



# The Kennedy Gazette

## Board of Governors

Chris Kennedy – President/ Chief  
6415 Barberry Hill Drive, Gainesville, GA 30506  
Hm: 770-844-9916, Cell: 678-313-7013  
[ckennedy@homemedpro.com](mailto:ckennedy@homemedpro.com)

Bill Kennedy – Vice President/ Deputy Chief  
241 Everhard Rd SW, North Canton OH 44709  
Hm: 330-433-9323, Cell: 330-687-8804  
[wkennedyjr@yahoo.com](mailto:wkennedyjr@yahoo.com)

Glenn Kennedy – Treasurer  
PO Box 8728, Rocky Mount, NC 27804  
Hm: 252-972-7717, Cell: 252-904-2527  
[gkennedy421@yahoo.com](mailto:gkennedy421@yahoo.com)

Sue Kennedy – Secretary  
6415 Barberry Hill Drive, Gainesville, GA 30506  
Hm: 770-844-9916, Cell: 770-533-1529  
[kenn6633@bellsouth.net](mailto:kenn6633@bellsouth.net)

Nomon Kennedy – Chief First Class Retired  
113 Cedar St, Sweetwater, TN 37871  
Nomon Cell: 423-253-5655  
[nomonkennedy@charter.net](mailto:nomonkennedy@charter.net)

Mike Kennedy – Western Chieftain  
5518 Deep Purple Way, San Jose CA 94070  
Hm: 408-226-5813  
[rbrigadoon@att.net](mailto:rbrigadoon@att.net)

Randy Peterson – Mountain Chieftain  
5701 Blue Mountain Circle, Longmont, CO 80503  
Hm: 303-772-6892, Cell: 303-652-7116  
[rprip@comcast.net](mailto:rprip@comcast.net)

John Snodgrass – Midwest Chieftain  
5445 Ensign Road, West Farmington, OH 44491  
Hm: 440-548-7752  
[jsnodgrass@prorac.com](mailto:jsnodgrass@prorac.com)

Sherry Frady – Southeastern Chieftain  
4073 Belltown Road, Oxford, NC 27565  
Hm: 919-529-6743, Cell: 919-702-2466  
[medbear1964@yahoo.com](mailto:medbear1964@yahoo.com)

Nina Eppes – Northeastern Chieftain  
31 Norma Drive, Nashua, NH 03062  
Hm: 603-880-0603, Cell: 508-320-3469  
[nina.eppes@gmail.com](mailto:nina.eppes@gmail.com)

Bill Kennedy – Scholarship  
15 Whitaker Avenue, Hampton, VA 23664  
[wmbillkennedy@aol.com](mailto:wmbillkennedy@aol.com)

Leo F. Kennedy, III-Northeast  
43 Beverly Circle, Greenville, RI 02028  
Hm: 401-949-1780  
[hdiviking@aol.com](mailto:hdiviking@aol.com)

Lynn Grant – Membership  
7116 Marlbrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212  
Cell: 704-661-9583  
[mylyn919@yahoo.com](mailto:mylyn919@yahoo.com)

Ann Blackmore Key – Newsletter Editor  
P.O. Box 994, Misenheimer, NC 28109  
Hm: 704-463-5745, Cell: 704-622-2453  
[heelanhound@windstream.net](mailto:heelanhound@windstream.net)

Carver Kennedy – Genealogy  
365 Wood Creek Lane, Fayetteville, GA 30215  
Hm: 770-716-9886  
[martykennedy@bellsouth.net](mailto:martykennedy@bellsouth.net)

## Official Publication of the Kennedy Society of North America Volume 34 Issue 3 – Summer 2011

### 2011 Kennedy Society AGM in pictures...what a time we had!!



Full story on page 12...



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## THE KENNEDY SOCIETY IS KEEPING LORD AILSA IN ITS THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Lord Ailsa, or Lord Charles as we affectionately call him, is recovering from surgery which took place on July 4. The objective of the surgery was to remove his foot as a consequence of a severe infection which had developed as a result of a foot injury which had occurred in the Spring. After a very extensive antibiotic therapy, Lord Charles' surgeon had decided that the antibiotic treatment was not working and that the removal of the foot was the only sure way to provide for his continued health and safety.

We are relieved to report the surgery went well and Lord Charles was texting me a few hours after the operation. We expect Lord Charles to be going home two or three weeks after the surgery where he will be involved in an extensive physical therapy program. Lord Charles is expecting a full and rapid recovery. As of this writing, Lord Charles is planning on attending the Stone Mountain Games in October. Joining him at Stone Mountain will be his daughter, Lady Rosemary and son-in-law Nicko Cadell. We hope many of you will come out to make them feel welcome. I know each of you share with us a profound concern for our beloved Lord Charles and will keep him in your thoughts and prayers as he confronts this rehabilitation challenge. I'm sure he would enjoy hearing from each of you as he convalesces. Lord Charles' email is [lordailsa2002@aol.com](mailto:lordailsa2002@aol.com). His home address is: 45 Meadow Park Drive, Ayr Scotland KA72LJ.

**Update:** Lord Charles is home now and beginning his recuperation. He sounds to be in good spirits and is looking forward to being fitted for his prosthesis on Aug 1. When I spoke with him he was sitting out by his garden taking in the sun.

