



The
Kennedy Gazette
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

WINTER 2015

Wishing you and your family a very

Merry Christmas
and a **Happy New Year!**

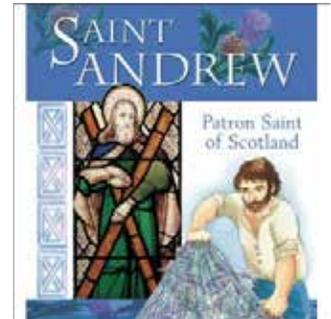




THOUGHTS FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Dear Members of the Kennedy Society of North America:

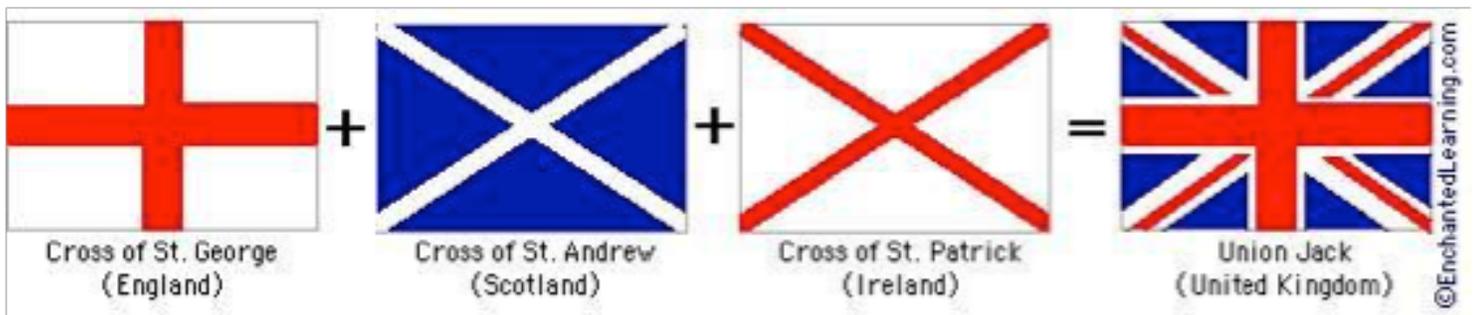
I am writing this on the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, who is the Patron Saint of Scotland. The Union Jack is made up of the crosses of three countries, . The Cross of St. Andrew (Scotland), the Cross of St. George (England), and the Cross of St. Patrick (Ireland). Wales is somehow left out. I guess it is thought of as a part with England. Personally I think a Red Dragon would add a lot to the flag!



God is in control of history. He had something to do with the development of the UK as it now is. What a wonderful rich and blessed country it is because of its many parts.

I wish each and every one of us a very Serious Advent, a very Happy Christmas, and a Very Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.

Fr. David Crichton Kennedy, SSC
Society Chaplain



- St Andrew's flag is the flag of Scotland
- The flag is in the form of a white X on a blue background and is commonly known as The Saltire
- Scotland is one of the few countries to have one of Christ's disciples as their patron saint
- St Andrew was one of the Twelve Apostles (disciples of Jesus) and brother of St Peter
- St Andrew is believed to have died on a diagonally transversed cross which the Romans sometimes used for executions and which, therefore, came to be called St Andrews Cross

***St Andrews facts are a submission from Paul and Ann Key





A MESSAGE FROM LORD AILSA

After a very sunless summer we have had the most delightful autumn here in South West Scotland. The leaves on the trees have been slow to turn to their beautiful shade of gold and then seemed to be reluctant to fall, that is until recently when the westerlies have blown in off the Atlantic and started to strip the trees bare.

We had our first pheasant shoot of the season on Friday the 6th of November. Tommy Johnston our Head Gamekeeper produced some spectacular birds testing the skills of my friends and I with some very fast high targets.

Tommy has been a gamekeeper here on the Estate for about thirty seven years and knows how to produce very sporting birds in just about any weather conditions.

Anne always produces a wonderful shoot lunch in our dining room which goes down very well after a day out in the fresh winter air. Before that we have a mid morning break in some sheltered spot consisting of some hot French Onion soup and a small glass of Anne's delicious home made bramble whisky or sloe gin.

I have a few shotguns but one of my favourites is the 12 bore Greener Royal that was built for my Great Uncle the 5th Marquess of Ailsa in 1907. The Greener Company still have all the build records for the gun and a full service history. My other favoured gun is a 12 bore Joseph Lang hammer ejector, one of a pair built in 1889, a very fine and rare shotgun that I bought a couple of years ago. I was also lucky enough with the help of a friend to find for sale a Charles Lancaster 14 bore sliding block hammer gun built in 1861 for my Great Great Grandfather the 2nd Marquess. After a little bit of haggling I managed to buy it, so it is now back with the family.

Earlier in the autumn I had the pleasure of hosting a farm walk and barbeque for the Ayrshire Vintage Tractor and Machinery Club. As luck would have it after a string of good dry days the day of the walk was a bit wet but undeterred we carried on and ended the event with the barbeque being held in the tractor shed which nobody seemed to mind.

On the farm we still have some beans and maize to harvest but in the meantime the hedgetrimmer is busy

around the fields and all the winter crops of wheat and barley are sown.

Anne and I are off to Montbeliard in France later in November to the opening of an exhibition of Scottish Art in the Musee du Chateau des Ducs de Wurtemberg. The museum had heard that we had the wonderful portrait of Mary Queen of Scots by Medina the Younger and asked if they could have it on loan for the exhibition, she of course was very briefly Queen of France, so in effect she is going back to her old home for a while.



After France I am going to the town of Solihul in England where they have been building Landrovers since 1948. However production of the iconic Landrover Defender ceases in December this year

and I am keen to view the production line at the factory before they stop. I bought my first Landrover when I was sixteen. It was an old 1955 Series One model which I paid eighty pounds for. It has lain unused for a long time but I still have it. There have been many more over the years, we currently run three on the Estate. I have ordered one of the last ones to be built and should be able to take delivery in January 2016.

