



# THE DEFENDER



The Official Publication of Kincaid Clan Association International

Issue Number 79 - Sep/Oct 2014



## **A Gathering of Clan Kincaid in Scotland in August 2014**

### *A Note to Members of Clan Kincaid From the Communications Director*

*In August, a Clan Kincaid gathering was held in Scotland and with the Boards concurrence, I am dedicating this issue of the Defender to that Gathering. Members who did not make the Gathering will be able to see many of the sights the attendees saw, while members who attended will be able to relive some of the experience. Additionally Arabella, the Clan Chief, and David Kincaid, the Clan President provided words of wisdom that all Clan Members should see. The words of Angus Kincaid are also included as he, at some point, will become the Clan Chief.*

*I have laid out the newsletter in a way to capture the flow of the tour beginning with the Core Tour in this edition, followed by the Extended tour in the December edition of the Defender. Tour co-host, James Brisbin, provided an "Official Trip" report to Board of Officers and I have used the report along with many pictures as the basis of this edition of the Defender.*

*I wish to thank Dawn Kincaid whose work as the "Official Tour Photographer" provided me with so many pictures to use in the newsletter. She took so many pictures that I don't know how she found time to enjoy the tour. I also want to thank Robert Kincaid III for his pictures and comments plus his work on Facebook that helped me get this edition together. I also want to thank James Brisbin for his trip report that provides great detail on the Gathering and was a great help setting up this issue of the Defender.*

*I have continued the past practice of designating certain holidays on the pages of the Defender and this edition contains border pictures highlighting Canada Day, the 4th of July, Flag Day and VJ Day.*

*I hope all Clan Members enjoy this issue of the Defender.*

*In Kinship,*

ROBERT T. KINCAID, JR.,

### *New Indiana Commissioner*

**Lonny Kincaid** of Columbus, Indiana has been named the Indian Commissioner - **CONGRATULATIONS.**

### The Wee Shopper Tartan Yardage

In the spring, we queried members to determine if there was enough interest to pursue a group order for both tartan yardage as well as table linens in our Kincaid Ancient pattern. We received only one response – from a member interested in the table linens. Though there was insufficient interest to proceed with a group order, following is contact information for each product, should any member be interested in the products in the future:

--Table linens : St. Croix Weaving, 404 Red Brick Rd., Hudson, WI 54016;

web site: [www.stcroixweaving.com](http://www.stcroixweaving.com); email address: [weaver@stcroixweaving.com](mailto:weaver@stcroixweaving.com).

--Tartan yardage: Lochcarron ([www.lochcarron.com](http://www.lochcarron.com)), our main source for Clan tartan items. In addition, there are a number of other online companies.

### Holiday Ordering

**It's hard to believe but we are quickly approaching the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the year, which means it's also the time we begin to turn our attention to the Holidays. Do be sure to send your orders to me by December 1 to ensure delivery to you in time for holiday giving.**

By Bev Kincaid



# THE DEFENDER



## A Gathering of Clan Kincaid in Scotland in August 2014

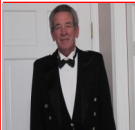


### A Note From the Clan Chief, Madam Arabella

#### *A Heartfelt Thanks You*

I want to thank every person who gave me a present at the Gala Dinner at the Dunblane Hotel. I have been so blessed by each and every one. I was thankful to have the time to open most presents at the time of giving but I know that I didn't manage that with everyone which was my only sadness – I so enjoyed all the talking at the tables and meeting people that the time slipped away. However, when I got home we sat around our kitchen table as a family and I enjoyed them again, this time with all the family, one at a time, reading the notes and stories and cards. I now have all those special pieces as reminders all around our home in their different settings and it makes me feel connected to the wider family on a daily basis. The presents given on the evening have become something lasting and are deeply appreciated. Thank you for your kindness generosity and support to both Angus and me.

Arabella.



### A Note From the Clan President, David Kincaid

#### *Defender, September 2014*

The highlight of the year for my wife Barbara and me was the 2014 Clan Gathering in Scotland. We had never been to Scotland before, and hosts James Brisbin and Kathi Kincaid planned a wonderful tour. Our guide, Jean, was very knowledgeable concerning the history of Scotland and the castles thus providing us with a memorable experience. We enjoyed visiting the famous battle-field monument of Bannockburn. Here the forces of Robert the Bruce defeated a vastly superior sized force of Edward II in 1314 helping bring freedom to Scotland.

We also were impressed with Edinburgh Castle where stories allude to a family member of the Kincaid family who may have helped capture the Castle in 1296 from Edward I of England and may have subsequently been made Constable of the Castle. At least two Kincaid's subsequently served as constables of Edinburgh Castle. The castle appearing in the Kincaid Arms and Kincaid

crests very likely represents the relationship of the Kincaids with this most formidable fortress.

That evening we enjoyed a spectacular performance at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo at Edinburgh Castle. In addition, we toured a palace, and many abbeys and other castles.

