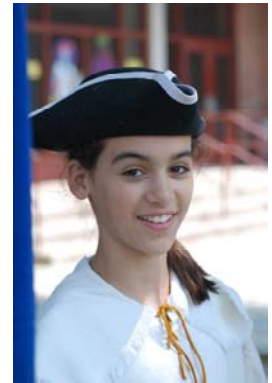


Marquis of Granby Jr. Ancient Fife & Drum Corps

Newsletter

June, 2009

RECENT EVENTS –



What a phenomenal start to our 2009 Parade Season!

Promotions -

A big Hip Hip Huzzah! to the following members who were recently promoted:

Flag Line Private - Abbie B. and Ezra L.
Marching Recruit - Juliana P., Fox M., Alexa C., Sydney W., Victoria M.

WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON NOW:

The 2009 Parade Season is underway! An updated version of the parade schedule is included in this newsletter, and you can also link into a live version of our calendar through the Marquis web site. Clicking on the specific parade or event will pull up notes to tell you things like where and when we'll be leaving, what to bring and so forth. At this point you should have already informed your Director of summer vacation plans and so forth that might keep you from a specific parade or performance. Mrs. Lampert is always happy to answer questions about a specific parade, but please consider checking the web site first before calling her the morning of a parade to ask "what time do we leave?" since she's usually running around like a mad woman trying to get the bus packed and so forth.

You can link directly to the calendar by bookmarking the following link into your computer "favorites" - <http://www.localendar.com/public/lampertam>

Marquis 40th Anniversary Muster – The number of Corps responding continues to grow and at this point we are clearly going to have one heck of a muster! Updates on what's in store can be found on our web site.

Summer Trip – We're headed for America's "Historic Triangle" with stops in Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown. There will also be side trips to Busch Gardens and Virginia Beach as the Marquis Summer Trip returns! We'll be leaving on Friday, July 31st to travel to Virginia will return to Granby on the following Thursday evening. Cost for the trip is \$450 per member, and a **\$50 deposit is due now!** If you want to come on the trip but are worried about the cost, please see Mrs. Lampert. We're planning plenty of fundraisers between now and then so everyone who wants to come will be able to! As of right now, we have extra space still reserved and will hold on to it through July 1st.

Fundraising - There are two more chances to for you to make money for your summer trip before we leave!

- June 6th is the date of the bake sale to be held at Geisslers in Granby. Each family has been asked to contribute at least two items and members are also needed to work. Please contact Mrs. Hallen to let her know what you will be bringing and when you can take a turn selling.
- Our tag sale will be held on June 27th from 8 am to 3pm at the Lampert's in North Granby. Members can either set up an individual "booth" or table, or they

can help run a "group booth" Please contact Mrs. Lampert asap to let her know if and how you plan to participate.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Corps members born in June!

Hannah B - 7th
Alexa C. - 23rd
Hannah G. - 29th



Parents Corner –

The Marquis Parents have spoken! Going forward parent meetings will be held quarterly and will occur on **the second Wednesday** of the following months:

- **January** - The focus of this meeting will be on details of the summer trip, and we'll vote on fundraisers for the upcoming year.
- **April** - The focus of this meeting will be on details of the upcoming parade season (including schedule, chaperones, food, etc.) and we'll finalize plans for any fundraisers to be held during the summer.
- **July** - The focus here will be on last minute details of the summer trip and anything else that might have popped up.
- **October** - The focus will be on the upcoming Fruit Sale, a review of the parade season, and an overview of what we'll be working on over the winter, including plans for our annual banquet.

Food Signups (or "How we plan to feed our starving young children") - As we mentioned at the parents meeting in May, our kids eat a lot! We make sure they don't go hungry in a variety of ways:

- For early morning departures, we try to have breakfast items on the bus.
- For lunches or dinners, our choices are to either stop at a restaurant (very time consuming, expensive and usually results in cranky kids who ate food of questionable nutritional value) or we can arrange to have wholesome nutritious, delicious meals pre-made and pre-packed into a cooler for us by Lost Acres (can you tell which option your trust Director prefers?).

We usually charge each member about \$5 each for the pre-packed lunches or dinners that typically include something such as a sandwich wrap (veggie, turkey or roast beef), chips and a cookie. We believe the cost of this option is often less than a stop at Wendy's or someplace similar.

