

An Crann Tara

Award-Winning Newsletter for Clann Nan Con, The Highland Independent Company of Darien

AFTER ACTION REPORTS

SCOTTISH HERITAGE DAYS



The Highland Independent Company of Darien waits to attach the Spanish forces at the Battle of Bloody Marsh (L-R: Ed Lunderman, Skin Neal, Mark Tippens, Neil Fitzgibbons, Britt Brinson, Larry Lynch, Michael Ramsey, Jeremy Crouse, Daniel Foster, & Clifton Gorden)

Uaireigin Cu, Doannon Cu

Ed Lunderman was far and away the first member of **Clann Nan Con** to arrive at *Fort King George State Historic Site*, showing up on Monday to help the park staff get ready for Scottish Heritage Days. **Britt Brinson, Neil Fitzgibbons, Clifton Gorden, Skin Neal,** and **Mark Tippens** followed on Thursday evening. Everyone staked out their home for the next few days, then spent our time with the usual visitation. Knowing that Friday would be a long day, most of the clann turned in around 11 pm. It was a beautiful clear night, with temperatures in the mid-fifties. Mosquitoes were few, but still lurking around.

Friday morning dawned clear. Everyone was busy getting ready for the arrival of about 600 school kids. While Lunderman was detailed to help the fort's cannon crew, the rest of the clann demonstrated the caber toss & stone throw for the visitors, who stopped by our station between the fort & the visitors' center, in groups of about 20-25. We performed & talked for about three hours. Special thanks go out to **Scott Brantley** for giving us our new caber. Afterwards, we had free time. By late Friday evening, our ranks had swelled to ten, with the arrival of **Jeremy Crouse, Daniel Foster, Larry Lynch** and **Michael Ramsey**. Michael & Jeremy were the champions for driving distance, coming all the way from Nashville, TN. It was another grand, soft evening.



Clann Nan Con inside Fort King George

Saturday brought more beautiful weather, with the high reaching the mid-70s. We got an early start with the safety briefing at 9 am. Our clann lead the procession from the fort to the opening ceremonies, a memorial service up at the soldiers' graveyard. Following the ceremony, we returned to the fort to have some pictures made there & near the site where we filmed *History Uncovered*, the video now showing at *Fort Frederica National Monument*. We got some pretty good shots, thanks to Daniel Foster's fiancée. **Scott Hodges**, as General Oglethorpe, in Highland attire, arrived by boat and was greeted by the Highlanders, who escorted him into the fort, where he addressed the crowd. Following a brief lunch, we demonstrated the caber toss & stone throw in the fort for the visitors.



General Oglethorpe addresses the crowd at old Fort King George.

Then, it was time for the battle. It was a spirited affair, ultimately resulting in the repulse of the Spaniards, who were severely outnumbered. General Oglethorpe was brilliant in leading the defense of the fort. It was good to see **Denise & Brad Spear**. Brad is still recovering from back surgery & was in obvious pain throughout his time there. Reports came into the fort afterward that it was the best battle many of the visitors had seen there. The rest of the day was spent talking with visitors to the fort.

APRIL 2007

More fellowship followed Saturday evening. Upon our return to the fort from supper, it was discovered that both sets of our colors were missing. Hearing where they might be found, Tacksman Mark Tippens went & asked for their return. He was told that this would happen within the hour. Within the hour, a representative of the offending party arrived to tell us that they would be returned when the Kings Cup, which we were accused of taking, was returned. This representative was informed that we do not play games with things that do not belong to us. Later that evening, Lunderman, Ramsey & Crouse retrieved the colors. The thanks of the entire clann goes to these three gentlemen. Our colors were made by the late **Michael "the Tailor" Sackrison** and are very special to us.

Sunday morning brought the usual breaking down & returning home. Thanks to all who made this a special weekend.

THE LATEST NEWS

CULLODEN GAMES CANCELLED

The *Culloden Highland Games*, held for the last ten years or so in Culloden, Georgia have been cancelled. Not much is known about the reasons for the cancellation, but it probably has to do with lower-than-expected attendance the last few years.

It is a sad thing for our clan, because we have been a mainstay at the games since about 1998 or 1999. We have always had a good time there & it has been a good place for us to recruit. J. P. Hackney and his brother Cody discovered us there & joined our clann as a result.

There is a rumor that the games could find new life sometime in the fall, as a prelude to the Stone Mountain Highland Games.

CLANN INVITED TO TASTE OF SCOTLAND

Clann Nan Con has been invited to participate in an event in Franklin, NC. **A Taste of Scotland** will be held on Saturday, June 16. Franklin is the site of the Scottish Tartan museum & would make for a good chance to see it.

The organizers have become familiar with our work at the Blairsville Highland Games, which will be the weekend before. It is critical to see how many of you would like to go up for this event so we can let them know. Please inform Britt Brinson as soon as possible whether or not you might be able to go. We should be able to camp Friday & Saturday nights, if we wish.

Uaireigin Cu, Doannon Cu

WEBSITE UPDATED

The *Clann Nan Con* website has been updated with a new *Homepage* picture, which reflects more current participation. *Artworks* pages have also been added which display pictures that have been processed to look like paintings. There are currently two from Bedford 2003, one from Fort King George (FKG) 2005, one from Blairsville 2005, & two from FKG 2007. *Roster* pictures for **Daniel Foster & Clifton Gorden** have also been updated. The website is located at www.geocities.com/clanamcu/homepage.html.

COMMON GAELIC PHRASES

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>GAELIC</u>	<u>PRONUNCIATION</u>
Fall in.	Cruinnichibh.	Krayn-yih-kiv.
Shoulder your musket.	Gualainn bhor cuilethar.	Goo-ulin ur kool-ih-ver.
Load your musket.	Luchdaich ur cuilethar.	Loochaich ur kool-ih-ver.
Make Ready.	Dean ullamh.	Jee-un oo-love.
Present.	Thoir.	Hore.
Fire.	Loisg.	Loshg.
Recover.	Faigh air ais.	Feye er ash.
Forward.	Air adhart.	Er ursht.
Company halt.	Companoch stad.	Comp-an-ukh stad.
Order your musket.	Socraibh bhur cuilethar.	So-kriv orr kool-ih-ver.
Dismissed.	Fagibh.	Fah-kiv.
Attack.	Gabhaibh orra.	Gahv-iv or-uh.
Welcome.	Failte.	Fal-chuh.
How are y'all?	Ciamar a tha sibh?	Kimmer a hah shiv.
I am fine.	Tha gu math.	Hah goo mah.
Are they pulling my leg?	Bheil iad tarraing asam?	Vale aht tar-ing as-um?
No. They are English.	Chan eil. 'Se Sassanaich a th'annta.	Khan-yale. Shay Sass-un-eekh uh th' un-tah

UPCOMING EVENTS

Savannah Highland Games. May 5, 2007. Savannah, Georgia.

Battle of Culloden. May 18-20, 2007. Fort Loudon, Pennsylvania.

Blairsville Highland Games. June 9-10, 2007. Blairsville, Georgia.

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A Taste of Scotland. June 16, 2007. Franklin, North Carolina.

Folktales of the Rails. October 2007. Kennesaw, Georgia.

Foothills Highland Games. November 3, 2007. Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Cannons Across the Marsh. November 2007. Fort King George, Darien, Georgia.

Oglethorpe's Visit to Darien. February 2008. Fort King George, Darien, Georgia.

Frederica Festival. February 2008. Fort Frederica, St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Northeast Florida Highland Games. February 2008. Green Cove Springs, Florida.

Scottish Heritage Days. March 2008. Fort King George, Darien, Georgia.