

KENNEDY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

2011 ANNUAL MEETING

GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

JULY 9, 2011

Call to Order: The Annual Meeting was called to order by President/Chief, Chris Kennedy, on Saturday, July 9 at 3:02 pm.

Determine Quorum: It was determined that a quorum was present with 19 voting members being present and 16 proxies being turned in for the meeting.

Approval of 2010 Minutes: Nomon Kennedy moved that the minutes be approved as written and Paul Key seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Appreciation Gifts: Chris Kennedy presented to each Board Member in attendance a small gift of appreciation for their service to the Kennedy Society this year. A special gift of appreciation was presented to Glenn Kennedy, Society Treasurer, for his efforts in securing the 501c3 public charity status for the Kennedy Society. Glenn was awarded a set of Glencairn scotch glasses for his outstanding contribution. Each Society member may benefit from Glenn's service in the future as he/she files their taxes and their donations to the Kennedy Society are tax deductible.

Nominating Committee Report: Chris read the nominations for each office: President – Chris Kennedy, Vice President – Bill Kennedy, Treasurer – Glenn Kennedy, and Secretary – Sue Kennedy. He then asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing no additional nominations, Chris asked for a motion to close the nominations for officers. Paul Key moved the nominations be closed and Jordan Cannady seconded the motion. A vote followed with a unanimous result. The slate of officers was accepted for the year 2011-2012.

Treasurer's Report: Glenn Kennedy reported the Kennedy Society has a total income of \$4621.86. Total expenses were listed at \$3385.83. These figures have resulted in a net income of \$1236.03. A motion was made by Bill Kennedy to accept the treasurer's report and seconded by Janet Kennedy. A vote followed with a unanimous result to accept the report as written. Chris Kennedy stated that it was very important that the Society operate in the "black" and that the Society not spend money it does not have. Glenn gave us an update on Pay Pal and how successful it has been. Many members have paid their dues by credit card using the Pay Pal link found on the Kennedy Website. The Pay Pal link can also be used at highland games to sign up new members or renewals. The link will also be useful as individuals wish to pay for t-shirts or other items the Kennedy Society has for sale. The Lifetime Members program has also been very successful as the Society has 19 lifetime members at present with a lifetime member income of approximately \$6000.

President/Chief Report:

- **Our Favorite Vendors –** As stated in the last Kennedy Newsletter, the Society has endorsed 4 favorite vendors. They are as follows: Caledonian fine Arts, Glen Cairn Glasses, Heelan Hounds, and

Scots Clans. All four vendors are offering a per cent return to the Society for purchasing their products. Chris encouraged each of us to look at the vendors web sites and buy their products.

- **Timeshare and Raffle** – Chris explained that we had received the gift of a timeshare in Helen, Georgia in December of 2010. In order to pay the maintenance fee of \$450.00 per year, the Board decided to conduct a raffle to cover the cost of the maintenance fee. The Board decided to offer a prize of \$100.00 to the highest ticket seller. Chris further explained the Helen Georgia timeshare and its location in the Lorelli Condominiums. The timeshare was placed in the RCI Exchange program so the raffle winner would have a broader choice of vacation locations. At this time the Society has sold 41 tickets which amounts to \$410.00. Chris said he was saddened that the raffle was not working and mentioned that the Kennedy Society Board would discuss this matter at the next Board Meeting.
- **Annual Meetings – 2012** We have the possibility of holding our meeting at the Richmond Virginia games. **2013** will find us at the Smokey Mountain games held in Maryville TN. **2014** – the location has not been decided. Nomon suggested the Society go back to the Loon Mountain Games.
- **Policy and Procedure Manual Report:** Some individuals are working to put together this Policy and Procedure Manual which will explain the duties of every job in the Society. This Manual will be discussed at the Board Meeting.
- **T-Shirts:** Thanks to the hard work of Terry Kennedy of Hampton VA and Hope Kennedy of Safety Harbor FL, we now have available two t shirts for sale. The first shirt is part of what will be called the “Lord Charles Series”. These will be a series of four shirts over four years. Each year will highlight a different Lord Charles’ saying. The first one states “We have come not to plunder, but to party”. The second shirt is a generic shirt which will appeal to any gentleman wearing a kilt. Its saying is “If I was wearing underwear, then it would be a skirt”. Each shirt sells for \$18.00 (except for 2X which sell for \$20.00) and has been well received at the Grandfather Games. The committee intends for these shirts to be sold at games around the country.

