
SPRING 2022

KENNEDY GAZETTE



GOOD AFTERNOON!

This year's AGM will be held in Greenville, SC on May 27-28 (Memorial Day weekend), with the backdrop being the Gallabrae Games at Furman University. The hotel will be the Crowne Plaza and the Saturday dinner will be at Dave and Amy Carrick's house after the games.



GALLABRAE

The schedule will be:

PARADE

Friday evening, downtown Greenville. Line-up will be at 5:30pm in front of the Peace Center, 300 S. Main St., with the parade starting at 6pm. All members are encouraged to march with the KSNA in this crowd pleasing event. This is a clan/tartan parade on steroids.

AFTER PARADE

Members will gather after the parade for drinks and dinner at a location to be determined.

GALLABRAE

Saturday, Furman University. The games are known for their military salute and include a platoon and piper from the 2 Scots/Royal Fusiliers as well as parachutes and a flyover. The AGM meeting itself will be held indoors and air conditioned. Further information and tickets can be obtained here: www.gallabrae.com

DINNER

Dave and Amy Carrick's house (address below) will be the location after the games. Cost will be \$30 per person and will include:

- pulled chicken and pork bbq
- corn casserole
- broccoli salad
- baked beans
- beer and wine
- iced tea and soft drinks

Tables and chairs will be rented for this event. Checks should be made out to "Kennedy Society of North America" and sent to:

Dave Carrick
25 Crosswinds Way
Greer SC 29650

**DINNER RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS
ARE DUE BY MAY 23rd.**

HOTEL

20 rooms are currently being held at:

Greenville Scottish Games Room Block
Crowne Plaza Greenville
Crowne Plaza
851 Congaree Rd.
Greenville, SC 29607

The rate is \$99 per night. Breakfast can be added for an additional charge at check-in. The hotel is approximately 25 minutes from Furman, 10 minutes from downtown, and 10 minutes from Dave and Amy's house. If you were here for the 2014 AGM, this is the same hotel. Reservations can be made here:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Any questions can be directed to
Dave Carrick at david_carrick55@yahoo.com .



A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Spring means that the games calendar is about to become crowded with events across the continent. As temperatures get warmer, the map expands from Florida, then the Sun Belt, and ultimately to many northern locales.

However, games aren't the only story:

- * the new website is operational and will provide the Kennedy Society and its members with many opportunities and tools, particularly as it relates to having a fresh and dynamic online presence

- * preparations are underway for our 50th anniversary year of 2023, with planning being coordinated by a committee chaired by former chief Leo Kennedy

- * the AGM is quickly upcoming for Memorial Day weekend in Greenville, SC, with the Lord Lyon scheduled to be in attendance at the games (see the article and ballot elsewhere in this issue)

As for myself, I had the pleasure to attend the Central Florida games in Orlando, hosted by Frank and Suzanne Canada, and the Asheville Celtic Festival. The Asheville event is basically a hybrid event, with athletics and shepherding outside and the pipe bands/music/food/vendors inside the Western Carolina Agricultural Center. Additionally, my time and focus has been taken up by developing and implementing the website, as well as serving on the CASSOC board.

In regards to the website, Deputy Chief Sean Carrick has been there every step of the way and deserves much thanks and credit. Several others have also been of great assistance, particularly:

- * Nina Eppes, for editing the content

- * Leo Kennedy, for giving us an additional perspective during the development of the website

- * Karen Kennedy, for providing us with photographs that she took in Scotland

- * Colleen Caldwell, for coordinating the membership information that is incorporated into the Member portion of the website

- * Ken Freshley, for handling the back end of the process to change from the old website to the new

