

Lancers



COMMEMORATIVE YEARBOOK

Seventy Fifth Anniversary Hanover Lancers

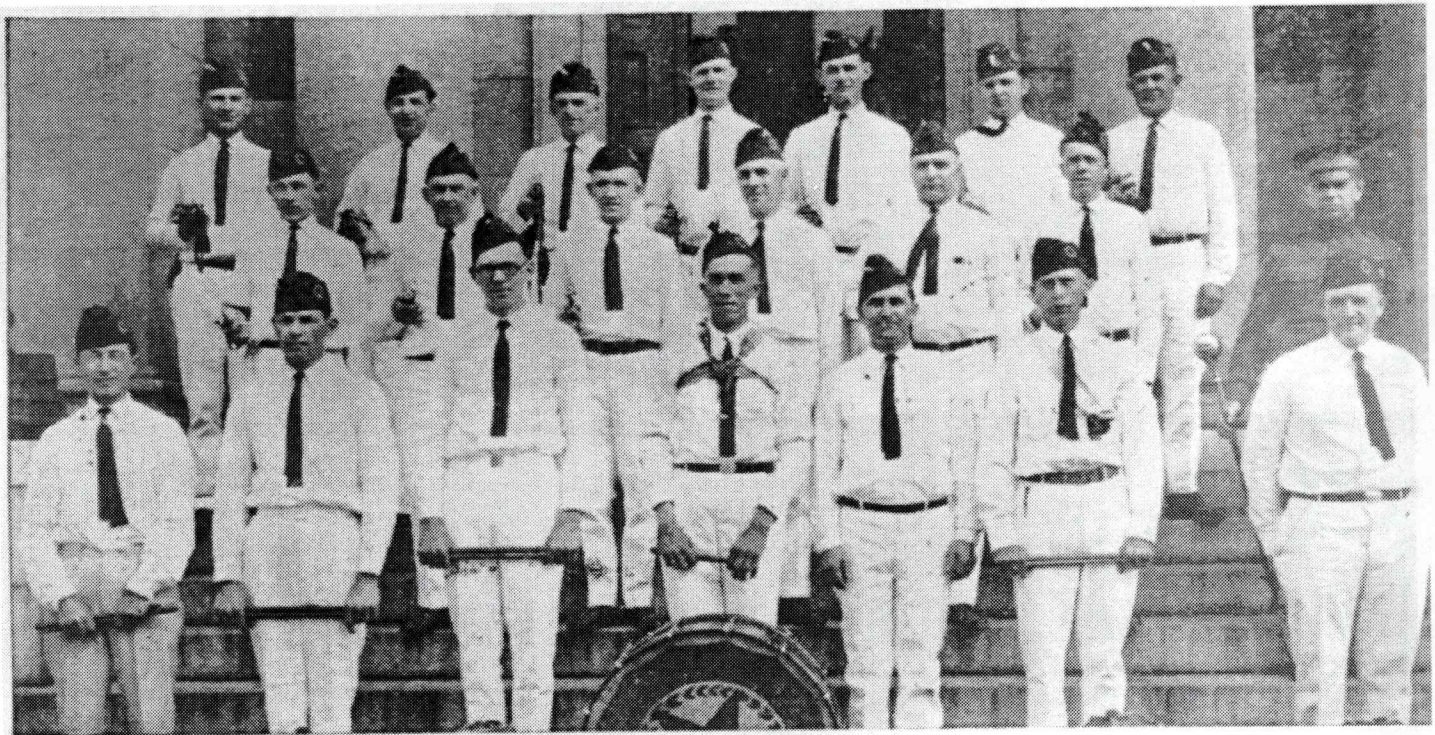
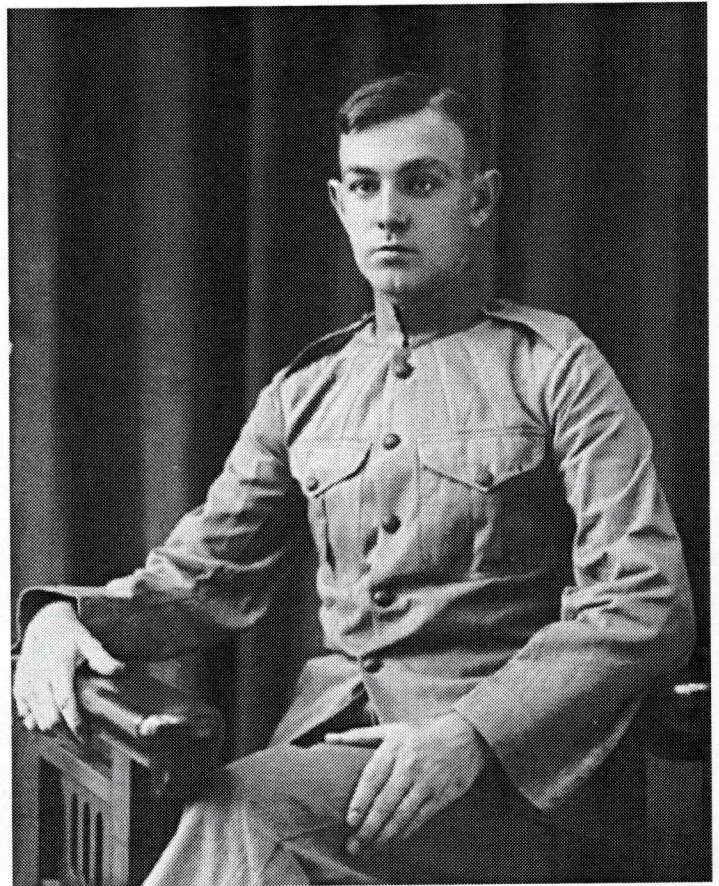
Senior Drum & Bugle Corps



Hanover Lancers Senior Drum & Bugle Corps
American Legion Post 14
PO Box 81
Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331
1996

Edwin Kline, Post 14's original Vice Chariman and drum corps' founder, is shown here in his Marine Corps uniform sometime between 1912 and 1916.

This is the oldest known photograph of the Harold H. Bair Post 14 American Legion Drum & Bugle Corps, taken in 1921.



This picture was taken about a year after corps was first organized. Left to right are: Front row — Trum Heck, deceased; Roy Sprengle, deceased; Norman Shanabrook, Austin Lau, King Little, Paul Laughman, deceased and Leonard Hauck. Middle row — John Anthony, Morris Swartzbaugh, Jack Masenheimer, Milton Huff, deceased Luther Thomas, deceased; George Eichelberger, and Edwin "Diddles" Kline, drum major and director, deceased. Back row — Ray Bemiller, Guy Luckenbaugh, deceased; Ralph Fanus, deceased; Joseph C. MacAvoy, Blant Scheivert, Harold Beard and Paul Null.

Birth of the Corps

Commander Kline and his men decided to form a musical unit to march with the veterans in parades and celebrations. Some records show this organization started late in 1919; other records show the year to be 1920 or 1921. The year 1920 is most prevalent.

Undaunted by a humble beginning, these fine men formed the Harold H. Bair Drum and Bugle Corps when the Post still occupied the "Hole" under the Terminal Building. The Post aided the corps by purchasing a dozen bugles (total cost-\$55!), and four snare drums and a bass drum (total cost-\$92!). After the corps became more organized, it was able to acquire instruments on its own. Edwin Kline was elected the first President, Director, and Drum Major for the corps. Mr. John Freck was Kline's Chief Aid as well as Chief Bugler. Ms. Dorie Funk served as the corps' Business Manager.

The corps met weekly in the Terminal basement facility until Post 14 moved into the Carlisle Street building; the corps then took up quarters in the old structure on Park Avenue at the rear of the new Post home. The structure was once used as a school house and had been razed for additional construction by the Post. The current alumni corps may be rehearsing at the very same area as its predecessors.

The original corps numbered 12 buglers, six snare drummers, one bass drummer, one cymbal player, and a drum major. Their repertoire consisted mostly of bugle calls until Army Band music was arranged for bugles. The members wore the uniforms they were discharged in: Army, Navy, and Marines with a few civilian suits mixed in. They participated in parades along with the veterans or in association with the Hanover Fire Company. The corps' first out-of-town engagement was a firemen's convention parade in Reading, PA, in the fall of 1920.

In 1921, the corps purchased new uniforms-white shirts with black ties, white duck pants, and Legion "overseas" caps. Ed 'Diddles' Kline continued as the corps' Drum Major and Director.

The committee was fortunate to receive a call from Ms. Marlene Donsen during the research for this book. Ms. Donsen, daughter of Edwin Kline, is very proud that her father was the founder of the drum corps. "I was born on March 15, 1919, the same day the Legion Post opened," she said, "Dad was at home when I was born there, but went right back to the Post that evening. It was a very big day for the Legion." Edwin Kline was caretaker of the Post, at the Carlisle Street location, for about a year before he passed away at the young age of 41 in 1933.

"I remember my father was responsible to make the beer for the Legion," recalls Marlene, (This was done in the Post basement because America was in the midst of prohibition). "Cal Musselman was a Hanover policeman then. He would warn Dad when the authorities were going to raid the Legion. He [Edwin] would have to move the beer to John Teal's farm [John was a bass drummer in the corps], then bring it back when the coast was clear." Reportedly, these fellows hid the beer in drum cases!

Ms. Donsen was about 14 years old then and lived in an apartment above the Post Home with her parents. Remarking, "I can smell the beer to this day,"

Edwin Kline served in the Marine Corps during World War I. He was a member of the U.S. Marine Band as a bass drummer while stationed in Peking, China. After Edwin's discharge, and while he was forming the drum and bugle corps in Hanover, his brother was forming a corps in Iowa. That corps became prominent enough to tour Europe.

Marlene also remembers her father's funeral service at the Legion. "The whole corps marched with him from the Post to the cemetery. Dad loved that drum corps."

Strike up the Bands

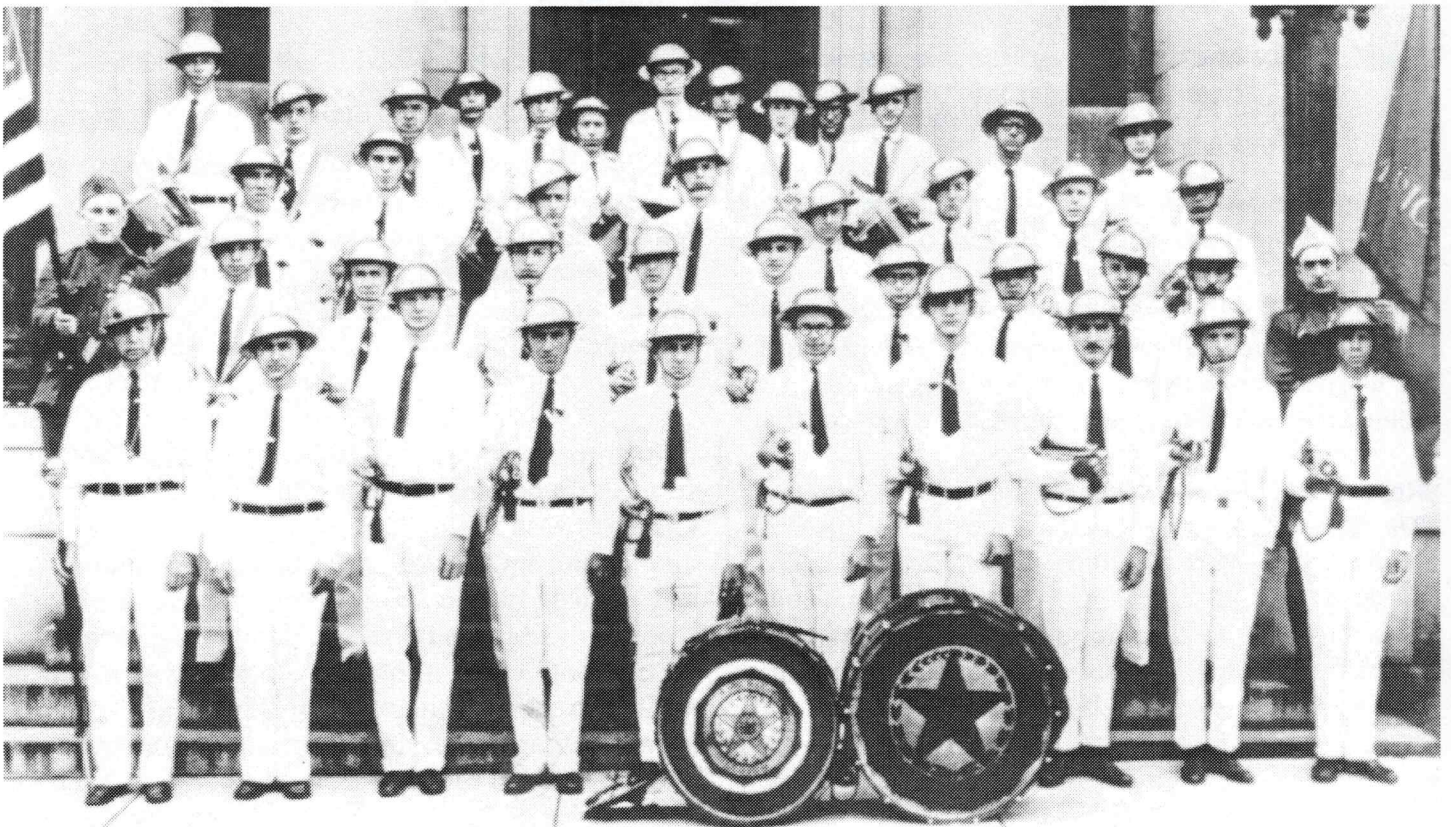
Hanover was home to many musical organizations in the 1920's. The 1924 Hanover Memorial Day Parade included such area groups as the Legion corps, the Hanover Boy's Club Band, the Knights of Pythias Band, the Hanover Patriotic Order of the Sons of America Band (POS of A), and the Acme Cornet Band of Emigsville. In May of 1925, the corps participated in the town's Memorial Day parade along with the Hanover POS of A Band, the Senior Fire Company Drum Corps, the Hanover Boy's Club Band, the Paradise Orphanage Band, and the Knights of Pythias Band.

