

Marquis of Granby Jr. Ancient Fife & Drum Corps

Newsletter

January, 2009

RECENT EVENTS –

Rank Testing – Attention all Marquis members! We award promotions in rank at the Annual Banquet. If you are a fyfer who has not yet tested for rank, or a Raw Recruit hoping to make Marching Recruit, and would like to do so before the banquet, please contact Mrs. Lampert and we will arrange for a time that you can be evaluated by your instructor on the first Wednesday evening (when the drum line is practicing.)

Drummers will have their final opportunity to test for rank during these times as well. Time has run out so don't wait! Call today! Any questions, please contact either Mrs. Garcia or Mrs. Lampert.

Holiday Party – Well that was fun! We cut practice short so that Marquis members would have time to swap gifts, have some punch and cake and then kick the ball around Cook Hall for a while. It was a nice break and a fun way to head into the holidays.



WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON NOW:

Practice-a-Thon! - Is everyone keeping track of their practice minutes? You have another week or so to rack them up, then submit them at our first practice of 2009 to see who gets the Enrichment Account credit! Anyone who hasn't started yet can certainly still jump in. If you need another form please contact Mrs. Lampert and she'll email one to you right away. For those of you with sponsors, remember every dollar you earn will go towards helping Erin and his family deal with all the many challenges that come with the fight against cancer.

Marquis of Granby Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony – Saturday, January 10th beginning at 5 pm in Cook Hall. We will furnish the main course (roast beef) and a garden salad. Families are asked to bring a side dish or a dessert. Families with more than one Marquis member are asked to bring BOTH a side dish and a dessert (since last year we underestimated how much hungry youth can eat.) Contact Mrs. Jahn to let her know how many family members will be there and also what you plan to bring. Mrs. Jahn also has the sign up for set up and kitchen duty. All Marquis members are expected to help with cleanup – when everyone pitches in this only takes about 15 minutes. The dress code is semi-formal. That means no T-shirts or jeans, but ties are optional. This is a very special year for the Marquis as we begin to celebrate our 40th Anniversary, so please come as we look back on a great year and kickoff a milestone!

January 31 - Fife and Drum a Thon at the Company Hall - The Marquis has offered to help with the pot luck dinner and also be a backup in case they need another corps to perform that day. More details will be sent out shortly.

Pancake Breakfast – The Granby American Legion has offered to donate all of the proceeds from their annual pancake breakfast fundraiser to the Marquis. This is an extremely generous offer on their part and in exchange, our job will be to get as many people there as possible! Marquis members will also be asked to pitch in with the serving. This will be some time in April and we'll send out details in a future newsletter.

Marquis 40th Anniversary Muster – Invitations have been sent for the first Saturday of October 2009! Keep checking our web site where details will continue to be posted as they are hammered out.

Summer Trip – We're headed for America's "Historical Triangle" with stops in Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown. There will also be side trips to Busch Gardens and Water Country as the Marquis Summer Trip returns! We'll be heading to Virginia on August 2nd (Sunday) and will return via a stop in Carmel, NY for their annual Fireman's Parade that Friday evening. Then we'll camp overnight in Carmel, and participate in the Young Colonials Muster the following day (Saturday) before heading home. Phew! Details on costs and so forth have already been distributed, but if you need more information please contact Mrs. Lampert and she'll bring you up to speed.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Corps members born in January!

Rose N. – 20th
Austin B. – 21st
Nicole H. – 23rd
Nicole C. – 24th
Teddy C. – 27th



Parents Corner –

New Board Members – We are extremely grateful that three more parents have stepped up to serve on the Marquis Board. Jennifer Jahn has volunteered to be our new Enrichment Coordinator and Sharron Hallen will step into the (previously vacant) role of Ways & Means Coordinator. Mr. Grayson retired as our Business Manager at the end of 2008 and we are working on his replacement. Thanks so much to all of our new Board members, who will be formally voted in during the January Board meeting.

2009 Summer Trip – Preliminary information on the 2009 Summer Trip was communicated at the November Parent’s Meeting. At the January Parent’s meeting we’ll discuss the updated plans, how many members have indicated they would like to go, how many adults we’ll need and the payment plan we’ve set up to cover the costs.

Chico Bags – we still have Chico Bags to sell! At \$5 a piece they’re quite a handy item to have around. Please see Mrs. Bigus if you need more to sell.

2009 Performance Schedule – the first draft is listed below in order to help Marquis families with their planning, but be sure to keep checking for updates. **There will be more parades than this**, but these are the ones we feel confident about at this point.



