



GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN GAMES JULY 8-11 2021



As Chris and I reached Banner Elk, NC on Thursday afternoon, and drove up the mountain two miles to reach the entrance to the Grandfather Games, I could not help but experience a thrill of excitement to be returning to a Scottish game. After the games-drought that everyone had been feeling during the covid virus, we were at last hearing the pipers tune their pipes, setting up the Kennedy tent with our co-conveners- Samantha and Nick Payton, and seeing the athletes prepare for their competitions. I have to admit I was thrilled to see the Grandfather Games come to life.

For the next three days we would hear the music, see the dancing, eat the food, admire all the clan tartans, and watch the athletes compete, as we greeted Kennedy members and visitors to our tent. The weekend was a grand success as we welcomed 8 new members to our ranks. Our new members include: Matt Plaia from Raleigh NC, Colleen Kimball from Jacksonville FL, Jill Stupalsky from Raleigh NC, Gregory Taylor from Erwin NC, Regina Rudd from High Point NC, Kriss Kirkindoll from Chapin SC, Kaci Hedgecock from High Point NC, and Thomas Boles from Calhoun TN.



Matt Plaia



Colleen Kimball



Joe and Jill Stupalsky



Gregory Taylor



Regina Rudd



Kriss Kirkindoll



Kaci Hedgecock



Thomas and Amanda Boles

Ablly assisted by Sean and Tammy Carrick, Kim and Rick Hageman, Dave and Amy Carrick, and Bob and Claudette Davis (champion clan stamper extraordinaire!); indeed it took all six couples to talk to the visitors, sell Kennedy merchandise, and keep the social tent filled with goodies and such. It was the most crowded game we have ever seen! Kennedy members attending included David Rummler, Suzanne Kennedy Huff (thanks Suzanne for your memorable performance at the Calling of the Clans!), Harrison Huff, Jonathan and Rose Kennedy (your girls are just beautiful!), Vicky Quinn, Kevin and Jessica Kennedy, David Kennedy, Winona Gulden, Rick Shireman, and Mary Ruth Starr. It was great to see all of you!

Also visiting the tent and serenading us was Anderson Pritchard, one of our Kennedy scholarship winners. He drew quite a crowd as his pipes merrily piped away!

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF

The next few months will be very active on the games front, as the KSNA will have representation at Ligonier PA, Laurinburg NC, Stone Mountain GA, and Charleston SC. If any others are added, that info will be put on Facebook. Although the games calendar has started to fill back in the past few months, the news hasn't always been good: the Society has lost a past chief (Nomon Kennedy), long-time members (Tom Kennedy, Jim Kennedy, and Margaret McIlhone Kennedy), and had other members hospitalized or undergo treatment (Kona Gant, Eleanor Flowers and Matt and Meshell Kennedy). Fortunately, all are currently out of the hospital or are finished with their treatment. Let's hope for more good news!

Looking forward to 2022, please note that Frank and Suzanne Canada will be hosting a tent at the Central Florida games in Orlando, January 15-16.

In this issue you will find articles on the Grandfather Mountain games and reminiscences on Nomon Kennedy, and the next issue will have reports from the Ligonier AGM and other games that will have occurred. Hopefully, the interest and new memberships that resulted from the Smoky Mountain and Grandfather Mountain games will continue at our upcoming tents.

Avise la fin!



GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN GAMES (continued)

The three days of games' activities passed very quickly. Chris and I were tired, but happy to know the weekend had been such a success. Plus we had an extra bonus – we had some showers on the mountain, but never a deluge! No significant rain at Grandfather Mountain is a measure of success in itself! See everyone next year!

Chris and Sue Kennedy

Nick and Samantha Payton





AGM UPDATE!

