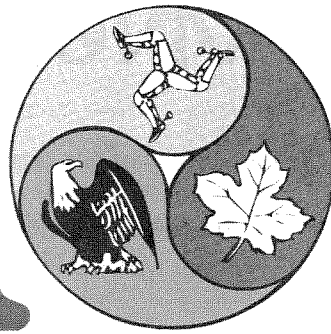


# N A M A



NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol. 79, No. 3

To Preserve "Whate'er is left to us of ancient heritage." T.E. Brown

Winter 2008

## It was Great in '08!



*2008 Manx Convention . Minneapolis, Minnesota*

*NAMA Convention Photo by Patrick O'Leary  
(www.patrickolearyphotography.com)*

# NAMA Notes

## NAMA President's Message



Hello NAMA members and friends:

It is with great pleasure that I serve you as NAMA President! I enjoyed seeing many of you at the "Great" NAMA Convention in Minneapolis this past August, and look forward to working with you in the years to come.

Our convention committee with Joan Gill, Peggy and Amy Rudnitski, and Marilyn Craine Anderson at the helm did a fabulous job for which I can't thank them enough! There were countless nights gathered around Joan Gill's dining table as we ground out details and celebrated our Manx heritage.

These ladies and the support of my immediate and extended family were truly remarkable. We pulled together our Manx treasures, maps, and memorabilia to create a wonderful U of M exhibit celebrating the IOM which educated visitors about the Manx. Many reported that they did not know about the Isle of Man but now want to visit because its beauty and rich history!

Hats off to Jean Lavelle for her skilled work to collect and edit the Manx Society of Minnesota's Immigration Bulletin! I had promised my father, T. R. Anderson that I would gather and preserve our Manx heritage, and Jean made my dream come true to publish our Minnesota Manx stories.

Also, to my brother, Jim Anderson, and my husband, Eric Dahlquist, thanks for your humorous support and willingness to greet the Manx with big smiles and top hats.

Finally, I would like to thank those of you who traveled from afar to our convention especially Eddie Lowey from the IOM Legislative Council, and Laurence Skelly and his daughter, Tilly.

Many of you don't know that Laurence was a constant, quiet supporter of our successful NAMA convention. He hand-carried many of the items from his IOM business to our Manx sale table and donated many lovely raffle gifts.

He calmed our fears when the registration numbers were initially down encouraging us that the Manx will come through in time. Laurence cheered us on early by expressing his approval of our hotel choice and agenda ideas.

Most notably, Laurence Skelly pushed our membership to launch the NAMA website, to find our Manx around the world, and support our younger IOM generation with new NAMA awards.

Thank you, Laurence for your leadership over the past years. I hope to continue to work with you on your "Manx Million" project to find the million Manx in the U.S., and the upcoming 2009 Homecoming to the Isle of Man.

My vision for the next two years is to encourage all Manx and their societies to record their unique Manx immigration stories, and to promote participation of our Manx youth through our new NAMA website, blog, Facebook page, and future outreach ideas.

Today it is more important than ever to "Get Connected" as Manx.

Feel free to contact me at [sdahlqu@inverhills.edu](mailto:sdahlqu@inverhills.edu) or write at:

Inver Hills Community College,  
2500 80th Street East,  
Inver Grove Heights,  
MN 55076-3224.

Also, please visit our NAMA website at [www.northamericanmanx.org](http://www.northamericanmanx.org), and tell us what you think!

Lhiats,  
Sally Dahlquist,  
NAMA President

# NAMA Notes

## Manx Youth Award

The NAMA Youth Award is a piece of hewn Manx black limestone carved with the three legs emblem. It is awarded every two years (even numbered) by the Isle of Man Department of Education to a student or group of students in the US or Canada, 18 or younger, who makes a contribution to maintaining an awareness of the Isle of Man and its culture.

**And if the rock's not enough, NAMA awards \$200 to the winner(s) and free lifetime membership to NAMA.**

The winner must demonstrate an interest in Manx culture or history by sharing their knowledge through essay, art, multimedia, performance art, etc.

Nominations will be accepted via the internet or by snail mail. Each nomination must be in the form of a short description of the nominee's work that explains how this relates to the Isle of Man. Photos or video of the original work should accompany the nomination (soft or hard copies). Nominees must provide contact details for themselves and one reference that may be used by the judges to discuss the work and its authenticity.

E-mail Kelly McCarthy at [kelly@mustgoto.com](mailto:kelly@mustgoto.com) or Joan Gill at [nwjlgill@earthlink.net](mailto:nwjlgill@earthlink.net) for the snail mail address.

## NAMA Blog

One of the best ways to keep up with news from the Isle of Man and discuss what's going on with the Manx is at the new blogspot set up by Kelly McCarthy. A blog is a site on the internet where people can go to share information. Most days she posts news here from the Island as well as Manx-related stories from around the world. It's a great place to exchange ideas, thoughts and suggestions concerning your Manx heritage. If you want to start a topic, email [kelly@mustgoto.com](mailto:kelly@mustgoto.com) for an invitation to become an author on the blog.

The blog is at <http://namanx.blogspot.com>

## NAMA on Facebook

If you're under 21 and a Facebook user, pop over to the NAMA Youth Group to chat with other young people with an interest in all things Manx. More on this in the next Bulletin!

## NAMA Website

We are pleased to announce that Jim Kneale Jr has agreed to be NAMA's official Webmaster. Jim has done sterling work for NAMA in setting up our website, and you can see his handiwork at [www.northamericanmanx.org](http://www.northamericanmanx.org).