We visited the Kincaid lands in and around Milton of Campsie and Lennoxton, and visited the burial grounds as well as the Kincaid/Lennox Mausoleum. In the late 1200's the Kyncade lands consisted of thirty thousand acres. Although it is in ruin we enjoyed visiting the Lennox Castle, which is an integral part of our Kincaid heritage.

The Kincaid and the Lennox families fought together, fought each other, and married each other. John Lennox Kincaid built the Lennox Castle in the early 1800's. His father was John Kincaid of Kincaid and his mother Cecilia Lennox. Our Clan Chief Madam Arabella Kincaid is a descendent of that family. Her brother is Chief of Clan Lennox. We had the delight of meeting Madam Arabella and her oldest son, Master Angus, for the first time at lunch at the Kincaid House in Campsie. We are all very proud of our Clan Chief and her son.

On Thursday we enjoyed a relaxing and fun filled evening at our traditional Scottish Ceilidh complete with a Scottish band and dancing. Much laughter ensued with stories, jokes and presentations. Saturday evening we all dressed in our finery for the culminating Gala Banquet at the Dunblane Hydro Hotel.

A very rewarding part of the Scotland tour was the opportunity for us all to meet and get to know other members of our Clan Kincaid family.

As we all headed home weary but filled with fond memories of Scotland, its history and its people, we reflected on what an absolute joy this Gathering had been.

*A memory from Jill Painter: After all the crinkles and wrinkles have floated away, the rushiness and tiredness; all that is left in my memory of the Clan Kincaid Gathering 2014, is shining happiness. To travel to the many great and interesting places with such a wonderful group was the experience of a lifetime. The pride of being whatever little part I might be, a Scot, that I felt at the Tattoo was overwhelming and even a bit surprising to me. And I am so proud to be a member of Clan Kincaid. The afternoon spent on the Kincaid and Lennox lands was maybe the most special of the week. I am very thankful for this opportunity.*



# THE DEFENDER



## A Gathering of Clan Kincaid in Scotland in August 2014



*“Ah Kincaid”!!! (By James Brisbin)*

It all began in the spring of 2012 when visiting with Madam Arabella Kincaid of Kincaid in London. During tea, our Chief alluded that there would be a celebration of the 700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn in June of 2014 and it might involve another “Gathering of the Clans” similar to the event in 2009 and it would be lovely if the Clan Kincaid had a presence at such an event.

Plans were then set in motion for another Clan Kincaid Gathering. Scotland Tours was engaged as the land agent for the event and a close watch was set up to monitor the progress of the Bannockburn Event. The services of Kathi Kincaid were engaged as a co-host to assist and shadow in the event something might happen to me. Unfortunately, there were a number of hurdles and false starts for the Bannockburn Event and it was decided, in consultation with a number of potential clients, Scotland Tours and the co-hosts, that a viable alternative of the Royal Edinburgh Tattoo would be appropriate. As time moved on, this decision was supported by events.

Advertising was done through “The Defender” and a potential client list of well over 100 was developed as the itinerary was composed and re-worked a number of times.

When the rough form of the itinerary was in place and Scotland Tours was able to provide prices for both the Core and Extended Tours, invitations were sent out for the potential clients to make a commitment. When all was sorted, 49 people decided to participate in the Core Tour with 18 of those continuing on with the Extended Tour. The Client list included 30 Kincaids, 17 spouses and 2 close friends. To this number were added two additional Kincaids who participated in a parallel tour joining the group for the Tattoo and Kincaid activities. The participants represented 31 households in 17 States and 2 Provinces.

I traveled to Scotland during the summer of 2013 and worked on the tour for almost 2 weeks meeting with Scotland Tours, arranging personal contacts and familiarizing myself with changes in venues that had taken place since my last visit.

Twelve newsletters were composed and sent to clients and potential clients over the course of the many months leading up to the Tour. These newsletters kept clients informed on progress and provided detailed guidelines to assist in making their travels more enjoyable and efficient. All financial arrangements were made between the clients and Scotland Tours so the co-hosts were not involved in that aspect of the tour planning. Each client had an additional 50 GBP added on to their Core Tour costs to cover an assortment of extras that were provided during the course of that part of the tour. These extras included: Clan Kincaid Gathering 2014 Journals, two Scottish cook books, name badges, crossed flag pins, Kincaid baggage tags, prints of a Kincaid in tartan kilt, mints, photocopies of heraldry information, honorarium for Tartan Speaker, Scotland Calendars, Fry’s Chocolates, Cadbury Chocolates, Flake Chocolates, Shortbreads, three brands

of Scotch tasting, red rose boutonnieres and Clan Crest Plaques. In addition a Clan Kincaid Banner, a guest book signed by all the clients and a Thomas Kincaid Family Bible were presented to our Clan Chief. \$200 in prizes were awarded to the participants in six daily quizzes. A plaque was created and placed in the Clachan of Campsie Graveyard. A Clan Kincaid Banner was created as a rallying point during the tour. The exact total of all these items exceeded the revenue and the excess was absorbed by me.