We spoke briefly about his Stone Mountain visit, and he and Lady Rosemary are definitely planning on coming to the games. So it's not too early to start making your plans to join us for the Stone Mountain games October 14-16. We will be staying at the "host" hotel - the Hilton Hotel Northeast in Norcross, GA. In addition to the Friday night Patron's Reception, we will plan a Kennedy event on Saturday night as well. More about these plans later.

I'll continue to update you on Lord Charles and the plans for Stone Mountain as they unfold. Thanks to all of you for thoughts and concern for Lord Charles. Hope to see many of you in October. Please feel free to pass on this note to whomever you wish.

P. S. Small Gift Idea: In addition to a note from you, Lord Charles enjoys collecting refrigerator magnets from all over the world. Perhaps it would be especially enjoyable for him to receive a refrigerator magnet from you representing your area or an attraction in your area. **Submitted by Chris Kennedy**



## Important Words from our Chief

The KSNA 2011 Annual Meeting was held at Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina this year and as you will see from the pictures in this newsletter and on the web and Facebook, we had a great time. We did things we have never done at games before. We had our own "dolphin toss" for kids, the unveiling of the Warrior Project honoring KSNA military and Santa in the tent. Many people were involved in making this a very exciting event. But the most important thing to me was the chance to make new friends and re-establish relationships with people we only see once-in-awhile. That is truly my favorite part of belonging to the KSNA – the people. I hope to get to meet and know more and more new and longstanding members. It is hard to believe that another year has passed. There has been much that has transpired. You can read what have been the major activities, either on the web site or in this newsletter in the annual meeting minutes. Let me take a few lines to write about several items of import. As you know from previous newsletters and announcements, we have had several exciting things happen – 501C3 charity status, the use of Pay Pal, creating a lifetime member category to name a few. These have had positive outcomes and I believe essential items to the continued growth and success of the KSNA. Our membership too has grown. We have added preferred vendors and some actual merchandise lines of our own including "T" shirts with "LC" sayings. Your Deputy Chief is working on some special recognition ideas to further connect all of us to each other.



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## Message from your Chief continued:

All these things are designed to help us better serve our society and further our understanding of our heredity. One project that has proven to be more difficult and not as of yet rewarding as we had hoped is our time share raffle. From a previous newsletter you may recall that we received a generous donation of a time share unit. The Board was excited because we had hoped to use funds raised for scholarship and to aid persons interested in providing tents at games. This has not happened and we are still shy of break even expenses. We still feel this effort to be valuable but need help and ideas of how to make it a successful and viable project for now and the future.

Through the ever expanding efforts and ideas of more and more members helping with new projects we are looking into the future. We have several people who are going to be looking at grant and foundation sources to help support future growth in education, fine arts and athletics. We are changing the structure of scholarship to be broader, take in more categories, and offer a primary scholarship. Some day we hope this becomes really significant. There is renewed interest in genealogy and looking at ways to use modern technology to help us compile ways to aid those searching for their links. There are people volunteering all over to do many different things to help. If I started listing I am sure I would leave several out. Thank you all for caring and participating.

This last year has also seen some difficulties for members of the Society. Several have had burdens of finance, job pressure, illness and loved ones passing placed upon their shoulders. I have watched members reach out and show genuine care, concern and support to and for each other. As a reminder, in Linda Kennedy we have a coordinator for helping to inform us and dispatch methods of support. It is with much reverence that I can say that I am glad to be a member of the KSNA for its caring as well as all the other wonderful attributes of the Society. As I have said in the past I am very proud to be your chief/president. Please do not hesitate to contact me and talk about our Society. **Chris Kennedy**



## A Note from the Deputy Chief

If you didn't make it to the Grandfather Mountain AGM (Annual General Meeting), we were with you in spirit! The Grandfather games are quite the event that all should experience at least once. Our games conveners, Mike, Sherry, Janet and Susan (and family/friends) really did a fine job keeping things in order and providing plenty of good 'ole Kennedy hospitality! The Grandfather games are where our society was founded, and definitely focus on the clans who have a ring-side view of all events. On the down side, bring deep pockets because they are not cheap!

We had a grand time in the evenings at the Archer Inn located in Banner Elk which has been the Grandfather Mountain Kennedy headquarters since 2003. Friday night we had the pleasure of listening (and joining in on) hours of live music from Jordan Cannady while renewing old friendships and adding new from the ranks of our fellow members. Fine mountain air and good single-malt whiskys blended on the porch outside our rooms adding to the cheer of great company.

Saturday brought many Kennedys together as the group photo shows, with three new members joining our clan. I had a surprise visit from my cousins Sharon, Shannon, Brian, Chelsea and Garth who were down from Connecticut. Members of Shannon's family were the third members to join at the games and I'm sure they will be all be a great asset to the Kennedy Society. We held the AGM at 3 pm and as I looked around that tent at all those Kennedy faces, I was filled with a deep sense of family and camaraderie that filled my heart with joy. Not long after the meeting, we retired to the Kennedy Banquet dinner held at the Archer Inn. I attended the last banquet there in 2003 and we definitely have grown in attendance, filling the room to capacity! Again, Jordan belted ballads and serenaded us through dinner. Mike Frady made a presentation of the Scottish Flag which was flown in a number of sacred and meaningful places which was received by Chief Chris and to be presented to Lord Alisa.