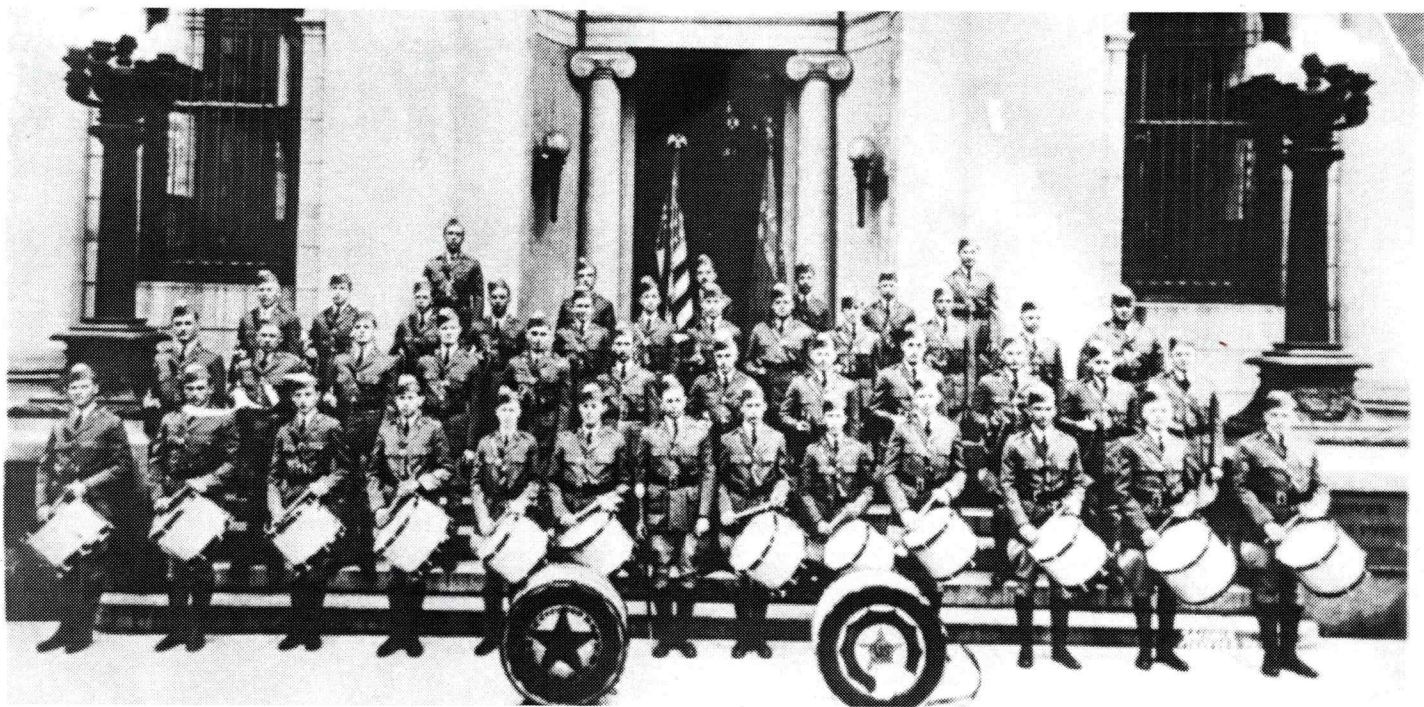
The Knights of Pythias Band (K of P), was organized in 1903 with 16 charter members and William E. Frock as Director. Other Directors in the early years of the K of P Band included Dr. M.M. Fleagle, A. Baily Morelock, H. Oscar Lange, George D. Groft, H.W. Swartzbaugh,

and Edward J. Gobrecht, who directed the band for over 50 years. Until 1956, the band was associated with the Hanover Knights of Pythias Lodge #318, playing for Lodge functions and parades as far away as Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The band also presented evening concerts at Wirt Park and other community celebrations. When the K of P Lodge closed in 1956, the band moved to the Loyal Order of Moose #227 and became the Moose Band of Hanover.

By 1927, the Legion corps featured 41 marching members. They acquired nickel-plated World War I helmets to add to the uniform. Just prior to Memorial

The corps sports new chrome helmets in this photo from 1927, taken in front of the Hanover Public Library. Corps Director Edwin "Diddles" Kline is the second from left in the front row.





Day of 1927 the Legion held its Carnival at Forest Park. The Legion Minstrel Show at that event was directed by none other than Edwin Kline. On June 11, the corps paraded in honor of Colonel Charles Lindbergh's historic flight across the Atlantic. Four days later, the corps participated in the American Flag's 150th Anniversary parade held in Hanover.

On August 3, 1927, the corps attended its first convention when the Legion took a contingency of about 200 men to the Pennsylvania American Legion State Convention held in nearby York. The convention parade that year boasted 40 drum and bugle corps. First place for the corps went to the Frankford Post of Philadelphia and second to the Easton Post. Hanover didn't go home empty handed however. In the Best Uniformed category the corps took third. Top honors in this category went to the Uniontown Post and second to the Lancaster Post corps. Reviewing the parade at the York Fairgrounds were United States military officials Major General Summerall (Army Chief of Staff), Rear Admiral McGruder and Brigadier General Shannon.

Wow! New uniforms for this photograph taken at the Hanover Savings Fund, now Bank of Hanover, at 25 Carlisle Street on May 29, 1928.

The corps officers in 1927 were Leonard F. Houck, President; Harry H. Myers, Vice President; Milton Huff, Treasurer; and Blanton Schievert, Secretary. The Board of Directors consisted of Richard B. Garrett, Milton Huff, and R. Y. Naill. Members and friends of the corps began making plans for a 1928 trip to San Antonio, Texas for the National Legion Convention. The Post's Commander at this time was Herbert Jordan.

In spring of 1928, the corps purchased new uniforms. These were khaki shirts, pants, and overseas caps, leather puttees or leggings, Sam Browne belts, and white shirts with black ties. On May 29, 1928, the corps played for the greeting of President Calvin Coolidge at the Hanover Train Station, and participated in Governor Pinchot's Inaugural Parade in Harrisburg that same year. Records do not show if the drum corps made the 1928 trip to San Antonio for Legion Nationals.

Maurice Remembers

In 1929, 25-year-old Maurice Masemer joined the corps. He is the oldest surviving member from the early days. According to Maurice his own "straight" bugle purchased from Stegner's Music in Hanover cost \$6.50. He also recalls the khaki uniforms used from 1928 to 1934 that were purchased at the Globe on Broadway in Hanover, and Ed Kline teaching music from his blackboard.

York was one of the top corps around, reports Maurice, as well as Hershey, Waynesboro, the Frederick corps, and the Hanover VFW drum corps. Maurice thinks the Army judges were the toughest of the judging-groups and remembers the days when the corps practiced drill at Wirt Park. He mentioned Hershey as being the finest field-facility for competition. Sometime during the 1940's, he recalls being part of a 15-man Honor Guard fronting the corps when they wore the first black and white cadet uniforms.

Maurice recalled his first trip to the Legion State Convention in Scranton in 1929. Adams Transit supplied buses for the trip. He fondly remembers when Drum Major Joe MacAvoy danced in the street with female parade-goers as the corps played *Dixie*. Mr. Masemer served on the Legion's Burial Detail from 1932 to 1992, and marched his last parade with the corps during the first alumni gathering for the 1984 Hanover Halloween parade. Maurice embodies the soul and spirit of the Legion and the drum corps. "I'll be here when the last horn blows," he says.

Locally, a few other drum corps were in their infancy. The York corps, eventually known as the White Roses, formed about 1920 and was formally organized in 1924. In 1926, they wore white sailor uniforms. A year later, as the city of York hosted the State Legion Convention, the corps revealed new maroon and buff-white cadet uniforms. In 1930, York became PA State Legion Champions clad in new gold and white cadet uniforms. York placed fifth in Legion Nationals in 1931. Nine years later, they formed a Sons of the Legion junior corps and, due to the war, disbanded the senior corps.

The York senior corps was reformed during the mid-1940's and in '47 lost the State Legion title by only six-tenths of a point to the formidable Imhof Corps of Philadelphia. York became part of the Philadelphia Area Circuit, which boasted corps such as Reilly, Archer Epler, and Hawthorne. During the 1950's, York evolved into a junior corps again, becoming a major competitor through the 1960's. The White Roses were back in senior competition in the 1970's, had a brief merger with the Hershey Chocolatiers, and eventually disbanded. The York corps was Hanover's closest neighbor in the senior drum corps community, sharing many friends and instructors through the years. Hanover's ranks were strengthened

by many from York when the White Roses dissolved in the late 70's.

Other corps traced to those early days were the Emmaus corps formed in 1925 (later to be the Emmaus Sentinels) and the Verona Boy Scout corps formed in 1928 (later known as the Verona Cavaliers). One of the first All-Girl drum and bugle corps in the nation was from Shrewsbury, PA. They were active in the 1920's and 1930's.

The great Depression of the 1930's did little to impede the success of the Hanover Legion corps. In September of 1930, the corps elected the following officers: Blanton Scheivert, President; Paul Little, Vice President; James Spencer, Secretary; and Milton Huff, Treasurer. The board consisted of Earl Winebrenner, James Spencer, and Joseph Cremer. One of the many parades attended that year was the Vigilant Fire Company Anniversary parade in York, where the corps accompanied the Eagle Fire Company Number Two. The corps also attended the 1930 State Legion Convention in Harrisburg.

In 1931, the corps marched its regular schedule of events such as Memorial Day in Hanover featuring bugler George Eichelberger performing *Taps* at the Mt. Olivet services. On June 11, the corps participated in the dedication of the 205 York Street home of Ms. M.O. Smith. This home, inducted into the Lincoln Fellowship Shrine Foundation, marked Ms. Smith's 1863 meeting with President Lincoln at Gettysburg when she was 15 years old. In August 1931, the corps traveled to Easton for the State Legion Convention.

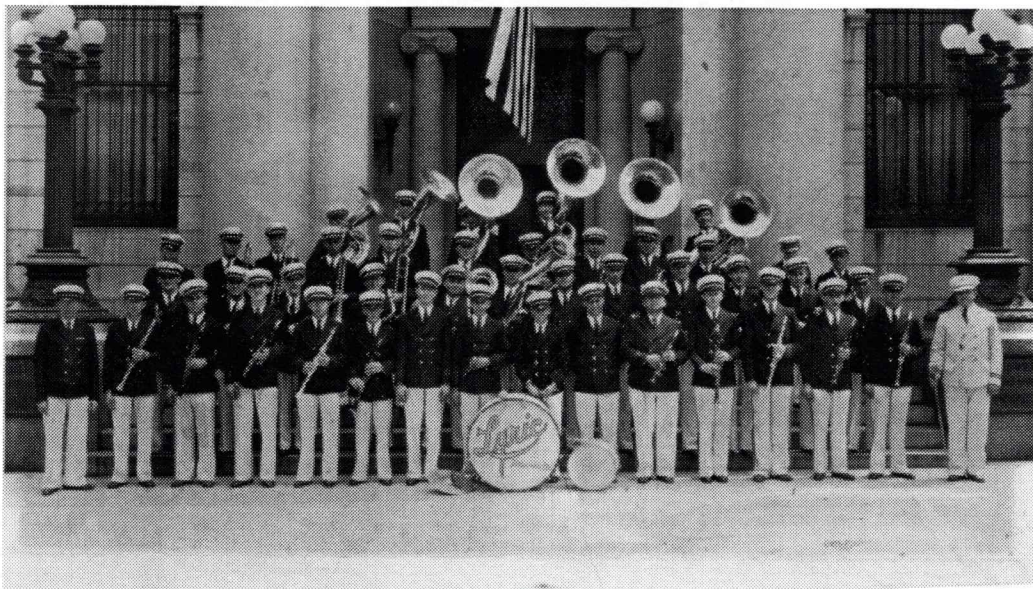
In 1932 parades and celebrations abounded in the nation for the George Washington Bicentennial. Locally, the corps marched in the Hampstead, MD, and New Oxford, PA, parades. Hanover staged a celebration rivaled by none. There were garden parties, dinners, a grand ball, and a gigantic parade reportedly seen by thousands. Magnificent triumphal arches were constructed at the fairgrounds and striking decorations were placed throughout the town. Huge crowds witnessed the governor's mounted troops escort Major General Butler, the parade's Grand Marshall and principle speaker. Mr. Paul Harner, director of the Hanover Boy's Band, wrote and conducted the *George Washington March* for this event.

