



The Kennedy Gazette

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Official Publication of the Kennedy Society of North America
Volume 37 Issue 1 – 2014 Spring/Pre-AGM



**JOIN US FOR THE KENNEDY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING
WHERE WE ARE HONORED CLAN AT THE GREATER
GREENVILLE SCOTTISH GAMES, HELD ON THE CAMPUS OF
FURMAN UNIVERSITY ON SATURDAY MAY 24**

**6:00 PM FRIDAY MAY 23
IS THE PARADE:**

Wear your Scottish attire and march with us in the Great Scot Parade! All clan members are welcome to march. Leading the Kennedys will be Lord Charles, escorted by the Titusville, Florida Fire and Emergency Services Honor Guard, proudly wearing their Kennedy kilts. To march in the parade, line up by 5:30 near the intersection of Richardson/Townes Streets and West North Street behind the Greek Orthodox Church on Academy St. (See Map in Newsletter). We want to be the largest clan marching, so come on out!





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DETAILS OF GREATER GREENVILLE SCOTTISH GAMES AGM CONTINUED:

7:00 PM FRIDAY EVENING: There will be Ceilidh at the Peace Center (at the end of the parade route)

7:00 PM FRIDAY EVENING: Clan Reception at the Crowne Plaza (Host Hotel). With a Patron package, receive tickets to the Reception. Enjoy a great spread of food, presentation of the haggis, entertainment, and drink tickets.

HOST HOTEL: The Crowne Plaza at 851 Congaree Road, Greenville SC 29607. Room rate is \$93.00 per night. Book your room today. Call 877-834-3613 – Group Code GAM.



SATURDAY: THE GAMES! Lord Charles will open the games. It will be a grand day for the Scottish games, the skirl of the pipes, the sway of the tartans, and the grace of the dancers, and the strength of the athletes.

2:00 pm Kennedy Society Annual Meeting - where we will elect a new slate of officers.

SATURDAY NIGHT:

Our dinner will be held this year at the home of David, Amy, and Megan Carrick. It will be a casual affair, in their back yard, as we enjoy a typical South Carolina barbecue of BBQ pork and chicken, slaw, baked beans, sweet potato casserole, and dessert. Beverages will include water, tea, and soda. Keg beer and a selection of wines will be available at a small charge. Cost will be **\$20.00 for adults and \$5.00 for kids**. Map and directions will be available at games tent. The highlight of the evening will be watching Lord Charles install a new North American Chief. Reservation form below:

RESERVATION FORM FOR SATURDAY NIGHT BARBECUE AT THE HOME OF THE CARRICK'S 25 Crosswinds Way, Greer S.C. 29650 At 6:30 PM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

ADULTS ATTENDING @ \$20.00 each _____ KIDS @ \$5.00 each _____

TOTAL MONEY ENCLOSED _____

Please make check out to Kennedy Society of North America
Mail to: Sue Kennedy 6415 Barberrry Hill Drive, Gainesville Georgia 30506

**** Deadline for Reservations: May 10, 2014**



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Map to find your way around Greenville and various Scottish Games Activities





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Important Information from Lord Charles

What a fantastic year starting with The Winter Springs, Florida games, where I meet our Honour Guard for the 1st of what I hope will be many times. Then on to Ohio where I was again the guest of Honour at Kona's Burns Night.

It was great fun and I met some great people before returning to a wet UK via New York where I had dinner with Lady Alicia and her boy friend, Gavin. I have to admit USA was colder than over here.

Since then I have done a tour of the UK, catching up with old friends, as my feet are getting much better and am now just using a stick. By the time you read this, I will hopefully have travelled by ski mobile through the Arctic of Sweden, becoming the 1st paraplegic to travel from Kiruna 1250 miles to Ostersund where the temperature is in the -40s. This May I hope to see as many as possible at the Greenville games, our AGM. I'm hoping it will be warmer than January.

Lord Charles



Important Words from our Chief

Over the last five year, in the many articles that I have written for this column, I have talked about the exciting things in which the Kennedy Society is involved.

Some have become entrenched in our structure, some have not panned out the way we had hoped and some are still growing and evolving. None of the activities of this Society could have been accomplished without one thing. That thing is a team: a team of committed, hard- working, and dedicated people who believe in the value and purpose of the Kennedy Society.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all of you. It has been a great honor and an absolute joy to have served these five years as your President and Chief. Sue and I treasure the relationships which we have established. It is the people's involvement that causes one to want to do the Society's tasks.

We look forward to supporting the activities of the new president and board of governors as we continue to work from our new retired positions to carry out the activities of the Kennedy Society of North America. Thank you for a wonderful five years.

Hey, see you at the next game. Let's go and have some fun! Look for a list of where the Kennedys will be this year on the back page of this newsletter.

