Palm Beach Pipes and Drums



1980-2000

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A brief history of the activities of the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums based on the records and recollections of its members

Special thanks to Ray and Jeanne Cordovez, Bill Paul, Jim Roach and Vince Sibel who shared news clippings, photos and memorabilia of the band's activities over the past twenty years and to all those members who shared recollections of people and events. This booklet is not intended to be a record of facts, but rather a record of the band as it exists in the memories of its members. Comraderie, of course, is not an "event" yet it is an important component of the band's history. If one could photograph comraderie, it would appear on all these pages.

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In the beginning

In the 1970's there was only one pipe band in all of southern Florida. It was the Miami Scottish Bagpipe Band. Ray Cordovez was a member. When he moved north to West Palm Beach, the commute to Miami for regular band practice was too far to drive each week. So, in 1979 Ray, Harold Jones, and some fellows from Juno got together and formed what is now the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums.

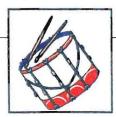


Founder Ray Cordovez on right, and his son Rich

John McGrath served as the first Pipe Major and Ray took on the responsibility of Drum Sergeant, a position he's held ever since. A priest from Bethesda-by-the-Sea church in Palm Beach, John Macort, joined the band. With Father Macort's connections, the band was invited to play at the Bethesda-by-the-Sea Boar's Head Festival on January 6, 1980. It was the band's first big gig. What a classy beginning!

The band was popular from the start, and the founders knew they had a good thing going. Incorporation was in order. They based their constitution and by-laws on the Miami band's, including provisions for an initiation fee, annual dues and fines. These provisions eventually were dropped. The mission of the band, however, has remained unchanged.

The Palm Beach Pipes and Drums has been formed as an organization dedicated to the playing of bagpipe music and to perpetuate the continuance of Scottish heritage and culture. Its members are composed of those individuals who seek to form a fellowship that shares this common interest and to become more proficient in the playing of Scottish pipes and drums.



They've been called many things

Geography determined the name of the band, Palm Beach Pipes and Drums. But in the early years, the band sometimes was known by its association with area organizations.

In the early '80's, the band occasionally played for the Palm Beach Sheriff's Department. A member of the band worked for the department and had made the arrangements. It wasn't a bad deal. The department provided the band with shirts and even badges. It was an arresting image!

Glenlivet also got into the act in the early '80's when the band began performing at the Palm Beach Polo Grounds. This meant another identity. When the band played at the Polo Club, the press often referred to the band as *Glenlivet Palm Beach Pipe* and *Drum Corps* (see the old newspaper clipping below).

Although the band was associated with other groups, it always maintained its formal independence. After the mid-80's the band was truly on its own and was known solely as the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums. It had established itself as a popular, well-known band. Today the band performs in over 40 gigs a year.



POOT ROOT ROOT for fine time fram The Clenton Palm Beach Pipe and Daim Total appear, was on hand to entertion of the Sunday's pale have at Wellington's form train. Clenton's delignors well-approximately stating a distinct over Pages 100 - 6

THE Gigs: Boar's HEAD TO BOCA POPS

The Boar's Head Festival is an annual celebration held at Bethesda-by-the-Sea Church in Palm Beach. It was the first major band gig in 1980. At that time, the band had to borrow a few pipers from other groups in order to complete its lineup. The Mueller family (Mueller's pasta products) was the band's benefactor and paid the fee for the band's participation in the festival.

The band was an immediate hit. In 1981 they were invited back and ever since have been part of the festival at Bethesda-by-the-Sea.





Boar's Head Festival, 1981

The next year, 1981, was a busy one for the band. Gigs included:

- the Gateway Art Gallery
- Thistle Dhu Restaurant (the band paid \$45 for haggis)
- Ron Gibson's wedding
- Pine Tree Country club
- Polo Grounds
- Mardi Gras Festival
- Memorial Day Parade
- American Legion Parade
- Rugby at Palm Beach Jr. College
- Lake Park Christmas Parade
- Chamber of Commerce Dinner
- Lake Worth Christmas Parade



Lake Park Christmas Parade, 1981.



Hollywood Parade, 1981

Soon after that early period, the band added the Oktoberfest, an appearance at the Orange Bowl Parade and a variety of events at the Breakers.

The band was popular with the crowds when it performed. As a result, the band was asked back again and again to the same events. Twenty years after the band was founded, it still performs at Boars Head, the Lake Worth Christmas Parade, Tequesta Mall, and Oakbrook Square, to name just a few.

In 1982, new gigs were added to the schedule, including the Scottish Festival at the Presbyterian Church in Fort Pierce, the Miami Lakes Parade, March of Dimes Walk-a-thon, the Shamrock Run, and an event at the Palm Beach Dog Track.

A year later, the band continued to add to its performance schedule, including gigs at St. Andrews School and the Scottish Festival and Games in Miami. That year, in fact, was a very busy one. The band performed at 33 public and private events.

