

The Ulster-Scots Society of America

Dear Friends and Members of the Ulster-Scots Society of America,

What About Ye?

I hope you have been keeping well. I am writing to let you know, especially those of you in the Atlanta/North Georgia area, that the Ulster-Scots Society of America, as discussed with many of you earlier this year, will once again hold our Annual General Membership Meeting in conjunction with the 36th Annual Stone Mountain Highland Games at Stone Mountain Park and at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast near Atlanta, Georgia across the weekend of October 17-19, 2008 with special emphasis being given to the evening of Saturday, October 18.

The U-SSA has once again been invited to be a Sponsoring Society at the Stone Mountain Highland Games. This prestigious festival is now rated as the premier Scottish cultural event in the United States with thousands in attendance and showcases the leading Scots heritage organizations in the country. With only limited Clan and Society participation offered, this is a unique environment to unveil the Society to a wider audience. The U-SSA will have a Society tent both Saturday and Sunday the 18th and 19th with books and other educational materials to help tell the story of the Ulster-Scots and their impact on America. Your help is appreciated as volunteers will be needed.

As a special treat, during our evening gathering on **Saturday, October 18 at 6:45 p.m.**, we will sponsor a lecture, **"Three Men of Destiny: Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston, and David Crockett"**, conducted by our good friend, journalist and author **Billy Kennedy** from Northern Ireland, who has written now ten books on the Ulster-Scots/Scots-Irish in America. Many of you may know Billy Kennedy, have read some of his books, or heard him in the past. Our time together Saturday will give you a chance to make or renew an acquaintance with one of the leading chroniclers of the Ulster-Scots story. The lecture will be followed by a book signing and reception with food and drinks. Due to a generous donation, the lecture and reception will be open and free to both Society members and the public to garner increased awareness in the Ulster-Scots Society and Ulster-Scots story and to fulfill our Society's mission of educating the public. We will also be joined by **George Patton and Maynard Hanna, members of the Ulster-Scots Agency from Belfast, Northern Ireland**, who will give us insight into the latest related to the Ulster-Scots cultural scene in Ulster and abroad.

For those of you attending the Games in other capacities during the day Saturday which ends at 5:00 p.m. or may have activities scheduled during that evening, the lecture and reception is set for 6:45 p.m. which gives you plenty of time to make it to the headquarters hotel from the Games field, listen to the lecture and get a bite to eat, and then attend other planned activities that evening such as the Scottish Musical Evening beginning at 8:00 p.m. across the hallway from the lecture. Seating and availability is limited so please contact me regarding your attendance at the lecture and/or reception.

The Society sponsorship invitation, the opportunity to have a Society tent on the festival grounds, ads in the festival program, and the Scots-Irish lecture will greatly add to our organization's visibility as we build upon our very successful impact at the Stone Mountain Highland Games last year. These promotional and educational activities will help us aid many of Scots ancestry who may not be aware of or perhaps do not understand the Ulster chapter of what may be their family's history.

www.UlsterScotsSociety.com
P.O. Box 3969 Amarillo, TX 79116



There are few better ways to share the Ulster-Scots story, and your own stories, than one-on-one in the fall air among the pine trees at the foot of beautiful Stone Mountain or at the Saturday evening lecture. We hope to see you there. Please contact me and let me know if you may be available to volunteer that weekend, attend the games, help with the Ulster-Scots Society booth, or attend the lecture with Northern Ireland Ulster-Scots author Billy Kennedy. Stone Mountain is shaping up to be a great event for the Society. Please be part of the weekend and tell your friends – better yet, bring'em!

Your RSVP information is very much appreciated. Please send in your registration form in the enclosed envelope or e-mail or call your information in by Wednesday, October 15 to the contact information below. After the 15th, you may e-mail or call (806) 676-3339. Put "SMHG" in your e-mail headline for quicker recognition due to the high volume of e-mails. Enclosed you will find Stone Mountain Games information including area hotels and activities, a registration form, a copy of the ad announcing the lecture, other pertinent information, and a current U-SSA membership form you can copy and pass on to interested parties. Whether or not you are able to attend Stone Mountain, you may use the registration form to go ahead and send in annual membership dues. Please update your contact information, particularly your e-mail information. Contact me with questions or comments.