I departed for Scotland on July 30 to do some personal family history research and complete final details for the Tour. This involved meeting with Scotland Tours for the entire day of July 31, picking up Kathi Kincaid, meeting with Simon McGillivray, meeting with Holy Rood Church officials, buying a variety of gifts, picking up journals, meeting with Kincaid House owner John Thompson, etc. Clients began arriving August 7<sup>th</sup> with the bulk arriving August 9<sup>th</sup>.

### TOUR SUMMARY

#### August 9<sup>th</sup> – Saturday



*Relaxing in the lounge with James Brisbin, Walt Kincaid, and Lynn Kincaid!*

Those arriving this morning were met by Scotland Tours representatives, our guide and the co-hosts starting at 6:30 AM. Each was presented with a name badge and crossed flag pins by Kathi. When most had assembled, we departed for Kincaid House to pick up additional clients then we proceeded to the World Heritage Site of New Lanark where clients had the freedom of the site for several hours while the Dunblane Hydro Hotel prepared for our arrival. The weather was sunny and bright lending an atmosphere of welcome to the group. On to the hotel where we ar-

*Dunblane Hydro Hotel (Double*



rived and had a couple of hours to unpack and sort things out before boarding the coach again for a short 30 minute drive to the Glenturret Distillery where we had a tour





# THE DEFENDER



## Tour Summary



followed by a welcome to Scotland Dinner. During the dinner the group was introduced to our guide, Jean Blair, who gave a presentation on Blue Badge Guides. Our Driver, Norman, was also introduced. Ronnie Pook, Manager of Scotland Tours was introduced and welcomed everyone to the tour. Everyone was presented with their journals. A few guidelines were discussed such as the attention getting device of "Ah Kincaid", rotating coach seats, wearing name tags, being on time, etc. We returned to the hotel for the night.

### August 10th - Sunday



A full Scottish cooked breakfast was available to everyone every morning. This included eggs, bacon, potatoes, haggis, black pudding, baked beans, juice, coffee, tea, toast, yogurt, cereals, porridge, fresh fruit, etc. Clients could fill their plate from

Liz and Steve Kincaid (MN) on coach with Clan Kincaid Core Tour members

Clan Kincaid enter Stirling Castle



the assortment with anything they wanted and as much as they wanted. The coach departed in the rain for Stirling Castle where we had a brief introduction then people were free to explore the

Great Hall, the Chapel, the medieval kitchen, the regimental museum, the royal apartments and the gift shop. I spent most of the time in the great hall taking photographs of clients at the Royal Head Table.

We then were off to lunch at the Riverside Restaurant. At lunch, I handed out the first of six 15 question quizzes based on Scottish and Kincaid History, Geography and trivia. The others would be provided succeeding days with the winner announced at the Gala on Saturday. The meal was good but the service was very slow which took away from our time at our next stop – the Bannockburn Experience. We were late for our appointed visit but Jean got us in anyway. We were crowded as they doubled up on admissions. Many walked out to the Bruce monument for photos in the rain.

Karen Davis at the Scottish Shop in Stirling



Clan Kincaid at Robert the Bruce statue at Bannockburn Battlefield Memorial



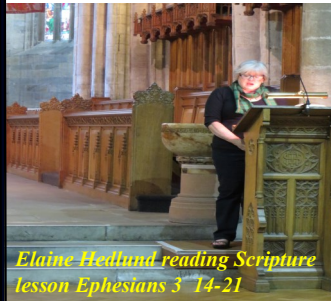
Back to Stirling where people had an hour to shop



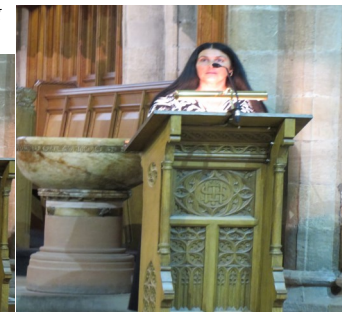
Lance Knauss leads Clan Kincaid congregation in a responsive singing of the Lord's Prayer

before going to the church service scheduled for 5:30.

I went ahead to prepare things at the church and greet clients as they arrived. The Service of Thanksgiving was prepared by myself in cooperation with Rev. Alan Miller of the Church of the Holy Rood in Stirling.



Elaine Hedlund reading Scripture lesson Ephesians 3 14-21



Donna Knauss reading scripture

# THE DEFENDER



*Ceremony of passing the memorial flame from Kincaid parent to child*

It was based on a Presbyterian model but was ecumenical in nature. The centrepiece of the service was “the passing of the light” from one generation to the next. Here is the text of that portion of the service and the list of those participating.

**Peggy Harris and Annette Miller  
Jenny and Whitney Meyerhof  
Andrew and Ray Zimmerman  
Jack Kincaid and Brenda Hofer**

*We see before us a memorial candle. Its light shines bright with the memories of lives past, for those who sacrificed that we might live, those who laughed and cried and hoped and died. Those who perhaps wondered if they would ever be forgotten, those who believed or struggled to believe. Those who worked and played hard to bring joy to their families, those who loved and were loved. Had it not been for them, we would not be here; we would not enjoy the freedom we have; we would not know the responsibilities we carry; we would not be able to hope for the future, in fact, we might not know who we are. The memorial candle grows shorter each moment. The memories of those from our past grow dimmer each moment. But there is something miraculous that can happen. We can take a light from that candle and pass it on to a new candle and from there to a newer candle and continue that tradition preserving knowledge and heritage for yet another generation and generations to come.*

Following the church service, we found our coach and returned to the hotel for a wonderful dinner and to bed for much needed rest.

