



## Jori Chisholm Featured for March Program

Jori Chisholm returns home to OPS as our featured piper for the month of March. Jori grew up in Lake Oswego, where he started piping at age 11 with instruction from Colin MacKenzie. A competitor from an early



*Jori Chisholm*

age, Jori has emerged as one of the world's premier professional pipers, winning top prizes including the first-ever United States Gold Medal Piping Championship, the Royal Scottish Pipers' Society Bronze Star for First Place in the 'A' Marches at the Argyllshire Gathering in Oban, and Runner-Up in the Silver Medal Piobaireachd at the Northern Meeting in Inverness – all on his first attempt. In 2008, Jori won the Open 'A' Piobaireachd at the Cowal Highland Gathering, the largest highland game in the world. Earlier this year, he won the U.S. Gold Medal for Piobaireachd for the third time.

Jori is a member of the five-time World Champion Simon Fraser University Pipe Band. He

has appeared on numerous recordings as a soloist and pipe band member, including a live concert recording at the renowned Sydney Opera House. In addition, Jori has performed with many notable musicians, includ-

ing Irish band The Chieftains and legendary ex-Grateful Dead rocker Bob Weir and RatDog. Jori's long-anticipated full-length solo studio album, *Bagpipe Revolution*, was released late last year to rave reviews and an Album of the Year nomination by PipesDrums. The CD features contemporary and traditional pipe tunes played on the highland bagpipes and Scottish small pipes with innovative instrumental accompaniment.

Jori lives in Seattle where he teaches piping full time to students of all skill levels. He also uses video conferencing as part of his pioneering long-distance education program *BagpipeLessons.com*. He welcomes new students at this time.

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## Meeting Details:

**Date:** Saturday, March 21st  
**Location:** Oregon Pipers' Society VFW Hall, 837 SE Mill, Portland  
**Times:** 5 PM - Solo Piping contest  
7:30 PM - Program  
**Entry Fee:** \$5 for OPS members, \$7 for non-members.  
**Membership:** \$20 for individual / family membership includes email monthly OPS News.

## OPS Upcoming Events:

**April 18**  
Featured Performer - Rene Cusson  
Ensemble Performers - River City PB

**OPS 2009 - 2010 Season Planning Meeting**  
Date TBD - will be announced in the April OPS News.

## Portland Metro Pipe Band to Make Third OPS Appearance

Oregon Pipers Society is pleased to welcome back the Portland Metro Pipe Band as the guest band for March. Founded in 2006, the band finished second overall for the 2008 Grade III competition season in aggregate ratings by British Columbia Pipers Association. Portland Metro Pipe Band was selected to perform with legendary Irish band The Chieftains for their sold-out Portland show in February and will be featured at the Shamrock Run on March 15. The band's very successful Burns Night Supper in January was the first of what will undoubtedly become an annual fixture in the Portland social calendar. Plan now to attend the Supper on Jan. 23, 2010. Ticket information will be available in subsequent issues of *OPS News*.



*Portland Metro Pipe Band at the 2008 PNWHG in Enumclaw WA*

Portland Metro began a youth piping and drumming instructional program in October and the Portland

Metro Youth Pipe Band will make its competitive debut at the BC Indoor in April. Youth ages 8 to 18 who are interested in learning to play bagpipes or Scottish drumming are welcome to participate. For more information, please visit [www.pm-pb.org](http://www.pm-pb.org)

You can see both Portland Metro and Portland

Metro Youth Pipe Band at the highland games in Bellingham, Coquitlam, Mt. Vernon, Portland and Seattle this summer. Portland Metro Pipe Band will also be competing at the Montreal Highland Games and the North American Pipe Band Championship in Maxville, Ontario, in August.

Under the direction of Pipe Major Mark Tomasetti and Drum Sergeant Andrew Finley, Portland Metro Pipe Band promises to provide a lively and enjoyable program.

## Bruce Gandy Headlines February Gathering

The February meeting of OPS began with our featured "Local Hero" Dan DelMain, who played a variety of light music. His performance was followed by the Fort Vancouver Pipe Band, based in Vancouver Wash. The band's membership is primarily older adult players at the beginning level.

Bruce Gandy, who headlined the evening's schedule, played a set of 1939 Henderson's along with a MacCallum chanter and a Gannaway bag. Bruce was, as Announcer Michael Riedel noted, fresh off the "tour" from the Seattle area teaching at the MSA Winter School. He had also conducted a workshop earlier in the day for beginning and intermediate pipers in the Portland area and planned a workshop for advanced



*Bruce Gandy instructing the advance students*

players the following day.

