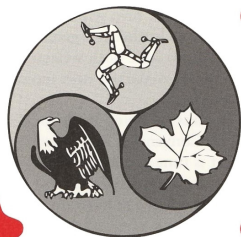


NAMA



NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

VOL 90, No.3 To preserve "Whatever is left to us of our ancient heritage." T.E. Brown Fall 2019

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT – KATY PRENDERGAST

Every quarter when I write this letter, I have my friend Amanda proofread, because if she didn't it would sound like I was writing an email to a friend; so, a huge shout out to her. This time is going to be much more casual because I am going to tell you all about my trip to the Isle of Man and the 2019 Board of Directors meeting.



First the fun stuff!

NAMA was proudly represented during Manx National Week and at Tynwald. I stayed with my relatives David (3rd vice president) and Christine Holmes at their home in Douglas. While David was out of the country on business, Christine was a great tour guide, co-conspirator, plus one, and unbelievable host.

I also visited with my other relatives Andrew and Isabell Holmes, their son Chris was out of the country as he was en route to the Island Games in Gibraltar, representing the IOM in table tennis.

The ceremony started with the winner of Outstanding Achievement in Manx Music, Shellan Leeming who played for us. The next award was Outstanding Achievement in Arts and Crafts and the winner was Ashley Christian. Then Toshiki Teare who received the award for Manx Language. The Dhoon School was the recipient of Outstanding Contribution to the Manx Culture by a group of young people under the age of 25. Two students representing the school received the medallion but a small contingent of students was in attendance. Jake Hodgson was the winner of Outstanding Contribution to the Manx Community award.

Jake is incredibly dedicated and involved in raising awareness for hospice services. The final medallion was presented to Alyssa Smith for her Outstanding Contribution to the Manx Community – Overcoming a Disability. Two cash prizes were handed out by Laurence Skelly for most progress in Manx and those were awarded to Emily Faragher and Katie Ashton-Hamlet. At the conclusion of the ceremony, tea and cakes were enjoyed by all.



On July 4th, I proudly represented the USA with an American flag t-shirt and USA flag headband antennae, in a meeting with Laurence Skelly, where we discussed the events of the week, NAMA as a whole and what our hopes and dreams are for the 2020 convention. Christine and I attended a church flower festival where I saw the outstanding floral creations produced by the Onchan Flower Club. Lastly, I was driven around the TT Course. The views and some of those curves are amazing and frightening and I can't imagine what it would be like on a motorcycle!

Tynwald day was everything and nothing like I had expected. The weather was splendid (cool for an American in the summer) and sunny. I proudly wore, and was frequently complimented, on our new President's livery collar. The ceremony included a fly-over, a marching

(Continued page 2)

Please look at the cover of this newsletter, above your name and address; if it says "please pay" and either \$15 or \$20, make your check payable to NAMA and mail it to John Prendergast NAMA Treasurer, 10251 S. Bell Ave., Chicago, IL 60643-1901 (The form is on page 6)

LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:

Honorary President

Lawrence "Larry" Fargher

Honorary Vice-Presidents

Noel Cringle, OBE, Isle of Man
Aimee Corlett, President World Manx Association, IOM

Immediate Past-President

Jim Kneale, Greater Washington Area Manx Society

Past Presidents

Jack Cormode
Norm Standish
Brad Prendergast
Laurence Skelly, MHK
Sally Dahlquist
Jim Corlett
Jody Morey
Kelly McCarthy

President

Katy Prendergast, Chicago, IL
katyprendergast@gmail.com

1st Vice-President

Kelly McCarthy
kelly@mustgoto.com
1751 Olde Towne Road,
Alexandria, VA 22307

2nd Vice-President

Brad Prendergast, Chicago, IL
brad@lawyerbrad.com

3rd Vice President

David Holmes, Douglas, Isle of Man
david.holmes@manx.net

Secretary

Bill McCarthy
bill@wjmassociates.com
1006 Cameron Street,
Alexandria, VA 22314

Treasurer & Membership Secretary

John Prendergast
jprendergast4cdot@yahoo.com
10251 S Bell Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60643

