



The Kennedy Gazette

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It's the Kennedy Society's 40th Anniversary. We are the Honored Clan at the Smoky Mountain Highland Games...where we will hold our Annual Meeting

In 1973, at the Grandfather Mountain games in Linville NC, the Kennedy Society of North America was formed with 31 charter members in attendance at the first meeting. Today we are over 300 families strong with members in the US, Scotland, Canada, Brazil, and Australia.

As we gather at

games we visit with each other to renew old friendships, make new ones, and to enjoy our Scottish traditions. Some of us have never been to a highland game, but read our Newsletter faithfully and remain avid supporters of the Kennedy Society and our Scottish heritage.

In May of 2013 we have a unique opportunity as we approach the Kennedy Society's 40th Anniversary. We have the opportunity to celebrate our success as a Society – a Society that is a vibrant, growing entity – a Society which has succeeded in its goal of promoting our Scottish customs and culture and succeeded in encouraging and preserving our extended Kennedy family.

We encourage you and your family to join us the weekend of May 17, 18, 19, 2013 on the campus of Maryville College in Maryville Tennessee for the Smoky Mountain Games. The Kennedys will be honored clan. Joining

us for the celebration will be Lord Charles and his daughter, Lady Alicia, who is now residing in New York City. We will also be holding our Annual Meeting for 2013. It will be a very busy game for us!

Games information can be found on the Smoky Mountain Games website: smokymountaingames.org There you will find suggestions for lodging, directions to the games, schedule of events, ticket information for Saturday and Sunday tickets and Patron Packages which include the reception on Friday night. Contact Chief Chris with questions: 678-313-7013 or at kenn6633@bellsouth.net.

WE ESPECIALLY WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ANY CHARTER MEMBERS TO THIS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Some of our 40th Anniversary celebration highlights will include: special decorations at the tent, a yummy anniversary cake, special Kennedy Society memories, and a genealogy chart that will blow your mind!

DON'T STAND IN LINE TO GET YOUR LUNCH! The Society will be ordering box lunches on Saturday from Sonic which is one of the Game's sponsors. We will need to have an approximate count of the number of lunches to be ordered and delivered to the tent. The box lunch will include chicken tenders, slaw, chips, and cookies. The cost per lunch is \$6.00. Please email, call, or mail your number of lunches to Sue Kennedy – kenn6633@bellsouth.net, 770-533-1529, 6415 Barberr Hill Drive Gainesville GA 30506. **AGM information continues on page 10 after 2014 tour to Scotland details....**



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Important Information from Lord Charles

Well 2013 has started here. It has been very wet and windy with snow always nearby. I am very excited and looking forward to visiting Knoxville at our AGM in May and I hope to see as many Clan members as possible. This year, Lady Alicia, who is working in New York, will be joining us at the games, It will be her 1st games outside Grandfather so I hope you will all make her happy as you did with Lady Rosemary two years ago and for me for the last 15 years. Put that weekend in your diary. It will be TO GOOD TO MISS!

Also, I am pleased to announce a collaborative effort with Auld Country Tours, Vancouver, BC, Together we have worked out a 2014 tour that will be a great experience for all.

Lord Charles



Important Words from our Chief

There are some very important events that are happening this spring and moving forward. I have only enough space to mention a few here.

This is our fortieth year and we will be celebrating with a gala AGM in May at the Smoky Mountain Games in Maryville, Tennessee. Come and be part of our history and our future. There will be many people to meet and very interesting things to see including a gigantic genealogic chart; come find yourself!

After much concern about homecoming events and diligent research, Lord Charles has determined that a trip is viable for 2014. We are excited to have a Lord Charles led tour in partnership with Auld Country Tours. See all the wonderful materials in this issue of the Gazette and on line. Please stay in touch if you are interested in participating.

This AGM is the beginning of my last year and the transition to a new era. Your new leaders will be here to meet. We have launched a new structure with the addition of district representatives. Our first representatives are Neil and Janet Brussard. You can read about them in this issue. This is one of the steps in creating new and in-depth communication systems for the KSNA.

This last year we were graciously given a time share which we tried to use as a way to raise scholarship funds by raffling off opportunities to use the time share. Although this turned out to be successful, the work load was too great on too few. We are not doing the raffle again. We still have the unit and would welcome a purchaser or someone with ideas on what to do with it. This is going to be an active year; games where Kennedys will be participating are listed in the Gazette and also on our website. As always, I relish your input. Please correspond with me in any form; you are the Kennedy Society of North America.

Editor's Note: So that all of you are as informed as we are at this point, the next few pages of this issue of the Kennedy Gazette include information from Auld Country Tours about the upcoming society trip to Scotland in June 2014. Following the tour information pages will be additional details about the May 2013 40th Anniversary Celebration and AGM, and other stories of interest to fellow Kennedys.



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"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails.

Explore. Dream. Discover." ~ Mark Twain

Auld COUNTRY TOURS

Scotland & Ireland. Wanna Go?!