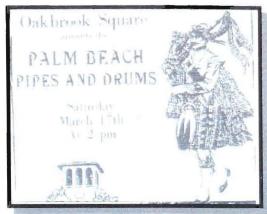


The Oktoberfest: the band is a real crowd pleaser





At the left, pipers delight the crowd at Harbor Bay Plaza in Stuart, 1999. The band also plays at the Plaza's sister mall, Oakbrook Square, where they have been performing regularly for a number of years.



1987: Ad for the Oakbrook Square performance - many more have followed and the band always draws a big audience

The band donates its services to a number of charitable organizations in the community, including the Shriner's

fundraising event each fall and the annual March of Dimes Walkathon. Over the years, the band has played at nursing homes, for veterans programs, POW-MIA services and memorials honoring firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty. Individual band members contribute their services to many school programs throughout the area, police memorials, and other community activities.



The 1982 March of Dimes Walkathon. The band continues to donate its services annually to this fund-raiser.



1996, the band performed at the pow-mia candlelight service.

Command performances

There's something special about a command performance whether it is playing at the Polo Grounds before Princess Di, at the court of the King and Oueen of the Renaissance Fair, or under the command of Crafton Beck, conductor of the Boca Pops.



Pops are partying for St. Patrick's Day

The Born Pops are throwing a real St. Patrick's Dny party this week, with the ninth set of concerts in their 10-part subscription series. The final performance tonight at the FAV Center Auditorium is really a Celtic night, a celebration of the Scotch and Irist truditions, Meestro Crafton Bock visited oriently with Editor-in-Chief Ronald C. Smith this week to talk about a program that has been two were Chief Koraki C. Smith this week to talk about a program that has been two years in the making. In that time, Beck and the orchestra were able to obtain broad new arrangements, in addition to music that has been written for the orchestra. As featigned gones orders, the archestra will octor the Brist half and the guest order. "Cherish the Lodies." will perform the occound. This group is one of the beet known fields bouds in the country.

Owhat went into creating this program?

A This program is something
A this I've wanted to do
since I started conducting Pops
concerts a decade ago and in
the nearly five years I've been here. It's just a wunderful idea. because the Scotch and Irish traditions, which are distinctly different in their sounds, have great musical traditions, very minus tures, distinctive rhythms and, of course, the tradition of the bigpipes and dinering lead themselves to a very colorid, evening, After exploring the great musical traditions of the Soutch and Irish, we discovered that there really was not auxiliag written for Symphony Orcheaus. For example, the great in islo from Riverdance and Lord of the Dunce that have different in their sounds, have and Lord of the Dance that have and Lord of the Dance that have taken the country by storm is not aveilable for Symphony Orchestra. Similarly, we wanted to add bagpipes to the program, but there is no music written for happipes and orthestra, in both those instances, we had to do some work on our own end and create that repertoire, which we have done

buve done. in addition to "Cherish the Ladies," a group of six women playing all the traditional Irish playing all the traditional Irish instruments, we do have the Palm Beach Pines and Drums and Karl Drake and the Rhythm and Red Dancers, an Irish Step Dancing group We are presenting everything we wanted to for the autogram.

be everyand we winted to for the program. Near the beginning of the pro-gram, the beginpes will curprise overyone by marching through the hall and joining the orches-tra for a couple of aumbers. We'll also feature some Ir'sn

We'll also feature some Ir's a single and drumming and some music from Brigation and other standards the audience will recognise. We will end the first half with the Irish admosrs perforating to music from bord of the Dance The critics second half is "Cherish the Ladles."

Ownat is the orchestra's higgest challenge this week?

ner Of course, we'll be asking our reeds, flutes, oboes and bossoors to play in that style as well. There's much didding and well be trying to get our orchestra to loosen up and play in that style.

The other great challenge to the orchestra will be to accompany the bagglipes. The Palm Beach Pipe and Drume have never performed with one orchestra and it with be a new challenge for them and us to make it work. It will also be a unique challenge for the step dancers to perform with a 70-place unchestra.

O'As a concertgoer, what should I watch for"

Aftere is a large collaborative effort.

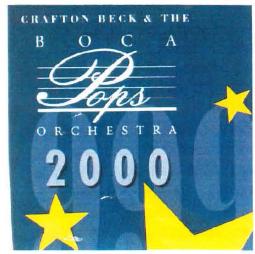
And a lot of forces involved. We've got 'Cherish the Ladles,' a group of six women, in addition to six or seven frish stop dancers in addition to 15-20 piece

Paim Beach Pipes and Drums group.

We've got a lot of different people performing with the orchestra in the first half. it's a real diverse group and will be excit-ing for the aedience to see it all come together.

Owny did you invite Cherish the Ladies?

A Learnest of this group from Keilla Allockhort, the great conductor of the Boeton Pops Orothestra. They are actually on an abun with the Boeton Pops. "Cherist the Ladies" is one of the miss' exciting groups that I know of performing in the country. They are young and midge and a reat Polk Dancing and Singing Irish band, I look forward to introducing them to the orithestern and to one midleage. the probestra and to our midlener It's going to be one of the most exciting nights of the season



THE BEST GIG: THE BOCA POPS

Most members probably consider their own first gig with the band as their most memorable. Yet all would agree that the best band gig ever was with the Boca Pops in 2000. It was billed as a Celtic Evening. The band shared the stage with the Boca Pops, Cherish the Ladies, and an Irish dance company. The band had arrived! The applause was thunderous and the reviews terrific. Bill Paul, pipe major, saw to it that the band was well prepared, in tune(!), and ready for the stage. The entered the auditorium playing Scotland the Brave, followed by im Richardson, solo, playing Highland Cathedral, joined in by the full band, and then Gary Owen. These were three evenings to be remembered for a long, long time. Crafton Beck, Boca Pops conductor, gave the band the best review of all - he said that the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums "stole the show."

