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The Editorial

The year has passed and it’s time to reflect on some of the many musters we have enjoyed. In this issue there are accounts from the Ft. DeSoto RAM JAM, the Young Colonials Muster, the Deep River Tattoo, the Westbrook Muster, the Sudbury Muster, and the Moodus Muster. The accounts presented are always personal, and reflect the author’s take on the day. Yours, of course, might have been different. Was your wonderful muster omitted from this lineup? If so, you know whom to blame, but keep in mind that it could be different next year. You could add your muster to the list, with your thoughts, anecdotes, and pictures. This is your magazine after all – why not try to make it better?

I commend to your attention a most interesting article by Richard Ruquist, who has unearthed an obscure 16th century dance manual, *Orchesographic*, by Thoinot Arbeau. The book not only contains detailed instructions for many formal dances, but also some fife tunes, and many drum rhythms. Richard has gleaned from this work suggestions for the origin of many of our drum rudiments.

The theme for the next issue has not been determined, and though there are several ideas floating around, I would appreciate some suggestions from our readership for themes for future issues.

*The Company*, under the capable leadership of President Sylvia Hooghkirk, seems to be awakening from its past lethargy with more and more events taking place at the Museum, and some modest improvement in our finances, as reported in this issue by our Treasurer, Jack Doyle. *The Company* looks for your help in maintaining the forward momentum, and asks you to remember that the most important thing any of you can do to support *The Company* is to show up — at meetings and *Company* sponsored events. Without you – there is no *Company*.

by Dan Moylan, Editor, Ancient Times
The Regimental Ancient Music JAM 2008 (The RAM JAM)

By Tim Sorensen
Sergeant Major/Snare Drummer
97th Pennsylvania Regimental Field Music

Florida musters, the final frontier.

This is from Fort DeSoto, on Mullet Key, St. Petersburg, Florida, a pristine state park with all the amenities, voted Number 1 in the country – reporting on the further adventures of the 97th Pennsylvania Regimental Field Music.

Our primary mission: To seek out Northern corps to participate in our effort to perpetuate the art of flogging and drumming in the new frontier.

Friday, February 22:
Reveille at 0800, right out of Bruce & Emmett. Breakfast, with camp coffee from a pot hanging over the open fire. A participants meeting to set the agenda for the day. And then ready the music station for the arrival of the school children.

We had approximately 1,000 local school children participating in our school day event. Twenty stations were set up to depict the living history of soldiers and civilians in the 1860s. These stations gave demonstrations on rifle handling, field music, infantry soldier accoutrements, artillery, medical equipment, women of the war, navy, cavalry, cooking, chaplin, leisure time, etc.

The Field Music station was staffed by two drummers: myself, as principle musician, and Richard Ruquist, and five fifers: Carmin Calabrese, Dan Moylan, Al Petty, Jane Perez, and John Stengle. Our mission was to educate the students on the history and function of the instruments we carry, accomplished by a short talk and then demonstrations, for each of the groups who came to our station.

When the school children departed at 1430, a jam session broke out and lasted until the evening meal was ready at 1630. Jerry White and Sue Stroud of the 97th Field Mess served an excellent meal. After supper, we had a jam session with full and happy bellies.

Saturday, February 23:
Reveille at 0800, troop the colors at 0900 and camp duties performed by the 97th Field Music. At 1000, Drummers Call alerted the participating corps to ready themselves for the RAM JAM field situated in the center of the sutler area. Because of the small number of corps involved, each corps was allowed ample time to perform.

Participating corps were Liberty Fife & Drum, Florida Minutemen, Sudbury Ancients, American Spirit and the 97th Pennsylvania Regimental Field Music.

After the performance at 1200, a muster meal was again provided by the 97th Field
Mess. The 97th Field Music then invited all interested musicians to join them on the battlefield for the "Battle of Ballast Point", which drew many interested spectators despite a brief, but heavy rain interruption, typical of Florida weather.

Following the battle was a cool down period, after which supper was available, and another jam session thereafter. At 1900, we attended the Civil War Cotillion located in the mortar battery until 2200. Lights out.

**Sunday, February 24:**

Field Music duties, 0800 Reveille, breakfast, 0900 Colors, 1000 Church Call. Available at this time were Church services (Civil War style) or explore the park, enjoy a Ferryboat ride to Egmont Key, fishing on the two new piers extending into the Gulf of Mexico, canoeing or swimming and sun worship.

Lunch served at 1200, jam until 1330, "Battle for Ballast Point" at 1400 to 1500. After returning to camp, *The General* was sounded, camps were struck, and participants rode into the sunset with fond memories of keeping the spirit alive on the sun coast of Florida.

Ft. Desoto State Park is located below the St. Petersburg on Mullet Key, at the southern tip of Pinellas County. The Park provides the 97th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry with free authentic camping in front of the fort, 25 free motor home parking spaces (self-contained only), firewood, ice, modern toilet facilities and garbage pick up.

Modern camping and motor home spaces with hook ups are available for a fee in the park campgrounds.

Concession stands sell food and snacks, but boat ramps, white sandy beaches and fishing piers are free. Hotels, motels and bed & breakfasts are also available in the St. Petersburg area.

The 97th Field Music would like to thank the many faithful Northern snowbirds who have participated in the RAM JAM:


The 2009 RAM JAM will take place from 20-22 February and we hope for even bigger participation. For information call: Artforms 727-527-8123 or email tmdrummer1@verizon.net
On August 9, 2009, the Young Colonials hosted their 21st Annual Muster at Putnam County Park in New York State. The spacious park boasts ample camping space and running water. In addition, it has a large pavilion and barn in case of inclement weather, which luckily wasn’t a factor during this past sunny muster!

