

~~10~~ New York Regimentals

NR YES  NO

NORMAL BIAS 120µs EQ

A

60

MEMOREX® JBS

B

SPIRIT OF '76

NR YES  NO

NORMAL BIAS 120µs EQ

60

MEMOREX® dBS

B

Dear Brian

Thanks for C-SPAN. Along with millions of others, I'm sure, it has made me better educated and informed about the way our government works.

I'm writing to offer a programming suggestion for early July. It's at this time every year we all hear the strains of Yankee Doodle or some other patriotic tune, played by the fifes and drums. I wonder, though, how many people know the rich and colorful history associated with the "ancient art" of fifing and drumming in America. I know I didn't until 1976. Having grown up in the mid-west I just took it for granted as part of patriotism.

While stationed in Japan in 1976, a small group of us put together a unit to participate in the bi-centennial festivities. What followed was a continuation and growth of the unit through 1979, apparently we were good enough to attract the attention of some of <sup>the</sup> folks in The Company of Fifers and Drummers in Connecticut (see enclosed clippings). Then in 1978, while on a trip back to the

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States, I had the privilege of visiting those folks in Deep River and Westbrook Connecticut. I was overwhelmed and I'll never forget that brief visit. My letter would be too long to go into the details of their warmth, generosity, camaraderie, hospitality and dedication to the ancient art.

Now, every time I see the Old Guard F&D at a Washington ceremony covered by CSPAN or CNN it makes me think of the rich tradition being handed down from generation to generation in New England and in Connecticut in particular.

My programming suggestion is to have a panel of some of the New England traditionalists involved in the movement interspersed with film of the Army's Old Guard F&D. It is my understanding that most of the Old Guard members are recruited from the 150 some-odd drum corps in New England. It would be wonderful also if C-SPAN could visit Connecticut at a time when there is a MUSTER of F&D Corps on the village green.

It's been 12 years or so since I've had

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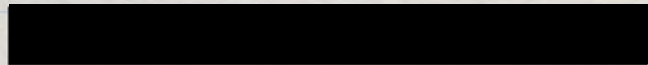
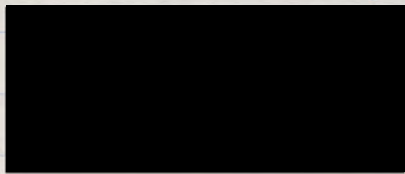
any contact with those fine folks but I'm sure the tradition goes on.

One of the best and most colorful of all the corps, back then and probably still, is the Ancient Mariners of Guilford, CT. a group of the best fifers and rudimental drummers imaginable composed of doctors, lawyers, plumbers, carpenters etc. etc. (see enclosed photos)

also enclosed a few copies of The Ancient Times. Anyone listed in the credits column would be an excellent contact. Ed Olsen, the editor, is one of the finest men I've ever met and a real historian.

It occurs to me Brian that, as a fellow drummer, you may already know about all this. Anyway, I hope you and your staff will consider this idea

Again, many thanks for C-SPAN.



MELBOURNE, FL. 32901

Ph. 

# THE NEW YORK REGIMENTAL FIFE AND DRUM BAND . . . A LEGEND IN THEIR OWN TIME

## *Creative Leadership*

The Fife and Drum music on this album was recorded in May of 1963. Since then, this musical presentation has become recognized as the finest recording available that depicts "the fine art of Fifing and Drumming". The musical arrangements, the precise musicianship and the final performances are all unique and outstanding. The reason can very simply be stated . . . John J. McDonagh. In essence, he created and developed the New York Regimentals. In Fact, The New York Regimental Fife and Drum Band was John McDonagh.

## *Band Formation*

McDonagh worked diligently for many years to develop a Fife that would be in concert pitch, be fully chromatic and be acceptable for concert performance with a symphonic band. He realized the culmination of these efforts in the early 1950's with the development of the McDonagh Model Fife to be manufactured exclusively by Roy Seaman. The natural extension of this was to organize a Fife and Drum Band that would also perform the dual function of being a concert group. The result was the formation of The New York Regimental Fife and Drum Band. The recruitment of Fifers was comparatively simple as most had been former pupils. The musicianship of this fife line in turn induced some of the finest percussionists in the New York area to cast their lot with this musically ambitious organization.

**RECORD INFORMATION:** This album was donated to The Company of Fifers and Drummers by The New York Regimental Fife and Drum Band in order to assist The Company with The Building Fund. The album is priced at \$6.99 each and may be obtained through The Company Store at the main Market and School streets.

## *A Musical Understanding of The Regimentals*

The most exciting thing about the music of John McDonagh is that it does not sound like conventional fifing and drumming whether Ancient or Modern. Where but in McDonagh's arrangements can we find extensive use of double and triple tonguing, flutter tonguing, massive sliding cord clusters, complex rhythms combined with plain American patriotic airs, sprightly barn dances and simple hymnal or college tunes? An interesting mixture that worked brilliantly in his finest scores. At times, his music reflected the chaotic or unknown side of life . . . a true departure from the orderly and acceptable styles usually connected with the music of Fife and Drum. McDonagh had the unusual capacity to create music and arrangements that reflected life as he saw it, much as an artist creates a painting. This storytelling technique is the essential fact to keep in mind while listening to one of his complicated arrangements as it is the key that will bring order to confusion.

## *The Regimentals*

During their early years, the group was primarily interested in proving to the Fife and Drum community that they were "the one to beat." They accomplished this by winning the top national honors for seven consecutive years and then retiring as undefeated champions. During this time, their second function as a concert group was being developed and perfected. The results of this

The New York Regimental Fife and Drum Band was organized in New York City in 1955 and made its final public appearance in the summer of 1974. From 1957 through 1963 The Regimentals were senior Ancient Fife and Drum Champions of the Northeastern States Drum Corps Association.

musical dedication are to be found in this recording whereby the listener may hear The Regimentals playing as a traditional Fife and Drum Unit, a concert group, a Fife Ensemble Unit and a Drum Ensemble Unit. Each of the facets mentioned provided the musician with a different challenge, and in turn a different satisfaction. The members of the Band performed according to their abilities, not according to their desires. As a result, a healthy attitude of mutual respect developed whereby the accomplished musician knew his role and the aspiring musician knew what was expected. This type of internal "Esprit de Corps" brought to fruition the high level of performance which may be enjoyed on this recording.

## *A Regimental Farewell*

All of The Regimentals concerned with recording this album hope that you will enjoy the performance as much as they enjoy the fond memories concerned with this organization and its music. The Regimentals are now a part of history. I think that when you hear this recording, you will appreciate as to why The New York Regimentals became . . . A Legend In Their Own Time.

James A. McEleney



## SIDE I

- National Anthem
- 1760's British Grenadiers  
Yankee Doodle
- 1800's Chicken Reel  
Arkansas Traveler  
Rakes of Mallow  
Turkey in the Straw
- 1860's Dixie  
Tallewan  
Marching Through Georgia  
Liberty Quickstep  
Bonnie Eloise  
Nancy Hanks
- 1900's East Side, West Side  
20 Years Ago  
Garry Owen  
Come Back to Erin
- 1960's Yankee Doodle — chronology of fifing in America.  
Themes:  
Wars of the Revolution,  
Louisiana Purchase, Civil War,  
Spanish American War,  
World Wars I and II,  
The Future — sliding chord clusters suggest an even more dramatic heritage for Yankee Doodle.

## SIDE II

- Fife Rondo by Pleyel,  
3 part harmony
- Drum Regimental Drums  
by Westhall,  
Sextet
- Fife Gathering of the Clans,  
5 part harmony
- Drum Thunder and Lightning  
by Westhall,  
Sextet
- Band Concert of the British Isles

**The Company of Fifers and Drummers**  
P.O. Box 318, Westbrook, Connecticut 06498

# THE SPIRIT OF '76: MUSIC FOR FIFES AND DRUMS



## Golden Imports

### Side 1:

Yankee Doodle; Sergeant O'Leary; The Belle of the Mohawk Vale . . . . .	3:19
Fancy 6/8 (drum solo) . . . . .	1:05
The Camp Duty of the U.S. Army.	
The Three Camps; The Slow Scotch; The Austrian; Dawning of the Day; The Hessian; Dusky Night; The Prussian; The Dutch; The Quick Scotch; The Three Camps. . . . .	9:55

WILLIAM F. LUDWIG, drum solo

### Side 2:

Gary Owen; Dixie; Sentry Box . . . . .	2:50
The Breakfast Call; The Dinner Call; Wrecker's Daughter; Hell on the Wabash; Downfall of Paris . . . . .	2:50
Connecticut Half-time (drum solo) . . . . .	2:23
Rally 'round the Flag; Bonnie Blue Flag; White Cockade. . . . .	3:18

J. BURNS MOORE, drum solo  
FREDERICK FENNEL, conductor  
EASTMAN WIND ENSEMBLE

Mr. Fennell, in his liner notes, breaks down the music here recorded into the following four categories:

**TRADITIONAL MARCHING TUNES FOR FIFES AND DRUMS** — Yankee Doodle (Revolutionary War — Continental); Sergeant O'Leary (Civil War — Union); The Belle of the Mohawk Vale (Civil War — Union); Gary Owen (Civil War — Union and Confederate); Sentry Box (Revolutionary War — Continental); Rally 'round the Flag (Civil War — Union); Bonnie Blue Flag (Civil War — Confederate); The White Cockade (Revolutionary War — British and Continental)

**THE CAMP DUTY OF THE U.S. ARMY** — The Three Camps; The Slow Scotch; The Austrian; Dawning of the Day; The Hessian; Dusky Night; The Prussian; The Dutch; The Quick Scotch; The Three Camps

**TRADITIONAL MUSIC FOR FIFES AND DRUMS** — The Breakfast Call ("Peas upon a trencher"); The Dinner Call ("Roast Beef"); Wrecker's Daughter — Quickstep; Hell on the Wabash; Downfall of Paris

**DRUM SOLOS** — Connecticut Half-time (J. Burns Moore); Fancy 6/8 (William F. Ludwig)

The Spirit of '76 is more than the name of a famous patriotic American painting by Archibald M. Willard. The familiar scene depicted represents the beginning of military music in what was to become the Republic of the United States of America. Our great military musical organizations were born when William Diamond, the drummer for the Lexington militia, beat the call to arms which gathered the men who fired the "shot heard 'round the world."

The British troops brought with them bands that included French horns, clarinets, and bassoons, while their field music included fifes, bugles, and drums. In contrast to this splendid military array, the Continental troops were as meagerly equipped musically as they were with military stores and other fighting gear. But it always seemed as though a few drums and a fife or two could be mustered to stir or to warm the hearts of Washington's men. The leadership of the Continental Army was blessed with the ability and skill to blend known military arts with a fortunate capacity to improvise. What had to be borrowed

from other nations was adopted without much concern for its origin, and primary among these free borrowings was the music for fifes and drums. These instruments and those who played them held important places in the affairs of the Continental Army. The completely documented story of these early beginnings and all future developments is contained in William Carter White's excellent book, *A History of Military Music in America* (The Exposition Press: New York, 1944).

The traditional Marching Tunes portions of this record utilizes popular tunes for fifes and drums from the period of the Revolution through the Civil War. The tune we know as Yankee Doodle has a variety of origins. Many lands claim to have known it long before its emergence in the Colonies as a military song at the time of the French and Indian War (ca. 1758), but no other country can claim the popular acceptance it has enjoyed in the United States for the past 200 years.

*Sergeant O'Leary* is a swinging 6/8 fife and drum corps tune I have known since childhood. I first heard it when my father and his "brothers-in-law" played it at the encampment that was my home in the southeast side of Cleveland. Father became a fifer when he joined Camp Zeke, a complete Civil-War-type encampment maintained by the family of the woman whom he had married and who was to be my mother. Mother was a Putnam, a descendant of General Israel Putnam, the swashbuckling figure in the Continental Army whose heroic deeds I had known before I was old enough to repeat them. The family had come to the Western Reserve on land granted to those who saw service in the Revolution. Among the traditions they wished to preserve there was the passionate spirit of liberty which had been achieved. One of the outward manifestations of these traditions was the maintenance of an encampment complete with tents, muskets and cannon, camp fires, flags, and most happily for me — a fife and drum corps.

My first vivid recollections of life and music were of playing the drum in the corps at the Fourth of July celebrations that engaged the participation of a very large number of people. On these occasions the fife and drum corps alternated with the drill platoon in furnishing entertainment between patriotic orations. Feasting by the campfire and square dancing rounded out days that have since passed into memory. These nine tunes were a small portion of the repertory which we played from sun-up to sun-down.

A popular ballad at the time of the Civil War was published under the title of *The Belle of the Mohawk Vale*. It was written in slow 4/4 time, and was used for contrast to energetic 6/8 and 2/4 music such as *Gary Owen*, perhaps the most famous regimental march in the U.S. Army. Inseparably identified with the Seventh Cavalry, this jaunty Irish tune has many variants.

The tunes we played on these patriotic days came from both causes in the two great American struggles. The most outstanding song from the Confederacy, of course, was *Dixie*, which was a most potent incendiary to patriotism in the days of the conflict. The pride which its performance incites today is equal to its original call to duty. It was originally written in New York City by a man from Ohio and later revised by a Boston-born General in the Confederate Army. Daniel Emmett, the originator of *Dixie*, used it as the grand opening number for his famous minstrel troupe in 1859. In this form it spread to the South where, with appropriate words, it swept all before it like a wind of flame.

*Sentry Box* is another Camp Zeke tune not known to me elsewhere, but it was always one of my favorites. *Rally 'round the Flag* is known also as the rallying version of the song *The Battle Cry of Freedom* with words and music composed by George F. Root, writer of "*Tramp, Tramp, Tramp*." It achieved its warm

place in the hearts of Union troops when it became the rallying song that helped to turn the tide at the Battle of the Wilderness in May 1864. A strong challenge to *Dixie* was provided by *The Bonnie Blue Flag*, a war song of the Confederacy written to an old Irish tune by a popular comedian, Harry McCarthy. Its appropriateness to the fifes and drums makes it a wonderful marching tune as well as an effective fighting song, the chorus of which is used here.

*The White Cockade* became a Continental Army marching tune when fifers and drummers appropriated it from the British. In its original version it was often called *The Highland Laddie*. (The white cockade was a decorative ribbon worn in the Continental three-cornered hat.) The changes in melodic line which have come down to us are probably the result of attempts by fifers to simplify some of the typical bagpipe lines. The setting recorded here is that which was used at home, as are all of the settings for these nine traditional marching tunes. The bridges for drums alone were fashioned by the writer out of the spirit of the tunes which follow. The old roll-off which is employed for the beginning of each group of tunes is an obvious corruption of the one in standard use today. I have not heard it used elsewhere than at Camp Zeke and its inclusion in this portion of this recording seems effectively appropriate. The bass drum was not used in Continental times as part of the fife and drums corps, but its presence in later years seems not only necessary but stylistically desirable.

The drum was the primary instrument for official duty in the Continental Army, in which camp life was ordered by a carefully prescribed series of calls such as *Assembly*, *To Arms*, and *Recall*. On those occasions when military operations permitted, the fifes joined in for a ceremony that became quite involved. It must have been impressive to see and thrilling to hear as the massed fifers and drummers (there was one fifer and one drummer allowed to each company) blew and beat their way through the day from reveille to taptow performing the music represented on this disc at *The Camp Duty* and including the nine pieces known as *The Three Camps*, *The Slow Scotch*, *The Austrian*, *Dawning of the Day*, *The Hessian*, *Dusky Night*, *The Prussian*, *The Dutch*, *The Quick Scotch*, and concluding with *The Three Camps*. The random repositioning of tunes from the highlands of Scotland or the lowlands of Holland — to say nothing of the boldness of adopting British Army tunes — seemed not to bother anybody. If it was good and appropriate, they used it.

The methods of musical instruction for drummers in particular must have been those of rote learning, but what they learned in the camps of the Continental Army has not changed indeed to the present day. The beatings which accompanied the tunes played by the fifes were fashioned out of a series of complicated musical patterns devised for the "eurythmics" of stroking a drum with some pre-determined sense of order. These rhythmic patterns handed down to us from Revolutionary times are called *The Rudiments of Drumming*. There are twenty-six of them, their colorful terminology including such titles as *flam*, *ruff*, *paradiddle*, and *ratamacue*, which express phonetically what the rudiment sounds like as it is played with a rhythmic stroking from right to left in each arm. The Twenty-six Rudiments are the scales and etudes for all percussion players and all the music for the drum represented on this disc is fashioned exclusively from them.

From among the works in a varied repertory-played by rudimental drummers everywhere in America, we have chosen, in addition to the *Camp Duty*, five contrasting titles, *The Breakfast Call* (peas upon a trencher), *Dinner Call* (roast beef), *Wrecker's Daughter*, *Hell on the Wabash*, and *The Downfall of Paris*. The last is the epitome of the rudimental drummer's art and the most loved piece in his literature. To it have been added two solos for drums alone, *The Connecticut Half-time* as set down by J. Burns Moore, and *Fancy 6/8* written by William F. Ludwig.

NOTES BY FREDERICK FENNEL

This modern record can be played with every modern light-weight pick-up. The stereo sound, however, is reproduced only when stereo equipment is used.

as part of a Christmas program for Korean orphanages sponsored by Destroyer Squadron Fifteen from Yokosuka, Japan.

Applications for membership are welcome from U.S. Forces/DOD personnel and international applicants who can demonstrate musical and marching ability. Musical standards are high and all members are expected to develop full proficiency in expression and accuracy.

Individuals or organizations desiring to engage the corps may contact the business manager who will provide information on expense and logistics requirements.

For information please contact:

[REDACTED]  
FPO SEATTLE 98762

PHONE [REDACTED]



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# WHEN PERRY UNLOCKED THE "GATE OF THE SUN"

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On July 14, 1853, Commodore Matthew C. Perry landed at Kurihama, Japan to deliver a message from U.S. President Fillmore to the Mikado. Ultimately that act opened the gates of Japan to world trade and sparked the Meiji Restoration. On that date Commodore Perry stepped ashore to the music of fifes and drums... Today, in commemoration of the Bicentennial of the United States, that musical heritage has been reborn.

## ANCIENT MARINERS FIFE & DRUM CORPS

The Ancient Mariners is a traditional style fife & drum corps which plays authentic music from the Revolutionary War period and the mid 1800's. It is the only such unit in the Far East and one of the few historically accurate and traditional drum corps in the world. It is a sister corps of the Ancient Mariners from Guilford, Connecticut as well as the Swiss Mariners of Basel, Switzerland. As chartered by the prestigious Company of Fifers & Drummers in Deep River, Connecticut, the mission of the corps is to promote international friendship and understanding through music.

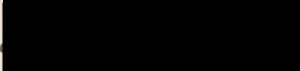
Corps members include USN active duty officer and enlisted personnel, military/DOD dependents, DOD civilians, and several international associate members.

As a self-supporting non-official recreation activity of U.S. Fleet Activities Yokosuka, the corps has performed for televised festivals in Japan, at U.S. installation and the American Embassy in Japan, and in Chinhae, Korea





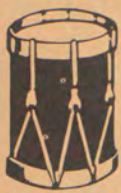
Far Left:

 - master drum

Craftsman at Coopersmans.

Built my grand Republic drum.





# The Ancient Times



Published by The Company of Fifers & Drummers, Inc.

Vol. VII No. 5

Winter 1980-81



TED KURTZ

## TED KURTZ RENOWNED FIFER DEAD AT 81

At 8:15, on the 20th of February, a most unique chapter in the field of Ancient Fifeing and Drumming was closed, with the passing of 81 year old Ted Kurtz of Waterbury, Ct. The seemingly indestructible old "Bass City Fifecrafter" succumbed after an unpleasant siege that involved confinement at St. Mary's Hospital and at a subsequent nursing home.

For many years Ted's corps was considered to be the time-honored Mattatuck Drum Band but, were the truth known, he probably spent more time squabbling with than playing with them. A mutual friend

See KURTZ, Page 3

## HELP

When your Publisher, and Editor accepted the challenge of creating a periodical for THE COMPANY, we assumed that the honors would eventually pass to other eager volunteers - allowing us a return to normal lives untrammelled by the demands of a dead-line.

That was eight years ago and the truth has finally dawned that there is really no one waiting in the wings. Olde Rip-ton's Phil Truitt, an enthusiastic and prolific contributor, had agreed to take a fling at the operation but was then obliged to relocate in a distant area. We are now back where we started.

Although we have both gloried in the success of The Ancient Times and feel a responsibility to our subscribers - as well as to the FDC world in general we can see no possibility of continuing in these roles indefinitely.

This late-late issue is being produced by a "new" printer, (located, incidentally, on the parade-route of the DRAM), and he promises to make the job easier than heretofore so now is the time to step forward.

We need people to edit and publish this unique paper and see that it meets its deadlines at least moderately well. Both of us can continue in some reduced capacity, so it won't be as though the baby has been left on the doorstep.

"The only way to get action is to quit". Advises one of the Fathers of THE COMPANY. We hope that it doesn't come to that.

