

Annual Report

1999

The High Desert Pipes and Drums World Pipe Band Champions (IVb)- 1999



A 501(c)(3) Public Foundation
providing instruction and performance opportunities for
New Mexico in the art of the
Great Highland Bagpipes and Drums

Programs

Instruction:

Members of the High Desert Pipes and Drums volunteer their time to provide group instruction on chanters and beginning bagpipes(5 classes) and drums (2 classes) every Thursday evening. On Mondays, there is instruction on bagpipes and drums.

School Presentations:

Members of the High Desert Pipes and Drums present demonstrations on the history, construction, and tunes of the Great Highland Bagpipe, along with an explanation of the native costume, and history of Scotland - to schools and civic groups

Seminars:

The High Desert Pipes and Drums hold a minimum of three weekend seminars a year; during which world class pipers and drummers are brought to Albuquerque to present a high level of instruction. In 1999, instruction was received from Terry Lee, Pipe Major of Simon Fraser University Pipe Band (The current Grade I World Pipe Band Champions), Adam Quinn, an open class piper and composer, with drum instruction from Reid Maxwell, Drum Sgt of Simon Fraser University Pipe Band and winner of the drum corps competition at the 1999 World Pipe Band Championships. These seminars help raise the level of instruction and playing ability of the band as a whole.

Performances:

The High Desert Pipes and Drums perform at an assortment of venues - from Winrock Mall, Sandia High School, Highland High School, Monte Vista Elementary, the Menaul School, Civic Plaza, the Albuquerque Founder's Day Parade, the Coronado Club, Sneakerz, O'Niell's, O'Hare's , the Nike Golf Tournament, Albuquerque Press Club, meeting of the Rotary Club, 4-H International Day: a diversity of audiences, both big and small.

Competitions:

In 1999, nineteen members of the High Desert Pipes and Drums, represented the band and New Mexico at various competitions; including the Rio Grande Celtic Festival in Albuquerque, Arizona Highland Games in Mesa, Az, the Tucson Celtic Festival in Tucson, Az, Highlands Ranch in Colorado, and the largest games in the Western United States in Pleasanton, California. The group also traveled to three competitions in Scotland in August of 1999 - taking a 2nd place at Inverkeithing, a 2nd place at the Strathallen Games in Bridge of Allen in our Grade (iv). The High Desert Pipes and Drums **WON** their Grade (IVb) at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, Scotland: proving the effectiveness of the instruction provided by the organization.

High Desert Pipes and Drums Board of Directors 1999

William O Horn	President
Ross Stenhouse	Vice-President
Patricia Sharp	Treasurer
Evan Larsen	Secretary

To learn more about the High Desert Pipes and Drums contact:

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or check the website : www.rt66.com/highdesert

Written enquiries can be sent to:

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History and progress:

The High Desert Pipes and Drums were incorporated in New Mexico in 1994, with the goal of providing quality instruction on the Great Highland Bagpipe and drums; and building a Bagpipe band to help meet the needs of our culturally diverse State. The band has grown from one individual to a core group of six to a performing group of thirty members, and an average of forty-five students. The group has tripled in size since the beginning of 1998. Interest continues to increase as more people are exposed to the music.

Participants in our program include an engineer, a nurse, two Albuquerque Police Officers, two Physicians, a bank executive, a neon tube bender, a lawyer, several teachers, local business people, computer folks, college students, high school students, middle school students, elementary school students, and retirees. Participants range in age from 10 to late 70's. It is an age diverse group, an ethnically diverse group, a financially diverse group - People drawn together by the lure of this ancient instrument-sharing a unique experience.

The High Desert has performed in parades, at Summerfest, the Rio Grande Celtic Festival, dozens of schools and churches, nursing homes, memorial services, the State Fair, the Convention Center, Golf Tournaments, the mall, private functions, public functions, and for a Postcard from New Mexico segment - on a street corner. Our success in competition in Scotland has drawn attention to our Band and to New Mexico. A major accomplishment for such a young group.

As the band continues to grow and thrive, we have added new instruments and uniforms, set up more classes for instruction, and plan for additional seminars and appearances. Every great State needs a great Bagpipe band - and New Mexico has

WORLD CHAMPIONS