Camping opened on Friday, August 8, 2009 with many corps joining in a jam that continued into the wee morning hours. Saturday morning, campers were awakened by the stirring sounds of Chris Szpara, Jon Burdacki and friends as everyone peeked around the barn to get a glimpse of who it was.

The short muster parade began at noon with a march down Main Street. Following the parade, the corps returned to the park for their muster performances. Those scheduled to play were the Westbrook Drum Corps, Marquis of Granby, Connecticut Rebels, The Fifes & Drums of the Delaware Militia, The Regulators, Windsor Drum Corps, The Grand Republic, The Troopers, Higganum Haddam Fife and Drum Corps, and the Young Colonials Alumni corps.

The Young Colonials were pleased to present Michael Adams and Stacey Schwenk with a scholarship award as they leave the corps to pursue their college education.

As the beautiful sounds of fife and drum pervaded the park, a lovely muster meal was served to all.
The jam session began with the traditional circle of friendship and then moved to the pavilion area where an intimate gathering of young and old alike played together and enjoy each others music. Safe to say, it was a wonderful weekend, cultivating new friendships and rekindling existing friendships.

The Young Colonials will be hosting their 22nd Annual Muster August 7-9, 2009. Please e-mail youngcolonials@charter.net for more information.
By Dodie McGrath
Westbrook Drum Corps

Mother Nature gave us a bright late August weekend as the sun shone brightly on Westbrook. On Friday evening at 7:00, the Tattoo with the traditional hisronc flag ceremony, was opened by the Junior Colonials, who performed their medley with excellence. Members of various corps placed the flags around the muster field and the weekend was underway. Sudbury Fyfe & Drum Company, the Deep River Juniors and Stony Creek completed the program to the delight of the many spectators and other corps members.

On Saturday, the muster opened with a welcome address by First Selectman Noel Bishop followed by the reading of the names of Company members deceased within the past year. The drum roll was presented by Bob Castillo of the Menotomy, followed by Dave Clark. The "staid and dignified" Westbrook Drum Corps started the muster with their medley, Two Frogs on a Lily Pad, with a very large frog on each end of the file line.

Sudbury Fyfe & Drum Company gave an outstanding performance as the featured corps and left the field to a huge round of applause. Thank you Sudbury!! Menotomy dedicated their medley to Sean Egan and "baby" brother Patrick accepted the ribbon for the Corps. We laughed at the Civil War Troopers "dead chicken" and when the Village Volunteers switched instruments and positions during their medley. Congratulations to the Sailing Masters who celebrated their 45th anniversary. As Ameri-clique played their medley, the crowd began to gather for a closer look and to listen. The medley was very different, even for them. Along with the piccolos and drums, instruments used to send shivers up my spine were a wind gong, Chinese opera gong, zil bell and finger castanets. Even though it was very Asian, I was told it was a coincidence that we had just had the Olympics in China.

Probably the biggest excitement was Deb and Dave! He proposed and she said YES. Deb is a fifer with Westbrook and Dave is a drummer with the Connecticut Patriots. Although it was also a surprise to Patriots director, Peter Degree, he did agree as did Deb's fellow members.

While mostly every corps limited their performances as requested, there were still a few who played up to eight minutes. We have "threatened" to place those corps at the end of the line-up. That isn't very considerate of the corps who are near the end of the list. Those who did perform near the end, we do appreciate your patience and your good performances.

I have been asked numerous times for an invitation to our muster. It is our policy to limit the number of invited corps. We ask that any interested corps request an invitation in writing by the end of January of that particular muster year. Three will be chosen by a lottery system and the invitation will be good for that muster only.

We also want to point out that if a corps on our regular invitational list does not perform on stand three years in a row, they will not be invited back although they may still march in the parade. This is how we are able to free up spots for requesting corps in our line-up.

Again to all who participated, we enjoyed you and we thank you and hope to see you next
Muster Muse

By Jessica Nevins
DRJA Mom
j.nevins@att.net

The Deep River Tattoo Turns Twenty Five

We live only two miles from the Deep River Muster – our family settled in Chester in 1982. Long before my son picked up a snare and felt the weight of the sticks in his hands and an ancestral tug to continue a tradition, the infamous Deep River Muster beckoned – heard throughout the Connecticut River Valley, visited by spectators and participants from around the country and the world, talked about wherever we go. Now that we have two sons in the Deep River Junior Ancients, we take part.

The Deep River Tattoo that turns a quarter century this year was started by a conversation. Marilyn Malcarne reminisces, "It was time to coordinate the Friday night revelry and allocate a specific role for the Deep River Junior Ancients at the Muster." The Tattoo was born, ushered in by many under the leadership of Barbara and Richard Nagot of the Deep River Junior Ancients. There are stories to tell and names not to be forgotten. AJ Mason was the first MC. There was a Swiss corps in attendance. These days awards are announced in honor of ones we remember; Vic Malcarne, Bonnie Desnoyers, Charlotte and Ken Trayes.

The term Tattoo comes from the Dutch die den tap toe or roughly; time to turn off the taps and call it a night. It seems fitting that many gather the night before the big day to play and swap stories and celebrate this ancient art. Drovers of determined drummers drum through the night, frenzied fifers lend their stratospheric soprano and a rich cacophony evolves that brings the listener to a special place. A place of historic reverence. One can close their eyes and imagine our nations' very history being played out.

The twenty-fifth anniversary Tattoo, hosted by the Deep River Junior Ancients July 17th, kicks off the Deep River Ancient Muster on the 18th. It will undoubtedly be one to talk about. I dare not attempt a thorough history here as I am new to this journey and have so much to learn. Bring your sounds and stories, we look forward to seeing you there. For more information visit www.DRJA.org.
The 2008 Moodus Muster

By Patrick Murray
Pictures by Sally Rothenhouse

Moodus Drum & Fife hosted their 2008 muster on October 18th to good weather and great music. The week of preparation beforehand was sunny and clear with cold mornings and even colder nights. As usual, folks from other corps showed up during the week to lend a hand, their help was definitely appreciated. The Thursday night before the muster is normally reserved for any last minute chores that pop up, but not this year. Around 6:30 that night I found myself at the field finishing a few last minute things. When I stopped for a minute and took a look around, I was pleasantly surprised to see many familiar faces. We turned on the lights, stoked the fire and started the weekend early. I think a new tradition may have been born.

