

THE FIERY CROSS



Award-Winning Newsletter For Clan An Cu, The Highland Independent Company of Darien

THE LATEST NEWS

AKINS LEAVES FORT KING GEORGE

Our good friend, **Ken Akins**, is leaving Fort King George after 23 years of service. We have been informed that he has accepted a position at New Echota State Historic Site, near Calhoun, which was the Cherokee Indian capital. While we are sad to see him go, it is a promotion for him.



Ken Akins (foreground) and Brad Spear sailed with Clan An Cu from Fort King George to Fort Frederica in 2001.

Ken has been an ally and a very good friend of *Clan An Cu* from the moment we first appeared at *Fort King George*. He has supported us at every turn. Good luck Ken. The clan will miss you!!!

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BATTLE OF CULLODEN SCHEDULED

The annual Battle of Culloden has been scheduled for May 13-15, 2005. It will be held at Fort Meigs, in Perrysburg, Ohio. The fort is the site of "the large *Siege of 1759 F&I*" event.



"Leading the Hanoverian forces will be Mike Krznarich who many of you will remember as the one who led the troop of cavalry back at Caesar's Creek. Ft. Meigs is cavalry friendly and we will see a return of that element there. Plus you will also remember our last time in Ohio we saw our largest red coat force in many years. Mike has been actively recruiting already and most of the units who were out the last time we were there have already said they would be back."

The location and support will lead to an excellent event so I hope you will mark your calendar and be able to attend. A more formal announcement will come out after a few details are finalized but I wanted you to have this information as soon as possible.

AFTER ACTION REPORT

FOLK TALES OF THE RAILS **Submitted by Neil Fitzgibbons**

Cloudy skies greeted the arriving participants to Kennesaw's *Southern Museum of Civil War and Railroad History*, sponsors of *Folk Tales of the Rails*, which is becoming a "2nd Saturday in October" Kennesaw tradition.

This event, which revolves around story telling, provides an excellent opportunity for family entertainment. For the children there are bouncy rides and a huge sand pile where the younguns can dig for gold and candy. A hayride brings the adventurous through the midst of a U.S. Civil War skirmish, infantry, cavalry and artillery. Living

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historians/Reenactors encompass the breadth of Georgia history. Other storytellers spin yarns with stories about railroads, ghosts, American Indians, hobos, pirates, cowboys and others. Free admission to the Folk Tales and reduced Museum admission (free for performers) were an added attraction. "Wildman" Dent Myers' Civil War Surplus had a few visits from the Clan.



Clan An Cu was represented at the event by Ron Brimer, James Heldreth, Neil Fitzgibbons, and Skin Neal (not pictured).

For our first appearance (thank Engineer **Bob Ferris** of "The Southern Museum" for the recommendation) Clan An Cu had a good attendance and varied presentation. On hand from the Clan were **Ron Brimer, Neil Fitzgibbons, James Heldreth and Skin Neal**. Rounding out our ranks were **Nan Gorden** from Brunswick as healer/herbalist/camp wench (and a spellbinding teller of children's' stories) and **Emily Alexander** of Kennesaw, camp wench/pirate **violinist** who played solo Celtic tunes and accompanied Neil in a musical prologue to the tale of "The Smokey Hut."

Scott Hodges was in fine form as **Governor General James Oglethorpe** ("in the can"). We worked together at the same fire pit in a tag-team approach. Scott gave us thanks for a fine performance, which made the whole day easier for him (he didn't HAVE to talk continuously, all day long). General Oglethorpe would start his "Bloody Summer of 1742" and then segue into Emily, Neil and Skin with some old Scottish songs, then a Scottish Tale. Nan would take over with stories for the kids. Ron and James gave demonstrations

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of “how to wear the kilt.” In between and during, James, Skin and Ron gave weapons demonstrations and explained the accoutrements. (You should see Ron’s hand made firearms). We did some simple drills and fired when we wished.

We had a fine camp set up, the best at the affair, I reckon. Nan had her tent with herbal remedies and furniture. Skin made the difference in a good presentation by setting up 4 tents (and Regimental colors) and James had his fly readied. We had enough irons and pots to feed the whole Highland Independent Company. Pork roast and potatoes cooked in Dutch ovens were a treat near closing time.

Laurel Fleming (Kennesaw Parks and Recreation) and **Harper Harris** (Southern Museum) organized and produced the event and gave us positive feedback during the exposition. Many hundreds attended. I recommend that we make a similar effort if invited again. It gives us the opportunity to show off in a different part of the state and do a few different things. As the “**Southern Museum**” is a **Smithsonian associate**, we can boast of yet another honorable connection.

I want to thank all of you who contributed to this fine performance in my hometown, Kennesaw “It’s the Law” Georgia.

PHOTO GALLERY



Scott Hodges (Gen. Oglethorpe), Skin Neal and Neil Fitzgibbons host visitors to their camp.

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James fires his musket to musical accompaniment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

School tours and Veterans ceremony. November 11, 2004. Fort King George, Darien, Georgia. 9:30 am until. Tours usually finished by 1-2.

School tours. November 12, 2004. Fort King George, Darien, Georgia. 9:00 am until.

Drums on the Altamaha. November 13, 2004. Fort King George, Darien, Georgia. Hourly cannon firings, drills and demos.

Frederica Festival. February 12, 2005. Fort Frederica, St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Scottish Heritage Days. March 19, 2005. Fort King George, Darien, Georgia.

Coastal Heritage Week. March 29 thru April 2, 2005. Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Brunswick, Georgia.

Culloden Highland Games. ? Culloden, Georgia.

Battle of Culloden. May 13-15, 2005. Fort Meigs, Perrysberg, Ohio.

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Savannah Highland Games. May 14, 2005. Richmond Hill, Georgia.

Blairsville Highland Games. June 11-12, 2004. Blairsville, Georgia.