Date	Event	City	State
Saturday, April 25, 2009	Little League Parade	Granby	CT
Saturday, May 23, 2009	Memorial Day Parade	N Haven	CT
Sunday, May 24, 2009	Memorial Day Parade	Ledyard	CT
Monday, May 25, 2009	Memorial Day Parade	Granby	CT
Monday, May 25, 2009	Memorial Day Parade	Simsbury	CT
Friday, May 30, 2008	Memorial Day Parade	New Britain	CT
Saturday, June 13, 2009	Gaspee Days Parade	Newport	RI
Sunday, June 14, 2009	Bunker Hill Parade	Charleston	MA
Saturday, July 04, 2009	4th of July Parade	Longmeadow	MA
7/14-7/17, 2009	Fyfe & Drum Camp	Ivoryton	CT
Saturday, July 18, 2009	Deep River Ancients Muster	Deep River	CT
Saturday, July 25, 2009	Nathan Hale Muster	Ivoryton	CT
Sunday, July 26, 2009	Nathan Hale Muster	Ivoryton	CT
Sunday, August 02, 2009	Summer Trip - Travel to VA		
Monday, August 03, 2009	Summer Trip - Col Williamsburg		
Tuesday, August 04, 2009	Summer Trip - Jamestown		
Wednesday, August 05, 2009	Summer Trip - Busch Gardens		
Thursday, August 06, 2009	Summer Trip - Yorktown		
Friday, August 07, 2009	Summer Trip - Travel to Carmel		
Friday, August 07, 2009	Lake Carmel Fireman's Parade	Lake Carmel	NY
Saturday, August 08, 2009	Young Colonials Muster	Carmel	NY
Saturday, August 15, 2009	Hartford County 4-H Fair	Somers	CT
Saturday, September 05, 2009	Windsor Fife & Drum Corps	Windsor	CT
Friday, September 11, 2009	The Big E Parade	W Springfield	MA
Friday, September 18, 2009	The Big E Parade	W Springfield	MA
Friday, September 25, 2009	The Big E Parade	W Springfield	MA
Saturday, September 26, 2009	Founders Day Parade	Lee	MA
Sunday, September 27, 2009	Mum Festival Parade	Bristol	CT
Saturday, October 03, 2009	Marquis 40th Anniversary Muster	Granby	CT
Sunday, October 11, 2009	New Haven Columbus Day Parade	N Haven	CT
Sunday, November 08, 2009	Veterans Day Parade	Enfield	CT
Sunday, November 15, 2009	First Church Performance	N Granby	CT
Wednesday, November 25, 2009	Town Wide Thanksgiving Eve	Granby	CT
Saturday, December 12, 2009	Old Saybrook Torchlight Parade	Old Saybrook	CT

History Lesson Black Watch

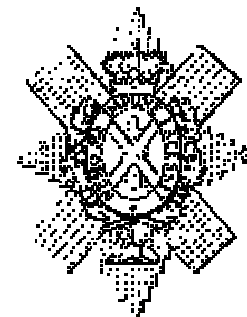
This month we're headed to Scotland, and specifically to the Scottish Highlands. Well, not literally (..but that could happen at some point if Mrs. Lampert keeps her thinking hat on...just not now.) We're *figuratively* heading to 17 century Scotland to learn about the Black Watch.

The Scottish Highlands are a rugged, mountainous area in the far north and west of Scotland. The area is known as one of the most beautiful, scenic regions of Europe. Today it is not very populated, but in the period before the 19th century there were great numbers of people living in the area. This was mostly because many people in Scotland and Ireland were not happy under British rule and for years had rebelled against the British crown in a series of conflicts known as the Jacobite Uprisings. The Highlands were as far away from England as one could get in Scotland, and the terrain made it difficult for English soldiers to march into town and tell them what to do.



As far back as 17th century (beginning in about 1660), independent companies of men were formed to police the Scottish Highlands by the local clan chiefs. A clan is a group of people who are generally related, either by descent or marriage. The Highland clans were descendants of the Irish and Scottish Gaelic tribal societies that existed for many centuries before that. The impact of the origins in clans or tribes was that the companies formed to police the region were strongly bound to each other by both family and customs.

These companies of men came to be known as "Black Watch", reflecting both their role to "watch" the Highlands and for the tartan that they wore. In time, these companies became a British military regiment named the 42nd (Royal Highland) Regiment of Foot.



dark
formal

Early accounts of the regiment indicate they were fiercely independent, despite being subjects of King George II. For example, in 1743 they were ordered to London. Fearing they were about to be shipped off to the West Indies to fight in the War of Austrian Succession, many left London and headed back to Scotland. They were recaptured and three leaders were shot in the Tower of London, with the remaining members of the regiment shipped to Flanders¹. While in France, they surprised their British commander with their ferocity in battle, and the skilled use of infantry tactics



¹ The same Flanders in France...with the poppies, remember?
2009 January MOG Newsletter

never before seen in European battle. Each time they received the French fire, their Colonel ordered his men to "clap to the ground" while he himself, a rather large man, stood alone with the colours behind him. For the first time in a European battle the Black Watch introduced a system of infantry tactics (alternatively firing and taking cover) that was new and innovative. Using these tactics, they were able to drive back the French cavalry

When the 1745 Jacobite Rising broke out, the regiment returned to the south of Britain in anticipation of a possible French invasion. From 1747 to 1756 they were stationed in Ireland and then were sent to New York.

The Black Watch was present at many significant battles during both the French and Indian War, as well as the American Revolutionary War. They were involved in the defeat of George Washington in the Battle of Long Island and the later battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, the siege of Charleston, and the final Battle of Yorktown. The regiment returned to Glasgow in 1790.

The Royal Highland Regiment never officially recognized the battle honours for their part in the American War of Independence, because it was decreed that Battle Honours should not be granted for a war with kith and kin.

In 1881, when the 42nd amalgamated with the 73rd Regiment of Foot, the new regiment was named "The Royal Highland Regiment (The Black Watch)", with The Black Watch becoming the regiment's official designation in 1931. The Black Watch has fought on the same side with American military forces in every major conflict of the 20th and 21st century.

Though no American units hold official ties to the Black Watch, its military record and high esprit de corps have inspired the U.S. Army's B Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment to adopt the title. The Stryker rifle company carries a Scottish claymore along with its guidon as a mascot.

Marquis members are invited to check the play list for references to the Black Watch.