

# Ancestral Trails

*The Newsletter of the Cassidy Clan*

*Christmas 2010*

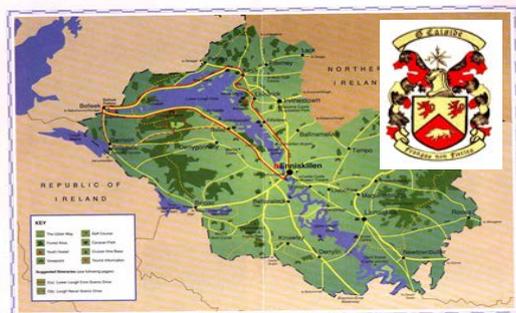
## The Cassidy Clan

**RETURNS TO**

**The Cassidy  
Ancestral Homeland**

of

**CO. FERMANAGH**



**COME AND JOIN US**

**IN**

**Mahons Hotel**

**IRVINESTOWN, CO. FERMANAGH**

**ON**

**JULY 29 - 31, 2011**



**Nollaig faoi shean  
agus  
faoi shonas duit**

Dear Friends,

A Clan is the roots that secures the many branches of a great Family Trees and as each branch attends a Clan gathering it is the homecoming of family to celebrate the Clan.

Earlier this year I travelled to Dublin to join with the many Clan Chieftains, Clan Representatives and Delegates to attend the Clans of Ireland AGM and Dinner which was held in the Mansion House. It was an occasion of pageantry and camaraderie, a coming together of the Ancient Clans of this great Country. As An Caisideach I was honoured to be a part of it.

The 2011 Cassidy Clan Gathering will be held at the end of July. I am sure Nuala and Brent will be keeping you all up to date with the details and I look forward to welcoming you all to our Ancestral Homeland of Co. Fermanagh, to celebrate our family and the heritage of this great Cassidy Clan.

I wish you all Christmas Blessings and a Happy Prosperous New Year

**An Caisideach  
Pat Cassidy**

## The Irish Festival of Oulu

September 30<sup>th</sup> to October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010

The 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary Irish Festival of Oulu, September 30-October 3, once again brought the City of Oulu a wide range of cultural activities that attracted 8,000 people. Fans came not only from the Oulu area but from all over Finland and from as far afield as Ireland, France, Denmark, and Russia. The weather was sunny and ideal for the 4-day festival weekend. The festival welcomed distinguished guests including Irish Ambassador to Finland Dermot Brangan and Comhaltas Director Vince Hearn.

Irish Film Week II was expanded to include 23 films, including a wide variety of documentaries, a live concert, and a collection of award winning Irish short films. The film week's main attraction Gabriel Byrne – Stories From Home was screened in Valve Concert Hall to a crowded audience of 108 people. Director Pat Collins hosted questions and discussions immediately following the film.

The festival expanded its cultural activities into theatre offering 2 stellar performances of Tom Crean – Antarctic Explorer, written and performed by Aidan Dooley. Attendance was great on both nights and Aidan received his first ever standing ovation for the Saturday night performance, which received a great review by Kaleva newspaper the following day stating, "the festival can be proud for successfully extending its programme into theatre."

Following an inspirint seminar at the University of Oulu, Harry Clifton recited his poetry at the

festival's poetry and music performance, which was nearly full to capacity on a sunny Saturday afternoon. Harry Clifton carries the baton of success from previous poetry performances by Michael and Edna Longley, Pulitzer prize-winner Paul Muldoon, former Irish Ambassador Philip McDonagh, and Gerald Dawe, organized in cooperation with Oulu University and The Irish Embassy. The event was intertwined with songs from the North of Ireland from the lovely new voice of Marianne Green accompanied by Magnus Wiik.

The festival workshops (7) and the weekend dance course were equally full with 63 participants respectively from all around Finland and as far away as St. Petersburg, Russia. For the first time the dance course offered 3 levels of instruction (beginner, intermediate, and advanced) which allowed anyone to join in.

Oliver Hussey and Eamonn Keenan delighted a lively crowd of 90 people, the majority adults, at the City Library with storytelling. The venue had to be changed to a larger area to accommodate the attendants.

The festival featured 4 concerts that attracted a record 1784 people. Local band The Brogues opened the festival with a lively concert of pub style Irish music with a Finnish twist and set the energy level to high for the entire weekend. South Sligo traditional band Misneach, performing with The Soap Pig, performed traditional Irish music to a near sell out audience who were very eager to dance. The lively band Beoga, performing with Cascade, electrified the audience with their inventive blend of arrangements,

featuring a mind blowing bodhrán solo by Eamon Murray. Marianne Green accompanied by Magnus Wiik showed why she is the upcoming new voice in trad music today with a beautiful selection of songs from the North of Ireland. Altan, the super group also celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, put on a legendary concert to a sold out audience with a mixture of Donegal tunes and the masterful voice of Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh. The group even managed to get the audience to stand up and dance.