Chris Kennedy



Words of Thanks from your Kennedy Gazette Editor

It's been said that the only constant in our lives is change. You will see that I am about to change roles within the Kennedy Society. I am stepping down from my position as newsletter editor to step up as secretary. I will never be far away, as close to you all as a phone call **704-463-5745**) or an email (heelanhound@carolina.rr.com) to help in any way I can.

Thanks to each and every one of you who for the past 5 years have contributed pictures and stories on deadline, thus making my task as editor easier and assuring that our Kennedy Gazette continues to be a vital communication tool for the Society. The society is actively looking for someone to come forward and edit the Gazette. Until we find that person, Sue Kennedy will be interim newsletter coordinator. Please send articles and pictures to her email: kenn6633@bellsouth.net. Be talking to you!!

Ann Blackmore Key



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Kennedy Society of North America Officer Elections to be held at Greenville, SC AGM

OFFICER SLATE FOR 2014-2015

The Nomination Committee of the Kennedy Society of North America, consisting of Nomon R. Kennedy, CFCR ; Michael Kennedy, Chieftain West Coast; Joel Cassell, Member and Game Convener, places on the 2014-2015 Ballot for Election of Officers the following names:

President
Paul L. Key
Misenheimer, North Carolina

Secretary
Ann Blackmore Key
Misenheimer, North Carolina

Each nominee has given permission for their name to be entered on the election ballot.

Vice-President
Leo F. Kenney III
Greenville, Rhode Island

Treasurer
Glenn Kennedy
Raleigh, North Carolina

Committee members:

N. Kennedy
M. Kennedy
J. Cassel

PROXY VOTE ASSIGNMENT

I _____, wish to assign voting responsibility to _____

for the Kennedy Society of North America's Annual Meeting to be held in Greenville, SC at the Annual General Meeting to be held May 24, 2014

Member assigning proxy vote assignment: _____ Date _____

Proxy Vote Assignment can be assigned to Chief of Society, Vice Chief of the Society, a member of the Board of Governors, Regional Chieftain, or any member in good standing who is entitled to vote. Please E-Mail or print proxy and send to one of the following by **May 10, 2014**.

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Paul Key – Vice President/ Deputy Chief
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Glenn Kennedy – Treasurer
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PAUL L. KEY - Candidate for President/Chief, Kennedy Society of North America

As a young man, I associated the name Kennedy with the brave actions during 13 days in October 1962 when the U.S. faced the threat of nuclear war and President John F. Kennedy stood up against Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev and hoped for a peaceful resolution; again in 1963 when "Ich bin ein Berliner" resounded as the young Irish-American spoke to crowds in front of the Berlin Wall; and finally 50 years ago, along with others in our nation struggling to make sense of a senseless act, wept as an assassin's bullet cut short the life of President Kennedy.

A quarter of a century later, standing in a small country churchyard cemetery during the funeral of my father, I discovered my Scottish Kennedy roots. My cousin was walking me around the grounds, pointing out various gravestones and telling me of my ancestors. He pointed proudly to the grave of my

Civil War ancestor, great-great grand-father Riland Key, married to Temperance "Tempie" Kennedy. I was later to learn after many visits to the Moore County Library genealogic research room, that if I went back two more generations, I would find the exploits of industrial espionage by patriot David Kennedy, who traveled on horseback from Moore County, NC to New York to "fiddle" his way into the home and shop of a Yankee gunsmith, and thereby discovered the secret of correctly making a gun lock. The result was the Kennedy rifle used against the British in the early days of our nation. And still farther back, 7 more generations back from David Kennedy to Sir Gilbert Kennedy, 4th Earl of Cassillis of Dunure Castle in Ayrshire, reputed to have roasted the Abbot of Crossraguel in the dungeon of the castle, attempting to gain the Abbot's lands, crops and cattle.

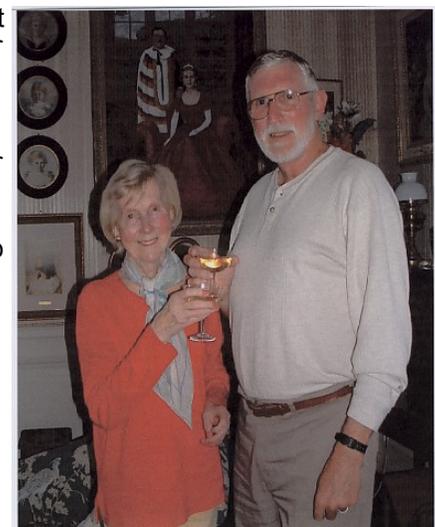


What I have recounted above is my heritage, but my first exposure to things Scottish was at the 1969 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. Then, in 1971, because Key is a name sept of Clan Mackay, I became a charter member of that society. The next 25 years included many visits to the GMHG. The summer of 1996 was our first trip to Scotland with a Clan MacKay tour. During that trip, we developed an overwhelming fascination for genealogy, especially our Celtic roots. It was on that trip that we first visited Culzean Castle and discovered my Kennedy heritage. The next several years of research and travel included a second trip to Scotland and Northern Ireland, when we were fortunate to have a wonderful luncheon visit with Lady Mary at Cassillis where she served us salmon pie, (the catch fresh from the River Doon), also unearthed several direct family

connections Scottish clans in addition to Kennedy -- Wallace, McNeill, Davidson and Douglas. We have traced my Key family ancestors directly to several of these clans. This research gave us insight into interesting bits of our Kennedy history.