With no organized tattoo planned for Friday night, corps arriving for the weekend either set up camp or lugged their sleeping bags into the Grange Hall. By dark people fought the cool night by hanging out by the fire while dinner was set up inside the hall. We ate, did a little jamming, talked our heads off and hung out until midnight when it got just a little too cold.

The following morning I got back to the field to see everything covered in a blanket of smoke. The Haddam Neck Church folks that were doing our muster meal had started early and were busy with the chicken. I heard a faceless voice say from a particularly heavy cloud of smoke, that if he had a cannon and a bugle he’d “Charge the bog and secure the field”. I would have paid to see that.

The line of march for the day was:
1. Moodus Drum & Fife
2. Westbrook Senior Fife & Drum
3. Yalesville Senior Fife & Drum
4. Deep River Ancient Senior Fife & Drum
5. Taggart Pipes & Drums
6. Higganum-Haddam Fife & Drum
7. Fyjes and Drums of Olde Saratoga
8. Chester Fife & Drum
9. Americaque
10. Sailing Masters of 1812 Fife & Drum
11. CT Valley Field Music Fife & Drum
12. Lancraft Fife & Drum
13. Deep River Ancient Junior Fife and Drum
14. Marlborough Junior Fife & Drum
15. Colonel John Chester Fife & Drum
16. Milford Volunteers Fife & Drum
17. Stony Creek Fife & Drum
18. Colchester Continental Fife & Drum

Mary Pont manned the microphone for the day and welcomed our guests onto the field with her usual cheery voice, “Mary on the porch” as we’ve all come to know her did a great job and we’re very fortunate to have her.

Looking back at the great performances of the day, some of the small things stand out in my mind.
- The lone snare drummer for Higganum-Haddam entering the field following the parade with a big smile as he drummed his group past us.
- The booming bass drums of Stony Creek.
- The stately march of Lancraft.
- The Olde Saratoga crew and that unique sound they put out, not sure where they found it.
- Lefty from Deep River Seniors who can go from life of the party to dead serious as soon as he picks up his sticks.

The muster meal started out as an experiment this year and we didn’t know what would happen. Cooking over an open pit for so many people was a new thing, and the possibility that it would be a one-time shot was always there. But when I saw the smoke filled muster field, smelled the chicken cooking not more than 20 feet away from my post for the day, and then actually getting the chance to eat it, I knew where my vote was going for ’09. Thank you to the great people of the Haddam Neck.
Covenant Church who worked so hard to feed the masses (No joke intended).

We're pleased that so many of our friends come out and join us each year, and the Moodus Corps thanks everyone who helped to make the Muster a success – see you in October.
The Sudbury Rain Event

By Al Renzi

Many believers have used the saying "the good Lord giveth, and the good Lord taketh away." Following this premise the weather for the Sudbury Colonial Faire and Muster of Fyres & Drums of 2007 could not possibly have been any better, while the weather for the 2008 event could not have been much worse.

Heavy rains on the Friday before the muster caused severe flooding in the camping area. Many "survivors" of the floods have now renamed the area "Mudbury", better to reflect the conditions that they endured.

Because of the poor forecast, the Faire Committee spent many hours debating the possibility of either canceling or postponing the event. But in the end it was decided that the fye and drum community was up to the task of holding the event come hell or high water. We certainly had the high water!

Few of the Colonial vendors were up to it, as there were only seven there, instead of the more than 50 signed up. Almost half of the invited corps thought better of it as well and decided to keep dry for fear of ruining skin drum heads and expensive uniforms, but the rest decided to brave the elements and came to put on a wonderful show for those in attendance.

Actually, the early morning showers ended just as the parade began and pretty well held off until the last corps had left the stand. The faire and muster grounds held up fairly well considering the conditions and most of the corps were able to perform with little more than drizzle. A few were less fortunate but played admirably through heavy showers without missing a beat.

Those corps that did attend deserve our special thanks for saving the day – and they are:

The Stowe Minutemen, The Ancient Mariners, Ameri-Clique, The Kentish Guards RIM Fife & Drum Corps, Lancraft Fife and Drum Corps, Middlesex County 4-H Fife and Drum, William Diamond Junior Fife & Drum Corps, 15th Massachusetts Infantry, Menotomy Minutemen, Fifes and Drums of the Lincoln Minutemen, Bluff Point Quahog Diggers Band, Blackstone Valley Field Musick, Milford, NH Fife and Drum Corps, and, of course, the host corps, the Sudbury Ancient Fife and Drum Company.

This seemed to be the year for rainy musters. Let's hope that the weather for 2009 is a little more forgiving.
1. The militia
2. The redcoats, arresting the colonel
3. Recruit Abigail
4. Blackstone Valley FM
5. Lancraft, in their rain gear, on stand
6. Middlesex 4H
7. Ameri-Clique
8. Sudbury Ancients, on stand
9. Lincoln Minutemen
10. Those pesky Mariners
Misty Morning

Donald Heminitz

Fife 1

Fife 2
Tune-smithing Contest
by Greg Bacon

The best music often comes from collaboration. For example, John and Paul collaborated to write Beatles songs. Can you imagine if John and Paul never met? No Help? No Sgt. Peppers? Where would we be today without A Day in the Life? The beauty of collaboration is that it often results in something new that neither of the independent parts could have expected.