Local bands Cascade, The Brogues, and The Soap Pig once again showed the talent of the Oulu Irish music scene with original arrangements at concerts and also hosted daily sessions with visiting musicians from all over Finland and Ireland. The sessions were packed with the highlight being the festival closing session which featured band members from Misneach and Altan amongst local and national musicians playing in unison together. Altogether, there were 25 musicians playing as well as dancers showing their skills on the nearby stage.

The Festival Work Group would like to thank the City of Oulu Culture Department, Culture Ireland, the Irish Embassy, our supporters and sponsors, local media, musicians, volunteers, and especially the fans all who made the festival such a huge success.



The Soap Pig

## Clans of Ireland News

### **Order of Merit**

Plans are well under way to institute a new Clans of Ireland Order of Merit which will be awarded to individuals who have made a sustained and significant contribution to Irish culture and heritage. Any clan who has been registered for 3 consecutive years will be able to nominate someone to receive the award and a sub committee established to co-ordinate the Order of Merit will make the final decision. Nomination forms will be made available in due course in the members section of the Clans of Ireland website.

### **Charitable Status**

We are delighted to announce that we are now in a position to extend our charitable status to cover all Clans with a permanent address in Ireland. Such clans can use the Clans of Ireland charitable status number to collect funds for educational and cultural purposes without creating a tax liability. Those Clans who wish to use the Clans of Ireland charitable status number will be obliged to maintain accounts for inspection by the board of Clans of Ireland as requested.

### **Research**

We have applied for funding from the Heritage Council to commission research on the concept of kinship and Clans in Gaelic Ireland up to the present day. It is our hope that this research will be useful in providing a scholarly basis upon which Irish Clans can continue to develop into the future.

### **Nuala Cassidy-White**

Director

Clans of Ireland

## **Comhghairdeas.**

### **Dame Maura O'Gara O'Riordan, Registrar, Clans of Ireland.**

Clans of Ireland is delighted to announce that along with former President Mary Robinson, Prof. Gerry McNamara of DCU and Caroline Casey, founder of the Ability Awards, our Registrar, Mrs. Maura O'Gara O'Riordan was chosen to receive a Knighthood of Merit from the Grand Master of the Military & Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem when he visits Ireland in September. His Excellency Don Carlos Gererda de Borbón, Marquis de Almazan, is a cousin of the King of Spain and has been 49th Grand Master of the Order of St. Lazarus since 2008. The Order of St. Lazarus is an ancient ecumenical and chivalrous Order of Knighthood and has chosen a hand full of Irish people to receive awards during the Marquis' visit to Ireland. Mrs. O'Gara O'Riordan was singled out for her sustained and significant contribution to Irish culture and heritage over many years. Clans of Ireland is delighted that our colleague has been honoured and shares in the Order of St. Lazarus' recognition of her significant contribution to Irish culture and heritage. "Dame Maura" as she will be known received her knighthood at a ceremony in St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin on the 30th September.



Dame Maura O'Gara O'Riordan

Clans of Ireland has once again negotiated a special rate with Irish Roots Magazine for 2011.

All clans currently registered and renewing for 2011 can avail of the special annual subscription of €20. Cassidy Clan Members can avail of this offer.

To avail of this special rate please follow these instructions:

Click on website [www.irishrootsmagazine.com](http://www.irishrootsmagazine.com)

Under the sample tab click on 'products purchase'

In the description box type 'Clans of Ireland'

In the payment box type 20 (this is euros)

Click on 'make payment to finish' and proceed to enter payment details as normal.



## Father John Francis Cassidy,

John Francis Cassidy was born in Melbourne, Australia, in September of 1841, and arrived in America with his parents as a child. He entered the North American College in Rome from the San Francisco Archdiocese in 1859.

He was ordained in Rome in June 1865, just 24 years old.

He was named second pastor of St. Leander's Church in San Leandro. He served in the same capacity in San Andreas in the Mother lode country. In 1875 he was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's Mission San Jose, from where he served the mission church until he arrived in Livermore as pastor, August 24, 1878.

For the Catholics population of the Livermore, August 25 was a very special Sunday to celebrate. They were welcoming their first pastor, Father John Francis. Cassidy to St. Michael's. No longer would they have to travel long distances for Mass or wait for the irregular visits of a mission priest. From now on a priest would be in Livermore to regularly administer the sacraments and to offer pastoral guidance.

Father Cassidy's stay here was brief, because of a fire in the little church. Early records are sparse, but we do know that Father Cassidy, for lack of a rectory, slept in the sacristy

Six months later in February of 1879, Father Cassidy was transferred to Leadville, Colorado. In 1891, plagued by illness, he went to Los Angeles, where he died May 21, 1892. He was 50 years old. A Solemn High Mass of Requiem was held at St. Joseph's in San Francisco. His old classmate, Archbishop Patrick W. Riordan gave the blessing.

Among his other classmates were also two others who would attain the distinction of becoming archbishops: Michael Corrigan of New York; and Robert Seton (grandson of Mother Seton, first US native-born saint, canonized in 1975 as St. Elizabeth Seton)..

