

## **KENNEDY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA ANNUAL MEETING**

**September 11, 2010**

**Ligonier Highland Games**

**Ligonier, Pennsylvania**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 pm by President, Chris Kennedy. Chris made introductions and passed around an attendance sheet. Chris then thanked John Snodgrass and Cynde Kennedy for a job well done!

It was determined that a quorum was present: 9 members and 19 proxies were assigned to a voting member.

The 2009 Annual Meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Paul Kliner and seconded by Ann Key. Motion passed.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Chris. The slate of officers presented were: President – Chris Kennedy Vice President – Bill Kennedy Treasurer – Glenn Kennedy Secretary- Sue Kennedy. Chris then asked for nominations from the floor, hearing none, the slate was approved by all the members present.

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Pay Pal:** Glenn explained that Pay Pal was in effect for the paying of membership dues by credit card.

**Incorporation:** Glenn continued his report and explained that the Kennedy Society was switching its incorporation from South Carolina to North Carolina. The reason for the change is due to the fact that the Society is seeking 501c3 – qualified charity status, and North Carolina is more lenient with organizations seeking this status. South Carolina has more stringent guidelines and a fee is charged annually to the organization.

**By-Laws:** Glenn went on to explain that a by-law change was necessary in order to complete the 501c3 status. Nina presented the changes to the by-laws and Chris called for a vote to approve the changes to the by-laws. A motion to approve the bylaws was made by Nina and seconded by Glenn. The vote was unanimous.

### **President's Report**

Chris spoke of the fact that the Society had experienced a tough year dealing with several members personal tragedies including illness, deaths, and the continuing tough economic situation. As a Society we have conducted fewer games this year than in the past. In spite of fewer games having a Kennedy tent present, as a Society we have recruited more new members, to this point for the year, than in the last

several years. Chris was hopeful that this next year would show a marked improvement in the number of Kennedy tents present at games across the country.

Chris went on to say we still have a problem with retention, but again, attrition is less this year than last year. The secretary will personally contact the individuals by email or phone who have not renewed. It is hoped that we will receive dues commitments from many of them at that time. The group was reminded that when a member has not paid his/her dues for two years, they are dropped from the roster.

**Ailsa Craig:** Chris expressed his sincere disappointment that the Kennedy Society had been unable to purchase Ailsa Craig, as Lord Charles desires to sell it at this time. The Society simply could not generate the money or a system to make a purchase happen.

**Deputy Chief Report – absent**

**Chief, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Retired – absent**

Chris reported that Nomon was our liaison to COSCA and as well as responsible for answering all Guestbook inquiries on the Kennedy Society website.

**Chieftain's Reports**

**Nina – N.E.Chieftain**

Nina reported that a couple of games in her region had been cancelled. She is looking forward to a big attendance at the Loon Mountain Games next weekend.

**John – Midwest Chieftain**

John thanked everyone for coming to Ligonier this year.

**Mike – Western Region Chieftain, Randy – Mountain Region Chieftain, Sherry – Southeastern Region Chieftain were absent.**

At this time Chris re-appointed all Chieftains and Committee Chairman with the exception of Joan Kennedy who is retiring as Scholarship Chair. Bill Kennedy from Virginia will be the new Scholarship Chairman.

**Membership Committee – Lynn Grant, absent - report was given by Sue Kennedy**  
It was report we have 238 members. Of these 238 members, we have 29 new members and 67 non-renewals. (Note: 9/23/2010 – the Society has 242 members, 33 new members, and 66 non-renewals)

**Lifetime Membership:** At this time Sue turned to Glenn to introduce the concept of a lifetime membership to the membership. Glenn explained that many clans have a provision for a lifetime membership. He proposed that if a member wishes a lifetime membership, the fee would be \$400.00 for those members below the age of 60, and \$300.00 for those members 60 and above. He went on to further explain that the

**lifetime fee would be divided in the following manner: the first \$25.00 would go to that year's annual dues. The remainder of the lifetime fee would be placed in an interest bearing account which would benefit the Society as a whole. Glenn further suggested that the Edward Jones Investment Account be combined with the lifetime account to further the interest earned on the account. The lifetime membership concept will be further reviewed at the Board Meeting to be held on Sunday, Sept 12, 2010.**

**Scholarship Committee – Joan Kennedy was absent – report given by Chris Kennedy. It was noted that Joan Kennedy and Nelson Kennedy desired to retire from their scholarship duties. Bill Kennedy (Virginia) will be the new scholarship chair. The scholarship committee awarded three dancing scholarships this year. The recipients' names have been placed on the perpetual plaque.**

**Newsletter Committee – Ann Blackmore Key**

**Ann informed us that approximately 175 members received their newsletter by email, and 60 members by regular mail. She emphasized that all editing tasks are her responsibility and hers alone. She told us that the newsletter would be held to 12 pages in length due to mailing costs. The deadline for the “Winter Holiday” edition would be at the end of November.**

**Genealogy Committee – Carver Kennedy was absent – report given by Sue Kennedy.**

**Highlights of Carver's report include: 1.) Carver has not found a satisfactory location for all the KSNA files and genealogy information. He has researched the Moultrie Library and all the Kennedy documents in its possession. He has researched the Mormon genealogy system, but has found it to be too cumbersome for our use. 2.) Carver has also begun to expand the KSNA genealogy to include our Irish cousins. 3.) He posed a question to the members in attendance to day, “do we want article in the Gazette, on the website, or both?” The members present responded with a “both places” answer. 4.) Lastly Carver stated his desire to step down as the Society's genealogist/historian. The Board will take his request under advisement.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Future Annual Meetings**

**2011 – Grandfather Mountain**

**2012 – Possibly Stone Mountain (not confirmed)**

**2013 – Smoky Mountain Games, new site in Maryville, TN**

**Lord Ailsa**

**Lord Charles spoke of a special celebration going on in Scotland in 2013. It is the 750<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Largs. This battle was fought at Dunure near Ayr. This is significant to us as a Society as it was there that the Kennedy Clan was**

**formed and began to flourish. Lord Charles will keep us informed of the celebration's progress.**

**DNA Project – Jim Kennedy was absent – Chris reported that an update of the DNA Project will be in the next Newsletter.**

**Society Trips – Bill and Julie Kennedy attend the Hawaiian games every year and have the following to report:**

**Chris explained that the Highland Games in Hawaii is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> year . It seems that even the Hawaiians have Scots in their background as well as an Hawaiian Chief who was half Scot. The Hawaiian Games committee is interested in having Lord Charles attend their games April of 2011 and have further extended an invitation for any Kennedy members to attend as well. It was decided that Bill/Sue would research the Hawaiian Games and the possibility of a tour afterwards. They will report back to the Board for further action.**

**Hearing no other new business, the meeting was adjourned.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sue Kennedy**