

LOCH NORMAN AT RURAL HILL 2019 AGM FOR THE KENNEDY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

April 12-14, 2019 was the weekend of Loch Norman at Rural Hill. Friday was breezy with a few showers but not too bad yet. The calling was canceled due to severe weather coming in Friday evening. The Kennedy Society was the Designated Clan for this game. At the Friday night banquet Leo Kennedy, Chief/President of the Kennedy Society and Mary Lynn Grant, Deputy Chief/Vice President were on the stage for welcoming in the tent conveners, the Designated Clan, and the officers of Rural Hill.



Toast to the Piper

Saturday morning had a breezy start and then rain and thunderstorms. A small group of Kennedy's were in the tent and even welcomed a visitor to come in out of the rain and join us waiting. Gerald Myrick was a drummer for the Fayetteville, NC pipe and drum band. He even played a little for us while waiting for the rain to stop. The rain and storms finally stopped and Leo went up to officially announce the 26th Loch Norman Highland Games open.

The sun came out for a brief time, and people started arriving. A friend from my high school days came to visit -- her husband is a drummer in a pipe and drum band out of Florida. He did get to hear some of the bands that came for the competition. Let's just say it had been a "few" years since Charlotte and I had seen each other. We had Kennedy visitors from all over: Ed & Krissy Kennedy from Colorado, Chaplain Tom Kennedy from Nebraska, Dan and Colleen Caldwell from West Virginia, Nina Eppes from New Hampshire, Leo Kennedy from Rhode Island, Frank Kennedy from Maryland, and then GA, NC, and SC were well represented. It was a fun time for all of us in spite of the weather.

Saturday afternoon we held our AGM in the Rural Hill Cultural Center. Our meeting was opened and closed with prayer by our Chaplain Tom Kennedy. We had a large attendance and interesting conversations. Then we held the election. The following were elected to hold office: Mary Lynn Grant Chief/President, Dave Carrick Deputy Chief/Vice President, Sean Carrick, Secretary, and Bob Davis, Treasurer. Pictures were made when the meeting was adjourned.



Retired Chiefs with New Chief and Deputy Chief



2019 Kennedy Group



Ailsa Craig Award:
Chaplain Tom Kennedy

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Due to rain the games shut down a little early so we all returned to the hotel for a little rest and to get ready for our banquet. We all gathered at the Hickory Tavern for our AGM banquet. Sue Kennedy with help from Alice Bryan and some others decorated the room with flags and banners. They did an amazing job. The outgoing officers and our photographer, Karen Kennedy, sat at the head table. Earlier in the day some awards were presented: David & Irene Phelps, Colleen Caldwell, and Leo Kennedy were presented the Ailsa Craig award. At the banquet other awards were presented: Chaplain Tom Kennedy and Tom Kennedy of Huntersville were presented the Ailsa Craig; Colleen Caldwell was presented The Order of the Dolphin award; and then Leo Kennedy was presented The Companion of The Oak award. We then had a brief "roast" of Leo Kennedy as the Retired Chief First Class. Dave Carrick presented Leo with a bright pink "sword". Then Mary Lynn Grant presented Leo Kennedy with a smaller version of the Myrtle Beach sword. A cake was brought in with a Unicorn on top (the national animal of Scotland) and was served by the staff at the Hickory Tavern.



Ailsa Craig Award: Tom Kennedy

Sunday started with the new officers and the Board of Governors meeting at the hotel. Rain had already started outside so the games were put on hold until about 11am. The Parade of Tartans was still held and represented by at least 15 or more clans still there. Closing ceremonies were moved to 1:30pm due to severe weather coming in.

In spite of the rain, the mud, and the delays and cancellations, Loch Norman was still a great game. Hopefully those that made the trip for the first time will come back another year when the weather is nicer.