About a year ago I was thinking about collaboration as it relates to fife and drum music. It struck me that there are lots of people writing fife music. Authors often feel, however, that they are doing their work in isolation. That is, until a light is shined upon others that are doing the same thing. I began to wonder. If more authors were exposed to each other, would that increase creative collaboration in our community?

So, I devised a plan to find out. I decided to run an online tune writing competition. My hope was that it would be the equivalent of getting a bunch of composers into a dark room and suddenly turning the light on. Once the light is on, everyone can see each other and make new friends, so to speak.

To my delight, there were twenty new tunes written and submitted from Massachusetts to Michigan. You can see all of them at http://www.baconworks.com/contest/. The judging was done by popular vote. The winner, with his submission called Misty Morning, is Donald Hemnitz. Donald is a young man who is studying flute at Millersville University in Pennsylvania. Congratulations Donald! You can see and hear Donald's tune at http://www.baconworks.com/contest/misty-morning/.

Donald has been both a re-enactor and fifer since he was eleven years old. He was awarded the "Most Improved Fifer" Award in April 2004 at the Don Hubbard Field Music School and in June 2006 was given the title "Master Fifer" by George Carroll under the ranking system of the International Association of Field Musicians. He currently plays with the Mifflin Guard Fife and Drum Corps, the Colonial Musketeers Senior Ancient Fife and Drum Corps, and the 3rd New Jersey Field Music, which on July 4, 2006 performed live at Times Square in New York City on ABC's Good Morning America. He has also been the fife instructor for the Boy Scouts of America Troop 53 Fife and Drum Corps of Maytown, PA since October 2005.

Since the contest, a few exciting things have happened: First, Chris Myers, another contestant, inspired by the excitement generated by the contest, created a facebook page for fife and drum authors called Fife and Drum Composers. Also, since the contest we have created a new web site, fifers.org, which allows tune authors to contribute their music to a shared public space. Both ideas are still in their infancy, but, nevertheless, represent a move toward more musical collaboration, which makes everyone a winner.

Here are the top three winners of the contest. You can see and hear all of their music as well as the music of others at http://www.baconworks.com/contest/.

2nd Runner-Up: Miss Potter's Jig by Jim Williams
1st Runner-Up: Field Castle by Christopher Lussier
And the Winner of the Baconworks Tune-smithing Contest is: Misty Morning by Donald Hemnitz

Congratulations once again and a heartfelt thanks to all those who submitted their work. Really great!
Paul M. Mills-Brown
71
Snare Drummer
Green Mountain Regiment FDC
September 18, 2008

William H. Kirby
87
Snare Drummer
The Minutemen of Long Island
August 14, 2008

Richard J. Simard, Sr.
73
Snare Drummer, Sutler
September 21, 2008

Paul M. Mills-Brown
Paul was born in Boston on August 8, 1937, and graduated from Boston University with an B.A. and M.A. in Liberal Arts, majoring in science. He was Assistant Curator of the Fairbanks Museum of Science in St. Johnsbury for two years and a Science teacher in Vermont for 20 years.

He joined the Green Mountain Regiment Fife and Drum Corps in 1979, learning to play the snare drum at the age of 42. His older son Christian, was the Regiment's Drum Major and his younger son, Peter was a line fifer.

He died after a long illness on September 18, 2008 and is survived by his wife Jackie, his two sons, his daughter-in-law Amanda, and his two granddaughters, Meagan and Amelia.

Richard J. Simard, Sr.
Richard J. Simard, Sr., of Wilbur Avenue, Warren, RI died peacefully at the Roger Williams General Hospital in Providence surrounded by his loving family. He was the beloved husband of Marie N. Simard for fifty-one years. Born in Cranston, he was the son of the late John and Leona (Simard) Moniz. He worked as a loan officer for Pawtucket Savings and Loan and American Auto Auction in Taunton, MA before retiring, and was proprietor of the "Little Rhody" jewelry business.

Dick was a snare drummer and a member of many M&M drum & bugle corps, including the Warren Indian Band, Bristol Rangers, RI Musketeers, Princemen from Boston, RI Matadors, Generations, Portuguese Independent Band, and St. Kevin's of Dorchester. He also was a member of the Warren Safety Patrol and the Portuguese Independent Band, was an Honorary Member of the Boston Crusaders Sr. Corps and the Narragansett Bay Chorus, and marched in the Bristol 4th of July Parade with the Uptown String Band of Philadelphia, PA.

He was a member of the All-American Drum Corps and Band Association as well as The Company of Fifers & Drummers.

Besides his loving wife, he leaves a son, Richard J. Simard, Jr. of Woonsocket, a daughter, Elaine Berling of Westerly, and five grandchildren. He was buried from St. Elizabeth Church and interred in St. Mary Cemetery in Bristol.

By Randy Stack
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Sometimes we take our wonderful fife and drum community for granted, with musters, jams, and good times being so much a part of our ordinary experience. Occasionally, though, we get to see it as brand new, through the eyes of one seeing it all for the very first time. Such was the case last year, when Pat McKenna, our Color Guard Sergeant, wrote the following letter to the reenactors of the New York Legion who were unable to come East with us:

Dear NYL folks:

Just wanted to give my report on the Fife and Drum Muster back in Deep River, CT. What an absolute blast! Connecticut is such a pretty, well kept state, with so many well kept historic homes hardly missing a chip of paint. These Yankees seem to keep things in good order. We took many beautiful drives through hardwood forests with granite rock outcroppings, and drives along the coast with small harbors and upscale homes with that New England style — just beautiful.

CCDB rented a great old house from 1735 with everything we needed. Mornings started off usually early with fun conversations, coffee and light breakfasts, oh, and did I mention, talking! The band house had a family atmosphere and excitement about it; folks were excited about what they had done that day, what they were doing at the moment, and what we were going to do next. The place was just hopping. During the day folks went different ways, since some were new to CT, others had been there several times, or like Jack Doyle, grew up there.