## Comstock Corps March in New York Hostage Parade

In one of the biggest history making events in the nation, a once-in-a-lifetime experience was realized this past January, when The Samuel Comstock FDC of Wilton, Ct. was selected as one of two outside-New York State musical groups to march in honor of the 52 former hostages in Mayor Koch's grand ticker-tape parade up Broadway. The U.S. Marine Band from Paris Island was the other unit.

The 35 member Comstock Corps nearly froze during the gala event attended by over two million people, but still came back with many happy memories. "It was an experience as great as the people involved." They said afterward. "There were those who wouldn't think it was as great as we did, but they were not in New York City on that day."

"The support shown toward the ex-hostages was truly overwhelming. The corps was totally absorbed in the thrill and excitement of participating, said Fifer Sgt. Tom Hubert.

A big moment for the corps actually preceded the parade, when opportunity arose to present a special flag designed by corps director Don Klotz and hand sewn by Wilton Senior Citizens, to Moorehead Kennedy, ex-hostage and native New Yorker who was third ranking official at the embassy in Iran, and whose wife, Louise, headed the hostage family liaison group called F.L.A.G. Mr. Kennedy was sitting in the lead car with his sons and Mayor Koch when Corps representatives approached them and made the presentation. They were very gracious. They asked questions about it and were advised just what each star and stripe represented. Mr. Kennedy's two sons waved the flag as the car traveled the parade route and later when their father spoke to the crowds at City Hall. The flag, which flew over The Wilton town hall from Election Day until the hostages were freed, is blue with 52 stars on the left representing the hostages; and three black bars running vertically to represent their captivity. On the right side, a white star for those hostages previously set free; a gold star for the eight soldiers who died in the rescue attempt; and a red star for the life-blood dedication of all Americans, in prayer, work and deed to free their fellow countrymen.

The Comstock FDC initially hoped to march in a parade in Washington D.C. and were going to recruit some 80 other Fife & Drum Corps to march with them to honor the hostages upon their release. That was, until President's Reagan's scheduling secretary called to explain that there would be no great parade of bands during the ceremony. Instead the members set their sites on New York City and got to work arranging an invitation there. They found out that only 17 musical units would be needed and 70 New York Bands had already asked to march. Again the answer was no". But again they were not discouraged. They called Senators Lowell Weicker, Christopher Dodd, and Representative William Ratchford in hopes that they could intervene. On the day before the parade, Mr. Klotz received a call from Dr. George Suffert, organizer of the bands in the parade, who asked if Wilton's fifers and drummers would march. Well, what happened?" asked the elated corps commander, not believing his ears. Dr. Suffert said that he had received a letter from your "Godfather" insisting Wilton's Fife & Drum Corps be invited. Mr. Klotz is still not sure which politician is responsible but said he is grateful to all

See COMSTOCK, Page 4

## NEW SLATE NOMINATED AT STONY CREEK

The annual Fall meeting of The Company of Fifers and Drummers was held on November 16th at the Stony Creek Clubhouse. Despite a small turnout of some 34 Ancients, the discussions were vigorous and the ideas constructive as to new directions for the coming year. The small attendance may have been a reflection of advance notices not arriving or not arriving on time.

It should be noted for the future that Company meetings usually take place on the third Sunday of the month in February, April and November. The location is the only question. The April meeting is often altered from this pattern due to parade or Muster dates that cause a conflict, but such changes are brought to the membership's attention in ample time.

President Mo Schoos called the meeting to order shortly after 2:00 p.m. and



ELDRICK ARSENAULT

a moment of silence followed prayers for three Ancients who had recently passed away.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Leo Brennan in the absence of Bill Kinnare and indicated a total of \$20,206.67 cash on hand not including inventory. This figure broke down as

\$7,527.38 in Savings, \$300.00 in the Checking account, \$1,189.70 from the Company Store and \$12,378.58 in The Ancients Fund.

Reporting for the Registry Committee, Dave Boddie alerted all present to updating the 7 page 1976 Questionnaire on individual corps details and policies. Dave had forms on hand for corps to fill out and return to him so that he can better channel parade leads, know the proper contacts and keep his records current.

Buzz Allen filled in for Ed Olsen on the Archives Committee and reported that a permanent storage area had been rented for Archives material in Madison so that Cathy and Ed Olsen could rediscover their house. The area, although small, is dry and secure and will be adequate for our needs. In fine fashion, Ed Classy wanted to know who was responsible for changing the light bulb when it went out.

Foxee Carlson noted in his Membership Report that two new corps have joined the fold namely the St. Lucys FDC from Newark, N.J. and the Camden, N.Y. Continentals. Let's remember to give them a warm welcome when we see them. For the Music Committee, Doc Ferrante noted that the new Camp Duty book and accompanying tape were launched at Deep River this past summer. For new corps, this \$8.00 package is a super investment and it can be ordered through Bill Kinnare (Kinnare Insurance Co., 959 Boston Post Road, Madison, Ct. 06443). Music Book #3 is also now in the works and it will include medleys, special arrangements and traditional favorites as well. Corps are urged to contribute their medleys to preserve them for

See STONY CREEK, Page 4

## LARRY 'LA' L'HEUREUX DIES

Once described as the "Perfect Ancient Drummer", Larry "La" L'Heureux - of the old Yalesville FDC - passed away following a brief stay at Yale New Haven Hospital.

To reflect upon La's Drum Corps life is to return to the more colorful days with which we like to identify - times that featured those interesting old corpsmen that would set our course in one manner or another. Wherever they gathered, were it street corner or long-suffering saloon, La was always there, pulling the varied elements together, to form a final cohesive sound and happy atmosphere.

Seventy-Five at the time of his passing - (though he never looked it) - a friendlier more enthusiastic corpsman it would have been impossible to find. La was a familiar sight at Musters, Parades and Jaybird Days and in 1979 shared Jaybird Man-of-the-Year honors with New Jersey's Art Mabie and, another Ex Yalesville drummer, Earl Sturtze.

He joined the old Yalesville FDC in 1919 and received his earliest instruction from a local stalwart named Mose LaQueare. Although he would drum with other corps - Deep River and his own Newbridge FDC, among them - it was with the

old original Yalesville FDC that most of his friends would continue to associate him.

Never one for personal advancement  
See "L'HEUREUX, Page 3



LARRY L'HEUREUX

The Ancient Times

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BUSINESS MGR: Dave Boddie

THE ANCIENT TIMES, the newspaper of THE COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS, is published quarterly to keep members and the public informed about Ancient Drum Corps activities and subjects related thereto.

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EDITORIAL

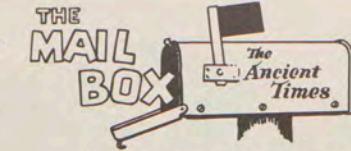
Our last editorial dealt with friendships formed within corps ranks and their continuing importance. Our current issue treats on the passing of many of those old friends two of whom, incidentally, we met on the same day.

It doesn't really seem like yesterday, but can it really be 35 years ago that the Noah Webster FDC, then of West Hartford, Ct., sponsored an Ancient gathering at the local golf course?

They weren't called Musters then - and there weren't that many Ancients to go around. However, a few months out of the Army made everything look impressive and every gathering a major occasion. Several of the great old corps names - Burns Moore, Von Deck, Mietzner, Palmes - were still with us and the dreary weather was dispelled by the electric personality of corps founder (and one-day-to-be carver of mountains), Korczak Ziolkowski.

Both Ted Kurtz & La L'Heureux were dynamic additions to the day's doings, which were highlighted with an address by the State's Aduccant General who spoke of his drumming days with the Stratford Pioneers. The spirit and presence that Ted & La exuded helped found the Muster movement which was to culminate in the formation of THE COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS.

All are part of the whole, say the poets, and these two old friends formed a rather large part of what



Charlottesville, Virginia

Please convey my warmest wishes for an enjoyable season to THE COMPANY officers.

I hope the 14th can return to Connecticut this summer for a Muster. We were at Deep River in 1977. I expect 1981 to be the last year for the 14th Va. Regt. I can't seem to stay ahead of inflation and train a new corps each year. I was in the Marine Corps, (Platoon Sgt.), and train my corps in a similar fashion, (drill only). We only have one in four kids make it.

I have to take this opportunity to correct an error in the last Ancient Times. The corps pictured at Chatham as the "Plymouth FDC" is in fact the "Hillbilly Corps" from Virginia known as the 14th Va. Regt. I would recognize those people anywhere! I have nightmares involving those same "well behaved" (?) kids.

Take Care Harvey Hague

\*\*\*\*\*

Margaree Harbor, Nova Scotia

It was good to see all my friends at the Westbrook Muster. It's all very well to hear pipe bands and fiddlers, but there were times during the past two years when I would have given almost anything to hear a good fife and drum ensemble. I guess that once the bug bites, one never gets over it.

Sincerely

Jack Mac Learn

\*\*\*\*\*

Basel, Switzerland

In the old world everything is O.K....that means in the same disorder as everywhere else in the world. The swiss Mariners have

their off-season now; they prepare themselves quietly for the next year.

My thoughts were with you on the Xmas party. In my spirit I also participated the Xmas parade in Saybrook. I am sure, one day it will become real.

In Corps Spirit
Fredy "Don Alfredo" Bruder

\*\*\*\*\*

West Hartford, Ct.

Andrew Reamer, Penna. Drum maker Bill Reamer's son, won the Senior Student Audition of the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra and performed a solo, on Marimba, with them on January 21. He is only one of two given this honor this year and is the first percussionist to be so rewarded. Andrew who is also the Sergeant Drummer of the Independence FDC, missed the DRAM this year, for the first time in many, because he was performing as the lead drummer in the Colorado Philharmonic Orchestra's summer series in the Rockies. Quite a young man and a credit to THE COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS. Andrew has a B.A. in music from Temple and is studying for his "Master's there as well.

Speaking of Bill Reamer — the last "Soistman Shell", (completed as a drum by Bill), and the first total Reamer drum, are in Conn. Mike Jedd got the last all Soist-



MIKE JEDD, BILL REAMER AND BILL LAPORTE AT THE 1981 DRAM

man-parts drum and I received the first all-Reamer Drum. Bill had it ready for me at last year's Deep River Ancient Muster. Mike and I compared drums and posed for the photo, seen here with Bill R. in the middle. The drum on the left is Bill's.

I'll be celebrating my 40th year in Drum Corps activity this year - as a player, teacher, judge. Not much by some standards but I'm getting there.

Best Regards
Bill LaPorte

\*\*\*\*\*

Janesville, Wisconsin

I wish to thank you for using some of the information previously sent to you.

I would like to tell you of local events that may be of interest to readers of The Ancient Times.

We have a DB corps and a youth band in Town. Their kids badmouthed our people from Jan. 1st. til Aug., 1980 and our corps wanted revenge. It came at the Lyons Parade and competition, that included other DB corps as well as the above, where I'm happy to say Janesville FDC blew everyone away.

There is another DB corps - The Royal Knights - with whom we have an entirely different relationship. In the last three years we have met and even competed against each other. At one parade their director suggested we get together at the end of the season. We laid on FDC hospitality. We housed and fed them for two days and also put on a joint show in a high school gym. It was great. At a recent parade a live musket

blew up leaving a Boy Scout's Uniform ablaze before thousands of people. He was rescued by fellow Scout, and Friend, Adam Granddall. The entire corps had to march past the prone Scout, while his friend beat the flames out. The corps continued right to the end of the parade route with tears streaming down their faces, including the Director's - Me.

The very next week we went through it again at "The Feast of the Hunter's Moon". We had just finished playing for the closing ceremony when a marching-parent was reported down with an apparent heart attack. Though we did not know for sure that it was heat exhaustion, the corps - including the parent's son - marched again a half hour later.

How's that for commitment ?
Sincerely
Bob Williams

\*\*\*\*\*

Davis, California

I was in to San Francisco and saw Jack Doyle, (fellow ex-Stony Creek Fifer). We played a few tunes together along the shore at Mendocino -- where they ribbed me about my Connecticut Dialect. Jack's very content with both his job and San Francisco. I'm hoping to attend a Jean Pierre Rampal concert this month and will probably see him there.

I'll be home visiting for the DRAM - and look forward to seeing everyone then.

In the Spirit
Bill Ralston

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Meriden, Ct.

I was looking over some old Ancient Times and found a photo of (Late Governor of Ct.) Ella - Grasso with (current Ct. Governor) Bill O'Neil and (Company Pres.) Mo Schoos on the front page the Oct. 1978 issue. This was taken at the National Muster in East Hampton, Ct.

I feel a copy of the photo and story should be sent to each of the two people surrounding her, and a copy of the whole issue sent to her family—compliments of THE COMPANY.

Sincerely
Norm Allen

\*\*\*\*\*

Sanford, North Carolina

Bill Krug, and wife Chris stopped here on way to N.Y. a few weeks ago and while looking at some old corps photos we came across this picture of the Baltimore, Md. "Monumentals". Buck Soistman sent me the original many years ago.



Baltimore's Monumental City FDC - some 30 years ago - Founder & Drum Manufacturer, "Buck" Soistman at far right.

I had a copy made for you on the very, very slim outside chance you don't have one. Ann reminded me, "if it's a drum corps photo taken this century, Ed has it." However, add it to your collection.

Happy New Year!
Ken Schneider



**FRANK LAFFIN, 55**  
Bass Drummer  
Veteran Corps of Artillery  
June 15, 1980

**EDWARD "NED" ALLEN, 80**  
Retired Fifer  
Lancraft FDC  
October 23, 1980

**JOSEPH CHIODA, 63**  
Fifer  
Garfield Pleasure Club  
November 4, 1980

**BURTON WADSWORTH, 66**  
Drummer  
Old Warehouse Point  
November 7, 1980

**ROBERT "FOE" COLEMAN, 58**  
Bass Drummer  
Dickerson FM  
November 13, 1980

**RON "TWIGGY" BERNER, 52**  
Cannoneer  
Ancient Mariners, Ct.  
November 14, 1980

**GEORGE KUBICEK**  
Trumpet  
St. Casimir's, Yonkers  
November 21, 1980

**WILLIAM HARNICK, 69**  
Past-President  
Conn. Fifers and Drummers Ass'n.  
November 27, 1980

**DEWEY THOMAS, 64**  
Retired Bass Drummer  
Stony Creek FDC  
November 28, 1980

**JAMES "JIM" DONNELLY, 84**  
Sr. Fifer  
Norwood Colonial Boys  
December 13, 1980

**RICHARD "Stitchy" COLLINS**  
Retired Snare Drummer  
Stony Creek FDC  
December 13, 1980

**ERNEST ROBINSON, 63**  
Bass Drummer  
Mattatuck Drum Band  
December 15, 1980

**ERNEST GUSTAFSON, 79**  
Sr. Bass Drummer  
Westbrook Drum Corps  
December 26, 1980

**ALVIN E. GUILMART, 59**  
Ex-Director  
Milford Colonial Rangers  
January 9, 1981

**WILLIAM R. WATKINSON, 65**  
Retired Fifer  
Deep River FDC  
January 11, 1981

**GORDON MacARTHUR, 75**  
Individual Member  
Branford, Ct.  
January 17, 1981

There are so many entries in this Muffled Drum that it would be impossible to accord each the Biographic treatment to which they should be entitled. Some were drumcorps "Retreads" returning to the scene, after years of inactivity, others never left 'til now. FRANK LAFFIN dated back to old Brooklyn days when he, and his later-to-be wife Marge, trod the pavement of Grant Ave. Along with Ken and Marie Lemley and the rest of the Bennett Post FDBC.

NED ALLEN started fifing with Lancraft in 1918 and was active for over 50 years. Elected Lancraft Man of the Year he left his son Norm to follow in his Drum Corps footsteps.

TWIGGY BERNER who delighted in the nickname that parodied his ample frame, was drafted into corps ranks in Adulthood. Nevertheless, he joined the fray, as though he had been with us all of his life, and became THE COMPANY'S gourmet chef. Although he settled for a position in the Mariners' "Cannon Crew", his son Ben went on to become a prize winning Bass Drummer with Westbrook's junior Colonials. Twiggy's booming laughter will be sorely missed at future corps gatherings.

GEORGE KUBICEK who, though never in an Ancient Corps, was a kindred spirit never the less. He often spoke, tongue in cheek, of the Ancient Brass and Drum Corps that was never to come to fruition, and could be found at every DRAM reminiscing with cronies about the old days at Yonkers' Polish Community Center and the good times had there. Certainly the flugel horn would have continued an unknown item, to most corps people, had he not demonstrated such ag-



**ROBERT ALONZO COLEMAN**  
By Dave Boddie

Robert Alonzo Coleman was a 45 year veteran Bass Drummer of the Charles W. Dickerson Field Music of New Rochelle, N.Y. He was killed instantly in a three truck accident in Hunterdon County, N.J. on Thursday, Nov. 13, 1980. Known to all as "Foe", He was the last corps Bass Drummer taught by the late Sanford A. "Gus" Moeller.

Born August 19, 1923 in Columbia, South Carolina, Foe came to New Rochelle at an early age. He became a member of Boy Scout Troop 16 in 1935 and its corps the same year. He started as a snare drummer but found the bass much more to his liking.

Foe's funeral was held at St. Catharines Church, in New Rochelle, at which time members of the corps escorted the family from the residence to the church. Taps was played at the interment by Robert Rice, Corps Bugler.

He'll Be Sorely Missed !!!!

**LAURENCE L'HEUREUX**  
Snare Drummer  
Old Yalesville  
February 10, 1981

**THOMAS DONAHUE, 55**  
Drum Major  
Royal Typewriter FDC  
February, 1981

**TED KURTZ, 84**  
Fifer  
Mattatuck  
February 20, 1981

**ALFRED C. MOFFATT, 73**  
Drum Instructor & Nat'l. Judge  
Akron, Pa.  
March 11, 1981

gressive proficiency thereon - back when "competitions" were still fun. DEWEY THOMAS and "STITCHY" COLLINS veterans of Stony Creek's powerhouse drum line of 50 years ago. Stitchy, who owed his sobriquet to his Mother's proficiency as a seamstress, had visited some Jay Bird Days and Dewey was reported never too far away.

GUS GUSTAFSON that colorful old performer, on the Eli Brown Bass, who was so entertaining with his Scandinavian humor and reflections of days gone by.

AL GUILMART so active during THE COMPANY'S formative years, spelled time between the fife and the antique business.

TOM DONAHUE impeccable drum major of an impeccable corps, taught fife and was once a regular at Ancient events...and

AL MOFFATT who judged at the famous A.D.A. contest at the 1940 N.Y. World's Fair and died attending a music convention in Mass.

Their contributions were many—suffice to say we are poorer for the loss of each and every one of them.



**BURT WADSWORTH**  
By Bill Alexander

Burt was a tobacco farmer before founding the East Windsor Enterprise—that Connecticut Town's first paper—& was also Fire Chief, First Selectman, President of the Historical Society and, most importantly, a



**BEN EMERICK FOR FIRST SELECTMAN**

Ben Emerick, founding father of the Capt. Buxton Fifes and Drums, has taken out nomination papers for the Selectman's contest in his town of Uxbridge, Mass: Apr. 14th election.

Ben has been a regular on the Uxbridge Police Dept. since 1962 and became a sergeant 10 years ago. He was chairman of the Local Bicentennial Commission and is considered an authority on Colonial Musical Literature as well as a serious student of history at the national, state and local levels.

An active supporter of COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS' activities from the very earliest days, Ben is well known to meeting and Muster go-ers alike.

Drummer with the old Warehouse Point FDC.

He was a 100% kind of Guy with keen wit and an easy manner. Whether it be a business decision or late night jollification he was always amiable.

It was quite a sight to watch him hang on a drum, call a tune and then play it with the variations and fills that only live on in Warehouse Point.

I thoroughly enjoyed those times—but drum lines change and, for sure, another will come to fill the open space—although as we all know, it will never sound the same.

**"OLD JIM" DONNELLY**

By Tom Connolly

The only way for me to tell you about Jim is to ramble a little and think of what he was and did. Knowing him so long, it seems that he was always there.

"Old Jim", as he was known to us, got the name pinned on him because his son Jimmy was also in the corps. To avoid confusion it made it easy to say Old Jim and Jimmy. As I said, it seems that he has always been around. He was always going to parties and helping teach the junior corps (Tiots FDC) even though he couldn't march in his later years. He continually called asking "What's happening with the corps?" Of course he never stopped talking of making one more trip to Ireland.

It was because of Jim that the Co- See "OLD JIM" Page 5



**A WESTERN WELCOME HOME**

Ex-Iranian hostage, Donald Hohman was honored, by fellow townspeople of West Sacramento, California, with a time-honored parade. Hit of the day was The Sacramento Spirit of '76 comprised of fifer, Oak Whelan and a couple of ex-Connecticut Corpsmen: Dave Davidson (Warehouse Point) and Bill Ralston (Stony Creek). "No flute and sparkle drum unit here", reports Bill R. "We may have been the first "Sprit" to appear with two fifers but who else could boast a bail-bond agency sponsoring their appearance and costuming?" The unit received a nice crowd response which included many questions as to their background and future plans. They marched again, on March 13, in Sacramento's St. Patrick's Parade and on May 16 will be playing at Cosumnes River College where Ralston is taking fife and piano lessons.

