



Marquis of Granby Jr. Ancient Fife & Drum Corps



Newsletter

April, 2010

Countdown to our first parade of the season: 2 full practices!

RECENT EVENTS

Laser Tag - Tinky Winky was forced to bow to the greatness of "The Winner" (aka "Big Mamma" or in this case, just "Mamma") as we once again enjoyed an afternoon of fun playing Laser Tag. Once "The Winner" decided to bow out gracefully for the next generation, of course Tinky Winky was able to dominate once again. Rest assured troops, that if the British every do return to attack again, you will be well protected as long as they are brandishing either laser guns or paint ball guns. Thank you to Mrs. Bigus for organizing such a great time out.

Annual Fruit Sale – Marquis members who participated in the 2009 fruit sale fundraiser were all recently emailed an updated summary of the amounts in their Enrichment Accounts. If you think you have money in your account but didn't get an email, please email Mrs. Lampert to find out where she's hiding your money.

Soy Candle Fundraiser – Order forms and monies are due in April 7th, which means if you aren't a drummer or a Junior Board Member you will need to make arrangements with Mrs. Garcia to let her know what your order tallies are. You may do this via email **so long as you remember to bring your money for the sales to practice on April 14th**. No IOUs for candles please, as we need to pay for these up front. Mrs. Garcia's email is lcgarcia4@cox.net. Marquis members who participate in this fundraiser will receive an updated Enrichment Account statement within a few weeks after this event ends.

Please note: Some of you have asked if a customer may order just the tealights. The answer is "no". We are only selling the large jar candles. **Remember:** If you sell one case (12 candles) you may keep either the large jar candle or the sample tealights. If you sell two cases (24 candles) you may keep both! Contact Mrs. Garcia if you have any questions.

Upcoming Performances & Events:

Meals on Wheels (our bus): The Marquis will continue to provide low cost and delicious meals on parade days for a nominal fee of \$5, with a \$10 limit in cost for each family (so if there are four Marquis members in a family, the maximum expense is \$10.) This seemed to work well last year and helped us avoid long lines at fast food joints and overpriced junk food that makes everyone cranky. Where it did not work well was with members who were no-shows at the last minute for whom we had already purchased a meal. This meant the Marquis paid for meals that weren't consumed – or actually they were consumed, just not paid for. The impact of that ended up being several hundred dollars to our budget, which we really can't afford. This year it will work slightly differently:

1. Each member is expected to bring their money for their meal to the practice BEFORE the performance. The cost for each meal is \$5, and on days where we have multiple parades or performances, you will be fed more than once.

2. If you forget your money, or have not told us that you won't be there and then don't show up, you will be expected to reimburse the corps for the cost of any meals provided.
3. If you want to bring your own meal, please be sure to let us know you are doing that ahead of time so you won't be charged, and also be aware **it must be completely peanut free!**
4. To make this more convenient, we will be selling "meal plans" that will allow you to purchase either all of the meals for the entire planned parade season, or ten meals at a time.
5. A [special offer](#) will be extended whereby each member can buy a "season meal pass." The cost of the pass is \$100 and includes all meal charges for the season (except for the summer trip), including any additional performances above and beyond those already scheduled. Since we will probably add several more to the current schedule, this is a very good deal. It will also include your meals at the Nathan Hale Muster, which is an overnight and we usually gather \$15 per member for that. Families with multiple members have to option to pay \$200 for the season meal pass option. "Season meal passes" can be purchased anytime before May 1st from Mrs. Lampert.
6. The ten meal pass will be \$50, so there is no cost savings but still a convenience factor.
7. Passes will be kept on the bus so they won't be lost.
8. Meals will generally be a generously sized wrap or sandwich, chips and/or a piece of fruit, a cookie or dessert item. Options will be veggie, roast beef, turkey or ham. Please let us know your preference ahead of time so that can be sure to make enough of whatever kind everyone wants, as we have a volunteer chef for the summer. We will occasionally mix in other options like calzones or other things for a little variety.
9. You may use Enrichment Account funds to pay for your meals.
10. On mornings when we leave early, we will continue to offer breakfast items free of charge and will look to parents to donate bagels, muffins, etc.
11. Any questions? Please contact Mrs. Lampert

Little League Parade – Our first parade of the season will be Saturday, April 24th as we once again lead the Little League Parade. This will fall at the end of spring vacation week so please BE SURE to let Mrs. Lampert know if you will not be able to make it due to family travel. Also remember that the default answer for attendance to each parade is always YES unless you have told Mrs. Lampert otherwise well in advance.