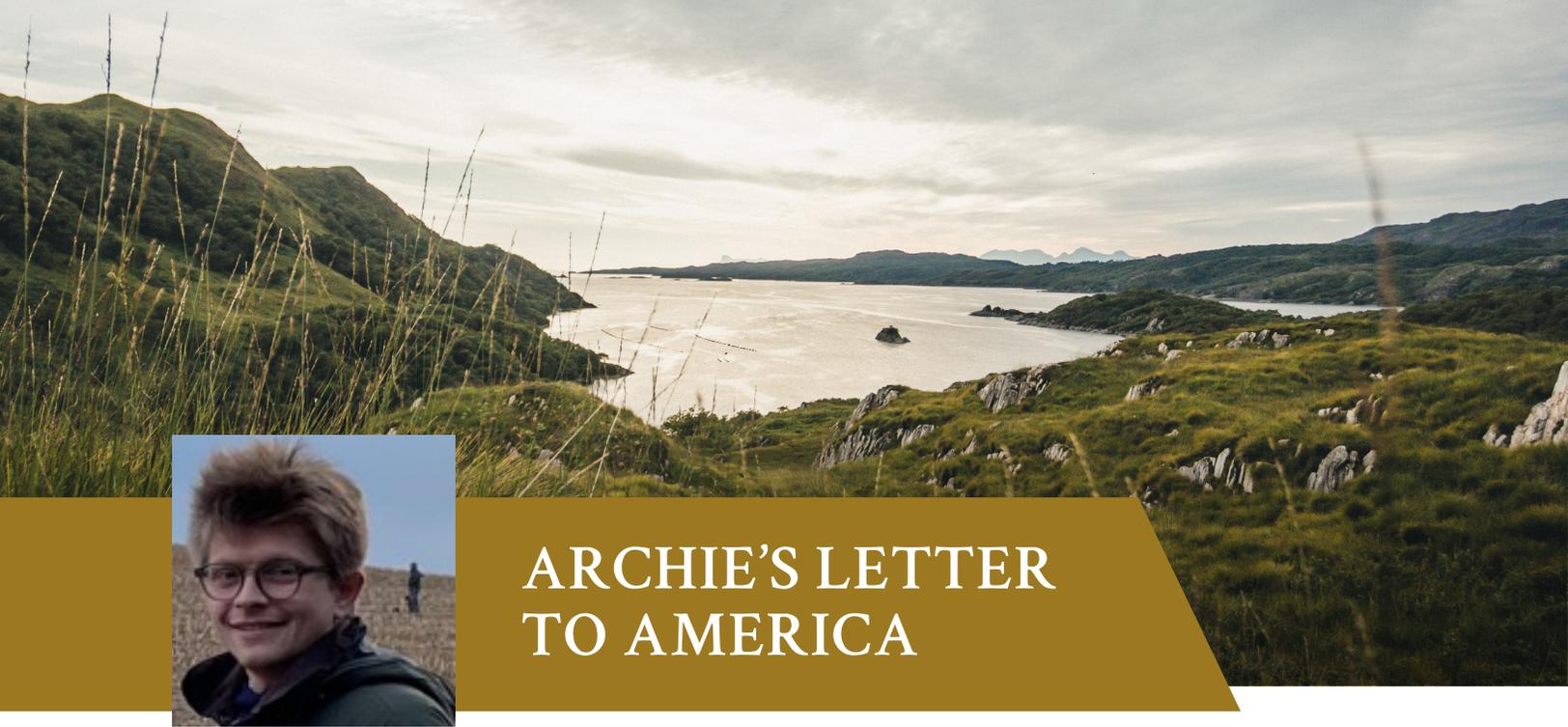
- * To the KSNA Board of Directors, for their support in making the website possible

- * And not to mention you, the user and member: It will likely be for everyone a learning experience, especially me.

However, change is inevitable - and often overdue. The benefits and efficiencies that the website offers puts us in an enviable situation for many years, at least until this one also outlives its usable life too.

Additionally, many thanks to Andrew Miller and Jason Ehmann of Blue Renegade Marketing who were incredible to work with through the entire process. We are very fortunate to have had their involvement and hope that our members utilize and enjoy the website and appreciate their work.

Returning to the physical world, I look forward to attending Tartan Day South (Columbia, SC), Loch Norman (Charlotte, NC), and the Smoky Mountain games (Townsend, TN). I hope to see as many members as possible not only at these games, but also others in the coming months. Slainte!



ARCHIE'S LETTER TO AMERICA



Hello everyone. I hope you all had a very happy Christmas and a very good start to the New Year. I'm delighted to write to you all again.

Since I last wrote, I went up to Ayrshire for Christmas with my family, which was delightful as I do not see enough of them. Sadly, after many long walks around Culzean and the countryside, the time came to return to London for more law school exams.