Many of the parade units were outfitted in costumes from the colonial era, some as English and French soldiers. The drum corps, outfitted by A.T. Jones of Baltimore, wore the uniforms of American Minutemen complete with "tricorne" hats. Leading the corps were three Legion men representing the Spirit of '76: a Mr. Bankert, Mr.

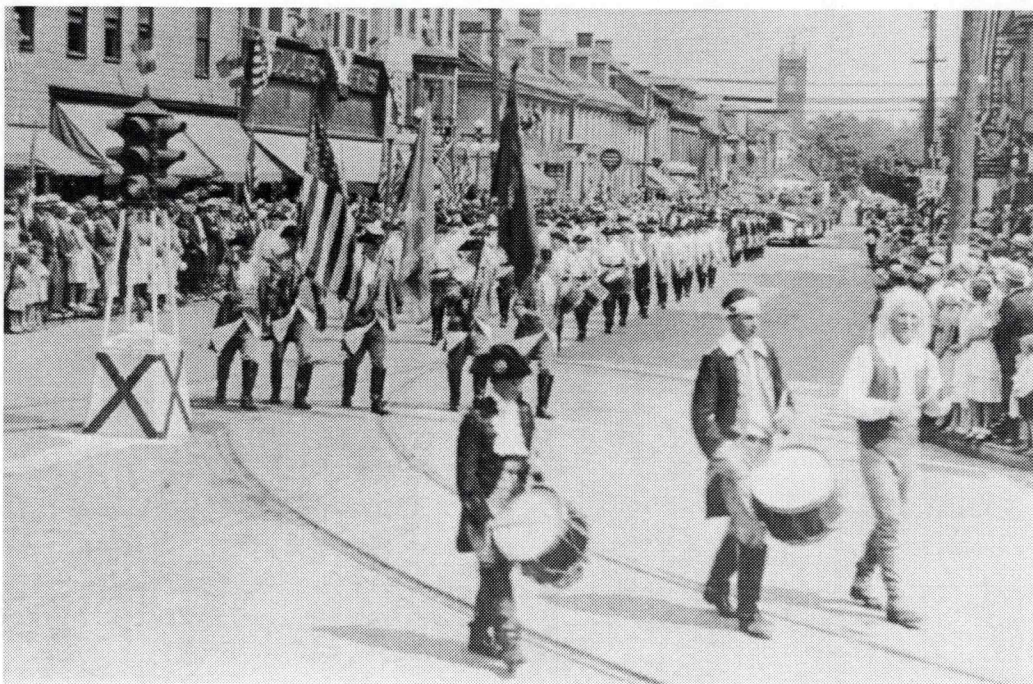
Roy Sprengle, and a Mr. Kline. Others appearing in the parade included the POS of A Band, the Westminster Band, the Knights of Pythias Band, the Westminster Knights of Pythias Corps, the Wrightsville Legion Corps, and other visiting drum corps. Later in June, the Park Theater featured a film of the Washington Bicentennial parade and events.

On July 8, 1932, the corps held a Mardi Gras at Kopp's Park on York Street. This celebration included a parade that featured the Legion corps, plus drum corps from Westminster and Frederick, Maryland. On August 6, Legion District 22 held its meeting and a parade in Hanover. At that meeting, corps member E. Poole Kerr was nominated District Commander. Four drum corps performed afterwards at the Forest Park band shell: the current Legion State Champs from York with a 48-man corps, the 26-man Frederick corps, the Wrightsville corps of 24, and the 40-man Hanover Legion corps.

The Hanover Lyric Band was organized and chartered in 1932. Initially, members rehearsed at the old Parkville Fire Hall on Baltimore Street (now occupied by the Hanover Bible Baptist Church). In 1933, they moved to the former Melhorn building (Hamilton Bank site), then moved to the present headquarters at 20 York Street in May of 1938. The band made its first public appearance in Hanover's 1933 Memorial Day Parade. The Lyric director was Harry W. Swartzbaugh, who was assisted by Harry Swartzbaugh Jr. and Richard Feeser. For a time the Lyric also maintained a Junior Band. The current Musical Director is Edward G. Gobrecht, Jr. and the President is Thomas Baker. The organization is a trademark of the Hanover community; parades and summer concerts at Codorus State Park highlight the Lyric's activities.



The Lyric Band of Hanover was formed two years before this photograph was taken in 1934.



Maurice Masemer outside Post 14 during a visit to an Alumni Corps practice. Mr. Masemer is the oldest living Hanover Drum Corps alumnus, having joined the corps in 1929.

The 1932 Hanover Centennial Parade saw the corps entering Center Square from Baltimore Street. The members dressed as minutemen for the event. Out front were junior drummer Biggs Bankert, senior drummer Roy Sprengle and a Mr. Kline (first name not known).

Kings of the Apple Blossom

In 1934, the khaki uniforms were discarded. Maybe khaki would make an appearance in another era? The khaki uniforms were replaced with a splendid new uniform of dark blue cadet-style jackets trimmed in gold with diagonal-crossed belts of white, powder blue pants and blue shakos with gold plumes.

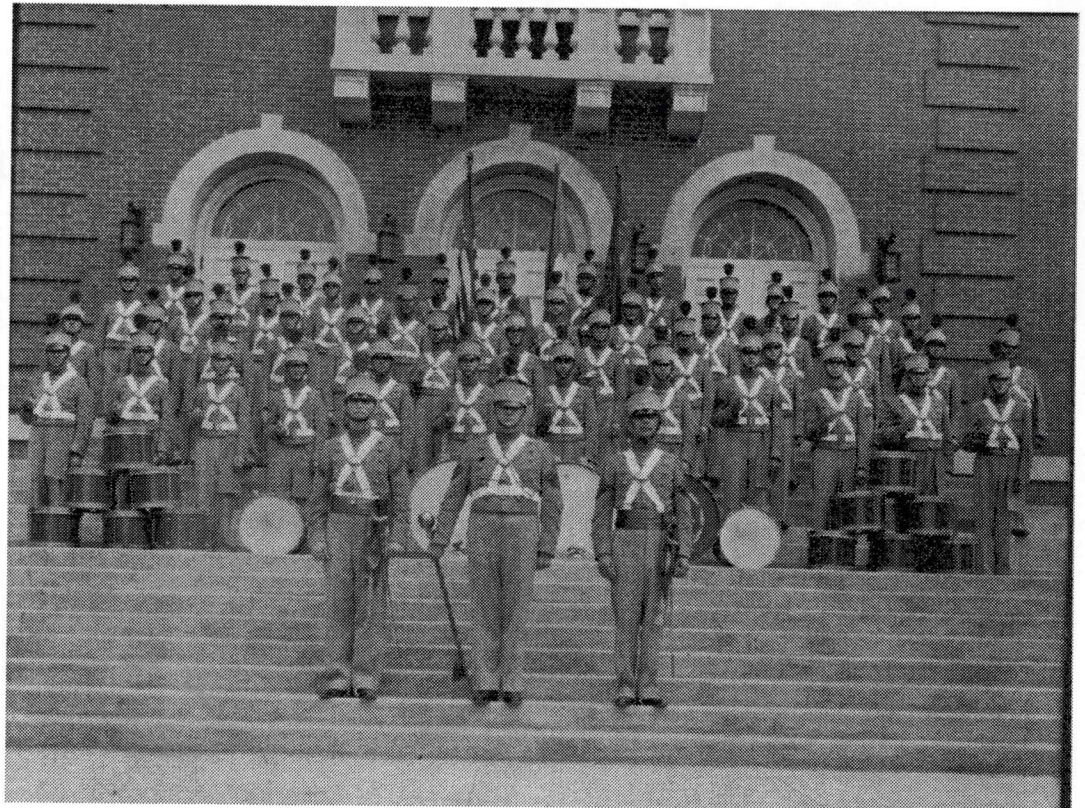
The blue-clad Hanover corps must have been a stunning sight when they marched in the 1934 Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival Parade for the first time. They won the Grand Prize with award money of \$300 plus a \$150 scholarship which the corps awarded to an Eichelberger High student. The Hanover corps became an instant hit at the Winchester, VA event and would win six more firsts, one second, and one third place in future parades. Drum Major Calvin D. Musselman lead the corps at this time. He and the staff of Mr. Paul A. Harner, Musical

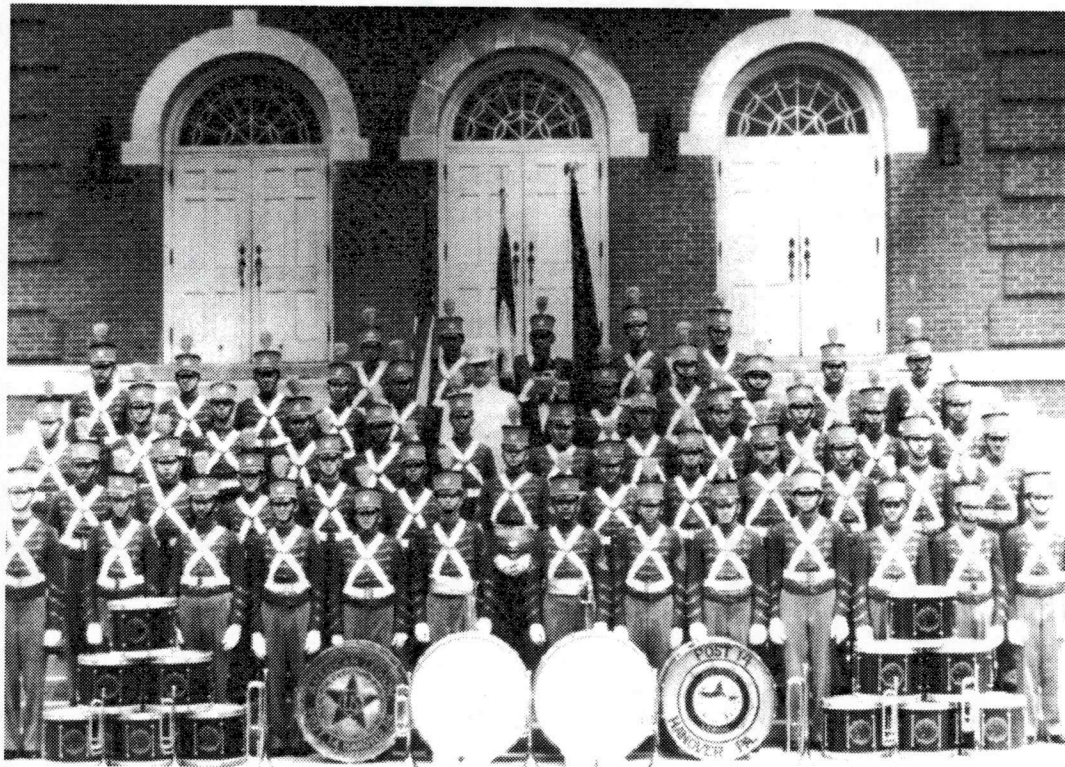
Director, and Mr. Orville L. Baublitz, Drill Master, lead the corps into 1935 with 52 members.

In May of 1935, the corps took Winchester by storm. To start, they were moved by parade officials from the assigned position to the spot held for the Queen Shenandoah escorts. In this position of honor, the corps won Grand Prize in a field of 18 competing drum corps including the Gardner, Hamilton, and Aurand corps.

The only corps not competing that day was the formidable Tarentum Post 85 Corps from the greater Pittsburgh area. The Tarentum Post 85 Corps held the honor of leading the parade. Tarentum was the defending PA State Champion and was considered among the top 10 drum corps in the nation at the time.