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...NEW SLATE

(continued from pg. 1)  
 others. All you need do is send your five and drum music to Doc Ferrante. Books #1 and #2 are now out of stock. They will not be reprinted until advance payments and demand justify the expenditure. Plans are to survey the corps to ascertain whether or not to reprint them.

For the Ancient Times, Buzz Allen noted that solid work was being done by Dave Boddie, Phil Truitt, Judy Pape and Mal Hinckley, but that more help in the organizational area was always welcome. The solidarity of this publication is something we all should be proud of so if anyone wants to join in they can contact Buzz. Under the Sutler Report, it was noted that Bill Kinnare will handle mail order business until a new Sutler has been designated. The Company is offering a 5 color license plate for those of you who reside in states where only one plate is required on your automobiles. The price is \$9.00 for members and \$10.00 for non-members. New mugs are now in stock and tee shirts are also available as well as the new Camp Duty book/tape package. Plans are to have the Company Store open only at Deep River and Westbrook next year unless a traveling Sutler can be found. It was suggested that some of the Jaybirds might be interested in the involvement of the Sutler job at Musters.

Bob Brady announced the new nominations for 1981 election of officers and the Executive Committee. The nominations are led by Lancraft's Eldrick Arsenault for President, Sudbury's Russ Kirby for First Vice President and Doc Ferrante for Second Vice President. Bill Kinnare is proposed as Treasurer and both Bill Alexander and Germantown's Walt Rynkiewicz are listed for Secretary. The new Executive Committee of 10 will be selected from a nominated list of 14 candidates. These include Buzz Allen, Plainville's Bob Brady, Jim McEleny, Dave Bender, Mike Chiodo, Dave Hooghkirk, Dickerson's Sam Romie, Gordon McArthur of the Green Mt. Regiment, Phil Truitt, Mo Lanzi from East Hampton, Jim Liguori of the Sailing Masters, Paul Moskowitz of Germantown, Jim Clark of the Connecticut Patriots and Ed Classey. All corps delegates will be mailed ballots and the results will be announced at the April 1981 meeting at Mt. Kisko. Leo Brennan had a sound suggestion in asking the Exec. Committee nominees to attend the next meeting of that body in order to be familiar with pending business.

The Ancient Fund was next for discussion and it was announced that Mo Lanzi will fill in for Dick Higgins and form a new committee to search for a site for the proposed Company headquarters. Tom Safranek who enjoys expertise in grant fundraising as well as on file will head the committee to add some major dynamics to the Fund's growth. The present capital is not sufficient for land or building purchase, nor is its growth pattern. Tom will be directing efforts towards major grant income from historical Trust Funds and individuals so that the fund can be realistically supplemented to reach the \$300,000 range required to make the Company Headquarters something we can all be proud of. Tom's goals will be to raise funds not only for the land, the total building complex and the grounds, but also for a maintenance staff on full time duty. It was discussed and well noted that smaller, devoted Ancient donors will be equally recognized in the eventual building with major, Non-Ancient donors so

5th SUCCESSFUL JAYBIRD DAY



Gathered outside the Lancraft Clubhouse, a few of the drummers line up, oblivious to the poor outnumbered fifers — "In true ancient spirit. It was much like the old codger who would call, "Drums play 'Golden Slippers' fifes play what you've a mind to."



"Don't wait 'til I'm half in the bag," admonishes Larry L'Heureux.

...MAILBOX

(Continued from Page 2)

Saudi Arabia

I received your Christmas card, along with my usual bills when I returned after the Holidays. Christmas '80 was spent with my family back in the states; a hell of a lot better than Christmas '79.

The N.Y. Ancients had a Christmas party on Dec. 20 and I was elated to find Doc Ferrante, Duke Terreri and Mike Chioda holding up the good name of THE COMPANY by holding down select seats in the cocktail lounge. God bless their stamina.

God knows when I'll be back in the states again. I could be back tomorrow, I could be back in six months; or any time in between. A study in frustration.

I don't even have the opportunity of quenching my anxieties with brew. Drat the dry climate, both inside and out.

Say hello to all for me and tell them that I still am anxious in following the antics of a tremendous bunch of early American enthusiasts. I'll see you all at the first opportunity.

In the Spirit  
 Tom O'Keefe

that loyalty will in no way be slighted by size of contribution. Support from these Trust Funds will in no way cause The Company to lose control of its operations or become involved in any undesirable string attachments.

North Haven, Ct. Oct. 5: Born with the Bicentennial, THE COMPANY'S OLD TIMERS' gathering-dubbed Jaybird Day after an early Mac Kinlay Kantor Book - has come to be one of the most looked-forward-to events on our annual calendar.

Since the first gathering in 1976 the mix has included corpsmembers active and inactive - from many states. This year the primary representation came from New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Rhode Island. The matchless combination of Matt "Sonny" Lyons, at the helm, and Joe Patten, at the groaning board, continues to make each Jaybird Day more enjoyable than the last.

Master of Ceremonies Dave Boddie opened the formal proceedings by dedicating the day to his instructor, the late Gus Moeller. Fifty years before, Gus made his now-famous march from New York City to Boston drumming every step of the way. He went on to introduce the Day's featured Jaybirds-Drummer Duke Terreri of the N.J. Colonial Militia and former Stony Creek Bass Drummer Carlo Ballestracci Sr, now with the Mariner Boarding Party. Dave's classic observation, "We've got an unbeatable combination up here, the Mafia and the Mau Mau", brought the house down.

It was a happy time replete with the casual repartee an humorous recollections found only among old friends.—Lancraft's Harold Ripperger recalling that Mariner Ed Classey's father was the first to serve him "Beer for Breakfast" and Classey countering with reminiscences of both their fathers "sitting at the bar, schemin' things up." — Germantown's Linda Moskowitz reporting that her father, Old-Swampy Bird, was demonstrating the cantankerousness his Yankee nature by staying home "T' mow the Lawn". — Oscar Olsen, in his 88th year, the oldest Jaybird present honored for marching in various corps' color guards-Mt. Vernon's Post 596 as well as Brooklyn's Bay Ridge Post and Sons of Liberty — Mike Chioda traveling the furthest, from Lodi, N.J. — Ted Kurtz attending his last Jaybird Day, resplendent in pale blue and mauve, revealing "That's what happens when you get married" — and "La" L'Heureux, a



"THE MAFIA. . .



...AND THE MAU MAU"

nother old-timer fated to be with us for the last time, continuing the customary microphone jocularly with, "Next time ya' call me up here to say something, don't wait 'til I'm half in the bag."

The playing was spirited, the program enjoyable and the universal words, at parting, were "Be sure and let me know about the next one". All in all, a great day.

... COMSTOCK

(continued from pg. 1)

of them for offering help. As that Friday, Jan. 30th turned out to be a very cold day with temperatures below freezing, the Comstock Corps draped themselves in their winter blankets as their revolutionary forebears did to keep warm, and took their place in the line of march between ex-hostages Bruce Germaine and Robert Blucker.

As they marched out of Battery Park and into the canyon of buildings lining Broadway, the corps realized that what they thought to be howling wind was really the roar of the crowds. As the noise became almost deafening, tons of paper swirled about them in a snow-like paper storm. When ever the corps played "America" or "Battle Hymn," voices would rise up from both sides as crowds lined up 10 deep joined in singing. Thinking back on the happy sea of faces, confetti covered trees, fireboats spouting red, white & blue water and above all the waving overwhelmed hostages home at last, they know that day will always mark a fond memory in the minds of the corps. It was a day that held a complete a total good feeling. Joe White, a member of the Color Guard said the freezing wind was bearable because of a "Glowing patriotic warmth inside me."

The Samuel Comstock FDC still hopes to go to Washington and is actively engaged in raising money to do so. A patriotic musical pageant entitled "The 2nd Night of the Patriot" will be presented by the corps on the night of Friday April 24, 1981 at Middlebrook School Auditorium. It will be an inspiring evening of Fife & Drum music, song and entertainment and is still in the planning stages.



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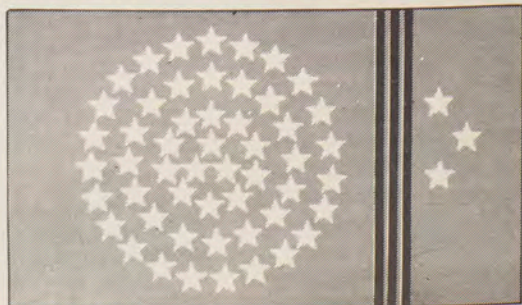
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... OLD JIM

(Continued from Page 3)  
 lonial Boys were the first American Fife and Drum Corps to go to Ireland. It was Jim's dream to have us march through his hometown of Killeagh in County Cork. The night that we finally did march down Killeagh's Main Street, Old Jim was out in front, in full uniform with his son, Jimmy and nephew Jim, to lead us on! It was his crowning glory. Imagine, three Jim Donnellys and all proud as hell!

Jim was 84 years old when he died. He was involved in Fifeing and Drumming nearly all his life, starting out with a fife and drum band - with his brothers in Killeagh. When he came to Norwood he immediately got involved with St. Catherine's Drum Corps as an Instructor and stayed until 1955 when the Colonial Boys became independent and went on their own. This was the time he became more than an insturctor and began marching in uniform.



Three generations of Donnellys. "Old Jim" on the left, his son Jimmy and Jimmy's son, complete with tricorne and fife, showing promise of keeping the family tradition alive.

It was Jim's Irish background, and knowledge of Irish music, that got us playing as many jigs and reels as we do now. With old Mike McManus teaching drums and Jim teaching the fife it was a great combination. We shall be forever grateful to the two of them for all the kids they taught, for all those years, they never received a single payment. Their only payment was watching thier pupils playing and competing.

Always a man for coming up with little jingles like, "chase me Charlie, up the leg of me drawers" or "If I had the wings of a Cockroach, I'd fly all over the ground". He'd sing his little ditties and we never bothered to find out where they originated. If you ever wanted to get things started in a pub, or a party after a parade, all you had to do was to start "The Boys from the County Cork" and Jim would proceed to sing all of the verses.

His music was always there, and he was always music. To us he was a gentleman, a musician and a damn good insturctor. He was always there!

In 1970, the Colonial Boys, after coming back from Ireland, put together a medley of tunes called, appropriately, "Up Cork!". In 1980 we played a peice, once again dedicated to Old Jim. This time, however, it was at his grave-site and as the strains of fifes and drums rang through the cemetery you could hear a tune we all know he loved so well - "The Soldiers' Song."

... L'HEUREUX

(Continued from Page 1)  
 ment, La shunned the individual contests, and the attendant medals that were cherished by so many of his cohorts, but never stopped working to keep the old Ancient spirit alive. He had instructed the Col. John Chester and long-gone Newington Jr. drum lines but was best known, to many, for the countless number of drums he produced bearing his "Newbridge" label.

La and his wife Hattie, ("Hat", he always called her) were married 54 years ago. At the National Muster, 1978 in East Hampton, Ct., they astounded those within earshot by announcing that they had become great-grand parents. Although their son Dave-offtime bass drum champion-had dropped out of corps work several years ago; as had La's brother Emil, before him;

La continued working with-and on-drums until he entered the hospital.

His contributions to the heritage of traditional American Fifeing and Drumming were far more than musical and he was living proof that "nice guys" don't "always finish last."

La will be sorely missed whenever Ancients gather.

... KURTZ

(Continued from Page 1)  
 end once described Ted's association with Mattatuck as a "Love-Hate relationship" and that probably comes as close to describing Ted's involvement, with the rest of the world, as anything might possibly do.

Although he would give you the embroidered-Soistman shirt off his back, Ted delighted in playing the role of the Curmudgeon-priding himself on the half-dozen brush fires of contention that he usually kept going with friends and comorts. That was as much a part of him as were his big old scrapbooks.

He was the Old-Timer emeritus-using that nom De Plume when he wrote for The Ancient Times-and actively participating in each of the five Jaybird Days THE COMPANY has so far sponsored. If it weren't for Ted's deep love, (he'd have hated that phrase), for the ancients, we would have a lot less knowledge - or accomplishment - available to draw upon today.

The many who received their early tutelage, in the history and lore of our field of endeavor, from Ted Kurtz, had a special affection and regard for him--even though he wasn't speaking to them, much of the time. In an activity oriented, as ours is, toward historic precedent Ted was always the right man in the right place.

History was an early a love as was the fife and when he wasn't making or playing the latter he was studying the former. He devoted large amounts of time researching and recording the origins of our very peculiar passtime. Ted's collections were prodigious and his knowledge was always at the disposal of fellow corps members, and legitimate researchers. As for those outsiders whose only object was to turn Ted's work into personal gain-they received but short shrift from him. He could spot a professional plagiarist a mile away.

Ted's first corps was the old St. Cecelia's of Waterbury, and his first insturctor was Father Carl Martin - a seaman, turned priest. Oddly enough, his initial instrument was not fife but piccolo for, as he cryptically related, his "people wouldn't go for the fife." After 3 or 4 years he became a "Swinging Major", (twirler). This was a time when people threw fifty cent pieces at the twirler, who impressed them. St. Cecelia's entire repertory consisted of "Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," "Yankee Doodle" and "Marching Through Georgia" and it wasn't long before the corps was dissolved in favor of a brass band. At that time Ted "took cornet, went back to piccolo and flute, and from there took everything".

Early-on he became affiliated with the aforementioned Mattatuck Drum Band. He fified with them through the 1st and 2nd World Wars, and for a short time even acted as Drum Major. Through the years, Ted maintained a dual activity with Mattatuck, and various Modern units with which he competed taking many individual awards. In as much as the Conn. Fifers & Drummers Ass'n frowned upon membership in more than one corps he was never offici-

ally registered with "The Matts" and until the very end members of the venerable Ancient corps found it hard to understand how he had played with them since 1912, and was "not on the minutes."

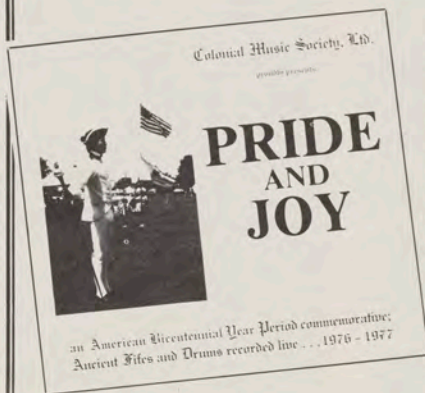
At the tender age of 12 Ted started making metal fifes. He was thus launched into a side-line career that would one day develop into "Brass City Fificraft". It was typical of Ted that he entered this field because of a difference of opinion that he described as being "unable to come to terms" with T.D.O'Connor, of nearby Naugatuck, who made most of the metal fifes at the time.

Through the years Ted was a prolific manufacture of fifes - metal

and wood - and drum sticks as well. Those activities did little to raise his living standards, however, for he usually plowed most of his profits back into his beloved passtime. Many of the Ancient "parties", so popular after WWII, were sponsored - in whole, or part - by money Ted accrued at the lathe or drill press. It should be added that much of the good-fellowship engendered by these gatherings matured, and developed, into The Ancient Musters that eventually resulted in the formation of THE COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS.

During his long tenure with the fife he played in company with  
 See "KURTZ" Page 6

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# BILL KRUG'S KORNER

By BILL KRUG

**DID YOU KNOW . . .**

. . . That as nineteenth century instrument-makers gradually added keys to the fife, it became known as a "keyed-fife!" and developed into what we know as the piccolo. A six-keyed version was used by the Hellcats, the Field Music unit that plays for the cadet drills at West Point!

. . . That the fife, has from the time of the Crusades, been played with cylindrical side drums as an infantry instrument, notably in Germany, and Switzerland. Eventually, it made its way to southern France!

. . . That the original U.S. Marine Corps Band was a fife and drum unit!

. . . That in colonial New Amsterdam, Dutch folk hurried out to hear the news as the town crier and drummer appeared!

. . . That on the islands of the southwestern Pacific and in India, single or double nose-flutes, blown through the nostrils rather than the mouth, testify to a connection in unsophisticated minds between "flutes" on the one hand, and the "soul", represented by the "magic-working" of the nose breath, on the other!

. . . That the "fife" is represented in sculptured memorials of the Argonauts of ancient Greece. Since that time it's been used as an instrument for martial music!

. . . That in the 1500s the English brought fifes from Europe to Britain and they were then known as "Swiss Pipes".

. . . The "march", a musical composition with strong rhythm, dates back to ancient times as accompaniment to processions. The earliest known martial music to exist in note form was written for fife and drum about 1559 by Thoinet Arbeau, a French Catholic Priest and compiled as Arbeau's Orchesographie a treatise on dance, as marching was considered a form of dancing. The modern "quick-march" dates only from the 17th century, but a very slow solemn type known as the "dead" march, goes back to the funeral processions of antiquity.

. . . In 1770, young British officers in Boston, taunted Bostonians by

**...KURTZ**

(Continued from Page 5)

many different units, including: The 2nd Company Governor's Ft. Gd., Montrose FDC of New Haven, Milford Grenadiers, Arctic Engine FDC of Milford, Junior Mechanics ("marched for the strikers, during the big Bridgeport Strike"), Devon Grenadiers, 1st City of Bridgeport, Happy Pals of Seymour, Etc., Etc. Some of the local units, with which he was associated, were: The Boys Club Band, St. Ann's, St. Cecilia's Corp., Coyle Post, Caspar Davis Post, St. Francis Xavier, Washington Hill, Brass City Girls, St. Joseph's, St. Stan's, Waterbury Moose and of course-Mattatuck.

No old-timers' get-together was complete without him-were it at Alec Smith's apple farm, Fred Burghoff's Barn or the old "Lock-up" at Warehouse Point. Drum corps to the last, his friends assembled, at the final gathering, together with Grace, his wife of only a year, and his daughters Kay, Ann, Betty and Irene as he was laid to rest-fife in hand-to the strains of the traditional old dirge "Flee as the Bird" - played, quite naturally, on fife and drum.

marching past churches where they would bang and toot away with massed drums and fifes during meeting time. Each side seemed to delight in provoking the other, inevitably leading to that final and historical episode of bloodshed, . . . "The Boston Massacre!"

. . . "Taps" is a tune we normally hear played at soldiers burials, but originally, it was composed to save lives. Forced to camp within firing distance of each other, the Union and Confederate Armies at the Seven Days Battle on the peninsula of Seven Pines, Virginia, tried to take time out to bury their dead. Upon Hearing the tradition-

**DEEP RIVER CORPS ENTERTAINS**

By Dave Boddie

Known for its ability to run the largest, most renowned Muster on the circuit — The Deep River FDC proved its ability to host a fine dinner dance, as well.

Held at the popular "Swede Hall", on Dec. 6, the event was proportionately as well attended and with as much fun and high spirits as the annual DRAM.

It was good to see many old-timers enjoying the relaxed atmosphere and festivities. A cock-

al firing of rifles at a graveside of Union burials, the Confederates often assumed that they were being fired upon and returned the fire. General Daniel Butterfield was determined to bury the dead properly, and one night he composed "Taps", It saved many a life, and thereafter became tradition!

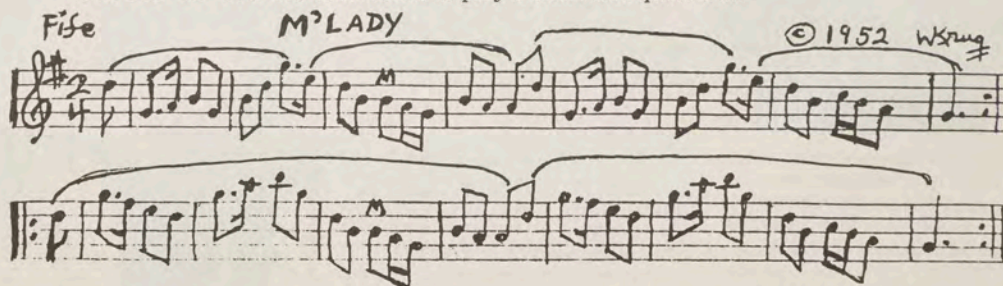


Veteran Deep River Drummer Carl Emanuelson and his wife "Teta".

tail hour was followed by a buffet-style dinner and, after the meal, tables were rolled back for dancing.

During the intermission the corps entertained with several selections so as to remind those present that this was a drum corps function run by drum corps people. Also present to remind us of that fact was a steady flow of spiritus Frumentii.

The following tune, written in 1939, was the first "Ancient" type tune I ever wrote. If used with a Scotch type accented drumbeat, it is quite effective and has quite a "rock" to it. The "M" over the note means to play a short and quick trill.



P.S. I've had quite a number of inquiries as to which fife tunes are "my" originals of the complete listing, here are the names of the first twelve fife tunes I will identify, adding more each addition. (1) O'Connors Quick Step(2) Korn Likker(3) Black Watch(4) Willie T.(5) Williamsburg(6) Yorktown(7) Lady Christine(8) M'Lady(9) Swiss Guards(10) Morgan's Rifles(11) Devil's Flute(12) Scarlet Regiment.

**STONY CREEK OLD TIMERS' NIGHT**



One hundred and fifty years of corps-experience, gathers at the Stony Creek FDC Bar, as Joe Grandel, Mike Infantino and Vinnie Megaro, all vets of the Creek's Championship Corps of the bad old Depression Days, Discuss the way Joe's son Tommy helped keep alive the unit's winning ways by taking the State Championship on snare drum.