Thankfully, I had many Burns' Suppers to look forward to once the first round of tests were over. One of them I hosted for my girlfriend's family. I managed to convince them that haggis is tasty, if properly cooked – a great victory, as most non-Scots (and even many Scots themselves) recoil at the idea of haggis.

Recently I learned that the earliest-known written record of haggis in Scotland comes from *The Flyting of Dunbar and Kennedy*, a kind of poetry battle written by William Dunbar and Walter Kennedy and performed at the court of King James IV. In *The Flyting* the makars or poets take turns at insulting each other. Dunbar colourfully mocks Kennedy's appearance and greed as well as the still somewhat Gaelic and, in his eyes, uncouth customs of Kennedy's native Carrick. Dunbar suggests that the hangman's noose is as hungry for Kennedy's neck as Kennedy himself is for a haggis. Walter Kennedy, the younger brother of David, the 1st Earl of Cassillis, returns the insults and rebuffs any notion of backwardness by showcasing

his extensive Classical and Biblical knowledge by, for example, comparing Dunbar to legendary heretics and monsters along the way. He reminds Dunbar that the "most high Kennedys" are of "the King's blood" and loyal Scots, whereas Dunbar's traitorous family sided with the English during the Wars of Independence. Perhaps the most damning insult possible in 16th century Scotland.

I particularly enjoy celebrating Robert Burns as he was a native of south west Scotland, in and around the Kennedy heartlands. Not only are his poems and songs a record of south western Scotland (its dialect, its stories and its characters) but he also lived in and wrote about places I and other Kennedys will know well.

In *Halloween* Burns tells us that at night fairies and spirits on spectral horses revel on the Downans beside Cassillis House and in the coves by Culzean. Even before Burns' time, guests at Culzean wrote about mysterious happenings in the caves underneath. Footprints in the caves magically reappeared the morning after being rubbed out. Some have speculated whether the stories of spirits beneath Culzean were a ploy by the Kennedys to keep prying eyes away from the smuggling enterprise in the caves. It is easy to see how the ghostly footprint phenomenon might actually be due to men secretly unloading barrels of contraband alcohol in the caves the middle of night.

Burns himself was born in a thatched cottage that still stands in Alloway, just down the road from my first school. On the journey to and from school, I would pass Alloway Auld Kirk, where the devil played the bagpipes and the witches danced in Tam o' Shanter, and cross the new bridge over the river Doon. From there I could see the old brig where Tam managed to escape from the witches (although without his poor mare's tail).

Burns' inspiration for Tam came from a tenant of the Kennedys, Douglas Graham, who farmed at Shanter – which is still a part of the estate. Tam's "drouthy cronies" or drinking buddies Souter Johnnie and Kirkton Jean were real characters, inhabitants of Kirkoswald. Johnnie was a cobbler and Jean (herself a Kennedy) was the landlady of the village inn. The poem also describes Tam going to church in Kirkoswald on a Sunday and staying in town to drink with his mates well into Monday. The church Tam would have attended in Kirkoswald, which Burns himself would have known and worshiped in, had only just been built by order of David, the 10th Earl of Cassillis. The Earl commissioned Robert Adam or more likely Adam's second in command, Hugh Cairncross, to design and build a Neo-Classical church to replace the Auld Kirk. Visitors to Kirkoswald can still see the ruined remains of the Auld Kirk and its graveyard, where Kirkton Jean, Souter Johnny, Douglas Graham and Burns' maternal family the Brouns were all buried

In a song about a philandering laird, My Lord A-Hunting, Burns' tells us that the titular laird prefers the charms of a crofter's wife to his own, despite his own lady being "kith and kin o' Cassillis' blude". While Burns was friends with many Kennedys, no chief patronised Burns; the Earls were probably pre-occupied with their building projects at Culzean and spent too much time in London. However the 12th Earl of Cassillis, later the 1st Marquess of Ailsa, seems to have taken a great interest in Scottish history, folklore, and Burns in particular. Burns died two years after the 12th Earl inherited but the Earl was so enamoured with his tales that he had a replica of a Scottish inn constructed in his gardens at St Margaret's (his house in Twickenham, at that time still countryside but within easy reach of London). In this pretend inn he had stone sculptures of Tam o' Shanter, Kirkton Jean and Souter Johnnie all "getting fou and unco happy" which he would delight in showing his guests. Ver-

sions of these sculptures can now be seen in Souter Johnnie's Cottage in Kirkoswald. Moreover, the 1st Marquess constructed a small crypt at the end of the ruined Auld Kirk in Kirkoswald and for a while intended to be buried there. While he would have appreciated being buried amongst Burns' family and characters, he may also have been enticed by the church's connection to Robert the Bruce, a distant ancestor: the church holds the baptismal font supposedly used at the King of Scot's baptism.