## EARLY LIVERMORE

The town, to which Father Cassidy came, was a busy and growing place. The Catholic people who welcomed Father Cassidy in 1878 had been settling in Livermore in the 1850's and 1860's. Many were Irish, seeking relief from the potato famine that was causing widespread economic disaster in Ireland. Some Italians and Portuguese came during that time. They all joined the few of the Irish heritage who were already here. These families lived a hard life, often working from sun up to sun down, enduring droughts and storms and the loss of crops and livestock. Through it all, their strength and their refuge was in each other and in their religion. For these early settlers, attending Mass meant a long, tiring trip.

In the 1870's more Catholics came, some directly from Ireland, some from other parts of the United States. The 1870's also brought Catholics from continental Europe.

After the Southern Pacific Railroad came through in 1869, buildings began to spring up around the railroad station (which at first was just a freight car). Ranching and farming were the principle livelihoods for most people, but small businesses also started in town. In 1874, a fire company, the Hook and Ladder #1 was formed. The firehouse was built on Second Street. Well water was used until John Aylward formed the Livermore Spring Water Company in 1875. In 1876, Thomas Hayes brought water from Las Positas Creek in two-mile long flumes. Workers on these flumes sometimes would get inebriated to the point where a marshal was hired at \$50.00 a month and a wooden jail was built. Those who couldn't stagger to the jail were delivered there by wheelbarrow. In 1876 Livermore had sufficient population, around 800, to incorporate as a town. The town was a mile and a half square, with street widths wisely decreed at 80 feet. The newspaper of the day was The Enterprise, published by W.B.Bartlett, the forerunner of the Livermore Herald.

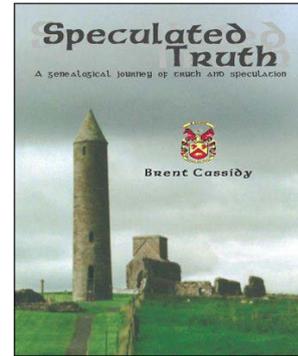
Today, The city of Livermore (pop. 83,604) encompasses twenty-two square miles and is the easternmost city in the San Francisco Bay Area and the Livermore Valley played a pivotal role in shaping California's wine industry and is considered one of California's oldest wine regions. It has become an integral part of the Bay Area, successfully competing in the global market powered by its wealth of research, technology and innovation.

It also has an area called **Dublin**



The Cassidy Clan Gift shop has 2 Clinton-Cassidy original gifts.

1. Speculated Truth book by Brent Cassidy, which highlights the Cassidy Clinton Connection back to Fermanagh; £12.00



President Bill Clinton visited Greensboro North Carolina to give a speech entitled "Sustaining Community" on November 10th. 4000 people attended the speech, which was a non political inspiring speech of how we can improve humanity in this global economic crisis around the world by volunteering and starting to improve our own communities first by working together. President Clinton especially highlighted how people can volunteer and noted the first ever volunteer organization started in America was a volunteer fire department set up by Benjamin Franklin.

2. Cassidy Clinton Homestead, limited edition: £20



I managed to get us first row seats through a contact and attended with my parents which also included back stage passes to meet President Clinton. It was a real lifetime experience we will cherish always, especially with Clinton's well known Cassidy Connection. We didn't really get to talk long, but did offer praise and encouragement to keep up the good humanitarian work The Clinton Foundation does globally.

It was a great experience we will never forget and one from which we learned a lot. President Clinton is a very intelligent man. It would be great to get him back to County Fermanagh for a wee visit.

You can order both from the gift shop using paypal on [www.cassidyclan.org](http://www.cassidyclan.org)

Note, all proceeds go to support The Cassidy Clan

**Dear Cassidy Clan Members,**

We hope you all are doing well and making preparations to enjoy a wonderful holiday season. Please remember to send any of your newsletter contributions including poetry, queries, interesting stories, family updates and research updates to [bcassidy@nic.fi](mailto:bcassidy@nic.fi). It is always a pleasure and interest to all our members to read about Cassidy Clan members from all over the world.

The 2011 Cassidy Clan Rally will be the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rally and will take place in Mahons Hotel, Irvinestown, County Fermanagh, from, Fri. July 29 - Sun. 31, 2011. If you are planning on coming, please contact Brent by March 17<sup>th</sup> at [bcassidy@nic.fi](mailto:bcassidy@nic.fi) so we can get an idea of how many people are coming to the Rally. We hope to see you all and know you have been great people this year so maybe Santa can help you come to see us in County Fermanagh next August.