Sunday morning, Chief Chris Kennedy was up in the wee ours of the morning to prepare for the "Kirkin' of the Tartan", the traditional church service where all the different clan tartans are blessed. Soon following the service, we marched in the "Parade of Clans" under the brilliant guidance of Sherry Frady. Chris was waiting for us at the reviewing stand to receive honours in lieu of Lord Ailsa who was unable to attend due to medical reasons. After the parade, Chris noted that we were one of the best organized clans in the parade and he was very proud to watch us march by. We have a great group of members and I am sure we will achieve many positive goals in the future. I look forward to every event in which we share our old traditions and create new ones for generations to come.

**Yours aye, Bill Kennedy**



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## Remaining Games Calendar for 2011... Please Plan to Attend!!



- 8/12-8/14.....Fergus, Ontario Games
- 8/13-14.....Colorado Scottish Games, Highlands Ranch, CO
- 9/3 & 9/4.....Pleasanton, CA Games
- 9/10.....Ligonier, PA Games
- 9/8 – 9/11.....Longs Peak Scottish Games, Estes Park, CO
- 9/16 – 9/18.....New Hampshire Games, Loon Mountain
- 10/3.....Williamsburg, VA Games
- 10/8.....Scotland, CT Games
- 10/15 & 10/16..... Stone Mountain, GA Games
- 10/29 & 10/30..... The Meadow - Richmond VA Games

### It's Time to Turn Kilt Night Over to Someone Else...

Kilt Night is in its fifth year of existence. We've had bunches of fun and Chris and I have enjoyed every minute-well, almost every minute. However, the time has come for someone else to take it over. Perhaps there is one of you who would be interested? Or perhaps there is a clan who would like to take Kilt Night on as a project?

If there is a desire to continue Kilt Night, we would be happy to act as a consultant in order to see Kilt night continue. It would be an opportunity for an individual or group to put forth their own ideas and goals for Kilt Night. Please contact us if you are interested in planning the next Kilt Night.

So, as of now, Chris and I will be retiring as Kilt Night Organizers. We'll see you all at a highland games or perhaps at a future Kilt Night.

**Yours Aye, Chris and Sue Kennedy**

### Kennedy Society of North America: What's in it for me



I joined the Kennedy Society so that Clan Kennedy would be represented at the New Hampshire Highland Games (and so my family would have a place at the NH Games where we could hang out when we got tired of walking around). Little did I know what a rich and rewarding experience Kennedy Society membership would be. What makes the Kennedy Society so special is the people—I don't believe you'll find a warmer, more welcoming, more caring group. The Society provides rewarding opportunities to meet and become friends with others who share a common heritage, where we can learn more about our family histories, our clan history, and Scots history and culture in general. Above all, it is FUN to be a member of the Kennedy Society. As Lord Charles is fond of saying: If there's more than one Kennedy in a room, it's a party!

**Nina Eppes**



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Like many Kennedy parents, Suzanne Kennedy Huff and Larry Huff have much of which to be proud...



This past May, their 12 year old son Harrison was honored with The Jabez Award. This is the highest honor to be bestowed upon a child at Trinity Chapel Academy. The Jabez Award recognizes the child who most exemplifies the most humble and honorable Christian spirit. "We realize we are blessed to be in a school where these attributes are recognized and used to encourage others," says Suzanne Kennedy Huff. As a side note, Harrison is a cellist in his school orchestra. During a recent concert focusing on music

around the world, the orchestra director, who was aware of his interest in his Scottish roots displayed a picture of Harrison on a big video screen with his cello that she had transposed over a scene of Ailsa Craig in the background. She then gave him the floor to explain the connection to the island and to give a brief shout out to the Kennedy Clan.

Harrison who could be described as a mild mannered boy also knows a thing or two about Martial Arts. On July 15th in a strenuous series of task from sparring,

form and board breaks, Harrison earned his 2nd Degree Black Belt in Taekwondo. He has been a member of the American Taekwondo Association since he was 6 years old. We are sure that Harrison will continue to represent his extended Kennedy family with pride for years to come!

Submitted by  
Suzanne Kennedy  
Huff and Larry Huff,  
members from  
Atlanta





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## KENNEDY SOCIETY RAFFLE

The Kennedy Society timeshare vacation was explained in a previous article. To review just for a moment, the Kennedy Society now owns a timeshare vacation opportunity at the Loreley Condominiums in Helen, Georgia. A family may vacation at this site or this opportunity can be exchanged for a different vacation location and time through the RCI timeshare exchange program. The maintenance fee at the Loreley Condos is the main cost to the Society for this timeshare vacation.

In order to fund the maintenance fee and be fair in giving this opportunity to each and every Society member, the Board of Governors decided to conduct a raffle and the individual with the drawn ticket will be the timeshare vacation winner.

Here's the way the raffle works: Tickets are available through Board members/tent conveners at all highland games where there is a Kennedy tent. Tickets will also be available from any Board member through email request.

If you are not attending many games this year, we would suggest that an email or call to the Raffle Secretary, Sue, would be the fastest way to procure tickets. Sue can be reached: [kenn6633@bellsouth.net](mailto:kenn6633@bellsouth.net) or 770-844-9916 or Sue Kennedy, 6415 Barberrry Hill Drive, Gainesville, GA 30506. The drawing for the raffle will be at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in October.

## CORRECTION REGARDING TIMESHARE RAFFLE

The Spring 2011 issue of the Kennedy Gazette newsletter incorrectly reported in the Kennedy Society Article that the raffle tickets payment "will be considered a donation to the Society and are tax deductible".

