

# B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



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B. C. Pipers' Newsletter

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February, 1979

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting and election of officers was held February 2nd, 1979, in the Scottish Auditorium. I for one was doubtful of any kind of attendance, due to the foul weather, but the piping fraternity have proved so often, that they are indeed a hardy breed. After an hour postponement there was a very gratifying and almost a full turnout of the regulars.

The election for the board went as follows:

Bill Lamont was elected President by Acclamation, as was Vice-President Bob Murphie.

D. MacMillan	G. Davidson
J. Stewart	J.A. MacDonald
D. Ross	A. Young
J. McKay	R. Young
H. Turnbull	

As one can see there is a good selection of younger and older members elected, the only thing left now is to have all the elected board members attend the meetings.

Following the elections there was a suitable pause for refreshments, then the Piping knockouts got under way. Graham Davidson played first, and again Graham's opponent failed to show up due to a bad bout of the flu.

The next competition was between Jill Laurie vs Jack Lee, with Jack emerging as the winner of that excellent competition.

The last playoff was between Dave Martin vs Donald McMillan, with Donald getting the nod for 1st place. This too was a fairly good competition, although Donald was a bit rusty due to a long lay-off, which showed up in his tuning, and Dave who is pretty much just starting out in Solo was understandably a bit nervous which came out in the piping, but still a very creditable showing. I'm sure we'll hear more from Dave on the boards in the near future.

So Graham Davidson, Jack Lee and Donald McMillan go on to the next rounds.

The evenings piping was far from over with an open Hornpipe still to come. The eventual winner was: Jack Lee, with Hal Senyk picking up second.

All in all it was a very entertaining and full night of piping which was enjoyed by everyone.

\*\*\*\*\*

Competitors for the March 2nd Knockout are: Drew Noot vs Rob Menzies. There will be an open Slow Air & 6/8 March competition following the Knockout, with of course the usual-1st. \$30.00, 2nd. \$20.00, and 3rd. \$10.00. prize money to be won.

The Place: Scottish Auditorium, 12th & Fir, The Time: 8 P.M. General Meeting, with the piping commencing around 8.45 P.M. Competitors and matchups for the April 6th Knockout are: Jack Lee vs Graham Davidson, D. McMillan vs winner of Rob Menzies and Drew Noot, Angus McPherson vs Steve Geddes. This semi-final will produce three finalists for the play-off at the Annual Dinner.

## ANNUAL GATHERING

This years Annual Gathering will have a change of venue. We were unable to get the Simon Fraser University for Saturday 14th April, due to circumstances beyond our control, and after much deliberation it was reluctantly agreed to move to another location.

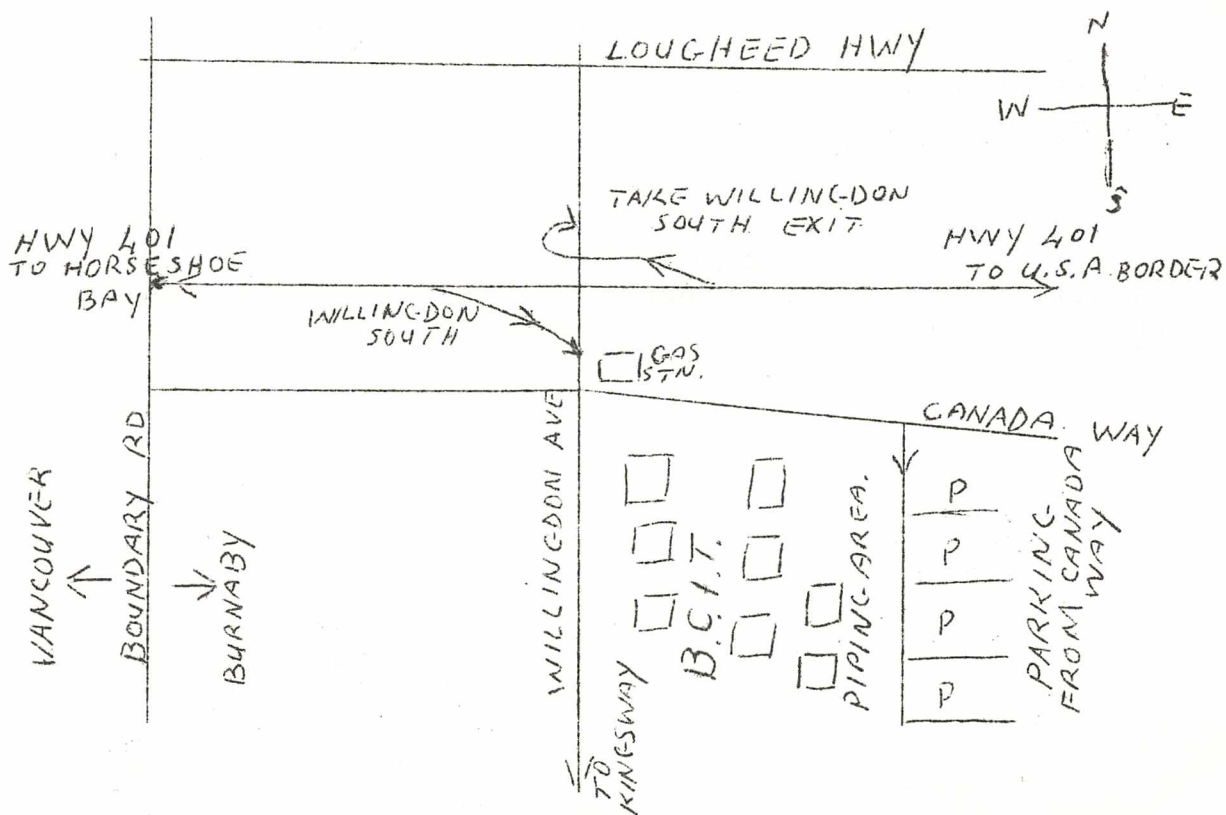
However, after some hard work by board members Bill Lamont and Donald Ross, we are pleased to announce that this years Annual Gathering will be held at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (B.C.I.T. for short), situated in a very central location just off the Freeway at Willingdon & Canada Way in Burnaby. See Accop. Map.