I think the 1st Marquess' keen interest in Burns and Scottish history and legends may have been because of his youth in America. At first, he may have been less familiar with the Scottish cultural heritage which his Scottish-born cousins the Culzean Kennedys possibly took for granted. Perhaps he therefore made a more conscious effort to connect with and understand the cultural inheritance of his family estates.

I do apologise for taking this whole article to write about Burns and Burns' Suppers, which were all the way back in January. I am afraid I am still in the midst of law exams, and I haven't been able to do very much otherwise. Hopefully, if I am asked to write again, I will have more to say. I will leave you with Burns' lines to his friend John Kennedy, factor to the 6th Earl of Dumfries at Dumfries House.

Archie Cassillis

Farewell, dear friend! may guid luck hit you,
And 'mang her favourites admit you:
If e'er Detraction shore to smit you,
May nane believe him,
And ony deil that thinks to get you,
Good Lord, deceive him!



44TH CENTRAL FLORIDA SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES

January 16th and 17th

Three long years passed since our last games in January 2019, that pesky pandemic interfering in between, when finally the beautiful forests and fields of Central Winds Park in Winter Springs, Florida came alive again! Pipes and Scottish tunes, delicious food, reunions, camaraderie, and fun events were plentiful at the return of the 44th Central Florida Scottish Highland Games, the biggest games in the southeast. Chief David Carrick & Amy (past treasurer), and past Chief Chris Kennedy & Sue (our Scholarship Chair) joined us for the weekend and really helped Frank and I get back in the swing of things. Members of the Titusville Fire Department/Kennedy Honor Guard, Firefighter/Paramedics Jermaine McKoy and Dana Hersey, Lieutenant/Paramedics Bobby Crocker and Jeremy House, Driver Operator/Paramedic Shawn Holbrook, and Fire Chief John Hustoles attended Saturday with their families, and it was one big happy reunion at the Kennedy tents!

The Guard members wore their Kennedy weathered tartan kilts and honor guard shirts that day, and with David and Chris and other KSNA members, led the Kennedys in the parade of tartans. This first year back, the opening ceremony was shortened and the Kennedy Honor Guard did not present colors, but they will be back on the field in 2023.

Captain of the Guard Frank Canada and Guard Sergeant Jeremy House conducted a pinning ceremony and officially presented our newest Honor Guard members Jermaine McKoy and Dana Hersey with

their Honor Guard pins and certificates. Chief David Carrick, much to our surprise, presented both Frank and I with the Kennedy Society's Order of the Dolphin, consisting of a beautiful medal and ribbon bar, for our continued support and commitment to the Kennedy Society. We were and are truly humbled, as this is the second highest honor in the Kennedy Society! We had lots of visitors Saturday and welcomed new members Virginia "Ginny" Boehl, Kevin Carothers and Thomas Kennedy! Ginny is researching her family and is planning a trip to Scotland. She is very excited and looking forward to exploring and discovering lots of new information. Thomas is a Fire Engineer/EMT with Orange County (FL) Fire Rescue, wife Melissa works for Lendbase USA as National Loan Closing Officer, and Thomas III is in 10th grade with Neocity STEM School where he is learning Bio-design. He is also active in Boy Scouts. It's always a pleasure when the lovely Margaret Kennedy stops by, and our own



beautiful and talented Highland Dancer and dance instructor Audrey Trawick visited as well. Our own piper, Matthew Hutchinson of Rosie O'Grady's Highlanders, came by several times and played for us, He has mastered "Hugh Kennedy", a particularly difficult tune, and played it with perfection. Dear friends Maggie & Mike McKinney, aka The Tinkers, came by and played for us as well. Everyone had a great time and here and there enjoyed a dram or two or three..... Thank you to James Windsor of the Orlando Curling Club for loaning us a curling stone to display at our tent. It drew in a lot of people and we talked about the special blue hone, red hone, and common green granite found only on Ailsa Craig, the history of the island, and the Kennedy family.