Due to the almost parallel timelines of this issue and the AGM, timing was always an issue. Although you will have to wait for the next issue to find out about the weekend itself, the AGM news is:

- The slate of officers was elected:
 - Dave Carrick - Chief/President
 - Sean Carrick - Deputy Chief
 - Bob Davis - Treasurer
 - Joanne Engelhardt - Secretary
- The bylaw change to allow associate members to hold the offices of treasurer and secretary passed
- A decision to contract for a new website was made in order to not only update the website itself, but to enable it to have capabilities such as member management, e-mail flexibility, and the ability to create general and regional/district newsletters
- The 2022 AGM will be held in Greenville SC on the Friday and Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. As of this time, it is anticipated that the Lord Lyon and members of his court are to be in attendance. Also, members of the 2 Scots, including the pipe band, are to have a larger than usual contingent.



Just one other thing to say: it couldn't have been better at Ligonier! Extra special thanks to Colleen and Dan Caldwell!!!! As was previously stated, you'll have to wait until the next issue (or check out the Facebook page) to find out why...

BYLAWS CHANGE PASSED

As with many organizations, the Kennedy Society is only as successful as its member participation. Under the current bylaws, dues paying Associate Members are able to participate in all activities and vote but are not able to hold an elected office. Associate Members, as defined, are those that have a strong interest in the KSNA but do not themselves have a Kennedy or sept family connection. While having a Kennedy or sept connection may be prudent for the offices of Deputy Chief/Vice-President or Chief/President, the same may not be true for Secretary or Treasurer. Further, it would also be prudent to maximize the involvement of as many members as possible.

Therefore, the bylaw changes in Section 3: Membership, #2d under Associate Membership: "Associate membership, for someone who has a strong interest in the Kennedy Society and its activities but does not have a family tie to Clan Kennedy or its septs. Associate members may join the Society and participate in its activities AND ARE ELIGIBLE TO HOLD THE OFFICES OF TREASURER AND SECRETARY BUT NOT DEPUTY CHIEF/VICE PRESIDENT OR CHIEF/PRESIDENT..."

The Kennedy Society, like many other organizations, was on hold during the pandemic. In order to more fully and quickly get back to speed and grow, it is important that we have the ability to utilize our membership base to its full potential.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR FORMER KSNA CHIEF NOMON RUEL KENNEDY



Nomon Ruel Kennedy, Jr., age 75, of Sweetwater, Tennessee, passed away 6:50 A.M. Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at the Sweetwater Nursing Center. He was a Vietnam Veteran, Member of American Legion Post 106, Scottish American Military Society, Past President/Chief of the Kennedy Society of N America, and he was an avid HAM radio operator.



Attending Nomon's funeral service from the Kennedy Society was Chief David Carrick, Past Chief, Chris Kennedy, and Sue Kennedy. It was a moving service lead by two clergymen, the Rev. Wes Alford and the Rev Gale Miller. Both clergy spoke of Nomon's strong faith and his love for his family and his country. In attendance was of course Nomon's and Nancy's family, friends from near and far, and a contingent of gentlemen in their kilts, representing several clans. The service ended with a lone piper piping several tunes, both Scottish and American, and ending of course with Amazing Grace.

The grave side service the next morning was just as moving as Nomon was interred with full military honors including a gun salute and a bugler playing taps.



In tribute to Nomon Kennedy, and his more than significant contributions to the Kennedy Society, we thought it only appropriate to include these offerings from two Kennedy members – one a former KSNA chief and one from our current KSNA chief:

By the time that I truly began to get involved with the KSNA, Nomon Kennedy was a past chief. At his funeral, the pastor commented on how Nomon was a man with opinions. That was an understatement, as it was readily apparent when you saw him in action. And not only did he have opinions, he was unabashed about them. Since I did not share most of his opinions, I thought it prudent to keep my contact and conversations with him to a cursory level. However, one day we were talking about Maryville College. Since he lived all of his life in the Sweetwater/Madisonville area, I asked if he knew a guy that I went to school with from Madisonville, Steve Lowry who is in Clan McLaren. Things changed immediately: Not only did he know Steve, but his physician and longtime friend was Dr. Houston Lowry, Steve's father. They were both active with the Gatlinburg games and helped to steer them to Maryville. Coincidentally, they both were integral to their respective clans. Dr. Lowry helped to found Clan McLaren and Nomon became Society Chief of our organization at a critical juncture. Amazing that

