

ALMA HIGHLAND FESTIVAL AND GAMES 2018 AGM FOR THE KENNEDY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, MAY 26-27, 2018

The 2018 Kennedy Society of North America AGM was held for the first time at the Alma Highland Festival and Games in Alma, Michigan. This is the second time that we have had a Kennedy tent at Alma. The first time was in 2016, but in 2017 our son was still a small baby so we were unable to host that year. But it was with great pleasure that we were asked to host this year's AGM. The double sized Kennedy tent was bustling with activity. We had Kennedy's from all over the country come to attend the AGM. It was an unseasonably hot weekend in Michigan, but we persevered with lots of water to keep us hydrated.

We had three new members join the Kennedy Society at this year's AGM and two new lifetime memberships! Our new members are John R Kennedy of Hilton Beach, Ontario, Stuart Kennedy of Clinton Township, Michigan and Cynthia Schultz of Rothbury, Michigan. Our new Lifetime members are Marcus Englehardt and Sue Freshley. Everyone marched in the Parade of Tartans including our son Robin who is now 20 months old and has a Kennedy kilt of his own.

Welcome to all our new members!

Saturday night we had a wonderful dinner at The Brass Cafe in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. Awards were given out after the dinner, including the induction of Lynn Grant and Sue Kennedy into the Order of the Dolphin. A good time was had by all. I'm sorry to say that Leo did not receive the sword he was hoping for at Alma this year, but maybe next year!

Submitted By Nathan Bishop



AGM 2018 Group Photo



Lynn, John R. and Leo



Robin in his own kilt



Leo marching in parade



Nathan, Leo and Stuart



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Our AGM in Alma Michigan went very well. The attendance was not what we had hoped but there were Kennedys there! Nathan and Heather Bishop did a great job in the slightly warmer than normal weather. We were on the campus of the Alma College and the events were spread out across the campus. The staging areas for the several pipe bands were very close to us, so it was common to hear warm ups and practices before the competitions. We had many visitors to our tent and added to our membership numbers, including two more lifetime members – thank you Joanne Engelhardt and Sue Freshley! Next year our AGM will return to the east coast in Charlotte NC with Lynn Grant as our host.

I have been traveling to some of the Kennedy tents at various games and have been meeting some great people. The weather, excepting Myrtle Beach in March when it was in the mid 40's with 20 MPH winds, has been great. Old Orchard Beach Maine was held on the first weekend in June and was very nice, warm and sunny. It is a small games with many very nice people and possibly two new members. I will be home for the RI Games this weekend with only a 45 minute drive to get there and the weather forecast is looking good.

I have been able to get one of my motorcycles out for rides lately and enjoy the good weather. The trips are only an hour or two and usually for lunch or dinner at a nice place

on the coast. I am even getting to play golf once in a while; a small tournament this week will let me enjoy more nice weather. I am hoping to get to the AGM a day early next year and play golf there. If you are going to attend and you play, let me know in advance and we may be able to set up a few foursomes to play together.



Visit our website for updated Kennedy info. On the Merchandise page we now have Kennedy shot glasses for sale. Bill Kennedy was responsible in having the glasses produced for us and they look good! Pick them up online today. The 2018 challenge coins are selling as well – these are limited so get yours soon.

Please visit and support the Kennedy tents at the following games: we will be at Amador CA on June 10-11 ; Pikes Peak CO on June 15-17; Grandfather Mountain July 12-15; Littleton CO July 13-15; Edgewater CO Aug 4-5; Quechee VT Aug 25; Pleasanton CA Sept 1-2; The Plains VA Sept 1-2; New Hampshire Games (Loon MT) Sept 21-23 and Ligonier Games, PA Sept 23.

My very best to all of you!

Leo Kennedy

A MESSAGE FROM LORD AILSA



While preparing for this edition of the Gazette, Lord Ailsa asked that I pass on his and Lady Ailsa's well wishes to their kinsmen here in the states. We will look forward to hearing from Lord and Lady Ailsa in the next edition!