You can stay up to date with the latest news and join in discussions on Manx matters at the **site**. The password-protected Members Only area is accessible only to paid up members of NAMA. The log in information is:

User name: **nama**  
Password: **tynwald**

## NAMA Officers and Directors 2006 - 2008

### *Hon. President*

Robert Kelly  
Rockford, IL

### *Hon. Vice Presidents*

Dorcas Costain-Blann  
Peel, IOM  
President, World Manx  
Association

### *Past President*

Bradley E. Prendergast  
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Laurence D. Skelly  
Port St. Mary, IOM

### *1st Vice President*

Sally Dahlquist  
Inver Grove Heights, MN

### *2nd Vice President*

James W. Corlett  
Denver, CO

### *3rd Vice President*

Jody Morey  
Mount Horeb, WI

*The new officers list  
for 2008 on will be updated  
in the next Bulletin.*

### *Secretary*

Joan Gill  
10215 38th Court North  
Plymouth, MN 55441-1669

### *Treasurer*

John Prendergast  
10251 South Bell Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60643

### *Chaplain*

Rev. Devore Craine Smith  
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### *Trustees*

Joyce Benjamin  
Madison, WI  
Kelly McCarthy  
Alexandria, VA  
Maureen Stoodly  
Victoria, BC, Canada.

# NAMA Notes

## NAMA Museum News

Dr. David J. Markee, Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Platteville, in a letter dated June 12, 2008, has given written approval for the new Manx Museum to be named 'The North American Manx Museum' in honor of Robert and Jean Kelly. Furthermore, he gave the guarantee of the office of the UWP Chancellor that the Manx collection would be permanently housed in the Luce Center Museum in Ullsvik Hall. Chancellor Markee's letter also includes wording that "all Manx artifacts and papers will be considered permanent parts of the collection".

We are very grateful to Chancellor Markee, the University of Wisconsin Platteville, the museum Committee: John Krogman, James Hibbard, Thomas Lundeen, Mary Freymiller, Dennis Cooley, and Mary Kelly for establishing this permanent repository for "all things Manx." Financial donations to the University of Wisconsin Platteville Foundation for the Manx Museum have come from Craig Cain, Robert Kelly, Helen Brodbeck, Thomas Lundeen, The Minnesota Manx Society, The Greater Washington, DC, Area Manx Society, and The Wisconsin Manx Society. We sincerely appreciate their commitment to this project.

Since news of the UWP Manx Museum was announced, a wide variety of artifacts and books have been donated. Some of these include: an official flag of the Isle of Man and maps from the Isle of Man Government; a collection of 31 essential texts about the history of the Isle of Man from the Manx National Heritage; 'Star of India' research information, photos, and a section of 'rub rail' from Bob Wright, rare coins from Hilary and Brian Harrison, photos and souvenirs from Betty Quayle, library materials from the Wisconsin Manx Society, many books, photos, and documents from Kelly McCarthy, and the entire personal collection of Manx things from Robert Kelly which includes his father's grandfather clock, many first day covers, coins, a Shebeg pottery collection, and much more.

At the 2008 NAMA Convention, Kelly McCarthy presented James Hibbard, Archivist at the museum with two books written and donated by her father, Dollin Kelly of the Isle of Man. One was his recent release, "Manx Worthies" and the other "T. E. Brown." Also, Rev. and Mrs. Devore Craine Smith donated a piece of wood that was removed from the Star of India during one of the restorations.

Peter and Pat Kelly from Union Mills were the first visitors to the UWP Museum from the Isle of Man, arriving on August 27th. Just two days later, Allan and Norma Cretney, from Douglas, stopped in on August 29th. While both couples had not expected to find the museum displays complete, they enjoyed meeting museum staff and seeing the facilities. They each asked to be sent invitations to the opening and then took the short country drive out to Laxey Cemetery to visit the site of 'the Little Manx Church on the Hill.'

Mary Kelly

## University of Wisconsin – Platteville Contact List

Website: <http://www.uwplatt.edu/>

James Hibbard  
Archivist  
[at Manx Museum and genealogy presenter at NAMA 2008]  
UWP Museum & Southwest Wisconsin Room  
University of Wisconsin—Platteville  
Ullsvik Hall  
1 University Plaza  
Platteville, Wisconsin 53818  
Phone: (608) 342-1719  
Email: <hibbardj@uwplatt.edu>

Dennis R. Cooley  
[Accepts monetary donations marked for the "Manx Museum"]  
Assistant Chancellor for University Advancement  
Executive Director of the UWP Foundation  
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Platteville, WI 53818-3099  
(608) 342-1182  
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Chancellor Dr. David Markee  
[Approved the UWP Manx Museum]  
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Platteville, WI 53818-3099  
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[NAMA Past President / 1996-1998]  
Manx Liaison  
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Platteville, WI 53818  
Phone: (608) 348-4702  
Email: <kelevans@centurytel.net>

# It was Great in '08

## NAMA Convention Business Meetings report

One concern expressed by both the local societies and NAMA is declining membership. We really need to encourage younger family members to join these organizations. It would also be noted that many local members do not belong to NAMA. Dual membership should be encouraged. It will be the job of the Third Vice President to follow up on these concerns.

President Laurence Skelly spoke about the Manx Million. It is estimated there are a million Americans of Manx descent. A feasibility committee was established to work with the Manx Government to do a small sampling in an area of people with Manx surnames to try to identify so of these million. Their results would be evaluated before working on it across the nation. One drawback is that this would eliminate females of Manx descent who had given up their maiden names. Thus it would be important to inquire of those with Manx surnames of other family members.