two men from East Tennessee were so influential. After discovering our connection, things were vastly different between us and we had a great rapport. As I grew in the Society and learned more about its history, I began to comprehend his impact and role in shaping its future, especially when I found out that I would be Society Chief. I read every newsletter and all of the AGM minutes that I could find, and realized that if not for Nomon and his deputy chief, Chris Kennedy, we might not have a society today. Indeed, it was Nomon who had the vision and strength to make the bylaw change to be able to hold the AGM beyond Grandfather Mountain, thus allowing the Society to expand across the continent. It has certainly opened a lot of different doors for our organization. At the 2019 Charleston games, Sean Carrick and I received an unexpected but welcome surprise: Nomon had gotten in his RV and driven down. Unfortunately, no one knew it would be the last games for a while. And even though he was excited

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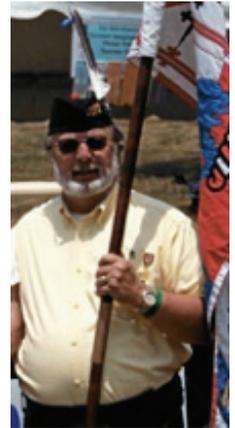
IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR FORMER KSNA CHIEF (continued) NOMON RUEL KENNEDY

about attending future games, they would be his last one. When I last spoke with him a few days before he died, he still had his mind made up to become active again. He was always willing to discuss KSNA matters and provide not only advice, but support. And even during the torment that he endured in his last months, nothing could quell his devotion and commitment to the Kennedy Society. My interaction

with Nomon enabled me to see and know a different side of him, which in turn helped me to become a different and better person as well. If I can do the same for others down the road, the joy will not all be mine.

David Carrick

Chief of the KSNA



I could relate many stories about Nomon as I was his Deputy Chief and Vice President for 5 years. When Nomon spoke, one listened; there was no doubt that his heart and soul was in the Kennedy Clan. His quiet drive was infectious. I believe that it was through him that I strove to do my part to be the best I could be for the KSNA. We had not yet redone the Bylaws as he suggested to decrease terms to 4 years and it was Nomon who pushed us to develop a separate officer "nomenclature." His heart was purely American. He was not only responsible for causing bylaws changes but also a change in scholarship structure, the development of the banner system we still use Nomon called for our first and only live (vs net-based) Board meeting that was held mid-year. Those of us that could met in Nashville. The meeting took place and business was conducted. There is no doubt that an extra meeting increased our direction and productivity and has been ongoing since. Well, as things would have it, on the last day of the

meeting we could not have a room to ourselves but were placed in one end of a large room which was also being used for other purposes. Nomon had decided that as a conclusion to our meeting we should have a Caleigh. All there were required, with no exception, to participate by telling a story, reciting a poem or singing a song. And we all did. By absolute coincidence in the same room were two groups of kids who were returning from Scottish dance competition and they asked if they could participate as well. It was a wonderful, spontaneous closing. That was Nomon – wonderful, spontaneous but with a plan.

Chris Kennedy

Chief of the KSNA 2009-2014



In closing this tribute to our former chief, I would like to offer a few other thoughts...

To be a good leader is far more important than just to be a good man. Leadership is the ability to make goodness operate in the lives of others.

Sterling W Sill

It's hard to forget someone who gave you so much to remember

Author Unknown

"Nomon is a man of faith, morals and integrity; a very caring and compassionate person. He is very thorough in everything he does. I'm sure the more you get to know him the more you will respect him, as I do."

Lady Nancy Kennedy, Summer of 2005





BEST WISHES FROM LORD AILSA

Greetings everyone!

Unfortunately, Lord Ailsa was unable to pen a letter to America this season. He did request that I let everyone know that the harvest was a success, everyone is doing well and to send on his good wishes for us all as we enter the next season.