Since 1996, we have participated in many highland games, from coast to coast in the U.S. and Canada and now our attendance at Celtic events averages about 20 plus games per year in the operation of our distinctive tartan dog clothing business, The Heelan' Hound, working as a team with my wife, Ann, and Labrador Retriever, Neilley.

Since 2000, my wife and I have become more closely affiliated with Clan Kennedy and the Kennedy Society since it is my closest blood connection to my Scottish roots. I have served as tent convener at the Triad and Loch Norman games, and for five years, I have served unofficially as an advisor to the Society Chief.





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BIOGRAPHY OF PAUL L. KEY continued:

My career in city planning in cartography, was followed by 30+ years operating my own residential designer, contractor, carpentry business and it gave me wide experience in dealing with the public, budgeting and quality control. The last 16 years before "retirement" I was also a geography adjunct instructor at Pfeiffer University where I tried to expose my students to the wonders of the Celtic world. I am honored to be a recipient of the "Companion of the Oak" for meritorious service to the Kennedy Society. As President/Chief I hope to continue that service.



BIOGRAPHY OF ANN BLACKMORE KEY - Candidate for Secretary Kennedy Society of North America

Although I got a later start discovering my Scottish roots than Paul did, it was my relationship with him that soon immersed me in my heritage. While still dating, I donned my first kilt shorts and camped out in a tent at the Stone Mountain games where we visited clan tents, watched athletics and attended the tattoo. Attendance at first was only a game or two a year, then 4 or 5 with trips to games as far west as Washington state and as far north as Canada. Our first trip to Scotland had me completely hooked, you know the feeling that comes over you when your heart tells you that that you've been there before, you know that this is where you came from - where you belong. And tears come to your eyes when you have to leave!

I grew up knowing I had some type of English, Scottish, Irish, Welsh heritage, but my father died before I could find out exactly what. Then in 1998 the Mormons did me a favor. They put their data base on the web for all to use. I knew the name of one of my Scottish ancestors, Benjamin Mackall, a Revolutionary War participant who qualifies me for membership in DAR. So, I plugged his name into my computer. First hit, and I was there, with the name and address of the person who entered my ancestor's pedigree. A little old lady in Randolph, Utah.

I picked up the phone and called her, "I think I'm one of your distant cousins, can you help me find more information?" In a few minutes, she got her records out, and gave me the information that traced my Benjamin to Maryland, and his ancestors to James Mackall, the Pioneer, who came to colonies from Scotland in 1635 and had a plantation on the cliffs above Chesapeake Bay. That started me - trips for 4 years, every vacation we got, to libraries, graveyards in search of "dead Blackmores" to the point where, in 2002, I was able to publish a history of my family tree and its branches. Not only were we immersed in Blackmores, we found the Kennedy roots for Paul. For 25 years now, we have called ourselves "multi-clannish" because we have worn the tartans of our various clan affiliations. However, one particular clan tugged at our hearts and loyalties.



We first visited with past society Chief Don and Bernice Cannaday at the Glasgow, KY games. They welcomed us into the tent, and we've been around ever since. Our duties as operators of the Heelan' Hound have necessitated multi-tasking between making and selling tartan dog clothing and Kennedy, but I found another way to help. For the past 5 years, I have been editor of the Kennedy Gazette, a task that has brought satisfaction (and frustration with computer crashes), utilizing the skills I had used in a career in journalism, marketing and promotion. Thank you for all the assistance you have given as I have edited your newsletter. However, it's time for someone else to step forward as Newsletter Editor as I assume new duties...taking on the dual task of communication with membership and logistics for our chief. Also a recipient of the Companion of the Oak, I, too, hope to continue my service to the Kennedy Society.



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Biography of Leo F Kennedy

I have, for most of my life, visited the family tree to review events in our lives as it pertained to American history. While I know of no connection to the American Revolution, I am aware of family members that fought in the Civil War. I have been a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for 25 years and was elected as the national commander for a one year term in 2009. I was able to travel the country and speak at conferences, something I enjoy doing. I also portray a sergeant in Battery B, 1st Rhode Island Artillery, an organization that travels and teaches the history of Rhode Island's involvement in the Civil War and participates in re-enactments.



Lord Ailsa and Leo Kennedy

All of this has impassioned a sense of history on my life. My wife and I travel often to learn more about our family history. Travels to Nova Scotia, Ireland and Scotland have been able to help us do just that. My wife, Sandy, knew little about her Scottish roots (Murray) so we traveled to Glasgow to visit where her grandmother was born (and spent a few weeks visiting more of Scotland and the Kennedys). It was inspiring for both of us.