SMOKEY MOUNTAIN SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND GAMES MAY 19-20, 2018

May 19th and 20th were the dates of the 2018 Smokey Mountain Scottish Festival and Games. The Maryville college campus in Maryville Tennessee was the site again this year. Maryville College, which celebrates its bicentennial, next year (1819-2019), is a liberal arts college of around 1100 students founded by Scotch-Irish Presbyterians in the view of the Great Smoky Mountains. Our sports teams are the Fighting Scots!

This year the organizers of the games brought back a feature from past games - a "passport" for children to take to the various clan tents to have it stamped (with each clan's stamp) and to learn a little bit of each clan's history. This increased our tent traffic considerably over last year and we had to buy more Lolli-pops for Sunday.

Old friends were welcomed back and new friends were introduced and welcomed. David and Amy Carrick from South Carolina, Paul and Ann Key (Former Chief and First Lady) from North Carolina, plus the following from Tennessee: Brian Kennedy, Nomon Kennedy and friend, our kids Geoffrey and Patricia Kennedy with their dog Porter, Bob Moore, new member Mary Taylor, Jessica Tallent, James L. Kennedy, Rob and Arielle Kennedy, Jennifer Shisko, Daniel Crosby and yours truly Karen and Rob Kennedy with our own wheaten Scottie, Riley.

The games competitions were great entertainment, joyful and exuberant. We did miss the sheep dog demonstrations, as the man who handled this was unable to come at the last minute. Good food, good weather in the 80s, with only a couple of brief showers all weekend. We did sell several challenge coins, but no tee shirts and gained one new member and several prospects. Attendance was among the largest, and yes Riley got his "haggis fix!"

Rob & Karen Kennedy
Tent conveners



David Carrick, Brian Kennedy,
Robert Kennedy and Riley



Geoffry, Karen, Patricia, Robert, Brian, Amy,
David, Porter and Riley



New Member Mary Taylor
with Noman and Amy



Geoffrey and Patricia with Porter



Karen stamping passports



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A MEMBER... FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

What does it mean to be a member of the Kennedy Society of North America?

The answer to that question has changed for me over the years. When I first joined at the Kennedy tent at a local event, I was lured by the idea of supporting Scottish customs and connecting with history. For many years I read the newsletters and paid my dues. And then one year the time was right to join one of the Kennedy-sponsored trips to Scotland. I made connections with a lot of Kennedys on that trip. Some of the Kennedys were from different countries. Some were members of the KSNA and some were not. We were all connected through our name, our genealogical searches, and our love of history. But we became connected through our shared experiences on that trip.

More recently I became the membership chair of the KSNA because of that trip. I have become connected with members in other ways. I am learning that one member is the daughter/son/grandchild of another member. Or that a member that I know from one state moved to another state. Our members have a lot of stories that I connect to in my membership role.

Last year I made another connection. A member, whom I will never meet, left an archive of Kennedy Gazettes to his son. Through him I got a cartoon that I remembered from an old newsletter. That member was Charles Carrick who visited the same event and clan tent where I first joined! Thank you to David Carrick for the cartoon. I hope you all enjoy it as much as I did the first time.

We are now in the middle of the 2018 membership dues season. If you didn't already receive an email reminder, you will get the postal mail reminder very soon. So, send in your dues, attend some Kennedy events, and make those connections.

Yours,
Colleen



FLOWERS OF THE FOREST DAVID W. SCHOFFSTALL

SEPTEMBER 19, 1949 – MARCH 4, 2018

David W. Schoffstall, 68, of Henrico, passed away on Sunday, March 4, 2018. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Sara Schoffstall; and siblings, John Schoffstall Jr. and Jeanie Seabert. David was a computer technician for over 40 years and drove school buses with Henrico County Public Schools for 10 years. He was a longtime member of Poplar Springs Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon. Left to cherish his memory are his loving wife of 48 years, Wendy Schoffstall; children, Heather (Jamie), Belle and Jennifer (Chuck); 11 grandchildren; and beloved mother-in-law, Isabell Carter. Memorial donations may be made to Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) at Poplar Springs Baptist Church.