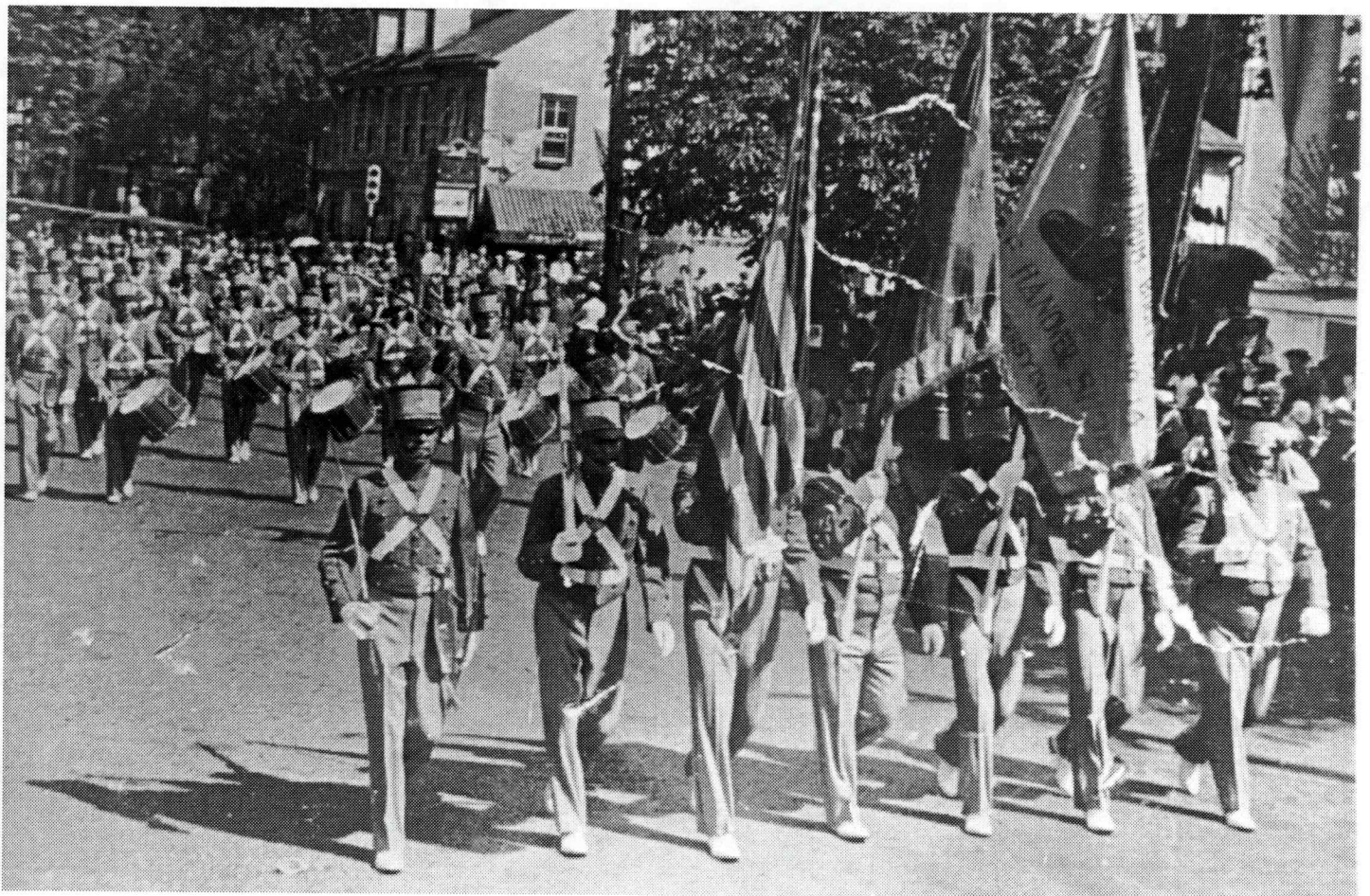
The 1934 corps looks sharp in their new uniforms in front of the Eichelberger School's gym entrance. This corps took first place in the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Parade in Winchester, Virginia.



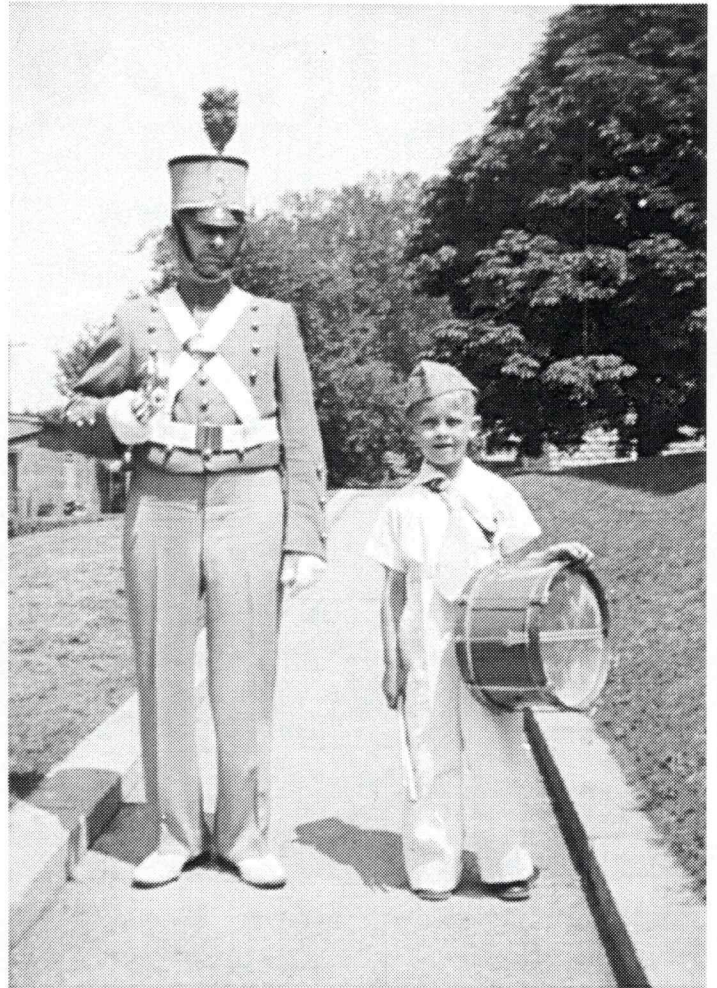


The 1932 corps was photographed at the Eichelberger High School gymnasium steps.

A parade sometime between 1934 and 1936. We are not certain exactly when or where this photo was taken. We are sure it is our corps! Notice the Hanover Shoe flag in the guard.

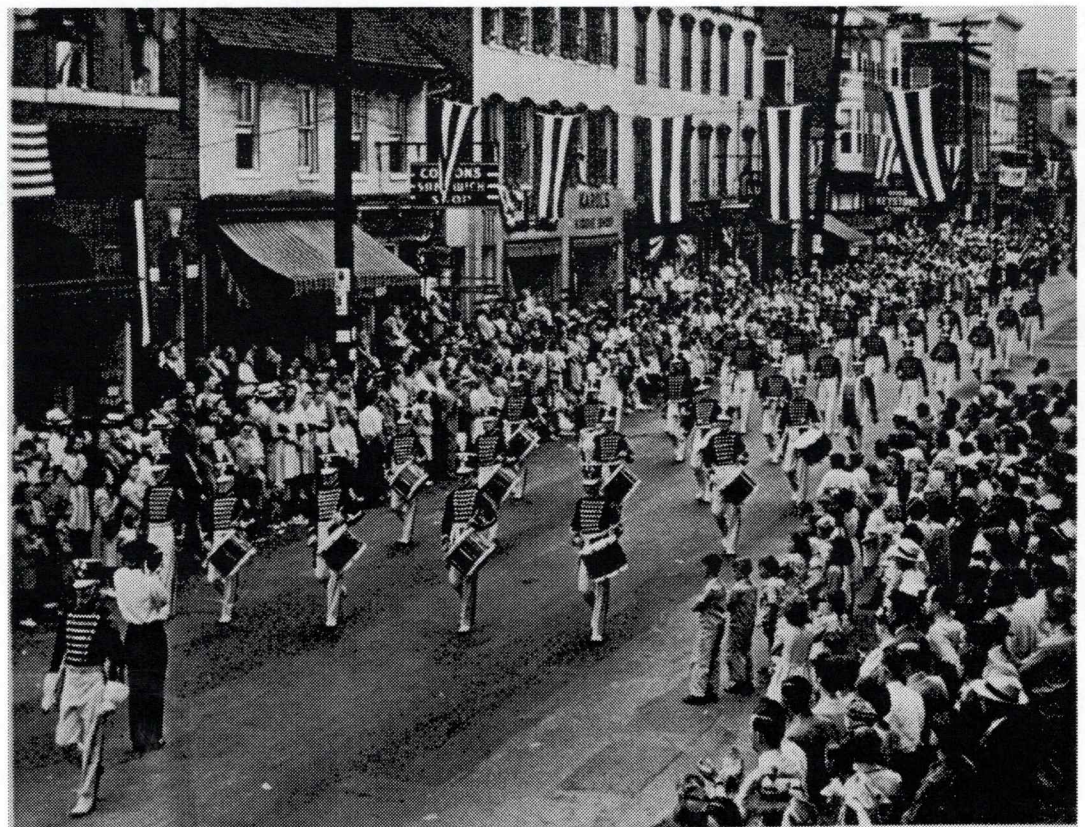


This photo taken Memorial Day 1936 at the Gettysburg, Pennsylvania Post Office shows Maurice F. Swartzbaugh in his drum corps uniform holding a soprano bugle. At his side is his son, Philip J. Swartzbaugh, wearing his Sons of the Legion Junior Corps uniform. Phil was a drummer at the age of six. This is the only photo representing the junior corps we could come up with. Who said drum corps isn't a family activity.



Maurice Masemer looks sharp at age 36 in his 1940 drum corps uniform.

The Hanover Legion Corps marches down a street in a Reading, Pennsylvania parade sometime in the early to mid-1940s.



A Junior Corps!

In early May, the 1936 Legion corps again traveled to Winchester, this time defeating rivals from Duquesne, Huntingdon, and Hershey, PA, to bring home another Apple Blossom crown. A film of the Apple Blossom parade was shown later that month at the State Theater in Hanover. Movie-goers were treated to a short parade and concert by the "stars" of the film before the first showing.

Also in 1936, records show the existence of another drum and bugle corps from the Legion hall. Squadron 14, Sons of the American Legion Junior Drum and Bugle Corps was formed, adding to the splendor of the Legion's drum corps history. These youngsters in white shirts with black ties, white pants, and SAL overseas caps looked much like the "senior" corps from the mid-1920's. The junior corps practiced at times on the Young's Distillery property near the Commons at the rear of the Post. They played straight bugles and performed tunes such as George M. Cohen's *Over There*. The instructor for a period of time was Mr. Paul Null.

The 1937 Apple Blossom Parade resulted in the Legion corps' third consecutive Grand Prize in Winchester, VA. The 54-man corps was lead by Drum Major Joseph MacAvoy. He was assisted by Drillmaster Orville Baublitz and Assistant Drillmaster M.J. Sterner. Finishing behind Hanover were, in order, the Hershey Legion, the Piedmont, WV, Legion, and the Frederick Legion. In the VFW category, first place went to the Aurand Post, Harrisburg, second to the Champagne Post, Baltimore, and third to the Hanover VFW.

The 1937 PA State Legion Convention was held in York; in the parade was Hanover's senior Legion corps taking its first State Legion title as the Class "C" Champs. Class "C" was designated for parade competition while Class "A" and "B" were for field competition.

The Penn-Jersey Horse Races were among the attractions of the day and in 1937, the corps marched to and performed at the Hanover Fairgrounds for the June 14 races. These races were sponsored by the Legion. The Legion was not the only home for drum and bugle corps in Hanover during this era. The VFW Post 2506 had its

own fine drum corps and eventually sponsored a junior corps affectionately known as the "Green Hornets." The VFW senior corps would go on to become PA State Open Class VFW Champions. Both senior corps from Hanover were seen in the June 22 Flag Day Parade in 1937.

In January 1938, the Legion corps held joint rehearsals. On April 28, the senior corps, already a crowd favorite, arrived in Winchester for the Apple Blossom Parade. This year, the corps unveiled new uniforms to the delight of thousands who attended the parade. The uniforms were black cadet-style jackets trimmed in white, white slacks with double black stripes, and new black shakos with white plumes. The Legion emblem appeared on the jacket-sleeve (at the shoulder) and on the shako in a chromium sunblaze above a "14" representing the Post. The "blue" uniforms previously worn by the corps were purchased by the drum and bugle corps from Red Lion, PA.

By this time, the corps had grown to 34 in the horn line, 20 in the drum line, and an 8-man Honor Guard carrying the American Flag, the State Flag, the Legion Flag, a new Auxiliary Flag, and the Hanover Shoe Flag. Drum Major was Joseph MacAvoy. He was assisted by his parade staff of Orville Baublitz, Drill Sgt.; Maurice Sterner, Assistant Drill Sgt.; Paul Schwartz, Color Guard Sgt.; George Swartz, Drum Sgt.; and George Eichelberger, Bugle Sgt.

Hanover again took the Grand Prize at Winchester, with Frederick, MD, Piedmont, WV, and Hershey Legion corps finishing in order. In the VFW Division, first place went to the Cumberland, MD, corps and second went to Hanover's VFW corps. There must have been quite a celebration in Hanover when both senior corps returned home.

The Legion corps maintained a busy schedule, especially during Memorial Day weekend. After marching a Saturday parade in Thurmont, MD, the men unveiled the new uniforms for the hometown crowd early Monday morning and for the Gettysburg crowd that afternoon. On June 1, 1938, the corps, along with the Hampstead Fire Company, marched in the Maryland State Firemen's

Parade in Baltimore. Afterwards, the corps competed in a "drill contest" for a prize of \$100. This may have been the earliest form of field competition that the corps entered. The weekend of July 2, 1938, was quite eventful. The Peace Light Dedication coincided with the last reunion of men from the Union and Confederate Armies. A gigantic parade heralded the event and was witnessed by PA Governor Earle.