Unfortunately, we have learned that the raffle payment is NOT deductible as previously reported. The dues payments and other donations except the raffle payments are tax deductible since the Kennedy Society of North America, Inc is a qualified public charity. We regret the confusion. Any questions concerning this matter may be sent to our Treasurer, Glenn Kennedy.

## 2011 KENNEDY SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

The scholarship committee is very pleased to announce the winners of the Lady Mary Burns Kennedy Scholarship Fund.

The primary scholarship was awarded to Miss Anne Thomson of Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada. Anne's scholarship will help to further her dancing studies as she aspires to compete in the World Championships in Dunoon, Scotland in August. Anne was the first runner up in the North American Championships in 2010.

The secondary scholarship was awarded to Mr. Gabriel Ran Nierman of Raleigh, North Carolina. Ran is a piper who will be attending the North American Academy of Piping and Drumming in Valle Crucis, North Carolina.

Congratulations to both of you!



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## DRAFT OF 2011 ANNUAL MEETING GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES- JULY 9, 2011

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

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

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

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

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

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

### President/Chief Report:

Our Favorite Vendors – As stated in the last Kennedy Newsletter, the Society has endorsed 4 favorite vendors. They are as follows: Caledonian Fine Arts, Glen Cairn Glasses, The Heelan' Hound, and Scots Clans. All four vendors are offering a percent return to the Society for purchasing their products. Chris encouraged each of us to look at the vendors web sites and buy their products.

Timeshare and Raffle – Chris explained that we had received the gift of a timeshare in Helen, Georgia in December of 2010. In order to pay the maintenance fee of \$450.00 per year, the Board decided to conduct a raffle to cover the cost of the maintenance fee. The Board decided to offer a prize of \$100.00 to the highest ticket seller. Chris further explained the Helen, Georgia timeshare and its location in the Loreley Condominiums. The timeshare was placed in the RCI Exchange program so the raffle winner would have a broader choice of vacation locations. At this time the Society has sold 41 tickets which amounts to \$410.00. Chris said he was saddened that the raffle was not working and mentioned that the Kennedy Society Board would discuss this matter at the next Board Meeting.

Annual Meetings – 2012 We have the possibility of holding our meeting at the Richmond Virginia games. 2013 will find us at the Smokey Mountain games held in Maryville TN. 2014 – the location has not been decided. Nomon suggested the Society go back to the Loon Mountain Games.

Policy and Procedure Manual Report: Some individuals are working to put together this Policy and Procedure Manual which will explain the duties of every job in the Society. This Manual will be discussed at the Board Meeting.

T-Shirts: Thanks to the hard work of Terry Kennedy of Hampton, VA and Hope Kennedy of Safety Harbor, FL, we now have available two t shirts for sale. The first shirt is part of what will be called the "Lord Charles Series". These will be a series of four shirts over four years. Each year will highlight a different Lord Charles' saying. The first one states "We have come not to plunder, but to party". The second shirt is a generic shirt which will appeal to any gentleman wearing a kilt. Its saying is "If I was wearing underwear, then it would be a skirt". Each shirt sells for \$18.00 (except for 2X which sell for \$20.00) and has been well received at the Grandfather Games. The committee intends for these shirts to be sold at games around the country.



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## Draft of Minutes of 2011 AGM continued:

Vice President/Deputy Chief Report: Bill reported that he has been working on recognition items for local folks. He has a Kennedy dolphin badge for new members. For a lifetime member, Bill would like to offer a silver plated/or gold dolphin badge. Bill is also looking into a 5 year recognition item. Bill also announced to the group that Lord Charles' request that Lady Rosemary succeed him as Chief of clan Kennedy has been approved through the Scottish Chiefs. We are sure to hear more about this in the future.

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

### Chieftain's Reports:

Sherry, Southeastern Region – Sherry, or another tent convener, is holding Kennedy tents at 4 games in Florida, 3 games in Georgia, 1 game in South Carolina, and 3 games in North Carolina. She wanted us to know how grateful she was to Janet Kennedy in her "hospitality role" at Grandfather. Sherry asked Mike to explain his Warrior's Project which honors all Kennedy veterans. Mike asked the Society to consider a corner of the Newsletter to be devoted to Veterans Affairs. The Board will take this request up in the future.

John, Midwest Chieftain – John is convening at the Ligonier Games in Pennsylvania. Other Kennedy tents in his region include Niagara Falls, the Ohio games, and the Celtic Beltane Festival in Hartville, Ohio. John also reminded us of the "What's In It For Me" question. He said it was all about marketing and how we approach individuals to show them the benefits they will receive from joining the Society. John also thanked everyone for welcoming Kona and Kathie Gant of Clan Claus to the Kennedy Society.

Nina, Northeastern Region – Nina reported she conducted a tent at the New Hampshire Highland Games. Leo Kennedy, Vice Chieftain of the Northeastern Region, hosted a tent at the Rhode Island Games on June 11. He reported that the games had a good attendance and he had one person asking for a membership application.

### Committee Reports:

Membership – Although unable to attend the meeting, Lynn Grant sent the following report. Her most pertinent items are as follows: We have removed 15 persons due to no renewal dues since 2008. 109 second notices for renewal were mailed June 21, 2011. We have 19 lifetime members. As of the writing of the report we have 121 yearly members. Although renewals are coming in slowly, she hopes they will continue to come in.

