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(continued on p. 7)

# THE KENNEDY GAZETTE

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## Clan Kennedy at the Gathering in Edinburgh

Kennedy Clan members were thrilled to be a part of the Gathering in Edinburgh in July of this year. The Gathering was a premier event of the *Homecoming Scotland 2009*, a nationwide celebration of Scottish heritage. As a major feature of the Borders Tour of Scotland conducted by Lord Charles Tours, participants joined Scots from all over the world for a fantastic weekend in Edinburgh.



This was the first official gathering of the clans of Scotland in over 100 years. The Kennedy society was well represented by our hereditary chief, Lord Ailsa, his eldest daughter Lady Rosemary, and Chris and Sue, our current society chief and his wife. Our ranks included those from the Borders Tour and Kennedys from Scotland and other countries.

The site of the Gathering was Holyrood Park, next to the Holyrood Palace, the Queen of England's Edinburgh residence. The Clan village was set up in this beautiful historic site, with pavilions for dancing, music, food, whiskey tasting, and genealogy assistance. There was a lot of visiting among the Clan

tents in the clan village, and we met many really wonderful people! Adding to the festivities, the World Highland Games Heavy Event Championship was held on site during the Gathering, as were national piping and highland dance championship competitions.

Lord Ailsa and Chris Kennedy were invited to meet Britain's Prince Charles prior to the official opening of the games. Prince Charles, clad nicely in his kilt, participated in the official opening ceremony, welcoming Scots from around the world to the Gathering. He spoke about the rich Scottish cultural heritage and the opportunity to celebrate with fellow Scotsmen at the Gathering.

The crowning event of the weekend was the Parade of the Tartans up the royal Mile from the Palace of Holyrood to magnificent Edinburgh Castle. Imagine 6,500 kilted clansmen from 125 clans all marching by clan through the ancient city of Edinburgh. The streets were lined with Scots from all over the world cheering us along the parade route. What a thrill! The Gathering was such a resounding success that another Gathering may be held in five years, be there!

### Glenn and Lynda Kennedy



Above, Chris Kennedy and Lord Ailsa greet H.R.H. Prince Charles at the Gathering. Right, Kennedys march in the Parade of Tartans up the Royal Mile.

# From the Chief



planning the course of not only this coming year but the future as well. This is the first time that your Board of Governors (BOG) is having quarterly meetings, and the first of those meetings is being held this December. There is resolve and resolution to continue building a stronger and vibrant Society.

## A Beginning

The winter season is normally looked at as a quiet, dormant time of year when all is resting and waiting to burst forth in spring. That is true if we look at nature, but if we examine mankind there is a different picture. This season, in a sense, is the most active time of year with holidays, parties and many family activities. It is a time of reflection, planning and resolution. It was the beginning of new life in the manger.

Our history will show that the Cassillis and Bargany branches of the Kennedy family were definitely active. Well, the Kennedys are still at it; we are plotting and

It is the enthusiasm, dedication, and commitment of many members of the Society who have made this process possible. Believe you me, when you are around Kennedys this feeling of excitement and involvement is contagious.

We have new goals and expanded objectives. These can only be realized through the continued support of each and every member. I believe the most important tool we have in reaching these new levels is that of communication.

Lets resolve ourselves to use those tools of the Society website, Board of Governor minutes, Snapfish and Shutterfly photo sharing sites, Facebook, and e-mail; by all BOG members as well as regional Chieftains and Vice Chieftains; to share, propose and plan. The action of this process will definitely help us take those steps toward growth.

I am so excited about where we are, and where we are planning on going, that I can barely contain myself. I want to talk with everyone I see about how much fun, enjoyment, fellowship and activity surrounds the KSNA. I am so honored to be your Chief/President.

May the excitement and wonder of this special season bring you peace, joy, and closer to those you love and a resolution to make new KSNA friends.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and 'Up the Coast from Ballantrae through the ancient Kingdom ...'

## Chris Kennedy, Chief KSNA



Just put two or more Kennedys together, and you have a party! Lord Ailsa welcomes new KSNA members Robert and Nancy Kennedy from Melbourne, Australia, at the Kennedy Clan tent this past summer at the Gathering in Edinburgh, Scotland.

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E-mail: [heelandhound@windstream.net](mailto:heelandhound@windstream.net)  
Send in your news and pictures.  
Word, TXT, RTF, JPEG preferred.  
Please submit content for publication any time.

**Visit the Kennedy Society web site,**  
<http://www.kennedysociety.org>

To print a membership form (renew today!)  
view news, pictures, meeting minutes, and more.