GREENVILLE SCOTTISH GAMES GALLABRAE 2018

Although it rained all Friday night, it stopped early Saturday morning and allowed for a decent day for the Greenville games at Furman on the Saturday before Memorial Day. The Friday evening parade was once again a success as the Palmetto Curling Club marched with David and Irene Phelps and Dave and Amy Carrick.

There were a number of visitors to the tent the next day as members Teresa Slack, Samantha Dodson (and Nick), Karen Kennedy, Chris Robinson, and Brian Kennedy (from Moore, SC) all spent time in the tent (as did the Carricks as conveners and the Phelps). The games once again featured a military salute, this time focusing on WWI and Camp Sevier which was here in the Upstate and was a major training site for those going to France. There were approximately 40 clans and societies in attendance as well as about 15 pipe bands from around the southeast. Many thanks to those who attended!

Submitted by: Dave Carrick



The Kennedy Society of North America would like to welcome our new Chaplain, Tom Kennedy. He's prepared a short message for us and we look forward to many more.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Please join me in a prayer of support for the following Clan family members as they have dealt with a recent loss or illness:

While no one can predict the future good or bad, we are however able to place our trust in our Lord and Savior and pray for comfort, strength and guidance. We also have the comfort and prayers from family and friends. We are spread across the country and difficult to stay current on health of family/clan members however we can all pray for them.

PRAYER:

GOD, with your great love bring comfort and peace to our families, listen to our prayers, lift their spirits and comfort them in sadness. We pray in the name of our Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen

Dave and Amy Carrick
Greer, SC
Loss of their Father and Uncle

Marcus and Joanne Engelhardt
Des Moines, IA
Loss of their son

Karen Kennedy
Asheville, NC
Loss of her father

Chief Clan Kennedy USA
Leo Kennedy
Health issues with his 85 year old mother



LOCH NORMAN HIGHLAND GAMES APRIL 20-22, 2018

The Loch Norman Highland Games at Rural Hill in Huntersville, NC, got underway Friday April 20th with Clans and Vendors setting up their tents and wares. It was a little windy but beautiful and in the upper 60's which was a big improvement for some of us from VA and RI.

The Reception introduced the Honored Clan and the Distinguished Clan, the Lord Lyon King of Arms, and other distinguished guests. The meal was Shepherd's Pie and salad, which was delicious!! Due to traffic problems all around the Charlotte area which we found out later was due to the Vice President of the USA visiting the area, some did not make it to the reception. But all made it to the Calling. Curtis Burrow did our Clan calling again. We appreciate him doing this for us each year.

Saturday morning started out breezy but sunny and got much warmer as the day progressed -- up into the low 80's!! Some took home proof they were present!! The women's athletics started out in front of our tent; it is always impressive to watch these young ladies throw and toss. Amanda Ford is one we have been getting to know here and at Saltwater Games.

The Kennedy Tent slowly filled as Kennedy's came in from NC, SC, GA, VA, and of course RI. We welcome our new members: Jonathan & Rose Kennedy and family from Pink Hill, NC; Kathleen Kennedy Hall from Morristown, NJ (Tom's sister that he brought to the tent); and John F. "Rick" and Sarah Shireman from Bowling Green, KY. We welcome them all and hope they will find their way to other Kennedy Tents around the US!!

One of the Scholarships was presented to Nina Schnee of the Queen City Juvenile Pipes & Drums. Nina is a delightful 8 year old that plays Tenor Drum. Her family boasts pipers and drummers of all ages. Even her mother, Courtney is a piper. Thank you to Andrea Jones for the dedication she gives to these young people to encourage them to continue piping and drumming!!