Newsletter – Ann reported the deadline for the next newsletter is July 15.

Scholarship and Fund-Raising – Chris reported that these two committees will be split up and will become independent of each other.

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

### Other Business:

Lord Charles – Chris expressed our concern for Lord Charles and his recent setback with the amputation of his foot. The Society wishes him a speedy recovery and looks forward to his visit at the Stone Mountain Games in October. The Society is hopeful that Lady Rosemary and her husband Nick will be joining Lord Charles in October.

A Comment – Suzanne Huff, from Atlanta, wanted the group to know that at the Annual Meeting in 2003 there were 6 members present. She wanted us to know how proud she was as she looked around the tent this afternoon and saw about 30 people in attendance.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Kennedy. Secretary, Kennedy Society of North America



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## UTAH HIGHLAND GAMES June 10-11, 2011 Lehi, Utah, Dan Kennedy, Games Sponsor



Games gates opened Friday evening at 5:00 P.M. Evening attendance was very good, better than previous years, as was the weather. We had set up our two tents and three tables in the afternoon and enjoyed several visitors, including two possible new Kennedy members. They received applications and handout information about the KSNA and said they would return Saturday. The Gathering of the Clans ceremony was at about 8:30 P.M. with Dan Kennedy representing our Clan, making a brief statement and ending with "Avis La Fin".



We set up and staffed the tent about 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. Crowds were large and we had an excellent location very near the vendor tents and the Clan gathering field. Games competition and music groups on that field also attracted many attendees throughout the day. Pipe bands performed on this field prior to opening ceremonies at 12:00 P.M. Dan Kennedy led the Clan in the Opening Ceremonies Review with about 12 Kennedy members and tent attendees in the group. After those ceremonies, numerous attendees came by our tent who were not Kennedy-related but had been advised by other Clan tents that we had much Scot history and genealogy information. This was probably due to the fact that Games Sponsor Dan Kennedy's parents were there. KSNA Genealogist-Historian Carver Kennedy and his wife Martha McQueen were attending from Atlanta and had brought their files and records with them. We did not ask the non-Kennedy-related visitors to sign in or give them KSNA applications, but did give them whatever information we had that might help them with their family searches.

We had about 7 very interested Kennedy attendees and member prospects come by on Saturday in addition to the two that came by again that had been there Friday night. We signed all nine of these in and provided them with applications and Clan information.

They all seemed very interested and indicated they planned to join KSNA. The Games ended with a ceremony presenting awards to the various competition winners beginning about 5:00 P.M.; and the closing ceremony was held after the awards were presented. We packed up, took down our tents, and left about 7:00 P.M. after a very busy day. We did not stay for the evening concert. **Submitted by Dan Kennedy**

### T-SHIRTS FOR SALE!

The Kennedy Society, under the direction of Terry Kennedy of Hampton, Virginia and Hope Kennedy of Safety Harbor, Florida, have designed two t-shirts that are available for purchase.

The first shirt is the first of a series of shirts known as the "Lord Charles Series". It is green in color with a small Kennedy Crest on the front and the Lord Charles' saying on the back. The saying reads: "We didn't come to plunder - We came to party". If you have spent much time with LC you know this is one of his favorite sayings! It is the hope of the committee that this will be a favorite shirt among Kennedy members. Who knows each shirt of the series as it becomes available may become a collector's item! The second shirt that is available is a generic shirt - no clan affiliation - and should appeal to any man in a kilt. It too, is green in color with a plain back, the front reads: "If I Was Wearing Underwear - Then It Would Be A Skirt".

The shirts sell for \$18.00 in sizes of M-L-and XL. 2XL is also available at \$20.00. The shirts should be available at highland games where they can be purchased at the Kennedy tent with cash, check, or credit card through the Pay Pal site on the Kennedy Website. They can also be purchased, directly, by going through the Pay Pal site on the Kennedy Website or sending a check made out to KSNA to 6415 Barberry Hill Drive Gainesville, GA. 30506. Please include an extra \$3.00 for shipping costs. Better get them while they last!





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## SAVANNAH HIGHLAND GAMES MAY 7, 2011

Chris and Sue Kennedy, along with Glenn and Lynda Kennedy, traveled to the Savannah Scottish Games on May 7, 2011. It was a beautiful day with all the "Scottish" elements in place. I was particularly taken with the location on the grounds of the Bethesda Boys Home with its beautiful old live oak trees as we sat under these trees enjoying the bands performing and the athletes competing.

We were so pleased to welcome new member, Cynthia Barris-Speke of Richmond Hill, GA. We look forward to seeing her at more Savannah Games.

Chris and I have always enjoyed the athletic competition but having our own Kennedy member, David Fulford of Fairhope, AL, in the competition always sharpens our interest a bit. David came in third over all that Saturday. He is pictured in the caber toss and throwing the hammer competition.



It is always fun to have an excuse to visit Savannah. So may we suggest next year on the first Saturday of May you might consider a trip down South? You'll find a blend of Southern and Scottish that might keep you coming back year after year. **Submitted by Sue Kennedy**

## BETHABARA PARK HIGHLAND GAMES, WINSTON-SALEM, NC, May 14, 2011

The Bethabara Park Highland Games were held on Saturday, May 14, 2011. The Day started out in typical north coast of Scotland fashion, misty and foggy. But by noon, the clouds lifted, the sun came out, and shone down on one of the most down-home games in NC. And to make the time brighter, The Kennedys had a notable presence there. Mike Frady and The Queen of Kennedy Hospitality, Janet Kennedy, greeted visitors, passed out info, and gave brief history and culture lessons to those who stopped by.