BOATS, HORSE RACES, GOLF, SOCCER, NEW HOMES

You are cordially invited to attend the Christening Party of the sailing vessel

ISLAND IN THE SUN
Saturday, June 3, 1995, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
on the North dock
at the
SAILFISH MARINA



When people think of Scottish music, they often associate the bagpipe with music played at funerals, weddings or in St. Patrick's Day parades. The backbone of most bands includes such events, but most bands, including the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums, find they are on call for a wide variety of parties and public events.

The band has played for some pretty unusual activities. Boat christenings and bagpipes? Why not. Current band president, Jon Dipert, invited the band to play at the christening of his sailing vessel, for example. On a somewhat bigger scale, the band performed dockside by the HMS Southhampton, a guided missile destroyer. Guess that confirms that pipes and drums are really regimental instruments. Thankfully, the military might of the world's navies does not depend on bagpipes, even though the destroyer's crewmen were obviously inspired by the music of the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums.

HMS Southhampton, quided missile destroyer, below - A little bigger vessel than the Dipert's.





How about horse races or the Miami Dolphins? It's

doubtful the bagpipes can improve a handicap or a team's performance, but it can certainly improve the spirit of an audience.



Golf and soccer are imported. Nothing is more appropriate for these sports than being accompanied by the bagpipe. At the right, is Bill Paul stepping off with pipers at the county Soccer tournament in 1996. And when it comes to opening a new golf course, such as "The Donald's" (Trump, that is) in Palm Beach, a pipe band is just the thing. The band welcomed Donald and his guests at the classy Trump International Golf Club, Jan. 26, 2000.





Along with golf courses there are many golf communities in Palm Beach County. What better way to welcome a new homeowner into one of these communities than with a pipe band!

1989, Pipers welcome new homeowners at Aberdeen Golf Club

THE IRISH CONNECTION



Being a Scottish pipe band means lots of invitations to participate in Irish festivities (go figure), especially St. Patrick's Day Parades. It's not so bad - the band gets to play "When Irish Eyes are Smiling." Toward the end of St. Patty's Day, the band members - those with the stamina left to make one more parade and drink one more shot - are feeling pretty good. By that time, Scottish....Irish - what's the difference.

Dennie Nation, 1984 St. Patrick's Day Parade

There are many ethnic festivals in Palm Beach County and the band always enjoys playing at these events. They've become such regulars that the event organizers sometimes forget to notify the band that they will be performing. The organizers just put out the publicity and assume the band will be there, as usual. It's a good thing the pipe major reads the local Irish paper, otherwise the band would never know they had been "booked" for the annual Irish Fest.



Irish Fest by the Sea, 1997

IT CAN RAIN ON YOUR DARAGE

Kaleidescope is a popular ethnic fair held each year in downtown West Palm Beach near Clematis Street. In 1997 the press coverage of the event featured a photo of the band. The caption read, "Heavy rains forced city officials to cancel the festival at 12:30, leaving a diehard group of seven kilted festival goers watching the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums." The show must go on! Truth is, the band has performed with even smaller audiences on occasion, so seven doesn't seem so bad. (Besides, they'll never admit that those seven die-hard fans were the spouses of the members.)

THE SCOTTISH GAMES

Like other southern Florida bands, PBPD participates in the annual Scottish Games. The band has placed first several times in marching competition. In 1997 and 1998 it won the Laird MacKenzie Memorial Pipe Band competition trophy for "marching and appearance, proper wearing of Highland dress, military bearing, and precision formations."

A mighty proud group admiring its trophies!



Being judged at the Games held in Orlando. The band, just starting out, didn't win that year but that didn't slow down their enthusiasm.

Miami Games, 1983. The band, still in its infancy, really looked sharp.

Pictured to the right are the members of the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums performing at the 1992 Games in

A year later, the games in Miami looked a little different. The landscape had

Miami.

changed , but the music sounded the same. Below the band is pictured performing at the 1993 Games - post Hurricane Andrew! If the Scots could survive the "Clearances" centuries ago, surely they could come back after the ravages of a major hurricane and continue to delight the crowd.