Yours truly,  
Brent Cassidy



## A GENEALOGIST'S CHRISTMAS EVE

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all  
through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even my  
spouse.  
The dining room table with clutter was spread  
With pedigree charts and with letters which  
said "Too bad about the data for which you  
wrote ...  
Sand in a storm on an ill-fated boat."  
Stack of old copies of wills and the such,  
Were proof that my work had become much  
too much.  
Our children were nestled all snug in their  
beds,  
While visions of sugar plums danced in their  
heads.  
And I, at my table, was ready to drop  
From work on my album with photos to crop.  
Christmas Eve was here, and of such was  
my lot,  
That presents and goodies and toys I'd forgot.  
Had I not been so busy, with grandparents'  
wills,  
I'd not have forgotten to shop for such thrills.  
While others had bought gifts that would  
bring Christmas cheer,  
I'd spent time researching those birth dates  
and years.  
While I was thus musing about my sad plight,  
A strange noise on the lawn gave me such a  
great fright.  
Away to the window I flew in a flash,  
Tore open the drapes and yanked up the  
sash.  
When what to my wondering eyes should  
appear,  
But an overstuffed sleigh and eight little rein-  
deer.  
With a sleigh full of toys and old Santa  
Clause too.  
And then in a twinkle, I heard on the roof,  
The prancing and pawing of thirty-two hoofs.  
The TV antenna was no match for their horns,  
And look at our roof, with hoof-prints adorned.  
As I drew in my head and bumped it on the  
sash,

Down the cold chimney fell Santa –  
CR-RASH!  
Dear Santa had come from the roof in a wreck,  
And tracked soot on the carpet (I could wring  
his short neck!)  
Spotting my face, good old Santa could see,  
I had no Christmas spirit; you'd have to agree.  
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his  
work,  
And filled all the stockings. (I felt like a jerk.)  
Here was Santa, who'd brought us such glad-  
ness and joy,  
When I'd been too busy for even one toy.  
He spied my research on the table all spread,  
"A genealogist!" he cried (My face was all red)  
Tonight I've met many like you, Santa grinned  
As he pulled from his sack a large book he  
had penned..  
I gazed with amazement – the cover it read,  
"Genealogy Lines for which you have plead."  
"I know what it's like as a genealogy bug,"  
He said as he gave me a great Santa hug.  
While the elves make the sleighfull of toys I  
now carry,  
I do some research in the North Pole Library.  
A special treat, I am thus able to bring,  
To the genealogy folks who can't find a thing.  
Now off to go to your bed for a rest,  
I'll clean up the house from this genealogy  
mess.  
As I climbed up the stairs feeling gladness  
and glee,  
I looked back at Santa, who'd brought much  
to me.  
While settling in bed I heard Santa's clear  
whistle,  
To his team which then rose like the down of  
a thistle.  
And I heard him exclaim as he flew out of  
sight,

**"Family History is fun!,  
Merry Christmas**

(Author Unknown)  
(with apologies to Clement c. Moore)

Submitted by Glenn Perdue



Stephen and Amy Cassidy



Irish Ambassador to Finland Dermot Brangan  
Comhaltas Representative Vince Hearn  
and Brent Cassidy

## Congratulations to Stephen Cassidy,

### Mayor-elect of San Leandro, CA

**On Friday, November 19, 2010, the Alameda County Registrar of Voters issued the final results of the election and certified Stephen Cassidy as the winner of the San Leandro Mayor's race.**

Stephen Cassidy is a consumer attorney and former San Leandro school board member. His wife Amy was raised in San Leandro and taught at Monroe Elementary school. They are homeowners in San Leandro and have two daughters.

In 1989, Stephen graduated in the top of his class from University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. Stephen earned his college degree in 1986 from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C

Stephen is a leader with a record of accomplishment. As a school board trustee, he was at the forefront of the campaign to construct the 9th grade campus and performing arts theater at San Leandro High School.

Stephen is committed to seeing that San Leandro be a vibrant and sustainable city with safe neighborhoods and high performing schools. Stephen is an active member of the community. He is a member of the board of directors of *Building Futures for Women and Children*. The non-profit organization operates a shelter in San Leandro for victims of domestic violence victims and provides many other social services.

Stephen serves on the board of directors of the *San Leandro Scholarship Foundation*, which provides grants to seniors residing in San Leandro graduating from San Leandro and San Lorenzo public high schools. He also serves as the scholarship chair for his homeowner's association.

Stephen is a member of the Cassidy Clan Exec. Committee and has attended a number of Cassidy Clan Rallies with his wife Amy and his father Paul.

We send congratulations to Stephen and Amy and hope to welcome them back to Fermanagh in July 2011

### Comhaltas Honors Brent Cassidy

The Comhaltas Organization, which promotes Irish culture world-wide has granted The Irish Festival of Oulu organizer. Brent Cassidy. a rare tribute to the activities of Irish culture.

An honorary certificate and medal, engraved with the motto "Ceol agus Gaol" (Music and Friendship) was given to Brent Cassidy on Friday October 1<sup>st</sup> by the Irish Ambassador to Finland Dermot Brangan and Comhaltas Representative Vince Hearn.

"We have followed the work done by Brent and the Working Group in Oulu, Finland, and we are very pleased about it. Our motto " Music and Friendship ", which is engraved on a medal, it has become a reality here," Hearn said. "This tribute to the Oulu event is well deserved."

Established in 1951, Comhaltas has hundreds of local branches around the world

Two very busy people, deeply involved in their local communities, who can still find the time to be active members of the Cassidy Clan and the Exec. Committee.

Many congratulations to you both.