After meeting and talking to several Kennedy's and the Chief, Donald Canaday in the 1990's I knew I had to join. The articles from the Kennedy newsletters, along with us being able to visit some of the games, inspired Sandy and I to represent the Kennedys at some New England events.

We visited and assisted at games in Maine, Southern New Hampshire, Loon Mountain, and Western Massachusetts. Sadly some of these are no longer being run. We set up each year in Rhode Island and Scotland, Connecticut. I have served on the Board of Directors for New Hampshire Gathering of Scottish Clans (Loon Mountain) in 2006 for a three year term. We have traveled to visit and assist at others such as a great Grandfather Mountain, a very COLD Richmond VA, and a wet 40th anniversary in Tennessee.



We have been to Burns dinners many years, sometimes more than one a year.

I graduated from Providence College with a Bachelors Degree and now sit on the College's Board of Governors. I have recently retired after 33 years with a city fire department at the rank of deputy chief. I am hoping I will now have the time to travel and visit more games.

Sandy and I reside in Greenville Rhode Island. We enjoy traveling and camping many places in America.



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Biography of Glenn A. Kennedy

I currently reside in Raleigh, North Carolina with my wife Lynda. We have two children and four grandchildren who also reside in Raleigh.

I have, so far, traced my Kennedy heritage to an ancestor, William Kennedy (1736-1814) from Brandywine Manor, Pennsylvania. He fought as a patriot in the Revolutionary War.

I have been a member of the Kennedy Society since July 20, 2002 and have since joined as a Lifetime Member. I have been Treasurer of the Society since 2009.

I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from UNC in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. I am a retired Certified Public Accountant, was a partner for 25 years in a national CPA firm, and have worked in the accounting profession for a total of over 40 years.

I have been involved with the operation of ten "Not for Profit" entities and was an officer and on the board of most of these entities.

Shown: Lynda Kennedy, Chris Kennedy, and Glenn Kennedy at the 2012 Fergus, Ontario games.

Artisans Corner



Through the darkest, cold and stormy nights the glint of warmth glows through the smallest cottage window. Strong ocean winds, rain and snow batter the walls of stone. The sweet sounds of singing and music draws even the most reluctant traveller from their path into the warmth to partake in the hospitality beside the hearth. It is the musicians, dancers, drummers, and singers in our worlds that melt the stress of daily life and allows for contemplation, creativity, and sparks of ingenuity to develop their essence. Slip into the warmth of the family room as the sounds of a tapping foot and drumming fingers delight the ears and invite one to join into the songs of childhood.

Sharing in the fold a new melody and passing the old music to the next generation. Artisans in the home weave the fabric of our culture into the crafts that in time depart that safe haven to be carried abroad.

All cultures have embraced the Scots indomitable spirit and culture. Even over the River Doon the witches and warlocks have been known to keep unusual company for the reason of reveling to the pipers tune in the delights of dancing and singing, if we are to believe the tales of poets from Ayr. In looking to the world beyond, every country possesses at least one pipe band. The family Kennedy has been strong in delivering that culture as we travel and reside in these lands. Our artisans are bound by the very nature of our culture. Unique characters strive to form the foundations and build paths for the artisans to continue their work that in turn drives our world. These foundations are in a word "Kennedy." Take your chair at the hearth and see what our great family artisans bring to the world.

Howard C Kennedy
Ottawa, Canada
Aviselafin@hotmail.com

I invite artisans to share the history and traditions of their crafts with me, so that I might in turn share the knowledge and passions with the family.



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“Never have I seen a better example of precision or accuracy in a color guard,” a quote from an individual in the audience.

Chris and I were in Titusville, Florida, along with the Kennedy Society’s Florida’s District Directors, Neil and Janet Brussard, to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of Titusville Fire and Emergency Services. This event highlighted the Honor Guard’s formal adoption of the Kennedy tartan as their official ceremonial uniform. How proudly the Guard marched in their new Kennedy weathered tartan kilts, and how delighted we were to see their mission fulfilled! About 2 years ago, Kennedy Society member Frank Canada, Logistics Officer with Titusville Fire and Emergency Services, approached Chris and Neil about the desire of forming an alliance between the Titusville Fire and Emergency Services Honor Guard Unit and the Kennedy Society of North America. With the enthusiastic approval of Fire Chief, Mike Woodward, the determination of the 10 chosen honor guard members, and the passion of the Kennedy Society’s support, Frank’s aspiration became a reality as Chris Kennedy read the Proclamation to a huge crowd on this Friday afternoon. ***Congratulations to Titusville Fire and Emergency Services on their 100 years of service and three cheers for the Kennedy Honor Guard!*** Submitted by Sue Kennedy



PROCLAMATION

OF THE KENNEDY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

Commemorating the Titusville Fire and Emergency Services Department 100 Years of Service

Whereas: On 6 December 2013, the recognition and celebration of the Titusville Fire and Emergency Services Department will take place honoring the Department for 100 years of service.