American Warrior Homecoming & Lexington Muster – May 1st The Marquis will head to Lexington, MA and the National Historic Battlefield to participate in the William Diamond Junior's Annual Muster, then returning to Connecticut in time to welcome our World War II Veterans back to Bradley Airport on their Honor Flight. Please note that all members ranked Marching Recruit and above will participate in the muster, while the performance at Bradley Airport will be for members ranked Private and above only (including the Flag Line.) We would like to include our Marching Recruits in the Honor Flight performance but are limited by the Transportation Security Authority with regard to who is able to receive clearance at the airport. They are very frightened by our muskets, which don't actually fire but apparently they are very scary nonetheless.

Marquis Summer Trip to New Hampshire – Deposits for the summer trip are due April 1st. The deposit required is \$50 per person, with the remaining \$250 (\$300 total) due by July 1st. You may use Enrichment Account funds to cover your deposit, or the entire cost of the trip if you have enough. Mrs. Lampert is working on the final details, but the trip will include a week of camping, swimming, tubing on the rivers, hiking, sightseeing and either a

train ride through the Green Mountains or up the Cog railway to the top of Mount Washington. The \$300 includes the camp sight (at a luxury camping resort with bathrooms, laundry and showers,) transportation, all admission fees and meals. It does not include souvenirs or other personal items. **This trip is open to all Marquis members twelve and older who have reached the rank of Private or higher. Members younger than twelve may come along if their parents are chaperoning.** If you are a parent who is interested in chaperoning, please contact Mrs. Lampert to let her know that. The chaperone cost is the same as for members. Also, if you have camping equipment that we can use please let her know that as well.

Newsletter Help Wanted! Mrs. Lampert is looking for members to help with the newsletter in a variety of ways. You can “write up” the experience of an event, research a topic for the history lesson or contribute in other ways as well. She has lots of fun ideas for topics to cover if you don’t want to think up your own. If you are interested, please let her know asap because she really wants some help!

Private Music Lessons Are Here!- The Marquis is coordinating private music lessons twice a month for the next few months. If you are “stuck” in terms of making progress, or just want some extra attention to help you improve your musical talents, you are welcome to participate! There is a \$25/month fee to participate (which needs to be paid in advance at the first practice of each month) and members will be slotted in for either a private or semi-private lesson at predetermined time slot to last between 30 and 60 minutes, depending on your skill level. All lessons are on Tuesday evenings at the Lampert house, and the schedule has been posted to the on-line calendar. Please contact Mrs. Lampert if you are interested in participating. Private lessons are currently available for snare drummers and fyers. If you are a bass drummer and are interested in private lessons, please let Mrs. Lampert know and we can try to schedule extra 1:1 time following the Saturday morning lessons. If you have signed up for these lessons be sure to show up! Otherwise we end up with instructors sitting around with no students, and there are no refunds for no-shows.

Leadership Classes are Here ! Mrs. Lampert has spent the past six months putting together a new format, and the new course will have a total of five classes, with the first three focused on leadership development and the last two on public speaking. The class is open to all members who have reached the rank of private, and anyone in the rank of Corporal or higher is strongly encouraged to participate. If you have any desire to some day be a Marquis Major, you should know these classes are a required element, and they will only be offered every other year. The classes will be held on Thursday evenings (note, we’ve moved them to Thursdays from Tuesdays due to scheduling conflict issues) at the Lampert home and each class will begin at 7 pm and be about one ½ hour long. The topics we’ll cover include:

April 29 – The 3 Main Styles of Leadership

May 6 – Ancient Influence Techniques

May 13 - Building Credibility

June 17 - The Basics of Public Speaking

June 24 - The 15 Second Interview

I guarantee it will be fun, informative and interactive! Most importantly, you’ll end up with some key takeaways that will help not only in the Marquis, but in other areas of your life as well. The courses are designed to all relate to each other, so please plan to attend all of them and not just pick one or two.