Hello Kennedy Society members:



My name is James Johnson, and I am the tour director of **Auld Country Tours Inc.** In February of this year, Lord Ailsa asked me to develop a Clan Kennedy Tour for late June, early July of 2014. Included in planning wish list were a visit to Northern Ireland, attendance at a gala at Culzean Castle, and timing of the tour so that society members could attend the re-opening of the Bannockburn Visitor Centre, in celebration of the Battle's 700th anniversary.

I am very pleased that Lord Ailsa fully approves of the 2014 Tour that we've developed. Presently, I am in the process of booking the hotels in the towns/cities where the group will spend their evenings.

Lord Ailsa, asked me to forward the **Itinerary** and **Prices** to you. Please see them printed on the following pages of this edition of the Gazette and a written description of the tour will also be posted on my website, www.auldcountrytours.com.

Please let me know of any further information that you might need regarding this tour. **Note that all signup and bookings for this tour will need to be accomplished directly through my website, giving me access to up-to-the-minute updates, regarding tour numbers, special requirements, etc.**

As all payment goes directly through **Auld Country Tours**, we will be responsible for all bookings and payments to hotels, included attractions, the coach line, and for all included dinners. If you have any questions, please ask. I am also available for telephone conversations, though I will be leading a tour in Europe from March 12 to Apr. 2.

I look forward to hearing from you.

James Johnson, Tour Director Auld County Tours





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Auld COUNTRY TOURS

The Clan Kennedy Tour 2014

Auld Country Tours, in partnership with the Kennedy Society of North America, and the Marquess of Ailsa, hereditary Clan Chief, is proud to offer our Clan Kennedy Tour of 2014 (June 20 to 29, and June 30-July 4, 2014)

Welcome to the Auld Country! Our **10-day Kennedy Tour (June 20-29, 2014)** takes us on a journey through many of the most beautiful areas of Scotland and Northern Ireland. We start in the dramatic city of Edinburgh, Scotland, explore sights in the Scottish Borders, and travel by ferry to Northern Ireland. Here, the modern city of Belfast, the medieval city of Derry, and the seaside hamlet of Portballintrae, await to greet us. Along the way we visit the stunning Antrim Coast, complete with suspension bridges, castles, Bushmill's Distillery, and the world famous Giant's Causeway. Following our days in Northern Ireland, we return to Scotland to visit the ancestral lands of the Clan Kennedy, centered in Ayrshire, on the southwest coast of Scotland. A visit to Robert Burns country, will entail a close look at the sights important to the memory of Scotland's greatest poet. These locations in both Ayr and nearby Alloway, fully complement the Kennedy sights that will be explored in Ayrshire. Our final night in Ayr will be marked by an unforgettable Gala and dinner in the magnificent Culzean Castle, the principal seat of the Kennedys since 1759. The next day we visit Bannockburn, and it's grand reopening at the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn, Robert the Bruce's pivotal victory for Scotland's freedom. Our final night will be in the town of Stirling, sight of William Wallace's first great victory against the English, 17 years earlier.

Our **5-day Extended Kennedy Tour (June 30-July 4, 2014)**, will begin in Stirling on the day that the guests of the 10 day tour transfer to the airport. After exploration of Stirling by day, the tour heads west to the colorful seaside town of Oban, visiting several lonely castle ruins in between. We visit Scotland's most famous body of water, Loch Ness, pause in the lonely hills of Glen Coe, and soak in our pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona, birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. Finally, we head back east, enjoying the historical and cosmopolitan sights of Glasgow, and the golfer's mecca of St. Andrews. A final night in the Old Town of Edinburgh closes out the trip in grand fashion.

We look forward to welcoming you on this Tour! With only 40 spaces available, and the chance to tour with The Most Honourable, the Marquess of Ailsa, hereditary Clan Chief, this is truly a wonderful opportunity. **Guests can book either the 10 day tour, or the 10 day tour, with the 5 day extension. Guests can also book their flights through Auld Country Tours, as we offer a New York to Edinburgh flight option.**

Overview of the 10-Day Tour June 20 – June 29

Our 10-day Kennedy Tour takes us on a journey through many of the most beautiful areas of Scotland and Northern Ireland. We start in the dramatic city of Edinburgh, Scotland, explore sights in the Scottish Borders, and travel by ferry to Northern Ireland. Here the modern city of Belfast, the medieval city of Derry, and the seaside hamlet of Portballintrae, await to greet us. Along the way we visit the stunning Antrim Coast, complete with suspension bridges, castles, Bushmill's Distillery, and the world famous Giant's Causeway. Following our days in Northern Ireland, we return to Scotland to visit the ancestral lands of the Clan Kennedy, centered in Ayrshire, on the southwest coast of Scotland. A visit to Robert Burns country, will entail a close look at the sights important to the memory of Scotland's greatest poet. These locations in both Ayr and nearby Alloway, fully complement the Kennedy sights that will be explored in Ayrshire. Our final night in Ayr will be marked by an unforgettable Gala and dinner in the magnificent Culzean Castle, the principal seat of the Kennedys since 1759. The next day we visit Bannockburn, and it's grand reopening at the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn, Robert the Bruce's pivotal victory for Scotland's freedom. Our final night will be in the town of Stirling, sight of William Wallace's first great victory against the English, 17 years earlier.