Historic Bethabara Park is the 1753 site of the first Moravian Settlement in North Carolina. Moravians are German Pietists, who trace their origins to the Bohemian Priest, Jan Hus, martyred in 1415. Historic Bethabara Park is located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Although there were no new members gained, the presence of the Kennedy's made quite an impression on both game organizers and visitors. Thanks to the Kennedy's primo hospitality director! All in all, The Bethabara Games is a nice down-home Celtic festival. Admission is FREE. Everyone treats you like family. The parking is easy. And the food is GREAT. If you are ever down that way, stop by and try their Scotch Ice Cream! **Submitted by Mike Frady**



## GREENVILLE SCOTTISH GAMES MAY 27 and 28, 2011

The Greenville Scottish Games were forced to cancel their popular parade on Main Street on the afternoon of May 27<sup>th</sup> due to the threat of thunderstorms, however, the Clans Reception that evening at the Hilton provided the different clans and guests with great food and drink and a chance to renew acquaintances and make new ones.

Saturday morning, May 28<sup>th</sup> the games officially kicked off at Furman University on a warm and humid day. The Kennedy tent, hosted by Gene and Linda Kennedy had probably the largest number of visitors to the tent in the several years we've been attending the games. North American Chieftain,

Chris Kennedy and wife, Sue Kennedy were at the tent for the majority of the day greeting all who came by, including the games guest of honor, Sir Malcolm MacGregor of Clan MacGregor. Special thanks to Dave and Amy Carrick for volunteering at the tent for much of the day. They did a great job. Division Band played for the crowd. A group of soldiers who had been wounded in fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan while serving in the Scottish Regiment of the British army were also guests of the game, as was Congressional Medal of Honor Winner, MSG John F. Baker, Jr. USA (retired).

A group of Kennedys met for dinner after the games at the Sassafras Southern Bistro Restaurant and continued the fun. **Submitted by Sue Kennedy**





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## BLAIRSVILLE HIGHLAND GAMES

June 10, 11, and 12 were the dates of the Blairsville, GA games which are located in North Georgia. Chris and I manned a tent and saw many old friends. The crowds were good, the bands loud and spirited, and the athletes were determined to make their mark on the athletic field.

David Fulford, Kennedy Society member, certainly distinguished himself by winning the over-all athletic competition by placing FIRST. He is pictured here with Kennedy Society Chief, Chris Kennedy.

A good many visitors came by the Kennedy tent to learn about the Kennedy Clan and visit with us.

However, I think (and of course we are prejudiced since they are our grandchildren) two of the cutest visitors were Emily and David Rhoads, age two and four. They are pictured here showing off their Kennedy tartan.



Submitted by Sue Kennedy

## OHIO SCOTTISH GAMES JUNE 24th and 25th

The Ohio Scottish Games once again had the Kennedy Society tent set up in the Clan Village. Julie and I set up with my son Reid on Friday and weather co-operated with us long enough to have a nice cool day, typical of a summer day in Scotland. Fellow Kennedy members and founders of Clan Claus, Kona and Kathy Gant, attended and ran the Clan Claus tent to the delight of children and adults alike. Saturday, Mid-West Chieftain John Snodgrass and Cynde Kennedy helped man the tent and serve up the Kennedy hospitality to all the friends and family that stopped by.

These games have been held at the Lorain County Fairgrounds located immediately west of Wellington, OH for the past 8 years where they moved from the Oberlin College Campus due to growth of attendance.

Masters Heavy Athletic competition was held Friday during the day and Friday evening started with a barbeque dinner and concert, followed by a "Callin' of the Clans" torchlight ceremony and Ceilidh.

The Ohio Scottish Games feature Pipe band and Solo Pipe competition, Highland Dance, Harp, Fiddle and Gaelic Mod (Scottish Gaelic singing and poem) competitions, Heavy Athletics, Sheep herding demonstrations and MacFarlane's re-enactors.

These games are well run, but plan on driving a bit as accommodations are not plentiful nearby. Also, pets are prohibited on the fairgrounds as well as in the camping area. Ann and Paul Key with The Heelan' Hound set up at the games last year and did well with revenue, but found it too inconvenient to have sweet Neilley, their black Lab, boarded at a nearby kennel to return this year. It's odd not being able to bring animals to a fairground that shows them!

These games are an affordable, family friendly event and we would love to see more Kennedy members join us next year.

Submitted by Bill Kennedy



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## GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN 2011 KENNEDY AGM

WOW! That one word just about sums up GMHG 2011. From the calling of the Clans on Thursday Night, to the mournful tune of the Ghost Piper Sunday night, this is one game that will be remembered by many for years to come. ESPECIALLY with Christmas in July. How so? Cause SANTA set up "shop" in our tent!!