So pipers, drummers and spectators alike, please take note: THE GATHERING IS AT B.C.I.T., BURNABY, 13th & 14th APRIL.

\*\*\*\*\*

This years main Judge, as announced previously will be Duncan Johnstone from Glasgow. Duncan is another of these well known competing Pipers that the association have been so fortunate in obtaining as judges, and anyone who has been following the results of the Major Piping Competitions in Britain these last few years would see the name of Duncan Johnstone prominently to the fore. I'm sure the board of directors made an excellent choice in securing the services of the above mentioned gentleman as judge.

Duncan Johnstone will be playing his recital on the 12th April, 8 p.m. at the Scottish Auditorium, 12th and Fir. Tickets will be on sale soon, contact any of the board members for tickets. I would advise all members and friends to get their tickets early and avoid disappointment, remember the rush we had last year when John Burgess held his recital.





## AMATEUR MONTHLY COMPETITION

Again a very satisfying turnout both from pipers and spectators (who are mostly parents), and some very enjoyable piping was heard. Here are the winners of the various classes.

### CHANTER

1. Malcolm Bokenfhor
2. Fern Miller
3. Robert MacLeod

### NOVICE 2/4 March

1. Sandy Miller
2. Michael Reid
3. Neil Norcross
4. J. McGrath

### JUVENILE 6/8 March

1. Charlene Ogilvie playing-The Highland Brigade at Tel El Kebir.
2. Pat Maharija playing-McNeil of Ugadale.
3. Elizabeth McKinnon playing-P.M."Sam Scott

### JUNIOR HORNPIPE

1. Brenda Lowden
2. Gordon Pollock
3. Brenda Barker

### SENIOR AMATEUR HORNPIPE & JIG

1. Jack Eckersley playing-Pipe Major Donald McLean & Jig-The Banjo Breakdown.
2. Peter Aumonier playing-Doctor Ross & Jig-Hammer on the Anvil.
3. James Stewart playing- John D. Burgess & Jig-Braes of Mellnish.

This Saturday's Amateur Competition was really first class and our judges had a bit of head scratching to do before the final decisions.

Judges for the day were, Angus MacLeod from Saltspring Island, Donald MacMillan, one of our young Professional Pipers from Vancouver, and Dave Martin and Bruce Gandy, two young Professional Pipers from Victoria, who were over for the previous nights Knockout, and graciously consented to judge the following morning. To these judges and their counterparts we must give a hearty vote of thanks for an excellent job well done.

This was the last competition for the year and presentation of Prizes & Medals and attendance pins will be held on March 3rd, 11 a.m. at the Scottish Auditorium upstairs in the dining hall. We are hoping to have a bit of a party, so remember and bring along your Pipes.

### In Memory

It was with much sadness that we received the news of the passing of John MacFadyen, one of piping's finest gentlemen. Many from this association will remember the very fine recital put on by John in the Steelworkers Hall on West Broadway a few years ago. Our condolences go out to Mrs. MacFadyen and family at this sad and trying time.

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### Memories of Eric Thomson

There seemed always to have been an Eric Thomson.

More than sixty years ago, Eric began to visit Hopkins Landing, where the family summer camp later became a permanent home. Throughout his life, he was a man of many parts in his adopted community.

Year after year, he worked to make West Howe Sound a good place for the young to spend their summers.