5-day Extended Kennedy Tour June 30—July 4

Begins in Stirling on the day that the guests of the 10 day tour transfer to the airport. After exploration of Stirling by day, the tour heads west to Oban, and several lonely castle ruins in between. We visit Loch Ness, and Glen Coe, and the beautiful Isle of Mull on our pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona. Finally we head back east, first enjoying the sights of Glasgow, and then the golfer's mecca of St. Andrews. A final night in the Old Town of Edinburgh closes out the trip.



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The Clan Kennedy Tour 2014 Itinerary and Prices

Day 1 (June 20, 2014) *On the Royal Mile*

Edinburgh, the ancient royal city, capital of Scotland, has been the seat of power from the ancient kings of Scotland, to the present day. What an amazing city to begin our tour in! Five hundred years ago Edinburgh was one of the most crowded cities in Europe, known at that time for its early high rises and its sanitation challenges. Today, these tall stone buildings make Edinburgh's Old Town highly unique in the British Isles. Unlike its English cousin, London, Old Edinburgh was virtually untouched by WW2, and retained its dense population of monumental original buildings, its maze of streets and tiny alleyways, and the beautiful landmarks seen in the earliest drawings of the city.



After transfer from the Edinburgh airport, we meet all earlier arrivals at our Edinburgh hotel in the early afternoon. After all introductions have been made, our group will walk up the Royal Mile to the impressive Edinburgh Castle, which keeps a watchful eye over the old city. Here we have a guided tour, taking in the Regimental museums, St. Mary's Chapel, the Crown jewels known as the "Honours of Scotland", the Stone of Destiny, and the dark dungeons of the castle. After the tour, the group will break up for further exploration of Edinburgh, with tour members making their way back to the hotel in the evening, at their leisure. We look forward to having a "Welcome to Scotland" drink at one of the lively pubs in the Old Town.

Day 2 (June 21, 2014) *To Selkirk and back!*

We awake to our first "full-Scottish" breakfast, at our hotel. Once everyone is fed, we, board our bus and head out of town for the morning. On the way south, we stop at the mysterious, yet architecturally stunning Rosslyn Chapel, featured in Dan Brown's 2003 novel, *The Da Vinci Code*. We continue on to Selkirk, once home to Sir Walter Scott, and home to the thriving textiles trade in Scotland. Here we will tour a working woolen mill, and have a chance to purchase all of the Kennedy tartan items that we desire. After lunch in Selkirk, we head back to Edinburgh, where we will visit and climb the Sir Walter Scott Monument on Princes Street, in Edinburgh's Georgian New Town.

Day 3 (July 22, 2014) *Northern Ireland!*

Goodbye for now, bonny Scotland. We leave the land of kilts and bagpipes, taking a ferry from Troon, Scotland to Larne, Northern Ireland. Once we have arrived, we drive to the city of Belfast, capital of Northern Ireland, which is of course, still part of the United Kingdom. Once settled into our hotel, we drive to Belfast Castle, and Cave Hill. Most guests will choose to enjoy the beautiful views of Belfast from the Castle, those with an adventurous spirit may choose to hike Cave Hill itself, for a slightly higher vantage point and unparalleled views of the countryside. When we return to the City Centre, we will have free time in the late afternoon and evening to explore the lively Golden Mile.



Day 4 (June 23, 2014) *The Beautiful Antrim Coast*

This busy day begins with a beautiful drive through the Glens of Antrim to the northern coast. Here we will visit the precarious rope suspension bridge traditionally used by fishermen at Carrick-a-Rede. This is followed by a tour and lunch at the world's oldest licensed distillery – Bushmills Distillery. After lunch, we will continue our day with a visit to the geometric stone formations of the amazing Giant's Causeway, and time allowing, to the cliffside castle ruins of Dunluce. Finally, we head to our hotel in the seaside village of Porballintrae.



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Day 5 (June 24, 2014) *Derry? Or is it Londonderry?*

We leave Portballintrae and arrive in Derry (known as Londonderry to Unionists). This city, calm and visitor-friendly today, has seen its share of conflict. From a 1688 siege, when the old city was held again King James II, to the 1972 tragedy known as Bloody Sunday, Derry has seen it all. We begin with a walking tour of the Old City walls and the famous murals of Bogside, which memorialize the events of the ill-fated 1972 protest in the now-peaceful Catholic neighbourhood. We visit the Museum of Free Derry and the Tower Museum Derry to further explore the history of the city. The rest of the day is free time for tour members to wander, shop, and dine.

Day 6 (June 25, 2014) *The Ayr down here!*

We take our leave of Northern Ireland, and once again board the ferry to Troon, Scotland. Arriving in Troon we drive the short distance to Ayr, a port town on the Forth of Clyde, and the ancestral homeland of the Kennedy clan. As the largest town in Ayrshire, there are several intriguing sites to see in Ayr, including the Auld Kirk of Ayr, build in 1654, Wallace Tower, and St. John's Tower, which is the last surviving structure of the original church where in the early 1300s, the Parliament of Scotland officially handed the crown to Robert the Bruce. There will also be the opportunity to visit the Auld Brig, immortalized by poet Robert Burns, and to see the many crumbling remains of the fortress walls erected by Oliver Cromwell, who from Ayr attempted to rule Scotland. The evening will include a chance to enjoy an evening drink at the Tam O' Shanter pub, where many think that the original Tam and Souter Johnny hoisted their mugs, inspiring Burns to write his brilliant masterpiece.

