors and quite a few of my co-workers past and current. For me it was like a mini reunion. Also, a Scottish Society, the Firth of Forth Clan, from the royal order of Scotland organization, stayed with us most of the day and later attended the dinner that evening. As always, there are those folks who come to ask us about Sid Kennedy, my previous Chieftain. Although Sid is no longer able to attend games, he is well remembered for his active participation and leadership. We welcome our new member Jennifer Kennedy. Also David Holmes Jr. became a lifetime member. David enjoyed being the Sargent at Arms for Lord Charles official appearances. Saturday evening we met some of the members with Lord Charles for dinner at a local British Pub called the Redcoats in downtown Pleasanton.

David told us he and Lord Charles did some sightseeing the following week. We understand they went zip-lining through the Redwoods, way to go guys!

This festival was very successful for us due to the participation of fellow society members. We now have regulars in the tent assisting us and greeting visitors. Several have expressed interest in hosting other games in California. Here out west, removed from our Eastern counterparts by such distance, we feel like a clan on the move at last. One can feel the excitement and enthusiasm among our members. Please come and join us next year for the 150th anniversary of the Scottish gathering and games at the Pleasanton Fairgrounds in California.

Michael Stewart Kennedy
Chieftain Western region



David Holmes Sr., Mike Kennedy, LordCharles, Linda and Dave Kennedy



Lord Charles taking the salute flanked by Standard Bearer David Holmes



Mike Kennedy, Firth of Forth Members, and Russ Kennedy



MikeKennedy, DavidHolmes, and Lord Charles



A TWO DAY EXCURSION WITH LORD CHARLES

I can't even begin to put in words how special it was to have the opportunity to spend two days with Lord Charles but here goes:

I asked Lord Charles on Saturday at the games what he would like to see while he was in the SF Bay Area and he told me the Redwoods but that was before he knew we shared a certain thrill seeking gene but more on that later...

On Wednesday we set out for Muir Woods, which is a beautiful Redwood grove in Marin County, north of SF, famously named after the environmentalist John Muir who was instrumental in establishing Yosemite as a national park. On the way we went down Lombard street, saw the Palace of Fine Arts, drove through Golden Gate Park to see the new Museum of Natural History and the De Young Museum, and then crossed the Golden Gate bridge. Lord Charles was very impressed in seeing trees that were over 2,000 years old.

At lunch Lord Charles confessed that on the previous Tuesday he had taken a speed boat tour on the bay and a Segway tour of the wharf. That knowledge helped somewhat when he asked me if I could take him to a zip line. We conspired to tell the tour company that we were both nursing old "sports injuries" and asked if they could accommodate us. They said they could and so we set out for another Redwood grove in the Santa Cruz mountains one hour south of SF. There are many different kinds of zip line facilities. This one was a seven stage course that went from platform to platform amongst the Redwoods some 200-300 feet above the forest floor below! It was absolutely exhilarating for all. It turns out that Lord Charles has a penchant for going fast. It also must have been exhilarating for our instructors when, on top of the 4th platform, Lord Charles confessed that we don't in fact have "sports injuries" but rather that he's managing with one leg and no toes. Our instructors loved his spirit and could not have been more supportive.

We took the long way back to SF along the ocean on Highway 1 perhaps consciously, or sub consciously, wanting just a little bit more adventure.

I have to admit feeling a little bit invigorated and inspired after spending two days with Lord Charles. I'm not sure how we can top this when he returns in 2016 but we'll give it the ole college try!

David

David Holmes is a Kennedy Society member from Oakland California





THE AILSA CRAIG AWARD

Earlier this year at the Annual Meeting in Greenville, the Kennedy Society awarded the first Ailsa Craig awards to eligible recipients. The award is worn on a gentleman's glengarry or on a ladies sash. The guidelines for the Ailsa Craig award include such activities as:

1. convene a tent for at least 2 years
2. recruit a new member
3. work at a tent at the table or help with refreshments
4. submit a story to the newsletter
5. serve on a committee
6. attend 3 games - one being the AGM
7. Devise and fulfill a special project on behalf of the Society - eg. be in chg of an AGM, Curling Exhibit, Honor Guard, merchandising items, Society awards, Kennedy Quiz, etc
8. Host a prominent Society guest
e.g. when David Carrick attended John FLOWERS award celebration on behalf of the Society (two hours away from home)
9. Be a Chieftain or District Director
10. Start a Kennedy tent at a game where we have not had a tent before.
11. Complete another activity, not listed here, but deemed worthy by the Board.