One wet day last week I dragged my original 1955 Series One out from its long hibernation at the back of the shed and decided to get it roadworthy again. It will be fun to tootle about the Estate in my sixty year old Landrover once more!





A MESSAGE FROM LORD AILSA

(continued)

Kitty and Archie are both coming home for Christmas. Archie's term at York University finishes in very early December so he hopes to be home in time for our 4th December shoot. Kitty is enjoying her job in London and has found a flat to share not too far from her work, she has booked her train home from London for the 19th December. I am looking forward to having them both here at Morriston again.

With Christmas just around the corner I will finish this message with best wishes to you all for the Festive Season.

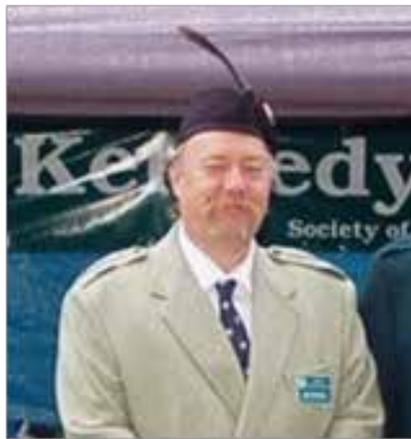
Ailsa

39TH CENTRAL FLORIDA SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES JANUARY 16 -17, 2016 IN WINTER SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Would you like to be a part of the Kennedy Society being the **HONORED CLAN** at the biggest games in Florida?

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS?

Lady Rosemary will be in attendance and Leo Kennedy, Chief of the Kennedy Society will also be joining us. Have you seen the Kennedy Honor Guard in action?



Here's a link to the Games website: <http://www.flascot.com/> or search for the Central Florida Scottish Highland games. You may also contact the tent conveners at Suzanne.Canada@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!



YOUR ROCKY MOUNTAIN KENNEDY'S 2015 IN REVIEW

2015 has been an exciting year for the Rocky Mountain Region of the Wild and Mighty Kennedys. We were able to host the Clan tent at 7 different festivals, and made some great friends. Here is a glimpse of the events we attended, and the new members that joined our ranks along the way.

COLORADO TARTAN DAY FESTIVAL (ROOSEVELT PARK, LONGMONT) APRIL 11-12, 2015

We started our season off with the Colorado Tartan Day Festival in Longmont Colorado, a little festival with a big heart! Colorado is one of 17 States that has a registered State Tartan, and this festival showcases it, while honoring the many other tartans available. After "loafing around" for the winter, we pulled out our gear and set up our tent, ready for a wonderful Spring festival. As a younger man, I had a boss who had seen just about everything, and he always use to say, "you're gonna pay for an education, one way or another." Such was the case, when the Spring mountain

winds kicked up and I watched our Clan tent transform from an educational /social center into a blast zone! In the end, we were forced to drop what was left of our tent, and retreated to the safety of the Clan tents on the other side of the field. Unfortunately, several Clans lost their tents completely, and everyone suffered damage of some kind. Having been lulled into complacency with our mild fall last year, our first course in the School of Hard Knocks, was not only expensive, but memorable.

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YOUR ROCKY MOUNTAIN KENNEDY'S 2015 IN REVIEW (continued)

PIKE'S PEAK CELTIC FESTIVAL (MEMORIAL PARK, COLORADO SPRINGS) JUNE 19-21, 2015

The weekend of June 19 - 21 found the Rocky Mountain Kennedys firmly entrenched at the Pikes Peak Celtic Festival in Colorado Springs. This Festival is a relatively new event having revived in 2013 from the pre-existing (1999) Pikes Peak Highland Games and was held just North of the Olympic Training Center. After watching the wind beat us down and ultimately eliminate our tent from the last festival, we came better prepared with a new tie down system and a

plan to adapt to the ever changing Rocky Mountain Spring weather. As luck would have it, the morning of the 19th broke clear and sunny, as the people started to stream through, and it did not take long before our tent was full, and everything was as it should be. We were fortunate enough to add some new members to the Clan while we were there, and look forward to a time when we can get to know them better.



Justin Kennedy with his new bride and family with Ed and Krissy Kennedy



Deborah Canaday with her beautiful family, Ed and Krissy Kennedy



Dean Brooks with Ed and Krissy Kennedy

COLORADO IRISH FESTIVAL (CLEMENT PARK, LITTLETON) JULY 10-12, 2015

The second weekend in July is the annual Colorado Irish Festival in Littleton Colorado. This festival is marked with good food and great music, priding itself on being all things Irish! I contacted the festival director to see what it would take to host a Clan Tent there, and was informed that they had never had a Clan represented at this festival. Since the Kennedy Society of North America embraces both the Scottish and the Irish Kennedys, I encouraged them to consider adding us to their Cultural Village, as a test run to see how we would be received. In short, the response was amazing! We had 3 days of non-stop visitors pass through our tent, and by the time we shook the last hand on Sunday evening... we had added 12 new members to the Clan! It was so inspiring to have so many "family members" stop by and throw their lot in with us. Needless to say, we made

an impression on the Festival Board members, who extended an invitation to return again next year. We are hopeful that more of the Clans with an Irish connection will step up and join us next year.