## August 11<sup>th</sup> – Monday

Following breakfast we travelled to Ayrshire to visit Culzean Castle – one time home of the Kennedy Family. The weather was good and we had lovely views of the islands of Ailsa Craig and Arran. Lunch was at the Brig-O’Doon Hotel and again we had the problem of wonderful food and very slow service. Lunch took most of two and a half hours leaving us only a few minutes to visit the Robert Burns Museum



*Culzean Castle*



*Mike Surowiec & Steve Kincaid (KY) in the Culzean Castle kitchen*

O’Doon or “The Auld Kirk” for photos as many had hoped.

After dinner, we adjourned to a private room for two presentations. The first on Scottish Tartans presented by Mr. Brian Wilton MBE, Executive Secretary of the Scottish Tartan Authority. This presentation was well received with many questions. Brian was presented with an honorarium in appreciation for his making the day truly memorable. The second presentation was on Scots Heraldry and was presented by myself. The day ended at 11:00 PM.

and Tam O’Shanter Experience. Regrettably, we did not have time for people to go to the Brig



*The Burns Cottage*



*Brian Wilton discusses Scottish Tartans with Clan Kincaid*

## August 12<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday



*Joan Kincaid, Viki Leigh, Annette Miller, Peggy Harris, Mike Surowiec with Tour-guide Jean wait to enter Scone Palace*

Raining this morning as we departed after breakfast for Scone Palace in Perth. We had an introductory presentation followed by freedom to roam the palace and grounds. Lunch was at the Loch Leven larder (another quiz). Then we traveled to Falkland Palace.



*Entrance to Falkland Palace*

*For Sale*



Brand new men's XL fully lined black windbreaker with embroidered Kincaid Clan Badge. \$48 postage paid. Please contact Karen Davis at [bunkerbuddy@q.com](mailto:bunkerbuddy@q.com).

# THE DEFENDER

## Tour Summary



We split into two tour groups to visit this royal home. The memorable part of this visit was the disasters that accompanied the visit.

One bumped head on a stone entry way, one fall injuring an ankle, one temporarily lost purse, one unwelcoming Palace Official and one temporarily lost journal.

Fortunately, we were all able to laugh these things off as there was no permanent damage and we were off to Dunfermline.

We were greeted with a wine reception in Dunfermline in the Council Chambers by representatives of the



*Peggy Harris, Annette Miller, and Fred Harris, minding his head at Falkland Palace*



*Kincaids proceed up the City Chambers, Dunfermline*



*Annette Miller served by City Official, Dunfermline City Chambers*

Dunfermline Council and Tourist authorities.

We then split into two parties and visited in turn Dunfermline Abbey and the Andrew Carnegie Home.

The two groups assembled again in Pittencrieff Park for a dinner provided by Dunfermline. The expected entertainment of

music and dancing turned out to be an actor portraying Robert the Bruce who posed for pictures.

Back to the hotel for rest



*Lynn and Rob Kincaid spar with King Robert the Bruce at Glen Pavilion, Dunfermline*

### August 13<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday

The original plan of taking the



*Kincaids at Dunblane train station, headed to Edinburgh*

using their “Hop-On-Hop-Off” tour bus tickets while a select group of 14 proceeded to the office of the Lord Lyon King of Arms. Here we were met by the Lord Lyon who addressed the group for a half hour then they had a chance to see several copies of Kincaid Arms in the Registry.

A group traveled to Rosslyn Chapel and I awaited that group and we visited Edinburgh Castle and Greyfriar’s Church yard where we discovered the grave of Buchanan Kincaid who died in 1838.

9:08 train had to be postponed to 9:38 as there was no room on the earlier train. This cut a half hour from the free time in Edinburgh. We arrived shortly after 10:30 and were met by Hugh and William Kincaid of Arkansas who were traveling on a separate tour.

The bulk of the clients proceeded to explore Edinburgh

*From a Hop-On-Hop-Off sightseeing bus Edinburgh Castle looms on a rocky promontory*



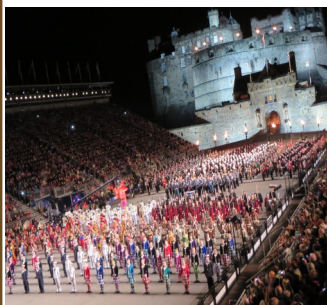
*Lorri Tretter & Barbara Baker sitting on the wall at St Giles' Kirk (church) before the Tattoo.*

performance. By sheer luck this performance was being taped by the BBC so we had the extra surprise of fireworks not normally provided on a weekday. The show was fan-

The group re-assembled at St. Giles Church and we then proceeded to march as a Clan to the Royal Edinburgh Tattoo



*Clan Kincaid banner is easily seen in the Fringe Festival and Tattoo crowd*



*The Tattoo finale with all the performers assembled and playing together*

tastic and our seats were the best. Everyone was really impressed. A long walk back to the coach and the drive back to the hotel ended the day.



