



Jerry O'Sullivan has been widely hailed as America's premier uilleann piper. His reputation for technical and melodic mastery of the instrument, an Irish bagpipe known for its subtlety and expression, is unsurpassed in the United States, and is demanding considerable attention overseas. Jerry is also widely recorded on the tin whistle, the low whistle, the Highland bagpipes, and the Scottish smallpipes.

Award winning highland piper and smallpipe maker, **EJ Jones** had the dream of playing bagpipes in a folk band as a teenager, when he was competing with the Hamilton Pipe Band, and the result was the internationally touring Celtic band, **Clandestine**. EJ also performs Medieval and Renaissance music on historically inspired bagpipes with the groups **Brizeus** and **Istanpitta**. EJ has also released a solo album *The Willow* in 2002 and was a guest piper for the band Seven Nations briefly in 2005.



Dick Hensold is the leading Northumbrian smallpiper in North America, and for the past 20 years has performed and taught in England, Scotland, Japan, Canada, and across the United States. He has released numerous CDs as a member of the groups Piper's Crow, Way Up North, The New International Trio. His

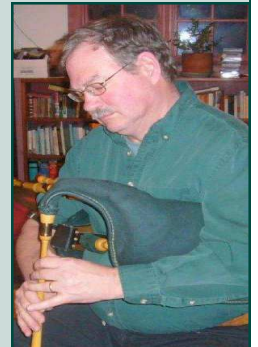
solo Northumbrian smallpipes CD *Big Music for Northumbrian Smallpipes* was released in 2007. He is much in demand as accompanist, studio musician and theater musician, and frequently composes new works based on the traditions of the Northumbrian pipes.

John Skelton was a member of the acclaimed



House Band, and also toured with the Irish band *Shegú* and the *Windbags* (with Jerry O'Sullivan too). In addition to being an astoundingly good flute player, he is also known for his prowess on the bombarde and Breton pipes and is in great demand for his teaching skills. He and Kieran O'Hare recently recorded "Double Barrelled," a flute duet CD, which became an instant classic.

Bob Mitchell is recognized as a successful solo competitor in the US and Canada. In 2004 Bob earned a Master/Apprentice Award by the Maryland Commission of the Traditional Arts. He's worked for 20 years at the Maryland Renaissance Festival and has performed with a number of DC area bands including *Iona* and Jennifer Cutting's *Ocean Orchestra*. Although his greatest area of expertise is Highland piping, he also plays the Scottish smallpipes and Border Pipes.



Matthew Bell is a percussionist known for his versatility and sensitive accompaniment style. On the bodhran, he combines a highly tonal style, while also embracing the highly syncopated, rhythmically-driving style associated with Scottish Highland Piping and Snare Drumming. A member of the The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps as well as an emeritus of the City of Washington Pipe Band, he is in demand both as a private teacher and as a clinician in rudimental drumming and bodhran.

Rental of high quality Border and Scottish Smallpipes provided by **Nate Banton Bagpipes** will be available for the weekend for a fee of \$40 for the weekend. Advance reservation is needed.

The **Pipers Weekend** offers 2-hour long classes at a variety of levels and the opportunity for private tutorials for enrolled students in Scottish small pipes, border pipes, Northumbrian small pipes, uilleann pipes, flute/whistle, bodran and piper-friendly repertoire for mixed-instruments in a variety of styles. A Friday night round-robin session, Saturday concert, late night jams and student-led mini-classes round out the offerings.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

CLASS 1 SATURDAY 10-12 AM

Uilleann Pipes Technique (Jerry)
Irish Style & Repertoire for Flute & Whistle (John)
Northumbrian Smallpipes (Dick)
Practical Music for Public Performance (EJ) *
Honk and Squeeze (bellows bagpipes for absolute beginners) (Bob)
Intro to Bodhran (Matt)

CLASS 2 SATURDAY 2-4PM

Irish Repertoire (Jerry) *
Flute Technique (John)
Northumbrian Smallpipes (Dick)
Border Pipes (Bob)
Scottish Smallpipes (EJ)
Advanced Bodhran Technique (Matt)

CLASS 3 SUNDAY 10-12 AM

Uilleann Pipes 1 (Jerry)
Flute Technique (John)
NSP Friendly Repertoire (Dick)*
Border Pipes (EJ)
Easy Scottish Smallpipe Repertoire (Bob)
Scottish Snare Drumming (Matt)

CLASS 4 SUNDAY 2-4 PM

Uilleann Pipes 2 (Jerry)
Northumbrian Smallpipes (Dick)
Breton and Galicean Repertoire (John) *
Scottish Smallpipes (Bob)
Border Pipes (EJ)

Instrument Technique: Techniques, drills and exercises useful for all levels.

Style and Repertoire Classes: Work on ornamentation, style, phrasing, etc. that defines each style. Classes are geared more towards intermediate-advanced players.

Northumbrian smallpipes, Scottish Smallpipes and Border Pipes classes will mix levels in each class, but devote some time to issues at each level in each class.

Smallpipes classes are open to mouth-blown reel pipes if they have the correct bore and are tuned in A.

***Repertoire:** Open to mixed instruments, students must have the ability to learn mu-

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6:

1-6PM Pipe Maintenance and Repair Clinic with EJ & Nate
(advance registration only, \$25 additional fee)

8-11PM Pipers' Round Robin

An "Open Mike" /Show & Tell Introduction
followed by Sessions in the Shepherd Student Center

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7:

8-9:30 AM: Registration

10-12 Class 1

12-2PM Lunch Break

2-4PM Class 2

5-6PM Mini Classes & Tutorials

6-8PM Dinner Break

8-10:30PM Concert Followed by Jams

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8:

10-12 Class 3

12-2 Lunch Break

2-4 Class 4

sic by ear. Pieces will be chosen at several tempos, so there should be something accessible to most playing levels during the 2 hour class. Repertoire classes will be tailored to our registered students interests and in friendly keys for the style of pipes the teacher is focusing on. Please sign up early!