- We also try to have snacks available when we aren't serving entire meals, because after parades these kids are famished. We are always looking for donations either for a specific parade, or for re-filling the "snack basket" that is on the bus.
- Peanut allergies - we have members with severe peanut allergies so please do not send snacks with any kind of peanut products in the ingredients. Please do not send individual snacks for your own kids that might have peanuts in them.
- Suggestions for snacks - Homemade goodies are always a favorite, but other ideas include: small bags of baby carrots, apples, single serving rice krispie treats, pretzels, smart food, or pretty much any kind of snack item so long as it doesn't contain peanuts!
- Juice boxes are also very welcome, but please make sure they contain clear liquid. Capri Sun flavors are all clear so they work well. Colored liquids will stain the uniforms, and they almost always find their way onto at least one uniform when they show up!

Chaperone Sign Ups - If you are interested in chaperoning for any of our parades, please check the on-line calendar to find parades where we still need people, then let Mrs. Lampert know which parade you would like to cover. Chaperoning a parade is a great way to see the Marquis in action and experience the fun of a parade from behind the scenes!

Fundraising - see notes above and please, pitch in if you are able!

Muster help is needed! The Marquis will be hosting a 40th Anniversary Muster during the first weekend in October. We need lots of help to make sure this weekend goes well and will have signups out soon for many areas. There are jobs for moms, dads, siblings, and whomever else can be pulled in to chip in! If you can donate even a couple of hours during the course of the weekend it will help a lot. Areas where we are currently looking for help:

- Friday evening: - we'll need strong bodies to help set up the muster field on Friday evening and to help our guests who are camping to find their spots.
- Saturday - we'll need people to help "Direct" people as they arrive to the correct parking area, sign groups in and issue meal tickets, serve as "bouncers" to the muster meal and beer tent area, man the beer tent, work shifts at the Snack Shack selling food and drinks, organize the corps at the parade staging area so everyone finds their spot, periodically walk through the park to make sure we aren't having any problems with any of the facilities, and

all sorts of jobs both smallish and less smallish, depending on how much time and energy you are willing to contribute!

- Sunday - we'll need those strong bodies back to breakdown the muster field and make sure we leave the park cleaned up.

2009 Performance Schedule – be sure to keep checking each month for updates!



Date	Event	Event Type	City	State	Depart
Saturday, May 30, 2009	Memorial Day Parade	Parade	New Britain	CT	3:30 PM
Sunday, May 31, 2009	Williamstown History Days	Performance	Williamsburg	MA	10:30 AM
Saturday, June 13, 2009	Gaspee Days Parade	Parade	Newport	RI	6:00 AM
Sunday, June 14, 2009	Hadley 350th Anniversary	Parade	Hadley	MA	10:30 AM
Saturday, July 04, 2009	4th of July Parade	Parade	E. Longmeadow	MA	8:00 AM
7/14-7/17, 2009	Fyfe & Drum Camp	Camp	Ivoryton	CT	
Saturday, July 18, 2009	Deep River Ancients Muster	Muster & Parade	Deep River	CT	8:00 AM
Saturday, July 25, 2009	Nathan Hale Muster	Muster & Parade	Coventry	CT	
Sunday, July 26, 2009	Nathan Hale Muster	Muster & Parade	Coventry	CT	
Tuesday, July 28, 2009	Performance at Company	Performance	Ivoryton	CT	3:00 PM
Friday, July 31, 2009	Summer Trip	Travel to VA			
Saturday, August 01, 2009	Summer Trip	Williamsburg	<= Performance		
Sunday, August 02, 2009	Summer Trip	Yorktown	<= Performance		
Monday, August 03, 2009	Summer Trip	VA Beach			
Tuesday, August 04, 2009	Summer Trip	Jamestown			
Wednesday, August 05, 2009	Summer Trip	Busch Gardens			
Thursday, August 06, 2009	Summer Trip	Travel to CT			
Friday, August 07, 2009	Lake Carmel Fireman's Parade	Parade	Lake Carmel	NY	
Saturday, August 08, 2009	Young Colonials Muster	Muster & Parade	Carmel	NY	
Saturday, August 15, 2009	Hartford County 4-H Fair	Parade	Somers	CT	11:30 AM
Friday, September 11, 2009	The Big E	Parade	W Springfield	MA	2:30 PM
Saturday, September 12, 2009	Windsor Fife & Drum Corps	Muster & Parade	Windsor	CT	9:30 AM
Friday, September 18, 2009	The Big E	Parade	W Springfield	MA	2:30 PM
Friday, September 25, 2009	The Big E	Parade	W Springfield	MA	2:30 PM
Saturday, September 26, 2009	Founders Day Parade	Parade	Lee	MA	8:30 AM
Sunday, September 27, 2009	Mum Festival	Parade	Bristol	CT	11:30 AM
Saturday, October 03, 2009	Marquis 40th Anniversary Must	Muster & Parade	Granby	CT	
Sunday, October 11, 2009	New Haven Columbus Day	Parade	N Haven	CT	
Sunday, November 08, 2009	Veterans Day Parade	Parade	Enfield	CT	11:15 AM
Wednesday, November 11, 2009	Veterans Day Parade	Parade	Springfield	MA	11:15 AM
Sunday, November 15, 2009	First Church Performance & Co	Other	N Granby	CT	
Wednesday, November 25, 2009	Town Wide Thanksgiving Eve	Performance	Granby	CT	
Saturday, December 12, 2009	Old Saybrook Torchlight Parade	Muster & Parade	Old Saybrook	CT	

