

**House of Gordon USA Annual General Meeting
Meadow Highland games & Celtic Festival in Doswell, Va.
October 24, 2009
1:00 p.m.**

Federal IRS EIN # 26-0285250

Call to order: The annual House of Gordon meeting (AGM) was called to order at 1:55pm, by John Lowry, President. The meeting started late due to heavy rains which made it difficult to gather everyone in our large tent. There were 18 members present who signed the sign-in sheet.

Reports:

Secretary's 2008 AGM Minutes – Barbara Wray read the minutes of the last meeting held at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on July 12, 2008. Jerry Vandenberg made a motion to accept the minutes as read and David Todd seconded it. All voted in favor of accepting the minutes as read and a copy will be filed for audit and posted on the National website.

Treasurer's Report – Nellie Lowry indicated that we have \$18,992.68 as of June 30, 2009. By August it had increased to \$21,368.71 due to CA and VA sending in more dues. David Todd made a motion to accept the financial report as read and Geof Baker seconded it. Prior to taking a vote, there was discussion on a lot of earmarks due to our 501(c) (3) status and it was recommended by Morris Gordon that we give two \$250.00 scholarships at Grandfather Mountain as well as provide a healthy charity check to the Gordon Highlander Museum. Jerry Vandenberg recommended that we provide a \$1000.00 check for 2009 now and give another \$1000.00 check when we take the tour in July/August of 2010 for a total of \$2000.00. Roger Mills seconded. We voted to accept the financial report as well as voting to give the museum \$2000.00.

Membership Report – Nellie also provided the membership report. To date we have 586 members who are current. Barbara indicated that VA has 32 members current with 7 new members from June 2008 thru June 2009. Jim Gordon made a motion to accept the membership report and Jerry Vandenberg seconded it. All voted in favor.

Convener's Chair Report - Prior to the Convener's Chair Report, John Lowry asked Morris Gordon if he would consider being the commissioner for the northeast again. He agreed he would. Roger Mills talked about the banner sets. He has passed out four more sets to new conveners. Colorado now has a new convener. Woody Gordon's son, Sean Gordon has taken over in Colorado and Micah Wentzel has taken over Pennsylvania. The Virginia group asked Micah if he would be interested at the Virginia Scottish Games.

Communications Chair – Lois Todd indicated that the Russians are checking us out! She indicated that there is a new password protected section on the website. She indicated that the "In the House" newsletter is doing well. She has not had time to advertise yet, but we are still planning to. David Todd made a motion to accept the communications report as read and Jim Gordon seconded.

President's Report – John Lowry wanted to thank Nellie and Ken Hendricks for providing the financial reports since obtaining our 501(c)(3) status. He expressed concern for keeping a handle

on state conveners and keeping the lines of communication open. There needs to be more accountability of our conveners and we need to support our conveners better as a national organization. John talked about using the same vendors as National uses for items so conveners don't have to purchase separately as some conveners don't have the buying power.

Items of Business:

We started the discussion about having a "Gordon Store". Geof Baker mentioned a repository for camera ready materials. Jerry Vandenberg suggested that it be someone who is computer savvy to take charge of this.

Gordon & Septs DNA Project – Jim Gordon explained the project to us. We currently have a little over 200 members in the project. He indicated the breakdown of the three main branches would look like I1 – Scandinavian, I1D – Danish, R1b – which is continental lineage. More will be explained in a future edition of "In the House".

Marshall German received a \$500.00 Charles O. Gordon Scholarship. He attended the Nationals in PA and won the Balmoral USA Junior Solo Piobaireachd Championship and was 2nd Overall for the USA Junior Solo Championship.

John read Granville's letter to us thanking us for the invitation to our AGM games and sending his regrets.

Jerry Vandenberg talked about his visit to Scotland for the 2009 Gathering of the Clans festival in Edinburgh. There were 47,000 at the gathering and 17,000 marched from Holyrood to the Castle. The Gordons were known along the Royal Mile as people were signing "A Gordon for Me". We were the loudest! At Gen Coe, Jerry fed a lonely piper and another 25 or so people there. He indicated that there needed to be better support in Scotland, as there were only 2 Gordons at the tent. Jerry and Wayne Lawrence from New Zealand were at the Edinburgh gathering. There was a nice gathering at the Aboyne Games with our chief. This year they had six other Clans there. He mentioned that Kenmore will hopefully be taken over by Historic Scotland. It is the home of the Gordons in the border area. He also mentioned not to forget that the picnic is tonight at the campground following the closing of the games.

John asked if there was any more new business. He then mentioned that there were no more nominations for officers and that the current list of nominees would be elected by acclamation. Jim Fargo made a motion to accept the nominees, Roger Mills seconded. There was no further discussion and the new officers were sworn in.

Jerry Vandenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Morris Gordon seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Gordon Wray, Secretary
House of Gordon USA