Saturday's parade included the Hanover Legion and VFW drum corps; the Hamilton Legion corps, Baltimore; the Morris Frock junior corps, Hagerstown; the Aurand VFW corps, Harrisburg (later to be the Privateers); and the White Rose Kiltie Band, York. The Harrisburg corps won top prize in the drum corps category; York's Kiltie Band won the top marching band prize. The junior corps from the Albert Lintz Legion Post 202, Gettysburg, made its first public appearance this day. On Sunday, July 3, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the Peace Light Memorial.

During early spring of 1939, the corps had all equipment re-conditioned, which included sending the drums to Philadelphia for repairs and new paint. In late April, the corps made the trip to Winchester, where the men won their fifth consecutive Grand Prize in the Apple Blossom Parade. Coming in second was a corps that would become very familiar to Hanover—the Howard Gardner Post from Tyrone, PA, which eventually became the Gardner Guard.

On Memorial Day, 1939, the Legion corps, the SAL junior corps from the Legion, and the VFW corps all marched in Hanover's parade. A week later, all three marched in the Lancaster County Firemen's Convention parade. In June, the juniors practiced for the annual horse race celebrations and other events. A Hanover Evening Sun article on June 16 mentioned the junior corps. "...a number of the larger boys will be selected to accompany the Senior Corps to Palmyra where they'll play with the McSherrystown Fire Company."

Drum corps activity continued to grow mainly in the eastern and mid-western states during the 1930's. A certain New York City corps got its start in 1930 as the Manhattanville Legion junior corps and evolved into the Garbarina Post corps. Later, it became the New York Skyliners. In 1932 a junior corps was formed at the Upper Darby VFW in suburban Philadelphia which became the Archer Epler Musketeers. Locally, the Goodwill Fire Company of York formed a drum corps in

1935; by 1968 it was the last remaining fire company drum corps in Pennsylvania.

The Hanover corps received widespread publicity in the mid 30's when the Philadelphia Inquirer featured the snare drummers on the front page of the Sunday magazine. The "boys-in-blue" were seen by folks over the entire northeast. A diligent effort was made to retrieve this photo, but it wasn't found.

In April of 1940, the corps was rehearsing for the Apple Blossom Parade under the alternate direction of Emory A. Gobrecht and Edward J. Gobrecht. On April 29, the junior corps was called together for a meeting to discuss new uniforms.

In June, the corps was again featured at the Legion-sponsored harness races in Hanover. Proceeds from this event went to the Hanover General Hospital. On June 28, 1940, the Hanover Evening Sun printed an ad inviting boys or girls interested in joining the junior drum corps to congregate at the Post for a meeting that evening. This is the last record of the Legion's junior corps. If it disbanded at this time, it may have been due to the war or changing priorities such as the Post's start of Boy Scout Troop 114.

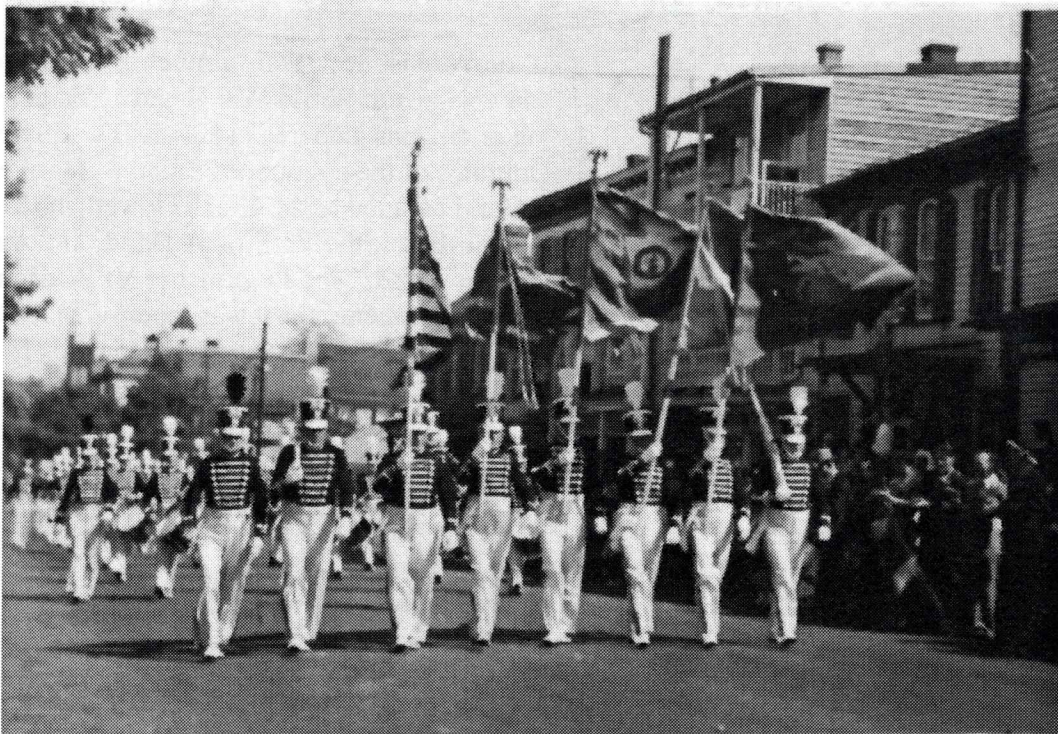
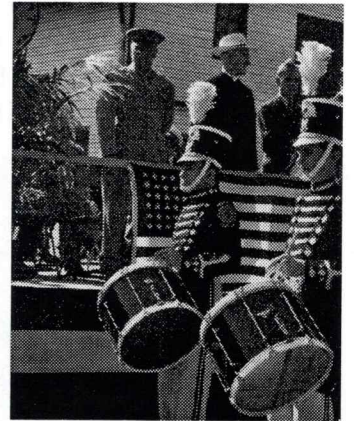
***Apple Blossom
Festival Parade
May 4, 1940***

- 1 Hanover, PA**
- 2 Huntingdon, PA**
- 3 Johnstown, PA**
- 4 Tyrone, PA**
- 5 Camden, NJ**
- 6 Frederick, MD**
- 7 Hagerstown, MD**
- 8 Washington, DC**
- 9 Piedmont, WV**
- 10 Charlestown, WV**
- 11 Clifton Forge, VA**
- 12 Alexandria, VA**



The Gettysburg, PA Sons of the Legion Drum and Bugle Corps in 1938. This corps operated from 1938 to 1945.

Snare drummers Francis Heck, left and Richard Garvick march past the reviewing stand during a McSherrystown parade in the early 1940s.



Clair "Yock" Trone, far left, was the Color Sergeant for this parade sometime in the early 1940s.

The War Years

The corps was again bound for the Apple Blossom Parade on May 2, 1941. This time, they failed to repeat as the parade champs, taking a third place and winning \$150. On August 11, the corps serenaded a Hanover Shoe Company managers' summit at the McAllister Hotel. Later that month, the corps had to refrain from participating in the State Legion Convention Parade in Altoona due to the infantile paralysis epidemic in York County. This is only the second time the men missed marching in the State Convention since they began attending in 1927. Meanwhile, the Hanover VFW corps took second place honors at the Cumberland Valley Firemen's Parade in Greencastle, PA. They were edged out by the Hagerstown, MD drum corps.

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor and America was again at war. During these years, the corps' activities were restricted due to the large percentage of men in the service. There were, however, enough "old timers" available to keep the corps going.

A "Pledge for Victory" parade and rally was held in Hanover on April 16, 1942. This was to promote the purchase of U.S. War Bonds and Stamps. Included in the parade were the Legion corps, the Lyric band, the Hanover Jr. and Sr. High School bands, POS of A Band, Pratt's School of Music String Band of Hanover, the VFW corps, and the Knights of Pythias Band.

The VFW celebrated the tenth anniversary of their Post with a parade and celebration on May 9, 1942. Both drum corps from Hanover, the POS of A Band, and the White Rose Post 556 Junior Fife and Drum Corps provided marching music for the event. On August 16, the Legion held its annual picnic at the Coon Club in Abbottstown; the drum corps was invited.

The corps traveled to Pittsburgh for the 1942 State Legion Convention on August 24 and brought home a third place trophy. The Windber Legion corps took top honors while the Duquesne corps placed second.

Due to the 1943 wartime conservation programs, many

"stay at home" events were held so area citizens could honor the pleasure-driving ban. On May 13, the Legion sponsored an "I Am An American" rally. The corps and the Hanover Civic Orchestra performed at the town square. Post Commander Edward Livelsberger was one of the speakers for the event.

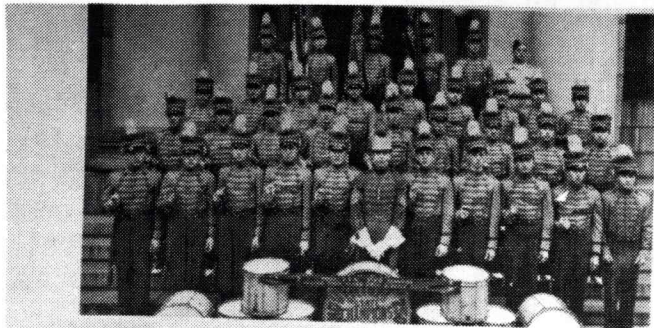
Americans learned of the Normandy invasion in 1944. In February of 1945, the U.S. Marines took Iwo Jima and victory in Europe was announced in May.

The 1945 corps remained busy as the war came to a close. On May 16, the corps put on a drill demonstration for the Spring Grove PTA Pageant. Then, on May 25, along with the town bands, intermediate and high school bands and VFW corps, the Legion corps marched in the Hanover Memorial Day Parade.

At 7:00 p.m. on August 15, 1945, a much anticipated announcement was given: World War II had come to an end. A throng of citizens gathered at Hanover's square. Within five minutes of the announcement, the Hanover High School Band paraded to the site, followed shortly after by the Lyric Band, the POS of A Band, and the Knights of Pythias Band. The Legion and VFW drum corps were soon on the scene, and it was reported that the celebration and playing by the two corps lasted well after midnight.

Littlestown staged the first World War II Victory Parade in the area on August 30. On September 17, the Army/Navy "E" Flag was awarded to the Hanover Wire Cloth Company. This prestigious honor was given to the company with the highest achievement in producing war-time materials; 80% of the Wire Cloth's output went to the war effort. The Army/Navy "A" Flag was awarded to both the Hanover Canning Company and the D.E. Winebrenner Company for highest achievements in food-processing for the war effort.

The next local Victory Parade was held in New Oxford, followed by a "Pep Parade" in Hanover on October 10. The Legion corps performed at the square, then lead the procession to the Eichelberger School auditorium for a



1942

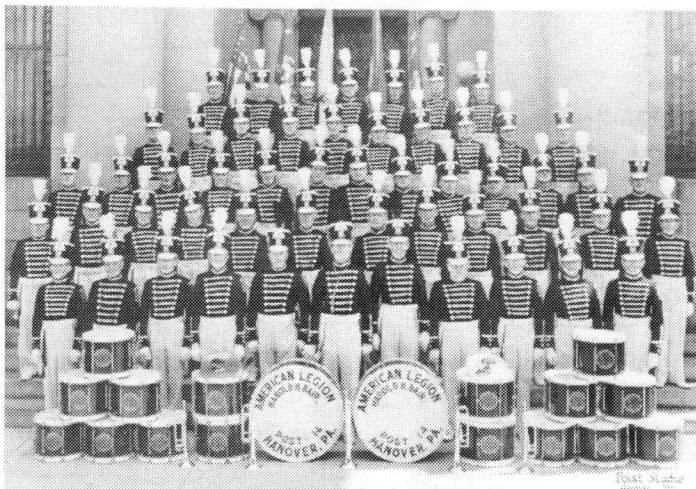
Hanover Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2506 Drum and Bugle Corps - summer 1942. The VFW Corps was a major contender at regional contests through the 1950's and 60's.

1st Row (l. - r.) Fred Rutters, Eugene Fuhrman, Earl Greenholtz, Richard Barnhart, Robert Bunty, Jack Hellebride, Charles Foreman, Laverne Staub, Faber Colehouse, Millard Feeser, Truman Heck. 2nd Row - George Study, Arron Thoman, Herbert Myers, Joseph Sneeringer, Willard Geisler, Faber Barnhart, Ross Wise, Joseph Klunk, Truman Geiman. 3rd Row - Chester Bowman, Charles Warner, Russell Bowman, E. Burnell Warner, Isaac Grogg, Vernon Little, Lee Rutters, Raymond Hoke, Jesse Grogg. 4th Row - Unknown, Sol Laughman, Unknown, Brooks Long, John Aulthouse, George Loss.

The Burial Squad of Post 14 from 1946 is pictured here. Today, the Color Guard still provides the honor and respect our departed veterans deserve at funeral services year-round.



