

# THE CLAY PIPER

First Coast Highlanders Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1

[www.firstcoasthighlanders.com](http://www.firstcoasthighlanders.com)

[www.facebook.com/firstcoasthighlanders](https://www.facebook.com/firstcoasthighlanders)

MAY 2018

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Thank you for checking out our newsletter! This is my first President's Corner in *The Clay Piper* and I want to thank everyone for allowing me to be the president of the First Coast Highlanders. I hope you find this newsletter interesting and informative.



Since our last issue we have performed at the Highland Games, Celtic Festival, several Kirkin of the Tartans, and entertained the lassies at their luncheon. We also

celebrated Saint Patrick's Day and traveled between South Georgia to Central Florida.

When you read this, we will have completed our Memorial Day celebrations marking the end of one of our busiest seasons. During the summer months, there will be no major performances, but we will continue to practice, both individually and together, to keep our edge and be ready to start up again in September.

In July, several of the performing members will spend a week at the North American Academy of Piping and Drumming (NAAPD) in

Valle Crucis, North Carolina. Come fall, we plan to be better than ever.

First Coast Highlanders is much more than its performers. There are many behind the scenes who contribute to its success, whether by donations or by their labor. Donors enable us to visit NAAPD and buy new uniforms and instruments, among many other things.

We could not get through the long days at the Highland Games and Celtic Festival, as well as our other performances, without our volunteers. Many thanks to all of you and have a marvelous summer.

— EJB

## IN MEMORIAM

*Flowers of the Forest* is an ancient Scottish folk tune commemorating the defeat of the Scottish army of James IV at the Battle of Flodden in September 1513. Although the original words are unknown, Jean Elliot (1727-1805), poet, says it well:

*I've heard the lilting, at the yowe-milking,  
Lassies a-lilting before dawn o' day;  
But now they are moaning on ilka green loaning;  
"The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away".  
Dool and wae for the order sent oor lads tae the Border!  
The English for ance, by guile wan the day,  
The Flooers o' the Forest, that fought aye the foremost,  
The pride o' oor land lie cauld in the clay.*

The pipe tune *Flowers of the Forest* is a soulful lament at which time we take a moment to remember the members of our family who have gone before us. Recently, we have lost two of our own. We take this opportunity to pause in silence and recognize our very own who have left this earth to go to the Great Highlands above and be with their lord.

**Leland E. Chandler**, 72, of Orange Park, FL passed away on January 22, 2018. A veteran of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Navy reserve for 12 years and was a member of the American Legion post 250 and VFW Post 8255 both in Middleburg, Florida. Also, he was a member of the Penn York Highlanders Bagpipe Band and was a past member of the Clay County Sheriff's Office Pipe Band. He was a gentle soul, a devoted husband, father, grandfather and a great friend.



**Joseph Esposito** was one of First Coast Highlanders' generous donors and a fan of the band. Joseph passed away March 6th, 2018, at the assisted living center "Allegro" in Fleming Island. Whenever we performed at the Allegro, Joe would make every effort to say thank you to each of the members and tell us how much he enjoyed bagpipes and drums from First Coast Highlanders.



## WHAT'S YOUR CLAN?

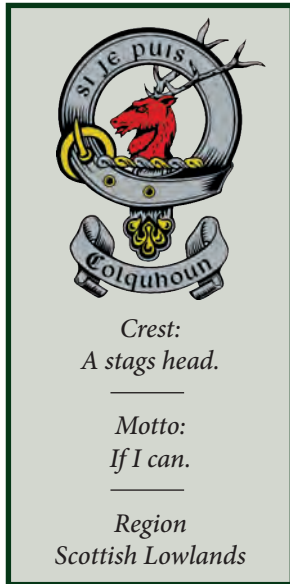
*Steve Cohn, a FCH drummer and a bagpipe student too, has provided us with information about his family clan, "Clan Colquhoun".*

The lands in the Loch Lomond area have been within the family since 1150AD, when the lands were granted to the Laird of Luss. The Colquhouns originated at Old Kilpatrick on the River Clyde, and through the marriage of Robert of Colquhoun to the daughter of the Laird of Luss in 1358, the Luss lands came into their hands.

The Colquhoun charters to Barony of Colquhoun, which runs eastwards from Dumbarton for six miles towards Glasgow, granted around 1240AD. Since those times, there has been a constant Colquhoun presence in the area. Luss and then turned south down the valley of the

Dunglass Castle, now a ruin on a rocky outcrop on the River Clyde, was an early stronghold of the Kilpatrick family.

