



CLAN MACCALLUM - MALCOLM SOCIETY

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Steven Andrews

Christian G. Malcolm Kehm U.S.M.C. Memorial Piping Scholarship Recipient
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I would like to thank the Noble Clan MacCallum/Malcolm for the opportunity of a lifetime to excel on my bagpipes skills. On my first day at the Academy I played "Scotland the Brave" for Ed Neigh, who had been one of my instructors and a piper whom I looked up to as a kid. I had the pleasure of having Mr. Neigh as my third instructor every day there. Gordon Warburton, our first instructor, gave us exercises to improve our fingering techniques and this helped tremendously. He showed us routine pipe maintenance and how to properly care for our bagpipes and even how to enhance the sound of our pipes. My second class was with Bill Logan, who taught us how to listen to our mistakes and correct them, train our ears and even more techniques. My third class was with Mr. Neigh, who really got down to the nitty-gritty, and even started me on Piobeachd, the ancient music of the Bagpipes. On Monday night Sand Jones held a workshop Maintenance and how to keep our pipes airtight and in top notch shape. Tuesday night was a workshop on reeds and how to tweak them if necessary. We had band practice on Wednesday night to rehearse for Thursday night's opening ceremonies at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. After that we had a fun - filled Ceilidh where I played a few fun tunes with some of my friends from the Citadel Pipe Band and showed off my Drum Major Skills. Thursday night we all got kilted up and went up to the games. Since all my friends were military, we rode in the first bus and we were affectionately known as the "Short Bus Commandos." Friday was our last day of classes as well as graduation.



I can't thank you enough for the fun I had while improving my piping skills. I definitely feel better and more confident about my playing and hope to return again. I met so many people from around the country who share the same love for the music I do. I will remember that week for the rest of my life - - the lessons, the people and the fun times I had.

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