Members of the burial squad of Harold H. Bair, Post 14, American Legion, in 1946 are pictured in their new uniforms. This squad was available for all military funerals and handled a total of 22 such burials in 1946. Shown (front row, left to right) are Harry H. Myers, Michael Lauro, Post Adjutant Charles J. Bunty, Assistant Chaplain Francis Duttera, Post Commander Myrl L. Chronister, Chaplain Charles S. Diller, Bernard I. Noel, Blanton G. Scheivert and Paul K. Fuhrman; (second row) Ernest Keith, Glenn Robinson, Charles Petry, Francis Wildasin, John Ruhman, Reuel L. Klunk, Jean B. Noel, George D. Reese and Maurice Masemer; (back row) Fern Reindollar, Guy B. Thoman, Edwin E. Rickrode, Warren N. Runkle, Lavere Hockensmith, Paul Krepps Jr., Lachlan W. Krebs, Donald Klunk, John Roth and Irvin Robinson.

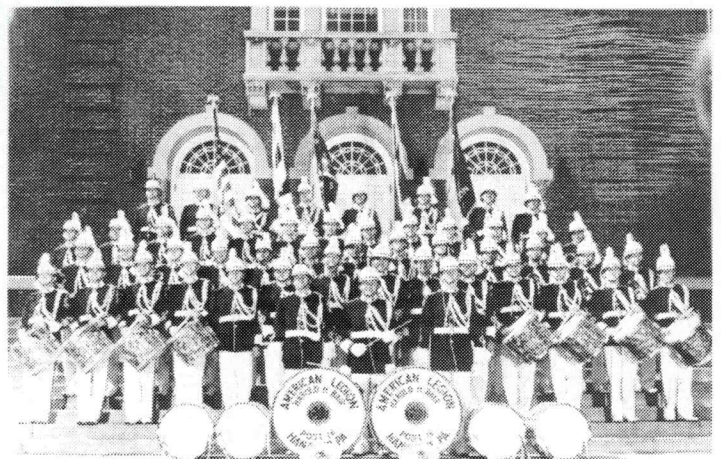


We know this was taken between 1938 and 1945 by the uniform, posed in front of the Bank of Hanover.

The 1946 corps performs a concert in front of Post 14 after a Homecoming parade honoring the veterans returning to Hanover from World War II.



A view of the Canteen of Harold H. Bair Post 14, American Legion. This has been a familiar sight to Lancers since the Post's remodeling after the 1948 fire. Corps members often enjoy the cake and ice cream served here - among other libations!



Memorial Day, 1948 at Eichelberger High School in their brand new uniforms. Six months later a devastating fire claimed most of the corps' equipment and uniforms at the Post Home.

rally that promoted welfare projects for returning veterans.

Hanover's Victory parade was held on November 12, 1945. Included in the line-up were the Legion and VFW corps, the Lyric Band, the Brodbeck's Band, and the Knights of Pythias Band.

More than 10,000 spectators watched the 1946 Apple Blossom Parade, where Hanover beat eight corps to take top prize again. Coming in second, third, and fourth respectively were the Federal Post of Baltimore, the Frederick corps, and the Kelly-Mansfield Post from Piedmont, West Virginia.

In May, the normal line-up of Memorial Day Parades took place. In June, the corps competed in the Maryland State Firemen's Convention Parade. Of four drum corps, the boys from the Hanover Legion took first.

On July 6, the Legion purchased the H.H.Crouse building at the rear of the Post home. Later in July, Hanover Fire Company No.1 celebrated its 130th anniversary with a parade that naturally included the Legion corps. The August 21 Legion State Convention was held in Philadelphia. No results of the parade placements were found. In September of '46 the "Homecoming" parades for returning war veterans began; the Hanover edition on September 2 featured seven drum corps and 11 bands. McSherrystown followed suit on September 16 with another "Homecoming" parade.

Membership at the Legion grew as the returning veterans were welcomed home, and the Post expanded into the basement facility to accommodate the growth in 1947. That year the corps won second place at the Apple Blossom Parade. The Hamilton Post, Baltimore, won first place.

The Legion sponsored another "I Am An American" rally at the State Theater on May 9, 1947. The corps led the procession to the rally, which included patriotic speeches and entertainment by the American Legion Glee Club under the direction of R. Henry Ackley.

In April of 1948, the corps purchased new uniforms and equipment to the tune of \$10,000. The equipment included new drums, cymbals, bugles and cases, and chromed flag poles. The uniforms were the black "Hessian-style" jackets with an array of white citation cord across the front, white pants, and white helmets topped with either long plumes or spear-tips. This grand

uniform looked much like the type worn by Sousa's Marine Corps Band in the 1890's. The uniforms were unveiled at the 1948 Apple Blossom Parade in April and for the hometown crowd at the Memorial Day parade. The old cadet-style uniforms were purchased by the Morris Frock Post Drum and Bugle Corps of Hagerstown.

The new uniforms were destined to be worn on only a few occasions. On November 5, 1948, tragedy struck as a fire swept through portions of the Legion home. Most of the damage was to the "old" section at the front half of the Post. Unfortunately, the corps' storage was in this area. An estimated loss of \$15,000 was suffered by the corps, including most of the new uniforms and equipment. One of the corps' toughest tasks ever was rebuilding after this loss.

State Legion Convention

Class "C" Parade

August 9, 1947

Pittsburgh, PA

1 Hanover Legion	81.75
2 Central City Legion	77.50
3 Hamburg Legion	69.75

Hanover Halloween Parade

1947

Drum & Bugle Corps

1 York Corps	
2 Windber Corps	
3 Carlisle Corps	
4 Red Lion Corps	
* Columbia, PA Corps	- honorable mention

The Hanover Legion and VFW corps refrained from competing, the Legion corps marched in Halloween costumes.

Bands

Bair's Boys and Girls Band
Glen Rock Band
Taneytown I.O.O.F. Band
Emigsville Band
Dallastown Band
Knights of Pythias Band
Westminster Band
Biglerville Band
Three area high school bands

Apple Blossom Parade

May 1, 1948

1 Johnstown Blue Devils
2 Huntingdon Corps
3 Hershey Corps

Like The Phoenix...

Between 1948 and 1950 the Legion members replaced the burned out structure with the building that stands today; the home was dedicated in 1951.

Corps members did some rebuilding of their own in 1949 and focused on new activities. They passed up the Apple Blossom festivities, instead putting their energies into raising money for the purchase of new uniforms. These were black 3/4 length coats with a white trim, white pants, and white shakos and plumes.

Under the leadership of Drill Instructor Joseph MacAvoy and Music Director Richard Feeser, a spirited and excited Legion corps entered the world of field competition in 1949.

The corps' first competition was the July 16, 1949, Hershey Invitational sponsored by the York drum corps. Nearly 12,000 spectators watched as the Hanover corps stepped up to the starting line for the first time. The corps was up against a line-up of defending state and national champions.

The corps' first Legion State Competition was on August 8 in Pittsburgh. They proceeded to take third place in Class "B" competition. Moved indoors to the Hunt Armory due to rain, the proceedings did not finish until after 2 a.m. The Imhof corps took first place in Class "A", while the York corps took third.

Around the nation, drum corps activity grew in the 1940's. Canadian corps began forming; the 1940 De La Salle corps from Toronto boasted a 32-man snare line. An up-start corps from Hawthorne, NJ, defeated the powerful New York Skyliners in 1942. The Hamilton drum corps from Baltimore evolved into the Yankee Rebels in 1946. Also that year, the Reilly Raiders from Philadelphia came on the scene donned in their trademark black and green Royal Irish Constabulary uniforms. The Jersey Joes from Riverside, NJ, were formed in 1947 and went on to win Legion Nationals the next year. The Bonnie Scots from Millersburg, PA, were formed in 1948.

Hershey Invitational

July 16, 1949

Hershey, PA

1 Archer Epler Musketeers

2 Reilly Raiders

Defending VFW State Champs

3 Jersey Joes of Riverside, NJ

Defending National Champs

4 Baltimore Yankee Rebels

Defending MD Legion Champs

5 George M. Imhof Post, Philadelphia

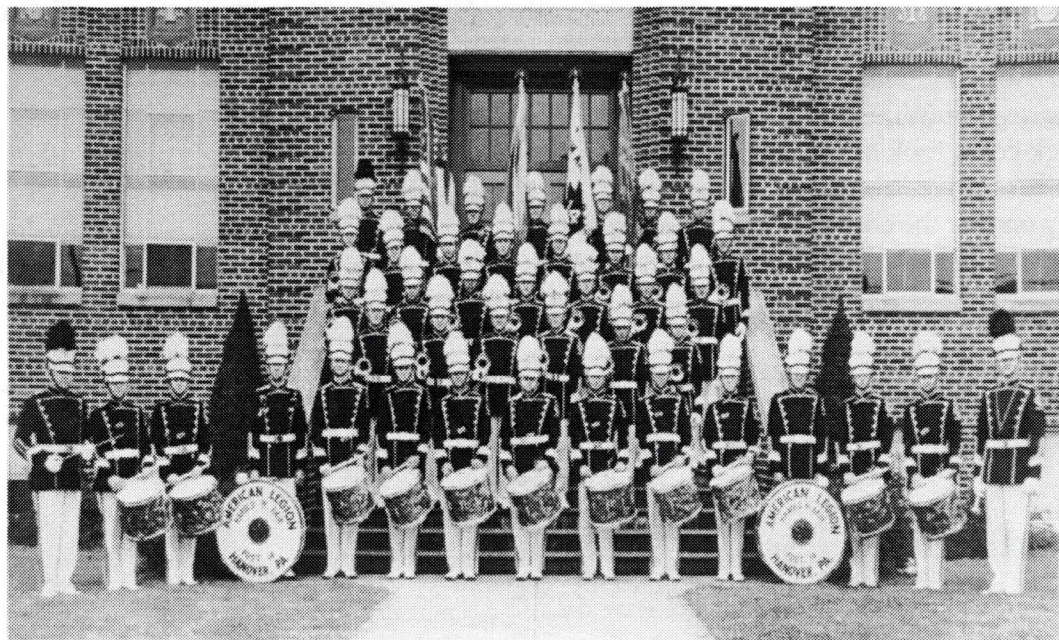
Defending Legion State Champs

6 Highlanders, Burlington, NJ

7 Olney Middies, Olney

8 Hanover Legion

9 Con-Edison Corps, New York City



This is the first corps from the Hanover Legion to enter field competition, circa 1949. The corps was caught in front of Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown, PA.

Soprano bugler Ernie Unger strikes a pose on May 31, 1948. Ernie was one of quite a few Ungers who marched with the corps - both past and present.



A parade in Columbia, PA - 1948. Left to right: Drum Major Joe MacAvoy (facing left), Dick Feeser (with baton), music director Francis Heck, and an unknown snare drummer.



Legion Champions

The outbreak of the Korean War in 1950 had little effect on drum corps activity in the States. In Hanover, Drum Major Joseph MacAvoy lead the 45-man Hanover corps to another crown in the Apple Blossom Parade on April 28. The Ross Fire Company corps from Winchester won second place and the Frederick corps took third.

The month of May was a busy one for the corps as they marched in parades in Hampstead, MD, Mt. Holly Springs, Hanover and Gettysburg.

Later, destiny became reality when the Hanover Legion corps won the Class "B" American Legion State title at Philadelphia's Municipal Stadium. In Pennsylvania Legion competition Classes "A" and "B" refer to the percentage of Legion members in the senior corps in field competition, and does not refer to the corps' quality. A "B" corps could be a better quality corps. Class "C" refers to parade competition and Class "D" designates junior corps competition.

The Hanover corps' strong season continued with the August 31 Gettysburg Sesquicentennial Parade. The corps took second place to York; third place was claimed by the Littlestown VFW, and fourth by the Red Lion corps.

The Class "B" champs were honored with a dinner arranged by the corps' friends, officers, and past commanders. This celebration was held at the Cross Keys Hotel on September 6. Retired Drum Major Joe MacAvoy also received honors at this event.

On September 8, the Hanover Jaycees sponsored a "Night of Music" at Sheppard-Myers Field. Included in this fete were the Legion champions, the Lyric Band, the Hanover High School Band, Ed Gobrecht's "Little German Band," and the Gettysburg Blue and Gray Band.

Due to the growing number of drum corps in the country, regional circuits began to form. Drum corps from mostly Maryland and Pennsylvania formed the Pen-Mar Circuit in 1951. Hanover was chosen the official home

of the circuit. Hanover corps member Francis Heck was the circuit's first president and Richard Hartman served as the first secretary.

To maintain championship caliber, Legion corps directors secured the services of instructors to teach the new type of music and rudiments that were evolving. The corps was apparently ready to uphold their championship status as they rolled into Winchester, VA, for the 1951 Apple Blossom Parade.