Nuala

**The Cassidy Clan wish to announce the compilation of a Who's Who book of distinguished Cassidy's,[ past and present,] Cassidy place names, interesting facts about Cassidy's etc.**

**All are invited to submit entries for possible inclusion in the Book, to be launched in conjunction with the upcoming Cassidy Clan Rally to be held July. 2011 in Co. Fermanagh**

**Is mise le meas**

**Noel Cassidy**

# Cassidy Musicians

In previous Cassidy Clan Newsletters we have written a great deal about Na Casaidigh, The Cassidy Family. We would now like to expand the research on other renowned Cassidy Musicians.

## Con Cassidy

Traditional Fiddler  
1909 - 1994

Con Cassidy was born on the 6th of July, 1909 in Teelin, Co. Donegal in the parish of Glencolmcille.

Con's parents were Frank Cassidy and Mary Haughey. Although they did not play music, they were very fond of it. From about the age of nine years, Con used to visit the house of a neighbour, Paddy Barron. Paddy played the fiddle and it was a tin fiddle that Paddy had. This was very common at the time in this area. (The Mc Connells & The Dohertys were travelling tinsmith families who were good musicians, mainly fiddlers, and they made a lot of tin fiddles, which were cheap to buy and were easy to get. They were literally delivered to your door). Con used to visit Paddy Barron's house almost every day and would be allowed to have a go at Paddy's tin fiddle. He was largely self-taught. In

1924 Con's sister, Mary Cassidy, was working in Letterkenny. She came across a shop that sold fiddles and she wrote to her father with the details of the price and delivery details. Soon after that Con got his own fiddle in the post.

Like many from the area, Con had to go away to get work. He worked in England for a time as a general labourer. Con was married in England to a girl from his own area, Mary Kate Mc Brearty.

They returned to Teelin soon after that.

John Doherty lived in Carrick for a time in the 70's and Con used to play with John often in those days. There was a great increase interest in the music of that area in the late 70's. young fiddle players such as Dermot Mc Laughlin, Máiréad Ní Mhaonaigh, Paul O'Shaughnessy, Máire O'Keeffe, Maurice Bradley and others came regularly to visit, play with and learn from Con.

Con Cassidy died in 1994.

The other fiddle playing Cassidy's of Teelin, were , Johnny, Paddy and Frank Cassidy cousins of Con's

## Tommy Peoples

Another member of this distinguished musical family is

Tommy Peoples who's mother was a Cassidy. He was born near St. Johnston, Co. Donegal in 1948. He has been a member of well known traditional Irish music groups, including 1691 and The Bothy Band as well as performing solo since the late 1960s. He moved to Dublin in the 1960s. where he became involved in the traditional music scene.

His contemporaries of that period included Sean Keane and Matt Molloy of the Chieftains, Liam O'Floinn of Planxty, Paul Brady and Mary Bergin.

Tommy's first commercial recording was done for Comhaltas, the Irish traditional music organization. This recording consisted mostly of live performances in folk clubs etc. and was recorded around 1969 He subsequently moved to County Clare and married Mary Linnane, daughter of Kitty Linnane, long-time leader of the

Kilfenora Céilí Band and was a member of the band for a number of years. He now resides in his native County of Donegal. His daughter Siobhán Peoples is a noted fiddler in her own right.



Tommy also won the title "Fiddler of Oriel" in Monaghan in 1970

Two members of the Cassidy Clan Exec. Committee were founder members of this long running festival---Nuala Cassidy White and Noel Cassidy.

The pedigree associated with previous champions, insures that, the "Fiddler of Oriel" title remains one of the most prestigious and recognised accolades in Irish traditional music today.

Previous Winners of the 'Fiddler of Oriel'

1969 - Kathleen Burke, Loughrea Galway

**1970 - Tommy Peoples, Donegal**

1971 - Antoin Mac Gabhainn, Cavan

1972 - Antoin Mac Gabhainn, Cavan

1973 - Jimmy Comac, Donaghmore, Tyrone

1974 - Joe Ryan, Clare

1975 - Gerry O Connor, Dundalk

1976 - Jim McKillop, Antrim

1977 - Martin Byrnes, Galway

1978 - Eddie Kelly, Galway

1979 - Gerry O Connor, Dundalk

1980 - Gerry O'Connor, Dundalk

1981 - Tony Linnane, Clare

1982 - Gerry O' Connor, Dundalk

1983 - Austin Dawe, Dundalk

1995 - Liz Kane, Galway

1996 - Liz Kane, Galway

1997 - Deirdre Moynihan, Cork

2009 - David Doocey, Mayo

2010 - Niall Murphy, Armagh

## Theodore Crawford Cassidy

1932 - 1979

**Theodore Crawford Cassidy** (July 31, 1932 - January 16, 1979), known as **Ted Cassidy**, was an American actor and voice actor who performed in television and films. Extremely tall at 6 ft 9 in (2.06 m), he to play unusual characters Although born in Pittsburgh, Cassidy was raised in Philippi, West Virginia, 120 miles south of Pittsburgh.. Early in his academic career, Cassidy attended West Virginia Wesleyan College, in nearby Buchannon, WV, where he was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity. He later attended Stetson University in DeLand, Florida, as a Speech major. Upon graduation with a degree in speech and drama, he married Margaret Helen in 1956, and they moved to Dallas, Texas. In 1957, Margaret gave birth to their son, Sean, and in 1960 daughter Cameron was born.

