

Kennedy Society of North America Annual Meeting
September 12, 2009
Long's Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival
Estes Park, Colorado

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 pm by Chief Nomon Kennedy. Nomon thanked Randy Peterson and his family for a job well done! Nomon welcomed everyone and reminded us that this was our 3rd Annual Meeting away from Grandfather Mountain. Nomon told us it had been one of his dreams to move the annual meeting to different parts of the country.

At this point we went around the room and introduced ourselves.

It was determined a quorum was present: 16 members and 15 proxies that were assigned to a voting member who was present.

Nomon presented certificates of appreciation to Randy Peterson, John Kennedy, Bill Kennedy, Nina Eppes, Chris Kennedy, Mike Kennedy, Julie Kennedy, Sue Kennedy, and Nancy Kennedy. The certificates were named the "President's Award" and were presented in recognition and sincere appreciation for the recipient's dedication in his/her individual office for leadership, support of new ideas, new procedures, and developing new memberships in the Kennedy Society of North America. Nancy Kennedy ("Lady Nan") received a special certificate as "Commander of the Mechanized Division" and for her patience, understanding, smile, love, and always being Nomon's "Lady Nan"!

Chief's Report

Nomon reported we have picked up numerous members, had zero friction in the Society, Society has run well for the last five years, have had three revisions to the bylaws, and done a lot of administrative jobs.

Chieftains' Reports

Nina — Northeast Region — A couple of Games were cancelled this year. Leo Kennedy hosted a tent at the Rhode Island Games. The New Hampshire Games are coming up at the end of September.

Mike — Pacific Region — Mike attended the Ardenwood Games, which yielded 3 members. At the Pleasanton Games, he handed out applications to 10-12 individuals, and Mike hopes many of these member applications will be sent in.

John — Canadian Region — At the Fergus Games, it was raining again, but he signed a few new members.

Bill — Midwest Region — Bill ran a tent at the Fairhill Games in Maryland, which is a new game for KSNA. At the St. Andrew's Society of Delaware Games in Western Maryland, which is a one-day event, Lord Charles also was present. They signed up one new member. Bill attended the Mays Valley (Hartsville, Ohio) Games, where we consistently sign up one or two members. Bill stated we need to re-engage the old members as well. He also had a tent at the Ohio Scottish Games where he recruited 4 members. Bill's future plans include attending games in Kentucky and Chicago. Bill was pleased to announce he has a Games rep in Detroit and Nebraska.

Randy — Mountain Region — Kennedy tents were convened in Gillette, Wyoming; Kansas City; and the Nebraska Games (2 new members). Three new members were recruited in Estes Park last year.

Chris (Deputy Chief) — Chris and Sue represented Nomon and Nancy at The Gathering in Edinburgh, Scotland in July. Over 120 Scots signed the register at the Kennedy tent and 25 Americans signed as well. They signed up 4 members during The Gathering. The Scots are starting their own Society known as the Kennedy Society of Europe.

This year the bylaws were revised, and Chris and Bill plan to develop a Policies and Procedures manual.

In the Southeast, we are fortunate to have the leadership of: Gene and Linda Kennedy in South Carolina, Sherry and Mike Frady in North Carolina (Sherry, Mike, and Janet Kennedy received the hospitality award at Grandfather Mtn for the friendliest tent!), and the support of Father David Kennedy in Florida.

Membership Report

Sue reported that 234 members are listed on the KSNA roster. Of those, 175 have renewed as of Sept. 21, 2009. The good news is that we have begun more new games and trained more new tent conveners than in any year before. We are also ahead for the year in recruiting new members. In an average year, we have added 25 new members during a year. This year we have added 31 new members, as of 9/21/09, and we have several Games to go!

The not-so-good-news is that as a Society we need to retain our existing members. It was suggested that each Chieftain call or e-mail his or her regional members who have not renewed. This effort is now ongoing.

As of the Annual Meeting, Sue Kennedy will be stepping down as Membership Chairman. Lynn Grant from Charlotte, North Carolina has graciously accepted the Membership Chair position and will be up and running in mid-October.

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaws

Nomon reported that the Bylaws Committee (Nina, Bill, and Carver) had worked very hard on the new revisions. Major highlights of the revisions are as follows:

- 1.) Membership Classifications
 - a.) Household Membership to include whole family.
 - b.) Honorary Membership to include those persons with an interest in the Society, those persons the Society wishes to honor, etc.
- 2.) Elected officers will be “President,” “Vice President,” Secretary, and Treasurer. Lord Charles then bestows the President and the Vice President with the honorary titles of “Chief” and “Deputy Chief.”

Much discussion followed (mostly on the wording of the officers’ titles). A vote was called, and the motion passed with 13 yeas, 0 nays, and 3 abstaining.

Nominating Committee Report

Randy Peterson placed the following names on the floor for election:

Chris Kennedy – President

Bill Kennedy – Vice President

Sue Kennedy – Secretary

Laura Pittman – Treasurer

Nomon opened the floor for additional nominations; none being heard, Nomon closed the nominations. Mary Elaine moved that the officer nominations be accepted. Glenn Kennedy seconded the motion. The slate was accepted by acclamation.

Other Business

At this point Nomon turned over the annual meeting to Chris Kennedy.

Chris told us he plans to continue the expansion of the Board of Governors to include all regional chieftains, membership chair, scholarship chair, and newsletter editor.

Short topics were discussed:

- 1.) Finance Committee needs to have a member of the Board of Governors as its chairman. Discussion was tabled until more research could be completed.
- 2.) The web site was discussed, and it was noted that a genealogy section needs to be added to the site. Discussion will continue when more time is available.
- 3.) A Board of Governors meeting was set for 9/13/2009 at 10:00 am.

Motion: Randy Peterson was nominated as chairman of the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded by Bill Kennedy. The motion passed by acclamation.

Motion: All chieftains were re-affirmed by a motion by Nomon Kennedy and seconded by Mike Kennedy. The motion passed by acclamation.

Motion: Frank Kennedy made a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting; the motion was seconded by Nina Eppes. The motion was passed by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Kennedy
Secretary, Kennedy Society of North America