*A memory: Who remembers the time a Clan Member shouted “STOP! My wife isn’t on this bus” causing the driver to stop. (But she was on the bus)?*



# THE DEFENDER



## Tour Summary



### August 14<sup>th</sup> - Thursday

Following breakfast we left for Linlithgow Palace where a Kincaid was once a custodian of the facility. Our guides were well trained children – a unique experience. Then we were off for the Falkirk Wheel – an engineering



Guide uses stories to entertain Steve (KY) Kincaid, Johnna Painter, Kathy Nobles and others, Linlithgow Palace



The One and Only Falkirk Wheel



All aboard the canal boat for lifting by the Falkirk Wheel

masterpiece. We had a 1 hour boat trip along the canal involving going both up and down. Something different and the day was dry so far.

The remainder of the day was dedicated to Clan Kincaid. We traveled to Kincaid House where we met with Madam Arabella Kincaid of Kincaid and her son Angus. We were also joined by Mr. Simon McGillivray who addressed the group on the history of the area.

After lunch we traveled first to the Clachan of Campsie where Madam Arabella unveiled a plaque and dedi-



James Brisbin, Madam Arabella, and her son, Angus at Kincaid House

cated a tree to the remembrance of our Kincaid Heritage.

The ceremony was short as the midges were out in force.



Madam Arabella dedicates this tree in Clachan of Campsie Burial Grounds

Here is an image of the plaque:



Clan Kincaid members at Lennox Castle

We then proceeded to Lennox Castle for a walk about. The midges were fewer and we had more time to enjoy looking at the ruin and the remains of Woodhead House as well. We concluded our Kincaid touring with an overview of the area from a car park

on the Campsie Fells.

We had our dinner back at the Dunblane Hydro Hotel in a private room followed by our Ceilidh. We had the services of a piper that was

Campsie Glen and Fells, formerly Kincaid Clan Lands



Clan Kincaid kicks off the Ceilidh with bagpipe music

music provided and enjoyed many laughs and great fellowship. I was really surprised when I was presented with a Kincaid Pocket Watch for my efforts in organizing the tour.

scheduled for the Gala.

The ceilidh was a huge success with many participants. We all danced to the



Mary & Jack Kincaid dancing at the Ceilidh



# THE DEFENDER



## Tour Summary



### August 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday



Clan Kincaid in the Glen Coe

After breakfast we departed for Glen Coe where close to half of the group opted for the walk down through the Glen while the remainder visited the National Park visitor centre. The weather held for us and all enjoyed the walk. We

had a box lunch today and then proceeded to visit Inveraray Castle invaded by Kincaids



array Castle in the afternoon. A brief stop by Loch Lomond rounded out our visits for the day which had longer drives filled with spectacular scenery.

Back at the hotel we were joined for dinner by Madam



Clan Kincaid diners at Meet & Greet

their homelands. Madam Arabella was genuinely



Steve (KY) & Dawn Kincaid, Glen Coe



Castle Stalker in Loch Linnhe

Arabella for an informal “Meet and Greet” where many of the group presented her with tokens of fealty from



Chief's fealty gift, Bill & Hugh Kincaid

touched by the gesture and the warmth shown by her Clan Folk.

### August 16<sup>th</sup> - Saturday

After breakfast we departed for Loch Katrine for a two



Liz & Steve Kincaid (MN)



Co-Tour Organizer Kathy Kincaid

hour cruise. We did make a brief stop to get close up pic-

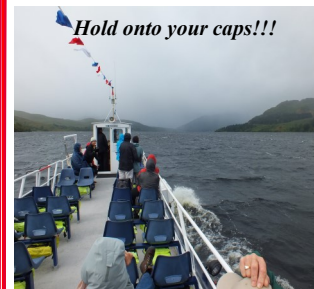


Heelan Coo



Lady of the Lake sails the Kincaids on Loch Katrine

tures of “Hamish” the Highland Cow at Kilmahog. Unfortunately the “Sir Walter Scott” steamship was out of service and we had to settle for a tour boat. The weather was cold and windy so most sat inside and shared fellowship for the trip.



Hold onto your caps!!!

On to Aberfoyle for lunch at the Forth Inn – a very “medieval” looking place



Doune Castle

and a good lunch. People had a chance to visit the Woolen Centre before we drove on to gloomy Doune Castle. On our way back to the hotel, Kathi organized and presented our guide and driver with a most generous and well-deserved gratuity for their much appreciated services.





# THE DEFENDER



## The Kincaid Gala

### THE CLAN KINCAID GALA



*Kincaid Clan Gala reception*

We assembled in a reserved room for champagne and conversation at 7:00. Each person was presented with a Red Rose boutonniere except those who opted for a red rose corsage. Karen Davis graciously saw that



*Robert and Lynn Kincaid*

everyone had their flower. A group Photo was taken along with many individual pictures of families with Madam Arabella and Angus.