AGM 2018 Group Photo

Saturday night we all gathered at the Hickory Tavern as usual and were well taken care of by the Manager Tammy. She even sent people out to the Kennedy tent to say hello. We had 21 present for fellowship and food!!

Leo Kennedy, our Chief, presented Ailsa Craig awards to Sean Carrick and Samantha Dodson. Sunday an Ailsa Craig was presented to Paul Key. Congratulations to all three of you!!



Congratulations Sean!



Samantha!



and Paul!



Leo with Rose & Ed Kennedy



Kathleen Kennedy with Leo and Lynn



Rick and Sarah Shireman with Lynn, Paul, and Chris

continued ▶



LOCH NORMAN HIGHLAND GAMES (continued)

Sunday had a slower start but the weather stayed beautiful until the end when the clouds came in but no rain until that night.

Thank you to all who came and made this year's Loch Norman a memorable event!! We hope to see you next year when it will be a week earlier April 12-14, 2019, due to Easter being late next year.

Mary Lynn Grant and Curtis Burrow, Tent Conveners



LOCH NORMAN COMPETITIONS

The athletics competitions were lively and entertaining as always, and Loch Norman includes more than just the standard athletics with competitions in archery and axe throwing, plus opportunities for the spectators to give it a try on their own, for a fee of course. The Kennedy's had one of their very own enter into the archery competition for long bow and won first place. Congratulations Sherry Short!



SAVANNAH SCOTTISH GAMES MAY 5, 2018

The sun was shining on the 42nd Annual Savannah Scottish Games at Bethesda Academy on May 5th.

Attending the Games were: Michael Phelps, David & Alyse Utz, Susan Curry Brun, Kathryn Kennedy, Rusty Kennedy, The McChesney Family, Dal, Robin and Ben Cannady. We also got one new - member Amanda & John McBride and family.

We had a great time with The Parade of Clans. We had the McBride Children

(our Grandchildren) along with our Son carrying various banners and flags. They had a blast. Cameron McBride ran in the Children's Kilted Run and was happy with his medal and ribbon.

Overall it was a great success. We are getting more and more people asking about the Kennedys and are requesting ways to look into their family history. We are hopeful that many of these people will join in the future.

Irene & David Phelps





THE DISPERSAL OF THE IRISH KENNEDYS

Many people around the world who bear the name Kennedy are descended from the Irish Kennedys. Their ancestors can be traced to every county in the Republic of Ireland and eventually back to North Tipperary.

Prior to the dispossession of the Irish Kennedys of their ancient territory in the mid 1600s, a few of their number moved to nearby areas where they established themselves in various occupations. After the dispossessions the trickle became a flood and, over the next two centuries they became established in every county that is now part of the Irish Republic.

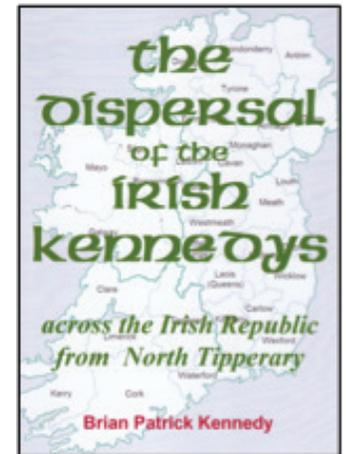
The dispersal of the Irish Kennedys across the Irish Republic over a long

period of time was an unorganised and organic type of process. It has resulted in the development of a mighty family tree that has many branches that will continue to grow.

My next book "The Dispersal of the Irish Kennedys - across the Irish Republic from North Tipperary" has now been received from the printers. This has been a fascinating research project. When I set out to write the book I was not to know how many Kennedys I would find, where they were and how they may have reached there. A dispersal is a scattering and it was incredible to be able to track down how Irish Kennedys scattered into every one of the 26 counties of the Republic of Ireland. I

was able to pinpoint their locations and to map how they may have got there.