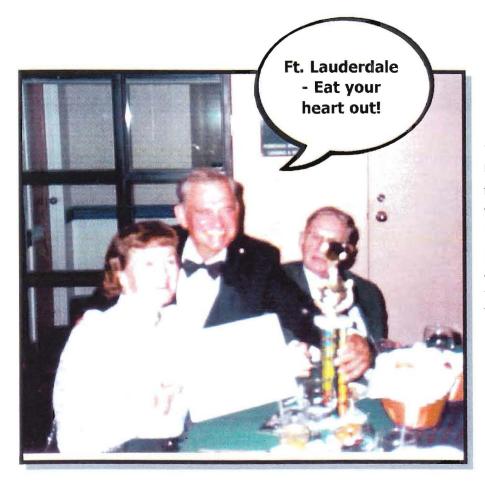




Awards

1986	1st Place - Grade 5 - Miami Games
1987	3rd Place - Grade 4 - Miami Games
1992	1st Place - Ft. Lauderdale - St. Patrick's Day Parade
1995	2nd Place - Marching Band - Hialiah Games
1996	3rd Place - Marching Band - Hialiah Games
1997	1st Place - Marching Band - Plantation Games
1998	1st Place - Marching Band - Plantation Games
1999	1st Place - Marching Band - Plantation Games

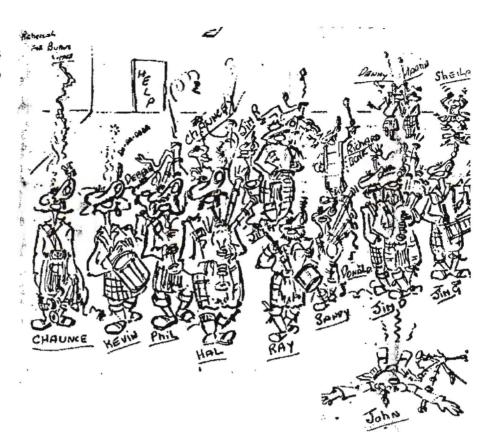




1995 - Bill Paul and Marge Decker gleefully show off the certificate and trophy the band won at the Ft. Lauderdale St. Patty's Day parade. Palm Beach Pipes and Drums was honored as the "Best Band of the Day!" Take that Ft. Lauderdale!

THE DRESS Code

In the early days, the band didn't look anywhere near as debonair as the characters to the right. The dress code could only have been described as "anything goes." The sole requirement was that whatever was worn should look Scottish. So, there were several different tartans -- very colorful -and peasant shirts mixed right in with jackets and ties. Hats? There were some (although some of the guys made up for it in hair!). The band was mix and match and proud of it. And they really did look good!



THE MEdieval Look

Realizing the band didn't have the resources for kilts and plaids at that time, they decided to spiff things up with a few unusual accourrements with the emphasis on unusual. They felt a medieval



look would have appeal. So some of the guys got together in Ray Cordovez' garage one afternoon and constructed shields or targes out of plywood, upholstery tacks and decorative plumbing accessories. To make the targe as historically correct as possible (which was already quite a stretch!), they added a six-inch spike that protruded from the center of the shield.



The 1981 Orlando Highland Games...the fearsome Palm Beach Pipes and Drums are ready for battle!

These contraptions were worn strapped to the pipers' backs. The band certainly did look unique. The pipers no doubt had to keep their distance from one another when marching lest their bags be punctured by the spike protruding from the shield of the piper in front of them. Needless to say, the medieval look was not a permanent one for the band.

THE TONGA TORCH AND BILLIARD CUE

The targes may have been temporary, but a temporary mace was not good enough for the band. Once again, the members' creativity found expression in Ray's garage where some of the guys made a drum major's mace by attaching a Tonga torch to the top of a billiard cue. From a distance, who would ever know ... Honest to God, that mace is still used today!



Ray Cordovez -- "deputized."

MATCHING SHIRTS

In the early '80's, the Palm Beach Sheriff's Department engaged the band and provided dark green wool shirts, patches and stripes even deputies' badges. A dress code was emerging.

Things really improved when Margaret Stuart fashioned peasant shirts for the band and made velvet bag covers for the



Drum major Martin Mcglammory

pipers. Khaki shirts were added to the ensemble and then white jackets. Finally, the band in full military regalia - a striking presence, indeed - was to be seen in parades, on polo grounds, and at private parties throughout Palm Beach County.





Red MacPherson

If this were a country and western band, one might think Red MacPherson was the name of the lead singer. But "Red" means something else to the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums. Not long after the band was formed and playing regularly for public and private events, the members decided to invest in

kilts. One evening while at practice, the members reviewed about 50 tartan swatches. They unanimously selected <u>Modern MacPherson</u>. A piper, a likable chap named Chauncey Wallace, thought the <u>Red MacPherson</u> was nearly identical to his own tartan...and so <u>Red MacPherson</u> it was. The band has proudly worn that tartan ever since.