Vice President/Deputy Chief Report: Bill reported that he has been working on recognition items for local folks. He has a Kennedy dolphin badge for new members. For a lifetime member, Bill would like to offer a silver plated/or gold dolphin badge. Bill is also looking into a 5 year recognition item.

Bill also announced to the group that Lord Charles request that Lady Rosemary secede him as Chief of clan Kennedy has been approved through the Scottish Chiefs. We are sure to hear more about this in the future.

Chief First Class Retired: Nomon explained that one of his jobs was to answer inquiries that come through the Guestbook on the Kennedy Website. He also is our liaison with COSCA and reports back from their meetings. Nomon explained to us that COSCA has become influential with the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs in Scotland. COSCA is also a source for finding when and where all the highland games in the country will be held. Lastly, Nomon encouraged us to keep Nina posted on when and where there will be a Kennedy tent at all the highland games.

Chieftain’s Reports:

- **Sherry, Southeastern Region** – Sherry, or another tent convener, is holding Kennedy tents at 4 games in Florida, 3 games in Georgia, 1 game in South Carolina, and 3 games in North Carolina. She wanted

us to know how grateful she was to Janet Kennedy in her “hospitality role” at Grandfather. Sherry asked Mike to explain his Warrior’s Project which honors all Kennedy veterans. Mike asked the Society to consider a corner of the Newsletter to be devoted to Veterans Affairs. The Board will take this request up in the future.

- **John, Midwest Chieftain** – John is convening at the Ligonier Games in Pennsylvania. Other Kennedy tents in his region include Niagara Falls, the Ohio games, and the Celtic Beltane Festival in Hartville, Ohio. John also reminded us of the “What’s In It For Me” question. He said it was all about marketing and how we approach individuals to show them the benefits they will receive from joining the Society. John also thanked everyone for welcoming Kona and Kathie Gant of Clan Claus to the Kennedy Society.
- **Nina, Northeastern Region** – Nina reported she conducted a tent at the New Hampshire Highland Games. Leo Kennedy, Vice Chieftain of the Northeastern Region, hosted a tent at the Rhode Island Games on June 11. He reported that the games had a good attendance and he had one person asking for a membership application.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership** – Although unable to attend the meeting, Lynn Grant send the following report. Her most pertinent items are as follows: We have removed 15 persons due to no renewal dues since 2008. 109 second notices for renewal were mailed June 21, 2011. We have 19 lifetime members. As of the writing of the report we have 121 yearly members. Although renewals are coming in slowly, she hopes they will continue to come in.
- **Newsletter** – Ann reported the deadline for the next newsletter is July 15.
- **Scholarship and Fund-Raising** – Chris reported that these two committees will be split up and will become independent of each other.

Reappointments: All regional Chieftains and Committee Chairman are re-appointed for 2011-2012 term.

Other Business:

- **Lord Charles** – Chris expressed our concern for Lord Charles and his recent setback with the amputation of his foot. The Society wishes him a speedy recovery and looks forward to his visit at the Stone Mountain Games in October. The Society is hopeful that Lady Rosemary and her husband Nick will be joining Lord Charles in October.
- **A Comment** – Suzanne Huff, from Atlanta, wanted the group to know that at the Annual Meeting in 2003 there were 6 members present. She wanted us to know how proud she was as she looked around the tent this afternoon and saw about 30 people in attendance.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Mike Kennedy to adjourn the Annual Meeting and seconded by Jordan Cannady. The motion was passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 4: 10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Kennedy
Secretary, Kennedy Society of North America