Central Winds Park lived up to its name for the first time in several years with wind gusts overnight Saturday in the 30 mph range, leaving the unprepared in a state of dismay come Sunday morning. Frank and I arrived that morning very early, fearing what we may see, as we have experienced the famous "Central Winds" in the past. We joined others in cleaning up, dumping water off of tent canopies, helping several clans load their water logged possessions into their



vehicles, and picking up trash that had blown around. Eventually, with Sue and Chris, and Amy and Dave, we got set back up for another full day of fun. Kennedy of course, did consider the end before we left Saturday evening. We covered everything or put it away, lowered, staked, and bungeed the tents together, and had no damage or leaks.

Sunday was damp and cold but still a lot of fun. The vendors selling hoodies, sweaters and hats were very popular, and I was one of them, taking home a beautiful blue cable knit cardigan from Ireland that day. The crowd was much smaller that day but that gave us all a chance to walk around and enjoy everything and shop.

Thank you to all who stopped by to visit and share stories. And a huge thanks to the Carricks and Kennedys for spending the weekend with us! Your friendship is priceless!

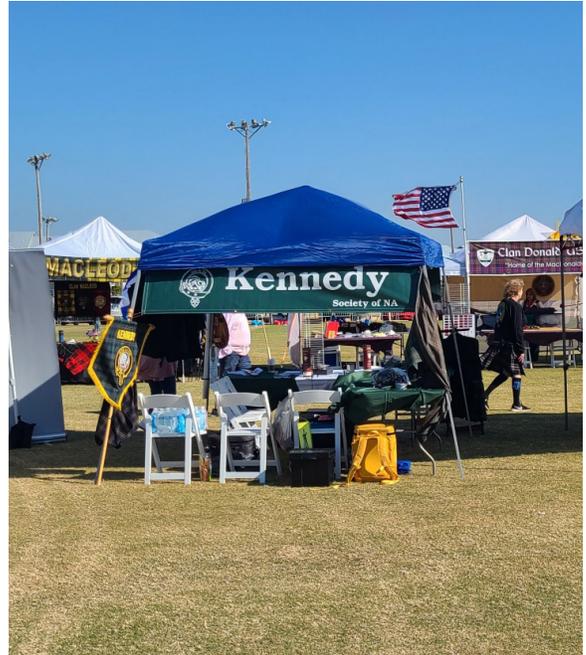
Suzanne & Frank Canada



FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

WOODY WILLIAMS

Although Woody Williams, V.P. of Clan Kieth, was not an official member of the Kennedy Society, you wouldn't know it as he spent a lot of time at Kennedy tents around the Southeast. He even came to AGM banquets and other dinners routinely. As a matter of fact, he seemed to show up everywhere. Unfortunately, Woody died February 15, 2022 in a tragic accident in Huntsville, AL. The Kennedy Society extends its deepest sympathies and condolences to his wife, Linda, his family, and to Clan Kieth. He will be greatly missed, and games will be different with him not being in attendance



THE PANAMA CITY BEACH SCOTTISH FESTIVAL

The Panama City Beach Scottish Festival took place on March 5, 2022. It was a welcome sight as the last games were in 2020!. It was a very windy start to the day and fortunately for Meshell Kennedy and I David and Irene Phelps were there to help batton down the hatches. The temps were warm and its was an otherwise beautiful day. The crowd was moderate but a happy fun group, and we had many visitors and great conversations.

We didn't get any new memberships, but had several sign up and indicate interest as well as had some merchandise sales. The food was good, the clans were fun and the bagpipes were loud so it was a great games! We are looking forward to Alabama in the coming months!

Slàinte
Matt and Meshell Kennedy



OFFICIAL BALLOT & PROXY BALLOT

2022 KENNEDY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA AGM ELECTION OF OFFICERS

I, Leo Kennedy, in my capacity as Chairman of the Society Nominating Committee, do hereby put forth this slate of officers for election for 2022-2023.