Garth Kennedy and his Kennedy tattoo with Ed Kennedy



Sean Miller and his new Bride Krystin with Ed Kennedy



YOUR ROCKY MOUNTAIN KENNEDY'S 2015 IN REVIEW

(continued)



Audrey Smith with Ed and Krissy Kennedy



Ron Kennedy and His beautiful family, with Ed and Krissy Kennedy



Michael Kennedy (existing member) Joe Kennedy (his father) and Denise Kennedy (his sister), with Ed and Krissy Kennedy



Mary O'Conner and her daughter with Ed Kennedy



Brian Cooper with Ed and Krissy Kennedy



Mary Miller with Ed Kennedy



Adam Bickford and Ed Kennedy



William Kennedy with his family and Ed Kennedy



Dawn Neighbors who is not pictured, but a gifted artist and dear friend.



YOUR ROCKY MOUNTAIN KENNEDY'S 2015 IN REVIEW (continued)

ELIZABETH CELTIC FESTIVAL (CASEY JONES PARK, ELIZABETH) JULY 18-19, 2015

The Elizabeth Celtic Festival is a small festival that covers the side of a tree covered hill. It has a strong renaissance feel to it, with many of the guests adorned in period clothing from armored knights to beggars and wenches. The Clans line the path to the concerts, venues and food, so the opportunity to interact with the public was fantastic. This is a very family oriented festival, with more activities for kids than for adults. As part of our plan to interact with the public, we pass out stickers at every festival. We normally have several different kinds to appeal to each kid, but our "little black mustache" stickers were by far the most popular. We gave out close to 300 mustaches at this festival! It was very rewarding to see all of the little mustaches on the kids faces as we marched during the Parade of the Clans. We had the pleasure of signing up a new member and a returning member at this festival. Sue Cole is a member who joined at another festival, but never renewed. In speaking with her, she experienced what so many others have, in that, once the festival was over, so was the activity of the Clan. With only a slight bit of arm twisting, she agreed to give us another try, and I hope that we don't disappoint her. Eleia Nessler visited our tent at the Pikes Peak festival in Colorado Springs. We had so much fun with her that she looked us up at the Elizabeth festival and it was there that she was sponsored by another member. That is what makes all of this relevant. One member, looking out for another. Seeing a need and filling it. It is truly an honor to be a part of this "Family", and we have enjoyed getting to know both of these women and their families.



Eleia Nessler and her daughter, Ed Kennedy and Brian Cooper



Sue Cole and Ed Kennedy

KSNA CHIEF PAUL KEY AND SECRETARY ANN KEY VISIT AND ATTEND CLAN BBQ JULY 31 - AUG 1, 2015

As most of you know, Paul and Ann Key stopped in to visit with us on their way back from their trip out West with the Heelan Hound. If you have not had a chance to see Ann's travelogue, you have really missed out. She puts out a stellar publication every time. We met them in Castle Rock on Friday evening for supper at an old converted church, where we enjoyed an evening of good food, great company, and a host of stories. The next morning we loaded them up in our 4x4 and headed out to show them some of the beautiful

Colorado back country. I'm not sure they are ready to sign up for a 4x4 club, but they both seemed to enjoy it and Paul got some great pictures. We finished the day at a park in Littleton, where we had a Clan BBQ planned. We had about 28 Clan members show up, and it was great to see everyone visiting, laughing, and making connections. Ann and Paul said a few words, and we ended the evening with a hearty "Up the coast" toast at the top of our lungs. It was a high day, and I hope we can do it again soon!



YOUR ROCKY MOUNTAIN KENNEDY'S 2015 IN REVIEW

(continued)

LONGS PEAK SCOTTISH & IRISH HIGHLAND FESTIVAL (FAIRGROUNDS, ESTES PARK) SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2015

Our biggest festival of the year is held in Estes Park, a little tourist trap in the Colorado mountains that once a year becomes a gathering spot for all things Celtic. With 200,000+ people passing through the festival grounds, it is impossible to meet everyone, but a hearty handful of us did our best! We had several Clan members sign up to help, and we owe

a special thanks to all of them. Everyone stepped up and our tent was a hub of laughter and activity. By the end of the weekend, we welcomed 8 new members to our ranks, and made enough memories to carry us through to the next Longs Peak Festival.



Patrick Amelotte with Chieftain Ed Kennedy



Steve Hawkins with Elaine Hessket and Krissy Kennedy



Larry Hofmann with Chieftain Ed Kennedy



Andrew Miller with Krissy Kennedy and Elaine Hessket



Erin Miller with Chieftain Ed Kennedy



Leigh Zavakos with Elaine Hessket



Kat Rocha with Elaine Hessket



Kathryn Zavakos-Rocha with Elaine Hessket





YOUR ROCKY MOUNTAIN KENNEDY'S 2015 IN REVIEW

(continued)

MOAB CELTIC FESTIVAL: SCOTS ON THE ROCKS (SPANISH FORKS ARENA, MOAB UT) NOVEMBER 6-8, 2015

The last festival of the year for us was held in Moab Utah, a little oasis nestled in a valley surrounded by dramatic red rock cliffs, slick rock humps, and towering snow covered mountains. We kicked the festival off at the Friday Night Tattoo, where unbeknown to us, Festival Chief Dan Lamont had coordinated with Deputy Chief Lynn Gran, Past Chief Paul Key and his wife Ann (past secretary). You cannot imagine our surprise when they walked in and sat down behind us! Moab is a long way from everywhere, so it was inconceivable that they could just walk in and sit down behind us! Once I could breathe again, there were hugs and lots of laughter!



Deputy Chief, Lynn Grant, Paul Key, and Chieftain Ed Kennedy

Saturday morning broke early with a heavy frost, and no power in the entire town. Getting everyone to the field and ready to meet the public was a little challenging, but we were able to manage. Leave it to the Celts to adapt and overcome! It was a full weekend with world class judges for championship level pipers, dancers, and athletes. We witnessed a wedding on Clan Row, and were entertained by the Wicked Tinkers and several other performers. Clans and Vendors mingled and visited, solidifying a sense of community and connection. Moab runs on a different pace than what we are accustomed to in Denver, and it was a perfect opportunity to downshift and enjoy the moment. Ann and Paul stayed with us for Saturday, but headed out on adventures early Sunday morning. Thankfully, Deputy Chief Lynn Grant was able to stay with for the whole time, which gave us the opportunity to get to know her better. We had a ton of fun, reconnected with old friends, made new friends, and ended our festival year on a very positive note. If you ever find yourself in Utah in early November..... I will keep an eye out for you!