Among other methods of travel, I have written about my conclusions that Irish Kennedys reached some areas by sea along the west and south coast in currachs or other small sailing vessels. Some first names are to be found in every county. Among the names are 628 Johns, 556 Patricks, 398 James', 333 Michaels, 327 Thomas' and 199 Williams. Do not despair, I also relate how I was able to find my great great grandfather Patrick Kennedy among the 556 of the name. You will also find where not to look. You will be lucky to find any Edwards in Cavan or Martins in Meath or Michaels in Louth.

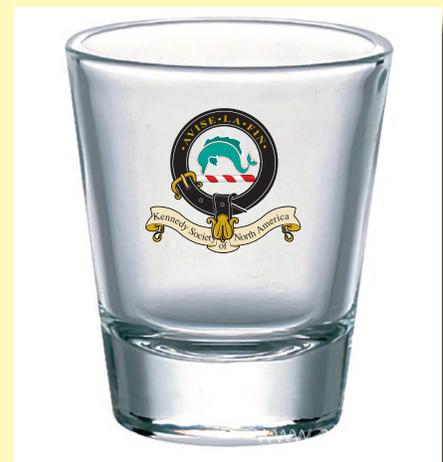


The book will be launched at the Irish Kennedy Clan Gathering at Chief Rody Kennedys at Rearcross, Tipperary, Ireland on Sunday 8th July. It is otherwise available at <https://theirishkennedys.weebly.com/>

Brian Patrick Kennedy

KSNA ITEMS FOR SALE

Kennedy shot glasses are now available! They are \$6 each plus & 2.50 shipping and handling online. They are also available at games for \$6. Please consider buying them for your home or gifts. Exclusive to the Kennedy Society of North America. Great value and they are selling fast!





KSNA AWARDS 2018 SCHOLARSHIPS

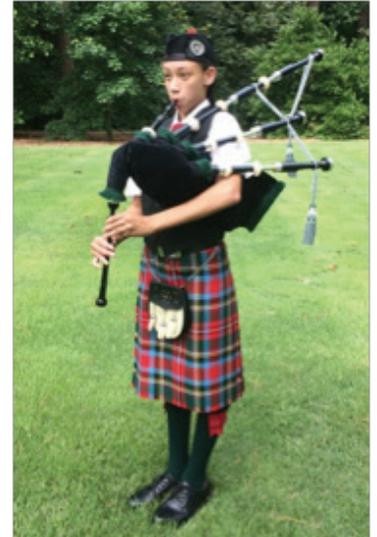
It is with pleasure that the Kennedy Society scholarship committee announce the three recipients of the late Lady Mary Burn, Marchioness of Ailsa, Scholarship Award.

The first award recipient is Kolin McDuffie of Cameron NC. Kolin is a member of the Cross Creek Pipe and Drum Band from Fayettevills NC. Kolin has been playing for three years and has performed at numerous parades as well as the Laurinburg Highland Games and the Saltwater Highland Games. Kolin will attend the N. American Bagpipe and Drumming Academy camp in Valle Crucis, N C. this summer.

Walker Wilkins, age 13 of Hope Mills North Carolina, received the second award. Walker, a piper with the Cross Creek Pipes and Drums, has been playing for three years. To quote his instructor and band director, "Walker's work ethic stands out, his quick mind allows him to grasp concepts quickly, and he has a keen sense of melody. Together, you have a total package of good piping qualities all wrapped up in one person." Walker, too, will attend camp in Valle Crucis, NC.

Receiving the third award were three girls in one family – Fiona, Falyn, and Fern Handley of Atlanta Georgia. The Handley girls applied as a family unit for a scholarship at the Burke Connolly Academy of Irish Dance. Fiona and Falyn have taken instruction for several years and have participated in dance competitions receiving several awards. Fern will begin her instruction this Spring.