### **The Addams Family**

Cassidy's unusual height gave him an advantage in auditioning for unusual character roles. He is probably best known for playing the tall butler, Lurch and the "helpful hand in a box" character named Thing, on the 1960s American television series *The Addams Family*. It was Cassidy who came up with the "You rang?" line, which was so funny that it was incorporated in the show, where the Lurch character had originally been intended to be nonspeaking.

### **The New Adventures of Huckleberry Finn**

Cassidy had a regular role on *The New Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* as Injun Joe. the blood-foe of Tom Sawyer and Huck

### **He also appeared in;**

Star Trek

I Dream of Jeannie

The Six Million Dollar Man

The Beverly Hillbillies

Lost In Space



### **Voice acting and film work**

While appearing on *The Addams Family*, Cassidy began doing character voices on a recurring basis for the Hanna-Barbera Studios, culminating in the role of Frankenstein Jr. in *Frankenstein Jr. and The Impossibles* series. He was the voice of the hero in the Chuck Menville short film "Blaze Glory (1969)" in which his already deep voice was enhanced with a deep reverb & echo to give the character an exaggerated super-hero sound. Cassidy also voiced Ben Grimm aka The Thing in the 1978 animated *Fantastic Four*. Cassidy went on to perform the roars and growls for Godzilla in the 1979 cartoon series that Hanna Barbera co-produced with Toho. His was the basis for the sinister voice of Black Manta, as well as Brainiac and several others on *Super Friends*.

After *The Addams Family*, Cassidy began to add more voice-over work to his résumé; in that acting field, most notably, he narrated the opening of the TV series *The Incredible Hulk*.. Healso provided the Hulk's growls and roars. He was often confused with actor Richard Kiel, who played "Jaws," the assassin with stainless steel teeth, in two James Bond films.

Other film work included his appearances in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, *Mackenna's Gold*, *Goin' Coconuts*, *The Last Remake of Beau Geste*, *Poor Pretty Eddie*, *Harry and Walter Go to New York*, *The Slams*, *The Limit*, and *Charcoal Black*. He also co-wrote the screenplay of 1973's *The Harrad Experiment*, in which he made a brief appearance.

Cassidy suffered from health issues as he grew older, and died at the age of 46 from complications following open-heart surgery.

**Are you related to Ted Cassidy? We would love to hear from you.**

## LAWS OF DESCENT AND DISTRIBUTION BEFORE 1829

By Theresa M. Hicks

Reprinted from the 1973 Carolina Herald, Number 2

Of the many laws governing wills and settlement of estates, those pertaining to the distribution of the estate are of particular interest in genealogical research. Generally, a person can name anyone in a will. There is a very good reason why it is usual to find all the legal heirs mentioned. Failure to do so can result in the will being contested. Thus, you will find bequests of \$1.00 or some reason given for not including a legal heir. Distribution of an estate is made according to the instructions in the will; however, if a person died intestate or if the will is contested and not allowed to stand, the distribution of the estate is helpful in determining the relationship of those included in the settlement.

A knowledge of the laws in effect is necessary.

In South Carolina in 1712, the English Statutes were made of force. Under the provisions, the distribution of personal property was as follows:

- (1) 1/3 to the wife; the rest in equal portions to the children and such persons as legally represented such children in case said children were dead.
- (2) If no children, the widow would receive one part; the other part went to the "next kindred" but no representation among collaterals after brothers' and sisters' children.
- (3) If no wife, the estate was divided amongst the children.
- (4) If no children, the estate went to "every of the next kindred who are in equal degree".

Provision was made that the distribution consider settlement made prior to the intestate's death. This was to insure that the estate was equally divided. No distribution was to be made until after one year.

Real property was inherited according to the "Rights of Primogeniture". This was the Common Law--the right of the oldest son to inherit the estate (real property) of his father. Personal property was inherited according to the Statute Law outlined above. "Canons of Descent" outlined the distribution of real property if there was no living oldest son.

This method of distribution of estates continued in force until 1791 when Primogeniture was abolished.

Under a new statute, the real estate was to be distributed in the same manner as the personal estate according to

the following provisions:

- (1) 1/3 to the widow; the remainder to child or children. Lineal descendants to represent their parents.
- (2) If no child or lineal descendant survived, but a widow, father or mother did--the widow received 1/2, the father 1/2. If the father was dead, the mother received his half.
- (3) If neither lineal descendants, nor father or mother survived, but a widow and brothers and sisters of the whole blood did, the widow received 1/2 and the brothers and sisters 1/2. Children of a deceased brother or sister were to have their ancestor's share.
- (4) If no lineal descendant, father, mother, brother or sister of the whole blood survived, but a widow and brother or sister of the half blood, and a child or children of a brother or sister of the whole blood did-- the widow received 1/2; the other 1/2 was equally divided between brothers and sisters of the half blood and the children of the brothers and sisters of the whole blood. The children of the deceased brother of the whole blood took among them a share equal to the brother and sister of the half blood. (See illustration below)
- (5) If no brother or sister of the half blood survived, then 1/2 went to the children of the deceased brother and sisters.
- (6) If no children of deceased brother or sister of the whole blood survived, then the 1/2 went to the brothers and sisters of the half blood.
- (7) If no lineal descendant, father, mother, brother, or sister of the whole blood or their children, or brother or sister of the half blood survived, the widow received 1/2 and the lineal ancestor the other 1/2.
- (8) If none of the above survived, the widow received 2/3; the remainder went to the next of kin. (9) If no widow survived, the estate was to be distributed as outlined above.