As this was our second year at the festival, we were able to build off of the relationships that we started the previous year, and signed up 4 new members to the Clan! It is with great pleasure, that I introduce you to our Utah family!



Eric Brewer with Cheyenne Walker, Chieftain Ed Kennedy and Deputy Chief Lynn Grant



Gary Kennedy with Deputy Chief Lynn Grant, Chieftain Ed Kennedy, Paul Key and Ann Key



Cheyenne Walker with Deputy Chief Lynn Grant, Chieftain Ed Kennedy, Paul Key and Krissy Kennedy



Angela Brook and Family with Deputy Chief Lynn Grant, Chieftain Ed Kennedy

That brings us full circle, back to today. I wish we had time to share all of the stories and characters that we have met this year. There is such a wealth of knowledge, history, and good old fashion lore in what we do! This is why it is so important that we remain connected and engaged with the rest of our members. Sure, the festivals are fun, but they are only a couple weekends a year, and then they are gone. What remains, what lingers when the crowds fade away and the festival is over, is family. I would encourage each and every one of you to "connect" with each other and with the Society.

The more engaged you are, the more powerful and energized we become. So reach out to your local members. Create opportunities to interact. Maybe it's a Clan potluck, or a quick shifty at the pub. Maybe it's a volunteer activity where we show the world the power of "family". Start small, or go big, whatever you do, let's do it together!

Until then I remain,
Ed Kennedy
Rocky Mountain Chieftain, Kennedy Society of North America



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

It does not seem too long ago that I wrote the last message to you. I hope this can tell you how busy I have been. I truly feel that we are doing great since the last Gazette. We now have over 30 new members! Please watch for them at the Games and welcome them into our family.

Sandy and I are traveling to Cape Cod Massachusetts for New Years, a 20 year tradition, where we spend time with 40 or so of our friends and celebrate Hogmanay. I will cook up a good Scottish breakfast one of the mornings, decided on by which evening is not spent with the intake of malted barley, shared with friends.

We are getting ready for the 2016 season, kicking it off by attending the Central Florida Games in January. This is when the games shift to the south and we can enjoy the pleasantly warm weather. Please consider joining us along with a host of Kennedys, including Lady Rosemary who is visiting from Europe.

I want to thank Frank and Kona for donating their time and finance for the production of the Order of the Dolphin Award. This has been in the works for many months – my thanks to both for the hard work and to all the Kennedy members that assisted. I also want to thank Amy for putting up with all my phone calls and assisting me to better understand our budget system. David Carrick is also working hard on getting us set up for the 2016 AGM in Charleston, SC in September. Watch for more info coming soon.

Regrettably, Paul Key had to step down as the District Director in North Carolina. He remains the Chief First Class, retired and will be active as time allows.

Sandy and I will be traveling to Savannah GA in March for St Patrick's Day. We hope that we will see and visit with many of you there. It's always a fun time in Savannah!



We now have t-shirts in black or green – see the website for more info and to order. They would make great Christmas gifts for friends and family! In January we will have a 2016, limited edition, challenge coin with the Kennedy Clan Badge on one side and Culzean Castle on the other. Watch the website (merchandise link) for this in January.

Sandy and I wish a Merry Christmas and Happy Hogmanay to all! Be safe and we hope to see you at a game soon.

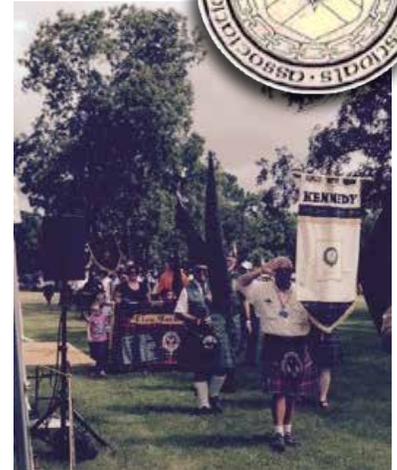
slàinte mhòr,
Leo Kennedy, Chief





44TH CHARLESTON SCOTTISH GAMES AND HIGHLAND GATHERING SEPTEMBER 19, 2015

A contingent of Kennedys (Chris and Sue Kennedy and Dave and Amy Carrick) spearheaded a tent at the 44th Annual Charleston Scottish Games and Highland Gathering in Charleston, SC on September 19, 2015, including attending the sponsors' reception the previous night. Held at Boone Hall Plantation on Mt. Pleasant, the weather was what one would expect at that time of the year – a little humid, sun with a couple of showers. September still has elements of summer in Charleston. Several other Kennedys were also in attendance: Paul and Ann Key, Lynn Grant, Samantha Dodson, Kim Hageman (Samantha's friend), Megan Culzean Carrick, and Nancy Jane Edelman (Amy's mother). Many connections were made in anticipation of next year's AGM in Charleston, and the site is quite nice as it is located beside a tidal marsh and has many live oaks with Spanish moss. Please be sure to read the accompanying article on next year's AGM at the Charleston games, which are sponsored by the Scottish Society of Charleston.