Whereas: The Kennedy Society of North America celebrates with the Titusville community and recognizes a dynamic fire department focusing on the community it serves by providing fire and rescue services with highly trained and professional personnel .

Whereas: The Kennedy Society celebrates the department’s many achievements, including promoting the health and safety of the community they serve by offering public information classes, lectures, and demonstrations. The Titusville Fire and Emergency Services Department truly lives its mission statement by offering service that comes from the heart.

Whereas: The Kennedy Society commends the Titusville Fire and Emergency Services Department for the organization and inauguration of the Titusville Fire and Emergency Services Honor Guard.

Whereas: The Honor Guard devotes much of their personal time and talents to superior precision training. The members of the Kennedy Society recognize this dedication and commitment to community service which honors the fire department as well as the Kennedy Society. The Kennedy Society also praises the Guard for its promotion of Scottish culture, heritage and tradition within the fire service, and further commends this Ceremonial Guard Unit as it honors the Kennedy family, and its renowned Scottish history by wearing the Kennedy tartan.

Therefore: Be it proclaimed, that the Kennedy Society of North America and its Board of Governors, do hereby recognize and endorse the Titusville Fire and Emergency Services Department Honor Guard as the Kennedy Society Honor Guard. We wish them every success in all their future endeavors, and may the Honor Guard members wear the Kennedy tartan with much honor and pride.

**Chris Kennedy, President/Chief
Kennedy Society of North America**





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Scottish dance, an International Undertaking By Tom Dillon

To get to Karlin Square in Prague, Czech Republic, you take a subway from downtown going east. You're soon outside the touristy parts of the wonderful old city, but it's still a trip worth taking. Karlin Square is the location of the Church of St. Cyril and St. Methodius, two of the republic's most revered saints. And it's also the site of a day school where one of the local chapters of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society holds weekly dances.

Yes, I know, you just did a double-take. Scottish dance in the Czech Republic? Isn't that a little unusual? That's what some of our relatives said when we told them this story. But the answer is no. Such things happen all over the world. That's because the Scottish diaspora has taken Scottish people all over the world, and their traditions have often gone with them. One of the nice things about being a Scottish country dancer is that you're part of a worldwide fraternity/sorority. Almost any place you can go in the world – big cities, anyway – you can find a Scottish dance group. And you'll be welcome. In that respect, it's just like the Kennedy Society of North America.

My wife and I belong to a Scottish dance group in Greensboro, N.C. But in the past few years, we've danced in places far from the southeastern U.S. During a trip to the Czech Republic in 2009, we joined that group in Prague doing dances that we all knew, albeit in different languages. In 2011, we found a Scottish dance group in, of all places, a Presbyterian church just outside Dublin, Ireland. They were doing, among other dances, one called "MacDonald of the Isles." It's one of the most popular country dances at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.



© Sam McClenaghan



The interchange goes both ways. Several years ago, a Scottish dancer from a town near Frankfurt, Germany, was dispatched by his company to Greensboro for the better part of a year. He readily found out local group and danced with us for most of that year. A lady from the Frankfurt group recently joined us for a few weeks, again dancing dances we all know. The point is that Scottish country dancing is one of the most international things you can get involved in. The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society has headquarters in Edinburgh, but it has branches all over the world; one of the largest is in Tokyo, Japan. And by clicking on one of the society's interactive maps, you can usually find a dance group in your travels. It's often a ready introduction to a new country.

The society publishes dances that are distributed around the world. When one of our dancers, a long-time follower of solar eclipses, passed away recently, another dancer wrote a dance in his memory. It's a beautiful Strathspey called "Following the Eclipse," and in the first few months after our friend's death it had already been danced as far away as South Africa. Chances all it will be published and get worldwide distribution in the coming year. Neither my wife nor I grew up as citizens of the world; we're both from the mountains along the North Carolina-Virginia border. But today we consider ourselves to have friends all over the world, and many of them are Scottish country dancers. As I said, we're part of a worldwide fraternity/sorority. It's a good feeling. *For more information, you can click on the Website of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. It's at www.rscds.org. I guarantee you that a new world will open.*



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KENNEDY QUIZ HAS THREE WINNERS!

The Kennedy Quiz came to completion in December after beginning in July of 2013. Each month 5 questions were published on the Kennedy website and participants answered their questions and emailed them to the Quiz Coordinator to be graded and their score returned to them. The questions were prepared by our Kennedy “professors” John Kennedy from Ontario Canada, Paul and Ann Key from North Carolina, and Carver Kennedy from Georgia. We appreciate our professors’ time and particularly appreciate their knowledge of Scottish and Kennedy history as well as their comprehension of Scottish current events. Kudos to each of the professors for sharing their knowledge with all the participants! We need to further mention that the Kennedy Quiz could not have proceeded so smoothly without the assistance of Nina Eppes, our Website master, who had the task of inputting the questions each month and then emailing the participants’ answers to the Quiz Coordinator. Well done Nina!