Mary Lynn Grant and Curtis Burrow
Tent Conveners



Order of the Dolphin Award:
Colleen Caldwell



Retiring Officers



Chaplain Tom Kennedy
& Michael Kennedy



New Sword for Retired Chief



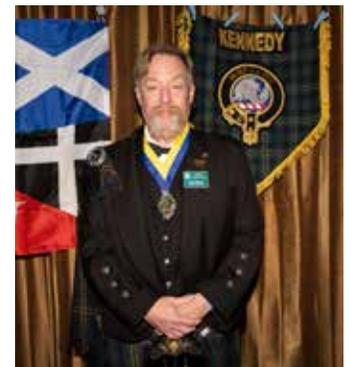
Chieftains at the AGM



Cathy Vents and her
husband Al



New Officers 2019



Companion of the Oak Award:
Leo Kennedy



A MESSAGE FROM LORD AILSA

This message finds me sitting in front of my new computer, which I was waiting for at the time of the last newsletter.

Looking back at my diary since I last wrote is always illuminating, it is so easy to forget what has happened.

On the morning of Armistice Sunday Anne and I attended a small service at the War Memorial at Turnberry. The Memorial is for those brave airmen who lost their lives in both the first and second world wars, it was however erected in 1921 and was unveiled by my grandfather who had served with the Royal Naval Air Service, the RNAS by then had merged with the Royal Flying Corps to become the RAF. Later that day we motored to Glasgow to attend the Armistice Service in Glasgow Cathedral.

On the fifteenth of December Anne and I held a large party at Culzean Castle for family and friends, we had drinks in the long drawing room followed by dinner downstairs in the dining room and then back up to the round drawing room for some dancing. For a few days Ayrshire was alive with friends and relations, we were full here at Morriston and Culzean, and many of our local friends put up others who had traveled from far afield. The staff at Culzean did a wonderful job, providing a delicious dinner and the Castle was beautifully decorated for the occasion. From the silver safe I brought out the large candelabra to put on the dining tables, and for the champagne glasses we used the great salver from 1761 which the people of Lisbon had commissioned and presented to Captain the Earl of Cassillis in recognition of his naval defence of Lisbon Harbour against the French fleet as Captain of HMS Flamborough.

In February Anne and I visited London. Anne and Kitty attended Don Quixote at the Royal Opera House, while they were there Archie and I had an enjoyable evening looking round the National Portrait Gallery. The weather was unseasonably warm allowing us to get to know the areas where Kitty and Archie live.

We had the pleasure of entertaining Kitty and her flatmates here at Morriston over the Easter weekend. They were very lucky with the weather and managed to spend everyday outside exploring the grounds at Culzean, they also found my private path through the woods to Souters

Inn in Kirkoswald, where they enjoyed a pub lunch.



The Boswell Book Festival, with which Anne is heavily involved, was once again a great success, one of the authors was Eric Morley who had worked in the Oval Office for George Bush, another very interesting talk was given by Professor Sir Tom Devine who has written a most interesting book called "The Scottish Clearances", in it he punctures most of the myths in John Prebble's novel of 1964 "The Highland Clearances"

In early April I hosted the inaugural meeting of "Keep Ploughing On" here at the farm. This is a new group of retired farmers who are keen to get together regularly to have a look around a local farming business, followed by lunch and a good chat. About forty farmers gathered for a tour of the grain stores, the grain drying system and the machinery shed, afterwards they all had a very social time at the Kirkoswald Church Hall where sandwiches were provided.

Later in April saw the Flying Scotsman Car Rally come through Morriston. This is a rally for pre 1948 cars which takes place over three days, this year it started in the Lake District then wended its way north east crossing over into Scotland and west up through Dumfriesshire to Ayrshire and north to Perthshire. It is a testing route for man and machine and sadly one or two of the old machines did not manage to finish. Here at Morriston they used our long farm track for a time trial and then had a very tight course set up in our farmyard as a driving test before they were back on the main road navigating the course planners tricky route north.