The individuals who are awarded The Ailsa Craig award represent the foundation of our Society. Just like the Craig – They are the rock of our Society! If you know individuals who may qualify for this award please let Chief Paul Key know of your suggestions. His email is: heelanhound@carolina.rr.com

THOUGHTS FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

What will happen if Scotland votes to be an independent country? The vote takes place later this month. I have spent a lot of time thinking about this, as I am sure you have as well.

There has been a tradition of bad feelings between the Scots and the English. I should know. My mother was born in England, and my father in Scotland. They would sometimes fight the Battle of Bannockburn over the dining room table. My father's family was not pleased when he married someone English. I can remember the first time I went to Scotland with my 93 year old aunt, who was paying for the trip. She asked if I wanted to go to England as well, and I said no. Since that time I've been to England many times, and only twice more to Scotland. That was caused by mostly church related events. I love both parts of my heritage equally.

History is my great love, and I am familiar with the good and bad aspects of the United Kingdom. I am convinced

that the disadvantages to everyone, Scots and English alike, far out weigh any advantage to be gained by two countries instead of one.

Think for a moment what would the United States be like if the South had won the Civil War. We wouldn't be the country we are now. The world would not have had the benefit of a strong united nation. The South had many fine qualities but they are far more effective as part of a united nation. The same is true of Scotland.

I would be happy to discuss any particulars with any of you. In the meantime in addition to thinking, I'm going to be praying.

Aye,
David+





VIRGINIA SCOTTISH GAMES AND FESTIVAL AUGUST 30-31, 2014



The proud and mighty Kennedys rallied on the Great Meadows in Warrenton, VA at The Virginia Scottish Games held on August 29th and 30th. Once again, tent conveners, Joel and Bethany Cassell did a fantastic job of providing a welcoming atmosphere for Kennedy members and those seeking information on the society and Clan Kennedy.

During the games two new members was signed up, Jason Early of Ashland, VA and Christina Jersey of Bristow, VA and numerous others indicated that they had an interest in joining.



New member Christina Jersey with Taylor, Bradly and Megan



New member Jason Early



Roy Wulf a.k.a. Rob Roy

In attendance at the games were Chief Paul Key and his wife Ann, Past Society Chief Chris Kennedy and his wife Sue, Mid Atlantic Chieftain Bill Kennedy and his wife Terry and numerous other Kennedy members. One of the highlights was 6 year old Roy Wulf (he likes to be called Rob Roy) who has Kennedy in his family, played Scotland the Brave on his fiddle which he just started playing in January.

In 2015 the AGM will be held at The Great Meadows in Warrenton, VA in which Lord Charles Kennedy will be in attendance. The games are held on Labor Day weekend and would make a great vacation destination with many sights and things to do in the area such as Sky Line Drive, Luray Caverns, Civil War sites, the City of Warrenton Historic District and Washington, D.C. just a short drive away.



Feathers Everywhere - Chris Kennedy, Chief Paul Key, and Bill Kennedy



Bill and Terry Kennedy, Mid Atlantic Chieftain

The next games to be held in the Mid Atlantic area will be The Central Virginia Celtic Festival & Highland Games in Richmond, VA. on October 25 and 26 at the Richmond Raceway Complex.

Submitted by Bill Kennedy
Mid Atlantic Chieftain





Put yourself in this picture with your fellow Kennedys at the 2015 AGM

VIRGINIA SCOTTISH GAMES SEPTEMBER 5th and 6th

plus enjoy a fantastic Labor Day vacation in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley with visits to our nation's capitol, Civil War battlefields, horse and vineyard country, the Skyline Drive, Luray Caverns and much more.

Details to come!





LONGS PEAK SCOTTISH IRISH HIGHLAND FESTIVAL IN ESTES PARK SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2014

The Longs Peak Scottish and Irish Festival was held Sept. 4th thru the 7th, in beautiful Estes Park Colorado. The weekend started out in true Highland fashion, with a cold mist rolling off the mountains that was quickly followed by a slow icy drizzle. Friday morning brought more rain, and the field opened at 9:00 am to a brisk 36 degrees! Table cloths and pieces of wool Tartan became make shift shawls and body wraps. Fortunately, we snuck in a small propane heater, so we were able to chase off the chill, and attract more than our fair share of visitors. Despite the rain and the cold, we had a fairly solid turn out for a week day, and could only hope that Saturday would bring a change in weather.

Saturday morning we awoke to the sun illuminating our tent as it slipped from its slumber behind the mountains in the east. Another beautiful Colorado day was breaking, and we were up and ready to face it. With 4000 - 5000 people predicted to actively participate in the festival parade, and the untold thousands of spectators already lining the street, we had our hands full trying to get the clan and our wagon load of banners, flags, candy and waters through to the Clan check-in. With my wife dressed up as "Merida" from the movie Brave, and our daughter as a Cassillis Castle fairy, we slipped into line and yelled out our Clan cry at the top of our lungs.