Hanover VFW Corps Show

June 24, 1950

Hanover, PA

Sheppard - Myers Field, attendance 4,000

1 Reilly Raiders 92.05

VFW National Champs

2 Baltimore Yankee Rebels 91.76

3 Archer Epler Musteteers 90.06

4 Burlington Highlanders 82.75

5 York 80.07

6 Henry Houston Post 76.85

formerly the Frankford Philadelphia Corps

*Con-Edison and Imhof corps were to compete but arrived too late

American Legion State Championship

1950

Philadelphia, PA

Municipal Stadium

Class "A"

1 Imhoff Post

2 Houston Post

3 York Post

Class "B"

1 Hanover

2 Bollman Post of Lebanon

1949 "B" Champs

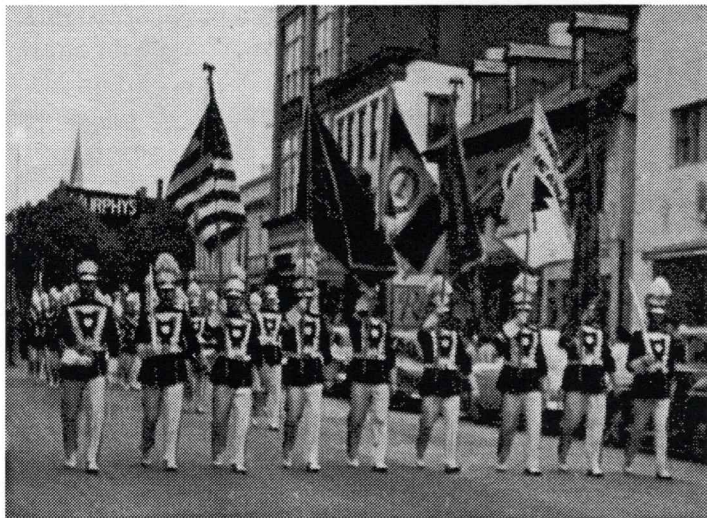
3 Foster Post of McKeesport

Class "D" Juniors

1 McKall Post

2 Bracken Post of Bristol

3 Upper Darby Post



Memorial Day - 1952. The Corps marches south on Baltimore Street in Hanover past Leinhardt Brothers Furniture Store.

We're not sure exactly what year this photograph was taken, but by the uniform it must have been the "Bears" sometime between 1953 and 1957.



The corps marches down Front Street during the 1953 Pennsylvania Elks Convention parade in Harrisburg. Notice the buglers playing with only one hand?

The 1950's

On June 7, the corps sponsored the first Pen-Mar Circuit competition at Sheppard-Myers Field. Admission to the "Parade of Champions" was \$1 for adults and \$.50 for children! This day revealed another first. On this night, the Hanover corps took a nickname and officially became the "Bears." The name was derived from the homonym "Bair" in the Harold H. Bair name; in some records the corps was called the "Bairs." The corps adopted an animated bear logo, complete with a side-drum and bugle. It's reported that the corps used *When the Bear Comes Over the Mountain* as their theme. The artist who created the bear logo will be unveiled later in the corps' history.



On June 18, the corps marched in the Carlisle Bicentennial Parade. Hanover took first over York and Wormleysburg. After the parade, all three corps put on field shows at the Dickinson College Stadium. The State College junior corps also performed at this event.

The newly-rebuilt Post home opened for public inspection on July 25, 1951. The contracting firm of Klunk Brothers did an excellent job of building what was one of the more modern facilities of the time. Celebrations were held each night of opening week. Tuesday night was Drum Corps Night, with dancing to the music of the Dick Feeser Orchestra and a floor show featuring a roller-skating act.

A Hanover Evening Sun article reported the big news: *The new Post home of brick, concrete, and steel, entirely fireproof, was ready for visitors. Off the main entrance on the first floor is the cocktail lounge. The bar is made of light maple and walnut woods and is built in the shape of a key. A display island centers the bar. Red upholstered chairs and tables accent the pastel-pink walls with blue-shaded woodwork trim. Restrooms are on the first and second floors. The large closet spaces on the second floor provide storage for the drum corps. Offices of the*

Legion and the main meeting room are also on the second floor. Reprinted with permission of The Hanover Evening Sun

The dedication was scheduled for the fall that year. On August 24, the corps performed exhibitions with the Yankee Rebels at the Manchester, MD, carnival. Two days later, they were back in competition in York at the White Roses' second show of the season.

The Hanover Jaycees annual "Night of Music" was held on September 7. Entertainment was provided by the Lyric and Hanover High School Bands, the Legion corps, the Hanover Elks Lodge Chorus, and three other vocal groups.

The corps dressed in costumes again for the Hanover Halloween parade on October 30. The next night the corps got back to business as they defeated the Hershey, Frederick, and Hagerstown corps in the Hagerstown Halloween Parade.

A November 30 parade in Littlestown featured the Legion corps and the Littlestown VFW corps. Information on the Littlestown corps was not abundant, however it's known the Post also had a junior corps for a time.

1951 Apple Blossom Parade Winchester, VA

- 1 Hanover**
- 2 Frederick
- 3 Gibson Corps, Winchester

Parade of Champions June 7, 1951 Hanover, PA

Sheppard-Myers Field

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| 1 Baltimore Yankee Rebels | 81.10 |
| 2 Wormleysburg Longshoremen | 74.00 |
| 3 York White Roses | 73.50 |
| 4 Westminster Patriots | 62.80 |

Exhibitions were performed by the Kenwood Cadets of Baltimore and the Bears.

The 1952 competition season kicked off with the Hanover Pen-Mar show at Sheppard-Myers Field. Wormleysburg, now called the Westshoremens, were the 1951 and 1952 VFW National Champs.

Drum Major and Corps Director Harold Gross led Hanover to the July 31 Westminster show. Of the three

corps competing, two were from Maryland. The show chairman was Dr. Robert E. Lee. The Bears didn't stand a chance!

The corps attended the 1952 Legion States in Philadelphia. The drum corps contest was forced indoors to the 103rd Engineers Armory due to rain. The corps enjoyed the

Eastern States Championship

July 7, 1951

Hershey, PA

Hershey Stadium

- 1 Reilly Raiders
- 2 Archer Epler Musketeers
- 3 Baltimore Yankee Rebels
- 4 Imhof Post, Philadelphia
- 5 Hanover Bears**

Pen-Mar Show

July 28, 1951

Mechanicsburg, PA

- 1 York White Roses
- 2 Baltimore Yankee Rebels
- 3 Imhof Thunderbirds
- 4 Hanover Bears**
- 5 Hershey Chocolatiers
- 6 Westminster Patriots

American Legion State Championship ***1951***

Pittsburgh, PA

Class "A"

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 1 Henry Houston Post | 90.20 |
|----------------------|-------|

Class "B"

- | | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 1 Hanover Bears | 82.06 |
| 2 Rochester Post | 68.04 |

Pen-Mar Show

August 24, 1951

York, PA

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| 1 Baltimore Yankee Rebels | 88.10 |
| 2 Wormleysburg Longshoremen | 87.70 |
| 3 Hanover Bears | 81.50 |
| 4 Hershey Chocolatiers | 78.10 |
| 5 Westminster Patriots | 74.50 |

Exhibition York White Roses

87.70

Pen-Mar Show

September 1, 1951

Waynesboro, PA

- 1 Baltimore Yankee Rebels
- 2 York White Roses
- 3 Wormleysburg Longshoremen
- 4 Hershey Chocolatiers
- 5 Hanover Bears**

Parade of Champions

1952

Hanover, PA

Sheppard-Myers Field

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| 1 York White Roses | 91.40 |
| 2 Baltimore Yankee Rebels | 90.60 |
| 3 Wormleysburg Westshoremens | 88.15 |

1951, 1952 VFW National Champions

Westminster Show

July 31, 1952

Westminster, MD

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 1 Baltimore Yankee Rebels | 87.30 |
| 2 Westminster Patriots | 80.40 |
| 3 Hanover Bears | 78.50 |

American Legion State Championship ***1952***

Philadelphia, PA

- | | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 1 Hershey Chocolatiers | 89.76 |
| 2 Milton Keystoners | 86.51 |
| 3 Tyrone Guard | 85.48 |
| 4 Hanover Bears | 83.95 |

York Show

August 16, 1952

York, PA

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| 1 Reilly Raiders | 92.95 |
| 2 Baltimore Yankee Rebels | 91.06 |
| 3 Imhof Thunderbirds | 90.50 |
| 4 Wormleysburg Westshoremens | 88.40 |
| 5 Homewood Post, Pittsburgh | 85.20 |
| 6 Hershey Chocolatiers | 85.15 |
| 7 Hanover Bears | 81.60 |

weekend at the Hotel Essex in Philly, but could not defend their Class "B" title.

On July 4, 1953, Vice President Richard Nixon was on hand at the Gettysburg parade and celebration. The corps took top honors over the Waynesboro VFW corps and the Taneytown Legion corps. The 1953 Legion States were held in Pittsburgh on July 31. The Bears repeated their fourth place finish in the Class "B" category.

The Hanover show featured 10 corps with a pre-show

The 1950's, continued

performance by the Hanover VFW junior corps, the "Green Hornets." The Hanover Bears provided the post-show exhibition. Most corps in this competition marched an afternoon parade in York prior to the evening performance.

In the 1953 Hagerstown Halloween parade, the Hanover corps placed first over the Kenwood Cavaliers, the Hagerstown corps, the Kelly Post corps from Myersville, MD, and the South End Fire Company corps from Winchester, VA.

The 1954 Bears seemed to be the official fire company escorts for parades that year. On June 7, the corpsmen accompanied the Hanover Fire Company to a first place

14,000 drum corps fans watched The York White Roses win the Class "B" title.

Records show that the 1954 Pen-Mar competition in Hanover was scheduled for Saturday, August 21. The show was rained out and held on Sunday, August 22. The Baltimore Yankee Rebels and Millersburg Bonnie-Scots had to pull out of the Sunday contest due to a previously scheduled engagement.

The Hanover Bears performed in exhibition as did Ms. Sue Jay of Arkansas, a national champion baton twirler visiting the area. Judging the show was the "All American" Judges Association. The ticket prices were still \$1 for adults and \$.50 for children.

On October 28, 1954, Hanover held its annual Halloween Parade. The Master of Ceremonies was Ernie Harwell of Baltimore radio and TV sports. Six drum corps

American Legion State Championship

July 31, 1953

Pittsburgh, PA

Class "B"

1 Milton Keystoners	87.26
2 Hershey Chocolatiers	84.38
3 Tyrone Guard	81.11
4 Hanover Bears	80.40
5 Bangor Yellow Jackets	78.41

Parade of Champions

1953

Hanover, PA

Sheppard-Myers Field

1 Wormleysburg Westshoremens	81.55
2 Imhof Thunderbirds	77.80
3 Homewood Rockets	77.25

**soon to be the Pittsburgh Rockets*

4 Baltimore Yankee Rebels	76.00
5 Baltimore Kenwood Cavaliers	74.35
6 York White Roses	72.45
7 Hershey Chocolatiers	67.70
8 Milton Keystoners	64.50

The Bears performed in exhibition

American Legion State Championship

1954

Philadelphia, PA

Temple Stadium, attendance 14,000

Class "A"

1 Archer Epler Musketeers
2 Reilly Raiders
3 Homewood Rockets
4 Imhof Thunderbirds

Class "B"

1 York White Roses
2 Williamsport Black Eagles
3 Hershey Chocolatiers
4 Millersburg Bonnie-Scots
5 Milton Keystoners
6 Bangor Yellowjackets
7 Hanover Bears
8 Tyrone Guard
9 Slatington Corps

Pen-Mar Show

August 22, 1954

Hanover, PA

Sheppard-Myers Field

1 Harrisburg Privateers	85.125
2 Baltimore Cavaliers	84.865
3 Westshoremens	84.750
4 White Roses	82.250
5 Chocolatiers	82.075

The Bears performed in exhibition

at the Lancaster County Firemen's Convention in Columbia. They marched with the Parkville Fire Company at Taneytown on June 17 and in Reisterstown on June 30. On July 3, the corps accompanied the Hanover Firemen in a Gettysburg parade. In Taneytown's bicentennial parade on August 2, the corps placed third to the Haines-Stackfield Legion Corps from Carlisle and the Millersburg Bonnie-Scots.

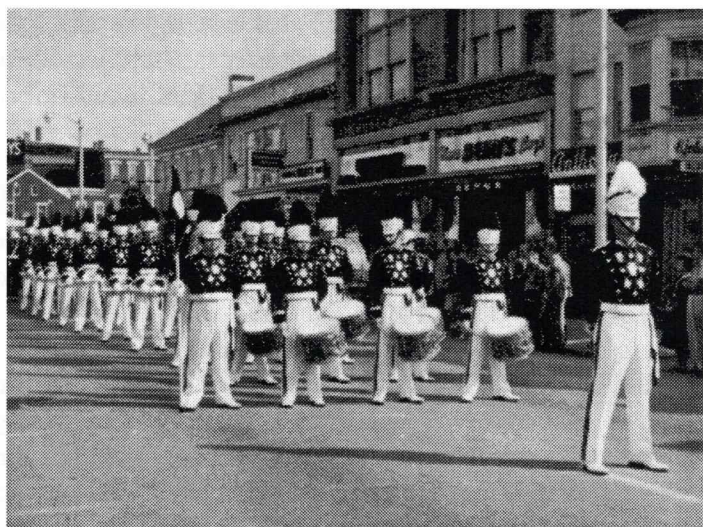
Hanover attended the 1954 Legion States competition held at Philadelphia's Temple Stadium in July. Over

graced the parade route. First place was awarded to the York White Roses, second place to the Westminster Patriots, third place to the East Berlin VFW Corps, and honorable mentions went to the Haines-Stackfield Legion Corps, Carlisle, and the Hesson-Snyder Legion Corps, Taneytown. The Hanover Bears marched, but did not compete.