We then were paraded to our banquet hall with the



*Angus, Madam Arabella Kincaid of Kincaid, Clan Chief, and President David Kincaid are Piped into Gala*

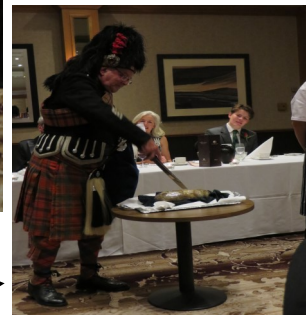
piper leading and Angus following with the Clan Kincaid Banner. Then the rest of the group found their way to their seats. A second procession followed with the piper again in the lead followed by Angus with the banner and the Head Table of Madam Arabella, President David Kincaid and Mistress of Ceremonies Kathi Kincaid.

Dinner began with a Toast to the Haggis.

The winners of the quizzes



*Piping of the Haggis  
Cutting open of the Haggis*



were announced as Steve Kincaid of Minnesota in 1<sup>st</sup>, Jack Kincaid of California in 2<sup>nd</sup> and a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> between Eva Knight of Colorado and Karen Davis of Arizona.

Following dinner, Kathi introduced Angus for his first speech to the Clan. He did a wonderful job Kathi then introduced President David Kincaid for his "State of the Clan" message. David also was 'spot on' with his presentation extolling the virtues of the Clan and its many accomplishments. President David then introduced Madam Arabella for her address to her Clan. Her presentation was sincere, loving and deeply appreciative and garnered a standing ovation. The evening continued with presentations of a guest book, Clan Banner and a Kincaid Family Bible from the tour to the chief. Families received Kincaid Baggage



*Steve Kincaid (KY) displays two of the special family gifts*



*Judy Schwab shows another of the special gifts*

tags, copies of the Kincaid Clansman painting, a picture of Madam Arabella and a Clan Kincaid Plaque. Then the evening concluded with the singing of Auld Lang Sang as people bid each other goodbye and went to repack for early departures the following morning.

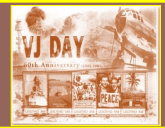




# THE DEFENDER



## Gala Night Speeches



### Madam Arabella Speech, Gala Night August 2014



Thank you Kathi, President David and Angus for your words and before I say anything at all THANK YOU for all your beautiful gifts. As I drove home feeling awash with kindness and blown away by the thought and time that had gone into each present – each and every one will be enjoyed and treasured as memories of our time together this year.

Thank all of you who have made this evening possible and for inviting me to come tonight and give me the opportunity to say a few words. Special thanks go to James for organising this whole tour. I read today that Bill Gates said “What I do best is share my enthusiasm” and - James you share your enthusiasm for all things Kincaid boundlessly and generously and we are all the great beneficiaries of that!

President David and Barbara who it has been an absolute joy to meet you properly and I know we are so fortunate to have such a wonderful and complimentary couple to lead our Clan Association I have to tell you that they have been especially kind to me as I have not been the best of communicators since David became President with all that has been going on at home and then being away for an extended family holiday and they have been nothing but gracious about that!

I am often asked about being a Clan Chief and what I have to DO and what it all entails and what does it all mean. I always say that it is all about family and when you have a family you don't have a tick list of 'must do's' rather we shape our families together and either get involved or not. The thing that really thrills and excites me is that being part of a Clan Society is about being part of a wider family group. As we know all too often the traditional family structures are increasingly broken down in our western world and yet we human beings have the same in built and natural desire to belong (this is the very thing Viki and I were talking together about up at Lennox Castle on Thursday) to be a part of something and to be loved, noticed, enjoyed and to enjoy doing things together with others. I believe 100% in the importance of the role of family.

As I started to prepare for this evening I kept thinking about the word HOPE. Such a powerful word and something that gives us strength when the going gets tough. The Kincaid Clan Association has been a great

source of hope for the future and offered a strong sense of belonging in my own immediate family. Some of you may remember my Grandmother who became Chief before me in 1988 and known as Madam Heather who Angus mentioned. She was a wonderful and wise woman who had known much loss in her lifetime. She was pre-deceased by both her husbands and her only child, my Father who died in 1990. I am only telling you this because she had a wonderful heart for her family and later in that same year, that must have been pretty unbearable for her, there was a Clan Society tour organised and she was invited to attend. As far as I know this was the first time she had met any of the extended family of Kincaids from overseas and I know that this was a really happy and fulfilling time for her, a whole new part of her own family opened up to her and she truly embraced the whole wider family. This without doubt gave her Hope for the future and she served in her position as Chief wholeheartedly until her death in 1999.

I remember whenever I visited her that the table beside her fireside chair was always piled up with Scottish history articles and magazines and books and handwritten letters both to and from her. She was meticulous in her research and her letters were always lengthy, detailed and personal.

For me very recently as you probably know my husband Giles has been recovering from a cancer operation and the following chemotherapy. He has been full of courage and uncomplaining but it hasn't been the easiest of valleys to walk through. I have to thank you this evening for the many cards and kind notes I received. Every kind and encouraging word has helped to build my strength and resolve to make each day as good as it can be. Thankfully he is doing well and making a very good recovery.