Marquis Website – Just a note to let everyone know that we are aware that the website needs to be updated, but Mrs. Lampert's computer crashed and she needs to rebuild the pages before it's updated again. Hopefully that will be soon. The good news is she has finally subscribed to an on-line backup service so this won't happen again.

Parents Corner –

Marquis Parent's Meeting – the next parent's meeting is scheduled for April 14st. It was originally scheduled for April 21st but moved to the 14th because the 21st is during spring break. The meeting will begin promptly at 6:45 pm and will run for one hour. Agenda items will include:

1. Details of the summer trip
2. Review of 2010 parade schedule & chaperoning
3. Results of Fundraising efforts
4. Open board positions
5. Meal tickets for parade days
6. Open forum for feedback and/or questions

We hold parent meetings just four times each year and this is your opportunity to hear what's going on! Please make every effort to attend.

2010 Parade Season Chaperones – The schedule is listed below and is on-line as well. If you are able to chaperone for a parade (or a few) please let Mrs. Lampert know ASAP so she can fill in the slots for the season as soon as possible. If you have never chaperoned before, there will be a brief training session during a practice in late May to cover the main points you'll need to know.

Changes to the Marquis Board of Directors – At the Board meeting in February, a number of changes were discussed as follows:

- o We would like to combine the roles of Business Manager and Treasurer, as it has been in the past.
- o Mrs. Hallen resigned as the Ways & Means Chairperson and Mrs. Garcia has volunteered to take on this role.
- o Mrs. Bigus has volunteered to be our Enrichment Coordinator, taking over for Mrs. Garcia.
- o We reconfirmed that being in a specific role on the Board does not mean someone has to do all of the work related to that job! In fact, these jobs frequently involve the need for help.
- o We want to make all parents aware that if you are interested in serving on the Marquis Board, there is a place for you! Even if you don't want a specific title, we can certainly create a position of "Board Member at Large" and we welcome any help you are willing to give. The Board meets one evening each month, usually the first Wednesday during drum practice.

Subsequent to the Board meeting, Mrs. Bigus and Mrs. Wineman indicated they would prefer to be Co-Enrichment Coordinators. Mrs. Puskar has generously offered to take up the vacated post of Secretary.

Before changes are made to the composition of the Marquis Board, we are required to post the proposed changes in our newsletter before formally voting. If you have comments, please contact Mrs. Lampert.

The 2010 Preliminary Performance Schedule is here! Updates will be included each month and the schedule is also posted to our on-line calendar where you will find detailed info on departure times, what to bring, etc.

Marquis Hotline: 860-604-5070
 (call for last minute updates to attendance changes)
 Mrs. Lampert's email: lampertaud@aol.com