### **Kennedy Society Yahoo! Group:**

Join the [kennedy\\_society](http://kennedy_society.groups.yahoo.com) group at [groups.yahoo.com](http://groups.yahoo.com) to keep up with the latest news and activities.

# JOIN LORD AILSA AT MIDWEST BURNS NIGHT IN OHIO

Lord Ailsa will attend the SHANO Robert Burns Banquet as Honored Guest, January 23, 2010 at the American Croatian Club in Eastlake, Ohio. Lord Ailsa is the Patron of the Carrick Burns Club in Ayrshire Scotland (the very heart of Burns country), which has graciously consented to share him with us this year. We invite all KSNA members, especially our Midwest members, to attend and meet Lord Ailsa on his first visit to Ohio.

The Scottish Heritage Association of Northeast Ohio was established in 1885 and has been hosting a Burns dinner since the year of its inception, for 124 years. The event has over 500 attendees and is held in a grand ballroom, large enough to hold three pipe bands, whose unison performance of 'Amazing Grace' is one of the memorable events of the evening.

This is the premiere Scottish formal event in Northeast Ohio, with pipers and Highland dancers, and good food and drink. Bring your dancing shoes for Scottish country, old-time and ballroom dancing.

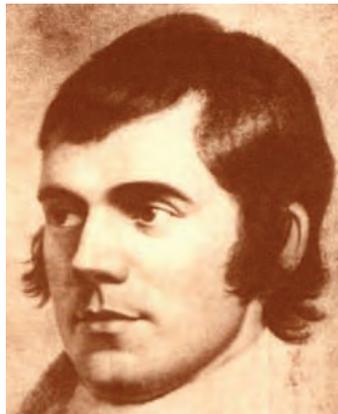
Tickets may be ordered using the printable form at <http://www.scottishheritageassoc.com/hanoBurns.htm> (also see the pictures posted from last year's event.) Note on the form that you wish to be seated at a Kennedy table.

If you have questions about this event, please contact me at [wkennedyjr@yahoo.com](mailto:wkennedyjr@yahoo.com) or call me at 330 433-9323. I have attended this event since 2005, and look forward to the next year at the end of each!

We will have an all-Kennedy table or two this year for the first time. Join us in representing the "Wild and Mighty Kennedys" in style!

This September in beautiful Estes Park Colorado, we held our AGM (Annual General Meeting). Randy Peterson, our Mountain Region Chieftain, did an outstanding job of organizing, and hosting this event during the Scottish-Irish festival. With the help of his family, we had an absolutely grand time and felt, as is

usual in these Kennedy gatherings, very much one of the family. As you may have noticed, elections were held and positions changed a bit. Welcome to the new Chief President of the Kennedy Society Chris Kennedy, and many thanks to our first designated Chief Retired, First Class, Nomon Kennedy. He has done a fantastic job guiding the Kennedy Society through the many changes we have gone through in the past 5 years. We have established an elected officer system. If you are interested in serving the Kennedy Society in that capacity, the best way to start is hosting a Kennedy Tent and becoming a games representative!



The annual dinner is a tribute to the life, works and spirit of the great Scottish poet, Robert Burns (1759-1796). It is celebrated around his birthday, January 25th.

I would like to congratulate a gentleman that did just that. John Snodgrass, with assistance from his lovely wife Cynde Kennedy, has been elevated to Chieftain/Regional V.P. Mid-West Region. John has hosted many events over the years and has personally assisted me as Vice-Chieftain for the past two years. Please contact John for your Midwest region concerns. Again, welcome, and congratulations John!

Chief Chris has designated a few committees to work on issues to make KSNA even more efficient. One of the committees I am currently involved with is working on a Policy and Procedure manual, which will include guidelines for hosting events. We will keep you posted on our progress.

We have a few online communication methods for Kennedy Society members. Our Yahoo! group is for members only and now we have a new FaceBook group run by Shannon Kennedy, which allows prospective members and members alike to chat about events and what it is to be a Kennedy Society member.

Julie and I wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas, Healthy and Happy Hogmanay and New Year!

**Bill Kennedy, Deputy Chief, Vice President**

# LETTERS FROM OUR PAST CHIEF AND SECRETARY

## Dear Family;

We have been on a wild and wonderful four-year ride. There have been a few bad days but more than anything we have had a lot, and I do mean a lot of wonderful days during this time.