President PLEASE VOTE FOR ONE
David Carrick, Greenville, SC

Vice President PLEASE VOTE FOR ONE
Sean Carrick, Fort Mill, SC

Treasurer PLEASE VOTE FOR ONE
Bob Davis, Williamsburg, VA

Secretary PLEASE VOTE FOR ONE
Joanne Engelhardt, Des Moines, IA

Each nominee has given permission for his or her names to be entered on the election ballot.

PROXY ASSIGNMENT

I _____, not being able to attend the 2022 KSNA election, wish to cast my vote by Proxy. I understand that my vote (one ballot per membership family) will be counted with all ballots cast in person at the Kennedy Society of North America's Annual Meeting to be held at the Greenville, SC games on May 28, 2022.

Member assigning proxy : _____ Date _____

I give my proxy permission to cast the above ballot in my stead and for such other business as may be conducted at the May 28, 2022 annual general membership meeting to: _____

Proxy Vote Assignment can be assigned to any Board Member or member in good standing except the ones running, or you can return proxies to Leo F Kennedy via email or US Mail at:

Leo F Kennedy
43 Beverly Cir, Greenville, RI 02828
HDViking@aol.com



KSNA SPRING MEMBERSHIP NEWS

You probably already know that the new Kennedy Society website is up and running. Along with this change, there are some changes to membership operation that I want to highlight in this article.

An email link will be sent to all members which will allow you to access the new website without any other log-in credentials. You will also receive a short video tutorial to help you with your initial sign-in. Look for the email in your mailbox in case you missed it.

The new website allows you to:

1. create your own log-in and password
2. verify your account information
3. view your membership renewal date and pay dues

Memberships have changed to rolling/anniversary memberships, which begin on the day of purchase and are valid for 365 days. (In the past we have had a fixed membership date and allowed a whole lot of flexibility—it was rather complicated to maintain.) The due date that you see when you first sign in will show 12 months or 3 years from your last payment. All past due and recently due accounts have been extended to June 30th to give everyone time to review the new website and pay dues.

This marks the end of mass mailing of the Membership Dues Invoices to all of our members.

Of course, members without an email address will still get a bill via their postal mail.

You will have more control over access to the Member's Area. No group log-in and password; a current membership gives you instant access.

There is a new option for direct communication between members, but only if you would like to participate this way. Please mark your profile preferences accordingly.

Please be aware that even though the membership may extend to your household members, the on-line member profile is just a single person. Every effort was made to create a profile for the original applicant. It is possible that some email addresses may belong to a spouse. Contact me if you have questions.

Your Kennedy Gazette newsletter will come to the email address listed in your profile, so please keep it up-to-date.

I am happy to help members through this transition to the on-line membership format. Please contact me with your questions and concerns as we learn this together. We hope you will enjoy the new website!

Your Membership Chair,
Colleen Caldwell

WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS!

Lifetime member Valerie Salley of Burnsville, MN

Virginia Boehl of Virden, Illinois
Kevin Carothers of Memphis, Tennessee
Margaret Kennedy of Merritt Island, Florida
Thomas Kennedy of St. Cloud, Florida
Joel Blade Hudgens of Colorado Springs, Colorado

NEW KENNEDY SOCIETY WEBSITE

As you know, the Kennedy Society has a new, state of the art website. You, as a member, may have questions: "Why?", followed by "What does this mean for the Society? And for me as a member?"

WHY?