David Carrick leads the Kennedys in the Parade of Tartans

2016 KENNEDY SOCIETY AGM SEPTEMBER 17, 2016 IN CHARLESTON, SC



Historic and scenic Charleston, SC will be the location of the 2016 AGM as the Kennedy Society attends the 45th Charleston Scottish Games and Highland Games on 9/17 at Boone Hall Plantation. Arrangements have been made with the Courtyard Mount Pleasant at 1251 Woodland Avenue at a rate of \$149.00 plus 12.5% tax for a block of 50 rooms from Friday, 9/16 through Sunday night, 9/18. The telephone number to make a reservation is 843-284-0900 and you

will need to indicate that you are with the Kennedy Society. The link for the Courtyard is <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/chscm-courtyard-charleston-mt-pleasant/>, but it will only allow for Friday-Sunday bookings. Longer stays will require a phone call and the rooms rates will be held until Friday, 8/19, 2016. Other information, such as tickets, patrons' packages, dinner, etc, will be forthcoming. Charleston offers a unique blend of beach, culinary, tourist, cultural, and historic options for everyone – especially families. Plan to attend!



Boone Hall Plantation





40TH NEW HAMPSHIRE HIGHLAND GAMES & FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 19-20, 2015



The wild and mighty Kennedys descended on the New Hampshire Highland Games and Festival (www.nhscot.org) on September 19, 2015. The weather was beautiful, if a bit unseasonably warm for mid-September in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Staffing the Kennedy Society tent for the 24th year was Northeast Chieftain Nina Eppes, with aid from newly-elected KSNA President/Chief Leo Kennedy as well as Nina's family members



L-R: Sean Tynan (Nina's nephew), Ian Richardson (Nina's nephew), Joan Kennedy (Nina's mother), Geneva nì Seobhàn (Nina's sister), Leo Kennedy, Sandy Kennedy, Erin Davis (Nina's niece), Ellie Davis (Nina's niece), Jackie Davis (Nina's sister), Nina Eppes. Sadly absent: Rick Davis, Jackie's husband of 31 years, who passed away on September 7, 2015 after losing a nearly 11-months-long battle with brain cancer.

Because of the lovely weather and the Games' 40-year milestone, overall attendance was high and traffic at the clan tents was steady. Thanks primarily to Leo's salesmanship, we signed up two new members! We also took in three renewals, and several other people indicated interest in the KSNA, although they couldn't quite be convinced to sign up on the spot. The new members are Ciaban (pronounced "kyvan") Kennedy of Dover, NH and Darcy Kennedy of Waltham, MA.



New member Ciaban Kennedy and Leo Kennedy

After some overnight rain (thankfully, very late, so it did not disrupt any activities), the weather on Sunday, September 20, was cool and breezy, with occasional strong gusts of wind that caused some havoc with paper materials and lighter-weight tents. The morning clouds gave way to sun, and the temperature warmed up but didn't get TOO warm. It ended up being



Leo Kennedy with new member Darcy Kennedy and her companion

a gorgeous, early fall-like day. However, tent traffic was much lighter, and only a couple of people signed in. All in all, though, it was a very successful weekend for the Kennedy Society of North America!

– Nina Eppes

SCOTLAND CONNECTICUT HIGHLAND GAMES OCTOBER 11, 2015

Leo Kennedy awards Josh Cummings the first Chief Challenge coin. Josh competed in the athletics at the Scotland CT games, Oct 11, 2015. This was his first time competing and he did very well. Many family members attended to support him. In the photo (l to r) Leo, Josh, Kathy Kennedy Martin, David Martin. His grandfather is Tom Kennedy from Nebraska.





FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Richard Hall Davis (11/10/1950 – 09/07/2015)

Richard (Rick) Hall Davis, 64, died on Sept. 7, 2015 at his home in Temple, NH, surrounded by his loving family, after a year-long battle with glioblastoma (brain cancer).

He was born on November 10, 1950, in Omaha, NE, to Hartwell and Nancy (Richards) Davis. Raised in White Plains, NY and Reston, VA, he graduated from White Plains High School in 1970, and in 1974 he earned dual BA degrees in Psychology and Philosophy from Allegheny College. He then attended Ringling Brothers Clown College and began a career as a circus clown with Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus where he worked for 4 seasons.



Following a contract with Circus Odyssey in Puerto Rico, Rick became inspired to travel to developing countries to give free clown performances to any organization willing to feed and house him. His “search for the comic denominator,” which was supported by the Peace Corps and by Project Troubador, took him to villages, orphanages, and refugee camps in 15 countries including Brazil, Honduras, Costa Rica, Sierra Leone, the Gambia, St. Vincent, the Dominican Republic, and China. A veteran entertainer, he also performed at the 1982 World’s Fair, Radio City Music Hall, the White House, Walt Disney’s EPCOT Center, and First Nights across New England. He has appeared in numerous operas (notably Gilbert and Sullivan) with Raylynmor Opera. Rick (also known as the Professor of Totally Useless Skills) taught an abundance of fun tricks and stunts that were the subjects of two books, *Totally Useless Skills* and *Totally Useless Office Skills*.

Teaching circus arts to youth was Rick’s cause and passion. He felt one of the most important things he did with his life was to help found the American Youth Circus Organization (AYCO) which is dedicated to teaching circus arts to young people. He and his wife Jackie also founded CircusLearning LLC, a southern NH organization offering youth-centered circus arts through its programs, Silver Lining Circus Camp and Flying Gravity Circus. Rick was also passionate about his work with Circus Smirkus, Vermont’s award-winning youth circus company. For 12 years Rick was a Smirkus Artist-in-Residence who spent the academic year traveling to elementary schools throughout New England, teaching circus skills and producing student circus performances.

He enjoyed playing Celtic harp and competed annually at the New Hampshire Scottish Highland Games. He loved reading, cooking, canoeing, and being a devoted husband and dad. He was a long-time member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Milford and the Souhegan Lions Club.