<http://www.marquisofgranby.org/Calendar.html>

Date	Event	City	State	Depart	Est Return
Saturday, April 24, 2010	Little League Parade	Granby	CT		11:00 AM
Saturday, May 01, 2010	William Diamond Jr Muster	Lexington	MA	7:30 AM	6:00 PM
Saturday, May 01, 2010	American Warrior Homecoming	Bradley Intl	CT	6:30 PM	9:00 PM
Saturday, May 29, 2010	Memorial Day Parade	N Haven	CT	8:15 AM	2:00 PM
Sunday, May 30, 2010	Memorial Day Parade	Ledyard	CT	10:30 AM	4:00 PM
Sunday, May 30, 2010	Memorial Day Parade	New Britain	CT	3:30 PM	9:00 PM
Monday, May 31, 2010	Memorial Day Parade	Granby	CT		-
Monday, May 31, 2010	Memorial Day Parade	Simsbury	CT	12:30 PM	3:00 PM
Saturday, June 12, 2010	Gaspee Days Parade	Warwick	RI	6:00 AM	6:00 PM
Sunday, July 04, 2010	4th of July Parade	E. Longmeadow	MA	8:00 AM	1:30 PM
7/13-7/17, 2010	Fyfe & Drum Camp	Ivoryton	CT		
Saturday, July 17, 2010	Deep River Ancients Muster	Deep River	CT	8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Saturday, July 24, 2010	Nathan Hale Muster	Coventry	CT		
Sunday, July 25, 2010	Nathan Hale Muster	Coventry	CT		
Saturday, August 07, 2010	Marquis Summer Trip				
Sunday, August 08, 2010	Marquis Summer Trip				
Monday, August 09, 2010	Marquis Summer Trip				
Tuesday, August 10, 2010	Marquis Summer Trip				
Wednesday, August 11, 2010	Marquis Summer Trip				
Thursday, August 12, 2010	Marquis Summer Trip				
Friday, August 13, 2010	Marquis Summer Trip				
Saturday, August 28, 2010	National Muster	Westbrook	CT		
Friday, September 10, 2010	The Big E	W Springfield	MA	3:30 PM	
Saturday, September 11, 2010	Windsor Fife & Drum Corps	Windsor	CT	9:30 AM	
Friday, September 17, 2010	The Big E	W Springfield	MA	3:30 PM	
Friday, September 24, 2010	The Big E	W Springfield	MA	3:30 PM	
Saturday, September 25, 2010	Founders Day Parade	Lee	MA	8:30 AM	
Sunday, September 26, 2010	Mum Festival	Bristol	CT	11:30 AM	
Sunday, October 10, 2010	New Haven Columbus Day	N Haven	CT		
Sunday, November 07, 2010	Veterans Day Parade	Enfield	CT	11:45 AM	
Thursday, November 11, 2010	Veterans Day Parade	Springfield	MA	11:15 AM	
Sunday, November 14, 2010	First Church Performance & Coffee	N Granby	CT		

William Diamond Junior Fife & Drum Corps

Annual Invitational Muster

Formed in 2002, the William Diamond Juniors are one of the newer corps in the fife and drum community. They've certainly had a strong start however, with an impressive list of performances and a strong presentation that has already led to their invitation to perform as far away as Switzerland, where in 2005 they were invited to tour and perform with many of the Swiss fife and drum groups. They have also established themselves with an annual invitational muster and for the past few years, the Marquis has been honored to participate in this event which essentially is the formal kick off to our parade season. This year, the William Diamond Juniors muster will be held at the National Park visitor center field, with the muster parade taking part on a portion of the famed battle road.

Marquis members may remember our trip up to Lexington and Concord a few years ago to watch the famous battle reenactments that take place each year in April during the Massachusetts Patriot's Day holiday. For those of you who weren't around for that trip, here's a quick synopsis of the historical relevance of the Battle Road Trail.

Battle Road Trail

At 12:45 p.m. on April 19, 1775 at Brooks Hill, British troops retreating from Concord back to Boston met an ambush. Colonist troops attacked the British from both side the road. From the south, minute men came from Sudbury and Framingham. On the opposite site, the Colonists had traveled from Chelmsford and Billerica. Or so says a marker that lines that Battle Road Trail.

The Battle Road Trail is a 5.5-mile pathway in Lexington, Lincoln, and Concord that marks the path once trodden by British soldiers on their way from Boston to Concord, where they had marched to seize a supply of arms the colonists had stored. The markers along the path tell the stories of the smaller battles fought, the politics of the time, and the individual stories of people who lived and fought in the area - putting a human face on the tale often told in history books. For example, most people know already how Paul Revere and Samuel Dawes rode ahead of the British to warn the colonists of the troops' approach and how fighting had broken out in Lexington and Concord, marking the start of the American Revolution. What they might not know is that the area Boston area was running out of farmland at the time, and the economic strain of the feeling of diminishing economic prospects was one of the factors leading to the rebellion.

Part of the Minute Man National Historic Park, the trail shadows Route 2A and runs from Meriam Corner in Concord to Fiske Hill in Lexington, both of which are spots where fighting ensued. It is a mostly a gravel and dirt path that passes through historic farming fields, by the Hartwell Tavern where travelers often stopped for a bit of news and some nourishment, and past the Paul Revere Capture site, marked with a stone monument.