In reckoning degrees of kindred, the computation began with the intestate and continued to the person claiming kindred, inclusively, each step inclusively being reckoned as one degree.

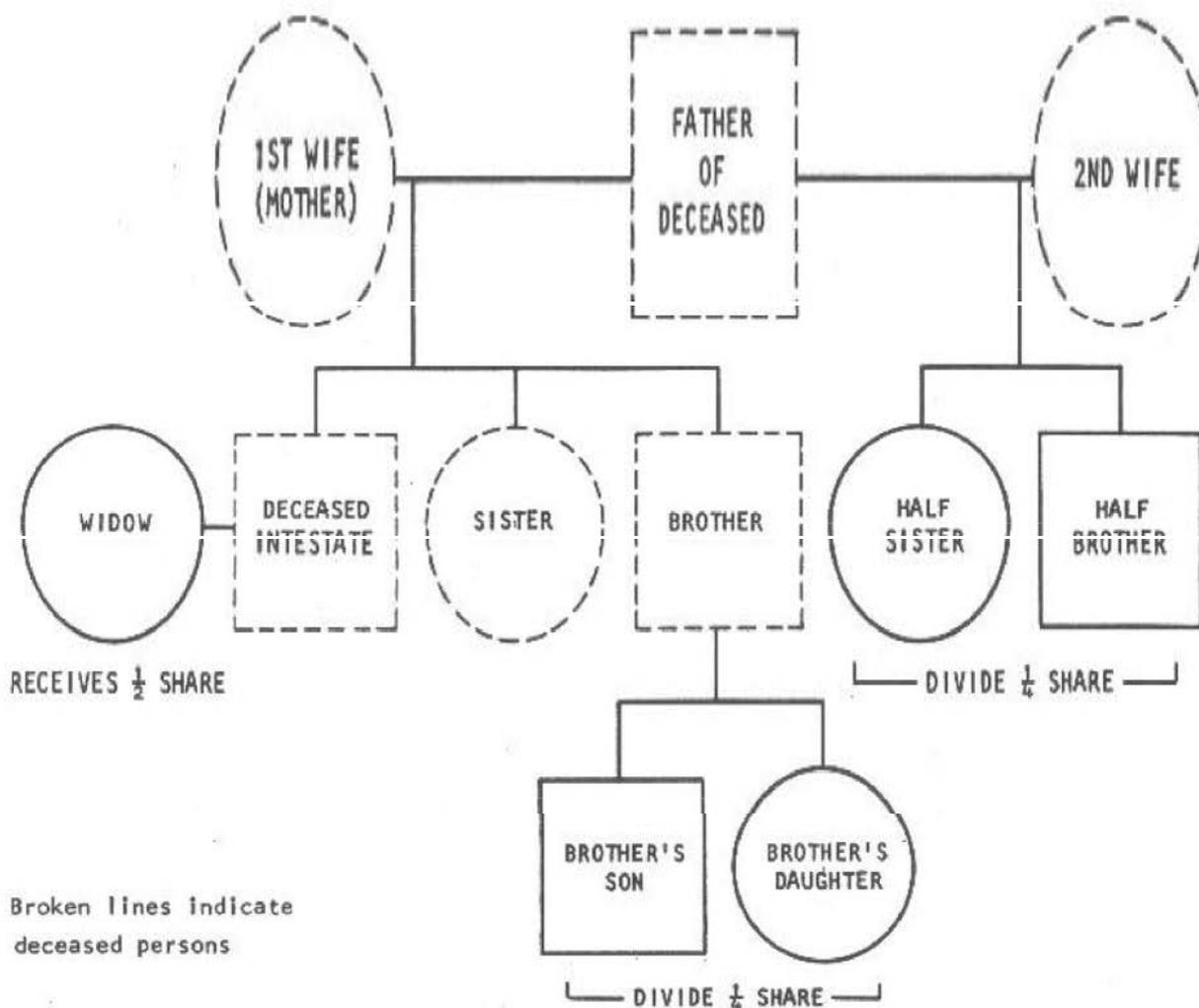
On the death of any married woman, her husband was entitled to the same share of her real estate as was given to the widow out of the husband's. The remainder was to be distributed in the same manner. was given to the widow out of the husband's. The remainder was to be distributed in the same manner.