Website and Bulletin Editor

Kelly McCarthy
kelly@mustgoto.com
Tel: 703-718-0172
1751 Olde Towne Road,
Alexandria, VA 22307

Webmaster

Jim Kneale, Clarksville, MD
Jim.kneale@gmail.com

Chaplain

Rev. Canon Stephen Shaitberger
stephenschaitberger@charter.net
2356 W Via Rialto Ave Meza, AZ 85202

Genealogist

Lucy Q. Peterson, Buffdale, UT
lucyqp@msn.com

Trustees

Matthew Blower, Alexandria, VA
Bill Cassidy, Alexandria, VA
Mim Blower, Arlington, VA

band, and a climate change silent protest, although as I inside St. John's Chapel, I was unable see all the action. After the first half of the ceremony in the church, Christine and I walked along a lined gravel path to Tynwald Hill and took our seats at its foot. We watched and listened as new laws were "promulgated" (read aloud) in both English and Manx. Then citizens brought forth their own petitions for review. Once that was concluded we walked back down the same path and into the church where the laws were finalized by the President of Tynwald and signed by the Governor. Following the conclusion of the official business, we walked to the local Methodist church and had tea and sandwiches. Then it was time to party at the Tynwald Fest!

Net day, Christine and I ventured to Laxey Wheel and mines. Afterwards, we met up with members of Roc Vannin, and took a tram trip to the Snaefell Summit Dining Drinks Festival. I tried a few of the local offerings including Seven Kingdoms Distillery, Foraging Vinters, and Okell's ale. I think it is safe to say that a great time was had by all and I was treated to an impromptu concert on the tram ride back to Laxey.

Sunday the 7th was my last full day on the island and was one of my favorites. I went sea kayaking with Sea Kayaking-Isle of Man. George Shaw and the other guides took me and a group of people on a beginner kayaking adventure and it was a hoot. I thought I was pretty good, but once we left the Douglas Harbor, I realized I was indeed a beginner. Overall, I didn't end up in the drink, so it was a win in my book.

After the two-hour kayak expedition and a quick change back at the Holmes's estate, I attended the Governor's tea party. While I have been to the tea before, I don't recall it being at the Governor's estate. A huge thank you to the Isle of Man for throwing such a wonderful garden party. It was the first time I got a cucumber sandwich whilst on the island and it could not have come at a better time. The garden was stunning and reminded me of our time at Butchart Gardens in Victoria.

I had a magical time that all these words can't fully describe. A huge thank you to everyone near and far for being such wonderful hosts. It is a trip I will remember for the rest of my life. It was an honor to represent NAMA.

The less fun but still important stuff.

After a few weeks rest, I was off with the rest of the board to Plymouth MA, for the board meeting. It was a smaller group than usual, but still a nice turnout for August. After a prayer for the members who are no longer with us and prayers for a safe meeting, we opened the meeting. One of the most important orders of business was the removal of David Nixon as vice president. In his place, Kelly McCarthy stepped up and has agreed to be Vice President and host of the 2020 convention. Many other things were discussed about how to increase membership and gain traction, as our numbers are decreasing. We are hopeful that as the DNA technology increases people will find out that they are Manx and not just from the Celtic region.

We also talked about our local societies and how the Wisconsin Manx officially voted to dissolve their society, giving greater urgency to figure out a way for Manx members to come together outside of NAMA conventions. The Minnesota Max invited anyone interested to their next meeting on Saturday September 21st. The last order of business that was discussed but the final discussion was the steps and triggers that we need to be thinking about to dissolve NAMA. It was expressed by all that it was our hope that this organization will survive each of us, but the reality is that we are losing members faster than we are gaining them. Additionally, there is generally minimal interest in being on the board and are quickly running out of future board members. More discussions will take place next year in advance of the convention but as I have said in so many of these letters is that without you, we don't exist, and this is never truer than now.