Day 7 (June 26, 2014) *The Kennedys – The Kings of Carrick*

The Kennedys have a long history in Ayrshire, dating back as early as the 12th century! The Kennedys of south Ayrshire first gained their title, the *Barons of Ailsa* in the 14th century, becoming the powerful Earls of Cassillis. Through Scottish history, the Kennedy name is frequently noticed, including the 3rd Lord Kennedy, David, who led his men and died at the disastrous Battle of Flodden. A few decades later, the 3rd Earl of Cassillis, Gilbert, was a famous Scottish statesman, who in fact travelled to France to help arrange the marriage of Mary Queen of Scots to the Dauphin, where she spend her early adult years in the French royal court.

Today, our group will celebrate and learn all about Kennedy history in the area. We will visit sights significant to the Kennedys through the centuries, as well as sights currently important to the Kennedy clan. We will again enjoy our evening in Ayr.



Day 8 (June 27, 2014) *The Culzean Gala*

What a day this will be! Our morning is dedicated to visiting Alloway, the nearby hometown of Robbie Burns. Alloway is a small village in Ayrshire, with several intriguing historical sights. At the top of the list of course is the Burn Cottage & Museum, which was the birthplace and early home of Scotland's most famous poet. While in Alloway, we will also visit the Brig O' Doon, the Burns Monument, and the eerie Auld Kirk of Alloway, which not only has the graves of Robert Burn's father and sister, but was the setting in *Tam O' Shanter* where Tam saw the witches dance before they began the chase.

The afternoon is one of the significant highlights of the entire Tour. This is the time when everyone visits the grand Culzean Castle, the seat of the Kennedy Clan since 1759. From the beautifully landscaped grounds to the magnificent detail designed by the peerless Robert Adam, this castle is as unique as it is breathtaking. From the Armoury collection, which is only rivaled by Queen Elizabeth's own collection at Windsor, to the beautiful Library, and the Oval Staircase, which is an architectural masterpiece, every step of this tour is exhilarating. After the tour, the group will enjoy dinner at the Castle, and the wonderful music of the live pipe band. Truly an evening to remember. Once the stains of the last musical note has floated away, the group will return to our hotel in Ayr.



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Day 9 (June 28, 2014) *700th Anniversary of Bannockburn!*

On June 24, 1314, King Robert the Bruce of Scotland began his most famous battle against the English forces, the Battle of Bannockburn. Due to careful preparations, well thought-out strategies, and the courage of the men, the Scottish freedom fighters routed an English force that most historians think outnumbered the Scots by 2 or 3 times the numbers.

Today we will spend the day at Bannockburn, enjoying the sights and sounds of this historic anniversary and the opening of the new state-of-art, Bannockburn Visitor Center. This is truly a day to celebrate proud Scottish heritage! In the late afternoon, the group will drive to nearby Stirling, the sight of William Wallace's first great victory over the English in 1297. Time permitting, a short walking tour of the town will be in order, as well as dinner and getting settled into the evening's hotel.



Day 10 (June 29, 2014) *Goodbye bonny Scotland!*

We awake in the historic city of Stirling. In the morning, final preparations are for the return to New York. We say our goodbyes and drive those heading home today to the airport. This concludes our 10-day, Clan Kennedy Tour of 2014.

EXTENDED 5-Day Kennedy Tour:

Day 11 (June 30, 2014) *To the Highlands*

While we said our goodbyes to everyone heading back to New York yesterday, those who chose to extend their Kennedy tour by 5 days had a full day to explore Stirling, visiting the impressive Stirling Castle, the Wallace Monument, and possibly the nearby Church of the Holy Rood, where in 1567, James the VI was crowned at 13 months old.

Today however, we make our way to the amazing west coast of Scotland. After our breakfast, we load the coach and head to nearby Doune Castle for a visit to a mid-sized medieval stronghold. Originally build in the 13th century, Doune saw military action from the Scottish Wars of Independence through to the Jacobite Uprisings of the 18th century. More recently, the well-preserved Doune Castle was prominently featured in the 1979 movie, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. From Doune, we travel to the lonely valley of Glen Coe. One of the most evocative places in the Highlands, it has been said that the towering hills still mourn the tragic 1692 massacre of the Macdonald clan. After lunch in Fort William, we make our way to the largest, and most famous lake in Scotland, Loch Ness. While keeping a watchful eye out for Nessie, we visit the ruins of Urquhart Castle and explore the small town of Drumnadrochit. Finally, we head back to our final destination for the evening, the colorful seaside town of Oban, where we will enjoy dinner and a relaxing evening together.