I went out with the Hinkles (Spence and Carol) for the most part, and Carol had to endure Spence and me yammering endlessly about politics. We toured Yale, which was very interesting, spent the day at Mystic Seaport (just wonderful), but my absolute favorite was Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts; I just lost it there.

Now to the reason we went there: the Deep River Muster. I believe I have a much better understanding about our musicians now. Though they are very good living historians, they are musicians first, and have chosen a musical style that is deeply rooted in our country's history and tradition. I don't know if that makes sense, but if you were in the Museum of Fife and Drum that night and down in the club room in the basement you would get it. The bar is decorated with all types of posters from past
musters and such, but the really cool thing is that the tables are covered with material suitable for drummers to practice. I sat at the bar having a few beers watching a “jam session.” The music was tunes we all would recognize, but the visual was borderline prehistoric. Fifers called out tunes and blared away while drummers beat sticks on tables, snapping good hickory left and right. Even the bartender took out a practice pad and started beating on the bar. Musician Bird by this time was wearing my imaginary fife and drum groupies like his old heavy metal days. To say the least, drill standards had been compromised.

This was my first time at a fife and drum muster, and it was not what I expected. First off, it is about the music, but with military tradition to varying degrees. You can have a group just in street clothes playing the theme to “Gilligan’s Island,” as well as the precise marching and playing of the “The Old Guard,” the 3rd US Infantry Fifes and Drums. There are all US time periods represented, and all levels of attire and authenticity, Rev War being quite popular. One group I liked were the French and Indian War French who played on very large snares and at a very slow cadence, maybe around 70 bpm. Another favorite were the “Clam Diggers” in beachcomber costume and their drum major armed with a clam rake. The Ancient Mariners had a pirate theme and a very large color guard, including deck gun, muskets, prisoners, and god knows what else.

I think the CCDB/NYL NYL/CCDB did a very good job. One of our musician’s father video-taped us and I thought that our marching order was good. I liked all of the music, so I can’t judge the playing quality, but Jack seemed to be happy. Now we may have had one of the smallest color guards (2), but we had the best and largest flags by far, and no one else was in full marching order, packs and all, unless you consider the pirates whose full marching order can be close to naked.

We had the honor to play the national anthem for the opening of the Muster and received an award for the true spirit of Fife and Drum tradition, one of the few awards given out. It was just a wonderful time.

Yours sincerely, Sgt. McKenna
Camp Sonoma, Co C, NYL, Protecting Alta California 1847.

1. The Nathaniel Clarke Homestead, 1795
2. (Left to Right), Elizabeth Quivey, Andrew Newell, Chris Prator, Keenan Bird, Jonathan Cagle-Mulberg
3. Flags flying, CCDB marches in the Deep River Muster Parade
4. The Ancient Mariners in the Deep River Parade
5. Supervise Me, Jack Doyle, Keenan Bird
6. Color Guard members Spence Hinkle and Pat McKenna at the Company Museum
7. CCDB poses for a picture in the Company Hall
8. The Quahogs in the Deep River Parade
9. Drumming in the Company Bar, Mark Dudley, Barry Michel, Andrew Newell, Keenan Bird
A Message from the Treasurer

By Jack Doyle

When I volunteered to become Treasurer, now over five years ago, the *Company* had over $40,000.00 in savings. Over the course of the next five years there were many challenges. Expenses continued to rise as revenue declined. Despite cutbacks in all but the most critical expense areas, we operated at a loss. For several years, I was forced to transfer funds from savings to checking just to pay the bills. I was doing all I could to keep the lights and heat on. The future did not look very bright.

During this time it was very painful to hear folks asking "what has the *Company* done for me?" apparently unaware of the tremendous amount of time and energy being put forth by a handful of volunteers in the face of many obstacles. Anyone who has come to a *Company* meeting can attest to the dedication of our volunteers.

Finally, in March 2008, the Emergency Issue of the *Ancient Times* was sent to all individual and Corps members. At the time the issue was mailed, savings had dwindled to only $10,000.00 and at a burn rate of about $1,000.00 per month there was little time left to turn the situation around. The fife & drum community had to make a decision: become engaged in the future of the *Company* or, let it continue to wither. I am pleased to say, for now the community has rallied to preserve the organization. For the first time in several years we actually ended the year in the black. In addition, we were able to double our savings, which has risen to $22,000.00.

By thinking outside the box and with each individual bringing their best to the table substantial improvements were made over the way things looked at this time last year. Many things made the difference. The following are just a few. Bob Castillo added a place for donations on the renewal notices. Bill Bourgo had the vision to put out the Emergency Edition of the *Ancient Times*. Kevin Brown was able to raise money for a new cooler without tapping our existing resources. Mark Logsdon made a similar fund raising effort for a new air cleaner for the archives. Bill Maling worked tirelessly to obtain grants. John Hannewich came up with the idea of selling food at the summer concerts, Sylvia Hooghkirk made the *Company* presence more visible at many musters and events and talking to people. Marty Sampson spent part of her vacation up in the archives. All of these things, and more I have not named, taken together seem to have invigorated the fife and drum community.

Like any other member supported non-profit organization, the *Company* cannot exist without the continued support of its membership. Each one of us is the *Company*. If we keep working together we can keep the momentum going. The need for ideas, donations and increased membership continues. I have found that the more you pour your talents and resources into an endeavor the more you will get out of it in the end. I sincerely hope you will help by continuing to do your part.

On a beautiful late summer day in September, *The Company of Fifers and Drummers* returned to Connecticut Day at the Big E. After a one year hiatus 40 performers from over 18 different corps gathered for a full day of food, fun, fife and drum, at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

A couple of early arrivals, Linda Weston, 2nd Governor's Foot Guard; Vin LaMay, Warehouse Point; and Karen Johansmeyer, 3rd CT East Hampton, were just in time to be interviewed by the local Fox News station for their early morning broadcast.