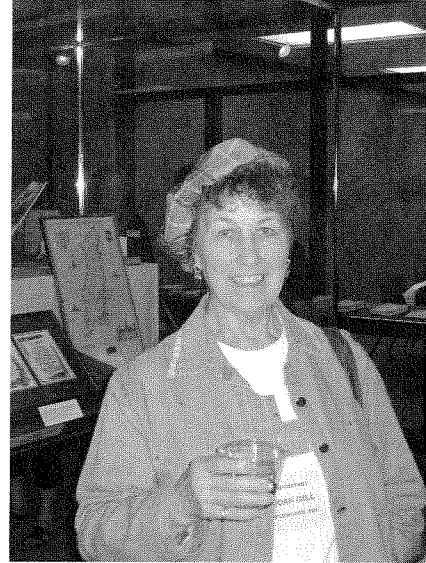
Progress on the North American Manx Museum at the University of Wisconsin Platteville is coming along nicely. Reports from Past President Mary Kelly and James Hibbard, UWP, were given. Many donations both monetary and of Manx materials have already been donated to the museum.

Second Vice President Jody Morey reported on plans to hold the 2012 convention in Platteville.

First Vice President James Corlett outlined the plans for the 2010 Convention in Denver the first weekend in August. Because mining was what drew the Manx to this area, a trip to the Georgetown Silver Plume Train or the Idaho Springs Mine/Mill tour is planned.

Reports from the various officers were given. The treasurer reported a checking balance of \$9,372.95 as of June 30, 2008 and four Certificates of Deposit with a face value at the time of purchase of \$55,851.73.

The NAMA Youth Awards presented annually on the Isle of Man are greatly appreciated and respected on the Island. In answer to a request from the Island, it was voted to add on additional award to someone from 18 to 25 years old who has made an exceptional contribution to the Manx culture.



Joan Gill in her Manx tartan  
Photo: Andrew Ravenscroft

At the general meeting two special presentations were made. Betsy Billman of Minnetonka, Minnesota, received the Manx Youth Award from the Isle of Man for her multimedia history project on the Manx Tynwald Ceremony.

Morgan Berg and Katherine Gufford of Buffalo, Minnesota, received specially designed Manx Folk Badges from the UK Girl Guides for their working in understanding the Manx culture with a special interest on Hop-tu-naa, the Manx Halloween celebration.

A Manx Homecoming is being considered for the summer of 2009. Anyone interested can contact either Laurence Skelly or Sally Dahlquist. Watch for more information in the coming Bulletins.

Joan Gill  
Secretary

## Convention Sales Table

The Convention sales table was well stocked with Manx items.

Our thanks to everyone who gave their time to staff the table during the Convention.





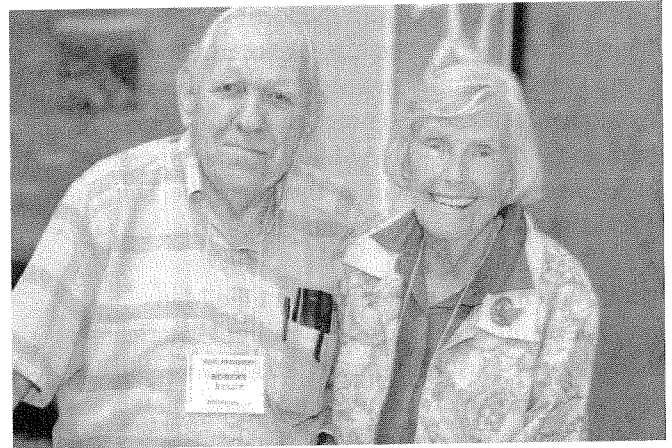
# It was Great in '08

## A Winning 2008 Manx Convention

Imagine a North American Manx Convention that engaged everyone and celebrated our Manx Heritage! The Manx Society of Minnesota produced a captivating and educational experience that was lots of fun!

The convention opened with the showing of "Discovering the Story of Mann", a tour of the historical attractions of the Island's heritage experience. In addition, fourteen elegant poster-sized banners contributed by Director Stephen Harrison of the award-winning Manx National Heritage were displayed.

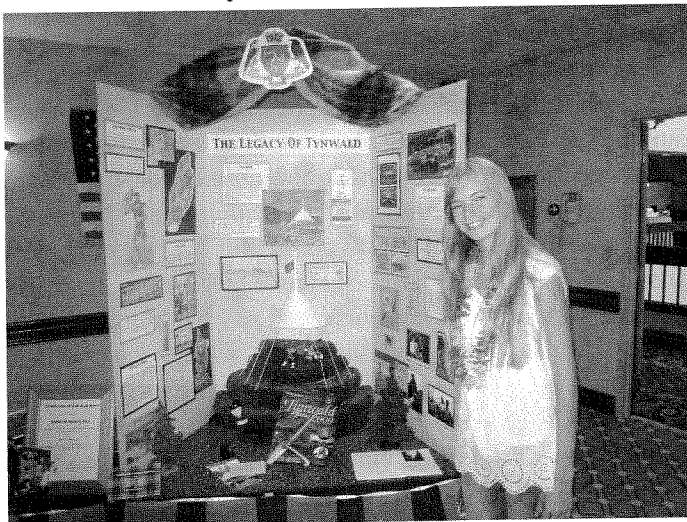
They brought "The Story of Mann" and its 10,000 years of unique Manx countryside to life. Conventioneers interacted with this rich Island history by browsing these banners throughout the three-day event.



Bob Kelly and LaJean Anderson at the NAMA 2008 Convention  
Photo: Patrick O'Leary

## 2008 Manx Youth Award winner - The History of Tynwald

Enthusiastic and composed Rebecca Billman followed with a presentation on the History of Tynwald from a Manx Youth's Perspective.



Rebecca Billman and her award winning History of Tynwald display  
Photo: Andrew Ravenscroft

The big highlight was her fabulous, interactive display of IOM Tynwald and its Hill. For her educational efforts, Becky won the 2008 Manx Youth Award bestowed by the North American Manx Association, and pride bubbled forth from grandparents NAMA Chaplin, Reverend Devore Craine and Ruth Smith.