Day 13 (July 1, 2014) *Island Hopping to Mull and Iona*

This is a day of island adventures! In the morning, the group takes the ferry to the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. From here we drive further west and take a foot passenger ferry to the Isle of Iona, one of Scotland highly cherished historical sites. This was the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland in the 6th century, as Celtic monks, including St. Columba from Ireland (the great, great grandson of Niall of the Nine Hostages) established the ecclesiastical center. The Book of Kells, Ireland's most important historical document, was written on Iona, and later moved to Ireland for safety from the frequent Viking raids. These raids eventually led to the complete abandonment of the monastery in the 9th century. On Iona, we will also visit the graves of Scottish kings Malcolm I, Duncan I, and Macbeth. After our visit to Iona, we return for a second night at our hotel in Oban.



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Day 14 (July 2, 2014) *Glasgow!*

After a leisurely breakfast, we head east and stop at the picturesque, yet lonely Kilchurn Castle, on the shores of aptly-named Loch Awe. After filling your camera with gorgeous photos of the castle, we will continue straight to Scotland's largest city, Glasgow. Revitalized and visitor-friendly, Glasgow is a great town to stroll the pedestrian filled streets in the afternoon and evening. We visit the beautiful George Square, the Cathedral of St. Kentigern, the Necropolis and the oldest building in Glasgow, the Provand's Lordship. The evening will be free for guests to enjoy the local pub scene of Glasgow.



Day 15 (July 3, 2014) *St. Andrews; The Birthplace of Golf*

The golfer's mecca – yes, St. Andrews, the birthplace of golf, is our destination today. Home to the world famous Old Course, site of the most recognizable British Opens, St. Andrews has a lot to offer the visitor, whether a golfer or not. We will begin with a tour of the Old Course and of Prince William's alma mater, St. Andrews University, the oldest University in Scotland. Hoping to catch a glimpse of the red robed students, we will walk the pier where many a prestigious Brit has trod before. In the afternoon, the group will split to engage in one of two opportunities of a lifetime. Golfers who have signed up in advance will get the opportunity to play a round of golf in St. Andrews, while the rest of the group will depart for Perthshire, to visit and tour The Glenturret Distillery, the oldest distillery in Scotland. In the late afternoon the golfers will be picked up in Forth, in Edinburgh.

Day 16 (July 4, 2014) *Until we meet again...*

Today is our final day in Scotland. At this, the conclusion of a fabulous extended Kennedy Tour, we say our final farewells as we drive to the airport everyone who needs to fly back to New York with the group. Anyone arranging their own flights will be driven back to Edinburgh city center. Happy 4th of July, and farewell for now, friends!

Tour Highlights (15 day, June 20 – July 4, 2014)

Edinburgh Castle, St. Margaret's Chapel, the Honours of Scotland, Royal Mile, St. Giles Cathedral, John Knox House, Old Town, New Town, Sir Walter Scott Monument, Rosslyn Chapel, Selkirk, Woolen Mill, Belfast Castle & Cave Hill, Crown Liquor Saloon, Carrick-a-Rede suspension bridge, Bushmills Distillery, Dunluce Castle, The Giant's Causeway, Portballintrae, Derry, Bogside, Museum of Free Derry, Ayr, Auld Brig o'Ayr, Auld Kirk of Ayr, Wallace Tower, Loudoun Hall, Alloway, Burns Cottage & Museum, Burns Monument & Gardens, Culzean Castle & Gardens, Gala at Culzean Castle, Bannockburn, Stirling, Stirling Castle, Doune Castle, Glencoe, Fort William, Urquhart Castle at Loch Ness, Drumnadrochit, Oban, Isle of Mull, Isle of Iona, tour of Iona Abbey, graveyard of the Ancient Kings, Kilchurn Castle, Glasgow, George Square, Cathedral of St. Kentigern, Necropolis, Provand's Lordship, St. Andrews Golf Course, University of St. Andrews, Glenturret Distillery, Traditional Scottish dinner





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Tour Costs:

Option 1	10 day Tour (no flights)	\$2750.00 USD (per person, dbl/twin occ.) \$2975.00 USD (per person, single supp.)
Option 2	10 day Tour (including NYC to Edinburgh return flight)	\$4175.00 USD (per person, dbl/twin occ.) \$4400.00 USD (per person, single supp.)
Option 3	10 day Tour + 5 day Extended Tour (no flights)	\$4250.00 USD (per person, dbl/twin occ.) \$4625.00 USD (per person, single supp.)
Option 4	10 day Tour + 5 day Extended Tour (with NYC to Edin. return flight)	\$5675.00 USD (per person, dbl/twin occ.) \$6050.00 USD (per person, single supp.)

Flight costs MAY vary. At the time of this proposal, a direct New York to Edinburgh flight costs \$1425 (all taxes inc). Flights cannot be reserved until 365 days before departure. Flight option will be based on the \$1425 price; final invoice after our flights are actually booked will be adjusted to account for any fluctuations.