PALM BEACH PIDES AND DRUMS 1989



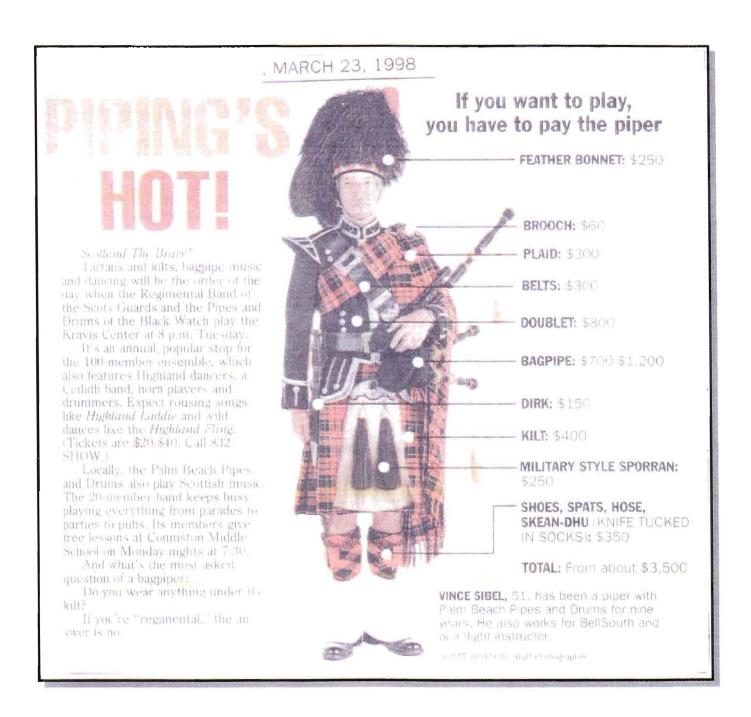
1996 BOAR'S HEAD FESTIVAL, BETHESDA-by-THE-SEA



Although the band wears a variety of uniforms, it was decided early on that diapers would not be allowed - unless a kilt was worn! Gives new meaning to "going regimental" doesn't it? Maybe the band could save money on uniforms if it would loosen up a bit and try something more suitable for hot weather. This little guy looks pretty cool.

What Does it Cost to Outfit a Piper?

As the newspaper clipping below indicates, the cost of outfitting a piper is a lot (but worth it!).



What a hunk. Need we say more?

Members Over the Years

(* = current members)

Anderson, Malcolm Andrea, Bill Andrea, Mavae *Balick, Stan *Batarla, Bill *Beebe, Robert Birch, Len Brammer, Judy Brennan, Phil Burkett, Bill Campbell, Stan Carlin, Bill Clark, David Coffey, Bob Collins, Sally *Coonerty, Mike Corbin, Bob *Cordovez, Ray Cordovez, Rich Corson, Marty *Craig, Bob Cramsie, Gerry *Crowley, Pat Cummins, Kevin Daniels, Jim Decker, Marjorie Davison, Sandy *Dipert, Jon Dolan, Brian Fairman, Bernie Gibb, Jack Gibson, Jim Gibson, Rob Gillies, Duncan Gillies, Willene Glancey, Bob Graves, Bruce Halliday, Doc Hastings, Dick Hay, Fred *Hitchens, Phil *Horine, Darlene *Horine, Don Jones, Harold Kline, Kendall Lemongello, Dawn

Lynch, Allen MacMillan, Debbie Macort, John Mass, Chris Mathews, Eric Steven McGlamery, Martin McGrath, John McNab, Dugie McGuire, Pat McVeigh, Jim Metcalf, Bob *Miller, Brian Mossman, lan Muller, Arthur Murray, Kevin Nation, Dennie Palmer, Leslie *Paul, Bill *Rawlings, Harry *Richardson, Jim *Roach, Jim Roach, Sheila Robles, Hector *Roos, Kate Scott, Chuck *Shannon, George Shields, Phil *Sibel, Vince Scott, Chuck *Shannon, George Shields, Phil *Sibel, Vince Simon-Bower, Orval *Spears, Bill Spiers, Allen *Stevenson, Bill Still, Bob *Stuart, Duane Taylor, Forest Urguhart, Bob Wallace, Chauncey Wallace, Chauncey Jr. Welsch, Raymond Welsh, Donald *Wilson, Robert

Winger, Jill



Current Pipe Major Bill Paul

Pipe Majors

John McGrath Harold Jones Jerry Cramsie *Bill Paul

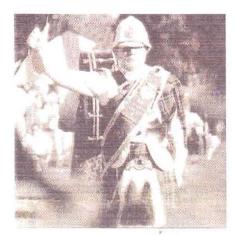
Drum Majors

Martin McGlamery Chauncey Wallace Jr. Bernie Fairman Doc Halliday *Bob Beebe



Current Drum Major Robert Beebe

Band Leadership



Doc Halliday, the biggest ham of all, at the 1995 Scottish Games

Although every band member contributes equally to the good of the band, the Pipe Major and Drum Major are always the most vivid and remembered characters in the public's mind. They are "in charge" literally and figuratively. No one would ever accuse them of not "hamming it up to the hilt" to get a little attention from the crowd. Especially the drum major to

from the crowd. Especially the drum major to the left.

Doc Halliday probably brought the applause meter to a 10 more than any other Drum Major in southern Florida. He relished his ro

Major in southern Florida. He relished his role and played it with gusto. In 1993 and '94 he was named Drum Major of the Day at the Scottish Games, leading the massed bagpipe

bands of south Florida.

Leadership means more than showmanship. The pipe major sees that proper instruction is provided, sets the band repertoire, and has the challenging task of creating a solid team out of twenty or more individual egos (and big ones at that!). Our hats - glengarries and balmorals- are off to the pipe major!



