



THE PIPES, DRUMS AND DANCERS OF THE
**BALMORAL
HIGHLANDERS**

**APPEARING AT THE
MERCER MEMORIAL DAY 500
MONDAY, MAY 28**



JAMES MCINTOSH began piping at age 11, and spent 10 years as a piper in the Cameron Highlanders Regiment in Scotland. He received his major piobaireachd instruction from the Queen's Pipers at Balmoral, Robert U. Brown Nicol. James emigrated to the United States in 1982, having won all the prize gold medals in World Class Piping Competitions in Scotland. He has given recitals in Britain, Canada, France, and Australia, as well as many places taught the Pipe Band, as well as Music Degree classes in piping at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh for 12 years; CMU being the only university in the world to have such a program with bagpipe as the major instrument. He served two terms as President of the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association. **In 1994, he was awarded the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire medal from Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace, for his services to bagpipe music.** In 2002, he received the Balvenie Medal at Blair Atholl Castle in Scotland, for services to piping. In 2001, he began a bagpipe band in Forest Hills, focusing on teenage students. It is called the Balmoral Highlanders Pipe Band, and in its inaugural season was very active in community parades, performances, and competitions.

and Robert B. coveted top-taught and in the U.S. He

MARK HUMPHREY was born in London, England in 1953. In 1956, his parents moved to Ontario, Canada. Mark joined his first pipe band at the age of 12, and played his first contest at the age of 13. When he reached the ripe old age of 16, he joined the local Canadian Militia Pipe Band. (He was now living in Manitoba.) Here, he successfully completed and received the rank of Drum Major First Class from the Canadian Reserves. Over the years, Mark has studied under some of the great players and teachers in the pipe band idiom. They include Hugh Cameron, Burt Barr, Jim Kilpatrick, Drew Duthart, and the late, great Alex Duthart. He played and assumed lead stick duties for a number of bands throughout the years, including the Grade II, Newmarket Band from Ontario, and the Grade II, St. Andrew's Society band from London, Ontario. Mark, also, played under Drew Duthart in the Metro Toronto Police Pipe Band. During this time, these bands captured a total of three North American Pipe Band Championships, along with three Ontario Champion Supreme awards. His solo career took him to the open level, and although now retired, Mark gets great pleasure in teaching other up and coming players and guiding them in their solo careers. **For ten years, Mark was the lead stick for the North Coast Pipe Band from Cleveland, Ohio. While lead stick, the band managed to capture a North American Championship, and, in 1998, the Grade III Ontario Championship. In 1997, the North Coast Pipe Band placed fourth at the World Championships in Scotland.** The drum corps placed fourth, also. In 1999, the band was upgraded to Grade II and placed fifth at the North American Championships in 2000. Currently, Mark lives in Pittsburgh, PA with his lovely wife, Karen, and son, Colin. He is not only an avid student and teacher of pipe band drumming, but he makes his living by it. Mark has been selling Highland drumming supplies for the last 13 years, and enjoys teaching, doing workshops, and judging around the United States. The Balmoral Highlanders will be performing Monday, May 29th in Mercer, Pennsylvania during the Mercer Memorial Day Parade and Observance from eleven o'clock to one. More at

www.balmorallhighlanders.org