

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The **Mohawk Valley Frasers Pipe Band** once again added to their reputation as Central New York's premier bagpipe band. As the band season ended for the world's second largest pipe band organization, the Frasers' Grade 4 competition unit captured the crown as Champion Supreme of the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association. Pipe Major Michael Roddy's Frasers took the top honors over 46 bands from across the country. In its eight competitions, the band's drum corps under the direction of Drum Sergeant Bill MacNeill was undefeated, an almost unheard of feat.

Unlike many pipe bands, the Frasers are actually made up of two competition units playing at different competitive levels. This allows for people of varying abilities to play with the band. To add even more luster to the 2019 season, the Frasers Grade 5 band, under the direction of Pipe Major Ed Nickerson, finished the season second out of 91 bands!

People across Central New York readily recognize the Frasers as they parade in communities throughout the area. Many graduates of CNY colleges fondly remember being launched into the adult world to the sounds of the Frasers playing at graduations. What may be less known is the impact the band has in pipe band competitions throughout the Northeast and Canada. In fact, the band is primarily a competition band that only plays in other venues as a sideline.

Playing parades and concerts is fun for the band members, but the opportunity to go head to head in competition with other pipers and drummers is what really hones the skills of players. The band is always on the lookout for new members who wish to cultivate their taste for Celtic music. Age is no barrier to learning the pipes or drums; all age groups are represented in the ranks of the Frasers. The band offers extensive instruction to all who would like to learn.

As overall band Pipe Major Jim Clough says, "Both bands are on a roll . . . it's just a fantastic time to join the Frasers." Information about the Frasers can be found at the band's Facebook page or its website www.mohawkvalleyfrasers.com.

The Mohawk Valley Frasers, founded in 1973, has become the premier pipe band in Central New York. The band draws its members from nearly every community between Rochester and Little Falls. The members come from diverse ethnic backgrounds joined together by their love of Celtic music. Through the years the Frasers have continued to be popular performers at parades, concerts, and Highland Games. Prize winners at the North American, Northeastern, and New England Championships, the Frasers pride themselves on taking the rawest beginner of any age to accomplished musician.

PHOTO ATTACHMENT: The Frasers Grade 4 band after winning the Celtic Classic in Bethlehem, PA

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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