Sincerely,
Your Editor
Samantha

FALL MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

As you read this newsletter, the 2021 AGM is probably already past. Planning for that event and others kept me pretty busy and I actually missed the deadline for this issue. Thanks goes to our hard-working newsletter editor, Samantha, for extending her timeline for me! More about the AGM and the Ligonier Highland Games will be in the Winter Gazette.

These members are our newest Lifetime Members:

- Fitzhugh Lewis Shaw, Superior, CO
- David Carrick, Greer, SC
- John Olson-Kennedy, Mooresville, SC
- Janet Stork, Fenton, MI
- Eileen Surette, Revere, MA
- John W. Kennedy, Ocala, FL

Welcome to these new members:

- Robert & Penny Rubow, Conway, AR (correction)
- Thomas Boles, Calhoun, TN
- Kaci Lee Hedgecock, High Point, NC
- Colleen Kay Kennedy Kimball, Jacksonville, FL
- Kriss Kirkindoll, Chapin, SC
- Matthew Plaia, Raleigh, NC
- Regina Rudd, Yanceyville, NC
- Jill Moncrief Stupalsky, Raleigh, NC
- Gregory Taylor, Erwin, NC

Welcome back:

- James Matthew Kennedy, III, Davidson, NC

Please note that the membership role will be cleaned up at the end of September. For members in good standing, you won't notice any changes. For members not in good standing, this might be your final newsletter. I hope you have had a good summer!

Colleen Kennedy Caldwell
Membership Chair



TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH RECIPE SCOTCH BROTH

A wonderful traditional winter meal that's both warm and filling.



RECIPE INGREDIENTS

- 800g lamb on the bone (1.75 lbs)
- 3 medium sized carrots, peeled, diced
- 1 turnip, diced (or a swede which would be more traditionally used in Scotland)
- 2 onions, peeled, diced
- 1 leek, white part only, sliced
- 100g pearl barley (.5 cup roughly)
- 100g dried peas (.5 cup), soaked in water for 4-5 hours, drained
- salt
- freshly ground black pepper
- Chopped parsley
- One splash of Scotch whiskey (optional)

RECIPE METHOD

1. Place Lamb in a large pan and cover with water, place heat to around medium.
2. Dice the turnip, 1 of the carrots and the onions, grate the other 2 carrots and slice the leek.
3. When the pot is simmering add the above veg and skim off any froth as it cooks.
4. Rinse the barley and peas (post soak) and add to the pan together with the chopped parsley.
5. Leave to simmer for around 2-3 hours, remembering to stir occasionally and skim of fat and froth with a wooden spoon.
6. Add the salt and pepper.
7. Stir more often towards the end of cooking time as barley may stick to base of pan.
8. Remove the lamb 15mins from the end and let it cool a little before removing the meat from the bones. Discard the bones.
9. Cut the meat into small pieces and add to the soup.
10. Taste the soup, season with salt and pepper if necessary and serve.