The U-SSA has enjoyed good growth lately with representation at events like Stone Mountain which we will use primarily as an educational and promotional opportunity. Look for more news about this and other Society happenings in our new upcoming newsletter "*The Ulster-Scots Frontier*". Until then, I look forward to hearing from you or seeing you at Stone Mountain!

Sincerely,

Glen Pratt

Glen Pratt
President
The Ulster-Scots Society of America
P.O. Box 3969
Amarillo, TX 79116
(806) 372-2039
ulsterscotgp@yahoo.com

**5th ANNUAL ULSTER-SCOTS SOCIETY of AMERICA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WEEKEND SCHEDULE**

Friday, October 17, 2008

Optional attendance at Stone Mountain Highland Games genealogy and whisky tasting seminars and piping competition at the Hilton Atlanta Hotel Northeast or the Scottish Country Dance Gala. See enclosed SMHG handouts and www.smhg.org or call (770) 521-0228 for all SMHG activities and ticketing information. If coming from outside the Atlanta area, note list of SMHG recommended accommodations. Mention the Stone Mountain Games to see if they offer special rates. The Hilton Atlanta Hotel Northeast is the Games Headquarters Hotel and is located about 25 minutes from Stone Mountain at 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Norcross, GA 30092 (770) 447-4747.

Saturday, October 18, 2008

7:00-9:00 a.m. Ulster-Scots Society tent materials set up on Stone Mountain Highland Games field.
Volunteers needed.

9:00-5:00 p.m. Manning of the **Ulster-Scots Society tent** set up on Stone Mountain Highland Games field.
Volunteers needed.

Ulster-Scots Society of America Annual Meeting:

Gwinnett Room at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast Hotel 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Norcross, GA 30092 (770) 447-4747. (about 19 miles or 25 minutes from Stone Mountain)

6:00 p.m. Gwinnett Room opens. *Volunteers needed*

6:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. "Three Men of Destiny: Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston, and David Crockett" lecture and book signing by Northern Ireland journalist Billy Kennedy, author of the *Scots-Irish Chronicles*.

7:45 p.m. Reception, fellowship, and discussion. Meet Ulster-Scots Agency representatives George Patton and Maynard Hanna

Sunday, October 19, 2008

9:00-5:00 p.m. Staffing of the **Ulster-Scots Society tent** set up on Stone Mountain Highland Games field.
Volunteers needed.

5:00 p.m. Pack up Ulster-Scots Society materials from tent and depart.

REGISTRATION/FEEDBACK FORM

Ulster-Scots Society of America Annual Meeting Friday through Sunday, October 17-19, 2008

during the Stone Mountain Highland Games near Atlanta, GA!

**RSVPs appreciated for planning purposes. If attending any of the Society's weekend activities, the lecture in particular, please have this form or your attendance information returned/e-mailed/phoned to the contact information below by Wednesday October 15 if possible if attending. If after the 15th, see note below.*

- YES, I will be *attending* all or part of the weekend events
- Society tent on the games grounds Saturday and/or Sunday (circle please)
 - Billy Kennedy lecture only Saturday @ 6:45 p.m.
 - Kennedy lecture and dinner buffet following lecture
 - Other _____
 - Yes, I will be bringing others. Number in party _____
- NO, I will be unable to attend
- Yes, I will be available to *volunteer*
- Society tent set up/staffing on the games grounds Saturday and/or Sunday
 - Assisting with the Billy Kennedy lecture and dinner Saturday @ 6:45 p.m.
 - Handing out flyers or contacting potential new members or lecture attendees
 - Other _____

NOTE: No Registration Fee Necessary for Billy Kennedy's "Three Men of Destiny" lecture and reception Saturday, October 18!

- Yes, I would like to continue receiving "The Ulster-Scot" paper. Enclosed is my Ulster-Scots Society dues renewal.
- \$20 family \$15 individual · *Make checks payable to the Ulster-Scots Society of America*

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

**If attending any of the above-listed Society activities, please fill out and return this form in the enclosed envelope or send your information via e-mail to ulsterscotgp@yahoo.com or leave a*

message at (806) 372-2039 by Wednesday, October 15, 2008 or leave a message at (806) 676-3339 after Wednesday, October 15. Forms may be faxed to (806) 378-5512. Also, note that tickets to Stone Mountain Highland Games events must be made through them. See www.smhg.org or call (770) 521-0228.