Regarding the deposit, the \$500.00 per person deposit is the initial deposit required to actually reserve a place on the tour. However, the very first step is the initial booking form that gets sent to us from the Auld Country Tours website, allowing us to respond and inform interested guests whether there is space left on the tour or not. We respond with the e-commerce access code, and it is only upon receipt of their deposit (either e-commerce or by check received at our Washington State address) that their place on the tour is reserved.

As soon as a deposit clears in our bank, the guests are informed that their funds have cleared and that their spot place on the tour is reserved. They are then given an invoice and a final payment date for the remaining balance of the tour payment.

Clearly, the earlier the deposit is received by our office, the more likely that they will get on the tour. We have space for 40 guests only. Once all places on the tour are reserved, we inform all subsequent enquires that the tour is fully booked.

Guests are also welcome to arrange their own flights and meet us in Edinburgh on the first day of the Tour.



WHERE WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THERE WILL BE A KENNEDY TENT JUNE - DECEMBER 2013

May 31 – June 2 – Glasgow Games in Glasgow, KY
July 12-14 – Grandfather Mountain Games in Linville, NC
August 30- Sept 1 – Pleasanton Games in Pleasanton, CA
August 31 - Sept 1 Virginia Games, The Plains, VA
September 5 - 8 Longs Peak Games, Estes Park, CO
September 20-22 - New Hampshire Games in Lincoln, NH
October 18-20 – Stone Mountain Games in Stone Mtn, GA
October 25 - 26 - Allison Woods Games, Statesville, NC

Check the website for other games in your area.



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**Kennedy Society
40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner
Saturday Evening May 18, 2013
With COLIN GRANT ADAMS
SOCIETY DINNER
6:00 gathering (cash bar)
and 6:30 dinner served**

Society dinner on Saturday night at RJ's Courtyard Grill, 3749 Airport Hwy, Alcoa, TN.
RJ's is 6 minutes from the Hilton host hotel and 12 minutes from the games field.
Phone number is: 865-970-7777.

Adult Dinner (includes entrée, baked or sweet potato, mixed vegetables, and dessert) **\$20.00.**

Child's dinner (choice of mac n' cheese, burger, chicken bites or corn dog) - **\$5.00.**

Please fill out reservation slip below:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Entrée Choice: (Circle) Prime Rib # ____ Smothered Chicken # _____ Grouper # ____ Child's # _____

Total money enclosed: _____

Mail to: Sue Kennedy: 6415 Barberry Hill Drive Gainesville GA 30506 ******DEADLINE: MAY 11, 2013**

PROXY VOTE ASSIGNMENT

I _____, wish to assign voting responsibility to _____

for the Kennedy Society of North America's Annual Meeting to be held in Maryville TN at the Smoky Mountain Highland Games on May 18, 2013.

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 11, 2013.

Chris Kennedy, President/Chief
6415 Barberry Hill Drive
Gainesville, GA 30506
Kenn6633@bellsouth.net

Sherry Frady, Southeast
4073 Belltown Rd
Oxford, NC 27565
medbear1964@yahoo.com

Bill Kennedy, V Pres/Deputy Chief
241 Everhard Rd SW
North Canton, OH 44709
wkennedyjr@yahoo.com

John Snodgrass, Midwest Chieftain
5445 Ensign Road
West Farmington, OH 44491
jsnodgrass@prorac.com

Glenn Kennedy, Treasurer
421 Ortega Road
Raleigh, NC 27609
Raleigh, NC 27609
gkennedy421@yahoo.com

Randy Peterson, Mountain Chieftain
5701 Blue Mountain Circle
Longmont, CO 80503
rrip87@yahoo.com

Nina Eppes, Northeast Chieftain
31 Norma Drive
Nashua, NH 03062
nina.eppes@gmail.com

Michael Kennedy, Western Chieftain
5518 Deep Purple Way
San Jose, CA 95123
rbrigadoon@att.net



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HAVE YOU MET THIS DYNAMIC COUPLE? NEIL AND JANET BRUSSARD DISTRICT DIRECTOR IN FLORIDA

At the Williamsburg Games in 2008, where Chris and I were convening the tent, I was at the registration table when I looked up and saw this face smiling at me. The smiling face and the twinkling eyes belonged to Neil Brussard who, along with his lovely wife Janet, became Kennedy Society members that day.

Neil and Janet were raised in the suburbs of Boston and they met at an ice skating rink. They were married in 2000. Neil was Project and Operations Manager for Digital Equipment Corp., and Janet was a Systems Analyst at Polaroid. While in Boston, some of their free time was taken up by volunteering for the Special Olympics. Janet was the coach for the figure skating Olympians, and they both volunteered during the Games where they took pictures of the athletes and made picture badges for them.

In 2010 they retired to Florida where they presently live in Englewood. They enjoy sailing, tennis, photography, and time at the beach. Neil and Janet continue to involve themselves in volunteer work. These days they can be found at the Mote Marine Aquarium and Marine Labs where they are part of the Strandings Team that responds to calls of mammals stranded on local beaches. They also volunteer in the Mote Dolphin and Whale Hospital assisting in the rehabilitation of sick or injured dolphins.



Neil's Kennedy line extends from his Grandmother who was from County Cork, Ireland and migrated to Nova Scotia.