Katy Prendergast

**SAVE THE DATE
2020 CONVENTION**

The Convention planning is zipping along and we will include Booking Forms in the next issue of the Bulletin. In the meantime if you wish to make your hotel reservation at the Hotel 1620, Plymouth Harbor, 180 Water St, Plymouth, MA 02360 please book directly with the hotel and do not go through another booking option as it will not count towards our room total. Call for Reservations: **508-747-4900** or book online at www.hotel1620.com quoting booking reference



NAMA2020. Our special room price is \$225 per night during this incredibly busy season for Plymouth. The Board will meet on Thursday afternoon. The main group activities will kick off on Thursday August 6th 2020 in the evening with a Meet and Greet and our General Meeting. Friday 7th will include an all-day tour. Saturday 8th will be at the hotel for workshops and our Presidential dinner. No activities are scheduled for Sunday.

Our entertainment is being finalized and we are excited to announce a guided tour of the Plimoth Plantation, visiting the English Village and the Wampanoag Reservation, as well as a self-guided trip of *The Mayflower*, our Manx connection through Captain Miles Standish, to the Pilgrims.

The nearest major airports are Boston Logan and T.F. Green at Providence, Rhode Island. This is a useful website for transportation connections. www.newenglandtravelplanner.com

We are in talks with Culture Vannin on the island and we hope they will send a representative to talk to us about Manx history, the regeneration of the language, and Manx culture in general. We are hoping to create learning opportunities for delegates in music and Manx language. If you have children coming, we will offer special events for them to learn a little about their rich, Manx cultural heritage.

For budgeting purposes we are aiming to have the adult fee including Thursday night appetizers, all-day Friday coach and culture tour with lunch, Saturday classes, and Saturday Dinner Banquet cost \$225 or less. Children will cost around \$175.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TREASURER, JOHN PRENDERGAST

I'd like to make our membership aware of recent changes that were approved by the NAMA Board of Directors. The Board has made some minor changes to the Youth Membership category. We are strongly encouraging our members to add their young family members to our Quarterly Bulletin mailing list. Your Youth Members will receive mailed bulletins until their 21st birthday at no cost to the current or youth member! Pretty good deal, we think! We will ask that you submit the Youth Members birthdate, your relationship and an email address (yours or theirs depending on age). We will email once a year to confirm mailing information and that they wish to continue to receive the bulletin. Feel free to notify me via post or email, with questions or new youth members.

*The Board reviewed our current financial status and the details of our income and expenses. All is well but they noted the increasingly higher bank service charges from annual payments made by our global members who pay in CAD. Therefore, the NAMA will require a change from members who send annual dues or make payments for convention activities; **those payments must be made in USD (U.S. Dollars).***

I strive for accuracy in the mailing list, including correct apartment and suite numbers, zip+4 mail codes and street/road designations (i.e. lane, avenue, court, etc.). Where I have the information available, I will include titles (i.e. Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, etc.). If you find an error in your mailing label, please notify me so I can make the corrections. Also, please notify me if you move.

Sadly, from time to time our members die. Our Chaplain, Rev. Stephan Schaitberger makes every attempt to send a condolence card from the North American Manx Association to the family. If you are aware of the passing of one of our members, please contact Rev. Stephan Schaitberger stephenschaitberger@charter.net, or myself, at jprendergast4cdot@yahoo.com

LOCAL SOCIETY NEWS

WASHINGTON D.C. AREA MANX SOCIETY

We have been holding 'pop-up' events where some but not all the members attend an event. It is proving very successful as we are able to pick 'horses for courses.' We were very lucky to have international super harpist, Lily Neill and her now husband, guitarist Clive Carroll (photo) —play together at a hipster joint nearby! We have known Lily for many years; she used to play for our 12th Night parties and it's lovely to see her all grown up and successful. It was a tour de force performance of duets, with sparks flying across 36 strings and we all had a great time. In an additional event, several Manx members attended a surprise big birthday party for our past President, and current Social Secretary, Kearsley Rand.