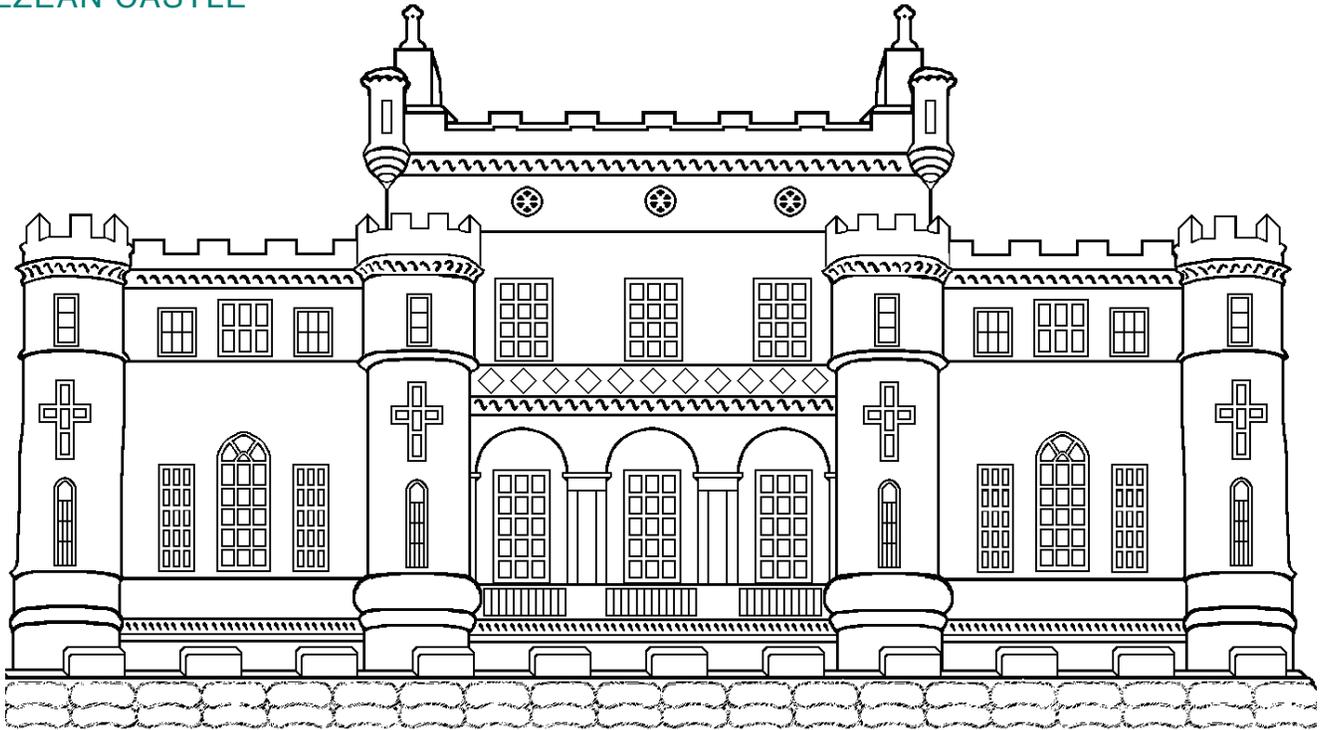
NOTES

For other recipes like this one please check out the article link below or at www.Scotsman.com

<https://foodanddrink.scotsman.com/food/5-warming-winter-recipes-every-scot-should-know/>



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WHERE WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE WILL BE A KENNEDY TENT SEPTEMBER 2021 - JANUARY 2022

Finally, and after a year of cancellations, games across the country are starting to populate the calendar. At the moment, these are the games that we know will have a Kennedy tent:

October 2nd – Scotland County Highland Games
Laurinburg, NC

November 6th- Charleston Scottish Games
North Charleston, SC

October 10th- Scotland Connecticut Highland Games
Scotland, CT

January 15-16th 2022 – Central Florida Highland Games
Winter Springs, FL

October 16-17th- Stone Mountain Highland Games
Stone Mountain, GA

With the purchase of The Highlander and Scottish Life, there is no longer is a comprehensive published list of games. Even on the internet there is no one reference source or list. As such, the Society really needs to have its members and conveners relay information regarding games in their respective area. For now, please send this info to: david_carrick55@yahoo.com or samanthaksna@gmail.com

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CONVENING A KSNA TENT?

Are you interested in receiving training on how to convene and operate a Kennedy Society tent? If so, please contact Dave Carrick at david_carrick55@yahoo.com. A workshop was held a couple of years ago in Charlotte and proved to be quite beneficial. In order to grow, the KSNA needs to have representation at games across the continent. Tent convening can be hard work, but it is quite rewarding.

KSNA EXCLUSIVE! GREAT GIFT FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Kennedy shot glasses are still available! They are \$6 each plus \$2.50 shipping and handling online. They are also available at games for \$6.

Please consider buying them for your home or gifts for the holidays! Exclusive to the Kennedy Society of North America. Great value and they are selling fast!





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**DEADLINE FOR WINTER ISSUE:
DECEMBER 4**

Please submit copy and pictures for the winter issue no later than December 4th.
Submittals, comments and questions may be sent to:

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