To some, who met him in fortuitous circumstances, he was the perfect conversationalist, enjoying both the microcosm and the macrocosm of topic after topic.

He was son of James Thomson, last Chief Factor for Canada of the prestigious Hudson's Bay Company. The Bay ran through Eric's life from beginning to end, its saga always dear to his heart.

To a few acquaintances he would reveal the fact that he was Laird of Quoys, the Orkney hereditary holdings to which he returned many times. Proud of his heritage he was without a trace of haughtiness; meek with no hint of humility.

Somewhere, visible to those who needed his services, he was a man of law. With equal care and attention to detail he managed legal affairs for business corporation and itinerant logger.

And, always, he was the Master Piper. He played at the most aristocratic occasions with an ease that comes only to the truly great in this ancient art. And he brought to the remotest Burns Night and to the simplest rural fair, regatta, or dance a dignity and a drama that made of each a memorable event to all who attended.

Now, suddenly, Eric Thomson is no more. He will be missed by many citizens in many ways.

L. R. Peterson

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It was with deep regret that we learned of the passing of Mrs. Topp, a long time member and great supporter of our Association.

Peg had a great love for the bagpipes and was a familiar figure round the Games, and at all the Association functions, both as a spectator and a willing worker until illness prevented her from attending.

She will be sadly missed by all her friends and we extend our deepest sympathy to her family on their great loss.



Neil Angus MacDonald of Inverness has recently compiled a book of tunes, some of which have never been in print. Anyone wishing to purchase a copy of this excellent and limited edition, should contact Mr. James A. MacDonald, 2089 Penny Place, Port Coquitlam, B.C., V3C 4E9, or drop a note to the newsletter.

P.S.

Many association members will recall Neil Angus playing a recital in the Steelworkers Hall, or as Judge at our annual gathering in North Vancouver in 1974. Since his retirement as a Schoolmaster in Inverness, Mr. MacDonald is now much sought after as a judge, for his very in depth knowledge in all aspects of Piping, especially Piobaireachd.

Edit.

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Timely reminder. The yearly association fees are due, so if anyone has omitted to look after this very necessary chore please do so now.

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#### NEWS RELEASE

Portland Highland Games will again be a three day schedule July 13th thru July 15, 1979. The open Piobaireachd competition is set for 7:00 P.M. on Friday July 13 at Reed College Ampitheater. The full day of games will again be held at David Douglas High School on Saturday July 14. Games Secretary is Dixie McKendrick 4242 South Shore Blvd., Lake Oswego, Oregon, U.S.A., 97034.

Prize money has been increased for individual and Band events.

Chester A. MacNeill, Jr.  
Convener, Piping Committee  
503-771-0372

\*\*\*\*\*

#### WANTED

8 Feather Bonnets in good condition only.  
8 Kilts in Hunting Stuart Tartan.

Please contact: Tom Skinner, Band Manager, Kelowna Legion Pipe Band, c/o 7301, Priest Valley Dr., Vernon, B.C.  
Phone: 542-2438.

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To all piping enthusiasts who wish to keep up with the piping scene all over the globe, there are two very entertaining and informative monthly magazines on the market.

One is the Piping Times, which has been in print for a good number of years, and an extremely fine magazine. The address is: The College of Piping, 16-24 Otago Street, Glasgow, Scotland, G12 8JH. Edited by Seamus McNeil, Principal, College of Piping.

The other is The International Piper, a comparative newcomer but nonetheless an excellent magazine. The address is: The International Piper Ltd., Seton Works, Edinburgh Road, Cockenzie, East Lothian EH32 OHQ, Scotland. Edited by Capt. John McLellan.