Please find below our three winners and their thoughts on their Kennedy ancestors and on the Kennedy Quiz.

Christine Kennedy Thomson – 3rd Place Winner

“A people which takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered by remote descendants”Macaulay

“I take pride in my ancestors and in the researching of one side of my heritage – The Kennedy’s”, I found much of interest which leads me to do more searching into family history, however the following will be a brief resume

Going back in time, John Kennedy, born 1760, came from America to Scarborough, Ontario, with his wife Nancy Wasson, as United Empire Loyalists about 1800, and they became farming pioneers. From this time the lineage goes through several generations down to Lyman Andrew Kennedy (m. Jean Elliot). It is interesting to know that a Huguenot from France, Andre Lamoreaux born 1660 (m. Suzanne Latour), left their country in a home-built boat and emigrated to New York via Bristol, England. They later moved to New Brunswick in the 1700’s, and again to Scarborough, Ontario, where one of this family Elizabeth Ann Lamoreaux, married Lyman Kennedy, my grandfather.

My suggestion for a future topic for the Quiz would be “How the Scots were able to achieve such heights in education in a seemingly short period of years and be able to emigrate and lead the world – particularly North America – in English Literature, Science, Mathematics, Medicine, Engineering, Statesmanship and Politics etc. Such a small country gave so much and shared their best to our benefit.

Participating in the Kennedy Quiz has been a challenge and I will say that my knowledge of my Scottish heritage has grown. It did demand my time and took perseverance, but then as our crest reveals, we are “persistent to the end”.

Christine Kennedy Thomson, Orillia, Ontario, Canada

Martin Kennedy—2nd Place Winner

Hi, first of all thank you for the award, I have enjoyed taking the quiz and looked forward to the new questions each month, it was great. I hope that there are plans for more in the future. I was excited to learn more about the history of the Kennedy Clan and the role our family has played. I have been a member of KSNA for about three years now, but have not yet been able to work my schedule out to attend any of the games, but I will soon. I have enjoyed the web site and the Facebook page and the news letter. My favorites are the news letter and all the photos of the games.

My branch of Kennedy’s settled in the Cumberland County area of North Carolina after arriving in America from Isle of Skye, Scotland. The originators of my branch in North Carolina were John Kennedy and Maggie McKeller, they were married at Longstreet Presbyterian Church, which still stands today on Fort Bragg. There are lots of church cemeteries scattered all over the Cape Fear and Sandhills area of North Carolina with Kennedy’s in them and the history of that area would be incomplete without their inclusion.

I have a pretty good picture of my family’s history in North Carolina after arriving from Scotland, but my biggest dream is to complete the story by finding out about their life back in Scotland.

Again thank you for the award and please keep up the good work with the newsletter and the web site, and please continue with the quizzes, or maybe webinars about Scottish and Kennedy history. Thank You,

Martin Kennedy, Smithfield, North Carolina



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KENNEDY QUIZ WINNERS CONTINUED:

Joanna Engelhardt - 1st Place Winner

My membership in the Kennedy Society is due to the Clan Campbell Society NA). I was Googling subjects related to my Scottish ancestry when I came upon the CCS/NA website. From there, I discovered other clan societies, including KSNA. I convinced my husband (of 100% German descent) to go to the Stone Mountain Highland Games in October, 2012, at which we joined the society. (You know you're Scottish when you travel from Iowa to Georgia in order to save \$10.00 on membership application fees!)

The history of my branch of the Kennedy family begins with one William Campbell who left Scotland for County Down, Ulster sometime between 1680 and 1700. The "Irish" Campbell era ended when another William Campbell and his living children, including daughter Martha, settled in Allegheny County, PA.

September 27, 1785, Samuel Kennedy was born in Londonderry, Derry, Ulster. In 1819, Samuel, his wife, Jane Gillfillan, and 5 children immigrated to the US, eventually settling in Allegheny County, PA where 4 more children were born. The youngest, David, married Martha Campbell.

(I really enjoyed the [Kennedy Quiz](#). I worked hard to come up with the answers, but the reward was in the research – learning more about Scottish history, culture, and, *of course*, the Kennedys. I was never especially interested in history, but this is my own heritage. That makes it so much more interesting. The questions were quite varied, and, at times, a bit unexpected. Some were comparatively easy, some were fun, but others made a person really think. While the prize is *far more* than I ever expected, by far the best prize I received was a greater understanding and appreciation of my Scottish heritage. **Joanne Engelhardt, Des Moines, Iowa**



Editor's Note: Nathan and I share a similar heritage of growing up on a Midwestern farm. This photo, one of two he sent of his wedding day, was his favorite from his wedding.

NEW KILT, NEW LIFE FOR NEW KENNEDY MEMBER

My name is Nathan Bishop and I have been a member of the Kennedy Society since August 2013.

