

# The Clay Piper

## First Coast Highlanders Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

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Nov. 2016

### A DETOUR THROUGH SCOTLAND

by Arthur Tenney

Last month, my wife Sue and I took a road trip to NY for my 50th high school reunion. We left the week after hurricane Matthew roared through northeast Florida. On our way through North Carolina we had to detour because part of I-95 was closed due to damage from the storm. To our surprise our detour took us through Scotland: that is Scotland County, NC. We thought that it would be a good idea to learn about Scotland County.

Having been formed in 1899, Scotland County is a young county but it has a rich and interesting history.



Highlander Scots settled in this area as early as 1729. However, it was during the next 25 years that much of the Scot settlement came to the Scotland County area. Scots pushed up the Cape Fear River into the area surrounding their Cross Creek settlement, later known as Campbellton and now known as Fayetteville. As the years went by the settlers continued to push into what is now known as Scotland County.

Through the years other groups and individuals, including Scots-Irish, English, Welsh, African and those with Native

American ancestry have moved into the county. They brought with them their own heritage and culture. Although the Scottish influence is very strong in this county, the Scots have no monopoly on the county or its history.

Today, Scotland County continues to have one of the largest concentrations of Highland Scots in North America. Each year the Scotland County Highland Games are held the first weekend of October and serve as a premier celebration of Scottish and Celtic cultures in the Upper Cape Fear and Pee Dee regions.

### SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT – BEVERLY RADEZ

Our honored sponsor for this issue, Beverly Radez, is a kind, caring, and generous woman who also happens to be the mother-in-law of the pipe band's founder and business manager, Art Tenney.

Beverly was born in Washington, D.C. to parents J. Ernest and Freda Wharton, but she grew up in rural upstate Schoharie County, New York, and has lived in the towns of Summit, Richmondville, Cobleskill, and Schoharie.

She married Henry Radez in 1947 and together they raised three children: James, Kevin, and Susanne.

For several years, Beverly was the Town of Summit Historian, and she shared her musical talents as organist for St. Anna's Catholic Church in Summit.

In 2009, Beverly and Henry moved to Florida to be near their daughter, Sue, and to also take advantage of the assisted living and memory care

services provided by The Allegro senior community in Fleming Island. Henry passed away in 2009 after a long battle with Lewy Body Dementia.

Beverly continues to enjoy living at The Allegro today. She has always loved hearing bagpipes play and has some Scottish ancestry, being a fine mixture of Scottish, Irish, English, German and Dutch.

Beverly loves Clay

County and is very proud to support the First Coast Highlanders which she feels is an exceptional bagpipe band.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

After a great 40-minute practice session tonight in my driveway, I realized that I wasn't perspiring as bad as I had just last month. That's right, the weather has shifted and it has been wonderfully cooler outside the past couple of evenings. This is the time of year that is very pleasant to practice the Great Highland Bagpipes without soaking several towels.

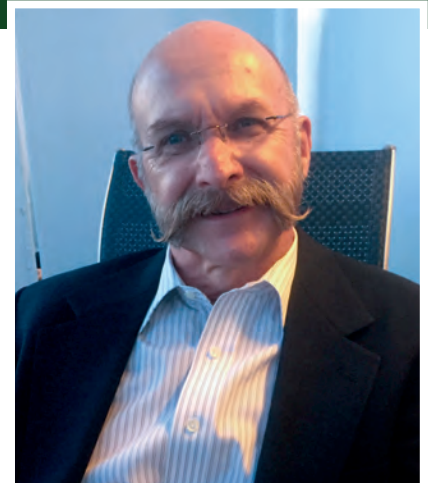
I trust everyone is putting in a large amount of practice time either it be bagpipes or drums. It is practice that makes us sound good. I want to stress to all our performing members to make a dedicated effort and attend the Thursday evening practices, playing our music, strike-in and cut-off as a group. Take all your weekly practice sessions and put it into that one night a week we get together and we will

continue to get better.

I continue to thank those students who are dedicating their hard efforts to learn this bagpipe music. No one said it would be easy but keep it up and you'll get it.

Trust that everyone has gotten out to vote and that your vote has counted in your favor. But none the less, regardless of the outcome, we will continue to gather with family and friends sitting down for a Thanksgiving feast. Remember to give thanks for the freedom we all have right here in the USA and most of all, the good friends and family we cherish as well.

If I don't talk to you or see you before the new year, have a wonderful and safe Christmas and New Year. Hope to see



everyone at our Christmas Party on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Middleburg Masonic Lodge. I want to shake each and everyone's hand to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year. Come out on the 11<sup>th</sup> and be with your band members and their families enjoying good food and fellowship.

*Pipe and Drum On*  
*Bob Simpson*

## TIDBITS FROM SCOTLAND

The official religion of Scotland is Christianity. Churches are traditionally called "kirks."



Scotland's smallest distillery, Edradour in Pitlochry, has 100,000 visitors per year but produces only 90,000 liters of malt whisky.

Eas Coil Aulin Waterfall in the Sutherland County, with a sheer drop of 658 feet, is the highest waterfall in Britain and four times the height of Niagara Falls.

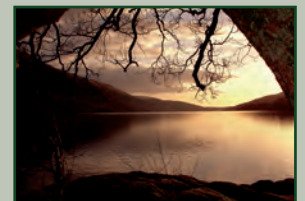
The Kingdom of Scotland remained as an independent state until May 1, 1707 when the Acts of Union joined it with England, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain.



The raincoat was invented in 1824 by Charles MacIntosh, a chemist born in Glasgow. It is still called a "Mac" in Great Britain.



The tune "The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond" tells the story of two Scottish prisoners, one who was to be freed and the other executed, at the same time. An old Celtic belief holds that if you die away from your homeland you will return by an underground spirit route, called the "low road." In the tune, the prisoner facing death tells the survivor that he will arrive home first because the freed man must take the "high road" over the mountains, thus arriving afterwards.





## AROUND TOWN



*Upper left:*  
Concert at The Allegro in Fleming Island.

*Upper right:*  
Our little drummer boy, Zarek (Kathy Robertson's grandson) takes a much needed break.



*Middle row:*  
Commencement Ceremonies at University of Phoenix.

*Bottom row:*  
CalaVida Arts Festival in Green Cove Springs.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Veteran's Day Service**

Friday, November 11 - 11 AM  
Magnolia Cemetery  
Orange Park

### **First Responders' Fundraiser for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder**

Saturday, November 12 - 5 PM  
Prevatt's Sports Bar and Grill  
Middleburg

### **Kirkin of the Tartan**

Sunday, November 20 - 10:30 AM  
First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville  
Jacksonville

### **Kirkin of the Tartan**

Sunday, January 29 - 8:45 AM and 11 AM  
St. Simons Presbyterian Church  
St. Simons Island, GA

### **Kirkin of the Tartan**

Sunday, February 19 - 10 AM  
St. Giles Presbyterian Church  
Orange Park

### **NE Florida Scottish Games and Festival**

Saturday, February 25 - All Day  
Clay County Fairgrounds  
Green Cove Springs



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FOR \$25 YOU CAN BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR BOOSTER CLUB, and receive the newsletter by email.			

Please complete the coupon below and mail with your check to the **First Coast Highlanders**,  
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