We have seen our organization come into the twenty-first century, now with its leadership controlled by officers who are actually elected by our members. We have assisted in the creation of a documentary film "On the Day." Of all the things that have been accomplished during this time the most pleasurable for me has been the time I spent with you, our members, talking to your children and grand-children, and seeing the excitement on their faces when I introduced them to a man that was really born in a castle.

The 2009 Annual General Meeting was both a happy time as well as a little sad. Lord Ailsa gave me the title of "Chief First Class Retired" which I will carry with great honor. He also gave me a plaque with a huge stone from Ailsa Craig which is in my living room on display. The new officers have, after a lot of research, brought back from near extinction the 'Order of the Oak' award and medal, and presented myself, Carver Kennedy, John A. Kennedy and Nina Eppes with this wonderful honor.

I must say to all, thank you from the bottom of my heart. Thank you to the greatest Clan Chief of all Scotland, Lord Ailsa — thank you for always supporting your American family. Thanks to my Vice-Chief Chris for being there to take the ball and run, and to have always carried it in the right direction. Thank you to all the Chieftains, Bill, John, Nina, Randy, Sherry, Carver, Mike; the Vice-Chieftains, committee chairs, and the committee members, games representatives, tent hosts/hostesses and *members* — which we all are— Thank You.

I will always be a promoter of workers. The Chieftains we have today are first-class working members who host tents, assist at other's games and events, and work on committees, doing whatever is needed to promote & grow the Society.

To our games representatives, tent hosts, and food & beverage providers — thanks for all that you do. The future of our Society family rests in the hands of folks like you. Tomorrow's leaders will come from the workers of today. Gone are the days of promoting elit-

ism, the ending of which was my greatest desire.

God bless you all, and pray for your new leadership and thanks for a wonderful four years. I look forward to my position in retirement.

## Chief First Class Retired, Nomon R. Kennedy Jr. CFCR



## Dear Family and Friends of KSNA;

First of all I would like to say it was such a pleasure to see and visit with all of you at Estes Park at our AGM. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed every minute of it! Randy, I must say your home state is absolutely awesome. I can see why you all love it so much! Nomon and I fell in love with it too. I'm telling you if you want to feel "small and humble", take a trip out west. It is gorgeous! My sinuses did not bother me the whole time we were traveling, until we crossed the Tennessee state line coming home. That is the truth! The weather out west was perfect at the time we were there. "God is good"

Anyway, I am writing to thank everyone for the part they had in selecting the beautiful gifts I received during the ceremony of the 'changing of the Presidents' in Colorado. My sofa cushion with the Kennedy crest is beautiful and is on the back of my sofa. I just want to look at it and keep it beautiful. Seriously, it is too pretty to let anyone use it.

Thank you also for my gorgeous Kennedy necklace! I wore it during the entire trip home (which I might add was another 11 days). I cannot thank each of you enough. I know that a lot of love went into obtaining them and it was so thoughtful of you to be so kind and generous. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart. Peace be with each of you and may God bless each and every one of you.

Love to you all, from the former "Lady Nan" and the current "Commander of the Mechanized Division." (P.S. to Lord Charles — I take it seriously!)

Nancy Kennedy

## Canadian Air Force Veterans Recognized

Our Canada Chieftain John Kennedy attended a stone dedication ceremony at the Air Park at Canadian Forces Base Trenton, Ontario in September. Remembrance stones were dedicated to former members of the air force and mounted near the Air Force Police monument in the park. John's stone is nearest the Police monument in the photo at right, with John next to the monument at far right, with a close up of the granite stone.

When an airman passes, his or her birth and death dates are added. John reports that a large crowd of retired Air Force personnel and their families were in attendance, along with local politicians, an Air Force brass band, Air Cadets from around the province, and an Air Force Pipe Band. Attendees enjoyed a tour of the Air Force Museum.



### Dear Kennedys:

Hollywood has given us something to make going to the movies worth while as we approach the Christmas season. Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol is now out for us to see. I plan to see it. I have read this work several times, and it speaks to us about our reaction to what God has done in His Son, Jesus Christ, which is what the Season is all about.

The ghosts of Christmas Past and Christmas Future frame the present. We are to learn from our own Christmas Past, and what we do with our lives NOW will determine our Christmas Future. Christmas is a good opportunity for us to examine where we are in our journey through this world, as we all look forward to what God has in store for us here and in the hereafter.

A blessed Christmas to one and all. God bless us every one.

**Love in Christ,  
Father David+  
KSNA Chaplain**

## NEW TREASURER GLENN KENNEDY

For five years Laura Kennedy Pittman has been the Society's treasurer and all monies have passed through her dedicated and capable hands. In addition to being treasurer, Laura has since 1994 and continues to be a tent convener at multiple games such as Stone Mountain, Hartwell, Culloden, Blairsville, Hendersonville, and Grandfather Mountain.