In preparation for our first performance, there was a quick meeting to solicit volunteers for section leaders for the day. Mary Lynch and Sue Grise of the Connecticut Patriots headed up the color guard. Lee Zuidema of Westbrook and Dave Hooghkirk of Stony Creek took charge for the fife and drum lines respectively. Out front as the *Company Corps* major for the day was Eileen Ryan of the Connecticut Blues.

Clearly at ten o'clock at the New England Center, the sounds of fifes and drums began. Marching single file past exhibitors and bystanders the *Company Corps* played *Rally Round the Flag* and lined up on the stage. Once in place the
Connecticut Day the Big E
September 17, 2008

Company Corps opened with the Star Spangled Banner. For a program billed as the "All Stars of Fifes and Drums", our Company President, Sylvia Hooghkirk of Totoket narrated a forty five minute program of fife and drum musical history. Some of the songs performed were Yankee Doodle, Road to Boston, Dixie, Jaybird and Fireman’s QS. Marching off to great applause, the Company Corps ended their first performance with Huntington.

After some time off to allow participants to enjoy the Big E, the Company Corps regrouped and lined up at the New England Center for a short march to the New England Grange Building for its second performance of the day. In front of a large crowd of onlookers and bystanders, under the narration of Bill Towers of Lanacraft, they played more fife and drum favorites. Tunes played included Battle Hymn, Just Before the Battle Mother, Harum Scarum, as well as a drummers' exhibition of sticking during Grandfathers Clock. The audience participated in singing the "words" to Green Cockade, and by special request, the corps played God Bless America.

The third and final performance of the day was the five o'clock parade. The Company Corps welcomed George Yeramian of the Civil War Troopers and the lovely Collette Yeich, dressed in Civil war era gown to lead the corps for the one mile parade around the fair grounds. Following George and Collette was the color guard of five, Eileen Ryan as the Major, sixteen fifers, nine snare drummers, and five bass drummers.

For all those who played it was a great day to see old friends, meet new ones, and have fun fifing and drumming. We are already looking forward to next year.

I was thinking – In the museum of The Company of Fifers & Drummers in Ivoryton, CT, at the right of the stage, there is an Honor Roll plaque with the names of about 24 corps that have given at least $1000 to The Company. Sadly some of those corps have disbanded.

With a membership roll of over a hundred corps, my thoughts are that the number of names on the Honor Roll should be at least 50 -- there is plenty of room on the plaque. I suspect that many corps that became members of The Company in the last few years do not know about the Honor Roll and how to get on it and even some of the older corps are unaware of what the list means. However, anyone who knows the significance of the Honor Roll, should want their corps' name on it.

Personally, I have not heard anything about the Honor Roll in several years. Being on the Honor Roll helps greatly with the expenses of keeping your museum and The Company's headquarters a place that you want to visit. It will soon be the parade season when corps build their finances. I think that it would be nice if corps put some thought on being placed on the Honor Roll.

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Sixteenth Century French Drum Rudiments

By Drummer Richard Ruquist

Ancient Times

A few pages of Thoinot Arbeau's Orchesographic, a dance manual published in Langres, France in 1587 and again in 1589, are devoted to the rhythms beat by the French drummers during the military march. It is thought that this method may have been derived from early Swiss drumming, as the drums were only beat while taking the left step and were at rest while taking the right step, much like the Swiss drums guided their phalanxes of pikemen in the 14th and 15th centuries. What is of interest to us Ancients is that it appears that many of our present day drum rudiments could be derived from the rhythms presented on these few pages.

The small book primarily presents dance practices in France from the 1550s to the 1580s, as a dialogue between Arbeau and his student Capriol. Just to give you a flavor of the presentation, here is an excerpt from the beginning of the passage that includes the drum rudiments:

"Arbeau: You will admit that if three men are walking together and each of them wishes to go at a different rate according to three kinds of time, they will not be in step, because all three must march as one, whether quickly, slowly or at a moderate speed."

"Capriol: There is not the slightest doubt of it."

"Arbeau: That is why, in a military march, the French have employed a drum to beat the rhythm according to which the soldiers must march, all the more so because the majority of them are no better exercised in this than any other branches of the military art. And for that reason I shall not delay in writing out the different methods."

Arbeau then describes one measure of 2/4 music having 4 single strokes (four 16th notes) and a flam (a quarter note) as the basic drum rudiment, somewhat like a 2/4 flam accent, a rudiment that is no longer played.

Arbeau and Capriol go on at length about why the basic form is played from the right footfall to the left, and how long is such a pace, and many such paces make up a league; and that the drum rhythms may be varied and the rests may be neglected for two or three measures to be pleasing. But for our purposes we may skip right to the possible variations.

In the following excerpt, the tabulation of drum rhythms, each Tan is a single stroke, equal to two 32nd notes. We omit discussion of the Fre — composed of two double strokes, equal to four 64th notes.

Arbeau then presents "A tabulation containing every variety of drum rhythm."

"The first manner is composed of five Tan only, as has been noted elsewhere."

\[\text{\texttt{\text{\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}}}\texttt{\texttt{\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}}}\texttt{\texttt{\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}}}\texttt{\texttt{\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}}}\texttt{\texttt{\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}}}\]

"The other drum-rhythms are composed of a combination of Tan with Tere, of Tan with Fre, and of the three together, Tan, Tere and Fre."

"And the first is a combination of four Tan with one Tere, which can be achieved in four ways."

\[\text{\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}\texttt{\texttt{T}a\texttt{n}}\texttt{\texttt{T}e\texttt{r}e}}\texttt{\texttt{Ta\texttt{n}}}

"Combination of three Tan and two Tere."