**STONY CREEK OLD-TIMERS NIGHT**

A visit to the Branford, Ct. village of Stony Creek is a trip back to another era. Basically unchanged since the days when it excelled as a Resort and Quarry-town, it retains a functional seaside atmosphere long since lost in other local shore towns.

One of the dominant organizations in the community is its famous old Fife and Drum Corps. Thursday night, Nov. 13, was a time to dwell on past glories and know again the sound that long-ago set the Creek apart from all the rest.

The gray planks of Seaside Hall bulged with the revelers and its second floor bucked & heaved in time to the drumming. The old building's suitability, for such a gathering, was not lost on the participants for, in fact, the only thing missing was the pot-bellied stove that once threw the late Gus Moeller into such raptures of literary fancy.

The evening's honored guests were: Bernard Page, whose active

days spanned the years of WW I and who recalled diminished ranks drumming-up the town to proclaim that the war to end all wars was over—and Carlo Balestracci who joined in the year of "The Big Crash" and is still marching, tho' now in the ranks of The Ancient Mariners.

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## FALL FOLIAGE AND SPIRITED MUSIC AT TAUNTON MUSTER!

Along the Ancient trail, the annual pinnacles of the Fall are the traditional Massachusetts Musters where authenticity and friendship are always a pleasant package as the season winds to a close. This year the Liberty & Union Day Muster in Taunton was spectacular. With the countryside ablaze in New England foliage, some 39 units from 4 states gathered. Perhaps because of the color and the pleasant 70 degree temperatures all units were swept by a moving spirit that was reflected clearly in the calibre of music and the friendly mixing that went on throughout the day.

The paramount feature of the gathering was the exceptional way in which all the Bay State units performed. Their music was marked by a verve and cohesiveness and to a corps, they were a treat to hear and see. The field was made up of Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts outfits plus the Young Colonial FDC from New York.

The two mile parade was witnessed by some 2,000 Taunton Patriots. It was a beautiful experience to trek through the tree lined route with the colors at post-peak but still vibrant. Where it all came together, however, was in the Taunton High School fieldhouse when the 21 Ancient Corps rang the rafters with snappy arrangements and stirring rhythms. The host Taunton Colonial Minutemen, the Hatfield Ancients, The Norwood Colonial Boys, the Concord Minutemen, the Menotomy Minutemen, the Tiot Jr. Ancients and the Colonel Thomas Carpenter F & D were, in fine form.

The Hampshire Rebels and Captain James Buxton were equally enjoyable. The 2nd Mass. Regiment from Wakefield was also noteworthy and their entire set was in the best traditions.

The Connecticut delegation was diverse in styles, headed by Ray Arno's Milford Volunteers who were precise, especially on the very tasty drum solo, "Drums Along the Potomac". The Westbrook Drum Corps and Junior Colonials of Don Young gave the Shore Line area strong credits as did the Deep River Seniors. The Totoket ladies were small in number but with Dave Houghkirk on snare they played a very snappy set on stand. The Chester FDC was a warm sight as they are back after a few lean years. Olde Ripton filled out the delegation and their "Contra Dance" music was a pleasant variation to the more traditional martial airs.

The Young Colonials from Lake Carmel, N.Y. continued to impress after their earlier impact at the Huntington Muster in August. This young, enthusiastic competition unit clad in green and gold clearly showed they can be a treat at any Muster. Rhode Island's full force was out with Barton's Raiders, the Pawtuxet Rangers, the Kentish Guards and the Federal Blues FDC.

There is something about the Bay State atmosphere that brings out the best in every corps. It may be simply the realization that they are playing where it all began that generates a special flare in their performance. I have seen it at Patriot's Day and all throughout the state, this year. The historical authenticity, sparked by the many Bay State Militia units, certainly adds to the mix. It is something you treasure and look forward to, year



Now that we all know who shot J.R. Ewing, perhaps the let-down might be eased by the additional knowledge of the reason for the deed. Above we see "J.R.", (actor Larry Hagman in the TV series "Dallas."), fiving away. His assailant had either to be a music critic or a bugler.

### FIRST PARADE OF IRISH DIFFERENT

Contrary to popular belief, St. Patrick's Day parades in America are not of Irish origin; nor did they begin in honor of St. Patrick.

According to information discovered by research, the first St. Patrick's Day parade by the Irish, held in New York City in 1776, was very much against their will—largely, perhaps because of the event was the brain-child of Lord Rawdon, one of the commanders of the British military force then operating in New York City.

Presumably to impress the Americans with the might of the British Empire, Lord Rawdon assembled five hundred brawny Irishmen who had been drafted into the British Army by the press gangs in Ireland. He dressed this small regiment in brilliant British uniforms and then paraded them through the city. After the parade, the energetic Lord Rawdon gave each parader a pound sterling to spend in celebrating St. Patrick's Day—to drink to the memory of the good saint and to the health of His Majesty King George III.

The taverns were soon jammed to the doors with thirsty Irishmen, and their tongues, loosened by liquor broadcast the news of Lord Rawdon's compulsory parade. Whereupon a good Irish citizen by the name of Hercules Mulligan, a local woolen merchant and an undercover member of General Washington's intelligence staff, went to work on these "Irish conscripts of His blooming Majesty's arm."

Aided by a number of his Irish-American friends, Mulligan talked to the soldiers with such winning effect that more than four hundred of them crossed the East River and joined the patriot army then occupying Brooklyn.

after year. The gracious hosting of the Taunton Corps, of course, makes this Muster very special and is why it grows every year in its attraction.

Musters are great occasions no matter where they are held. Until you've been to one in Mass. you haven't experienced that rare feeling that gets the juices really flowing. Taunton brought a special pride to every unit in attendance this year and it was nice to see and hear!



"ROASTEE" Pace finds an alternate use for his Sudbury Award. He reported that the ale never tasted sweeter than from the prize plunger.

## "Duke" Terreri Honored at Sailing Masters Dance

by Bill Pace

"Duke" Terreri of Newark, New Jersey, a drummer in drum corps circles for some 50 years, was the guest of honor at the 16th Annual Military Ball sponsored by the Sailing Masters of 1812 and held in the Old Town Hall of Essex, Conn.

Lancraft, the Colonial Navy, New Jersey Colonial Militia, and Westbrook were among the corps honoring the venerable "It's In The Book" Terreri, who was singled out by the Sailing Masters for his contributions to Ancient music.

Drumming buddies of "Duke's" who have come to know him so well since he began gathering drum music for THE COMPANY's music Books often greet him with the phrase "It's in the book," a reference to Duke's persistent claim that the "drum music is in the Music Book of THE COMPANY" whenever he plays a just-made-up version of a drum beat in one of the many jollifications that Duke takes part in during each Muster season.

Citing the fact that "Duke" is not only an accomplished rudimental drummer but a composer of drum corps music, a drum instructor, founder of drum corps in New

## SUDBURY TENTH ANNUAL MUSTER

by Russ Kirby

Ideal weather and a large crowd greeted the corps who turned out for Sudbury's Tenth Muster at Longfellow's Wayside Inn on Saturday, September 27. There was much reminiscing about the good times shared over the last decade, and special recognition was paid to the three people who made it all happen.

The Ignominious order of the Pewter Cross" was bestowed on John Cheney, former Colonel of the Sudbury Companies of Militia and Minute, who first proposed the idea of a Colonial Fair and Muster; on Bill Pace, who promoted the idea and gained first year support of the corps in the "Valley"; and on Inkeeper Frank Koppies, whose unbounded generosity and cooperation has provided the perfect setting for this annual event.

The guest list of Corps consisted of Westbrook, Sailing Masters, Colonial Navy of Mass., Lancraft, North Branford Minutemen, Capt. James Buxton, The Original Ancient Mariners, Stuart Highlanders Pipe Band, Kentish Guards, Colonial Boys, and the Junior Colonials. Half of these corps took part in the first Sudbury Muster where each participant was presented with a reproduction of the first coin minted in America, the 1652 Massachusetts shilling. It was explained that the shilling was symbolic of a lasting association. Since it has worked so well for the past ten years, the practice was repeated in hopes that it will carry us through to our 20th.

When the Mariners took the field, a particularly warm welcome was given to Bill Pace. He was roasted without mercy by many of his "Friends". Mo Schoos, Ed Olsen, and Eldrick Arsenault took part in person, while Dave Boddie and Jim McEleney did so via proxy. After a lengthy and thorough personal attack, a scientific ex-

See SUDBURY, Page 8

Jersey and a professional percussionist, "Doc" Ferrante, a member of THE COMPANY's Executive

See DUKE, Page 8



"DUKE" TERRERI

## ANCIENTS ACTIVITIES

Because of space limitations, priority for listing must be given to programs and activities sponsored by member corps of THE COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS. Send announcements to THE ANCIENT TIMES, P.O. BOX 318, Westbrook, Conn. 06498

All Musters are considered invitational unless otherwise listed.

APRIL 24-25-26: Indian Head Muster in Maryland. Sponsored by the John Hanson Patriots. Contact: Bob Painter, 205 Indian Head Ave., Indian Head, Md. 02640.

APRIL 30: Lancraft Old Timers Night. This affair is by invitation only. Held at Lancraft's North Haven, Conn. headquarters.

MAY 9: Shipburning Commemoration Parade in Essex, Conn. Sponsored by The Sailing Masters of 1812. By invitation only. Contact: Sailing Masters, P.O. Box 184, Essex, Conn. 06426.

JUNE 6: Coginchaug FDC Annual Muster in Durham, Conn. Sponsored by the junior corps in an ideal location. Contact: Mrs. Claudette Kleczkowski, Main Street, Rockfall, Ct. 06481.

JUNE 7: Drums Under the El, New York City. Sponsored by the Yankee Tunemasters. 3rd Annual Muster held in Richmond Hill, Queens, N.Y. Contact: Ernie Kiburis, 94-16 Woodhaven Blvd., Ozone Park, N.Y. 11416.

JUNE 13: Gaspee Day Parade, Warwick, R.I. Contact: Terrance Murphy, 19 Talbot Manor, Cranston, R.I. 02905

JUNE 20: Hanaford's Volunteers F & D Muster held in Essex, Vermont. Contact: Gerd Sommer, Rt 1-Box 129C, Underhill, Vt. 05489

JUNE 20: New Ark FDC Muster in Newark, Delaware. Contact: Paul Urbaniak, 50 Madison Drive, Newark, Del. 19711

JUNE 27: Battle of Monmouth Parade & Muster, Freehold, New Jersey. Contact: Dan Savino, 11 Enright Lane, Freehold, N.J. 07728.

JUNE 27: Parade, Town of North Branford, Conn. Contact John Cudgma of the Minutemen Jr. F & D Corps, 27 Russet St., Branford, Conn. 06405

JUNE 28: Portland F & D Corps Muster held in Portland, Conn. Contact: Roland Bisson, P.O. Box 295, Portland, Conn. 06480.

JULY 4: 4th of July Parade in Bristol, Rhode Island. One of the largest parades in the country get there early!

JULY 11: Marquis of Granby Annual Muster in Granby, Conn. Contact host corps at; P.O. Box 1776, Granby, Conn. 06035

JULY 11: Night Muster sponsored by the Pound Ridge Colonial Fife & Drum Corps. Contact: Bill Bevans, Old Stone Hill Road, Pound Ridge, N.Y. 10576.

JULY 18: Deep River Ancient Muster, Deep River, Conn. This is an "open" Muster for all corps

### ...SUDBURY

(Continued from Page 7)

planation was given as to why Bill is the way he is.

According to Sudbury's compagnie surgeon (and local veterinarian) prolonged exposure to perfect rhythmic vibrations (and Bill is the only one so exposed) will eventually cause a reversal of the normal process of the blood flowing through the organs of the body, i.e. The organs pass through the blood. It was officially determined that although his heart is in the right place, Bill has suffered an anal-cranial inversion. A special appliance for returning the brain to its proper position was presented with explicit instructions for its use in both the "push" and "pull" mode of operation. The accompanying picture shows Bill with the appliance. It appears that he has discovered a third or "quaff" mode that may make medical history.

At the conclusion of the Muster, The Junior Colonials "Alumnae Association" took to the field along with the present members of the corps. Together they rendered the salute to the Jaybirds with which the Sudbury Muster traditionally closes. This seemed particularly appropriate this year since it was the junior Colonials of ten years ago who played the National Anthem to open the first Sudbury Muster, and this year's salute to the Jaybirds was to be dedicated to the Late Dick Higgins. He has been a part of every one of our Musters and his presence will be felt as long as Musters are held here at the Inn.

and is considered to be THE MUSTER of the year. For information contact: Deep River Drum Corps, P.O. Box 135, Deep River, Ct. 06417 or call 203-526-5619

JULY 18: Green Mountain Militia & Parade, Barre, Vermont. For those who would enjoy a trip to northern Vermont contact: Gordon MacArthur, RFD 1-159 Tower Road, Granitville, Vt. 05654

JULY 25: Village Volunteers Muster, Delmar, New York. This is the corps 25th Anniversary celebration. Contact: Lynn Perry, 23 Wicklow Terrace, Delmar, N.Y. 12054

AUGUST 1-2: Mt. Kisco Muster at Leonard Park in Mt. Kisco, New York. Contact: Bill Stewart, 46 Ward Ave, Mt. Kisco, N.Y. 10549

AUGUST 2: Olde Ripton Fife & Drum Corps Third Annual Muster in Huntington, Conn. Contact: Bob Kelly, 16 Mathilda's Lane, Shelton, Conn. 06484

AUGUST 15: Bartons Raiders Muster held in Tiverton, Rhode Island. Contact: George Levlesque, 83 Evergreen Ave. Tiverton, R.I. 02878

AUGUST 22: The 22nd Annual Westbrook Muster. A highlight of the Fife & Drum season. By invitation only. Contact: Westbrook Drum Corps, P.O. Box 269, Westbrook, Conn. 06498

AUGUST 29: New Jersey Colonial Militia Muster. Scheduled to be held in Califon, N.J. For details contact: John Belles, 5 Mendham Road, Morristown, N.J. 07960

SEPT: Sgt. Daniel Bissell FDC Parade & Muster in Windsor, Conn. For information contact: Don Benner, 35 Brookview Road, Windsor, Conn. 06095

SEPT 13: Nayaug Ancients & 3rd Conn. Regiment Annual Muster South Glastonbury, Conn. Contact: W. Clarke Wilbor, P.O. Box 293, Glastonbury, Conn. 06033

SEPT. 19: Marlborough Muster sponsored by the Marlborough Vol. Fire Dept. Fife & Drum Corps. For details contact: Tom Spooner, 107 N. Main St., Marlborough, Conn. 06447

SEPT. 26: Sudbury Ancient Muster, held on the grounds of historic Longfellow's Wayside Inn, Sudbury, Mass. Contact: Les Longworth, 329 Brook St., Framingham, Ma. 01701

SEPT. 27: Acton Fife & Drum Corps Muster sponsored by the Acton Minutemen and held in Acton, Mass. Contact: Acton Minutemen, P.O. Box 1775, Acton, Mass. 01720

The Ancient Times wishes to thank Leo Brennan of The Colonial Sutler Shop for his assistance in preparing this schedule.

### CORPS ALBUM WINS HONOR

The Nuhn Advertising Agency has won an award of excellence from the American Professional Graphic Artists for the album it prepared for The Sailing Masters of 1812.

The album outlines the history of the corps and presents a selection of the corps' music.

The album was the conerpt of Chas. K. Nuhn, president of the advertising agency and one-time member of The Sailing Masters.

### ...DUKE

(Continued from Page 7)

Committee and a fellow corpsman in the New Jersey Colonial Militia, led the tribute to his fellow Jerseyite at the Sailing Masters dance.

"Doc" referred to "Duke's" constant enthusiasm for drum corps drumming and his pioneering of the formation of several junior Ancient corps in New Jersey, as well as his own senior unit the New Jersey Colonial Militia.

Known for his prolific memory of drum beats, new and old, "Duke" is often one of the last to leave the circle of musical friendship which forms at the conclusion of Ancient Musters.

A ram-rod of THE COMPANY's Music Committee, it was primarily through "Duke's" enthusiasm and persistence that the organization began compiling a music library in the early 1970's.

In commenting on "Duke's" drum corps career, "Doc" said that he still takes part in 20 to 30 parades a year and "has a great love for his fellow man and a great love for drum corps." "Doc" described him as a "fine gentlemen whose dedication and help to the Ancients will be remembered for many years to come".

And, so, will the now famous "Dukeism" ---"It's in the book."



The Coginchaug Junior Color Guard from Durham, Conn. made a big hit as "walking Christmas Trees".

## ANCIENTS RING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON IN WITH STYLE AT THE OLD SAYBROOK MUSTER

by Phil Truitt

In that 1980 has been a vintage Ancient year all across the land it was only fitting that the annual Colonial Saybrook Muster on December 13th would be a smashing affair. It was all of that. Steeped in tradition, this great Muster drew some 42 corps from 6 states—all eager to vent their high spirits through joyous music that filled the crisp December night air with emotion and great comradery.

Muster Master Bill Reid did his usual impeccable job in organizing this very special Ancient gathering which seems to grow in popularity every year. It should be noted that Bill gets very little support from local officials in staging this historic event and often has to fund the event from his corps coffers. At no event throughout the year is Ancient spirit and togetherness as high as at the Torchlight Muster and Bill deserves great credit for making it all possible.

You see a little bit of everything at this Muster as units forego normal formality in favor of having a spirited evening and passing their emotions on to those around them. Instead of Colonial uniforms, one can observe Santa-Claus outfits, reindeer antlers, red and green stocking caps, Christmas maypole rigging and an unending show of imaginative costuming. It is in the unique spirit of this Muster that each corps expresses its own salute to the approaching holiday season.

The true highlight of the evening, however, is always the music and the great feeling of the event. Christmas carols played in the Ancient motif have to be heard to be fully appreciated, but let it suffice to say that it is an exhilarating experience. Hymns and traditional martial airs are all ever present during the evening and the overall effect is one of spirit and joy.

Such is the reputation of this evening, that corps come from great distances just to be part of the celebration. The 32nd Virginia Field Music from Richmond led the out of state entries, but it was an equal treat to see such units as Bill Riley's Cow Bay Drum Band, the Pound Ridge Colonials, Nathan Clark, Samuel Comstock FDC, the Menotomy Minutemen, the Pawtuxet Rangers, the Battle of Monmouth FDC, the Charlton Militia, the Helleberg FDC and the William Bender Memorial. Many of these corps are rarely seen on the Muster trail and it is great to see them playing well.

The field was also blessed with a fine entry from the "competition

corps." The Northeastern Champion Connecticut Blues and Colonial Musketeers were both on hand as were the Connecticut Patriots, Colonel John Chester and the Yalesville Juniors. Dave Hooghkirk and the Totoket ladies had their annual date and yours truly even made an inauspicious debut as drum major with the Olde Ripton corps.

The Westbrook Junior Colonials and the Coginchaug Ancients a-hared top honors for festive decorations. Units such as The Charles-town Militia, The Ancient Mariners, Stony Creek, The Yankee Tunemasters, The Sailing Masters, The N.J. Colonial Militia, The Mt. Kisco Ancients, Nayaug, The Deep River and Westbrook D.C.'s and The Milford Volunteers were all in top form and there were many others which space does not allow me to credit here.

During the Muster, we had occasion to chat with the likes of Bill Riley, Leo Brennan, Bruce Sullivan, Mal Hinkley, Benny Emerick, Jon Resler, Eleanor Borek et al and the Ancient fever was running at high tide. Next season will see at least 4-5 new Musters coming on the scene to give more corps a chance to perform than ever before. Enthusiasm was high everywhere you turned and the mixing of the corps was totally uninhibited. This is what the Ancient world is all about and nowhere during the year is it more evident than here at Old Saybrook at the end of the Muster trail!

If you weren't there this year all I can say is try to make it next season. Your corps will get a tremendous boost of enthusiasm to carry them through the winter months and a good time is always guaranteed regardless of the weather. To Bill Reid and the Colonial Saybrook Corps goes our annual thanks for a great evening that was rich with meaning and super Ancient music.

### OLD GUARD HAS NEW TWIST

Seven members of the Army's Old Guard FDC, the only musical unit of its kind in the armed services, were on hand for the Nov. 15 Grand Opening of the Army's Old Saybrook, Ct. office on the Boston Post Road.

In addition to performing, during the Old Saybrook appearance, they auditioned talented musicians interest in joining their outfit.

The full Corps, totaling 31, was organized in 1960 to provide music for the third U.S. Infantry, the Army's oldest regiment.

Notice of Ancient Times Subscription Rate Increase  
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# The Ancient Times

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Vol. VII No. 2

Spring, 1980

## Mariners, Stony Creek In Dublin On "Paddys" Day



The Ancient Mariners of Connecticut, (top photo) with five members of their brother corps, the Swiss Mariners of Basel, pass in review in Dublin, Ireland's St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 17 while the Stony Creek FDC, (lower photo) strikes up "Yankee Doodle" during a pause which gives the Second Co. Governor's Foot Guard color unit a welcome rest. This year's visit of the Ancients marked the third COMPANY sponsored trip to Ireland in recent years. "Yankee Doodle" was the most popular of any of the tunes played by either corps.