1996. Vince Sibel presents Bill Paul, above, with a plaque from the band honoring his leadership. Paul has served the band for ten years, the longest tenure of any PBPD pipe major.



Drum Major, Bernie Fairman



John McGrath, first Pipe Major

Till DEATH DO US PART

Considering the fact that the core of today's band has been afffiliated with Palm Beach Pipes and Drums for nearly 20 years, you might think "till death do us part" is the only way anyone can leave the band. But the phrase really does refer to the familiar wedding vow.



Ron Gibson's wedding, 1981



The band has played at many weddings in the area, but the best have been those of band members.
Ron Gibson,



Sally Collins Wedding toMario Saracho, 1995

piper, had the band perform at his 1981 wedding as did Chauncey Wallace that same year. Sally Collins included the

band in her wedding in 1995. In 2000, piper Don Horine and drummer Darlene Campbell tied the

knot. Pipe Major Bill Paul even got to give the bride away. To add to the fun, Don got out his pipes and Darlene her drum to join the band for a little jammin' after the ceremony.





REMEMBER WHEN...



Two mice instead of the band got top billing for Princess Di's appearance at the Polo Grounds

Princess Di was making a scheduled stop at the Polo Grounds for the Princess of Wales Trophy Polo Tournament in Wellington. It was November 1985 and the band was supposed to play when the princess arrived. Just as she stepped out of the car, however, the band members misunderstood orders and marched off in the opposite direction -- away from the princess! Not since the Boston Tea Party have the yanks snubbed royalty with such aplomb. Royal humor seems

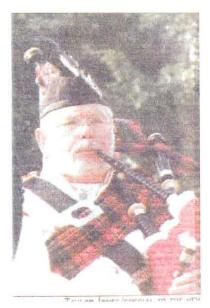
to have improved over the centuries, however, and the band

Mickey and Minnie Mouse were on the polo field when Diana arrived, along with Brownie scouts, more bagpipe players and the Glades Central marching band.

suffered no repercussions from Di. It emerged from the snafu with nothing more serious than being upstaged in the press by a rodent. In fact, the band continued its appearances at the Polo Grounds for several more years. (Jim Roach was in Washington DC on business the next day and picked up a copy of the Washington Post. There he saw a story about the Princess and an interview with PBPD band member, Jim McVeigh - much more coverage than the band got in its own backyard!)

Duane Stuart's pipes exploded?

It was the Deerfield Beach Parade - inarguably the longest parade in history - and the band was doing its best to not pass out along the way. Three spouses of the members positioned themselves at the foot of the bridge so they could catch the band in all its splendor cresting at the top of the bridge and marching down to the waiting crowd. Everyone got more than they were expecting when Stuart's pipes literally blew apart as he approached the waiting spectators. Talk about hot air!



The guys in that wedding wore taffeta kilts?

Sometimes it's hard to keep a straight face, but the band always manages to come through. When member Rob Gibson married, he invited the band to play for the processional. Gibson was so excited about his membership in the band that he wanted the men in his wedding party to dress in Scottish attire. He rented kilts for them. It was a last minute decision, so when the kilts arrived and they found they were made of silk taffeta, they had to make do with what they had. It was too late to exchange them for something a little more "manly" - like wool! The wedding party donned the "skirts" and followed the band up the aisle to the altar. A guest commented that those taffeta "kilts" rustled more than the bride's gown. The band, as usual, maintained its professional demeanor and never cracked a smile -- until it was all over.

The band was threatened with an injunction?

Harold Jones was pipe major and had arranged a free gig for the band at a housing complex. When the band arrived at 8 a.m., Jones dismissed them and told them the band was not going to play. No way! It seems that plans had changed and the band was now expected to play at 11 a.m., noon, and again at 3 p.m. for a building dedication. When Jim Roach got back in his car, an irate resident approached and insisted the band could not leave the complex. He then threatened to get an injunction against the band preventing its departure. Roach spoke right up, to which the irate resident sarcastically questioned whether Roach was an attorney. Answering in the affirmative, Roach then reminded the fellow that there was "no contract...hence no obligation." So there! Roach got in his car to leave, but even then an easy getaway was not ensured. Some of the residents hung on to his vehicle as he pulled away. Guess they couldn't bear to see such a great band leave. The band, by the way, escaped unharmed.



The drum major landed in the drink?

If he hadn't had so much to drink, it may never have happened ... but one evening after the band had preformed at a posh hotel on Singer Island, the host invited the members and their spouses to gather at the bar by the pool for a drink and something to eat. Not being shy about such invitations, the members dove right in -- or at least one of them did. After accepting the host's largesse Doc Halliday (photo on right) climbed onto the diving board -- the better for everyone to notice him (ahem!). Someone yelled out "Jump in, Doc" -- and so he did. He made quite a splash. He was up until the wee hours of the next morning trying to dry out his kilt and plaid with a hair dryer in preparation for the next band gig. What a way to cure a hangover.

The Pipe Major contracted foot-in-mouth disease?