Last week Anne and I went to Northumberland and visited the new gardens at Alnwick Castle. The gardens were the brainchild of the current Duchess of Northumberland and were started about twenty years ago. The main feature is a great water cascade and fountain surrounded by the old walled garden at the top and some wonderful tree topiary down the sides. There is also a poison garden where you are taken on a tour to learn about all the plants that you should not eat or in some cases touch, one

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A MESSAGE FROM LORD AILSA

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even gives off a gas that when in a confined space will cause death. We also visited Cragside near Rothbury the home of the late Lord Armstrong a famous industrialist and philanthropist. Cragside was the first house to be powered by hydro electric light and also had a water powered hydraulic lift for the servants to get to the upstairs rooms, all well over one hundred years ago. Lord Armstrong also owned Bambrough Castle which is a little further north on the coast and has a commanding position upon a rock looking north out over the sea.

On our way home from Northumberland Anne and I visited the monument and battlefield at Flodden where in 1513 the first Earl of Cassillis was killed defending King James 1V against the English. We saw the little churchyard at the nearby village of Branxton, where the Earl's body was laid out before being collected by his kinsmen and transported back to Maybole to be put in the family tomb at the Collegiate Church. The battlefield is now lovely rolling arable land but in 1513 it was a treacherous bog in which the Scottish army foundered and fell easy prey to the English soldiers. The Scottish noblemen surrounded their King and all died defending him. Flodden is the last battle in this country where a monarch was killed. I am very pleased to have made the pilgrimage to see where my forbear gave his life.

It only remains for Anne and me to wish you all a very pleasant summer.

Ailsa

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

This is my first message as Chief of the Kennedy Society, and I will like to start by saying Thank You to all the members that made this possible. I have had a great 4 years as Deputy Chief under Leo Kennedy and thank him for all the direction he has given. I am honored to be the first female Chief in the Kennedy Society. I am proud to be serving with the new officers that are taking office with me. We will work as a team and do our best to lead the Kennedy Society into the next phase.

I will try to attend as many games as is possible but will concentrate on some of the games I have never been to. Please send in your game name and locations so we can work on having an officer at the games. I have just returned to Charlotte, NC, so maybe it will make traveling a little easier.

If you have questions and not sure who to send them to, please feel free to send them to me and if I am not the one with the answer I will make sure it gets to the right person. If you have an idea for a location for the Kennedy Society's AGM, please let me know. We are in the process of choosing locations.

Again, thank you for your continued support of the Kennedy Society. We are only as good as the members we have and the work we all do.

Mary Lynn Grant



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

MEMBERS OF THE KENNEDY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA:

Greetings, I would like to say that in spite of rain and mud the Mighty Kennedy's prevailed. I was surprised and pleased to be presented with the Ailsa Craig pin by our New Chief Lynn Grant. It was a pleasure to enjoy the fellowship with both new and old friends.

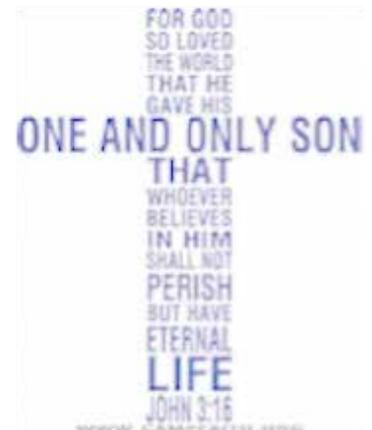
As you may be aware Leo Kennedy is recovering from surgery and Ann Keys is in the hospital. Let us pray for their speedy recovery.

Also if you are aware of a KSNA member in need of support or prayer please inform Lynn Grant or myself. We are an extended family (clan) and the Kennedys are there to support when we can.

Prayers work wonders.

“Let us pray our members have safe travels to the many games this year. Amen”

GOD BLESS,
Tom Kennedy. Society Chaplain





SAVANNAH SCOTTISH GAMES

MAY 4, 2019

The weather for the 43rd Annual Savannah Scottish Games at Bethesda Academy on May 4th was reported by the weather people to be raining all day and severe weather watch, which deterred a lot of people from coming out to the games.

When we arrived on the day of the games, the sun was shining and the sand Gnats were biting, I mean the birds were singing and the sounds of people setting up tents.