Two American Ancient corps each marched an ocean apart on the same day, March 16. No, it's not a riddle, but a new Ancient first for both the Stony Creek FDC and the Ancient Mariners of Connecticut, who were joined by five members of their brother unit, the Swiss Mariners of Basel. The Creek and the Mariners each fielded a complete playing unit in New Haven, Connecticut, and Limerick, Ireland. The New Haven march was to commemorate St. Patrick's Day and the Limerick parade was in conjunction with an International Band Competition at which the American Ancients were guest participants. Just as The Creek and the Mariners were

stepping off in New Haven, Limerick's Lord Mayor Bobby Byrne was greeting their brother corpsmen, following the Limerick parade. Lou Lavassa and Dave Hooghkirk of Stony Creek and the Mariner's Bill Pace, represented the entire Ancient group and presented his Lordship with several company gifts. Marching with the two drum corps was a color unit of The Second Company Governor's Foot Guard bearing a proclamation to the Lord Mayor from Connecticut's Governor Grasso. The Foot Guard received a handsomely engraved wall plaque as the "best uniformed" unit in the Limerick parade.

(Continued on Page 3)

## Sutler's Resignation And Junior Corps Field Day Plans Headline Feb. Meeting

### Next Meeting On April 13th. In Mt. Kisco

By Phil Truitt

Despite a relatively small turnout, the February 17th COMPANY Meeting at Lancaft Hall in North Haven, Connecticut was full of news with many new projects in the wind for 1980. The weather kept many away, but those present were active and participated in most discussions.

#### First Michigan Coming East

The meeting was convened at 2:40 P.M. by President Mo Schoos. After the reading of THE COMPANY Prayer, Chaplain Phil Pearson announced that Connie Rynkiewicz of Germantown, had suffered a stroke and was in the Danbury Hospital. He noted he was going to visit her in a few days, but asked all present to send her a card, as well, for support.

President Schoos announced that the First Michigan FDC will be coming east in August and was looking for help in sleeping facilities and local transportation during their visit. The corps will be coming to Connecticut and Massachusetts and anyone who can help was asked to contact Mark Logsdon of First Michigan.

The appointment of Jim McEleny to the Executive Committee, was announced by President Schoos, to fill in for Tom O'Keefe who recently departed for Saudi Arabia. It was discussed that the By-Laws did not cover such replacements, but it was agreed that taking the person who received the next highest vote at the last election was proper.

#### New Membership Cards

New Membership Cards for 1980 are now available for corps and Registrar Foxee Carlson had a supply on hand to distribute to those at the meeting. If you don't get your cards by mail you can contact Foxee directly to attain them for all corps members.

President Schoos announced that Tom Stafford of Bronxville, N.Y. wants to form a new corps and was seeking the names of available instructors. Mo noted he had sent Stafford the names of corps in the immediate area for his assistance.

Ed Olsen reported for The Ancient Times and cited subscription growth as a major problem. Although many new subscribers have been obtained, many of the regular subscribers are not renewing—so the net gain on the Ancient Times list is not what it might be. This is a matter of administration that is being addressed now. The paper has been publishing on time so this is no longer a problem. The subscription situation will dictate whether the \$3.00 price can be maintained as the year develops.

All subscribers were urged to watch the code on their paper's address label because it tells one when the subscription expires.

In the Archives report, Ed Olsen noted that THE COMPANY was the only organization preserving clippings, photos and other materials relating to Ancient matters and that all members should send the items of interest to him for retention. Ed also mentioned that to build a complete history, many of the old timers are being interviewed on tape so that their ideas, philosophies and knowledge can form a permanent record. This is a great idea and should be followed through by all interested corps people. Ed Classey raised the question of finding a storage area where the Archives materials could be securely deposited. Discussion followed and several such facilities came to light in the area. Bill Gallagher agreed to look into the matter as to price and feasibility.

#### THE COMPANY BALL

Cathy Olsen reminded everyone of THE COMPANY Dance to be held on March 29th at the K of C Hall in Guilford. The tab is \$15.00 per couple and the festivities go from 9:00 P.M.-1:00 A.M. The music of Ralph Sweet and his "Fifer's Delight" promises to be worth the price alone. Sweet features contra-dance music which is a blend of folk and country dance tunes featuring hornpipes and fife music. This should bring a big turnout this year!

(Continued on page 5)

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

To all subscribers to The Ancient Times: The final issue of your current subscription will now be indicated on your mailing label by a two-digit number on the right. (for example 7-4)

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## Fifes And Drums Invade Disneyworld On Washington's Birthday



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NEW ARK FIFE & DRUM

NUTMEG VOLUNTEERS

EAST COAST RANGERS

By Bill Krug  
February 18 was the "big day" ... George Washington's Birthday celebration at Disneyworld, Florida. The Ancients were lined up and you could recognize such units as The John Hanson Patriots, from Maryland, with their colonial-citizen's color guard; The New Ark FDC, from Delaware; The Nutmeg Volunteers, from Connecticut; The Morris County Militia, from New Jersey and a new corps to me, The East Coast Rangers FDC from St. Augustine, Fla. This latter unit is comprised

of nine fifers and four drums. They wear green fringed jackets and white trousers and seemed to be staffed by "two families."

The Main Street parade began at 4 p.m., with the Ancients displaying patriotic music in all its splendor. The huge crowd was impressed with the novelty of it all as remarks such as, "never have seen anything like it before, it's really great," passed from spectator to spectator.

The overly-strict crowd control, on the part of the Disney-police, made picture-taking difficult and spoiled the enjoyment

for many of us, however it was a colorful spectacle.

Unfortunately the day was over-cast and toward evening became cold and drizzly. The weather, unusual for Florida put a damper on the post-parade festivities and potential jollification. It got so bitter that someone was heard to remark, "I should have brought my Northern Muster underwear with me."

For many, the day's activities evolved into prolonged conversation at The John

Hanson Corps' Motel Hq., as the night was given over to discussing drum corps tunes and "The good old days." Naturally the trip home, on the following day, saw the sun shining in all its glory.

I read somewhere that the "Father of our country" was descended from Viking ancestors and that his family name was an Anglicized version of Vassington, or Vassing's son. If this is true, that might explain the frigid weather ... Now if only someone could explain the reason for those unsympathetic constables.

The Ancient Times

Published by  
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Inc.

The Company of Fifers and Drummers is incorporated in the state of Connecticut as a charitable and educational, non-profit institution and is officially and legally recognized as such by the U.S. Treasury Department. The Company's purposes are to perpetuate the tradition of Early American martial music, to encourage greater knowledge of the historical significance of fife and drum music and to foster the spirit of fellowship among the fifers and drummers everywhere.

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EDITORIAL

The winter of 1980 marks the 15th Anniversary of the founding of The Company of Fifers & Drummers, Inc. It was on a clear, blustery February Sunday in 1965 that some 20 persons gathered at Fairfield, Connecticut's Fire Headquarters to talk about forming a "committee" to coordinate Ancient activities. Our common bond was good music and good fellowship and we didn't even know if we could survive the first few years.

Well, survive we did, and to the credit of those dedicated few who have given of their time and energies to bring us to this point, here is a quick "Reasons Why" THE COMPANY can be proud of its past and confident of its future.

10 REASONS WHY...

- ★ Created the first national mailing list of Ancient Fife & Drum Corps.
- ★ Formed the Muster Aid Committee to help corps sponsoring Musters.
- ★ Established regular meetings for corps to gather in the common interest.
- ★ Formed the music committee. Published two volumes of fife and drum music.
- ★ Established THE COMPANY Store so that interested individuals would have access to music, instruments, historical artifacts.
- ★ Established the Ancients Fund to raise money towards the creation of a permanent museum.
- ★ Created the Archives committee to collect and preserve the history of American fifing and drumming.
- ★ Formed the Travel Committee to plan appearances by Ancient Drum Corps throughout the United States and foreign countries.

IF A DRUM COULD SPEAK

By Lou Lavassa

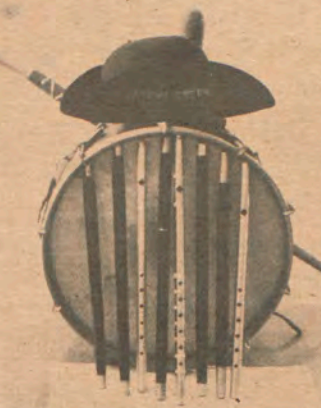
The Drum pictured here dates back to the late 1800's when the town of Stony Creek, Ct. had a band. The drum is 16" x 12" deep and there were two or more in the band plus the bass drum and several brass instruments. Naturally, some members also played with the Stony Creek Corps and so the equipment became the property of the Corps., when the band dissolved around 1898.

The fifes on display include the wood and metal fifes used by the "Creek" since its organization. The first fifes used were wood. Later, perhaps for cost reasons; or the use of a mouth piece by some members, metal fifes were played. At the present time the Corps uses the wood fife, the six hole model in B Flat.

The head of the baton is completely engraved, going along with the "sign of the times." This was the Creek's first baton and is still in very good condition. The present home of the Corps was built by the Willoughby-Wallace family and was raised during a weekend back around 1880. Basket lunches were prepared by the women and the area was a beehive of activity. What with twenty to thirty men taking part, a good deal of food and tea(?) had to be supplied for the needed energy. Previous to the hall's construction, a small brook flowed under the area. During the summer months it was fairly dry, but at other times you could row a boat from the dock side to the cove inlet. No wonder the under part of the hall is sometimes flooded.

When the hall was first built, the inside was like a large shed, with one floor and a balcony. A section was set aside for the band which played at the Roller polo (Hockey) games on the super-maple floor, once considered to be one of the best in the state. At one time there were remains left of two nets and roller skates with wooden wheels. Over the years people with a mania for throwing things out, disposed of some valuable archives.

At a later date the second floor was converted into a few apartments. Later, the Odd Fellows Lodge acquired the structure, making more renovations to the second floor. In 1935 the Stony Creek Corps purchased the hall, and this proved a very good move on their part. Despite the famous remark made by Edward Bradley, one of the Corps founders, "My boys, you are buying a great big white elephant" the



hall has proved to be a valuable asset. Today it is worth perhaps, forty times the original purchase price. The Creek is fortunate in having their own hall, in their own community.

Yes, by listening to the chatter of this drum, you would also know about the many Memorial Day parades attended, the active participation of the local fire company with the corps and trips to Long Island departing by boat from Stony Creek. The trolley rides to New Haven, Waterbury, Hartford and points east. . . . Not to mention the many train rides to New York City. The latter was very convenient, for there were more than twelve trains to the east and west during those times. Today there are none.

The many fine drummers who played on my head, included key members of the Corps. Dates and names on the shell's interior include, Clair and Addison Bradley, Henry Pullman, Joe Grandel, Vincent Megro and Jack Russell, a founding member who was responsible for the purchase of drums and other equipment. The many good times had by the Corps, cherished memories of the members, the good fellowship and lasting friends made over the years, those are just a few of the things this drum would speak of: If, "A drum could speak."

Last but not least, if "This drum could speak" a message to former Drum Corps members, might be "Don't use drums for coffee tables and whatnots, release my fellow drums and other corps artifacts to struggling corps and members who appreciate instruments that belong to the Ancient Spirit of Fifing and Drumming, not into the hands of collectors or others only out to make dollar profits."



Pittsburgh, Pa.

In your September issue of The Ancient Times page four is a picture of some of my old buddies. The fifer in the center, Mr. George King, was the one that got me started in the Pioneers of Pittsburgh, the gentleman on the right was Col. Hoge who was a Drummer Boy under President Harrison. I was in many parades with them both. One trip was to Deep River in 1954. I would like to get a print or the negative. How much would a 5x7 or 8x10 cost? I have a group picture of the Pittsburgh Pioneers in Washington, D.C. during President Eisenhower's inauguration. I also have a couple fifes and an old time fifer's official music book. I have lost track of all but two members.

William Pitt (fifer)

Tiverton, R.I.

I must commend you and the entire staff of the "Ancient Times" for publishing a paper that my corps and I wait impatiently to read four times a year (hopefully someday it can be twelve times a year!!!)

In the Ancient Spirit,  
George Levesque

Sterling Heights, Mich.

In Michigan, we enjoy reading the Ancient Times to find out what is happening in the World of Fife and Drum Corps. However, by the very nature of the paper, it lacks a very personal touch into the "core" of the corps. A monthly newsletter is able to contain news that is more current. Through the newsletters we are writing and exchanging with a few midwest corps, the personalities, problems, and joys of the real Corps can come alive.

We wonder if you would consider publishing those corps that send out newsletters to members as a sort of pen-pal exchange. We feel it will keep units closer in touch and when we do congregate at Musters and events—the closeness will cut away at the distances between us.

The corps that exchange newsletters are: Hanaford's Volunteers, Patowmack Ancients, New Jersey Colonial Militia, Janesville FDC and 1st Michigan Colonial FDC.

In the Spirit,  
Mary Logsdon

- ★ Created the Jaybirds Committee to encourage drum corps oldtimers.
- ★ Published the Ancient Times. The seven-year old periodical features news, views and articles of historical interest.

Where do we go from here? The above have been major reasons why more and more fifers and drummers from foreign lands are becoming friends of the American Ancients. We are exchanging music, ideas, history and, most of all, developing the comradeship we call "The Ancient Spirit." Where we go from here may well be to the truly first world gathering of fifers and drummers from several countries such as Switzerland, Ireland, England, Holland, Germany and France. We couldn't even think about such a venture if we were not all a part of The Company of Fifers & Drummers.

Bill Pace



The Drum Corps Wedding of the Year 1979 may well have been that of Karen and Ron Lurula. Although the groom was not of the drum corps persuasion, just about everybody else was. Glimpsed above, at the scene of the Sept. 2nd nuptials, in Long Island, N.Y. are: (l to r) sister and bridesmaid, Judy Riley a fifer and former member of Long Island's Good Shepherd FDC; Kiyomi Riley, wife of Judy's brother Chuck; father-of-the-bride's aunt, Jane Schnabble; Alvina Riley, mother-of-the-bride and the only lady-fifer to once grace the ranks of Brooklyn's Chas. T. Kirk Corps. Karen, the bride, is another accomplished fifer who can include the Good Shepherd FDC among her references, but bridegroom Ron is

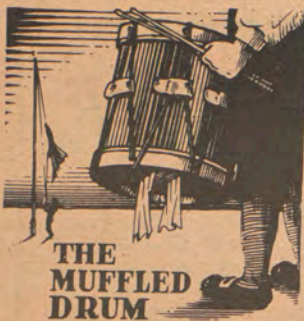
probably wondering if all the fifing and drumming downstairs at the reception was really necessary. Charlie Riley, the bride's beaming father, is another ex-Kirk fifer and former officer of the N.Y.F.D. Ass'n., as was better half Alvina. Their son Chuck—holding his daughter Tanya—was a drummer with the Japan Mariners, in Yokosuka, until the U.S. Navy relocated him, and Chuck's sister Sue is another ex-Good Shepherd fifer currently between corps. Relocated in Colorado, Karen is curious as to possible drum corps activity thereabouts. If you have any leads contact the editor. Adding to the interstate character of the affair is the fact that the Riley household is now situated in Seneca, South Carolina. Any drum corps openings down that-a-way?

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Frederick E. Howe, 78  
retired Bass Drummer  
Stony Creek  
November 22, 1979

Curtis Taylor, 49  
Fifer Chas. W. Dickerson FM  
December 7, 1979

William F. Honer  
Associate Colonial Saybrook  
January 20, 1980

Jane Barton, 51  
Associate Colonial Saybrook  
February 11, 1980

Charles R. Palm, 84  
Bass Drummer Am. Legion  
FDC, Essex  
March 2, 1980

Jonathan Blake, 23  
Fifer Kentish Guards FDC  
November 30, 1979

**FRED HOWE**

Although not an active corpsman for some time, Fred Howe had started to gravitate back toward his old activity in recent years. He made his new-debut at the 1977 Jaybird Day and was honored for being the oldest bass drummer present. Similarly, he was lionized again — by his old corpsmen of Stony Creek — at their November 8 Old Timer's night. Fred played in the early Stony Creek corps, joining in approximately 1928 and "retiring" shortly prior to his corps' adoption of three-cornered hat and gaiters. For a short period of time he was living proof that it is never too late to get back in line.



CURTIS TAYLOR

Curtis Taylor died Friday, December 7, 1979, in the Mt. Vernon, N.Y. Hospital after a relatively short illness. Funeral services were held at the Bethesda Baptist Church on Tuesday, December 11, with members of the corps acting as pallbearers and honor guard. Curt was a good strong fifer and had been with the corps for thirty-five years. On occasion he traveled to Washington, D. C. to help teach the St. Martin Corps' fife line. His death leaves a deep void in the Dickerson fife line and in the hearts of all who knew him.

**JONATHAN BLAKE**

A funeral service was held in Jamestown, R.I., on December 3 for Jonathan R. Blake who died on November 30.

Jonathan was a member of the Kentish Guards Fife and Drum Corps from 1970 until 1975 when his studies prevented him from continuing with the corps. He received a bachelor's degree in microbiology from

**Ireland Trip . . .**  
continued from page 1

The Ancients had to decline a Limerick Flute Band invitation as the American contingent headed for suburban Dublin for an evening of socializing, fifeing and drumming. The pre-Dublin St. Patrick's Day Parade activities set the pattern for the next several evenings.

The dawning of the day in Dublin, St. Patrick's Day, saw overcast skies but with some rays of sunshine and the marchers thought they might beat the jinx of a rainy day in Dublin. Both Stony Creek and the Foot Guard escaped the rain, but the Mariners, being the last unit, got wet. They were rewarded, however, by appearance on Irish television which helped make them celebrities for a day. A large photo of Stony Creek made the front page of Dublin's afternoon paper, as the American Ancients drew the most attention in a parade that saw more foreign based bands than Irish musical units.

The Mariners Chief Drummer Matt Lyons and his wife represented the Ancients and THE COMPANY following the Dublin parade at the Lord Mayor's Ball, while The Swiss Mariners joined their American counterparts, and members of The Creek for a traditional evening of stout and music.

As the American Ancients continued to tour the Emerald Isle the weather improved and when it was time to kiss the Blarney stone the sun was shining.

**Latest Archives Windfall**



COMPANY Archives Committee member George Bernard reviews a portion of the old Chas. T. Kirk FDBC artifacts and records that have been turned over to THE COMPANY Archivist, for study and preservation. Seen on your left is George Heintz, grandson of the corps' last Drum Major, Oscar Hansen, who died a year ago last September. This unbelievably complete set of records and equipment, (dating back to 1899), will eventually be on display at the Museum of Fifeing and Drumming that we are actively planning for. The initial pick-up was made on March 2nd, at the Flatbush, Brooklyn, address that was home to Oscar Hansen for so many years, and many more trips will be necessary to complete the task of relocating these historic treasures. The two bass drums, seen above, indicated two of the many different periods, and music styles, that the famous old unit experienced. The drum at the left was used during Kirk's last hey-day — the 1940s and '50s — and the other, reading "Chas. T. Kirk Flute Drum and Bugle Corps", came from an obviously earlier time.

**First Muster Announced**

The Green Mountain Regiment Fife & Drum Corps will host its first annual Muster in 1980 on the weekend of July 19th in Graniteville, Vermont. Full camping facilities with all necessities will be available to guest corps from noon on Friday, the 18th through Sunday the 20th. The Muster will take place on Saturday the 19th. Invitations are being sent, but any corps interested in attending may contact Gordon MacArthur, Graniteville, Vt. 802-433-5586.

U.R.I. and was working on a degree in chemical engineering. Enrolled in the Army ROTC at U.R.I. he would have received his second lieutenant's commission in May. In 1974 he compiled "Ye Ancient Song and Fife Musick," a music book which contains verses and historical information about the songs.

The young fifer was twenty-three when he died.

The last evening in Ireland was March 22, when the boys "hooked up" the drums and played for several hours in the lounge of their Killarney, Ireland, hostel. Among the more enthusiastic performers on the last evening was Creeker Bob Powers, a switch hitter who marched as a snare drummer, but enjoyed demonstrating his powerful bass drumming style to bedazzled Irishmen, and the Mariners' Matt Lyons Jr. took over

a volunteer bartender to keep the Guinness and Irish ale flowing.

Creeker Lou Lavassa had to cut short his tour, to return to Connecticut for an emergency operation. At press time, however, "Mr. Stony Creek" was in fine fettle and already making plans for a return visit to the Emerald Isle. For a few days at least . . . it was great to be an American Ancient in Ireland.

**The Sound of Fife & Drum**  
by Henry David Thoreau

"I hear the sound of fife and drum the other side of the village, and am reminded that it is May Training. Some thirty young men are marching in the street in two straight sections, with each a very heavy and warm cap, for the season, on his head and a bright red stripe down the leg of his pantaloons, and at their head march two with white stripes down their pants, one beating a drum the other blowing a fife. I see them all standing in a row by the side of the street in front of the captain's residence, with a dozen or more rugged boys looking on, but presently they all remove to the opposite side, as it were with one consent, not being satisfied with their former position, which probably had its disadvantages. Thus they march and strut the better part of the day, going into the tavern two or three times, to abandon themselves unconstrained positions out of sight, and at night they may be seen going home singly with swelling breasts."