Bruce is one of the world's best all-around players, according to Piper and Drummer Magazine, and always provides audiences with an impressive show of piping skill. In addition to several well-recognized tunes, Bruce played a number of his own compositions and delighted listeners with

his medley for the Metro Cup. For the piobaireached aficionados in the audience, Bruce played a great Mac-Crimmon tune Too Long in This Condition. He gave a short explanation about the background of the tune name and then warmed up with a 3/4 March before playing the big tune.

## OPS Local Hero of the Month - Charles Johnston



*Charles Johnston*

Charles Johnston is 14 years old and in the eighth grade. A resident of Keizer, Ore., Charles has been home-schooled since kindergarten. He started playing the chanter at age 8 (instructed by his father) and currently completes in Grade IV. For the past three years, Charles has studied with Mark Tomasetti. A member of the Oregon State Defense Force Pipe Band in Salem, Charles plays competitive baseball when not piping.

## OPS News Updates

All local pipe bands and other related musical groups and organizations are reminded that they can take advantage of the newsletter to post news and information about their organization during the OPS year. The newsletter provides a convenient way to keep the community updated about a group's activities, such as upcoming performances, fundraising and recruiting.

The deadline for submissions is two full weeks before the next upcoming OPS gathering. ( See the schedule on the first page of each newsletter for dates. ) Stories and articles should be 150 words or less. Longer stories can be featured but the newsletter editor should be contacted first. Photos and artwork should be digital images no larger than 8" x 10" at 72 - 200 dpi.

Send all materials to Joe Hewitt, OPS News editor.  
Email - [joe@spiritone.com](mailto:joe@spiritone.com) Telephone - 503 746 -4480

## Pipers to Gather in La Grande

Eastern Oregon Celtic Society and Northeast Oregon Folklore Society will begin the first of three monthly gatherings in March. Set for Saturday, March 14, from 1 to 3 p.m., the event will be hosted by Pete Elder, a beginning piper.

The gatherings, open to all who are interested in bag-piping, provide beginning pipers with the opportunity to get together and learn from one another. Students can receive information, guidance and limited instruction using the College of Piping self tutorials. Experienced pipers are also encouraged to attend and share their knowledge.

Meetings will take place at The Old Meeting House, 901 M Avenue, La Grande. A \$2 donation is appreciated to assist with building upkeep. For additional information, contact Pete Elder at 541-568-4643 or [pelder@oregontrail.net](mailto:pelder@oregontrail.net), or visit [www.bakerhighlanders.org](http://www.bakerhighlanders.org) and [www.neofs.us](http://www.neofs.us)

## Irish Whiskey Tastings Offered

With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, Stuart Ramsay will be hosting several Irish Whiskey tasting events at local establishments. Please contact Stuart for more details and RSVP where required. [ramsay@easystreet.net](mailto:ramsay@easystreet.net)

Friday, March 13th

4-7pm Tenth Avenue Liquor Store, 925 SW 10th Ave, Portland (downtown, by the main public library) (503) 227-3391  
Free samples of the whiskeys at a liquor store with over 200 single malts and a great selection of Irish whiskey. No RSVP

Saturday, March 14th, 4-7pm: Pearl Specialty Market & Spirits, 900 NW Lovejoy Street, Suite 140 (503) 477-8604  
Liquor store tasting; free samples. No RSVP

Monday, March 16th

6:30 pm Highland Still House Celtic Festival, 201 South 2nd Street, Oregon City OR 97045 503-723-6789  
Three Cooley Irish whiskeys, Southern Oregon Porter and Still House appetizers. The brewer, Anders Johansen, will be joining us.  
\$25 at the tent entrance. Please RSVP.

Tuesday, March 17th

5:00pm McCormick & Schmick's Harborside at the Marina 503-220-1865  
Three Cooley Irish whiskeys paired with beers from Full Sail's Master Brewer, John Harris. (Including John's 11 Year Old Imperial Stout with the Connemara.) Chef Joshua Boyd has prepared a special menu for the event.  
\$25. Please RSVP to the restaurant. Be sure to ask for the \$25 Irish Whiskey and Beer Tasting.

# OPS Competition Mail-in Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Oct. 18 \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nov. 15 \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Dec. 13 \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Jan. 17 \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Feb. 14 ***No Competiton this month because of workshop***

Mar. 21 \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Apr. 18 \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**All competitors must be prepared to play at check-in** and to perform when requested to do so. The check-in times are as follows: Chanter and Grades 4 and 5 check in by 4:30 PM. Adult. Grades 1, 2 and 3 check in by 5:00 PM. All Drummers check in by 5:30 PM. The order of play will follow reverse order of entry (first to enter is last to play, including the mail-in registrants). All contestants are required to play in recognizable Highland attire (except for Chanter class). Best of luck.