We had the honor of one of this year's Scholarship recipients Audrey Trawick and her father Jared stopped by the tent to thank the Clan for being selected as one of the 2019 recipients. It was great to see the energy and joyfulness as Audrey explained her schooling and how this scholarship will help further her education.

We welcomed the following guests and member to this year's Kennedy tent: David Fulford, Howard Curran, Roger Livingston, and The Trawick family, Mcchesney Family, Phelps Family, and General Oglethorpe (in costume).

As for Competition at this year. David Fulford came to visit our tent in between his great performance in Highland Athletes games, where David did great as usual.

This year we has two competitor in the Children's Kilted run race, Sean and Camden Mcchesney were fierce competitors in the race with Camden winning 2nd place and Sean a couple steps behind

The Mcchesney family was a great help with the games, they helped with the setup and teardown. Michael brought some great BBQ to feast on.

As we bid the games good bye for another year in Savannah, the skies darkened we packed to leave, and were serenaded by the sounds of the tornado alerts as we drove away.

David and Irene Phelps



The General



Michael's BBQ



Trawick Family



David Fulmore



SMOKY MOUNTAIN SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND GAMES MAY 18-19, 2019

The 2019 Scottish Festival and Games were held on May 18th and 19th on the campus of Maryville College in Maryville, Tennessee. This year is very significant for Maryville College as it is our Bicentennial – We were founded in 1819!

By 10 AM on Saturday the designated parking areas for the games were filled and overflow parking was being directed to other areas of the campus. The weather was sunny and nice (a high in the 80's and the low in the 70's) on both days. We were treated to a brief storm Saturday evening after the field had cleared: hard rains with 60 mph winds!

We had two new members join, Sharon Campbell and Brenda Blanton, plus 3 renewals and a number of other interested folks. Many visitors came to our tent for shade and refreshments- some from as far away as South Carolina and Chattanooga. A fair number of fellow Maryville Alumni also received Kennedy style hospitality. Regulars to our tent included: Dave and Amy Carrick, Nomon Kennedy, Brian Kennedy, and our son and daughter-in-law, Patricia Kennedy. Geoffrey participated in the games this year for the first time in the novice class and he did pretty well for a beginning competitor.

We did have an unexpected visitor to our tent on Sunday afternoon. During the sheep dog demonstration tow of the sheep broke out of the field and went running through the vendor area! This caused a fair bit of excitement. After "Chip" the border collie finally got the escapees back to the field, Chip was really over heated. He and his master stopped by our tent so Chip could get a cool drink of water. We had a nice visit. Our scottie "Riley" and the kid's dog "Porter" seemed glad to meet "Chip."

Good weather, Scottish food, fun games and entertainment, but the best of all renewing friendships made for a memorable weekend, and yes, Riley got his annual haggis fix!

Submitted by: Robert and Karen Kennedy
Tent Conveners



Brian Kennedy, Amy and David Carrick, Karen and Rob Kennedy, Patricia Kennedy, Riley and Porter



Sharon Campbell



Brenda Blanton with David Carrick



GALLABRAE: GREENVILLE, SC MAY 24-25, 2019

It almost goes without saying that the temperature was hot, the military salute was outstanding, and that the parade is perhaps the best thing about the Greenville Scottish Games - and that can all be said once again. The events began earlier than most know with the arrival of the 2 Scots and the promotional schedule that they had to keep during the week leading up to the games: minor league baseball games, women's tea, sponsors' and civic events, and more. In addition to the usual platoon contingent, their regimental drum major and commanding officer came as well. The assignment to come to Greenville is a very coveted one as they are wined, dined, and more while here. The parade on Friday night had tremendous

participation (including 8 pipe bands) and the attendance was exceptional (especially in the shade!). The Kennedys were joined in the parade by the Palmetto Curling Club and they brought a strong contingent. Many Kennedys showed on Saturday, including: Sean and Tammy Carrick, Paul Key, Lynn Grant, John and Eleanor Flowers, Teresa Slack, David and Irene Phelps, Samantha and Nick Payton, Glenn and Linda Kennedy, Ed Norwood, Karen Kennedy, and Mark Harden. If anyone was not mentioned, no slight intended. We also received new members, Rusty Kennedy and his family. Rusty is hard core Kennedy from Claxton, GA and he sports a Kennedy tartan tattoo on a forearm. Thanks to all that attended!!!