Land or personal estate acquired after the making of a will was to be distributed as under this Act. In 1808, this section was repealed, and personal property acquired after the making of a will was to pass thereby.

In 1797, an Act was passed stating that if no wife, child, nor lineal descendant survived, but a father and mother and brothers and sisters, the estate was to be equally divided. The issue of a deceased brother or sister took the share of their parent.

In 1826, an amendment stated that if there was no lineal descendant, father, mother, brother or sister of the whole blood, or their children, or brothers or sisters of the half blood, or lineal ancestor or next of kin, the widow was to take the whole estate. In the event the intestate was a married woman, her husband was to take the whole estate.

Changes have been made in the laws of inheritance since 1826. Therefore, when searching probate records for wills and estates divisions, it is necessary to understand the laws which were in force during the period you are studying.



**N.B. I am indebted to Glenn Perdue for this very interesting piece.**

A Chairde Uaisle,  
Dear Friends,

The following are from members requesting help in researching their branch of this great family. Answers can be forwarded to me [nuala@caiside.org](mailto:nuala@caiside.org) or to the addresses provided.

### Jim Cassidy in Australia

From: Linda Foh  
<lindafoh@epix.net>

Well, you gotta start somewhere and I'm already 50 years late asking these questions! I'm looking for descendants of Jim Cassidy who lived at 28 Tranmere (or Franmere) Ave., Carnegie, Victoria, Australia 3162 in the mid 1970s. I have two airletters he wrote to my grandmother who was (I think) his brother Ed's widow in Philadelphia.

Jim was a great-grandfather then, probably in his 80s, and maybe born in Co. Donegal, Ireland, to George and Isabella Allingham Cassidy. Sadly his letters mention unnamed family members, except for a sister-in-law Mary Cassidy in a nearby hospital (in 1976). I don't know Mary's husband's name and was surprised to learn he had a brother in Australia.

Jim also had a brother George who lived in Calgary and/or Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and brothers Edward and Hugh who lived in Philadelphia, PA.

If any of this rings a bell, please contact me and I'll share what other bits I have.

Linda Porter Foh  
Saylorsburg, PA, USA

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### Hello to the Cassidy Clan,

My name is Carmel Rudden nee, Carmel Cassidy. My fathers name was James. Other members of his

family were; John,d.1960's Anne,d. 2000's Bridget,d. 2000's Nellie,d.2005, Tony: d 1960's, Terry.?

John moved to New Jersey, New York, around 1928 married had loads of children. All we know is that John did have a son or grandson who was a pilot during either the korean war or the Vietnam War. Not sure of any of the details.

Anne Cassidy married Brendan O' Sullivan from Kerry they lived in Surrey England, Bridget married Andy Flynn from Killcock, Co.Meath

Nellie never married.Tony married ? had two children lived in Surrey England, Terry Married? had children? one named Fintan, lived in Cobh, Co. Cork, Ireland

My grandfathers name was

Thomas Cassidy. Thomas came from Corrinarry, Co. Monaghan and his mothers name was Mary nee Mc Cabe from Co. Cavan .

If anyone has some information regarding Cassidy's from New Jersey please get in touch would love to hear from you.

Ruddencarmel"  
[carmelrudden@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carmelrudden@yahoo.co.uk)

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**From:** "Cassidy, Charles  
<[CCassidy@vtc.vsc.edu](mailto:CCassidy@vtc.vsc.edu)>

Good day! My name is Charles Cassidy and I live in Randolph, Vt. My grandfather George came down to the USA around the turn of the century from Kinsey Falls, QU. Canada. His father was Charles Cassidy and his father Achibald Cassidy came over from Ireland around 1840-50 and settled in Kinsey Falls. I would like to know where he came from in Ire-

land and his parents name. We have been told that his parents never came over to Canada only him and 2 brothers and maybe 2 sisters. Thanks for any help you can give me. I also read in the family bible Tyrone county Cook may be miss spelled or written where he may have come from. Thanks C.Cassidy

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Hi all, I just joined the group and am glad to have the opportunity to connect with the extended Cassidy Clan. My father, James Cassidy, born in Oldham in 1926 brought the family back to Ireland in 1957. Our ancestor, Ann Cassidy born c. 1829 emigrated to England around the time of the famine but we don't know where she originated from. In the 1861 census, she is with her mother Margaret, 67yrs old, brother Patrick born c1832 and sister Bridget born c1833. Ann never married, but her son Edward (Howarth) Cassidy was born in 1847 in Stalybridge, Dukinfield, Lancashire, England. He married Catherine Welch in 1871. Three of his sons went to America around 1891 and one, Thomas set up the Falls River branch of the Cassidy family in Mass. USA, another, James died in the Klondyke and a third, John came home to Oldham, Lancs., and married Rose Gallagher. They were my great grandparents. We lived in Dublin for many years and have now moved to Meath, but would love to know where the family originally came from. I have searched [ifhf.ie](http://ifhf.ie) to no avail. If any of this strikes a chord, please contact me.

Thanks,  
Martine

Martine Murphy  
<[martinemurphy@yahoo.com](mailto:martinemurphy@yahoo.com)>