Tan tere tere tan
tere tere tan tan
tere tere tere

tere tere tere tere

tere tere tere tere

"Combination of two Tan and three Tere."

Tan tere tere tan
tere tere tere tere
tere tere tere tere
tere tere tere tere tere

"Another combination of four Tere and one Tan, which cannot be arranged otherwise, because there must be a Tan at the end to mark
the cadence.”
Tere tere tere tere tan
We do not know how much of this method came from Arbeau himself versus a reflection of what French drumming was, or Swiss drumming for that matter. But it is clear that at least by 1587 the seeds for many modern rudiments were already sown.

The above tabulation amounts to every possible combination of tere and tere. For example, the last rhythm, 4 tere and a tere, is essentially the form of the 9 stroke roll. Presumably the ending flam became more easily played by a single stroke accent. In our interpretation it is assumed that such accommodations evolved these 1587 rudiments into their modern form.

Continuing up the tabulation, the 4 combinations of 3 tere and 2 tan contain the 6 and 7 stroke rolls as well as combinations of 3 and 5 stroke rolls, the 3 stroke roll being called a ruff or drag nowadays.

In the 6 combinations of 2 tere and 3 tan, we again see the 5 and 6 stroke rolls. But of greater interest the single drag and double drag appear. To be explicit the double drag is given by tere tere tan tan tan as well as tere tere tere tan tan, which of course includes the single drag.

In the 4 combinations of 1 tere and 4 tan there appear four rudiments:
1. The Ruff — tere tan
2. The Single Drag — tere tan tan
3. The Lesson 25 — tere tan tan
4. The Ratamacu — tere tan tere tan tan

In fact, the combination tere tan tan tan, which has come down to us according to this interpretation as the Lesson 25 (in Strube's drum book), was actually played in the Rev and Civil War as “The Preparation”. It was played whenever the troops were getting ready to do something from breaking camp to firing a volley. We therefore suggest that this rudiment should be called the 'preparative', which sounds like it is played, rather than Lesson 25.

New Rudimental Drumming Organization Formed
By Bill Maling

The United States Association of Rudimental Drummers (USARD) was formed at a November 8, 2008 meeting near Pittsburgh, PA. Two dozen interested drummers attended and took the initial steps necessary to develop an organization dedicated to the preservation of the art of rudimental drumming, through performance opportunities and sharing of written rudimental drum music.

The USARD founders decided to organize the new group after the American Patriots Rudimental Drummers Club (APRDC) ceased operations earlier this year. The USARD mission in the United States is similar to that of the very active Canadian rudimental drumming group, CADRE.

The interim organizational structure of USARD will be headed by three co-presidents. Bill McGrath, who led the Pittsburgh meeting, Steve Young and Cullen Triner. The secretary is Nathan Duncan and the Treasurer is Ed Meckler. Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation and other necessary material were developed and reviewed at the second USARD organizational meeting held January 31st in York, PA.

The new group is planning on sponsoring a rudimental drumming convention for the Fall of 2009 at a location to be announced... and will establish an appropriate regional structure to help promote local USARD performances. A web site has been established and content is currently under construction (www.usard.org) under the leadership of Gary Rockwell and Joe Gillotti.

USARD membership dues will be $20 per year which initially will help fund the web site, purchase literature and pay for other startup costs. Interested drummers who wish to learn more about USARD, or join the organization, can visit the web site.

All interested drummers are welcome to attend the next USARD organizational meeting when it is scheduled. The USARD welcomes volunteers interested in helping to run the organization. For final meeting location and time, check the USARD web site for current information.

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By Mark Logsdon

In the Fall of 1993, at an event called the Feast of the Hunter's Moon, this author and Malcolm Duncan of Tippecanonc Ancient Fife and Drum Corps were discussing the fact that we never had time to sit and talk; to swap stories; to find out what was happening in each of our respective worlds. The idea was brought up to try to find a way for the corps in the Midwest to get together in one place without harming our respective playing schedules.

That idea was brought home after the Feast and I thought about it for some time, finally arriving at an idea that I thought would work for everyone. The idea was passed around, and verbal confirmations were given by those corps directors that I could contact. When the idea was presented to the members and board of the 1st Michigan, it was met with approval. Knowing that we would have to bear the initial financial load was intimidating, but the idea pressed on.

The first two years of what is now known as Freezer Jam took place in Kalamazoo, Michigan, about as equidistant from any one Midwest fife and drum corps as one could get. The support was fantastic and the corps showed up to teach, to learn and to play.

The whole idea of Freezer Jam is to provide a platform for discussion and learning. We thought up things to talk about on the fly -- and the discussions were (and still are) lively and spirited. It has been a fantastic way for corps to gain valuable information by listening to what other corps are doing in terms of teaching, funding, travel, repertoire, behind the scenes and so on.

The members of the Midwest corps provided the expertise in areas that were their special strengths. Every member of every corps went home with new abilities, knowledge and friends.

Freezer Jam got it's name during it's third year in existence when some of the members of the Great Lakes Field Musick, using some of the skills learned in food preparation, remembered an old family recipe for a jam that didn't require cooking. The play on words was perfect and the "Midwest Conference of Fifing and Drumming" became "Freezer Jam". It worked, and it stuck.

It was never the intent for Freezer Jam to be "owned" by one man or one corps. While I am proud to take credit for founding "Freezer Jam", I don't own it. It is not owned by any one corps in the Midwest. However, every corps who has hosted this event rightfully claims the title of "Caretaker" of Freezer Jam.

Freezer Jam can occur in Missouri, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin or Indiana. But be ready for fun, renewing old friendships and lots of experiences connected to fifing and drumming.