### Becky Billman

Becky Billman turns 13 on July 19th. She is the daughter of Glenn and Kimberly Billman and currently resides in Minnetonka, MN. Her grandparents are Devore and Ruth Smith of San Diego (Devore is the NAMA chaplain). Her great, great grandfather was John Caley Craine, born in Sulby Glen and emigrated to Illinois as a young man. Becky was born in San Diego, and moved to MN with her parents and brother, Matthew, in October, 2004. She still thinks of herself as a "California Girl", but is having a good life in MN!

Becky attends FAIR school in Crystal, a fine arts magnet (Fine Arts Interdisciplinary Resource School). Becky participated in National History Day this year through her school. The theme of this year's event was "Conflict and Compromise". Becky, after much brainstorming, chose to do a display of "The Legacy of Tynwald". She felt that the fact that it persevered throughout history since its inception, regardless of controlling forces or turmoil on the island, giving all people a voice (including the handicapped and women), was a perfect fit.

# It was Great in '08

## The Isle of Man Today

S. Kelly McCarthy, President of the Washington DC Manx Society and Honorary Representative of the IOM Government provided a glimpse into what is happening on the Isle of Man today.

Did you know:

- 1) the population is 80,000, it is 33 miles long by 11 miles wide, its high is 84 and low is 18 degrees (F),
- 2) less than half of its population are Manx, and
- 3) it is self-governing, a crown dependency, the Queen is the Lord of Man, but it is not part of the UK or EU?

Top industries are Finance (banking, insurance, investments, funds), Manufacturing (medicines, specialty foods, Rolls Royce components, aircraft landing gear), E-Commerce (software, data hosting, disaster recovery and e-gaming), Shipping (9th ranked shipping register), Space (exploration), and Moviemaking (85 movies in 10 years). Ms. McCarthy is our thoroughly modern Manxie! She oversees our NAMA blog, youth Facebook site, and is a fabulous liaison to the IOM government.

## Vintage Glass Slides of the IOM

The Convention's afternoon session wrapped up with a showing of the 1925 vintage IOM glass slides. These beautiful hand-painted slides were once used by the Walter Stevenson Family to educate Chicago residents of Manx heritage.

In the '30s, Mr. Stevenson, his wife Doris Sale, and daughter Myrra Stevenson Johnson presented the story of the little Manx nation with illustrated picture and folk song. Audiences heard about the smallest self-governed country in the world, the oldest constitutional government in existence with its 1000+ year old parliament, the meaning and origin of the "Three Legs of Man", why Manx cats have no tails, famous author, Sir Hall Caine, and the origin of the Derby Horse Race.

The Stevenson's' contributions were countless and their legacy is one of fond memories and rich history of the Isle of Man. Their 1925 lecture, lantern and slides will live on. The NAMA Board is in the process of converting these precious slides to electronic format so that members and Manx enthusiasts can access them from around the world.

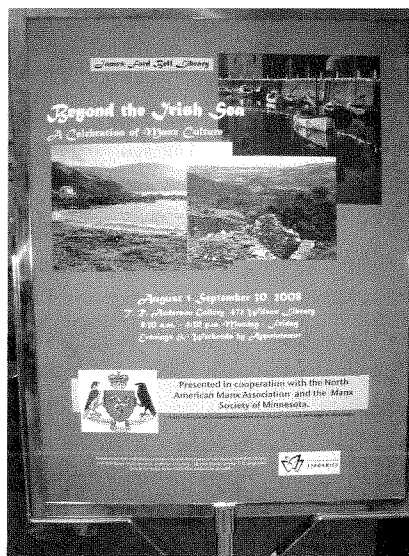
Amidst the 2,000 friendly, well-behaved, science fiction crowd at the hotel, NAMA conventioners boarded buses for the President's Reception and Manx exhibit at the University of Minnesota – J.F. Bell Library. A bus driver announced to tip our hats to the ferries as we crossed the Lake Nokomis Bridge.



NAMA shared the Convention space with thousands of colorfully-dressed fans of Japanese anime cartoons - LaJean Anderson fits right in  
*Photo: Patrick O'Leary*

## 'Beyond The Irish Sea' exhibit

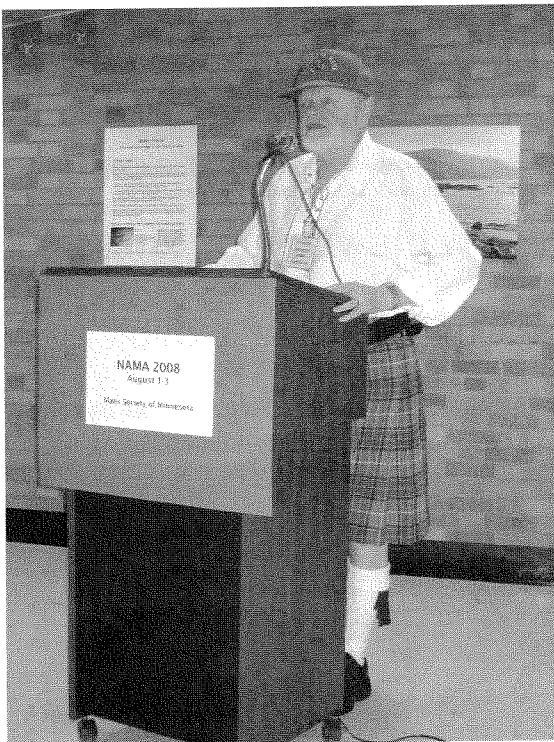
Upon arrival, Curator Marguerite Ragnow and Lynette Westerlund greeted the Manx in an atmosphere of festive, colorful posters of the Isle of Man, red table cloths, and baskets of hometown Minnesota products. It was truly an historical exhibit celebrating the immigration of the Manx to Minnesota including written histories distributed within the Minnesota Manx Bulletin date August, 2008.