It all started with the threat of a 70% chance of rain and storms each day. But in true Carolina fashion, the clouds parted at just the right time each day and evening. Enabling us and our guests to have one tumultuous weekend. Without a doubt, the tent(s) at this game was described by all those who saw them, as one of, if not the best they have ever seen. The tent had WALLS in two places! Just check out the youtube video! (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cy2yUwp3T1Q>)

As always, the Kennedy's Master of Hospitality was at her best, Janet Kennedy. (Just give her a tent, and they will come!) Most of the KSNA Chiefs were in attendance, as well as Nomon and Lady Nan. Although, they had to cut short their visit so Nan could go to the "body" shop for some repairs. (At the time of this writing, Lady Nan's procedure was a success and she is resting comfortably, and should be home by the 15th.)

Most notably was the absence of Lord Charles, who I might add, also had a successful procedure and may grace us with his presence at Stone Mountain. As expected, he was sorely missed by all. Our thoughts and prayers go out to both LC and Nan for a speedy recovery, WE LOVE YOU!

We gained 3 new members; Duke Rofe, Chuck Hooker, Shannon Betts. We all want to welcome you new members with open arms and hope to see you at future games. We renewed old friendships and forged new ones with numerous folks. Kennedys who arrive at the tent now know what's going on and where to go, thanks to the addition of the KSNA bulletin board to the tent kit. Also a tribute to those of Clan Kennedy who have served and are still serving their country was unveiled. This is a living display, and will be displayed again at Stone Mountain. Afterwards, it will also become a part of the "kit". Suzanne Kennedy brought the Ailsa Craig Cast with her. A bean bag toss game with educational highlights. Santa wanted to add her to his workforce after seeing her creation! Overall, the visual effects of the tents were astounding! It was a sad moment indeed when the final tear down started Sunday afternoon. But we will have the MEMORIES! Unfortunately, with all the activity going on at the tent, and the

meetings, there was only one participant in the athletic games. Again Caitlin Frady ran consistently with a top 4 finish in the 7 year old quarter mile run.



Submitted by Sherry and Mike Frady



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K-

KSNA  
VET

CORNER, by Mike Frady

Greetings fellow Kennedy Veterans and their families. Welcome to the first installment of the K-VET Corner. A bit or two to help those Vets in the KSNA with issues they may have and help them gain information about benefits from the VA, Vet service organizations, or from the personal experience of others in the society. We are here to share and help each other. So here we go. The first article is about something each and every Veteran needs without a doubt. A DD-214. Still have yours? Great! No? That's ok, here's an article that will help.

Its official, DD-214's are NOW Online. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following web-site for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time.

For further info concerning Veterans benefits, contact the VA directly or one of the following Vet Service Organizations; American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, or your local Veterans Service Rep. Also, you can contact me via email, [celticcherokee@nc.rr.com](mailto:celticcherokee@nc.rr.com) or one of the other Vets in the KSNA. If we all put our heads together, SOMETHING'S gonna happen! Take care, and God Bless our Troops, Vets, and their families. Bring them home soon.

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## An Email from Marshall Schmidt to fellow Kennedys

If any of my Toronto Kennedy cousins are interested, my fifth great grandfather and grandmother settled in Scarborough in 1799/1800 from whence Kennedy Road is named-also the Kennedy elementary school in Agincourt.

The names are John Kennedy and Nancy Wasson Kennedy. They migrated to Scarborough from Curybos-Schenectady. I have donated old memorabilia to the Scarborough Historical Society. My third great grandfather Thomas McKee Kennedy married Jane Montgomery, daughter of Capt Alex Montgomery 3rd and Rebecca Willson.

Chief--as an aside, the next time you are with Lord Ailsa, tell him I was his father and mother's guest in Casillis House for tea when they were baby-sitting his daughters in 1987. When I was President of the St. Andrews Society of Philadelphia in 1992—I am the 77th President-- founded one year after Culloden), I honored the Kennedy Clan by having Don and Bernice) Canaday as my secondary speaker to Lord Aerie. We did Christmas cards together for a while until sickness intervened. You must admit the Scots in Philadelphia must have swallowed a lot of Macallan to have a Schmidt as their president. One of my friends solved the problem by nicknaming me MacSchmidt. If you find yourself in the Princeton-Philadelphia area, give me a call. 609-734-0006. Cordially, **Marshall Schmidt**

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*Editor's Note: Coming back from our Heelan' Hound sales trip to Maine this week, we heard this fascinating story on NPR...of a historic find, that was discovered in a box of fossils under the kitchen sink of a amateur fossil hunter James Kennedy of Vero Beach, Florida.*



**Pictured at left and above are photos of fossilized bone with carvings.**

According to the NPR story, it's one of the most significant pieces of prehistoric art ever found in North America — a carving of a mammoth or mastodon on a piece of fossilized bone dating back to the Ice Age. An amateur fossil hunter found it several years ago in Vero Beach, Florida. Now, after three years of study, a team of researchers say they believe it's authentic.

James Kennedy is quick to tell you, he doesn't know all that much about archaeology or prehistoric art.

"I mean I'm not a scientist. I just go out and dig up bones good. I'm good at finding them. That's one thing I do, buddy," he says with a laugh.

Kennedy is 41, with sandy blond hair and a goatee. Around his neck, he wears a large prehistoric shark tooth. At his house in Vero Beach, boxes of fossils are everywhere.

Mammoths and mastodons were abundant in Florida until about 13,000 years ago when they became extinct.

While there are lots of fossilized bones, the one thing never found in the Western hemisphere were any images of these Ice Age elephant ancestors such as those found in European cave paintings.