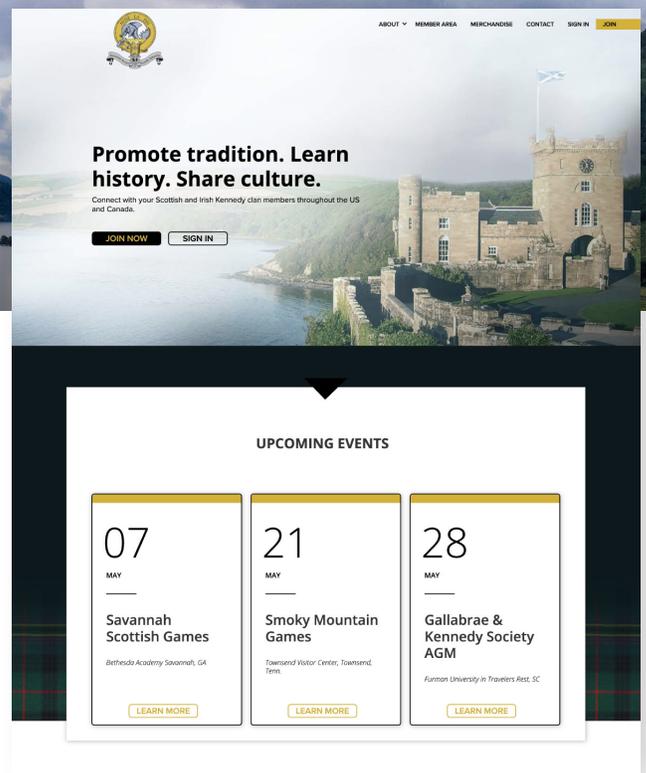
Increasingly, and especially during the pandemic, websites have become the initial and primary exposure that the public has to respective organizations and companies. This is true not with just the younger generations but also with the older ones. Newer websites have dynamic elements and innovations that not only were unavailable for them back in the day, they hadn't even been invented. Such was the case with the original website; not only was it static but it had also been eclipsed over the years as website technology grew and changed. In short, it became dated and stale. Sometime down the road this new website will suffer the same fate.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE SOCIETY?

It means that the KSNA has a fresh and attractive look and a website that also can handle certain administrative and marketing functions. It means that the Society can track how many hits our site receives and from where. It means that membership and other processes can become automated and expedited. It means that there are now communication options that the Society didn't have before, such as group or targeted emails. It means that people can join and pay their dues directly through the website. And it means that the Society is able to not only produce its own Kennedy Gazette but also, down the road, regional newsletters.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME AS A MEMBER?

Besides having new visuals and content, it means a lot. First and foremost, each member will have their own account/portal that they personally control. This means no more universal username or password



that has to be periodically changed in order to access the member side of the website. These member portals will allow for self management of respective member information, whether or not one wants their contact information available to fellow Society members, and the ability to renew memberships - as a few examples. It means that in addition to the new content that much of the information that was on the member side of the old site will still be available on the new site. Most importantly, it means that your membership has helped enable the KSNA to stay relevant in the future. Next year will be the 50th anniversary, and the website will help us transition to the next fifty years. Ultimately, it is an investment to ensure the viability and continuation of the Kennedy Society - an investment that also increases the value of membership.

The new website will be a learning experience for everyone as its capabilities and functions are explored. Some may have to adapt more than others or not be desirous of or appreciate the changes. Others will require no or little adaptation. Almost certainly it will necessitate changes or revisions to the Bylaws and to the Policies and Procedures. However and in the longer term, it will allow for the Kennedy Society to more readily navigate changing times and be viable beyond games and clan tents - something that the pandemic quickly exposed.



BAKED SCOTCH EGGS

INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb ground lean pork or
- 1 lb ground turkey
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon rubbed sage
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon clove
- 4 large eggs, hard boiled
- (not too large)
- flour
- 1 large egg
- 2 cups fine dry breadcrumbs

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix the meat thoroughly with the seasonings and divide into four equal portions.
2. Have the four eggs hard boiled, for about 12 minutes.
3. Peel them, dip them in water and coat them in flour.
4. Wrap each egg evenly in a portion of meat, being sure they are covered completely.
5. Beat the remaining egg.
6. Dip each egg in the beaten egg then coat thoroughly in breadcrumbs.
7. Chill for one hour.
8. Bake until golden brown on a cookie sheet at 400°F; about 30 minutes.

SELKIES

Like many other cultures, Scotland has its myths and legends. One famous mythical being was the unicorn, the national animal of Scotland. A less well known mythical being is the selkie. Selkies are sea people. The best known sea people were mermaids and mermen, creatures that looked like they were half people and half fish. Selkies were different from mermen and mermaids. While living in the sea, they were like seals. However, they could come up on land and take their seal skins off. Then they could walk on land and live just like human beings. When they

wanted to return to the sea, they just put their seal skins back on. There are folk tales of fishermen stealing the seal skin of a selkie living as a lady. Then they made the lady marry them. Some selkie wives had children with their human husbands. According to legend, the children would have webbed hands. It may seem silly to believe that selkies really existed, but did you know that some people do really have webbed hands? I wonder, could selkies be real?