Marquis hotline: 860-604-5070

The Gaspée Affair

In the summer of 1772, tensions in Colonial America were running high. The Seven Years War had ended, and Britain was suffering under a crushing burden of debt. In an attempt to raise revenues to repay some of that debt, many taxes were levied against the Colonists. The Colonists viewed these additional taxes as unjust and unreasonable and many either refused to pay or found ways to circumvent their tax bills. Britain responded by issuing even more tax decrees and by issuing more laws, which were also ignored. During this time, Rhode Island had a particularly strong reputation for smuggling (in order to get out of paying taxes and/or customs) and had also been known to trade with Britain's enemies during the war.

Against this backdrop, in early 1772 the British government sent the HMS Gaspée into Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay. The schooner^[1] was to aid in the enforcement of customs collection and the inspection of cargo. The mission itself all but guaranteed that the vessel would be universally despised by the Colonists. Other British naval vessels had been sent on this kind of mission before, and some were even destroyed by the Colonists who objected to what they perceived as the British meddling in their business. These attacks were largely ignored because Britain didn't have the funds or political will to address them. That was about to change.

On June 9, the Gaspée ran aground while chasing a merchant ship (the Hannah) believed to be smuggling goods. The next morning at dawn, a group of men who were members of the Sons of Liberty rowed out to the Gaspée, shot the ranking officer and set the vessel on fire.

Britain would not ignore this attack as it had the others, because the HMS Gaspée was a official military vessel on station (which is to say, on a direct mission of the Admiral of the Navy.) British authorities instead were now challenged with just *how* to deal with it. One option would have been to use the provisions of The Dockyard Act, which had passed just three months earlier. The Dockyard Act allowed those suspected of burning the King's vessels to be tried in England. Instead of using that option however, the Commission formed to deal with the incident decided instead that those suspected of burning the HMS Gaspee should be charged with treason, and set forth to determine for whom there was sufficient evidence to charge. Ultimately, they were not able to draw on sufficient evidence to charge anyone.

The prospect of Americans being sent to England for trial was very alarming to the Colonists. In Boston, a minister named John Allen preached a sermon that used the experience of the Gaspée Affair to warn listeners about greedy monarchs, corrupt judges and conspiracies at high levels in the London government entitled, "An Oration, Upon the Beauties of Liberty, Or the Essential Rights of the Americans." Allen argued that the Colonists had acted in self defense, and that England and America were and

^[1] A schooner is a type of sailing vessel characterized by the use of fore-and-aft sails on two or more masts, with the forward mast being shorter or the same height as the rear masts.

should be separate judicial spheres^[2]. This sermon was reprinted in pamphlet form seven times in four different cities, making it the sixth most-popular pre-independence pamphlet in British America. The pamphlet, along with other newspaper editorials that were very critical of England, managed to ignite the passions of many Colonists and set in motion a series of events that would eventually lead to the conflicts at Lexington & Concord. The burning of the Gaspée is often regarded as the first link in a chain of events that led directly to America's Declaration of Independence.

Every year, the city of Warwick, Rhode Island commemorates the Gaspée Affair with their Gaspée Days celebrations. The event is huge, and has been listed by Discover America as one of the top twenty tourist attractions in the United States. There are many events held over the course of the weekend, but the highlight of the event is always the Gaspée Days parade, which features what is the largest collection of Revolutionary War era fife-and-drum bands, marching bands, period reenactors and floats to be held on an annual basis.

The Marquis of Granby is proud to be part of this annual celebration and if this is your first time heading to the Gaspee Days parade with us, get ready for huge crowds, lots of smiles, fantastic music and a great time!

For more information on the Gaspée Affair, you can check out these web sites:

<http://www.gaspee.com/BurningoftheGaspee.htm>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaspée_Affair

<http://www.kidport.com/REFLIB/UsaHistory/AmericanRevolution/Gaspee.htm>

^[2] Also known as the classic, "you're not the boss of me" argument.
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