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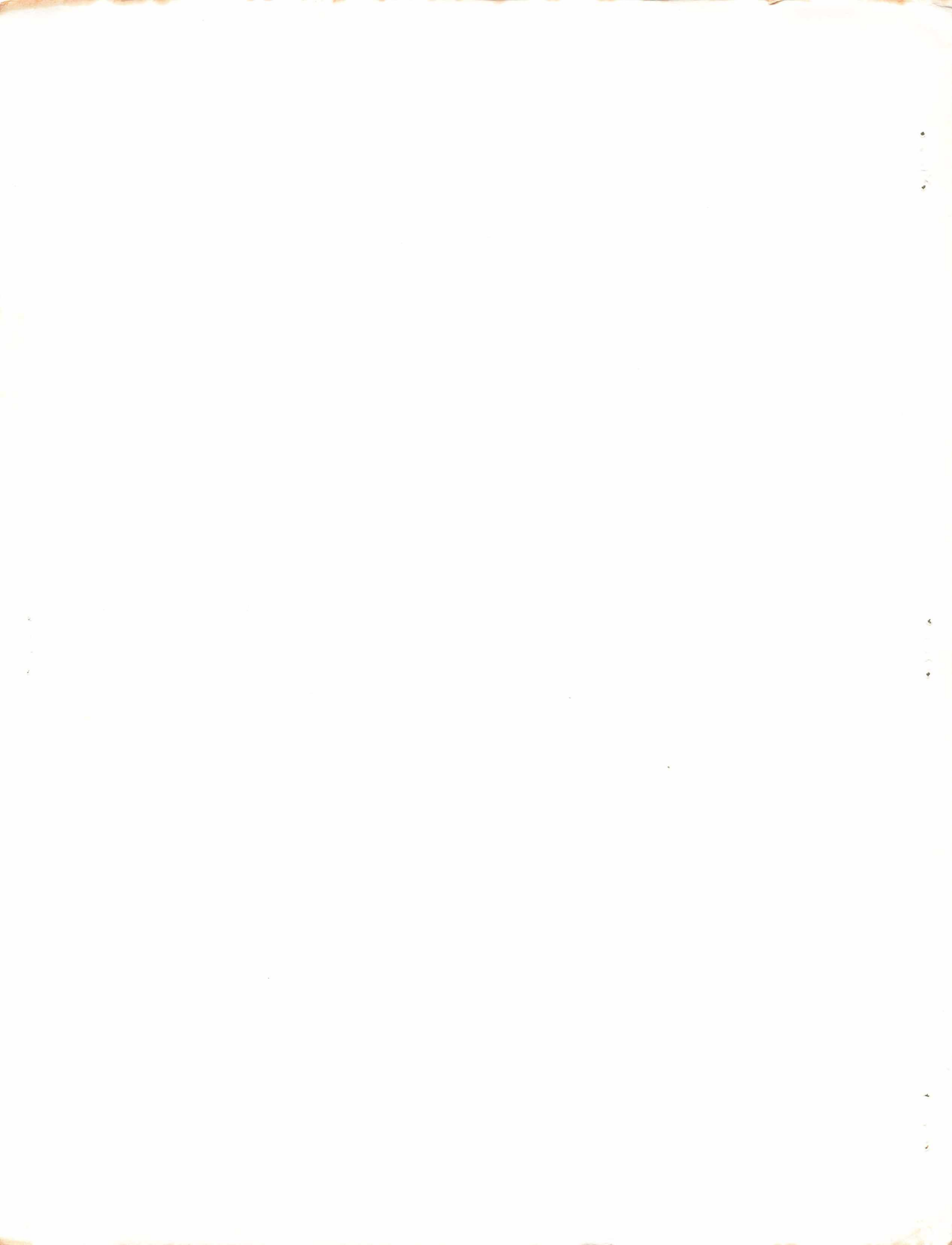
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Results of the Vancouver Ladies Festival held Feb. 24, 1979

NOVICE 2/4 MARCH

1. Sandy Miller
2. Brian Goldie
3. Barry McMonagle

NOVICE SLOW AIR

1. Sandy Miller
2. Jamie McGarth
3. Scott McKay Young

JUVENILE 2/4 MARCH

1. Murdoch McAllister
2. Charlene Ogilvie
3. Rod Bellamy

JUVENILE STR. & REEL

1. Monica Murphy
2. Charlene Ogilvie
3. Colleen Graham

JUNIOR 2/4 MARCH

1. Brenda Barker
2. Gordon Pollock
3. Brenda Lowden

JUNIOR STR. & REEL

1. Gordon Pollock
2. Brenda Lowden
3. Brenda Barker

NOVICE PIPING AGGREGATE WINNER

Sandy Miller

JUVENILE PIPING AGG. WINNER

Charlene Ogilvie

JUNIOR PIPING AGG. WINNER

Gordon Pollock

AMATEUR PIPING AGG. WINNER

Sharon MacKinnon

AMATEUR STR. & REEL

1. Sharon MacKinnon
2. Christine Waddell
3. Moira Waddell

AMATEUR JIG & HORNPIPE

1. Sharon MacKinnon
2. Patrick McNeil
3. Moira Waddell

PROFESSIONAL M.S. & REEL

1. Hal Senyk
2. Drew Noot
3. Rob Menzies

PROFESSIONAL JIG & HORNPIPE

1. Hal Senyk
2. Jill Laurie
3. Graham Davidson

JUNIOR TRIO

1. Penticton

SENIOR TRIO

1. Haney Legion

NOVICE SIDE DRUMMING

1. Alison Lawrence
2. Paul Atkinson

JUNIOR SIDE DRUMMING

1. Duncan Redmond

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Entries to the Annual Gathering, April 13th & 14th please send to: Mr. Donald Ross, 834 Burnaby St., New Westminster, B.C., V3L 4V9, no later than March 31, 1979.



Mr. W. Elder  
Baden Senior School  
CFPO 5056  
Belleville  
Ontario K0K 3R0