SAN DIEGO MANX SOCIETY

It's been a long time since you've heard from our group, but I want you to know we are alive and well. Last year we decided to meet four times a year instead of six. That seems to be working better for us. We've had a number of folks who have moved out of San Diego over the years but we still have a core group who are committed to being at the meetings.

Here are some of the things we've been doing the past year.

In March we were invited to set up a Manx display, for a month, in the House of England in Balboa Park. Each Sunday someone was able to talk about the IOM and we were hoping it might attract some interested folks to join our group. Unfortunately that didn't happen.

In May we participated in the St George's festival at St. Paul's Cathedral in San Diego. All the organizations in San Diego who are connected with the UK are invited to participate in this ceremony. We carry our flags and banners and march around the outside of the cathedral being led by the bagpipes, and continue into the cathedral for a very moving service. It's a very emotional time for us Brits and Manx.



L-R: Brian Harrison, Hilary Harrison, Kim Smith Billman, our president, and Ellie Bevier, our secretary/treasurer.

MANX SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA

To start the meeting Reverend Stephen Schaitberger said a lovely grace before everyone got up to fill their plates with all the delicious food. There was so much good food fruit, veggies, bread, cheese, nuts, salad, eggs, cookies, and sweets just to name a few things. We also had water, juice, coffee (by Pat) and tea from Jim's English cottage teapot. After everyone finished eating Sally made sure everyone filled out a raffle ticket then we all played the trivia game ABC's of the Isle of Man and when everyone was done Sally read out the answers.

Next Jim read out the treasures report to the group and answered questions. Sally, Joan, and Stephen started a discussion about the digital age and websites in which Stephen mentioned there is a subsection on the NAMA site that might be a good option for us. The discussion was left open and we will be exploring the NAMA option and others in future. Heather suggested that getting more involved in Genealogy might help get us more out in the public eye as it is a hot subject right now. Stephen then brought up the topic of low memberships in NAMA and other Manx groups and that members have gotten older and the membership smaller. He then asked the group what we can do

to increase membership so we can pass on the heritage to the next generation and continue to educate the public about the Isle of Man. Many suggestions were made but nothing solidly decided on yet.

Heather then asked about the abandoned cemetery and Stephen pointed out all the goods and bad about being responsible for a cemetery. There is nothing happening with the cemetery at this time but we will be keeping people informed of any future events. Heather then said she had looked into getting a Minnesota Manx tartan made but feels it would be too expensive and she suggested we could just get tartan scarfs in a traditional Manx pattern and a patch to them. It was decided that would be a better option and so we will be working on designing a Minnesota Manx Patch. Next we listened to the history presentation which was interesting and full of pictures of past. Joan then suggested posting a question in the paper in one of those ask a question about section to raise awareness of the Manx.

After that Sally dedicated the 40 year celebration meeting to the memory of Norm Gill for his hard work and dedication to the Manx society of Minnesota and how he was always educating people about the IOM.



August 2019. L-R: Heather Johnson, Pat Boehne, Jim Anderson, Sally Dahlquist, Rev. Cannon Stephen Schaitberger, Kali Dahlquist, Peggy Rudnitski, Joan Gill, Kerry Shimmin, Mary Heltsley, and June Sibell. Picture by Amy Rudnitski.

NAMA Member Enrollment

See membership categories below.