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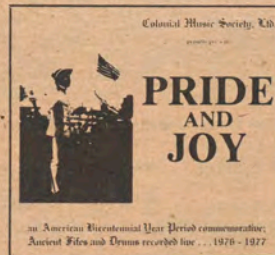
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The album will sell for \$21.40 at musters throughout 1980. However, you can save \$4.00 (19%) off that price if you order now by mail. This pre-season offer will not be repeated again! Furthermore, if you do not agree that this album is as beautiful, inspiring and enjoyable as we say it is - return it and we will refund your money in full with no questions asked. We know this is music you will treasure and all we ask is that you listen to it for yourself. If you are ever going to own one album of Ancient music for personal enjoyment then "Pride and Joy" is the one you want. We stand behind that statement 100%.



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# BILL KRUG'S KORNER

By BILL KRUG

**DID YOU KNOW . . .** That when the British General O'Hara, (not Cornwallis), surrendered to the American General Lincoln, (not Washington), at Yorktown, the British fifes and drums reputedly played "The World Turned Upside Down" as the redcoats stacked their rifles. Also note that the American flag, flying during the ceremony, had the stripes inverted, with the white stripes, not red, at top and bottom . . . That King Louis XIV of France, in the 17th century, had units of fifes and drums in his army. About 1705 the Philidor brothers, ardent drummers, wrote the beats. The drum authority was Marguery Pere and a drum beat called "The Retreat of Marguery Pere" survives to this day as does "The March of The Musketeers," (both played by the fifes and drums for Louis XIV). According to legend, these tunes were also played by the Imperial Guard on the Coronation Night of Napoleon I, in 1804 . . . That the "White Cockade," the name of a fife tune popular during the American Revolution, was a rosette and whisk, worn on the upper edge of a three cornered hat. In 1745 it was the symbol of Charles Edward Stuart, pretender to the English throne, as opposed to the Black Cockade, symbolic of King George II of the House of Hanover . . . That the "Lambeg" (bass) drum has become a part of the folklore of Northern Ireland. It is an immensely large and wide "rudimental" rope drum, (see Vol. 5, No. 4), which the Dutch Guards of William of Orange played in Ireland in 1690. The "Lambeg" drummers today still use some of the techniques in practice that are a continuation of great

virtuoso drummers of the past who originally brought the drums from Turkey. Each year, on July 12, "The Battle of the Boyne" anniversary, the players have a sort of marathon of bass drumming, competing against each other to see who can play the longest. The competition is so strong, and they play so long and hard, that blood runs down the wrists and knuckles due to the leather wrist-ties attached to the beaters. They not only treasure, and take ultra-care, of their drums but go so far as to give each drum a name. It is said that one drummer uses two beaters in each hand, four in all, the second beaters tied to his wrists designed to come up before the regular beaters.

In closing . . . Some people think that Ancient FDC make too much noise, but get a load of this. The fullest development of the Oriental military band was reached with the famous Janissary, or Infantry, bands of the Ottoman Turks, (see photo below). About the year 1700 one such band consisted of ten oboe-like instruments, nine non-melody trumpets, nine small kettle drums, nine bass drums, nine pair of cymbals and nine "jingling stick rattles" (Turkish Crescents). Can you imagine the ear-splitting decibels of that conglomeration? As the Sons of Liberty's stalwart bass drumming Nick Attanasio might say, "Rudimental bass drumming is a stern and deafening discipline, achieved only through countless hours of tedious practice throughout a lifetime. But for me, I seek no more delight." . . . How about that Nick? . . . "Nine Bass Drums," that's heaven!



A Modern-Day Janissary Band. Turkey's own "Ancient Corps"

## The Old Guard "Down Under"

The 3rd U.S. Infantry's Fife and Drum Corps presented a rare performance, Nov. 15-24, in celebration of Western Australia's 150th Anniversary.

Twenty-four Old Guard musicians were tabbed to perform at Perth, Australia's Perry Lakes Stadium, where activities recognizing Western Australia's 150th year as an Australian state were conducted.

The unit was comprised of eight buglers, eight fifers, three snare drummers, two bass drummers and the drum major — plus one corps sergeant and one corps sergeant major.

No special routine was devised for the Australian exhibition, the performance was similar to that executed at the famous "Torchtlight Tattoo."

The Australian performance represented a rare overseas engagement for the Corps, which arrived from chilly Washington, D.C., to warm Australia almost a week before the opening ceremonies. After a day of recovering from "jet lag," the Old Guard soldiers began a series of rehearsals that had them finely tuned for the Australian Tattoo.

During the next three nights, the FDC presented performances in combination with the other participants. Each prompted favorable reviews.

The performances over, the corpsmen joined the other participants for a "cast party," in which they befriended their counterparts, mixed music and enjoyed a festive conclusion to the Australian trip.

The Corps makes many appearance throughout the country but this one was special and will be long-remembered by all those lucky enough to make it.

## Kentish Guards Celebrate 205th. Anniversary

With the weatherman cooperating, East Greenwich, Rhode Island's Kentish Guards commenced their 205th Anniversary celebration at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in Warwick, R.I. on Friday evening October 26, where the Hospitality Committee had arranged a fine party.

On Saturday the Kentish Guards, and units of the Centennial Legion of Historic Military Commands formed for a short march to St. Luke's Episcopal Church where they experienced a beautiful memorial service. They next formed for the traditional parade down Main St. to the beat of the 88th Army Band, the Second Company Governor's Foot Guard Field Music, from New Haven, Ct. the Pawtuxet Rangers FDC and the host's own FD Corps . . . returning to Academy Field, the Kentish Guards' original drill grounds. Here the troops were reviewed by Maj.Gen. Leonard Holland, Adjutant General of the State of Rhode Island and Col. Greene.

In the evening, at the Chateau DeVille in Warwick, their fifers played on the circular staircase and the other members of the drum corps acted as a receiving party for the guests who were arriving for a cocktail hour, a prime ribs of beef dinner and dancing to the music of the 14-piece 88th Army Stage Band.

Thanks to the efforts of the various committeemen, everything was reported to have gone off as planned. The General Chairman, of the celebration, was COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS' President Lt. Col. Maurice Schoos.

## Remote Drum Corps Is Discovered In Indiana

By Bill Baugh

Southern Indiana is an area much like eastern Tennessee or Kentucky — and being somewhat remote, it has in recent years, come to the attention of folklorists. One that I am familiar with, while working on his Pd.D from Indiana University at Bloomington, came across members of a fife and drum corps. They are elderly men, who are grandson's of a Union Army Fife and Drum Corps., supposedly playing their grandfather's instruments.

They have never seen nor heard another drum corps, and as far as they know, they are "it." The music is learned by rote. I heard a field tape of one of the fifers, some 80 years old . . . a man who lives off in the hills without radio or TV . . . and it was excellent fife.

Since Fife and Drum is a relatively new introduction to the Midwest it is interesting to find a thread of the old still here.

## Those Wedding Bells . . .



Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Hardy, of Deep River, Ct., announced the engagement of their daughter Sylvia Jeanne, (seen above), to David Allyn Hooghkirk of Guilford. Dave is also The Stony Creek Corps' bearded contribution to THE COMPANY'S Executive Committee.

## Third Holly Jolly A Success In New York

The Spirit of '76 Fife and Drum Corps, from East Greenbush, N.Y., hosted its Third Annual "Holly Jolly" for various corps from the area. The Yuletide event was held in the Red Mill School in Hampton Manor, N.Y. on January 19. The school's gymnasium was packed with enthusiastic spectators who showed their appreciation for the music performed by The Mt. Kisco Fire Dept. FDC, The Hellebergh FDC from Knox, N.Y., The Village Volunteers from Delmar, N.Y., The Spirit of '76 FDC from Holyoke, Mass. and The Charlton Militia FDC from Charlton, N.Y.

The unique angle, in this event, was the fact that the corps "Mustered" before the parade. Following the individual performances there was a mile long parade to the Community Hose Fire House. All of the corps paraded, followed by 20 cars of spectators, who felt it was a little cold to be marching. At the fire house everyone was treated to a fine meal with plenty of liquid refreshments.

Following the chow period, there was dancing and, of course, the ever present Jollification. Even one-year old Rachel Rudolph, who was attending her second Holly Jolly, was seen banging on a bass drum. To add to the true spirit of Musters there was a mini-flea market and The Muster Aid Committee of THE COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS was represented by Dave Boddie who handled the mike.



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## Albany Area Activities

by John R. Williams

At a recent meeting of Delmar, New York's FDC newly elected officers were installed. They are: Mrs. Lynn Perry, President; Mrs. June Johnson, Vice-President; Mrs. Joan Webb, Secretary; Mr. Bill Wright, Treasurer; Mrs. Mary DeGross, Quartermaster; Ms. Phylis Willey, Music Master; Mr. Karl Gohlke, Business Manager. The Corps Representatives for this year are: Nichelle Denault, Jeanne Rankin, Jim Willey and Leslie Gohlke, Alternate.

The Corps also held its annual Awards Dinner for the past year at the Slingerlands Methodist Church on Jan. 5, 1980. This is becoming one of the highlights of the Corps calendar. Awards are presented in the areas of achievement and dedication of service to the Corps for the past year. One hundred twenty-two Corps members were in attendance for this year's ceremonies.

Perfect attendance — Michelle Denault, Don Veltman (2 years in a row) and Bill Webb. Perfect attendance (Honorable mention) — Deborah Blodgett, Bob Johnson, Sharon Malsan, Jeanne Rankin, Jennifer Rankin, Holly Veltman, Jim Willey, Phylis Willey. Proficiency award for fife: — Michelle Denault; Proficiency award for drum: — Sean McClean; Special Award for Service and Dedication to the Corps: — John Williams and Buz Olsen; President's Award for Service to the Corps: — Herb Veltman; Color Guard Award: — Jennifer Rankin; Volunteer of the Year Award: — (which is done by ballot of Corps Members) — John Williams.

The dinner was of the so-called "Pot Luck" variety, with each contributor out-doing the next. Consequently, what the gathering wound up with was a regular feast.

Some of the awards had special meanings to the recipients, and referred to special happenings . . . like the "Dorothy Owens Pathfinder Award" to Gordon Keeble, the "Proliferation of Bubs Award" to Skip and Nancy; Tammy and Dennis Bub, (for each having young "Bubs" born into the corps) and, finally, the "Camper of the Year Award" to June Johnson.



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# SOUTHLAND ANCIENTS

Ann M. Feder

by Ann M. Feder

Sabra Lee Feder, a fifer for 2½ years, was chosen drum major for Patowmack Ancients FDC, Arlington, VA., replacing Alan Carter, who had served as drum major since the Corps' inception in 1975. Alan left for his freshman year at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg. Selected as reserve drum major was Robert Emmett Lee, a bass drummer with the Corps for four years.

Although rain prevailed, five corps were represented at the Patowmack Ancients' 3rd Annual Mini-Muster in late September. In addition to the John Hanson Patriots of Indian Head, MD, were the 14th Virginia Reg't FDC of Charlottesville, VA; the Patuxent Martial Musick of Silver Spring, MD; Grayson's Cadets of Woodbridge, VA; and David Keeler, formerly of Patowmack Ancients, representing the Fifes & Drums of Yorktown (VA). Rain or no, all the Corps went on the field after partaking of the usual delicious picnic fare, and a jollification was then held under the picnic shelter. Muster ribbons were presented to each corps by Drum Major Sabra Lee Feder, assisted by Jennifer Queen in a reversal of her "ribbon acceptor" role.

Newly-elected officers of Patowmack Ancients FDC are Randy Hauck-Director; Bob Wright-Business Manager; Joe Burns-Treasurer; James Hicks-Instructor Rep; and Bonnie Burns-Student Rep. Elected to a second term were Ann Feder-Secretary; Tom Queen-Quartermaster; and Allen Reed-Musick Master.

Joe and Bonnie Burns have been active in their 1½ years of participation in the corps. . . . Joe as an interested parent and Bonnie as a fifer. Bonnie also plays clarinet in the Wakefield H.S. marching band. James Hicks recently rejoined the Old Guard and Patowmack Ancients after a

three-year assignment out of the area. Tom Queen plays bass drum with the Corps, along with two daughters who play fife. Aside from being Secretary for Patowmack Ancients, Ann Feder writes the Southland Ancients column for The Ancient Times and is Editor and Staff of the Patowmack Ancients monthly newsletter. She also has two daughters in the Corps, a fifer and the drum major. Randy Hauck and Allen Reed are assistant fife section leader and senior fife soloist respectively for the Old Guard FDC. Allen also arranges the music for the Patowmack Muster shows, which this year will consist of selections from light classical works of the 18th century.

The John Hanson Patriots of Indian Head sold booster buttons and raffle tickets, and held a spaghetti dinner and a youth dance (9th grade or younger) among their fund raising efforts for a trip to Disney World, where they performed as part of a George Washington birthday celebration that included several fife and drum corps.

Patowmack Ancients, unable to enjoy the sunny Florida clime, instead, took 1st place, Colonial Musical Units, in the Washington's Birthday Parade in George's hometown of Alexandria, VA. The always sharp-looking 14th Virginia Reg't of Charlottesville took 2nd place, followed by the Fort Washington Continentals of Maryland, a colonial-outfitted drum and bugle corps. Of the 60-odd units in the parade, there were 6-7 colonial units, including militia.

We hope everyone saw the Old Guard Fife & Drum Corps on television, performing for the opening ceremonies of the 13th Winter Olympics at Lake Placid. If you missed that, it's a shame.



Allen Reed, Randy Hauck and Tim Lewis of the Army's Old Guard

photo: Sonny Long - U.S. Army

## Feb. Meeting

Continued from page 1

Bill Alexander reported on THE COMPANY Convention and indicated that he was still researching a proper site and developing an agenda for the affair. Bill needs people to help him, so volunteers are most welcome. He noted the Convention will include drum corps workshops plus seminars on corps-related subjects. No formal corps performances are being considered as this is not to be a Muster type function. Anyone interested in fifing and drumming will be welcome. Once the details have been worked out, Bill will be in touch with all as to the price, date and location.

Bob Brady noted that the information package-project was still being developed, but that input was slow. This is a very important service for new units so anyone who can contribute their experiences and policies, in setting up a new corps, should contact Bob. If THE COMPANY is to do its job, this is one area that needs a lot of support.

Bill Gallagher noted that Matt Lyons had submitted a full written Jaybird report which would be incorporated into the minutes. The financial highlight was that last year's affair cost \$599 and change which was \$200 under budget.

Sutler Brennan Resigns

Leo Brennan noted that THE COMPANY store had a brand new tankard for

1980 which was the 4th in the series and will sell for \$11.00. He added that both volumes 1 and 2 of THE COMPANY music book were now out of stock. Bill Gallagher noted that he has a few left if anyone is interested. President Schoos added that the books would be reprinted in a year or so when the demand was high enough to assure the move as being economically sound.

Leo then stunned many by rendering his resignation as Sutler effective with April of 1980. This move is the result of policy disagreements discussed earlier at the Executive Committee meeting. It was raised that Brennan's report on the matter should be made public, but President Schoos noted that the Executive Committee had this situation under study and would make it public at the April meeting in Mt. Kisco. Bob Brady added that Leo's resignation should not be accepted until the matter could be studied at length by the Executive Committee.

On the Travel Committee, Bill Gallagher reported that some 75 Ancients would be off to the Emerald Isle to celebrate St. Patrick's Day from March 14th-23rd. The bulk of the contingent will be from The Ancient Mariners, Stony Creek and The 2nd Company Governor's Foot Guard. Bill noted that inflation had raised the cost of this virtually identical trip from \$220 a head in 1971 to \$630 in 1980! How does that grab you? This is a non-profit venture and is being run as a ser-

continued on page 7

## George Rhett To Head Dickerson In 1980

By George Boddie

George A. "Bro" Rhett Jr. erstwhile snare drummer of the Charles W. Dickerson Field Music, was elected president of the organization for the coming year. He becomes the third consecutive snare drummer to hold this position.

George is in his 20th year with the corps and comes from a drum corps family. His father, George Sr., joined the corps as a Boy Scout years ago and was a member of the drum quartet that won the International Rudimental Quartet Competition in 1939. George's uncle, Louis, won the bass drum award at the same affair.



George Rhett

Others elected to office were: Al Kinney, Vice President; Fred Archer, Secretary; Thomas C. Andrews, Treasurer; John Ayers, Financial Secretary; Donald A. Thomas, Jr., Business Manager; Charles H. Nelson, Assistant Business Manager and Drum Major; Willie Smith, Sr., Quartermaster; Leroy Sumner, Assistant Quartermaster; Robert Bynum, Sergeant at Arms.

Entering into its fifty-first year of continuous operation, the corps has hopes of strengthening its ranks, going to Lake Placid in June, returning to Michigan for its third year in a row and continuing its fine affiliation with the Courtlandt Engine Company of Montrose, N.Y.

The Motto for '80: "Don't Worry About It!"

## Danbury's Musical Review

by Laura M. Vieira

A Drum Corps Review, featuring a variety of music-styles, was held at the Elks Club, in Danbury, Ct., on January 27.

The Review was hosted by the Danbury Elks Jr. Ancient FDC under the direction of Laura Vieira. Among the guest corps were The Mount Kisco Ancient FDC directed by William Stewart and The New Fairfield Sparklers directed by Erma Ebbers. A guest appearance was made by a delegation from The Germantown Ancients. The Pound Ridge Ancient FDC were also in attendance.

During the show, presentations were made to the host corps for their hard work and for the time spent in making them the fine corps they are today.

For the show's conclusion corpsmembers and spectators joined together in the traditional "Circle of Friendship."

The host corps would like to express thanks to Danbury's Mayor James Dyer, for his support, and also to all those who performed in, or helped put together this very successful Musical Review.

## Alan Mason Re-elected President at Deep River

The Sponsoring Organization of the Deep River Junior and Tory Fife and Drum Corps has elected new officers for the coming year. Re-elected President for his fourth term was Alan Mason; Vice-President, Mert Jones; Secretary, Betty Johns; Treasurer, Mary Jane Daniels. Board members are Butch Joy, Russell Rankin, Bea Smith and Jan Lorenc.

Appointed officers are: Field Managers, Peg Mason, Gail Callaghan, Joanne Pandiani; Corps Historian, Gail Callaghan; Quartermasters, Peg Mason and Mary Jane Daniels; Transportation Manager, Joanne Pandiani; Publicity, Mary Jane Daniels; Business Manager, Alan Mason; Drivers, Bea Smith, Charles and Joanne Pandiani, and Alan Mason. Color Guard manager, Charles Pandiani.

## JERSEY JOTTINGS

by Jack O'Brien

'T was words of wisdom, in the recent December editorial "Preserve the Past," and I hope by now that Nick Attanasio has willed his "Sons" bass drum and card table to me after he leaves the planet Kingston!

No . . . I do think it is a great idea for, as you know, many in our dear families have been trying to clear out that junk closet for years.

My own dear wife thinks the Liberty Bell should have been soldered, years ago, to take care of that ugly crack.

A long while ago I was given an authentic shaving mug from the Civil War. It had a painting of two cannons with regimental crest and the McGuire initials of the man who gave it to me. The cup had a real wide handle, enough for all four fingers, and one hot summer's day I came home and found my dear wife doing the laundry. The cup that was dishing out the soap powder was my Civil War shaving mug! "I didn't do any harm," said she, "and it did have a nice scoop to it." Yes she still lives with me, but I keep her in the laundry room, (only kiddin' dear).

But I do think we should all make a list so that when, someday, we do get called . . . our fellow drum corps people can share our junk.

A couple of years ago I had over 40 Xmas cards with the "little drummer boy." Needless to say, again, dear wife pulled down the decorations and out they went. I've sent the few remaining to The Archivist for THE COMPANY'S collection. I trust he will note that the one fifer in the stable was sent to me by a drummer, Bobby Thompson. That's what I call equal rights. What we need are more Xmas Fifers.

May the 1980s bring all the best to you and yours. See ya' at the end of the line.

## SPIRITS ELECT

The Annual Dinner Meeting of the Spirit of '76 FDC of East Greenbush, N.Y. was held on Tuesday evening, January 22, 1980.

Newly elected officers were: President Christopher Alonge, Vice President Kim Colville, Secretary Nancy Dornan, Treasurer Michelle Thull, Quartermaster Theresa Hilton, Directors Harlene Hilton and Frank Kruckowski and Drum Major Charles Alonge.

Mike Condo, the outgoing president, swore in the new officers, and made presentations of appreciation. The corps' annual report showed them to be financially sound following a most successful season, with plans for an extensive recruiting program in preparation for a bus schedule.

## A TOAST AT ELLINGTON



A toast by the president, as Bernie Carpenter of the Ellington Parish Train Band raises his glass to the members and guests at Ellington's Annual "Fun Night." The usual hijinks, and nonsense-awards, vied with the warm hospitality to camouflage the fact that it was blustery winter. Outstanding survivors of The Bicentennial, their festivities were somewhat diminished by the news that founding member Sheldon Smith could no longer be active with them.