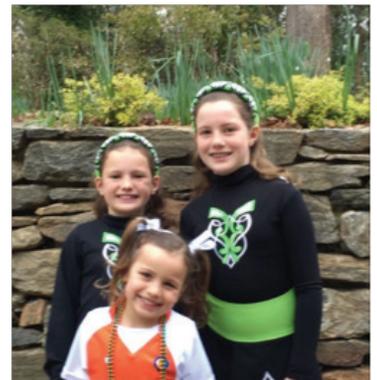
Congratulations to all the scholarship recipients! We hope that these scholarships will help further your growth in your studies.



Kolin McDuffie



Walker Wilkins



Falyn, Fiona, and Fern Handley

KSNA ITEMS FOR SALE

Celtic bracelets in 4 colors and in various sizes so they should fit a young girl or an adult woman. The colors were chosen to coordinate with the Kennedy tartans. The bracelets are available with a Dolphin charm (indicative of Clan Kennedy), a Claddagh or a Celtic Heart. The bracelets are \$18.00 ea. (which includes shipping). A portion of the sales of each bracelet will go to the Kennedy Society. To order, go to the KSNA website Merchandise page... <http://www.kennedysociety.net/ksnamerch.htm>





SALTWATER HIGHLAND GAMES MARCH 24-25, 2018

March 24 -25, 2018 was the third annual Saltwater Highland Games at their new location The North Myrtle Beach Park and Sports Complex, which is in Little River. The complex is beautiful!! Parking was great and real bathrooms (no porta johns)!!!

The Kennedy Clan was the Honor Clan this year. Our Chief, Leo Kennedy was here from Rhode Island and did the opening of the games. He was presented with a beautiful plaque and claymore for us!! Also helping with the tent set up and take down was Sean Carrick. We had some great meals at a couple of Irish Pubs in south Myrtle and north Myrtle!! Chris and Sue Kennedy joined us for Saturday. They were not able to be with us on Sunday due to one of their grandsons being an Easter Bunny!! We did welcome a new member, Ken J. Kennedy from Canada!! He and Chris had a long conversation. I handed out scholarship information to two of the bands and we received four applications!! Sue was beaming!!



Ken J. Kennedy with Leo, Lynn and Chris



Sue, Leo, Lynn, Chris and Sean



Tank

One of the participants in the Athletic portion of the game was an amazing young man in a wheel chair -- he was called "Tank" and did record breaking in his throws. Sean had a chance to talk with him. Amber Ford was a young woman that is very talented. Those of you coming to Loch Norman will be able to see her compete there. These men and women competing in the Scottish Games are very friendly and fun to talk to and learn about. The Saltwater Games are always the weekend after St. Patrick's Day, if you want to plan to come next year!!

Mary Lynn Grant, Tent Convener
Deputy Chief KSNA

KSNA BYLAWS UPDATED

The Kennedy Society of North America has revised its bylaws which are available for viewing on our website. If in question please have a look.



WHERE WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE WILL BE A KENNEDY TENT JUNE - NOVEMBER 2018

June 15-17 Pikes Peak, CO	September 21-23 New Hampshire Games, NH
July 13-15 Grandfather Mountain Games, Linville, NC	September 22 Ligonier Games, PA
July 13-15 Colorado Irish Fest, Littleton, CO	October 7 Scotland, CT
August 4-5 Colorado Scottish Fest, Edgewater, CO	October 20-22 Stone Mountain, GA
August 25 Quechee VT Games	November 2-4 Scots on the Rock, Moab, UT
September 2-3 Pleasanton Games	November 3 Charleston, SC
September 2 The Plains, VA	November 11 Clover, SC
September 8 Middle Tennessee Highland Games	November 17 Mount Dora Scottish Festival, FL

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DEADLINE FOR FALL ISSUE:
SEPTEMBER 1

Please submit copy and pictures for the fall issue no later than September 1st.
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