Lessons: Teachers are asked to allow time to teach up to 4 half-hour private lessons during the weekend (schedule has long breaks to accommodate some of these). These will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis to students, who will pay their teacher directly (\$30/half hour lesson) at the lesson.

Mini Classes: Students are invited to share their knowledge with others in a mini class setting. These have been in a variety of areas including repertoire, hand skills (things like reed making), and non music related topics... (history, culture, etc). It's a great way to get to know other students.

Rental Instruments:For folks interested in trying a set of Scottish Smallpipes, several sets of Nate Banton's pipes will be available during the festival for a rental fee of \$40/weekend. Call for more information and to secure a set.

Less skilled players are welcome to listen in all classes; to master what they can, and record the rest for future work.

PROGRAM TUITION FEES

A weekend tuition fee of \$150 covers all program events including the evening concert, sessions and 8 hours of instruction in classes and workshops. Partial weekend tuition options are also available. For partial weekend fees, see the application form.

Early Bird Discount for Students attending workshops!

Full weekend \$145 or \$135 before 12/1 or Saturday only \$100 or \$90 before 12/1.

TUITION SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Two \$100 performance scholarships are available to advanced students who are willing to come early and perform in a school, hospital or nursing home to expand the reach of the festival.

A \$50 scholarship is offered for students offering a useful mini-class.

HOUSING SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We have a few housing scholarships available in the homes of local residents who are friends of the festival. Scholars work several hours during the festival in the areas of registration, room set up and clean up, concert box office and fest store. No classes need be missed.

Please call or email the festival by December 1 if you are interested in one of these scholarships.

LODGING INFORMATION

For your convenience, we have reserved a block of 20 rooms at a discount at each of two local hotels. These rooms will be held until August 12 at the price listed below. You must say you are booking for **Upper Potomac** to receive the discount, however other discounts (govt., AARP, etc.) if they apply, may be larger. The cost is per room and rooms may be shared.

Clarion Hotel @ \$99/night plus 12% tax. (304) 876-7000

Comfort Inn @ \$78/night plus 12% tax. (304) 876-3160

CATERED LUNCH

We have arranged for a catered lunch on Saturday to enable us all to have a meal together. You must reserve (and pay) in advance to participate as seating is limited. The lunches are \$12 each. On Sunday, many of us plan to have lunch at the Blue Moon Café.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

If you cancel before December 10, we can refund all but your deposit. After December 15, we keep the entire tuition.

Students canceling after December 20 due to unavoidable circumstances may send written documentation of their reason for canceling and request a partial refund. Phone cancellations must be followed by written notice of cancellation. These requests will be considered following the end of the program.

If our entire program is cancelled due to extreme weather conditions, your entire tuition will be refunded. If we run a program, there will be no refunds available.

APPLICATION FORM: *Send one form per person please!*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____

Email address: _____

I play these Instruments/level _____

CLASS CHOICES: *List teacher preference for each time slot:*

Class 1 _____

Class 2 _____

Class 3 _____

Class 4 _____

**Classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.*

TUITION AND FEES

_____ **Full 2 Day Workshop Session (\$160)**
(\$145 if paid in FULL by Dec. 1) or
Non-refundable Deposit \$35 (holds your space until Dec 20)

_____ **Tuition for Saturday only (\$100)**
(\$90 if paid in FULL by Dec. 1)

_____ **Tuition for Sunday only (\$75)**
(\$65 if paid in FULL by Dec. 1)

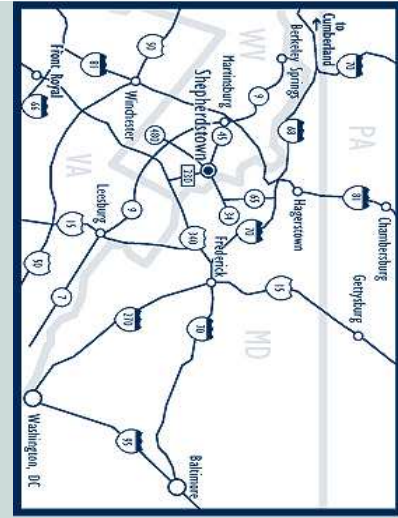
_____ **Single Group class (\$40)**

_____ **Extra Concert tickets \$15 adult, \$12 senior, \$8 student**

_____ **Lunches (\$12 each) _____ Saturday**

_____ **Optional Donation to the Scholarship Fund**
Upper Potomac is a tax-exempt charitable organization.

_____ **Grand Total Enclosed or _____ Invoice by PayPal**
Make checks payable to UPPW.



See our web page at www.squeezethebag.info

Join us for our Pipers Weekend
in historic Shepherdstown, WV!

Shepherdstown, WV 25443
(304) 263-2531 updf@earthlink.net

UPPER POTOMAC PIPERS WEEKEND
P.O. Box 1474

"SQUEEZE THE BAG!"



UPPER POTOMAC PIPERS WEEKEND

*Classes, concerts and sessions for
players of bellows-blown bagpipes,
flute, bodhran and mixed instruments.*

JANUARY 6-8, 2012

**In historic
Shepherdstown, West Virginia**

Featuring

JERRY O'SULLIVAN

DICK HENSOLD

E.J. JONES

JOHN SKELTON

MATTHEW BELL

*And our host piper: **BOB MITCHELL***

On the web at www.squeezethebag.info

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