

## **Central Pennsylvania Piobaireachd Club November 2005**

The first meeting of the Piobaireachd Club was held as a workshop on November 5, 2005. "An Introduction to Piobaireachd" was a great success with 8 students signing up for a six-hour workshop with instructor, Thompson McConnell. The event was held at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Neffsville, PA (outside Lancaster).

As students were arriving from throughout central Pennsylvania, the DVD of the THE BAND ROOM MASTERS Piobaireachd competition was playing in the background. Many of the students had been introduced to piobaireachd in the past with some of the attendees coming to learn another one for their repertoire.

Attendees included:

Doug Campbell (York, PA), Tim Culbertson (Reedsville, PA), Joshua Dye (Bethel, PA), John Morrison (Red Lion, PA), Wade Reeser (State College, PA), Adam Schaller (Hershey, PA), Thomas Thomson (South Lebanon, PA), and Tom Thomson (South Lebanon, PA).

The workshop included a brief background on piobaireachd, an introduction to various piobaireachd competitions, and an introduction to piobaireachd structure, terminology, etc. The class then went through a great beginning tune, the "Mackintosh's Banner". This is a tune that was composed by William MacKenzie, Piper to The MacKintosh, in the early 1880's.

At the conclusion of the workshop, Thompson McConnell played "Mackintosh's Banner" for the class on the pipes. Thompson had also arranged for a couple of the attendees to play for the class. Thomas Thomson played the Urlar and a couple of variations of "Glengarry's Lament" from Kilberry Book. Wade Reeser, who finished the 2005 season ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the EUSPBA Grade IV Senior Overall and Piobaireachd standings, played "Too Long in this Condition".

It was decided that some sort of piobaireachd club should be formed to promote the study and playing of Ceol Mor throughout central Pennsylvania.