Rick is survived by his wife of 31 years, Jacqueline Leigh (Eppes) Davis; and his daughters, Erin Evelyn Davis of Ipswich, MA, Ellen Margaret Davis of Temple, NH, and Raya Golden Alexander Davis of Santa Fe, NM. He is also survived by his mother, Nancy R. Davis of Reston, VA; siblings William Hartwell Davis of Reston, VA, Margaret Lynn Davis of Middlebrook, VA, Roger Langdon Davis of Gloucester, MA, James Palmer Davis of Christ Church, New Zealand, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.



GREETINGS FROM THE DEPUTY CHIEF GREETINGS FROM NC TO ALL



Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving The Kennedy Society as your Deputy Chief. As we are entering the Holiday Season time of the year I wanted to share some Scottish Christmas History with you.

For almost 400 hundred years Christmas was banned in Scotland and there were penalties for celebrating!! Christmas was thought to be a Roman Catholic holiday and since Scotland was considered a Protestant country at that time it was not acceptable. This ban was not lifted until the 1950's and did not become a national holiday until 1958!! Can you imagine not being allowed all the things we associate with Christmas being illegal?

No wonder Hogmanay became such a huge celebration! Even Santa visited on New Year's Day instead of Christmas Eve. Once the ban was lifted then Santa moved back to Christmas Eve too in Scotland. Scottish traditions have been influenced from other countries such as the US and England. So now you see trees, decorations, gifts, and Christmas dinners all over Scotland. They even start showing Christmas decorations early just like here.

One Scottish tradition did remain constant -- keep the fire going all night in the fireplace, to keep the sprites from entering the house thru the chimney!! It was an old pagan tradition to keep all in the house safe.

What is Christmas without fruit cake? The Scottish type is the Selkirk Bannock. Wonder if they re-gift it like we do our fruit cakes here?

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all!!

Mary Lynn Grant
Deputy Chief of KSNA



MCPHERSON SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES

After a rainy Friday night the weather Saturday and Sunday was great Quiet days with lots of kids passports stamped and questions answered. I had a Memorial table set up for Lord Charles including my autographed Stella glass.

Randy was able to come after work on Friday night in time to participate in the torch ceremony and the clan potluck.



Elaine Heskett with son,
Randy Peterson



Elaine Heskett, Tent Convener



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SERVICE DO GOOD VOLUNTEER

Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth."

-- Muhammad Ali

What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good.

-- Aristotle

Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud

-- Helen Dyer

You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give.

-- Winston Churchill

Our Kennedy Society means many different things to each of us. For some of us we read our Gazette and remember "days gone by" when we were active in a clan tent or marching in the Parade of Tartans. Some of us are "brand new" members and are still feeling our way as we learn how to wear our kilts and sashes. However most of us are re-newing our membership year after year, enjoying our local Scottish games and take pleasure in renewing friendships in the clan tent or at the Kennedy Society Annual Meeting.

What if all this good fun and fellowship came to a halt? What if the Gazette wasn't delivered to your email or mailbox? What if there was no Kennedy tent to visit at your local Games? What if your list of treasured friends did not include any Kennedys? Where could you celebrate your heritage and have so much fun at the same time? Would you miss all this? Well I certainly would and I hope you would too!

How do we keep our Society alive and well? Well with VOLUNTEERS of course! Now I know a lot of you volunteer – at hospitals, at schools, local community Boards, even at fire departments, etc. We are all busy, but without individuals volunteering their time and talents where would our country be? Where would you be? So as I guess you have figured out by now – the Kennedy Society NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH CLAN TENTS

Do you attend games in Charlotte, at Loon Mountain? Sarasota? Estes Park? Pleasanton? Most of these clan tents are set up and run by one couple, two people, or even one person. Could you be the individual who says "yes" I will come and help you in the tent! I will bring refreshments, I will sit at the registration table, while you get a break (someone will teach you how to do this) I will help you take down the tent. Call and volunteer today!

Regional Chieftains and District Directors: these individuals provide their leadership to the tent conveners and foster the growth of new Kennedy tents at games throughout the country.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH OUR COMMITTEES

Membership Committee: Do you receive dues notices every year? A volunteer mails those out.

Newsletter Committee: Do you read your Gazette? A volunteer puts our newsletter together.

Scholarship Committee: Has someone in your area received a Kennedy scholarship? A volunteer distributes applications.

Genealogy Committee: Do you have questions about your heritage? A volunteer may be able to help you answer those.

OTHER VOLUNTEERS IN THE SOCIETY

The Society has a President/Chief, Vice President/Deputy Chief, Treasurer, and Secretary. These individuals, elected at our Annual Meeting, are all volunteers. Thank goodness that Leo, Lynn, Amy and Frank are there to make decisions, give the Society direction, and be good stewards of our money.

I know you enjoy your time in the Kennedy Society, as I do. Why not add your time and talents to this great organization as a volunteer? We all benefit from each other's support. Call or email Lynn Grant, Deputy Chief, about volunteering. Lynn's email is: mylyn919@yahoo.com, and her phone number is: 704-546-2589. She would love to hear from you, and she will make sure the right person gets in touch with you.



CHRISTMAS COLORING PAGE
WRITE YOUR NAME ON SANTA'S LIST!



Color pages created by: Joanne Englehardt



STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES OCTOBER 16-18, 2015



As it says in the Stone Mountain brochure, “the Stone Mountain volunteers, clan members, entertainers, etc., bring their version of Brigadoon to life for a weekend every October”.

Of course the Kennedy Society did its part to contribute to the “Brigadoon” illusion. We had lots of members in the tent including the Carricks from Greenville S.C, the Brussards from Englewood FL, the Nunleys from Hoschton GA., the Keys from Misenheimer NC, the Lamondes from Cumming GA., Bobby and Karyl Harwell from Snellville GA, the Huffs from Hiram GA., David Fulford (Kennedy athlete) from Fairhope AL., Gwenn and Susan Kennedy – Swampfires Pottery - from Jupiter FL., the Phelps from Hinesville GA, the Scott King family from Woodstock, GA, and the Brenda Johnson family from Conyers, GA. Joining us as new members were Sarah Wise from Austell GA and Karen Kennedy Miller from Columbus GA.