Great Scot Parade with curling club



Parade of Tartans



Parade of Tartans

A BRAND NEW GAME!

2019 will be the first year that The Kennedy Society will be having a tent at the Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games at Egan Central Park, July 19th-20th. This is a free admission game with free parking. To top it all off we have a brand new convener team taking the helm this time around. We want to extend a warm welcome and all the support we can to Allison Stavrakis and her brother as they take on this task for us. If you are in the area or able to make it into town it's a wonderful opportunity to make ourselves known, our Chief, Lynn Grant, will be in attendance as well and we all know the more the merrier! More information can be found at: www.mnscottishfair.org



DO YOU NEED KENNEDY ITEMS?

With the warmer weather here and summer about to open it arms – remember the Kennedy Society items we have for sale. You can visit our website (www.kennedysociety.org) or contact me directly at hviking@aol.com. We have black or dark green t-shirts, shot glasses, challenge coins (2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 or all four years for a special pricing. We have limited supply of KSNA tie clips and money clips.

If you're going to host a Kennedy tent at a games, we can provide you a few items that you can sell for us. Contact me for more information.

Leo Kennedy, merchandising
(He just thought he was retiring)

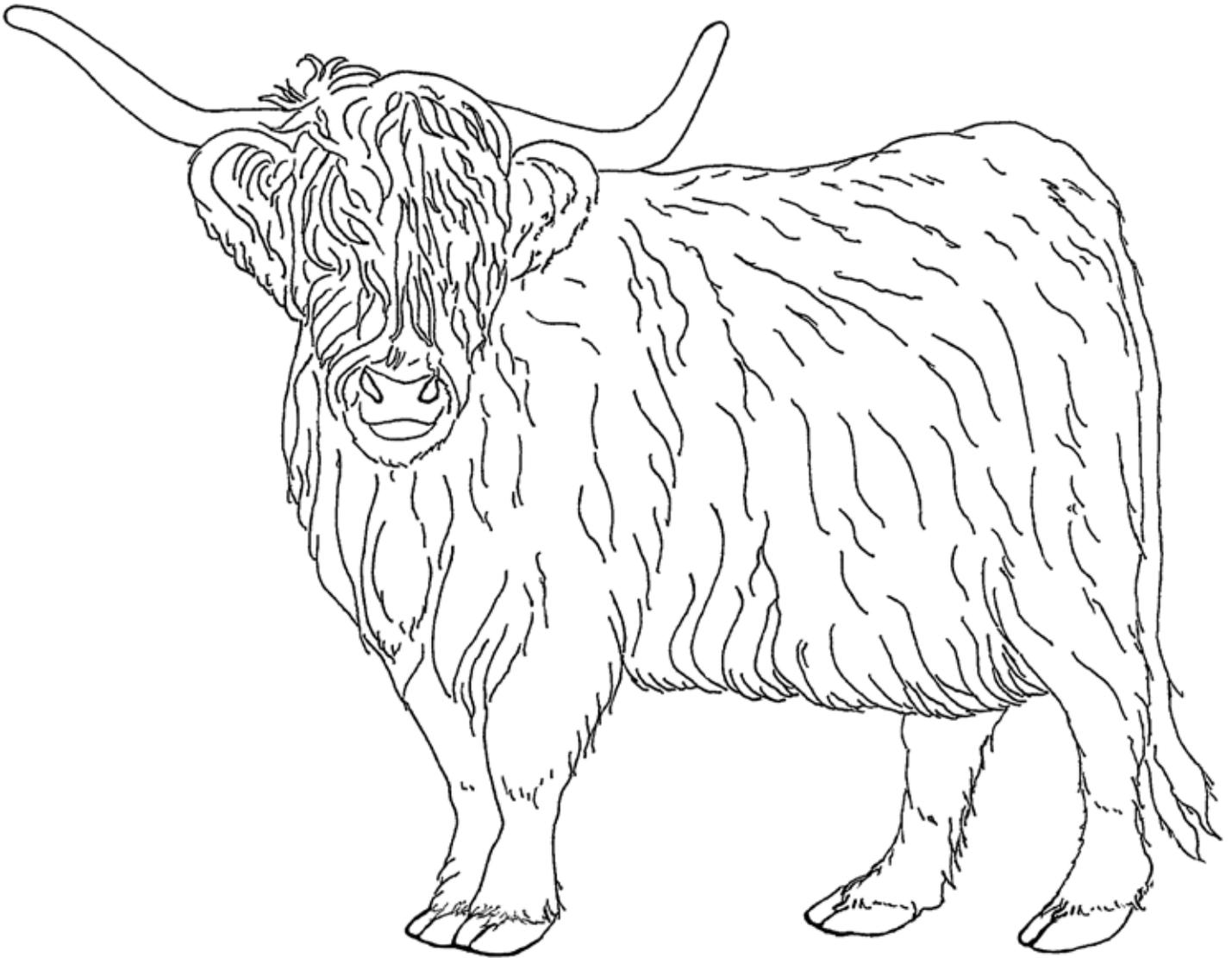
DOLPHIN CHARM EARRINGS

Dolphin charm earrings in 4 colors (blue, green, red and purple) and in either antique gold or silver. The colors were chosen to coordinate with the Kennedy tartans. The earrings are one for \$10.00 or 3 or more for \$8.00ea. A portion of the sales of the earrings will go to the Kennedy Society. To order, go to the KSNA website Merchandise page.. <http://www.kennedysociety.net/ksnamerch.htm>





COLORING PAGE
HIGHLAND COO





KSNA AWARDS 2019 SCHOLARSHIPS

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