Neil and Janet are the Kennedy tent conveners for the Sarasota Games; and Neil has recently accepted the newly created position of District Director of Florida for the Kennedy Society.

The goals for this new Director are to increase Kennedy membership enrollment in Florida and to encourage lots of communication among the Florida members.

His immediate undertakings are to explore the state of Florida for additional opportunities for a Kennedy tent. Neil and Janet will be visiting the St Augustine games in March and the Big Bend games in October.

Neil and Janet Brussard can be reached at: celtickennedy17@gmail.com and would encourage you writing to them with your suggestions for the Kennedys in Florida.

OFFICER SLATE FOR 2013-2014

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 2013-2014 Ballot for Election of Officers the following names:

President

Chris Kennedy
Gainesville, GA

Vice-President

Randy Peterson
Longmont, Colorado

Secretary

Sue Kennedy
Gainesville, GA

Treasurer

Glenn Kennedy
Raleigh, NC

Each nominee has given permission for their name to be entered on the election ballot. Bill Kennedy, our Vice President for the last 3 years, has decided not to seek the office. Vice President Bill has served the Society well during his 3 terms as Vice-President. This committee wishes to thank him for his years of hard work and dedication to the Kennedy Society. We wish both Bill and his lovely wife Julie the best in their future.

Committee members

N. Kennedy
M. Kennedy
J. Cassel



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Wow! The 36th Central Florida Scottish Highland Games January 19-20 were amazing!

The weather was perfect both days and the attendance as listed by the organizers was 23,000! We welcomed new members Nichole La Francois and Nicole Barngrover, and returning members Bobby & Ellen Hinson. Frank and Suzanne Canada were tent conveners, with greatly appreciated support from Chris & Sue Kennedy, Glenn & Lynda Kennedy, and Neil and Janet Brussard. Not including the aforementioned, 33 people signed the register with 10 noting an interest in joining.

On Saturday, the Titusville Fire and

Emergency Services Honor Guard (under the command of Frank Canada) joined us and had a pop up tent directly behind ours. This was the first time the honor guard members had ever presented colors in



kilts, and they received some kilt tips from Chris & Sue. They sure looked sharp in black kilts and fire department uniform shirts. They were piped onto the field for the opening ceremony by Brevard Police and Fire Pipes & Drums, followed by the massed bands. The guys all said they thoroughly enjoyed wearing the kilt, and found the "fur covered purse" very convenient for wallets, etc!



Among many visiting the tent were Maggie & Mike McKinney and Greg Frye, aka "The Tinkers" (always ready with a beautiful song), Patty and James Carlen of Ormond Beach, David & Sam Kennedy, and John MacArthur, Head Gardener at Castle Kennedy Gardens. Professional piper and instructor Neil Clark and his wife Susan of Drumnadrochit, Scotland stayed with us awhile, and marched out with us in the parade of Tartans on Sunday.



These games are very well attended and centrally located, with plenty of vendors and activities. Special Games guest this year was 16-year-old Caitlyn Boyd from Brechin, Scotland. Caitlyn won a "Merida" look-alike contest back home, and had appeared as Merida at several events in Scotland then caught the eye of the Games organizers. She was invited over as a guest of the Scottish-American Society of Central Florida to appear at the Games (and see some of our area attractions as well!). Caitlyn thrilled young "Brave" fans at her tent in the kid's games area, graciously greeting hundreds of awe struck brave lads and lasses with her big beautiful smile and posing with them for treasured photos.

Next year's dates are January 18-19 and we hope to see you there!

Submitted by Suzanne Canada



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Sarasota, Fl. Highland Games – February 2, 2013

The day started off very cool and breezy, but warmed up by mid day with the temps reaching the mid 70s. This was our first time being tent conveners and we had plenty of Kennedy friends to help us get off to a great start. Janet and I were joined by Chris and Sue Kennedy along with the following Kennedys: Frank and Suzanne Canada, Scott, Hope, Aidan, & Savanna Kennedy, David and “Sam” Kennedy, and Daniel and Tootie Kennedy.



Our tent had a new banner which was a 2' by 6' panoramic view of Culzean Castle. It hung just below the Kennedy Society banner and elicited a lot of discussions with game attendees. Table and tent display created by Janet Brussard.

We had conversations with many people who had been there, others discussed the fact that it was General Eisenhower's headquarters during WWII, and we spoke with one family that had lived directly behind the castle grounds with a view of the castle from their home. They told us stories of the many events they had attended there and how they had numerous family picnics on the castle grounds.



We marched in the Parade of Tartans where the Kennedy Society was well represented by 14 members and we were one of the larger clans on the field that day. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our two new members: Morag Ann Middlebrook and Andrea O'Neil!

Submitted by Neil & Janet Brussard



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NORTHEAST FLORIDA SCOTTISH GAMES AND FESTIVAL FEBRUARY 23, 2013

In the little town of Green Cove Springs, not far from Jacksonville, FL, on this Saturday in February the Scots invade by bringing a “wee bit o’Scotland” to this area of Northeast Florida.