# It was Great in '08

The "Beyond the Irish Sea, a Celebration of Manx Culture" exhibit focused on the history of the Isle of Man, Tynwald government, landscape, and its people. A rich display of memorabilia reflected "a deep and abiding pride" in our Manx heritage. The IOM Speed map, paintings, photos, hangings, jewelry, and books were delightfully organized throughout the library.

Conventioneers socialized with beverages while meandering throughout the exhibit, and enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner with fresh pies for dessert. NAMA President, Laurence Skelly and Minnesota Manx member, Norman Gill (dressed in full, authentic Manx kilt attire) welcomed the guests to the 49th NAMA Convention.



Norm Gill addresses the North American Manx at the "Beyond the Irish Sea" exhibit

Photo: Andrew Ravenscroft

But the evening was not complete without dancing! Upon return to the Sheraton Hotel Bloomington, the conventioneers were awed by an unbeatable, show-stopping performance by *Traed y Ddraig*. This dazzling, authentic Welsh and Manx dancing event lead by Minnesota Manx members, Audrey and Mike McClellan included special appearances by John and Jenny Dowling of *Perree Bane*, the renowned IOM folk dance group.

What a spectacular display of talent and agility! The mood was so cheerful that Convention attendees flooded the dance floor to learn the Manx steps. No one had ever seen such participation!

## Here, There and Everywhere

Following Manx Bingo on Saturday morning, Edmund "Eddie" Lowey of the IOM Legislative Council fascinated the crowd with his world adventures "Here, There and Every Where".

We were so fortunate and honored to have this Tynwald leader attend our NAMA Convention in Minnesota! Mr. Lowey was educated in Castle Rushen, worked at the Ronaldsway Aircraft Company, elected to the House of Keys as MHK for Rushen, and later to the Legislative Council.

He has worked tirelessly to improve the economy, telecommunications, industry, power, tourism, arts, and education on the Isle of Man. Traveling as an IOM representative to England, Canada, India, Ireland, Ghana, Trinidad, Namibia and Fiji, Eddie has helped the IOM to become a bright player internationally. As a Manx spokesperson, Mr. Lowey personifies the gracious professional who loves his homeland and shares its beauty with others around the world.

## Researching Our Manx Heritage

James Hibbard, Archivist of the University Wisconsin, Platteville followed. His enlightening presentations on "Researching our Manx Heritage" and the "Opening of the Manx Museum" highlighted UWP's desire to become an important national Manx Research Centre in the USA. Many valuable resources and artifacts from NAMA members and trustees have been contributed to a room permanently dedicated to all things Manx.

Mr. Hibbard encouraged interested Manx Societies to consider preserving their Manx heritage by donating book collections, documents, and historical memorabilia to the museum. Items will be carefully stored, and authorized NAMA members may access items for special NAMA conventions and displays for educational purposes.



Photo: Patrick O'Leary



# It was Great in '08

## Sailing the Irish Sea

The scenic visual tour of John and Jenny Dowling's sailing escapades demonstrated the depth of the Isle of Man's beauty. Conventioneers were delighted by the view of the Island from the sea.



John Dowling with the civil ensign (Manx shipping flag) at right  
*Photo: Andrew Ravenscroft*

It was a different perspective that reminded us of how generations found the Manx. Beginning in Port St. Mary and venturing out to sea to the west to Port Erin or to the east and north of Douglas. The rugged coast, quiet beaches, sunshine, and wind have a variety of moods which have invited sailors from Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales, and beyond for centuries.

## Swordfighting in the Middle Ages

After reports from NAMA societies and our general meeting, Mike McClellan of the Minnesota Manx conducted an informative presentation on "Becoming a Swordfighter in the Middle Ages". Complete with costumes, demonstrational swords, and history, the audience traveled back to another time to learn about the types of swords, their use and importance in every day life.

## The Grand Banquet

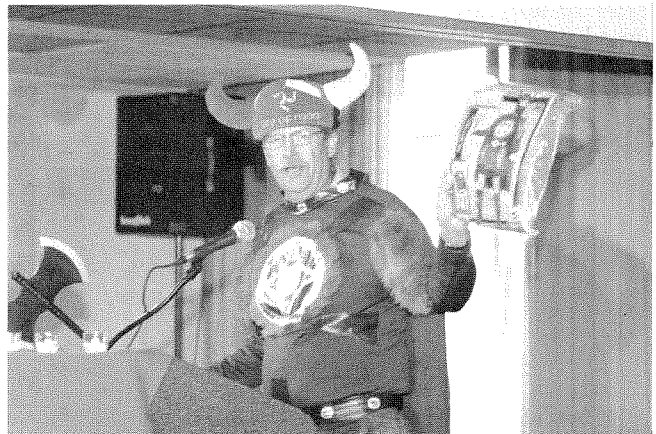
As convention attendees dressed for the Saturday evening Grand Banquet, the Manx fairies decorated.

What? The official photo room was unavailable! That didn't stop the Manx; we squeezed together in the lobby for the happiest convention photo, then doors opened.

There was a feast for the Manx eyes. Bouquets of three - red and yellow balloons, 3-legged plates, 3 candles, red square clothes upon white linen tables, and sounds of Manx music!

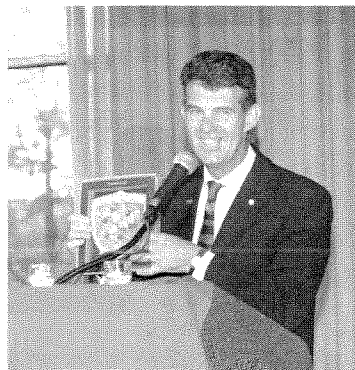
It was the Isle of Man celebration that Minnesota had anticipated for 3 years!