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# GERONIMO

A follow-up on Pfiffertag, reported on in our last issue; informs us that the town of Ribeauville, Alsace has a "Pfifferhaus" which was a medieval refuge for musicians and "town fifers" who, although they were outlawed as vagrants; were befriended by the Count of Ribeauville, who might have been history's first drum corps fan. \*\*\*\*\* Minnesota's Fort Snelling FDC, after having weathered a season of inactivity, has plans for reactivation this year, according to COMPANY Member Bob Price, of Edina, Minn. \*\*\*\*\* February was George Washington Month in Alexandria, Va., as that town honored its most famous citizen with a ten day celebration that wound up with a Feb. 18 parade featuring the Army's Old Guard FDC \*\*\*\*\* The 1st Michigan Colonial FDC wrapped up an active year with a concert at the Henry Ford Museum in neighboring Dearborn, Mich. \*\*\*\*\*

Seeing Art Carney's masterpiece "Harry and Tonto," belatedly on TV, we couldn't help but notice the analogy between this tale of an older man's escape; in company with his lone feline companion; and a story written many years ago by the late Mac Kinlay Kantor. If you even chance upon a copy of "The Jaybird" scoop it up. We've mentioned this book before, and the manner in which its title was transmogrified to represent our annual old-timer's "Jaybird Day," however, the basic similarities of the two plots, here discussed, are uncanny. Red Feather, the "hero" of this early book, takes off cross-country in order to escape forced accommodation in the old soldier's home. Instead of a cat, his companion is his young grandson whom he tries to teach the fife, when not raising travelling money by fifeing on mid-western Main Streets. There is even an incident, where he finds himself incarcerated by a conniving small-town sheriff and subsequently escapes by pressing his fife, into the lawman's back, as if it were a gun. As most know, the author had been a fifer and remained one of our blood-brothers all of his life. The book is liberally laced with drum corps lore and the tunes cited form a musical lexicon of The Civil War Musicians Union.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 "The people in the east would not believe the flood conditions that we marched through in the Port Huron Blue Water Festival," writes the correspondent for The 1st Michigan FDC. "When you had to swim across the street to get in the ranks, you deserve a lot of extra credit." Sounds, almost, like the North Uxbridge, Mass. Bicentennial Parade where the parked cars had to be pulled out of the mud by a tractor. Corps people have to be masochists.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 ALL IN A DAY'S CASE LOAD: did you hear about the time COMPANY Counsel Bill Gallagher received the agitated phone call, from Ancient Mariner fifer Rick Klimowicz: "They've just taken Brian Moore away." "Who's they?" responded Bill. "The Homicide Squad," came the nervous reply. "Good grief, what next," thought our dashing defender as he headed for the New Haven Police Station.



Brian Moore

Upon arriving he found it all to be too true. Mariner bass drummer Moore had indeed been spirited away by the boys in blue. It was soon determined, however, to have been a case of mistaken identity. Having

recently exchanged his van for a car previously owned by a character, charitably described as less-than-lawful, and being careless in the matter of re-registration, our bearded bomba-ist had temporarily been a suspect in a murder case.

"I thought maybe he'd hit someone, with his bass mallets," said Bill. "Or, worse yet," came the retort of a bystander eyeing Brian's comfortable frame, "sat on him."

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Mark Petty, founder of the impressive Plymouth, Mich. Fifes and Drums; and protege of Lancraft's Jay Tuomey; when Jay lived in Warren, Mich.; has returned to his old interest... Marching Bands, (very big in that area). Still cognizant of his drum corps fling, Mark has a line of piccolos playing a two-part arrangement of The British Grenadier, in a local school aggregation. He reports the sound to be very well received, especially since the band is outfitted in British style uniforms. \*\*\*\*\*

COMPANY Suter Leo Brennan is receiving both orders and fan mail from Michigan, following a mention on local radio. "Heard about you on the Bob Allison 'Ask Your Neighbor' radio program, on WCAR Garden City, Mich." wrote one. A lady called in and gave you a nice commercial free. \*\*\*\*\* STOLEN! From the 1979 Portland, Ct. Muster programme: "Ancient is... Helping Others — as several members of THE COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS did when they traveled to Endicott, N.Y. to procure the original orange and black uniforms used by the Portland Ancients until a year ago when the old, tattered uniforms, were replaced by the new ones the corps is wearing today. Sharing — When the Westbury Drum Corps colorguard came to Portland to relinquish the Irving Gridley trophy, they inquired, "What is a Muster?" So their corps was invited to our Ancient Muster today to enable them to see, hear and feel just what a Muster really is. Joining Together — in the circle of friendship and playing the music of our forefathers in unison. \*\*\*\*\*

The Ancients are never at a loss as to means of raising funds. Take, for instance, the successful "Yard Sale" sponsored by Arlington, Virginia's Patowmack Ancients last Sept. 22nd. \*\*\*\*\* John Ciaglia and Skip Healy, fifeing in front of the Cathedral in Ancient Mariner rig during this year's New Orleans Mardi Gras, were spotted by some visitors from Basel who naturally enough assumed them to be Swiss Mariners. \*\*\*\*\* COMPANY Trustee Bill Pace will be making a side jaunt, from THE COM-

PANY'S Irish Trip, to London where he expects to attend a rehearsal of The Honourable Artillery Company Corps of Drums and meet with officers of the English "Corps of Drums Society." We'll have that International Consortium yet. \*\*\*\*\* Chris Alonge and Ted Krukowski, of East Greenbush, N.Y.'s Spirit of '76 played with the Fort Ticonderoga FDC at the opening ceremonies at the Winter Olympics. Another member, Charles Alonge III, played with the Old Guard in El Paso, Texas when the Distinguished Service Cross was presented to the country's only living Five Star General, Omar Bradley. (Remember the young cadet watching the Hellcats in the September issue?) \*\*\*\*\* The time honored Mattatuck Drum Band held last year's Clam Bake at the Bristol, (Ct.), Nurseries on Sept. 9th and went through more bi-valves than their Minute Book has pages. \*\*\*\*\*

Other recent, and successful, social affairs included The Sons of Liberty Reunion and Dinner at Staten Island, N.Y., Oct. 27; The Sailing Master's Military Ball at Essex, Ct., Nov. 17 and The Chas. T. Kirk FDBC Reunion at Queens, N.Y., Dec. 1 \*\*\*\*\* Sailing Master Dave Angersola is said to have won a special prize "for making the best time going to the Taunton Muster." He won a trip... "to court." \*\*\*\*\*



Pat Cooperman flanked by Craig Brosch and Mark Logsdon

Following Old Saybrook's brisk Dec. 8th march down Main St., The Sailing Masters repaired to Bill Kinnare's Madison home for their annual Xmas Party. Others gravitated toward Essex and Paddy Cooperman's open house where they found Mark Logsdon and Craig Brosch, who flew in from Michigan just to prove that all of the crazies aren't confined to the east coast. The trip was probably worth it... just to see the look on Muster Master Bill Reid's face when the "Brass Ensemble" blew his Public Address System out. \*\*\*\*\* Lent has come, and went, and with it the world's largest FDC extravaganza... FAS'NACHT, in Basel, Switzerland. Starting with the 4 a.m. "Morgestraich", and continuing for the better part of the week, thousands of spectators; from all over the world; were on hand to witness the famous Fife and Drum "Cliques" outdoing each other with fanciful costumes, music and lanterns.

## Ancient Mariners' Christmas Celebration



Whether or not the other patrons, of Clinton, Ct. Hungry Lion restaurant were prepared for an Ancient Mariner Xmas Party still remains to be determined. However, those in the party room had no trouble throwing themselves into the business at hand. An especially large turnout of Mariners, from N.Y., Ct., Mass. and R.I. were on hand for the doings, with hilarity and music the keywords. Formalities were reduced to Bill Gallagher's attempt at making a memorable speech.

## On A Clear Day You Can Drink Forever

by W.G. Winterbottom

I, like Kilgore Trout, am back after failing on the outside. That is no disgrace, a lot of good people cannot make it on the outside.

Ah, the outside. There are people out there who have never heard of Ballantine Ale, let alone a double paradiddle. Good Lord!

It is a long sad story. It is one that surely needs no repeating, but I will.

One day many weeks ago while delivering a lecture on the virtues of good health at the Falstaff brewery (Ballantine Ale division) I was overwhelmed by the barrels of Ale passing me by. Finally, the temptation was too great. I headed off for a vat of new brew. That was fine, but my training and experience held me back. I have more dignity than that. "Where is the aged ale," I demanded.

Many hours later I was found merrily drumming away. Using two empty bottles as drumsticks, I was visibly glowing.

The plant manager came up screaming in full stride, "Winterbottom, what are you doing?" I shouted back, "Fag a baile." "Watch your language," said he, never realizing my retort was but Gaelic for "Clear the way." Fortunately, there were only six of them and one of me.

My stay in the hospital was short, but what I want to write about is how much cleaner the streets of Deep River will be this year with the Connecticut bottle law in effect.

This means that no longer will we see the sign in front of Swan's Funeral Home decorated with empty beer cans. No longer will the bottles make it dangerous to take a midnight dip in the town fountain.

But all is not lost! After a ten hour conference with G. Harold Billingsgate, we have concluded that this year in respect to tradition and to the fife and drum movement, the members of the Ancient Mariners have decided to replace the missing bottles and cans with, (and this is a real sacrifice), their own bodies filled with Ale.

That's right! Instead of having to pick up empty Ale cans in the bushes, this year you can pick up a Mariner. This is the ultimate in drum corps dedication! I would take my hat off. If I were one.

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## A Close-up Look At The Nutmeg Volunteers

by Phil Truitt

It is a rare occasion indeed — at Musters, parades or historical celebrations — when you don't encounter the highly enthusiastic Nutmeg Volunteer Junior Ancients. They travel far and wide to show their impressive musical wares and perform virtually twice a weekend from April through November. Their colorful plumed tricorns with red, white and blue uniforms are familiar to most Ancient followers from Maine to Florida and all points west. There is a fascinating study.

The history of the corps goes back to 1948 when it was known as the Nutmeg Fife & Drum Corps and was affiliated with a local Fire Company. The unit was actively re-organized in 1961 by Jim Patterson who served as director through 1973. It was in 1975, when Bob and Judy Johns took over the corps' reins. The title was officially changed to the Nutmeg Volunteers Junior Ancient Fife & Drum Corps that first year and the corps delighted in the arrival of a brand-new Diesel Coach Bus purchased by the Johns and eventually paid for by the members' efforts. It was later that year that Nutmeg carried the Ancient banner proudly in the Orange Bowl Parade in Florida, so things were happening.

The Nutmeg repertoire consists primarily of Revolutionary War tunes and is extremely deep. Last year's Fife Sergeant Ti Crossman, had a personal well of 140 tunes from which to draw. The corps dedicates itself clearly to performance and not to competition. Individual members are allowed to compete for medals (quite successfully at that), but any conflict in corps and competition schedules is unquestionably settled in favor of the former. There is, in this body of youngsters, a solid vein of loyalty to the unit itself and to the enjoyment of being with one another as often as possible.

Instruction is done in two phases based on repertoire development. Ellen Corduan has worked with the drummers for many years until they know the beats for 12 tunes. Fifers receive the same early tutelage until reaching that level of accomplishment. The next step is to main corps level where starting in 1980 the youngsters will learn from two of the very finest musicians in the Ancient ranks. The Ancient Mariners' John Ciaglia will be instructing fife and the highly talented Jim Clark will take over the snare line.



Recruiting is not a great problem for Nutmeg on the surface. There are no other Ancient corps in the sprawling New London/Groton/Southern Rhode Island area so that they draw from this broad expanse well. Due to the heavy naval-industry domination of this region, however, migration is a problem the corps must live with. Most members do not come from traditionally Ancient backgrounds and unfortunately, few go on to other corps after their Nutmeg experience is terminated by age limitations.

As noted earlier, the Nutmeg Volunteers are on the move every weekend from April through November, often playing both days. The directors are constantly on the lookout for new places to take the corps so as to add both to their recreation and education. Every Nutmeg trip includes visits to museums, historic sites or other stimulating adventures in addition to their performances. Among their special favorites are the Alpine Slides which the New England ski resorts offer the public in the summer months. Their schedule and travels thus are treated with imagination and are tailored to the best interests of the corps members every season.

So far, this year, they have made a ten day trip to Florida that included the Disneyworld Muster plus trips to Busch Gar-

dens, Sea World, Circus World plus Wet & Wild among other highlights. In the past few years, the Johns have taken their troops all over New England, to Canada, Niagara Falls, Greenfield Village in Michigan, the Pennsylvania Dutch country and all through the eastern seaboard. They have been invited to Ireland and The Kentucky Derby and are presently considering a new New Year's Day bowl parade appearance. Add to this a loyal support of all Eastern Musters and a solid parade booking and you can see that Nutmeg is probably the most travelled corps in the entire company.

Twice a year award nights are held with trophies presented for attendance at the Summer affair and for both attendance and music at the Winter Awards Dinner. Special trophies are given for musical attainment. Therefore Nutmeg honors its own while carefully injecting new incentives toward which its members can strive.

In the area of fund raising, the majority of incoming funds are from paid performances, of which there are many. Additional fund raising sources come from raffles, dinners and an annual tag sale so they work for their suppers and their trips! Nutmeg is not sponsored by any outside organization, the budget must be met on the corps' own merit each year.

The year 1979 saw Nutmeg host its own

initial "Nutmeg Volunteer Whaling City Muster" — an invitational affair in New London on the Mitchell College campus. This year they are already hard at work on their second Muster which will take place on July the 6th. The Old Guard will again be performing at this event so things are well in hand.

As the new season rolls in this month the big, colorful Nutmeg corps will be turned on from their jaunt to Florida and ready for a new year of excitement, education and lots of good Ancient music. No matter what parade or Muster you may be attending during the year the chances are excellent that you'll see Corps Major Suzanne Steadman proudly leading her Nutmeg Volunteers onward. These are fine people devoted to the true Ancient principles of good music, good fun and friendship to all.

### The Old Guard, Ft. Ticonderoga Impress At Winter Olympic Games

The Ancient Times salutes the fine and highly impressive performances of The Old Guard F&D and the Fort Ticonderoga FDC at the Winter Olympic Games in Lake Placid. The Ancient community is proud of both these units, who performed at the opening and closing ceremonies in noble fashion. Well done gentlemen!

## Feb. Meeting from Page 5

vice of THE COMPANY. The units will march in the Limerick Parade on March 16th and in Dublin on the 17th, for any of you who might be in the area at the time. Gallagher added that due to the costs this probably will be the last trip of this nature.

### Junior Corps Field Day

Dave Hooghkirk reported that his committee had met regarding a special weekend field day just for Junior Ancient corps. Corps have been interviewed so that the areas of interest are known. It is now a matter of finding an open schedule date and a location that will offer the younger corps a full range of activities for the affair. The purpose of this activity is to show the Junior Ancient corps that THE COMPANY is very much interested in their behalf and their interests. This is planned as an annual gathering with only Juniors invited. Preliminary plans are for a heavily social gathering offering cookouts, camping, swimming and other sports and perhaps a trip to an amusement park. Dress will be casual and musical performances will be included. The idea is to let the younger corps people have a weekend of fun and mixing to build up friendships under the sponsorship of THE COMPANY.

Enthusiasm was very strong for this project and efforts will be made to get the initial affair going in the late Summer of 1980. A centrally located site with full facilities will be studied so that every Junior Corps can have a chance to attend. Further information will be reported as the committee ties down the loose ends.

### Music Committee

Ed Classey reported that taping had begun to prepare cassettes for instructional purposes. It was proposed that the committee be given a budget of some \$500.00 to record the cassettes in a studio and then get a minimum of 100 duplicated for helping corps. The music will include the Ashworth fife and drumming systems (the first ever written in America, circa 1812) and also



On his way to clean-up some spilled ale, Company President 'Mo' Schoos demonstrates how he might appear with a "mop-of-hair"

those of Strubbe (1870) and Bruce & Emmett (1862). The initial recordings have been of selections from the Camp Duty, the Hessian, the Dutch etc. and all who have heard or participated in them were very high in their praise. Bill Gallagher asked that the Executive Committee hear a sample before THE COMPANY formally funds the project. The general feeling at the meeting was that this can be a most valuable service and that funding should be forthcoming. The tapes represent a great learning device for young and old alike. Each will sell for around \$5.00 and will come with full printed instructions and comment.

Leo Brennan raised the question as to how Earl Sturtze's new book was progressing. Music Committee members Ferrante and Terrieri are researching the feasibility of printing the book in the \$7.00-\$8.00 price range. Bill Gallagher noted that Mr. Sturtze is willing to assign the copyright to THE COMPANY. It is possible that this new book can be out this summer.

On the Membership Committee, Ed Classey announced his resignation citing a heavy schedule which was preventing him from doing the proper job. His replacement will be handled by the Executive Committee.

### New Business Miscellany

President Schoos read a newsletter from Sally Marong of Maine's McCobb Company which cited many events in upper New England for this year. Anyone interested in attending these parades and battle reenactments can get Sally's address from the president.

The next COMPANY meeting will be in Mt. Kisco, but due to competition with the popular John Hanson Patriots Muster in Maryland — the date has been changed to Sunday, April 13th! All members should note that change.

It was also proposed and agreed upon that most major COMPANY meetings would be held at Stony Creek in the future, where the facilities were much more suited to large crowds. Lanecraft offered their clubhouse for the smaller committee meetings, but felt the large affairs were too difficult for their setup.

Discussion on the National Muster was held, but there has been no further research forthcoming as to whether any corps was interested in hosting the event. It was agreed that a committee was needed to specifically look into and study this matter. Pat Cooperman suggested that we might consider holding it every three years and tie it into the proposed convention. Ed Classey added that we should consider having THE COMPANY fund this event. All these matters

will now be looked at in detail, but the door is still wide open in 1980 for any corps to host the affair. If you are interested, Mo Schoos is the man to contact.

Paul Moskowitz of the Germantown Ancients suggested that The Conn. Historical Society might be interested in putting on a display of our Archives. Ed Olsen noted that he would need more staff to do such a job properly, but also that our Archives were primarily printed and pictorial materials and would not be conducive to a public exhibition. It was noted that having COMPANY units play for historical societies would be a good function to pursue and a source of further publicity and public awareness.

With nothing further on the floor, the very active meeting was adjourned.

It should be obvious by now that these meetings produce a great deal of new and imaginative ideas in broadening the service of THE COMPANY for everyone's benefit. We need more ideas still so every corps is urged to attend the April 13th meeting at the Mt. Kisco, N.Y. Firehouse. You will get your ideas expressed and pick up a lot of information so come join the group! For corps who cannot make it, but do have points to make — write Mo Schoos in advance and your matter will be discussed. These meetings are a great forum for THE COMPANY and we need more corps present and less remaining in absentia.

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## Colonial Saybrook celebrates 9th Annual Torchlight Muster with spirit

The annual Ancient Muster trail which begins in April has many highlights, but there is always something special about its final fling in Old Saybrook, Connecticut. Corps spirit seems to soar under the challenge of December's cold, the advent of the Christmas season and the opportunity to get together again with fellow Ancients after a period of inactivity. The 9th annual Torchlight Muster on December 8th saw 45 corps assemble from six states on a clear evening which brought relatively mild temperatures for the time of year.

Strong Delegations from N.Y. and N.J.

It is difficult to imagine the atmosphere which prevails at this Muster if you have never been there, but envision the highly inspiring music of Christmas carols and martial music all blended into a scene replete with festively imaginative Christmas trimmings, on units striding through the darkness flanked by torch bearers lighting their way. That will give you an inkling of what this Muster is all about.

Some thirty Connecticut corps formed the bulwark of the line of march, but New York and New Jersey representation was also in strong evidence. The New Jersey delegation was comprised of The Battle of Monmouth FDC, the Courthouse Volunteers, the Colonial Musketeers and the New Jersey Colonial Militia. New York's Ancient garrison brought forth the Mt. Kisco FDC, the Yankee Tunemiths, the N.Y. Ancients, the Pound Ridge Colonials, the Village Volunteers, the Charlton Militia and the Charles W. Dickerson Field Music. Massachusetts corps on the scene were the Hatfield Ancients, the Spirit of '76 from Holyoke and the Charleston Militia. Rhode Island was well represented by the Pawtuxet Rangers and Virginia by the 32nd Virginia Field Music.

### Highlights Observed

Santa Claus outfits were plentiful including that on Stony Creek's Dave Hooghkirk. Both the Marlborough Jr. Ancients and Westbrook's Jr. Colonials were creatively garbed in Christmas trim and Deep River's Jr. Ancients sported reindeer antlers as they strode down the parade route. The somewhat depleted ranks of the Ancient Mariners and Charles W. Dickerson joined forces and their music was a blend of two unique styles with the Dickerson bugles and throbbing cadence and the Mariners' life line. Their rendition of "Downfall of Paris" was well worth the evening's trip.

## New Ark Has Colorful Schedule In Delaware

The New Ark Fife & Drum Corps, which is Delaware's lone Ancient unit, has had a very active and colorful season. This fine corps has just ended its fourth year of activity and it has been one of the most enjoyable yet.