One night the band played for the League of Catholic Attorneys who were honoring a local judge. They entered the hall to thunderous applause. After playing several tunes, the pipe major stepped up to the microphone to say a few words. He had a thick Scottish brogue, which the audience loved, and proceeded to tell a joke. It concerned the judge (yes, the very one the League was honoring) and the Pope being involved in an adulterous relationship! The audience sat in stunned silence and stared at the pipe major. Ray Cordovez rolled his eyes to the ceiling, no doubt in prayer, and the pipe major quickly called out Scotland the Brave. The band marched off to less than thunderous applause. The League never invited the band back.

THE band got religion

When it came time to order kilts, the band contacted Hugh MacPherson of Highland Outfitters in Edinburgh. He gave the band a good price on the uniforms, but there was a fly in the ointment - an excessively high duty would have to be paid. Jim Roach contacted the Palm Beach Port Authority Director of Customs and explained that the band was non profit and therefore didn't have to pay duty on the purchase. The Customs Director was sympathetic yet nothing in the Federal regulations suggested the band could avoid the tax. Finally, he found the answer in a regulation that stated duty need not be paid on vestments or other garb used in religious services. Since the band played at Bethesda-by-the-Sea's Boar's Head festival, at a few weddings and funerals, and even a memorial service in a Presbyterian church, Roach convinced the customs director that the band did, indeed, deserve the "vestments" duty-free. The kilts arrived a month later with no duty imposed.

THE band rewrote world history

Over the years, the band has played for visiting British royalty. One such occasion was in 1993 at the Breakers. As the band formed up at the entranceway to the grand ballroom for the arrival of Prince Philip and Prince Edward, a reporter from the New York Times approached and asked one of the tenor drummers why they wore leopardskin aprons. She replied that it represented a special honor from Queen Isabella! Thank God Jack Gibb and Doc caught up



Prince Edward - not a descendant of Queen Isabella

with the reporter and corrected him. Who knows - if the original answer had appeared in the New York Times it would have put a different slant on world history!

THE NAKED TRUTH

Now don't get excited. This story isn't what you might think. But speaking of royalty, when the band played for Prince Edward in 1999 at the Ritz Carlton, the press commented that the Prince's fee of \$300,000 was "the most naked example yet of royalty for sale." His huge speaking fee did not go to charity but rather to his own production company. For \$300,000 there are some pipers and drummers who would <u>play</u> naked! The band, by the way, got its usual \$600 for the event and most of that went into the band coffers.

Drums for whiskey - what a deal

There's hardly a piper or drummer alive who doesn't have a fond spot in his heart (or throat) for a sip of Glenlivet now and then. Appreciating the high value a wee dram has, the band offered St. Andrews Pipe Band three bottles of Glenlivet in exchange for three

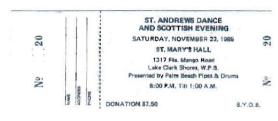


drums. Naturally St. Andrews thought that was a fine offer and the deal was consummated. Palm Beach got the drums and the whiskey was handed over to the pipe major. Unlike the Palm Beach band that always shares its whiskey, it is said the St. Andrews pipe major kept all three bottles for himself. What a deal!

How about that thatched cottage?

For awhile, the band tried hosting dinner dances as a way to have fun and raise money. They were grand affairs. At one of the Robert Burns dinners, a few of the members constructed a replica of a cozy highland cottage, complete with curtains, furniture and even a fireplace! It was so large, it had to be transported to the hotel on a flatbed truck! It was a quite a hit. After the

event, the cottage was stored at a member's home, where the spouse finally threatened to turn it into a guest cottage unless it was dismantled. Other events were a little less elaborate - but none made a profit. The band decided it was easier to earn money by performing than by hosting dinner dances.





Practice-practice

Where do pipers come from?

Many, after first hearing the pipes, have asked this question. People want to know how pipers got started playing such an unusual instrument and how long it took them to learn. For pipe bands, many pipers are home-grown. That is, one generation teaches the next. The same is true of drummers.



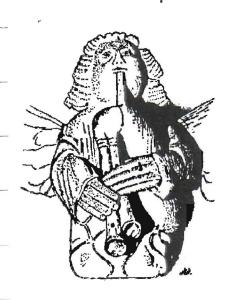
Since its inception, the PBPD has taught piping and drumming to interested students. Most recently, pipers Jim Richardson, Duane Stuart and Vince Sibel and drummers Ray Cordovez and Jim Roach have provided free instruction at Conniston Middle School in West Palm Beach.

How long does it take to learn the pipes? It depends on many factors, of course. But one thing never varies - practice - and lots of it! Duane Stuart once said in a newspaper interview that it takes about 7 years to become a good piper, and Jerry Cramsie



added that one should practice about 8 hours a week on the pipes. (That's nearly 3,000 hours of practice) Pictured here are instructor Jim Richardson, and student Amanda Mauser starting with the chanter and progressing to the pipes.