For me today to be here with Angus is a special evening and one that I know Madam Heather would have loved to have seen. She was in Williamsburg at a Highland Games and staying with President Jim and Joan Kincaid on 25th September 1998 when Angus was born and I know she was absolutely thrilled with the news of his arrival. Angus will be walking into a great heritage as Chief of the name of Kincaid (it might be a while yet!) who can trace his bloodlines back into the mists of time and from that point look forward with Hope to all that the future has to offer. As we drove up the motorway we tested each other on names and dates from the card index box which my Grandmother had carefully put together to refer to increase our knowledge of our heritage!

It was fun and as we really enjoyed the diversity of all the different characters through the centuries. It is an incredible thought that we Kincaids have such a shared heritage going back hundreds and perhaps well over a thousand years. I have a book someone sent me who claimed to be able to trace the Chiefs of Kincaid back to King David of Israel which I must admit I had privately thought might be a little bit pie in the sky however recently I was speaking to another Chief



# THE DEFENDER



## Gala Night Speeches



about this who informed me that there are a number of European Dukes who can indeed trace their roots back so far and if a family is able to get as far back as these Dukes then the rest *becomes easy*. After hearing this I hurried home and had another look through the book and found that Eugene ED Kincaid III has worked out that James Kincaid of that Ilk who died in 1604 can trace his lineage back through Robert the Bruce all the way back to The Emperor Charlemagne who died in 814 and it is from here with a few ancient records and perhaps a little imagination that the route back to David of Israel is surmised. Right up to the present day we Kincaids are a great and I think if I may say a beautiful name. I don't know if you have seen Sky Fall but I felt very proud when the Gamekeeper called Kincaid had the great line of 'Welcome to Scotland'. The time span over which we can cast our minds is immense and it reminds me again how fleeting our days really are. So if our days are short, what do we want to do with them? There is a verse in the Book of Psalms – Psalm 90 v 12 I often think of that says "Teach us to number our days aright that we may gain a heart of wisdom". So I come back to the question of why I or indeed any of us are involved in this day and age in a Clan Society? The lands and big houses might have fallen into ruins but the heart of our Clan is strong. Our motto 'This I'll Defend' is one I love and I always think of the 'This' as being goodness, truth, fairness and ultimately all that is good about family. I believe that each one of you who has given and invested so much time in creating and building this Clan Society is offering HOPE if they need it to those who come into contact with it that they matter very much to us all who are already fortunate enough to be a part of it. My thanks go to you all for all that you do with and for Clan Kincaid. Everyone has something unique to bring to our Clan and different skills and gifts. The Facebook page I was speaking with Rob about, the beautiful crocheting that Francis brings. Hosting tents, making a banner, writing a piece for the Defender, sharing a recipe, a remedy a wise tip, a verse, praying for the Clan have fallen into ruins but the heart of our Clan is strong. Our motto 'This I'll Defend' is one I love and I always think of the 'This' as being goodness, truth, fairness and ultimately all that is good about family. I believe that each one of you who has given and invested so much time in creating and building this Clan Society is offering HOPE if they need it to those who come into contact with it that they matter very much to us all who are already fortunate enough to be a part of it.

My thanks go to you all for all that you do with and for Clan Kincaid. Everyone has something unique to bring to our Clan and different skills and gifts. The Facebook page I was speaking with Rob about, the beautiful crocheting that Francis brings. Hosting tents, making a banner, writing a piece for the Defender, sharing a recipe, a remedy, a wise tip, a verse, praying for the Clan. My own prayer and hope is that for every person of Kincaid descent, or otherwise,

who gets involved with Clan Kincaid it might be the beginning of a life-long journey of discovery and kinship at whatever age they join which as it most certainly did for my Grandmother and also for me and will enhance their experience of life..

### *David Kincaid, Clan President's "State of the Clan" Speech, Gala Night 2014*



I am proud to be a Kincaid and a Scott When I first became a member, almost thirty years ago, I thought that the way I spelled my name was probably the original spelling because that is the way Clan Kincaid spells Kincaid. I have since realized that even some of my ancestors spelled Kincaid differently, and going way

back in time in Scotland one of the popular spellings was Kyncade. Even before that there were several variations of Scottish Gaelic spelling. One of which was Ceann Caith. My conclusion is that all spellings of Kincaid are appropriate and correct. Although there are over thirty different spellings of Kincaid, I find eight different spellings by members of our Clan. In addition members with a different surname out-number those with a Kincaid spelling. They either have a maternal Kincaid heritage, or are a Kincaid by marriage and/or loyalty.

In 1985 Steve, William, and Don Kincaid started communicating about the idea of starting Clan Kincaid and became the founders of Clan Kincaid Association. Don Kincaid supervises the Kincaid DNA Project today. I gave a DNA sample and they found several matched. This led me to contact founding member William Kincaid, and I learned that he and I have the same great grandfather. Clan Kincaid's first treasurer, Joel Warren, is here with us today and could be considered one of the founding members. Steve became the first President of the Clan and the first Life Member in 1986, followed by seven more Life Members in 1987. Today we have 102 life members and 162 annual members who have paid their dues as of my last update.