Master of Ceremony, James Hurd Anderson entered as a Manx Viking and brought down the house as he poked fun at Minnesota and the Manx.



James Hurd Anderson explains how you too can become a Viking  
*Photo: Patrick O'Leary*

Our energetic NAMA President Laurence Skelly warmly welcomed convention goers. His sharp leadership over the passed two years aided the Manx in reaching out through our new NAMA website and continues in his quest to locate Manx around the world.



Laurence Skelly *Photo: Patrick O'Leary*

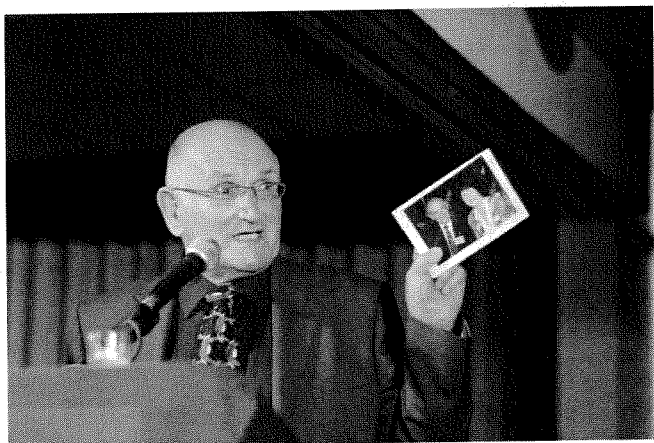
# Great in '08

Mr. Skelly presented Past President, Robert Kelly with a special NAMA award for his life-time dedication and contribution to preserving our Manx heritage.



Laurence Skelly makes the presentation to Robert Kelly  
*Photo: Patrick O'Leary*

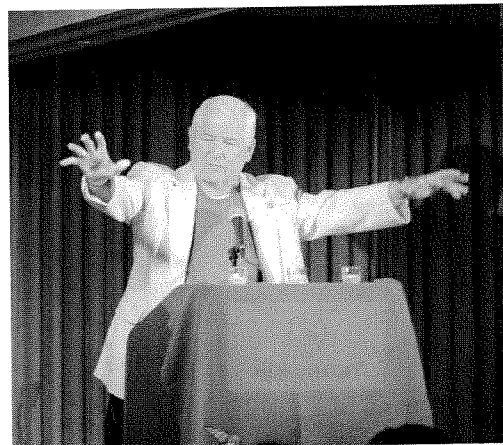
Edmund Lowey followed with an intriguing speech on the hard-working, resilient Manx and the future of the Isle of Man.



Eddie Lowey's rich and entertaining anecdotes from his life as a Member of the House of Keys and an ambassador abroad were warmly received by the audience.  
*Photo: Patrick O'Leary*

Past NAMA President, Lawrence Fargher opened wallets with his vivacious live auction of a condo in Hawaii, a cabin in Wisconsin and a stay at the Standish House in Illinois to raise funds for NAMA.

Musical entertainment was provided by Good Show Productions that included tunes such as "I Do I Do!", and Manx standards of "Laxey Wheel, Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly, and Ellan Vannin".



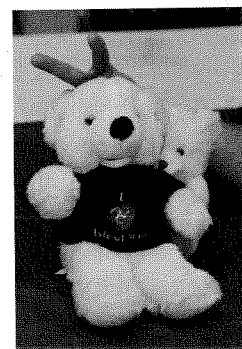
Larry Fargher works the auction crowd like a magician  
*Photo: Patrick O'Leary*

The Grand Banquet concluded with the ceremonial passing of the swords from President Laurence Skelly to incoming President Sally Dahlquist, and the introduction of the all new NAMA officers for 2008-2010.



The new NAMA Officers  
*Photo: Patrick O'Leary*

It was a splendid evening! The hotel staff reported faint sounds of conventioners humming "Ellan Vannin" in the hallways as they went off to bed.



# Great in '08

## Sunday Memorial Service

The Manx woke up to a cozy, warm Sunday brunch and a quiz about the Isle of Man. Reverend Devore Craine Smith blessed the Manx with a Memorial Service dedicated to those who have gone before us. Devore has served NAMA members with dedication and compassion for many years. In his quiet way, Rev. Smith's deep sense of community is loved and appreciated by all!

## Manx Storytelling

The convention wrapped with superb story telling by Andrew Ravenscroft of the Wisconsin Manx Society. His extensive research and intense interest in writing children stories based on the Manx fairies and mythology was keen.

He recommended "Manx Fairy Tales" by Sophia Morrison for NAMA members to read. He explained that Manx mythology has dealt with nature, heroes, fairies "themselves", and monsters. Andrew gave his own rendition of a tale about a naughty and playful creature in Manx folklore called a "buggane".

His talent for writing and his commitment to the Manx gave this NAMA Convention's conclusion intrigue and spirit to preserve our great, national heritage and a sense of anticipation and excitement towards the 2010 NAMA Convention in Denver, Colorado.

We'll see you there!

Sally Dahlquist  
President



Bye-bye for now!  
Photo: Patrick O'Leary

## Manx Folk Badge Award



Traed y Draig dancers perform at the Convention  
Photos: Marshall Camell

A special presentation was made by Eddie Lowey, member of the IOM Legislative Council, to two Minnesota young girl scouts, Morgan Berg and Katherine Gufford of Buffalo, Minnesota. It was a specially designed Manx Folk Badge from the UK Girl Guides for their work in understanding the Manx culture. Their special interest was Hop-tu-laa -- the Manx Halloween celebration.

The two girls are members of the *Traed y Ddraig*, a Welsh/Manx dance group that performed at the NAMA Convention. While their scout leader (also a member of the dance group) was researching Manx costuming, songs, folklore and dancing, she came across a Girl guide Manx Folk Badge from the United Kingdom. The girls were interested and their leader got the proper approval from both the UK Girl Guides and the US Girl Scouts.