Laura is the daughter of Carver and Martha Kennedy of Fayetteville, GA and is married to Eddie Pittman. They reside in Dunwoody Georgia. Laura's days are filled with her responsibilities at Future Realty and Management Company in Atlanta, and with the joy of her life, her and Eddie's daughter, four-year-old Carly.

Even though Laura has passed on the Society bank account, we know she will still be a vital force in the Kennedy Society of North America.

Our new treasurer is a gentleman by the name of Glenn Kennedy from Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Glenn is a CPA and Director with RSM McGladrey, a leading professional services firm providing accounting, tax, and business consulting.

Glenn graduated from UNC at Chapel Hill and in 1964 married the love of his life, Lynda. Now retired, Lynda was a maternal and child health practitioner.

Glenn and Lynda have two children, Sarah and Jeff, and four grandchildren. The Kennedys love to travel and this summer went to Scotland with Lord Charles



Tours. When they are not traveling, or enjoying Highland Games, Glenn and Lynda enjoy spending time with their grandchildren. Welcome, Glenn, to your new position with the Kennedy Society. We are lucky to have you!

### Sue Kennedy

*Above, Glenn and Lynda at the Estes Park AGM 2009. Below, l. to r., Glenn and Lynda Kennedy, Carver and Martha Kennedy, Eddie and Laura Kennedy Pittman, Chris Kennedy meet to pass the torch.*



## WILLIAMSBURG, VA GAMES 2009

Once again, the Kennedy Society of North America was represented at the Williamsburg Scottish Festival at the Rockahock Campground in Williamsburg, Virginia on October 3.

The clan tent was hosted by Bill and Terry Kennedy (right) with the help of Chris and Sue Kennedy. This year we were able to sign up two new members, Dr. Matt Hogendobler from Virginia Beach, (top left) and Neil Brussard from Mechanicsville, VA. (lower left) After the closing of the Festival on Saturday, Bill and Terry Kennedy hosted a cookout at their campsite attended by Kennedy members and friends.

Great food, a great 15-year-old Scotch, and the fellowship of all who attended capped a successful weekend. Bill and Terry will be hosting the clan tent at Williamsburg next year.



Sue Kennedy

Board of Governors

Continued from p. 1

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## Chief Chris Welcomes Baby Abigail Grace

Chris and Sue Kennedy announce the birth of their family's newest Scottish lass, Ms. Abigail Grace Johnson. She is the daughter of Ted and Lynn Johnson, Chris and Sue's daughter and son-in-law of Lawrenceburg, Indiana. Abby weighed 6 lb and 13 oz at birth and was 19-1/2 inches long. She joins her two older brothers in the Johnson family - Christopher (6) and Ben (3). All are doing well! — Sue



# *The Kennedy Gazette*

The Kennedy Society of North America  
www.kennedysociety.org

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## *2010 AGM to be at Ligonier PA*

The 2010 Society AGM will be held in Ligonier, PA, located southeast of Pittsburgh at Idlewild Amusement Park in the beautiful Laurel Highlands, a popular resort area for those living in Western Pennsylvania.

Lord Ailsa will be attending these Games, as will the Lord Lyon. The park hosts these Games off-season, so the Scots have full run of the grounds; with full support of food vendors, parking, picnic pavilions, and excellent accessibility for all.

The clan village is organized by Clan Donald and is situated in a beautiful wooded grove which feels intimate, yet is close to parking, vendors and the parade grounds.

We will be holding the Kennedy Society annual dinner at the Ligonier Country Inn: <http://ligoniercountryinn.com/home.asp> on Saturday evening. Lord Ailsa, Julie and I have made reservations for Friday and Saturday night at this Inn and I recommend the same for all those who plan to attend. The rates are very reasonable and they have their own pub on premises.

The Games web site is currently under revision and is not available. I will post more information in coming months.

**Bill Kennedy, Deputy Chief/Vice President**

## *New Editor of Newsletter*

Long-standing KSNA member Ann Key will assume responsibility for the Kennedy Society Gazette beginning with the volume 32, number 4, or Winter 2010 edition. Ann and her husband Paul travel to many games in the course of a year both for pleasure and for their tartan dog accoutrements business, The Heelan' Hound. Above, Ann and Paul with



Neely, the official Heelan' Hound spokes model. Contact Ann at [heelanhound@windstream.net](mailto:heelanhound@windstream.net)