We listened to music and enjoyed Scottish food, but best of all was enjoying the company of members Frank and Suzanne Canada from Christmas, Florida; Bobby Avery from Folkston, Georgia; Andrea O’Neill who recently joined, and Ann and Paul Key, who snuck away from their Heelan’ Hound sales tent to visit. We were

also pleased to welcome Bobby’s twin sister, Billie Huntley, from Titusville, FL as a new Kennedy member as well. We gathered to enjoy the athletics and watch our own Society member, David Fulford, compete in Amateur Class A Scottish athletics. I couldn’t help but think, while watching David compete in his Kennedy weathered kilt, how different he looked from a Highlander of long ago...with his ball cap pitched backward on his headand yet how much the same as he lifted the caber and pitched it forward only to land at the perfect angle. For me, it was a flawless example of the old and new brought together for the benefit of us to watch. (I borrowed a picture of David in action at the Savannah, GA games to show his form. See below left.)



Submitted by Sue Kennedy



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A KENNEDY ON STAGE AT THE SAVANNAH IRISH FESTIVAL

Since this issue of the Gazette is being published in March, a month with more emphasis on the Irish than the Scottish, I thought it appropriate to share one of our experiences of our recent attendance as vendors at the Savannah Irish Festival. Held each February, the festival is a precursor to Savannah's huge St. Patrick's Day parade (the 2nd largest in the United States.) The festival features a bevy of young Irish beauties in their Irish Step Dance performances, Irish foods such as corned beef and cabbage, bangers and fish and chips, vendors of Irish themed merchandise and traditional and Celtic rock Irish music on 4 different stages. As

I was walking back to our booth from a visit to a food vendor, I noticed an entertainer on stage wearing the Kennedy Modern Kilt and aloha shirt, HA! I immediately recognized him by his appearance, his music and his humor as Seamus Kennedy, one of Ireland's most famous musical exports. Paul and I had originally become acquainted with his music in 1999 at the Longs Peak Irish and Scottish Festival in Estes Park, Colorado when we and two Seamus "groupies" (he refers to them as "stalkers") braved elk, coyotes, sleet and snow in our campsite to hear him perform.



Seamus Kennedy, originally from Belfast, Northern Ireland, has been entertaining audiences all over the United States for the past 32 years. He encourages the crowd to sing along to silly lyrics and daft ditties or performs one of the more somber ballads such as "There Were Roses" or "Dublin In The Rare Old Times" you can hear a pin drop as the words sink in. I hurriedly got our camera and stood right out in front of the stage to snap a photo or two. My presence stopped his performance as he noticed that my kilt shorts matched his kilt. And said, "hey that lady's dressed like me." After the performance he stopped by our sales booth and shared a wee dram from his "cell-phone" shaped flask with Paul. (See his website if you're interest in buying one). They briefly discussed their mutual Kennedy heritage.

Submitted by Ann Blackmore Key

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2013

The Kennedy Society awards annual scholarships to students of Celtic arts such as dance, pipes, drums, harp, fiddle, and language arts.

****The deadline for scholarships is April 1, 2013.**

**** To apply fill out the scholarship application which can be found on the Kennedy Society website at: kennedysociety.org.**

****The applicant must be recommended by a Kennedy Society member.**

**** Send the application to the Scholarship Committee in care of: Mr. Chris Kennedy, 6415 Barberry hill Drive Gainesville, GA 30506. Email: kenn6633@bellsouth.net**

Please feel free to contact Chris with any other questions.



The Kennedy Gazette
Ann Blackmore Key, Editor
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www.kennedysociety.net

John A. Kennedy, former Kennedy Society Chieftain for Canada, recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Shown at left is the ceremony where Dr. Kellie Leitch, a Member of Parliament for the Simcoe/Gray area of Ontario awarded John the honor.

In 1953, John as a young police officer received the QE II Coronation Medal. Now, 60 years later he has received her Diamond Jubilee Medal.

The citation read: "Born in Inverness, Nova Scotia 22 Dec 1929, John has been a local milk man, drummer in a local pipe band, coal miner, volunteer fireman, a civilian police officer, a part time liquor store clerk, a police officer again, a county constable and later a provincial police constable (an appointment made by the Nova Scotia government), a Royal Canadian Air Force policeman, and Chief of Security of McDonnell Douglas Canada, Ltd. with a workforce of approximately 5,000 employees.

During his years in the Canadian Forces, he served four years with the NATO forces in Europe and did a tour of duty with the

UN forces in the Middle East. John also did temporary duty in Bermuda and was in charge of a sovereignty patrol to the North Pole, with a stopover in Greenland.

A committed volunteer in the Alliston community, Mr. Kennedy has devoted countless hours to a number of charitable organizations. He was particularly involved in the fundraising campaigns for the Canadian Legion Poppy Drive and Wheel Chairs for the Good Samaritan Nursing Home. Over the years, he has worked tirelessly in the field of youth education, addressing schools on Remembrance Day and speaking to Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and Cadets. He is a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Blue Helmets Club, Air Force Association, Pre War Club, and former Canadian Chieftain of the Kennedy Society of NA and Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. We all say "Congratulations, John, many jobs well done!"