The name means, "grey fort". Its position commanded the movement of shipping on the river. In the 15th century the castle fell into disrepair, and Sir Humphrey Colquhoun built a mansion on part of the ruins. In February 1603, the most notorious event in the history of the clan occurred when the Colquhouns and the MacGregors met in bloody battle in Glen Fruin. Although virtually deserted today, Glen Fruin was populated by perhaps as many as 200 farms. The rich fertile Colquhoun lands were too much of a temptation for the MacGregors, whose inhospitable mountainous lands to the north and east had led them into a lifestyle which involved raiding their neighbors, stealing their livestock and burning and looting homes. Because of these repeated raids of the MacGregors and their allies (especially the MacFarlanes) the King had given the Colquhoun clan chief authority to arm his clan in self-defense. There are many



conflicting accounts about the immediate cause of the battle. What we do know is that about 400 MacGregors and their supporters set off towards Colquhoun territory. There was no road then, so they went westwards, possibly through the gap in the hills at Tarbet, and made their way south along the shores of Loch Long. They approached Glen Fruin along the valley of the Fruin Water. The Colquhouns, forewarned, marched up Glen Auchengaich burn. When they entered Glen Fruin, they found that the MacGregors had gotten there before them. They had divided their forces into two and were able to trap the Colquhouns between them.

*If you have Scottish heritage and can tell a story about what you know of your clan and sir-name, write it up and submit to The Clay Piper editor Bob Simpson, [piper4fch@comcast.net](mailto:piper4fch@comcast.net).*

## SCOTTISH TIDBITS

While at the Northeast Florida Highland Games, last February, I was asked about the white emblem on my Balmoral (hat). I proceeded to tell them a little history of the Scottish Jacobites.

**Jacobitism** was a political movement in Great Britain and Ireland that aimed to restore the Roman Catholic Stuart King James II of England and Ireland (as James VII in Scotland) and his heirs to the thrones of England, Scotland, France and Ireland. The movement took its name from Jacobus, the Renaissance Latin form of James.

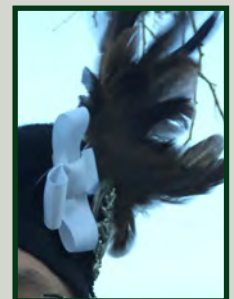
Adherents rebelled against the British government on several occasions between 1688 and 1746. The strongholds of Jacobitism were parts of the Scottish Highlands and the lowland north-east of Scotland, Ireland, and parts of Northern England (mostly within the counties of Northumberland and Lancashire). Significant support also existed in Wales and South-West England.

The Jacobites believed that parliamentary interference

with the line of succession to the English and Scottish thrones was illegal. Catholics also hoped the Stuarts would end the discrimination against recusants. In Scotland, the Jacobite cause became intertwined with the clan system. The emblem of a Jacobite is the White Cockade of which we signify on our balmorals.

**"White Rose Day"** is celebrated on 10 June, the anniversary of the birth of the *Old Pretender* in 1688. In 1708, James Francis Edward Stuart, the son of James VII, who became known as the *Old Pretender*, attempted an invasion with a French fleet carrying 6,000 men, but the Royal Navy prevented it from landing troops. A more serious attempt occurred in 1715, soon after the death of Anne and the accession of the first Hanoverian king. This rising

*continued on next page...*





## SCOTTISH TIDBITS ...continued from previous page

(known as *The Fifteen*) envisaged simultaneous uprisings in Wales, Devon, and Scotland. An attempted Jacobite invasion with Spanish assistance in 1719 met with little support from the clans and ended in defeat at the Battle of Glen Shiel.



In 1745 the Jacobite rising known as *The Forty-Five* began. Charles Edward Stuart, son of the *Old Pretender*, often referred to as *Bonnie Prince Charlie* or the *Young Pretender*, landed on the is-

land of Eriskay in the Outer Hebrides. Several clans unenthusiastically joined him. At the outset he was successful, taking Edinburgh and then defeating the only government army in Scotland at the Battle of Prestonpans. The Jacobite army marched into England, took Carlisle and advanced as far as south as Derby. However, it became increasingly evident that England would not support a Roman Catholic Stuart monarch.

The Jacobite leadership had a crisis of confidence and they retreated to Scotland as two English armies closed in

and Hanoverian troops began to return from the continent. Charles' position in Scotland began to deteriorate as the Whig supporters rallied and regained control of Edinburgh. After an unsuccessful attempt on Stirling, he retreated north towards Inverness. He was pursued by the Duke of Cumberland and gave battle with an exhausted army at Culloden on 16 April 1746, where the Jacobite cause was crushed.