The event itself has become a destination for eastern corps as well as fifers and drummers from the far west. Those members of the Company who have come to Freezer Jam have taken that experience home with them. Note the creation of the "Company Junior Camp" and the Old Guard "Junior" Camp as well. There is also a "Fife Mojo" that is taking place in Virginia. Whether by design or accident some of the aspects of Freezer Jam can be found in these fun and wonderful venues.

Freezer Jam 2009 is being held in Heartland Michigan, March 14.

Contact this author at drummajor@1stmichigan.com

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October 3, 2009 - IVORYTON, CT - Saturday
Jaybird Day
Host: The Company of Fifers & Drummers
Location: The Museum of Fife & Drum/Company HQ, Ivoryton, CT
Time: 10:00 AM registration, coffee & doughnuts
12:00 AM jollification
Contact: Neil O'Brien, nobrien013@net.net
Web: companyoffifeanddrum.org
Notes: A delicious grilled lunch will be served and fife and drumming will commence. As always, there will be a raffle upstairs in the Museum and a ceremony honoring the old timers and their contributions to fife and drumming through the years. Bring your appetite, your scrap books, and your fife and drums. Let's create some of those good old days beginning this year.

October 3, 2009 - Granby, CT - Saturday
Marquis of Granby 40th Anniversary Muster
Host: Marquises of Grandy Jr Ancient Fife & DC
Location: Salmon Brook Park, Granby, CT
Contact: Audrey Lampert, 860-604-5070
Email: lampertaud@aol.com
Web: www.marquisofgranby.org
Notes: Muster is by invitation. Parade is open to all corps registered with the Company. Parade only participants will kindly be asked to register so that we might properly plan to provide a muster meal to all and arrange for sufficient parking. Event will include a parade, stand performances, colonial encampment, battle reenactments, and colonial vendors. Details will be posted as they are arranged on our website.

October 11, 2009 - Baltimore, MD -
Sunday Annual Mini-Jam
Host: Monumental City Ancient Fife and Drum Corps
Location: Patapsco Valley State Park, Holofield Area Pavilion shelter #301, 8020 Baltimore National Pike (Rte 40), Baltimore, MD.
Time: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Contact: Marty Erf, Email: merrts@starband.net.
Notes: RSVP by email if planning to attend. A $2.00 per person fee is charged by MD State Parks. Alcoholic drinks prohibited in MD State Parks. Free food and non-alcoholic drinks provided. From I-695 take Rte 40 West (Exit 15) Take Rte 40 West 2 miles to the park entrance on right or From I-70 take Rte 29 South (Exit 87) Take Rte 29 to Rte 40 East Take Rte 40 East 2 miles to the park entrance on right

November 21, 2009 - IVORYTON, CT - Saturday
Company Executive/General Meetings
Time: Executive Committee Meeting: 11:00 AM
General Meeting: 1:30 PM
Jam Session to Follow
Location: The Museum of Fife & Drum/Company HQ, Ivoryton, CT
Contact The Company, 860-767-2237
Email: companyoffifeanddrum.org
Web: companyoffifeanddrum.org

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February 20-22, 2009 - St. Petersburg, FL - Friday-Sunday RAM JAM, Regimental Ancient Muster and Jam, Host: 97th Regimental Field Music Location: Fort Desoto State Park Southern tip of Pinellas County Time: Friday: period demonstrations: 10:00 AM - Tattoo: 9:00 PM Saturday: Muster: 10:00 AM, Parade: 1:30 PM, Reenactment: 2:00 PM (Battle of Ballast Point) Jam session: about 8:00 PM Sunday: Contact: Tim Sorensen, 727-527-8123, 727-656-9814 (cel). Email: tmrdrummer1@verizon.net Web: www.97thpicoa.us Notes: Free parking for motor homes with advance notice (limited spaces). Free authentic camping (if tents are needed, call Tim Sorensen for availability). Modern camping available for a fee (call Ft. Desoto State Park). Modern food concessions in the park. Authentic food from the 97th FVM for a fee. Hotels, motels and restaurants are outside the park nearby Fishing, swimming, canoe rentals, bicycle rentals, and boat tours to Egmont Key also available. Modern restrooms [NO port-a-potties] Shower facilities available in the park "Fun in the sun with fife and drum" February 21, 2009 - IVORYTON, CT - Saturday Company Executive/General Meetings Time: Executive Committee Meeting: 11:00 AM General Meeting: 1:30 PM, Jam Session to Follow Location: The Museum of Fife & Drum/Company HQ, Ivoryton, CT Contact: The Company, 860-767-2237 Email: companyhq@companyoffifeanddrum.org Web: companyoffifeanddrum.org February 28, 2009 - Ivoryton, CT - Saturday By A Route Obscure, Jason Malli Host: The Company of Fifers & Drummers Location: The Museum of Fife & Drum/Company HQ, Ivoryton, CT, Time: 7:00 PM Notes: A concert featuring alternative and contemporary settings for the fife, by Jason Malli. Also featuring Dominick Cuccia and The Not-So Traditional Players. This concert will benefit the Company of Fifers and Drummers Jason's blog: ggtheobscurc.wordpress.com February 28, 2009 - Cocoa Beach, FL - Saturday Florida Ancient Muster Host: Bruce Syarto Location: Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach, FL 1300 North Atlantic Avenue (Rte. A1A) Time: 12:00 NOON Contact: Bruce Syarto, 321-242-2355, cel 321-626-2355, simbamcatroll@bellsouth.net Notes: A discount rate has been arranged with the Holiday Inn based on space available. If you call for a reservation you must mention the Florida Ancient Muster Code FA2 to obtain the discount rate. The phone numbers for the Holiday Inn are: 321-783-2271 or 800-206-274 April 4, 2009 - Albany, NY - Saturday No Foolin' Jam!! Host: The Adamsville Ancients F&DC Location: Irish-American Center, 375 Ontario Street, Albany, New York Time: 1:00 to 6:00 PM