I was married this last year and I wanted to send along a couple of pictures of my bride and me on our wedding day for the Kennedy Gazette.

My bride's name was Heather Nicholas, and we were married October 5th at Sunnyside United Methodist Church in Kalamazoo Michigan. We had our reception at the historic Bangor Michigan Grain Elevator, which has been refurbished for events. My Great, Great, Great Grandfather Franklin Kennedy built a farm outside of Bangor in the 1850's. The farm was in our family for over 100 years and was also a Michigan centennial farm. Unfortunately the farm is no longer in the family but my parents live on a parcel of land that was owned by our family.

A special thing for me was that I've wanted a Kennedy tartan kilt since I was a boy and I was finally able to have a kilt made, after so many years, to wear at the wedding (and now anytime I want, (He, He!)



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Scottish Heritage Association of Northeast Ohio, Welcomed Lord Charles as our Honored Guest for its Annual Burns Dinner 2014.

It was a bitter cold January day when Lord Charles arrived in Cleveland, Ohio. Temperatures were in the minus single digits, and there was more than a foot of snow on the ground. But the temperatures quickly rose with our first visit to the Tilted Kilt in downtown Cleveland for lunch!

The servers were very attentive to a Scottish Lord, and the manager graciously declined to charge us for our entire meal and Stella's! A fun time was had by all.

On Friday evening, we had an informal gathering at our home so everyone could enjoy some time with Lord Charles. It was a delightful evening, full of laughter, food, Stella and tales of Scottish Lore. There was even a lively debate about the ideal size of knife blades and other weaponry.



On Saturday, in a small ceremony at the hotel just before the Burns Dinner, Lord Charles asked Zellna Shaw, the Tartan Lady, and Harry Gant, (aka Dirty Harry as Lord Charles likes to call him) to take a knee. They quickly obliged and were brought into the Kennedy Society family.

Lord Charles then asked Kona to take a knee. This was quite a surprise to Kona as he was promoted to Chieftain of the Kennedy Society of North America. With Kona's head still trying to figure out what had just happened, it was off to the Burns dinner.



In spite of bitterly cold, snowy weather, we had over 430 guests for the event. Lord Charles welcomed everyone to the Burns Dinner. He invited anyone who had never attended a Burns Dinner to please rise and recite the Selkirk Grace Blessing with him. During dinner, Lord Charles remarked that this was the "best Haggis" he had ever had! So he welcomed the chef to the head table and honored him with a shot of single malt whiskey! Dinner was followed by jubilant dancing (including Lord Charles!) and fun. Lord Charles was very impressed with the bands drum majors. It was a spectacular event, certain to have pleased Robert Burns himself.

Our hope is that Lord Charles will join us again for future Burns Dinners!
Submitted by Kathi Gant





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Heavy Athletics History of the Caber Toss

I thought it would be fun to take a look back at the history of the caber toss and see why it was invented. The term 'caber' derives from the Gaelic word "cabar" or "kaber" which refers to a rafter or beam. The most prominent legend surrounding the origin of the caber toss is that of breaching barriers or crossing streams during wartime. In the Scottish highlands, you often have freezing-cold streams that you need to cross. During battle, the caber was tossed from one side of the stream to the other to quickly make a bridge, allowing fellow Scotsmen to cross and continue on to chase rival clans. The first record of an

athletic event in Scotland was 1574 in which, sporting contests were held to determine strength, agility and speed which related to military prowess.

So with that being said, what is the caber toss? It is a heavy athletic event at Scottish Highland Games and festivals all over the world that have become the event everyone comes to see.

A caber is a 16 - 23 feet long log, usually peeled, weighing between 70 and 150 pounds (depending on the type of tree). During the event each athlete will get three tries to turn the Caber. It starts with two athletes pushing the caber into the vertical position and then the athlete doing the toss has to then hold it.

During this point athlete says "Caber is mine" the two athletes walk away to allowing him to start the event. The athlete squats with his feet flat on the ground and wedges the caber between his shoulder and neck. He pushes upward with his hands, and lifts it slightly, just enough to slide his interlocked hands beneath the smaller end, as he lifts and stands upright. He must maintain his balance with the log in the vertical position.

At this point, the heavier, larger end of the log is up, so he may stagger around a bit until it is balanced. (For this to be a valid toss the athlete must be in control of the caber for more than three steps). He takes a short run forward and flips the log in the air. He must make the large end hit the ground and the small end flip over and land straight ahead, away from him. For the best score, the small end of the caber needs to land at the 12 o'clock position, straight out from the thrower. This is an event of accuracy rather than distance, so it doesn't matter how far each athlete throws it.

I hope this has given you the insight on the event that most people enjoy to watch, but sometimes don't know why it is an event. Our readers at future Scottish highland festival can pass along the knowledge to your family and friends in attendance. **Avise La Fin, David Fulford**





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Lord Ailsa + Lady Alicia + Multitudes of Kennedys & Friends = One Amazing Weekend!