The first award recipient is Ariel Eden Kennedy, age 10, of Pink Hill NC. Eden is the daughter of Kennedy Society members Jonathan and Rose Kennedy. Eden attends highland dancing classes twice a week at the Nicholson Academy of Dance in Jacksonville NC. She has been dancing for two years and has competed in numerous competitions. Most recently, at the Savannah Games, she placed in all five of the dances she competed in, earning two second places, two third places, and one fourth place. Eden's next competition will be at the Grandfather Games in July. We wish her the best of luck, and we look forward to following her future dancing accomplishments.



Eden Kennedy



Audrey Trawick

Audrey Trawick, age 16, of Port Richey Florida, received the second scholarship award. Audrey has been highland dancing for three years and requested a scholarship in order to attend the Ohio Scottish Arts School, an intensive highland dance camp with instructors from Scotland and Canada. Among Audrey's dance accomplishments are advancing to Premier status in less than three years. Audrey wishes to be an instructor and often assists in the younger students' classes. In October Audrey desires to attend the International Gathering of Highland Dance in Orlando, to experience highland dance choreography, which is a growing interest for many highland dancers in the field of Scottish Arts.

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

WHERE WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE WILL BE A KENNEDY TENT

JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2019

June 8: Rhode Island Scottish Highland Festival
Richmond, RI

June 14-16: Pikes Peak Celtic Festival
Colorado Springs, CO

July 11-14: Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
Linville, NC

July 12-14: Colorado Irish Festival
Littleton, CO

July 19-20: Minnesota Scottish Fair & Highland Games

Eagan, MN **New Game**

August 3-4: Colorado Scottish Festival
Edgewater, CO

September 14-15: Ligonier Highland Games
Ligonier, PA

September 22-23: New Hampshire Highland Games
Loon Mountain, NH

(The Kennedy tent will not be held this year, but please enjoy the games!)



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DEADLINE FOR FALL ISSUE:
SEPTEMBER 7

Please submit copy and pictures for the fall issue no later than September 7th.
Submittals, comments and questions may be sent to:

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