Name(s) _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip/PC _____
 Email address _____

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Annual	\$15.00	_____
Life		
Under 50 years	\$250.00	_____
50 to 59 years	\$175.00	_____
60 years or over	\$125.00	_____
Junior Member - Under Age 21 years	FREE	Note Age here _____

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Annual	\$20.00	_____
Life (2 adults, based on age of youngest)		
Under 50 years	\$325.00	_____
50 to 59 years	\$235.00	_____
60 years or over	\$200.00	_____

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP (Not for use by individuals)

Annual	\$20.0	_____
---------------	--------	-------

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE	\$5.00	_____
-------------------------------	--------	-------

The membership certificate design and coloring have special significance relative to the Isle of Man. A letter of explanation is sent with each certificate.

MEMBERSHIP PIN	\$5.00	_____
-----------------------	--------	-------

(1" diameter, has NAMA logo featuring 3 legs, eagle and oak leaf in gold, red and white.)

CONTRIBUTION	\$ _____
---------------------	----------

To further NAMA's goals. (United States tax deductible as allowed by law)
 (If current or any past employer matches contributions, send any required forms to NAMA for completion. Thank you.)

TOTAL REMITTANCE (U.S. DOLLARS ONLY)	\$ _____
---	----------

Please send check made out to **NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION** to:
 John Prendergast, NAMA Treasurer, 1025 I S. Bell Avenue, Chicago, IL 60643-1901

FREE MEMBERSHIPS FOR YOUTH MEMBERS

The NAMA Board at its most recent meeting voted to accept memberships from Manx youths (under 21), and to have such members no be obligated to pay any dues. If you are a parent, or grandparent of such a young person, you can enroll him or her as full members of the N.A.M.A. The dues will be waived until they reach 21. This is a great way to introduce these young people to their Manx heritage, and to get them involved in preserving our ancient heritage. With our melting pot in

the US and Canada, young people are often ½ or ¼ or 1/8 Manx by ethnicity, but they may be 100% Manx by their heritage. Celebrating our Manx heritage, its culture, food, politics, and history, is what our forefathers brought to the New World. Sure we are now Americans or Canadians, but our heritage includes those important values that our ancestors brought. It is estimated that there are a million people in the USA and Canada that have Manx ancestry. Our unique cultural heritage is something to be celebrated. Use the membership application on the website for each young person, and they will be added to our mailing list.

NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION YOUTH AWARDS 2019

Outstanding achievement in Manx Music
 Shellan Leeming – OEII High School

Outstanding achievement in Arts and Crafts
 Ashley Christian – Castle Rushen High School

Manx Language
 Toshiki Teare – OEII High School

Outstanding contribution to Manx Culture by a student under 18
 Lucy Gilmore – Ramsey Grammar School

Outstanding contribution to the Manx Culture by a group of young people under the age of 25
 Dhoon School

Outstanding Contribution to the Manx community
 Jake Hodgson – Ballakermeen High School

Outstanding contribution to the Manx Community – Overcoming a disability
 Alyssa Smith – Ballakermeen High School

Most Progress in Manx
 Emily Faragher – Ramsey Grammar School
 Katie Ashton-Hamlet – Ballakermeen High School



The winners are gathered outside the Barool Suite. Well done to all of them!

North American Manx Association

John Prendergast
10251 S. Bell Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60643



With strong airport links from 11 major airports across the UK and Ireland including Dublin and Heathrow, it's easier than ever to journey to the Isle of Man. Led by local, knowledgeable guides, why not enjoy a popular guided tour of the Island where they'll help you to unravel its unique culture as you dive into a rich history where tradition and mythology co-exist side by side? Be enlightened as you explore ancient monuments, historic castles and museums which together narrate the islands 10,000 year story of the extraordinary lives of its ancestors. Alternatively, let them help you to uncover your own story with a bespoke Genealogy Tour - a unique experience for those who are curious to learn more about their ancestral origins in the Isle of Man. Travel back to your roots with expert guides who will track your ancestors back through the years and accompany you to the islands churches, towns and villages where they worked, lived and spent time with family and loved ones.

Start your extraordinary story and discover more at visitisleofman.com and isleofmantourguides.org