The requirements included: knowing the words of the Manx National Anthem, the composition of the Manx flag, the Manx motto and its meaning; making a scrapbook or some visual record to illustrate interesting features of the Isle of Man; tell a Manx folk story, sing a Manx folk song and take part in a Manx folk dance; know the date of Tynwald and be able to describe simply what happens on that occasion; and finally dress a doll in Manx costume and cook something typically Manx. After completing the requirements the girls found that they very much liked the recipe for cakes even though they at first were put off by using drippings as an ingredient. The leader found that she really liked the Manx dancing. They hope to continue to learn more about the Manx people and the Isle of Man.

Joan Gill

# Society News

## Convention Photographs

More of the photos taken at the Convention are available on the web.

The official Convention group photo was taken by Patrick O'Leary. He can be contacted by email at [poleary@umn.edu](mailto:poleary@umn.edu) and his official website is <http://www.patrickolearyphotography.com>.

The Manx Convention pictures can be seen at:

[http://www.patrickolearyphotography.com/2008\\_manx1](http://www.patrickolearyphotography.com/2008_manx1)  
and  
[http://www.patrickolearyphotography.com/2008\\_manx2](http://www.patrickolearyphotography.com/2008_manx2)

In addition, Marshall Cannell has posted photographs that he took at the Convention on his site:

<http://www.geocities.com/MrMcannell/NAMA/>

## Manx Queens of Summer and Winter

The Manx Queens of Summer and Winter who were featured in the last NAMA Bulletin were also present at the NAMA Convention. The Manx Queens and their entourage were:

**Manx Summer Queen:** Morgan Berg  
**Manx Winter Queen:** Katherine Gifford

### Manx Queens Attendants:

Sally Dahlquist  
Veronica Windsor  
Audrey McClellan  
Laurel Bradshaw  
Judith Palmateer  
Emily

### Manx Queens Knights:

Doug Berg  
Lance Berg  
Mike McClellan  
Scott Quinton  
Jeremiah

## Chicago Manx Society

The Chicago Manx held a meeting on the home of Florence Abbaninati on Sun July 13 starting at 1 PM with a potluck dinner. We discussed the NAMA convention to be held in Bloomington and we had 16 from the Chicago Manx who were able to attend.

We are pleased to have Richard Corrin elected as a new Trustee for the NAMA for the next 2 years. The Chicago Manx will again exhibit at the Chicago Celtic Fest to be held in Grant Park on Sat and Sun, Sept 13 and 14, 2008 as we have for the past 8 years. We have found several people who have Manx heritage thru the Celtic Fest.

Robert Kelly,  
President

## Cleveland Manx

The Cleveland Manx got together at Macaroni Grill for our June Meeting. We had a good time catching up on what everyone had planned for the summer, vacations, etc. In July we tried a new place The North Woods Grille. It had a private area which will be nice for future meetings. In August we had our annual picnic at the Red Barn. We enjoyed a nice picnic lunch, played some games and just enjoyed visiting with each other.

Three of us attended the Convention. It was good to see so many familiar faces. It was fun trading stories from past conventions and making some new friends. Our September Meeting will be a pot-luck at the home of Bill & Shirley Takaacs.

Alice Cannell

## Northern California Manx

The Northern California Manx are pleased to announce that they too have a web page. You may find us at:

[www.northamericanmanx.org/norcalmanx/](http://www.northamericanmanx.org/norcalmanx/)

We are also beginning to plan our holiday cooish probably to be held between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Lhiats,  
Jack Cormode



# Society News

## Vancouver Manx Society

Founded December 3rd. 1908

For the highlight of this year it will be hard to top the celebration of our Society's centenary. So carefully planned by the Centennial Committee, the event at the Scandinavian Centre in Burnaby on Tynwald Day, July 5th was a great success.

The Centennial Committee is to be commended for its great attention to detail – all the way from the very attractive invitations, tickets and programmes to the skilful organization of the evening itself. Chris Stirling's slide show had many of us stopped in our tracks as we recognized faces from earlier times – some gone from us now and some of small children now grown so tall and with youngsters of their own.

The Centennial Committee were - Fenella Deakin (Chair), Angus and Judith Gillon, Kevin Gillon, Chris Stirling, Linda Thorpe and Michael Weber. Skilful tashteyderyn (keepers of the treasure) were Angus and Judith Gillon.



Donald Cannell, MC at the Vancouver Manx centenary meeting.

Our M/C was Don Cannell. Kevin Gillon ran the games for the young people. Among our one hundred and fifty three guests were descendants of the Gregor family, who were among the founder members of our Society. We had folks visiting from Ottawa, Quesnel, Kamloops, Kelowna and Nanaimo.

Greetings were sent to Mona Belfie – our most senior member.

Presentations were made to the following people who are retiring: Vice President Angus Gillon, Treasurer Mona Witsten and to the author of this piece.

The singing of "Ellan Vannin" closed a memorable evening.



Angus Gillon (Vice President) and Fenella Deakin (Centennial Committee Chairperson)

Members of our society who visited Mannin this year are Dave and Heather Costain, who attended Yn Cruinnaght, Angus and Judith Gillon and Rod and Fenella Deakin.

In case you haven't tapped into it already, Google Earth's new views of the Island are terrific.

The final event of our Centennial year will be our Fall pot-luck supper on October 25 where we can be sure of fine food, lots of cups of tea and a great Manks cooish.

Lhiats,  
Terry Mc Caffrey (President)



Terry McCaffrey and Fenella Deakin



# More NAMA Notes

## Arbory School seeks former pupils

Arbory School on the Isle of Man celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2009.