## Mail-in Entries:

The registration fee is \$4 per event for OPS members, \$5. for visiting competitors. Mail-in registration may be submitted for the entire season or for selected event dates. Order of play will be determined by entry receipt date, giving advantage to those who pre-register versus day-of entries, so mail in early. Payment must accompany registration. (Sorry, there are no refunds for no shows.)

## Day-of Entries:

The entry fee will be \$4 per event for OPS members, \$5. for visiting competitors. Entries will also be accepted until the check-in deadline on the day of the event.

For more information please call Susan Ramsay at **(503) 233-1854**.  
email -[susanram@easystreet.net](mailto:susanram@easystreet.net)  
Make check payable to OPS and mail registration & check to:  
**Susan Ramsay**  
**2861 S.E Woodward St.**  
**Portland, OR 97202-1359**

**Yes! I want to be a member of OPS**  
and receive this monthly newsletter and notification of special OPS events.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ (Email information will be kept confidential)

Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$20 per membership of an individual or a family)

Scholarship Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ (Your donation will support scholarships for OPS pipers & drummers.)

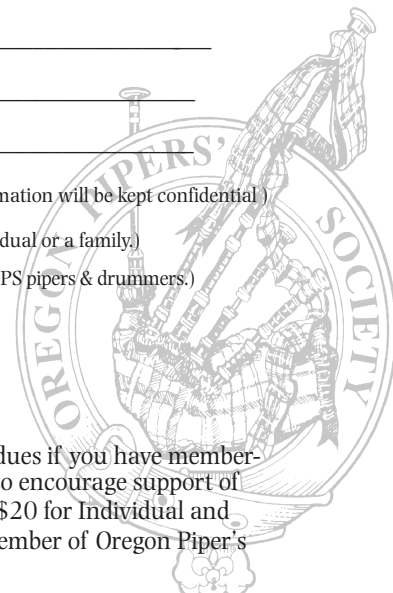
Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail your check to:**  
**OPS Membership**  
**3117 NE 30th Ave**  
**Portland, OR 97212 -2608**

### BCPA & OPS Memberships

The BC Pipers Association is giving a credit towards its membership dues if you have membership in the Oregon Piper's Association. This is part of BCPA's efforts to encourage support of the activities of the local piping societies. This year the credit will be \$20 for Individual and Family memberships. Everyone is reminded that you need to be a member of Oregon Piper's Society to get this credit.

If questions contact Gary Warren at [ops-newsletter@comcast.net](mailto:ops-newsletter@comcast.net)



# OPS 2008-2009 Competition Schedule

**Please note some important changes to this year's competition schedule and requirements.**

**Schedule:** Detailed listing of events is shown in the chart below. There will be no competition in February because of the planned workshop.

**Times:** -Chanter and Grade 5 - Check in 4:30. Competition 5:00. All other piping grades - Check in 5:00. Be prepared to play. All drumming grades - Check in 5:30. Be prepared to play. You must check in at the competition desk at or before check-in time listed and be prepared to play at check-in time if your steward requests you do so (with the exception of Chanter and Grade 5 entries).

Because we take field entries, we cannot predict the order of play in advance, so be prepared to play first. Order of play will follow reverse order of entry (first to enter is last to play). It is

recommended to use the mail-in entry form for early registration. All contestants are required to play in recognizable Highland attire except Chanter class.

**Tune Requirements:** All tunes for piping and drumming events are required to be 4 parts. Exceptions are all chanter class and grade 5 piping events where 2 parts of a tune played twice is permitted. Also note specific requirements for certain grade 2 and 1 piping events indicated in the chart below.

**Membership:** If you live in Oregon or the Portland metro area, including Vancouver WA, one needs to be a member of OPS in order to compete.

**Awards will be given at intermission as in previous years.**

Piping	March 21	April 18
Chanter	2/4 March	Any Tune
Adult		2/4 March
Grade 5	2/4 March	
Grade 4		Piobaireachd Ground and 1st variation
Grade 3	Strathspey & Reel	
Grade 2		Piobaireachd (submit 2)
Grade 1	Piobaireachd (submit 3)	
<b>Tenor Drumming</b>		
Beginner	2/4 March	No Drumming This Month
Grade 2	2/4 March	
Grade 1	MSR	
<b>Side Drumming</b>		
Grade 4	2/4 March	No Drumming This Month
Grade 3	2/4 March	
Grade 2	MSR	
Grade 1		

## OPS Competition Results

There was no piping or drumming competition in February due to the Bruce Gandy workshop.