Members of Clan Kincaid live in Scotland, England, Australia, Netherlands, Canada and the USA.

My 1988 edition of the "Defender" the Clan had 6 State Presidents, our Clan now, more appropriately, has nineteen Commissioners who attend Scottish Highland Games and provide hospitality by hosting Clan Kincaid tents. We have recently added two new Commissioners in Paul Wood as Co-commissioner in Kentucky and Barbara Kincaid as Commissioner in Michigan



# THE DEFENDER



## Gala Night Speeches



We have a very healthy Clan thanks to the dedicated work of our volunteers. Suzanne Hakeos, our Chief Commissioner, is in communication with our commissioners, providing them with our clan kit, and assist them in anyway she can. Bev Kincaid manages the Wee Shopper, and keeps meticulous records of purchases and sales.

Sometime this month Rick Kincaid will take over the management of the Wee Shopper. Kathi Kincaid, our Membership Secretary, also keeps detailed records thus providing me with much of the information I needed for this presentation. Thank you Kathi! In addition to serving as Co-commissioner Paul Wood is our new Treasurer. Grant Kincaid lives in Australia and is our Webmaster. Our website is one of the most professional I've ever visited. Robert Kincaid publishes "The Defender" four times a year and does a wonderful job, and his son, Rob Kincaid is our Facebook Administrator, and is in attendance at this gathering. I have a deep appreciation for guidance from our Board of Officers, Advisory Council and James Brisbin. We are very fortunate to have a very supportive Clan Chief.

The Clan is achieving its goal of increasing membership, encouraging members to learn about their Kincaid and Scottish heritage, and attend Scottish Games, gatherings and activities such as this tour of Scotland.

Ladies and gentlemen we have a very strong and healthy Clan thanks to all of you who continue to support the efforts of our Clan.

Thank you

### Angus Kincaid, "Clan Chief In-Training", Gala Night Speech August 2014



Good evening and first of all I would like to say thank you all for welcoming me to talk this evening and I hope you all enjoyed your food, I know I did.

Just quickly I would really like to offer special thanks to my Mother, and Father for helping me and checking that what I had written was acceptable for your

hearing, and of course James Brisbin for the invitation.

In my few short minutes of talking I thought I would relay a few points that I have found interesting about our Clan history which I have picked up from various sources, such as the family tree, Madam Heathers card index and most importantly stories my mum told me. The first and most obvious was our many connections with Clan Lennox. As many of you know mum was indeed born a Lennox. It seems that we have gone way back, even to the mysteries of our descent as it is rumoured that we were descended from the "Ancient Earls of Lennox." It is obvious that despite me knowing little on their subject, they were pretty cool guys as

clearly the best Clan (Clan Kincaid) sprung from them. Later in the 16th Century our paths crossed again as a Clan feud, between us apparently broke out. I am not sure to what extent this went to, but most likely not to a large one because I personally had not heard about this until I was planning and researching for this speech.

This feud with Lennox did not appear to go on for long because in the 18th Century we became allies with the marriage of John Kincaid and Cecilia Lennox, and we have stayed pretty close ever since seeing as my Uncle is also the Chief of Lennox. And as James pointed out on Thursday the Lennox Crest has the Kincaid Crest two times in the middle of it.

One of the most interesting points was the way the name Kincaid was taken up. It appears that the word Kincaid probably came from (in a very bad accent) was ceanncadha which is Scottish Gaelic for the steep place or pass probably relating to a defensive tactic our forefathers used in battle, or possibly from the story of the taking of Edinburg Castle with our very own William Francis in 1296.

In the early weeks of my summer holidays this year we were lucky enough to go for a holiday to Kenya. Within the first 3 days we went to a place called Hells Gate national park, it was named so because there is a gorge which looks very much like one would imagine the gate to hell! On the way there, we were shown three pillars which had a mythical story connected to it from the Masai tribe. The story is that when a pair got wed they are meant to walk from the woman's home village to the man's home village without looking back. Anyway, one woman many years ago was so scared that she looked back to catch a last glimpse of her village and as a result of that she was turned into a pillar of stone. The best man and the husband kept on walking and a few miles, later the best man could not hear the footsteps of the wife so he looked back and he got turned to stone, and further again down the road the husband could not hear the steps of the best man and his wife and he looked back and got turned into stone. The point I am making is that of course these pillars are not made from people as these people believed. These pillars are made from volcanic tubes but these people keep faith and believe in this story. This is how these people are different and stand out and I believe that we need to find out what makes us stand out from the other clans and society in this day and age. One thing one can take away from my closing words is what can we do to make our Clan stand out from all the others.

Just one last word I thought you would all like to know, as of September 25th, my 16th birthday, I am officially changing my name to John Angus Inglis Jones Kincaid and I hope that when I eventually become chief, following after two female chiefs, I will hopefully be able to show that a guy can do it as well!