First Coast Highlanders represent a Jacobite wearing a Jacobite shirt, Balmoral. Some of us wear a highlander boot.

## PICTURES FROM PAST EVENTS

*First Coast Highlander has been busy with many events. Thanks to everyone for your dedicated support!*



*Top left:*

Here are a bunch of Jacobite's, AKA First Coast Highlanders. Our Official photo at the Highland Games on February 24th.

*Right:*

Bob Simpson and Deborah Johnson enjoying the day with FCH at Meehan's St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

*Bottom left:*

Steve Romeo taking some spare time to pose with a Transformer and wee lad Nicholas after completing one of the three Clay County Fair parades.

*Center top:*

FCH marching in the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in St. Augustine.

*Center bottom:*

Thanks to John Lynch, a snare drum student stepping in to play the base drum for us.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Clay High School Spring Concert**  
Friday, May 11, 7:30 PM  
St. Johns Country Day School  
Orange Park, FL



**Memorial Day Service**  
Sunday, May 27 10:30 AM  
Turning Point at Calvary Church  
St Augustine, FL



**Concert on the Green**  
Sunday, May 27, 6:00 PM  
St Johns Country Day School  
Orange Park, FL



### MISSION STATEMENT

The First Coast Highlanders is a Highland Bagpipe and Drum Band based in Clay County, Florida.

We are a performance and entertainment band, a teaching organization, and a cultural group. We are a community based band and promote Celtic culture through music. We are committed to playing the finest in traditional Scottish and Irish music for both private and public audiences.

Our goal is to encourage and support the Celtic culture in our community by providing instruction to anyone interested in learning the great highland bagpipe or highland drums. Lessons are provided free of charge to anyone that is willing to commit the time and self-discipline to learn.



## SPONSORS — THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

### DIAMOND

Joseph Esposito • Mrs. Beverly Radez • Orange Park Medical Center  
Northeast Florida Scottish Highland Games • St. Andrews Society of Jacksonville

### PLATINUM

Arthur and Susanne Tenney • Dr. June Gentle  
Will Wheeler • David King Law Firm • Romanza St. Augustine • Sigma Marketing

### GOLD

Alexis Malcolm Kilts • Ameris Bank • Orange Park Furniture  
Jim and Kathi Overby • Cmdr. and Mrs. James Roberts • Stephen and Jane Romeo

### SILVER

Joanne Anderson • BJ's Warehouse • Clayton and Harriett Kicklighter • Lee and Susan McKay  
Albert and Pat Syeles • Carol A. Vavrek • Janet and Paul Stake • G's Slow Smoked BBQ  
Gwendoline Wilson • Winn-Dixie • Hardage-Giddens Holly Hill Funeral Home  
Concert on the Green • Hardage-Giddens Rivermeade Funeral Home • Tim Wilson  
Military Museum of North Florida • Carter and Irene Cheatum • St John Academy • Brenda Parker  
Gale Trotter • Barbara Holloway • John Lynch • Greg and Dora McClelland

*Please take a few minutes to look at our sponsors. By giving them your business you are supporting us!*

## SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM — BECOME A SPONSOR!

SILVER (\$100 - \$249)	GOLD (\$250 - \$499)	PLATINUM (\$500 - \$999)	DIAMOND (\$1,000 & UP)
<i>Listing in our newsletter and on our web site with a link to your site.</i>	<i>Listing in our newsletter, listing on our web site with a link to your site and a band shirt.</i>	<i>Listing in our newsletter, listing on our web site with a link to your site and a band shirt.</i>	<i>Listing in our newsletter, listing on our web site with a link to your site, a band shirt and a performance.</i>

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

***For more information about hiring a piper or the band, or becoming a sponsor, call Art Tenney at (904) 368-8177.***

Please complete the coupon below and mail with your check to the **First Coast Highlanders, 9703 NW 219th Street, Starke, FL 32091.**

We are registered under s.496 405, Florida Statutes, the Solicitation of Contributions Act, registration number CH36692, expiration date June 15, 2018, and we are a 501 (c)(3) non-profit charitable organization and all donations are tax deductible.

# FIRST COAST HIGHLANDERS

### SPONSORSHIP LEVEL:

☐ BOOSTER CLUB   ☐ SILVER   ☐ GOLD   ☐ PLATINUM   ☐ DIAMOND

**THANK YOU!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with your check to First Coast Highlanders, 9703 NW 219th Street, Starke, FL 32091.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!**