The festival was predicted to have 80,000 visitors over the weekend, with the bulk of them passing through on Saturday. We were fortunate to have requested an outside facing space, so our exposure was good and our candy bowl was full. Our plan was to attract the kids with the "Merida" and fairy characters, thus giving the rest of us a chance to visit with the parents while their kids got their pictures taken and some candy. By the end of the day, Merida and our fairy were slumped in the grass in front of the tent, and we had a full list of names, emails, and phone numbers! The response was overwhelming, and we are so grateful for the Clan members who stepped up and supported us throughout the day with food, drink (ok, lots of drink) and the opportunities to take a break.

We went into Sunday better prepared to face another day of intense festival craziness. Plenty of stiff coffee, shortbread, and donuts was the foundation to our battle plan. The festival really did not get moving until after the Kirking of the Tartans, when everyone was out of church, and ran strong until we shut down the tents at 4:30. With a final Clan cry, we dropped our tent, packed up our belongings and headed home.

I can't stress enough how much fun we had at the Highland festival this year. We were honored to represent our Kennedy heritage and our Clan association to the public, and truly moved by the response of the public, and the commitment of our fellow members. Life is short, and life is tough. Association with like minded people, with a common past, in an amazing environment, reminds us of what is important and who we truly are.

Submitted by Ed Kennedy



Cynthia Hofmann, Sierra, Christopher, Krissy, Ed, Walter, and Thomas Kennedy



Krissy (Merida) and the Leprechaun



Sierra Kennedy



Marianne Elaine Heskett, Krissy Kennedy, Tom Kennedy, Mary Kennedy



AYR SCOTLAND COMES TO TITUSVILLE FLORIDA

Frank and Suzanne Canada and members of Titusville Fire & Emergency Services and the Kennedy Honor Guard, Titusville, Florida had a visit Sept. 14 from Mark Hendry, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Ayr Community Fire Station, his fiancé Lisa, and her daughter, Jenna. Frank & Suzanne drove over to their hotel in Orlando and brought them back to Titusville, where they were treated to a tour of Fire Headquarters and the fire stations. Honor Guard members first met Mark in Scotland in June during a tour of their fire station, arranged by Lord Ailsa. Hearing that they would be in Orlando in September, Frank invited him to make contact for a tour of the Titusville stations.

Mark told Frank that he wanted to propose to Lisa at Fire Station 13, and a plan was put together. Under the pretense of giving Lisa and Jenna the experience of climbing the ladder from the fire truck, the ladder was extended horizontally and the two were guided out to the end by HG Lt. Jeremy House. Waiting there and wearing bunker pants was Mark, as if he was going to help them down. He had something else in mind first! Mark quietly spoke to Lisa, professing his feelings for her and Jenna, then dropped to his knee, held out the ring, and asked her to marry him. Lisa was totally taken by surprise, and shaking and nervous, she said YES! Jenna was so surprised, and also very happy!

Frank and Suzanne then took them to Shiloh's Mangrove Deck on the Indian River in Titusville, where they were joined by Jeremy and Beth House. Everyone enjoyed food and conversation with a great view of the river and Kennedy Space Center. Next stop was Frank & Suzanne's property in Christmas where Mark and Lisa experienced something truly American.....target shooting! Several different firearms were provided to try, under the training and experience of Frank and Jeremy. This was a lot of fun for all and very memorable for our guests from a country where private gun ownership is not guaranteed by law.

On Wednesday, Suzanne and her sister Janet DeVault (visiting from WV) met Mark, Lisa & Jenna at Universal Studios & Islands of Adventure where they spent the day riding the rides and seeing everything. It was great to have Mark, Lisa and Jenna here and we had a great time together!

Submitted by Suzanne Canada



Mark proposes to Lisa



Mark Hendry with Lisa and Jenna



Mark standing with Titusville Firemen and members of Kennedy Honor Guard





KIDS COLORING PAGE
ROBERT THE BRUCE





SCOTLAND ANAGRAM UNSCRAMBLE THE LETTERS TO FIND THE WORDS



WORD LIST	bagpipes	reindeer
Celtic	bats	sheep
kilt	Glasgow	neeps
haggis	dance	
	unicorn	

i k l (t)

a g g l o s (w)

a i g g h (s)

a d e d (n)

(a) b s t

e (e) h s p

c i n n o (r) u

c c e (i) l t

e e (n) p s

(d) e e e i n r r

HIDDEN WORD
(solve the circled letters):

(a) b e g i p p s

DEADLINE FOR HOLIDAY ISSUE: DECEMBER 15

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

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WHERE WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE WILL BE A KENNEDY TENT

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2014

- 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.