Where to practice -- that is the question



The piper to the left was banished to the roof of St. Mary's in Shrewsbury, England where he's been droning on since 1460 AD. Finding a suitable place to practice this noisy instrument without bothering neighbors can be challenging. Duane Stuart chose to hide away in his basement while he was getting started on the pipes -- then one day marched outside to the astonishment of his neighbors who had no idea he had been learning the instrument. Others like Don Horine and George Shannon have practiced in much more public places, usually area parks. Phil Hitchins practices on board ship while out to sea. In one case, Kate Roos' neighbors banished her from her condo and sent her off to a nearby bridge across the St. Lucie Rver to practice. This was especially painful for drivers who were trapped when the drawbridge went up and they had to listen to the novice piper.

Time for fun



LET'S All GET TOGETHER...

Band members enjoy playing together. For a number of years, all of the southern Florida pipe bands assembled for an annual picnic. Unfortunately, as the bands become more competitive, the picnics ended.

To the left, an all-band get-together in 1981 the "good old days" when the members were a lot slimmer.

Spouses often attend events with band members, especially gigs like St. Patty's Day parades where partying is as much a part of the celebrating as piping.



Band members manage to have fun together, whether it is an organized picnic, SAS affair, or traveling to out-of-town gigs. Here, the guys share a laugh together as they head for the Orange Bowl.



FAMOUS PEOPLE AND PLACES

The band has played for many well-known personalities and at some pretty posh places over the years. In 1994 for example, the band welcomed theater-goers at the Caldwell in Boca Raton where The Hasty Heart was opening. John Patrick, the Pulitzer-winning author who wrote the classic comedydrama, was in attendance. The Hasty

Heart tells the passionate and comical tale of a young Scottish soldier. The band surprised the

cast, including actor John Bodie (pictured to the right), at the post-performance party, where band members fired up their pipes for an encore.



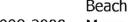
Joe DiMaggio poses with some band members at the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame in October 1996



1994, pipers celebrating the political victory of Mark Foley

THE PAIM BEACH PIPES AND DRUMS HAVE APPEARED WITH, OR PERFORMED FOR, THE FOLLOWING:

1985	Princess Diana and Prince Charles - Wellington Polo Grounds
1986	Prince Phillip and Prince Edward - Breakers Hotel
1987	Blood, Sweat and Tears - Wellington Polo Grounds
1988	Smothers Brothers - Wellington Polo Grounds
1989	Sylvester Stallone - Wellington Polo Grounds
1990	Prince Charles - Wellington Polo Grounds
1990	Orange Bowl Parade - Miami
1991	Prince Philip - Breakers Hotel
1992	Orange Bowl Parade - Miami
1996	Joe Dimaggio - Sherebrooke CC Italian American Sports Hall of Fame
1997	Adam Walsh Foundation - Breakers Hotel
1998	Bishop Anthony O'Connel
	Installation, Palm Beach Cathedral
1998	Rod Stewart - Coral Sky, West Palm
	Peach



1998-2000 Mar a Lago - Palm Beach 1999 Prince Edward - Ritz Carlton,

Manalapan

2000 Grand Opening Trump Golf Course

West Palm Beach

2000 Boca Pops with Crafton Beck and

Cherish the Ladies - Boca Raton





Mar a Lago, 1995
Band members pose on
the grounds for a photo,
while spouses, above,
enjoy the splendor of
Mar a Lago

They couldn't have done it without you!

"Was that a bagpipe or a moose I heard?"

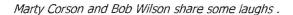


Vince & Geri Sibel, Debbie & Jim Richardson, 1993 Annual Dinner



1994 Annual Dinner, Jim Roach, Wilene and Duncan Gillies

Belonging to a pipe band is demanding. It takes daily practice (doesn't the pipe major wish!), weekly band practice, and several gigs a month during the season. It is not exaggerating to say that band members often feel married to their instruments. It takes a very special spouse to put up with all of this. Spouses happily trudge along to all of the gigs the first year or two, but then gig fatigue sets in and the spouses become more selective. They learn that being a band groupie isn't that much fun - especially after attending Oktoberfest twenty times. Spouses are really good sports and band members know it.



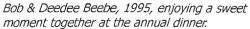


Barbara Paul, Theresa and Doc Halliday, 1997 Annual Dinner

Each year, the band hosts a band to honor the special achievements of some of its members and to show their gratitude to spouses for their generous support.. To the right is Pipe Major Bill Paul presenting Drum Sergeant Ray Cordovez with an award at the annual dinner, 2000. Cordovez, a band founder, was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the band over the years.









Pipe Major Bill Paul and his lovely wife Barbara

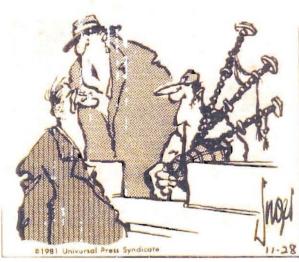


To our spouses -thank you from the bottom of our bagpipes!



THE LAST LAUGH





"Hand over all the cash, or he starts playing!"





band's very own handsome Pat Crowley chosen as the "poster boy" for St. Andrew's School \$14,600,000 capital campaign.

Nobody's laughing - they are just green with envy. To the left is the

To be fair, other handsome guys from the band have also been selected recently to grace covers of the school's magazine - Bob Beebe and Duane Stuart.



Ray Cordovez has always been enthusiastic about building the band, but rustling little cowpokes is going too far.