The New Ark FDC performed before over 2,000 people on September 16th in its hometown for the Newark Community Days celebration. The following week the corps performed at the prestigious Von Steuben Day Parade in Philadelphia joining the Courthouse Volunteers and Nathan Hale Fifes & Drums as the Ancient representatives in the line of march. Before the parade the New Ark youngsters enjoyed a jollification with Natha Hale that helped lift the spirits on a rain soaked day.

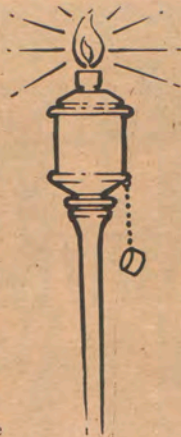
The next appearance was in Wilmington for the annual Pulaski Day parade in October and then the Newark Halloween Parade where it was the featured unit. For the latter, Drum Major Mary Osborne reports that each corps member dressed up in special costume and the corps played such seasonal favorites as "Turkey In The Straw", "Chicken Reel", "Banana Splits Song" and "F Troop". One of the members even dressed up as an Ancient Mariner complete with ale mug!

During the Christmas season the unit performed in historic Odessa, Delaware and in the initial Battle of Monmouth Christmas Muster.

Plans are already being drawn for 1980 and this popular Delaware corps hopes to be at Maryland's John Hanson Patriots Muster, the Pioneer Ancients Muster in Bloomsburg, Pa., the Battle of Monmouth Muster and Olde Ripton's Huntington Muster among others. The members are looking forward to their 5th anniversary year in what has been a constantly improving history. This is a spirited outfit of which we all can be very proud.



That's Dave Hooghkirk under the false beard. The big red nose is his own.



The Samuel Comstock Corps march under warm blankets



The fifing and drumming reindeers are the Deep River Juniors

photos by Mal Hinkley and Phil Truitt

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## ANCIENTS ACTIVITIES

Because of space limitations, priority for listings must be given to programs and activities sponsored by member-corps of THE COMPANY OF FIFERS AND DRUMMERS. Whenever possible, events will be published well in advance in order to permit readers to make plans. Send announcements to Scott Greenstreet, P.O. Box 156, South Glastonbury, Ct. 06073.

All Musters are considered invitational unless otherwise listed.

APRIL 18-19-20: Indian Head Muster in Maryland. Sponsored by the John Hanson Patriots, this muster has become a tradition for the Mid-Atlantic region. Contact: Bob Painter, 205 Indian Head Ave., Indian Head, Md. 20640.

APRIL 19: "19th of April Parade" Concord, Mass. This 9:00 a.m. parade begins the Patriots Day weekend in the greater Boston area.

APRIL 21: Two parades this day. Patriots Day parade at 9:00 a.m. in Arlington, Mass. and at 2:00 p.m. the Lexington, Mass. Patriots Day Parade. Lots of Ancients Corps and Militia units.

APRIL 24: Lancerat Old Timers Night. A highlight of the Ancient Social season, this affair is usually by invitation only. Held at Landcraft's North Haven, Conn. headquarters.

MAY 4: Loyalty Day Parade, Manchester, Ct. Always a great number of Senior and Junior corps on hand.

MAY 10: Kentish Guards Muster - Warwick R.I. A consistently popular, early spring Muster in Rhode Island. Contact: Maurice Schoos, 137 Douglas Road, Warwick, R.I. (401) 821-1628.

MAY 10: Shipburning Commemoration Parade in Essex, Conn. Sponsored by the Sailing Masters of 1812. Invitational only. Contact: Sailing Masters, P.O. Box 184, Essex, Ct. 06426.

MAY 17: 120th Anniversary Party for the Moodus Drum & Fife Corps. Invitation only. Contact: Betty Clauson, Box 278, Moodus, Ct. 06469. Phone: 873-9481.

MAY 23-24-25: Americana Week, Willington, Vermont. This is a pleasant weekend of camping with Fife & Drum and Militia activities. For more information contact: Gerd Sommer, Route 1, Box 51-A, Underhill, Vt. 05489.

JUNE 7: Goin'chaug FDC Annual Muster in Durham, Conn. A popular Muster, sponsored by a junior corps in an ideal location. Contact: Beverly Peterson, Parmelee Hill Road, Durham, Ct. 06422 Telephone: 349-9091.

JUNE 7: New Ark FDC Muster, Newark, Delaware. This is a first effort for this corps in an area where Musters are becoming popular. Contact: Paul Urbaniak, 50 Madison Drive, Newark, Del. 19711. Phone: (320) 368-9159.

JUNE 8: Flag Day Parade - Westbrook, Ct. Sponsored by the Westbrook Elks, this parade brings out many Conn. Valley Ancients, Jollifications and refreshments. Contact Westbrook Elks Club, 399-9636.

JUNE 14: Gaspee Day Parade, Warwick, R.I. You will see most of the Ancient corps in this long and colorful parade. Contact: W. Terrance Murphy, 19 Talbot Manor, Cranston R.I. 02905.

JUNE 15: Barnum Festival Parade, Bridgeport, Ct. Many Ancient units march in this traditional parade. For information call: Bill Hope (203) 874-7412.

JUNE 29: Battle of Monmouth Parade & Muster, Freehold, New Jersey. A spectacular show for those lucky enough to get to Freehold. Contact: Daniel Savino, 11 Enright Lane, Freehold, N.J. 07728.

JULY 4: Annual Greenfield Village Ancient Muster in Dearborn, Michigan. Held under the auspices of the Henry Ford Museum and the First Michigan Colonial Fife & Drum Corps. This beautiful setting has drawn many eastern units in the past. For information, contact: Mark Logsdon, 39425 Della Rose, Sterling Heights, Mich. 48078. Telephone: (313) 979-1777.

JULY 4: 4th of July Parade, Bristol, R.I. One of the largest parades in the country. Usually 15 to 20 divisions. If you plan to go... get there very early.

JULY 5: Portland FDC Muster, Portland Connecticut. Hosted by the well-known corps in orange & black, this is always a fine, well organized Muster. Contact: Robert Hutchings, 68 Bartlett Street, Portland, Ct. 06480. (203) 342-3780.

JULY 6: The "Whaling City Muster" presented by The Nutmeg Volunteers. Always a great day, put on by one of the most active junior corps on the Ancient circuit. Contact: Robert Johns, 1849 Center Groton Rd., Ledyard, Ct. 06399. Phone: (203) 464-9486.

JULY 12: "Old Home Day" in East Hampton, Conn. Parade, jollification and lots of activities. Invitation only. Contact: Moe Lanzi, Dogwood Drive, East Hampton, Ct. 06424 (203) 267-9443.

JULY 12: Marquis of Granby Annual Muster in Granby, Conn. The Old Guard will be the featured corps. Sleepover facilities available, contact: Mrs. Bobby Sullivan, The Marquis of Granby FDC, P.O. Box 1776, Granby, Ct. 06035.

JULY 19: Deep River Ancient Muster, Deep River, Conn. Considered to be "THE" Muster of the year. Always a record breaking number of drum corps, people, campers and spectators. This continues to be an "open" Muster. For information contact: Steve Tavernier, 63 Country Club Road, Groton, Conn. 06340. (203) 445-1563.

JULY 19: Green Mountain Militia & Parade, Barre, Vermont. An opportunity for those who would enjoy a trip to northern Vermont. Contact: Gordon MacArthur, 159 Tower Road, Graniteville, Vt. 05654. (802) 433-5586.

JULY 26: MARINERS DAY - Joint anniversary celebration by Conn. and Swiss Mariner units at Keeping Society Grounds, Guilford, Ct. Invitational. Contact: Carl Balestracci (203) 453-3512.

AUGUST 3: Olde Ripton "Huntington Muster" Huntington, Conn. This is the second Muster held by the Olde Ripton FDC and they are looking for a bright, sunny day. Contact: Robert Kelly, 16 Mathildas Lane, Shelton, Ct. 06484. Telephone: (203) 929-1834.

AUGUST 9: Morris County Militia 11th Annual Muster, Chatham, New Jersey. One of the premier Musters of the New Jersey area drawing corps from all over the northeast. Contact: Jim Flynn, 142 N. Hillside Ave., Chatham, N.J. 07928. Phone: (201) 635-4614.

AUGUST 16: Bartons Raiders Muster, Tiverton, R.I. We are delighted that this Muster has returned after an absence of several years. Warm and friendly hosts and a fun gathering. Contact: George Levesque, 83 Evergreen Ave., Tiverton, R.I. 02978. (401) 625-5375.

AUGUST 23: 21st Annual Westbrook Muster, Westbrook, Conn. The second oldest Muster on the calendar and the season highlight for corps and campers. Contact: Dottie McGrath, RR 3, Box 402, Westbrook, Conn. 06498. Phone: (203) 399-6436.

SEPT. 6: Sgt. Daniel Bissell FDC Parade and Muster, Windsor, Conn. For information contact: Don Benner, 35 Brookhaven Road, Windsor, Ct. 06095. (203) 688-8918.

SEPT 7: Nayaug Ancients & 3rd Conn. Regiment Annual Muster, South Glastonbury, Conn. A good Muster site and reputation make this Sunday gathering a must. Contact: W. Clarke Wilbor, P.O. Box 293, Glastonbury, Ct. 06033. Call: (203) 633-7676.

SEPT 14: Marlborough FDC Annual Muster in Marlborough, Conn. Another Sunday Muster that provides one of the best Muster sites available. Lakeside with beautiful big trees. Contact: Peter Bates, 10 Lafayette Road, Marlborough, Ct. 06447. (203) 267-8870.

SEPT 21: Conn. State Firemens Convention Parade, Windsor, Conn. Huge parade with many Ancient corps on hand.

SEPT 27: Sudbury Ancient Muster, Sudbury, Mass. Held on the grounds of historic Longfellow's Wayside Inn. A colorful fall Muster. Contact: Russ Kirby, 244 Boston Post Rd. Sudbury, Ma. 01776.

OCT 19: Taunton Muster, Taunton, Mass. Sponsored by The Taunton Colonial Minutemen. An interesting fife & drum militia gathering. Contact: Taunton Minutemen, Box 1774, Taunton Mass. 02780.

# JAPAN MARINERS AT ANJIN FESTIVAL

By JIM KIDD

For the second consecutive year Ancient Mariners of Japan participated in the Will Adams (ANJIN) Festival in the resort city of ITO, Japan. Those who've read James Clavell's best selling novel "SHOGUN" will recall ANJIN as the English pilot and navigator Blackthorne who was shipwrecked on the coast of Japan in 1598. Some may be surprised that the novel was based on fact and that Will Adams (Blackthorne) lived out his life in Japan as an advisor to the Shogun Tokugawa (Toronaga) on such matters as ship-building and naval warfare. He died a landowner and a samurai in 1620, the only foreigner ever to be so appointed. His burial place is in the small town of ANJIN-ZU-KA just a fifteen minute drive from Yokosuka and the large American naval base.

Along with the Blackship Festival in Shimoda the Anjin Festival has become

another special event for the Japan Mariners because of the special treatment they receive there. The bus transportation, to and from, is on a luxury coach provided by the ITO City Hotel owners association.

The Corps is invited to a pre-parade party atop one of the city's finest hotels where they feast on a wide variety of delicacies with beer, sake and soft drinks.

The parade itself is stopped for "refreshments" several times due to the intense August heat. Afterward the Mariners are treated to Japanese hot bath prior to attending a special post-parade banquet thrown for all foreign participants. In attendance this year were groups from New Zealand, Mexico, Columbia and Australia.

By the end of the day the Mariners were a stuffed and groggy lot as they boarded the bus for the trip home. The ITO ANJIN Festival is mainly an English-Japanese affair but this group of Japanese-American Ancients will be around each year to make sure the strains of "Yankee Doodle" are heard. Rest in Peace Will Adams!



Pre-parade banquet left to right Capt. Gilbert Hitchens, Royal Navy Aide to the British Ambassador; Jim Kidd, Director, Japan Mariners; Sir Michael Wilford, British Ambassador to Japan; Capt. R. C. Blyeu, USN, Commander U. S. Naval Base Yokosuka; and, wearing Ancient Mariners, Connecticut Babe Kelly's Balmoral is Drum Major Phil Kealaluhi with a look of anguish over the absence of pineapple on the banquet table.

Yalesville Seniors, the Marquis of Granby, Lancraft, the Milford Volunteers and the Connecticut Rebels. One or two others may have slipped by me and, if so, their omission is purely unintentional.

### Spectacular Show To See

For those of you who want to see the grand daddy of all parades . . . mark late September down on your calendar next year and don't miss this one. Figure on a six hour stay, but the spectacle is really worth it not to mention the music. The Ancients were well received all day long . . . to a corps . . . , but my bet is there were a great many sore feet that evening.

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# The Ancient Times

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## HOME IN INDIANA

By BOB PARMELEE

On Friday, September 29, COMPANY Suttler Leo Brennan and his noble aide George Bernard boarded a plane in Hartford, Ct. bound for Lafayette, Indiana. The purpose was to set up THE COMPANY Store and be official ambassadors at the "Feast of the Hunter's Moon." In doing so, they set a milestone for THE COMPANY. This was the furthest west we had ever sent representatives.

Official COMPANY participation was the culmination of several years of effort by the Tippecanoe FDC. The decision to attend was made at the 1978 Deep River Ancient Muster at which time the Suttler met with "Tip" director Bill Baugh for final confirmation. From the stories still told by our dynamic duo, it was a decision well made.



Suttler Leo Brennan representing THE COMPANY'S interests at Indiana's FEAST OF THE HUNTER'S MOON. Attired in the traditional garb of an 18th century tradesman, his "Store" was well received by the feast's participants and visitors alike.

The Feast itself began with Reville at 7:30 am and opening ceremonies, (for the public), at 10 am Saturday. The weather was ominous, but the crowd was enthusiastic. An area newspaper proclaimed, "Opening Day Crowd Estimated At 25,000 Despite Clouds, Showers."

To give those unfamiliar with this event an idea of its magnitude there is the story of "Tip" fifer Denise Wilson, Denise a college junior, spending the year studying in France, is quoted in an Indiana paper as saying . . . "This is my one trip home all year, but the Fife and Drum Corps needs new members and a place to practice; so I just had to be here."

The Feast, held at Fort Quiatenon in Lafayette, was sponsored by the Tippecanoe Historical Association in cooperation with the County Parks and Recreation Department. Held at approximately the same time every year, this was the 11th such gathering. In a strange twist, the committee works in conjunction with the Athletic Department of Purdue University for, in the words of George Bernard, "Lafayette just cannot handle the weekend traffic of a Purdue football game, and the Feast, at the same time."

The purpose of the affair was to show the public how an outpost in the Indiana wilderness would celebrate the annual arrival of the traders from French-speaking Canada, the American settlers and the Indians. They do this as authentically as possible. For example, at one campfire a woman might be making lye soap in an iron kettle, while at another a blacksmith could be forging metal with a stone hammer.

During the day George and Leo did a brisk business at "The Store," however, after the Feast was closed to the public they were shown around by members of the Tippecanoe FDC. This was their first indication of how large the Feast actually was. "There were hundreds of campfires," said Leo, "and if ya' didn't watch

## JAPANESE EMISSARIES TO "ANCIENT LAND"



RIGHT OFF THE PLANE: Japan Mariners Miwa Watanabe, Yuku Tachikawa and Nick Bushta relax at the home of COMPANY Counsel Bill Gallagher, seen at right. Ancient Mariner George Bernard is on the left and Navy Chief Don Bettner is in front.



JUST BEFORE THE MUSTER: Miwa, Nick, COMPANY Pres. Mo Schoos, Yuku, Muster Aid Chairman Scott Greenstreet, A. Mariners Babe Kelly and Neil O'Brien-face into the bright South Glastonbury sun for this study in Intercontinental Drum Corps relationships, at Nayaug's September 17, Ancient Muster.

out you'd trip into one."

After one short walk they came upon the "Voyageurs." These were the French-Canadians who had paddled down the Wabash river, as had their forefathers, in order to be part of the festival. At night, gathered around the fires, they filled the air with tall-stories and music. While there George Bernard became hungry, a chronic failing, and was handed a plate of meat. After enjoying the snack, and inquiring what it was, he was told "smoked turkey and skunk."

Sunday morning, after roughing-it in a motel, an "incredible" breakfast was forthcoming at the home of Tippecanoe organizer Jim Smith. Then off for another day at the Feast.

And what a day it was. The crowd was estimated at 45,000 and "The Store" did a thriving business. Later, during a brief lull, Leo and George were introduced to

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A BLENDING OF CULTURES  
Japanese Fifer Miwa Watanabe, dons a Lancraft-Indian headdress, at the Nayaug Muster, for a traditional American portrait.

## FIFERS FLY HALF-WAY AROUND THE WORLD

By CARL A. BALESTRACCI JR.

The first time that I was told about a Japanese Mariner's Fife and Drum Corps it was like hearing another bad Italian joke. I smiled because it was just another version of an old story. It wasn't until months later that I became aware of the truthfulness of the tale.

Last winter our corps, the Ancient Mariners, were privileged to play host, for a short time, to C.W.O. Jim Kidd U.S.N. who was on leave from his base in Yokosuka, Japan. As a fully "certified" member of the Japan Mariners his presence eased all doubt.

On Sept. 16, of this year, Connecticut's Ancient Mariners broke long standing tradition for in their front ranks; at the Guilford Fair Day parade; marched two young ladies; Yuku Tachikawa and Miwa Watanabe along with Nick Bushta . . . three fifers from half-way around the world. They, together with their "chaperon" Chief Petty Officer Don Bettner, (their champion fund-raiser), had traveled to the United States as the first Fife and Drum Corps emissaries from Japan. Housed by Bill Gallagher, George Bernard and Ed Olsen they were treated to a whirlwind tour which included Mystic Seaport, Connecticut cook-outs and the Deep River Inn.

On Sunday Sept. 17 the "combined" Mariner Corps performed at the Nayaug Muster in South Glastonbury, Ct. In C.W.O. Bettner's own words, "Mustering at Nayaug with all the Ancients was a very impressive experience. There's nothing like it in Japan as we are the only FD Corps and that is unfortunate. The functions we attend are in no way near as nostalgic nor as much fun as Nayaug. Eighteen fifers, ten snares, five basses, color guard, boarding party and cannon . . . it was a fun day for all."

Monday night, at a dinner reception for the visitors at the "Wharf" in Madison, Ct., gifts were exchanged, dogs-noses flowed and there were many tears of sadness shed as the guests prepared for their return journey. Their visit was much too short but certainly paved the way for greater understanding and friendship.

As Connecticut's Governor Ella Grasso said in her letter of welcome:

"The Japanese Mariners deserve special praise for their dedication to bringing our music and culture to their people. Through this enriching experience you have contributed to a greater understanding between our nations and an awareness of the history, the challenges and the culture of another land."

The Pacific visitors have extended an invitation to visit Japan for The Black Shop Festival. Whether or not we will be able to reciprocate in kind we all look forward to 1980 when both the Swiss and Japanese Mariners have promised to join us in Connecticut for a joint Anniversary Celebration providing an example of intercontinental amity unparalleled in this, or any other, sphere of activity.

## TAUNTON HIGHLIGHTS AUTHENTIC STYLE

From every aspect, the Liberty and Union Day Parade and the Muster which followed in Taunton, Mass. on October 22nd was an impressive gathering. On an ideal Indian Summer afternoon with a perfect backdrop of Fall foliage, some 61 military and fife and drum corps units assembled from all over New England plus New York. The especially noticeable attribute of this day was the truly authentic atmosphere that prevailed . . . in the style of music, the uniforms and the gathering of so many "militia" units. A crowd of some 3,000 viewed the parade through town and an estimated 700 turned out to enjoy the Muster at the Taunton High School Field House.

The parade was marked by color and some absolutely beautiful music. Particularly impressive were the Taunton Colonial Minutemen, the Village Volunteers, the First Newmarket Militia of New Hampshire, the Green Mountain Regiment, Olde Ripton F & D, the Marquis of Granby (who were in magnificent form), the Concord Minutemen, Ye Ancient Mariners of West Holyoke and, of course, the always entertaining, Charles W. Dickerson Field Music up from New Rochelle, N.Y. This was one of the rare "militia" parades with many infantry and artillery units sandwiched between the brilliant colors of the fife and drum corps. There was only Ancient music this day and it was a proud day for any veteran.

The Muster was held indoors in the field house, as is traditional, and the acoustics were such that each musical corps was magnified in volume making for an especially rousing performance. Company Suttler Leo Brennan and staff were bedecked in handsome, fall colonial uniforms to add to the authentic atmosphere. The Muster featured some very special music from the rhythmic performance of the Charles Dickerson corps, and a most impressive exhibition by the Village Volunteers, to the slow step demonstration of Olde Ripton, the precision of the Marquis of Granby and the really enjoyable style of each corps that performed. Space does not allow for mention of all units, but let it suffice that this was a beautiful afternoon made possible by the performances of every unit in attendance.

## FIFERS TO THE FORE!



The massing of the Senior Ancients at the 93rd Conn. Fifers & Drummers Assn. Annual Convention held at Bristol on Aug. 5th. Included in this photo are The Conn. Blues, Yalesville Srs., Stony Creek, Conn. Rebels and the Tracy Sr. Ancients.