On Sunday we were treated to a short visit from the Atholl Highlanders Pipes and Drums of Stone Mountain Georgia. What a treat to listen to a Scottish tune on a beautiful sunny Fall day midst the pageantry of the Stone Mountain games!

Chris and Sue Kennedy, Bruce and Connie Nunley
Tent Conveners



The Atholl Highlanders seranade the Kennedys



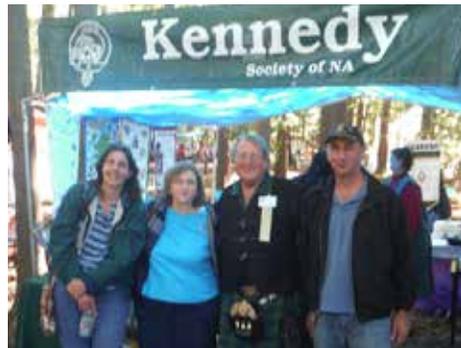
The Huffs from Georgia and the Brussards from Florida pose for a picture on Sunday



David Fulford from Alabama



New member Sarah Wise with her family and conveners Bruce and Connie Nunley



New member Karen Kennedy Miller and her family with Chris Kennedy



The Carricks from S. Carolina



OUR TOUR OF CULZEAN

This summer, my husband Dale and I, had the fortune of spending two fabulous weeks traveling throughout Scotland with my parents, Tom and Margaret Kennedy. Though this was not our first journey back, it was certainly the most memorable one to date! Two of our trip highlights include, hosting a successful gathering of the clans in Loch Lomond, which included meeting our newly discovered relatives that I had located via Ancestry.com, and second... We took our first tour of Culzean Castle & Country Park, former home of the Marquess of Ailsa, Chief of the Clan Kennedy!

Culzean Castle and its sprawling 560 acre estate, were given to the National Trust for Scotland in 1945 by the Kennedy family. The Castle, Robert Adam's final masterpiece, was built between 1777 and 1793. As depicted in the medieval painting which I photographed from within the castle, this spectacular cliff-top castle is located near Maybole, Carrick on the Ayrshire coast, (Burns Country) and is only 17 miles from Ailsa Craig, the southernmost Scottish island. The weather was simply gorgeous, affording us clear views across the Firth of Clyde to the Isle of Arran, the Mull of Kintyre and the coast of Northern Ireland in the near distance. For any KSNA members who are planning to visit, I recommend that the former "home farm" is a good place to start your day, with an introductory film and exhibition. While browsing through the shops, be sure and pick up a guidebook on Culzean, or, you can download the multimedia app from iTunes, which will bring the rooms inside of the castle to life! We chose to take a self-guided tour, allowing us to enjoy all of the beautiful collections of antique furnishings and armory, and several of the family portraits that are on display, at our own pace. However, guided tours of the castle and sea caves can also be booked daily from March through November. Overnight accommodations are also available at Culzean, including the famous Presidential Suite, which was the holiday home of Eisenhower and



his family from 1945 until his death in 1969. Culzean is also the perfect venue for a fairytale wedding, which I can personally vouch for, after seeing one set up on the castle grounds.

After you tour the castle, make sure to stop in the Clocktower Courtyard Cafe for afternoon tea and a fresh scone, and/or purchase a packed lunch to take with you, and enjoy a picnic in the park! Culzean has miles of paths to explore through mixed and historic woodland, as well as having a gorgeous three-mile long scenic coastline, where you can seek out the park's hidden treasures such as the ice houses, the Camellia House, the pagoda or the caves, or just watch for porpoises and seabirds. With five glorious gardens to explore, an enclosed deer park, a 13-acre swan pond, and a new children's adventure play park and cafe (serving ice cream to die for!) you'll want to wear comfortable shoes and explore the entire estate! The park opens at 9:30 and closes at sunset. Most paths are stroller/wheelchair accessible, and the park is also dog friendly!

Lorraine Van Fossan, KSNA member from Dunedin Florida

The Gazette would like to feature our Irish members as well as our Scots.

Please send in any historical, cultural, or contemporary articles that you think would be of interest to our members. Email to Sue: kenn6633@bellsouth.net





GAELIC HOLIDAY GREETINGS



For those Kennedys who are Irish and those who wish they were, here is a wee sample of Gaelic Christmas tidbits:

Looking for a warm and heartfelt Irish blessing for Christmas, try this Irish old Christmas Blessing;

“The light of the Christmas star to you,
The warmth of home and hearth to you,
The cheer and good will of friends to you,
The hope of a childlike heart to you,
The joy of a thousand angels to you,
The love of the Son and God’s peace to you.”

Another Irish toast would be:

“Nollaig faoi shéan is faoi shonas duit.” It means “A prosperous and happy Christmas to you.”

How to Say Merry Christmas in Gaelic to an individual:

Nollaig Shona Duit - Pronounced (NO-ligh HO-nuh ghwich)

(Always with emphasis on the capital letters)

Merry Christmas to a group:

Nollaig Shona Daoibh – Pronounced (NO-ligh HO-nuh JEEV)

Happy New Year – to an individual

Athbhliainfaoi Mhaise Duit – Pronounced (AH-vlee-ihn fwee WAH-shuh wich)

Happy New Year To A Group

Athbhliainfaoi Mhaise Daoibh – Pronounced (AH-vlee-ihn fwee WAH-shuh HEEV)

The common response to all of the above -is:

“The same to you”

“Go mba hé duit” – Pronounced (Guh may hay wich)

And the #1 reason to work on that Irish brogue...