That is, until now. In an article published in the [Journal of Archaeological Science](#), researchers from the Smithsonian and the University of Florida say that the depiction of the mastodon or mammoth engraved on a fossilized bone appears to be an authentic piece of art dating back at least 13,000 years.

At Kennedy's kitchen table, he looks at a picture of the engraved bone. The original is stored in a vault.

For more than two years, it sat in a box under his kitchen sink. He says he picked it up at a site in Vero Beach in 2006 or 2007. He immediately recognized it as a piece of fossilized bone, probably from a mammoth or mastodon about 15 inches long and four inches high.

He says he didn't see the engraving on it until a couple of years later, when he was cleaning some of his fossils. On this one, as the dirt came off, a picture emerged.

"First I thought it could be just scrapes and marks on it, but no, there's no mistaking it. You have a walking mammoth right there. I mean, here's his tail, his tusk, his trunk, everything's there," Kennedy says. "I thought it was really neat, but I thought that there was lots of other stuff like this. I had no idea there was nothing else like that."

In fact, it's one of a kind. Although there are stone points and other archaeological evidence suggesting humans lived in North America during the Ice Age, it may be the only piece of art in the Western hemisphere dating back to that period.



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Scientists were skeptical at first. In Vero Beach, standing under an umbrella in a Florida rainstorm, archaeologist Barbara Purdy says she was wary when Kennedy first showed her his discovery.

"Well, we were very skeptical of course. Nothing like that had ever been found in the Western Hemisphere before," she says. "And it would be nice if we had another one somewhere."

Researchers at the University of Florida conducted extensive testing of the fossilized bone. Rare earth element analysis showed it did come from the Vero Beach area. A scanning electron microscope indicated the carving appeared to be the same age as the bone.

Archaeologist Jeff Speakman conducted his own extensive testing and research on the fossil at the Smithsonian. Despite his group's best efforts, he says they couldn't find anything to suggest the mammoth engraving is a fake.



"The lines very clean, well-rounded did not have any sort of debris field or sharp lines that would indicate any sort of modern forgery," Speakman says

What would really help convince researchers that the piece of Ice Age art is authentic would be to find other examples. That's why Purdy and Speakman have come out to stand in the rain in Vero Beach not far from where Kennedy says he found his fossil.

For archaeologists, Vero Beach is a treasure trove for fossils. This is a well-known spot, the Old Vero Ice Age Site. It was first excavated nearly a hundred years ago. In 1915, Florida's state geologist documented fossilized human skeletons found alongside remains of Ice Age mammals.

The age of those human remains was later disputed by other scientists, and the Old Vero site became known mostly as a spot popular with amateur fossil hunters people like Victor Zinck.

"When we first came here, I could walk the edge of this bank and pick up bison teeth, broken elephant teeth just laying scattered all over the ground," Zinck says. "It was quite a place."

Zinck is at the site to give archaeologists practical advice on where they may want to dig. The University of Florida has put together a proposal to fully excavate the site.

Purdy says, although the Old Vero site was first discovered more than a century ago, it's been investigated mostly by paleontologists up to now.

"And the archaeology has sort of gone begging. So now, if we can get a combination of both working together, I think it will work out a little bit better," she says.

A group in Vero Beach the Old Vero Ice Age Sites committee is working to raise the money to fund the project.

As for James Kennedy's fossil, the engraved bone has sparked the renewed interest in Vero Beach. But both the University of Florida and the Smithsonian may have to be content with replicas they've cast from the original that Kennedy found.

Kennedy plans to offer his find for sale at auction. The going price for a piece that's been described as the "oldest, most spectacular and rare work of art in the Americas" is likely to be well out of their budgets.

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**The Kennedy Gazette**  
**Ann Blackmore Key, Editor**  
**P.O. Box 994**  
**Misenheimer, NC 28109**  
**www.kennedysociety.net**

### UPDATE ON LADY NANCY KENNEDY

Lady Nancy Kennedy, wife of Nomon Kennedy (KSNA Chief, retired) was operated on July 11 for an aortic aneurysm. After a successful operation, she returned home on July 14 but was re-admitted to the hospital shortly after due to excessive pain and discomfort.

The doctors discovered a piece of cholesterol was dislodged during her surgery and flowed down in to her only kidney and has caused an infection. At this time Nan is feeling somewhat better and Nomon hopes she will be discharged from the hospital in a few more days.

We're sure she would enjoy hearing from you. Nomon and Nancy's address is:  
113 Cedar Street, Sweetwater, TN 37871.

Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.



**Fall Issue Deadline November 15 –  
Publication December 1, 2011**  
**Deadlines are firm. Articles need to reach  
me by deadline, or will go in next issue!**

To make your Kennedy Gazette a success each issue, I also need stories/pictures from you all. Pictures, I prefer in Jpeg format **PUT IN AS AN ATTACHMENT TO AN EMAIL RATHER THAN IN THE BODY**, but if you have hard copies to send me, I can scan. Stories, preferred format is **WORD**.

**Email Address is: USE ONLY THIS EMAIL**  
**Not my Yahoo email!!**  
[heelanhound@windstream.net](mailto:heelanhound@windstream.net)

**The Kennedy Gazette Editor address is:**  
**Ann Blackmore Key**  
**PO Box 994**  
**Misenheimer, NC 28109**



**Our phones are:**  
**Home:704-463-5745**  
**Paul's cell 704-622-2453**

**Ann, Paul & Neilley**  
**at their Heelan'**  
**Hound sales tent**