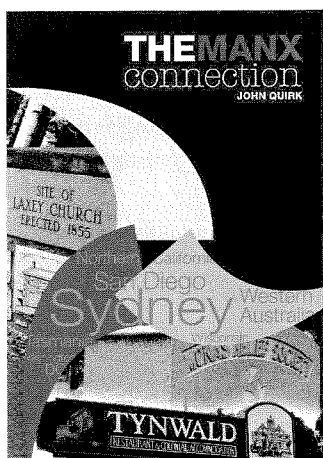
John and Emma Quirk's publishing venture has been approached by the Friends of Arbory School to help publish a book looking back at the history of the school and the pupils/teachers who have passed through.

The school has log books going back over the years and the Friends will be using those as the main source of research. However, they are keen to hear from former pupils, or folk whose parents/grandparents attended the school, and of course, anyone with old pictures of the school/pupils/teachers.

Proceeds from the book will be going to the Friends committee, who plough the money back into school projects. It's anticipated that the book will be published in autumn 2009.

If anyone in NAMA has memories/pictures, please contact John at [johnquirkbooks@gmail.com](mailto:johnquirkbooks@gmail.com).

## The Manx Connection



The cost of shipping from the UK was a factor for many people who wanted to get a copy of John Quirk's book *The Manx Connection*. I have been able to have a limited number of copies of the book (20) brought over to the USA and I'm making these available to NAMA members.

They are available at the price of \$15.00 plus \$3.00 shipping (media mail), making a total of \$18.00. The book retails for 10GBP, so this is a pretty good deal if you're looking for a copy. I can take payment by personal check or by Paypal. Limit: 2 per person (I'd like to ensure that as many as possible have the opportunity to get a copy).

If you'd like to buy a copy, please email me at [aravenscroft@charter.net](mailto:aravenscroft@charter.net) or call me on 608-236-2170.

## Auction Winners

As always, the auctions were a fun part of the NAMA convention, and there great items available for auction this year. Here are the auction winners from the 2008 Convention:

### Silent Auction

Manx stamps and matching cuff links -- Judy Clinton  
Manx "old-fashion" glass -- Joan Gill  
Book-Mona Douglas, a Tribute -- Audrey McClellan  
Manx pin -- Ginger Anderson  
Manx tablecloth -- Florence Abbinanti  
Manx commemorative crowns -- Isabel Anderson  
Manx National Heritage T-shirt -- Virginia Quayle  
Manx pub mugs -- Annie Lavelle  
Manx letter opener -- Dorothy Gawne  
Manx toast etched on crystal -- Dorothy Gawne  
Manx TT centenary T-shirt -- Jim Corlett  
Manx earrings and necklace -- Sandy Corlett  
Two boxes of Manx Chocolate three legs -- Geogene Voutila  
Official member of Tynwald tie -- Bob Minish  
Manx golf balls and tee -- Jim Corlett  
Manx DVD *The Shore* -- Barb Renman  
Manx DVD *An Island of Contrasts* -- Barb Renman  
Manx earrings -- Pat Boehne  
Manx double-decker bus -- Norm Gill  
Manx CD -- Stephen Straitberger  
Manx one-pint mug -- Eric Brindley  
Books-Manx Glens, a Stroll Through History -- Margie Martinson and Joan Gill

### Live Auction Winners

Week in Maui -- Sally Dahlquist  
Two nights for two at Standish B&B -- Linda Lockensgard  
Wisconsin weekend -- Ginger Anderson

# More NAMA Notes

## How Manx Are You? Penn State Wants to Know!

Cheryl Cheek, an associate professor of Human Development and Family Studies at Penn State Mont Alto, is looking for people over 18 years old in North America who are of Manx descent (or who even feel Manx in their hearts!). She is carrying out research on what it means to be Manx, both on the Isle of Man and in North America. Specifically, she is looking to see if "Manxness" is expressed differently in North America than it is on the Isle of Man, and how Manx traditions are handed down from generation to generation.

Cheryl has recently returned from three months on the Isle of Man, where she handed out surveys asking people

about how Manx they were. Now, she would like to find out about people in North America—you do not need to be born in the Isle of Man to complete this survey. If you have Manx ancestry, or even if you just feel like you have a Manx soul, you can take part. It is confidential and only takes about 10 minutes.

All you have to do is go to the NAMA website (<http://northamericanmanx.org>) and click on the link to the survey. Thanks for your help!

Cheryl Cheek, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies  
Penn State Mont Alto  
Mont Alto, PA 17237  
Email: [clc24@psu.edu](mailto:clc24@psu.edu)

### NAMA Membership Enrollment Form

Promote and Protect our Manx Heritage

*Please print your information and mail with your check to John Prendergast at the address below*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov \_\_\_\_ Zip/PC \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership	Dues	Amount
Annual-----	\$ 15	_____
<b>Life</b>		
Under age 50-----	\$250	_____
Age 50 to 59-----	\$175	_____
Age 60 and over-----	\$125	_____
Junior (age 1-18 years, no bulletin)-----	\$ 2	_____
<b>Family Membership</b>		
Annual-----	\$ 20	_____
<b>Life</b> (2 adults, based on age of youngest)		
Under age 50-----	\$325	_____
Age 50 to 59-----	\$235	_____
Age 60 and over-----	\$200	_____

**Total remittance** in US dollars or equivalent amount \_\_\_\_\_

To become a NAMA member, or to renew your membership,  
please send this form and your check or money order to:

**John Prendergast, NAMA Treasurer 10251 South Bell, Chicago, IL 60643-1901 USA**

## 2008 NAMA Convention Report Special



LaJean Anderson at the NAMA 2008 Convention  
*Photo: Patrick O'Leary*



The Grand Banquet  
*Photo: Marshall Cannell*

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Manx Association  
North American