The 4-pack Kennedy tent (four 10ft tents in a square) was jam packed at the 37th Central Florida Scottish Highland Games in Winter Springs, Florida, January 17 & 18, 2014. As tent conveners, we had a vague idea what to expect when Lord Ailsa comes to town.....then add to the mix all 12 members of the Titusville Fire and Emergency Services /Kennedy Honor Guard, their wives & kidsand let's just say, Wow! We were so very *grateful* to Chris and Sue Kennedy, Neil and Janet Brussard, Paul and Ann Key, and a host of others for their support, for without them we would have been overwhelmed. The guest register does not reflect the number of guests at his great event, as it got so busy the register went unnoticed. A fair guess for the weekend would be 150 guests and friends.

A big welcome to new members Michael & Paula Taylor, Janice McKeague, and Matthew Hutchinson! We're glad you came by and had the opportunity to meet Lord Ailsa & Lady Alicia, and we look forward to seeing you again!

Growing by leaps & bounds, the Titusville Fire & Emergency Services / Kennedy Honor Guard, under the command of Frank Canada, has grown from 6 to 12 members since the 2013 Games and are now dressed out in Kennedy



weathered tartan kilts. Lord Ailsa and Lady Alicia came to see their Honor Guard, and were very impressed!

Lord Ailsa and Frank Canada shared a traditional toast just before opening ceremonies on Saturday, flanked by Lady Alicia and Kennedy dignitaries. Lord Ailsa then conducted an individual inspection of the troops while the rest of the unit stood at attention. This ceremony was very moving! Several observers had tears in their eyes, seeing the expression on our beloved Lord Charles' face as each Honor Guard member marched forward, saluting him and presenting for introduction. These young firefighters displayed such a level of respect and professionalism, and it was truly emotional!



The Honor Guard then opened the Games, piped onto the field by host band Rosie O'Grady's Highlanders to a crowd standing six to seven deep on all sides. Our Kennedy Honor Guard members certainly looked sharp as they presented colors, backed by eleven pipe bands, and facing Lord Ailsa as he stood proudly upon the stage.





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Central Florida Games, Winter Springs continued:

The rest of Saturday afternoon was equally busy at the tent, and lots of fun! The Kennedy genealogy chart attracted a lot of attention, though many guests found the delicious food, fine whisky and beer a bit more interesting.

Saturday evening, Chris and Sue Kennedy were presented with special thank you gifts from Neil & Janet Brussard and Frank & Suzanne Canada, for their many years of dedication to the KSNA and the Florida Kennedys. Chris received and treasured and rare bottle of Ailsa Craig whisky in a beautiful custom box (made by the very talented Janet). Finding the whisky and getting it over here is a story of it's own...one in which Lord Ailsa played a very important part! Sue was given a beautifully bound book of blank pages for recording thoughts, memos, and bits and pieces during her upcoming trip to Scotland.

On Sunday, things slowed down somewhat though we still had many new and old friends stopping by to visit and learn about their Kennedy history. Lord Ailsa and Lady Alicia attended Sunday as well, and had a chance to visit with everyone who came by. Thank you all again for your help!!



Submitted by Frank & Suzanne Canada

Sarasota, Fl. Highland Games – February 1, 2014

This was the Sarasota Highland Games 20th Anniversary!

The two days preceding the Games were heavy rains with totals over 5" in the Sarasota area. Game day started off with dark threatening clouds, but cleared up by mid day with partial sun and very humid temperatures in the mid 70s.

The potential of more rain early in the day held down the attendance at the games, but we had plenty of Kennedy family to enjoy the day with, including Chris and Sue Kennedy, Frank and Suzanne Canada, Andrea O'Neill, David and Marie "Sam" Kennedy, along with friends Jeff & Doris Williams.



This year Janet made Blue & Gold ribbon streamers which we added to the top of each Tartan flag pole. Marching in the Parade of Clans, I think we could have been mistaken as a lost battalion from Braveheart!!

Submitted by Neil & Janet Brussard



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**WHERE WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE
 WILL BE A KENNEDY TENT
 JUNE - DECEMBER 2014**

- May 30 – June 1 – Glasgow Games in Glasgow, KY
- July 10-13 – Grandfather Mountain Games in Linville, NC
- August 23 - Kalamazoo Highland Games in Kalamazoo MI
- August 30- 31 – Pleasanton Games in Pleasanton, CA
(Lord Ailsa plans to attend)
- August 30 - 31 Virginia Games, The Plains, VA
- September 4 - 7 Longs Peak Games, Estes Park, CO
- Volunteers needed to “man” the Kennedy tent**
- September 13-14 – Niagara Celtic Festival in Olcott, NY
(Lord Ailsa plans to attend)
- September 19-21 - New Hampshire Games in Lincoln, NH
- October 18-19 – Stone Mountain Games in Stone Mtn, GA
- October 25-26 – Central Virginia Games in Richmond VA

**Please check the Kennedy website for other games
 in your area.**