A survey of 5,000 women from around the world confirms that Irishmen have the sexiest accent, beating out Italians and Scots for the top spot!!!! *njb 12/1/15*



CENTRAL VIRGINIA CELTIC FESTIVAL AND HIGHLAND GAMES OCTOBER 24-25, 2015

The proud and mighty Kennedys marched on Richmond, VA for the Central Virginia Celtic Festival and Highland Games on October 24 and 25. Bill and Terry Kennedy, with help from Paul and Ann Key, set up the Kennedy tent on that Friday. The newly acquired tartan flags flew proudly over the Kennedy tent. The weather turned out to be sunny and warm with clear blue skies which helped out with a great turn out from the visitors. Saturday we had 11 visitors with two new members being signed up, welcome Michael R. Bullis and Randall B. Flynn. Also manning the tent was Wendy and David Schoffstall, Bob and Claudette Davis and we can't forget our favorite Scot, Isabel Carter. Throughout the days we had visitors and visited other clans, we watched the highland games, and shopped with vendors, the Heelin Hound being one of our favorites. Sunday morning brought us a little bit of Scottish weather with rain, wind and very chilly. Bill Kennedy represented the Society at the Kirkin' of the Tartans and The Flowers of the Forrest at which Bill placed Lord Charles' name on the rolls. Throughout the day the tent saw visitors. All in all the weekend was a success with two new members, Michael Bullis and Randall Flynn, We sold t-shirts and bottle opener/ key chains. The best part of the festival was the fact a group of Kennedys gathered and enjoyed themselves solidifying friendships and making memories.



Bob Davis proudly leads the Kennedys in the Parade



Richmond Scottish Festival with conveners Bill and Terry Kennedy



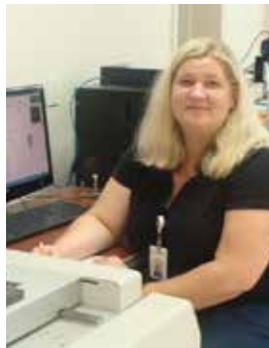


SAMANTHA DODSON FROM HENDERSONVILLE NC IS AWARDED HER MASTER'S DEGREE!

I joined the KSNA in 2005 and since then I have tried to be active within the society whenever I could yearly attending as many games as possible. A lot of things have changed since 2005, I chose to pursue a higher level of education in July of 2013 for multiple reasons, but mostly a love of learning and loving a challenge. Having already obtained two Associate of Science degrees (Computer Engineering Technology and Electronics Engineering Technology) and a Bachelor of Science degree (Engineering Technology), it was time to go to the next level. I began studying at Western Carolina University in August of 2013 pursuing a Master's degree in Technology specializing in engineering with a focus on Quality. In short I was studying to become a Quality engineer while working at

Kyocera Industrial Ceramics Corp. as an engineer working on R&D for aerospace products. I completed my degree August 3rd 2015 with a 3.9 GPA. The formal graduation ceremony will be December 12th 2015 and in the last year my position with in my company has shifted in many ways. I am now the lead quality assurance engineer for the company

working with a vast array of product lines including many that I helped to develop in my 3 years at Kyocera Industrial Ceramics. Having reached the peak of this mountain I'm sure I'll soon be looking for another challenge. Thank you all for your loving support through the last few years, it's been much needed and appreciated! Avise La Fin!!



SCHOLARSHIPS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2016

The Kennedy Society awards annual scholarships to students of Celtic arts such as dance, pipes, drums, harp, fiddle, and language arts.

The deadline for scholarships is April 1, 2016.

To apply, fill out the scholarship application which can be found on the Kennedy Society website at: kennedysociety.org OR request an application from: Sue Kennedy at the address below. **The applicant must be recommended by a Kennedy Society member.**

Send the application to the Scholarship Committee in care of:
Mrs. Sue Kennedy
6415 Barberry Hill Drive
Gainesville, GA 30506
Email: kenn6633@bellsouth.net

Please feel free to contact Sue with any other questions.





HONOR GUARD WAS PERFECT IN THEIR EXECUTION

Great Job Team!!!

You all represent the traditions of the Fire Service and our Department so very well. The young cadets were most inspired by your professionalism and by your actions, and want to work for an organization like ours. It's because of what you all do and how you represent, other, even larger departments that were in attendance, look with envy and know that we are the best around and can draw and select from the very best out there.

Thanks again and keep up the great work.

Stay Safe
Mike Woodward, Chief

I wanted to let the Society know that the Honor Guard once again presented the Colors for the Eastern Florida State College Fire Academy graduation ceremony yesterday at 1700 hrs.

This was the unit's second service to the College for their graduating class and I do not doubt it will not be our last.

I can say without a moment's hesitation that last night went flawlessly...The Unit was perfect in their execution of their drill movements...Best ever and very inspiring.

Color Unit:

Color Guard Holbrook and Hammond
Sgt Harris (National Colors)
Guardsmen Crocker (Fire Department Flag Bearer)

Guardsmen:

Hersey, Johnson, Vaknin and Harper

Command Staff:

Capt. Canada,

Platoon Guide:

Callahan

Frank Canada

– Kennedy Society Member
Logistics Coordinator/FF/EMT/ILO
Titusville Fire & Emergency Services



WHERE WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE WILL BE A KENNEDY TENT JANUARY - APRIL, 2016

Jan 16/17 Central Florida, Winter Springs, Lady Rosemary will attend, We are **HONORED CLAN**

Jan 30 Sarasota, Sarasota, FL

Feb 27 Northeast Florida, Green Cove Springs, FL

April 2 Dunedin, Dunedin, FL, 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Apr 16/17 Loch Norman, Huntersville, NC.



The
Kennedy Gazette
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 38 ISSUE 4

DEADLINE FOR SPRING ISSUE:
MARCH 18

Please submit copy and pictures for the spring issue no later than March 18th.
Submittals, comments and questions may be sent to:

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