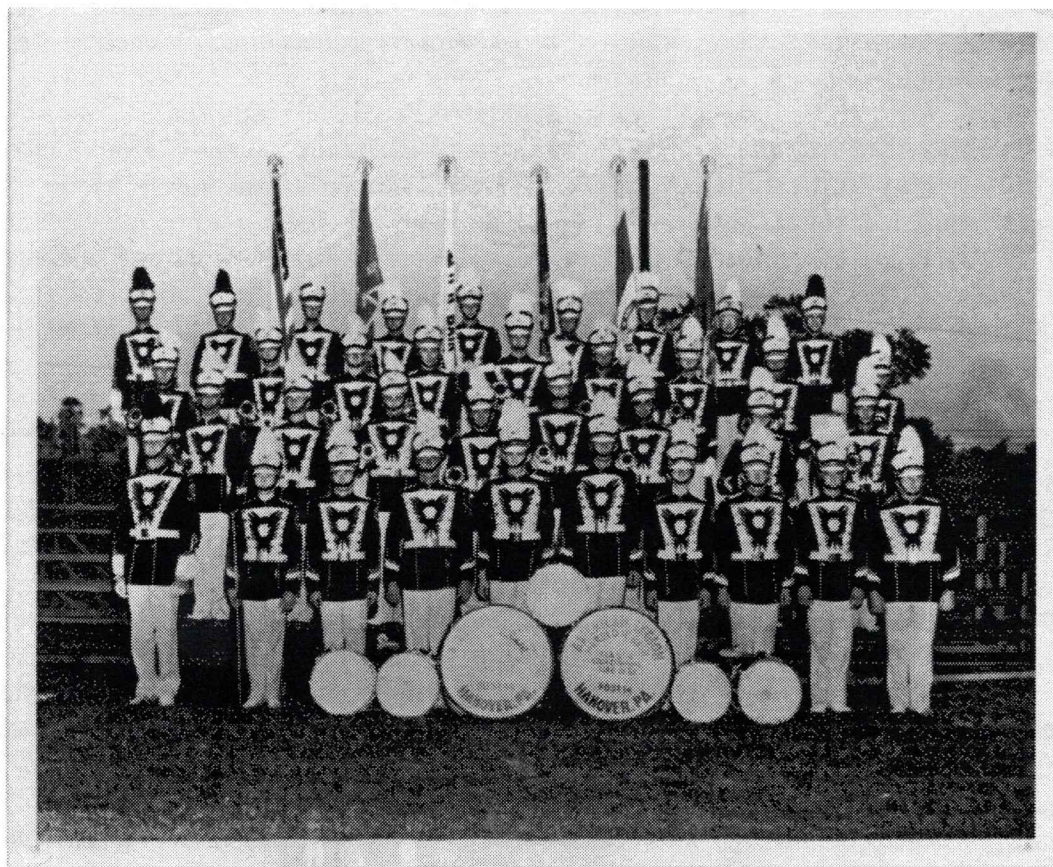
1954 was the last year of field competition for the Hanover corps until 1963. The corps did continue to

sponsor competitions and put a successful parade corps on the street.

In 1955, the corps celebrated its 35th anniversary. On August 10, they traveled to Pittsburgh to march in the Legion State Convention parade, but did not compete in field competition. On August 20, the corps sponsored the Hanover Invitational Competition held at the Delone Catholic High School field (due to construction at Hanover's Sheppard-Myers Field). A crowd of nearly

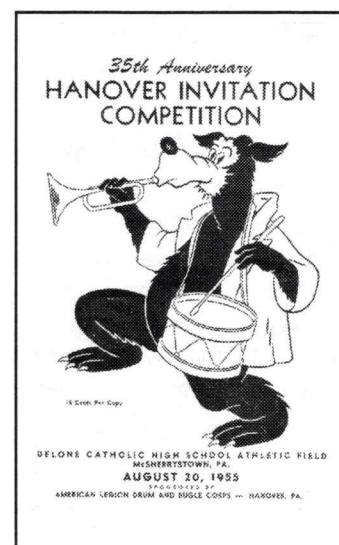


Memorial Day 1958, the corps stands at parade rest while waiting for the units ahead to begin moving.



Taken after a firemen's parade, the corps poses on the bleachers at the Littlestown football stadium on Friday, August 5, 1955.

Program cover featuring the corps logo/characature - the BEARS.



The 1950's, continued

4,000 witnessed five corps compete for \$2,100 in prizes.

The Pen-Mar Circuit had a song written exclusively for member corps entitled *Pen-Mar on Parade*. A few of Hanover's musical numbers during the 1950's included: *If You Knew Suzie*, *Alabama Bound*, *El Rancho Grande*, *String of Pearls*, *Whistler & his Dog* and *Washington Post March*.

Though inactive from field competition, the corps still marched many parades. The 1956 parade schedule included:

- May 30 Hanover Memorial Day
- June 2 Lititz Parade
- July 25 Reese, MD
 - 1 Hanover
 - 2 Westminster
 - 3 Taneytown
- July 26 Pleasant Hill Parade
- Aug 9 Dauphin Co. Firemen's Convention
Penbrook, PA
- Aug 10 Littlestown Parade
- Aug 18 York Co. Firemen's Convention
Glen Rock, PA
 - 1 Hanover
 - 2 Taneytown
- Sept 1 McSherrystown Parade
- Nov 2 Hagerstown Halloween Parade

The highlight of 1957 was the May 22 "Mortgage Burning" ceremony at the Legion. On May 30, the corps marched in the Hanover and Gettysburg Memorial Day Parades. During this era the corps was joined at most area events by the Lyric and Moose Bands, the Gettysburg Blue and Gray Band, the Lower Adams County Band, and local school bands.

Hanover Invitational

August 20, 1955

Hanover, PA

Delone Catholic High School Field, attendance 4,000

1 Wormleysburg Westshoremens	90.50
2 Pittsburgh Rockets	88.70
3 Williamsport Black Eagles	88.50

1955 Class "B" State Champs

4 Baltimore Cavaliers	85.30
5 Harrisburg Privateers	83.55

Exhibition performed by the Baltimore Yankee Rebels

The Moose Band of Hanover was formed after the demise of the Hanover K of P Lodge. The band continued the proud history of the former K of P Band by performing at many State Moose Conventions, and in state and county firemen's conventions. The Moose Band also performed at firemen's parades and carnival concerts throughout south central Pennsylvania and northern Maryland. The band could be seen playing at Sunday School concerts and church picnics in the Hanover area. Moose Band directors included Larry Blocher, Joann Luckenbaugh, Paul Stauffer, Patricia King, and Donald Sterner. After 90 years of outstanding musical service to the Hanover community, the Moose Band went out of existence following its 1993 season.

On June 7, 1957, the Hanover corps combined with the Hanover Fire Company to place first in the Pennville parade. The corps lost to the Delone High School Band for the best appearing musical unit.

In the June 13 Taneytown parade the corps took first over the Hagerstown Freestaters. At the July 4 Gettysburg parade, the corps again took top honors over second place Rouss Drum Corps from Winchester, VA, (just how many corps does Winchester have?); third place went to the St. Andrew's Corps from Baltimore. The Hanover corps went on to take firsts in each of these parades:

- July 14 Irishtown Parade
- July 25 Pleasant Hill Parade
- Aug 18 York Co. Firemen's Convention Parade
Dover, PA
- Oct 28 York Halloween Parade

The corps marched but did not compete in the October 31 Hanover Halloween Parade. An outstanding line-up marched that night:

The Moose Band, Lyric Band, Kiltie Band of York, Keystone Band of Greencastle, Brodbeck's Band, Dallastown Legion Band, and the Westminster Band.

The Westshoremens won first place in the drum corps category; second place went to the Little Flower Junior corps from Baltimore; third place went to the Westminster Starlighters. The Hagerstown Freestaters, Hershey Chocolatiers, Taneytown Corps, and the Rouss Corps from Winchester, VA, also marched in the parade.

The Hanover Legion corps stopped attending the Apple

Blossom parades in the mid 1950's, possibly to work on becoming a field competitor once again. Another new uniform was purchased in 1958. Designed by the corps' Francis Heck, it consisted of an attractive black cadet-style jacket with a keystone design on the front, white shako with black plume, and white pants. The pants were eventually dyed black for the uniform of 1961.

In late 1958 or early 1959, the corps decided to take a new nickname. The name "Buccaneers" was suggested, but Reading was taking that one. The name "Vagabonds" lost to the chosen name by only one vote. From this time on, the corps would be called the Hanover Lancers Senior Drum and Bugle Corps.

The corps selected a new logo: a medieval soldier bearing a lance and shield became the "Lancer." The creator of this design, also the creator of the "Bear" design, is corps member Wayne Houck. Mr. Houck's artistry graced the covers of the corps' contest programs from the 1940's to the 1980's. His cartoons, mostly on drum corps topics, are still enjoyed today. The Lancers' in-house artist is also an accomplished french horn player.

On June 6, 1958, the corpsmen had an auspicious start to the parade season as they took second to the Littlestown High School Band in the Lancaster County Firemen's Convention Parade in Adamstown, PA.

On June 26, the corps placed second to the Starlighters in the Pennville parade. At this time, the media identified the corps by the "Lancers." This must have been the catalyst the corps needed, for the Lancers won every parade entered into the 1960 season! In the October 30 Hanover Halloween parade the corps performed in exhibition only. The following is the line-up of another outstanding parade:

- 1 York White Roses
 - 2 Wormleysburg Westshorem
 - 3 Westminster Starlighters
- Taneytown Corps, Goodwill Corps, York, Lodge 228 Brotherly Love Corps, York and the Hagerstown Freestaters.

The corps held elections for officers on November 17. The results were:

President	Bernard Stouffer
Vice President	Francis Heck
Secretary	Leon Bowers
Treasurer	Robert L. Rutters

The executive board consisted of George Zimmer, William Nicholson, and Phillip Nicholson. On June 19, the corps' own Charles R. Petry was elected Post Commander.

Was the corps getting restless in 1959? Were the Lancers anticipating the day they would storm the competition scene again?

- 1st place May 28 Parkville
- 1st place July 24 Pleasant Hill
- 1st place Aug 16 York County Firemen's Parade
- Second place went to Goodwill of York and a special award went to the Junior Corps of New Freedom.

At the October 29 Halloween Parade in Hanover, the Freestaters defeated the Millersburg Bonnie-Scots and the White Roses finished third. Other corps included the Westminster Starlighters, the Goodwill Corps, York, and the Southern York County Jr. Corps from New Freedom. The Lancers participated but were not judged. The corps finished the 1959 season with a first place in the Hagerstown Veteran's Day parade.

The Lancers continued their winning ways in 1960. They won first place in the July 7 Gettysburg parade. Then...whoops...a fourth place in Littlestown on August 6 against this line-up:



- 1 Westshorem
- 2 Freestaters
- 3 White Roses
- 4 Lancers**
- 5 Chocolatiers
- 6 St. Mary's, Baltimore
- 7 Goodwill, York
- 8 Les Saints Jr. Corps, Chambersburg
- 9 Starlighters
- 10 Kenhurst Corps

The Lancers placed second to the White Roses in the August 21 York County Firemen's Parade, but followed with victories in the Hagerstown and Chambersburg Halloween parades in October. The Lancers marched in the October 31 Hanover Halloween Parade but did not compete. Westshorem won the drum corps honors while the Freestaters came in second. The Little Flower Jr. Corps of Baltimore finished third.

The November 13 Veteran's Day Parade in Gettysburg featured a musical line-up that was extraordinary. In addition to the Lancers, the York Kiltie Band, the St. Thomas Corps, and the Gettysburg College R.O.T.C. Drum Corps marched.

The 1950's, continued

During November elections, an extensive number of officers were named:

President	Ronald Shireman
Vice President	Joseph Kebil
Secretary	Wayne Koehler
Treasurer	Edward Fissel
Business Manager	Jim Gulden
Historian/Librarian	Leon Bowers
Custodian	Daniel Brady
Executive Board	John Null, John Becker, Francis Heck and Jim Gulden
Drum Major	Robert Pfaff
Ass't. Drum Major	Jim Gulden
Drill Sgt.	Charles Petry
Color Guard Sgt.	Robert M. Laird Jr.
Ass't. C.G. Sgt.	Ronald Shireman
Drum Sgt.	Francis Heck
Ass't. Drum Sgt.	William Smith
Bugle Sgt.	Wayne Houck
Ass't. Bugle Sgt.	Clair Altland
Music Chairman	Edward Fissel
Transportation	Lloyd Becker
Publicity	Ted LeGore
Entertainment/Audit	Leon Bowers

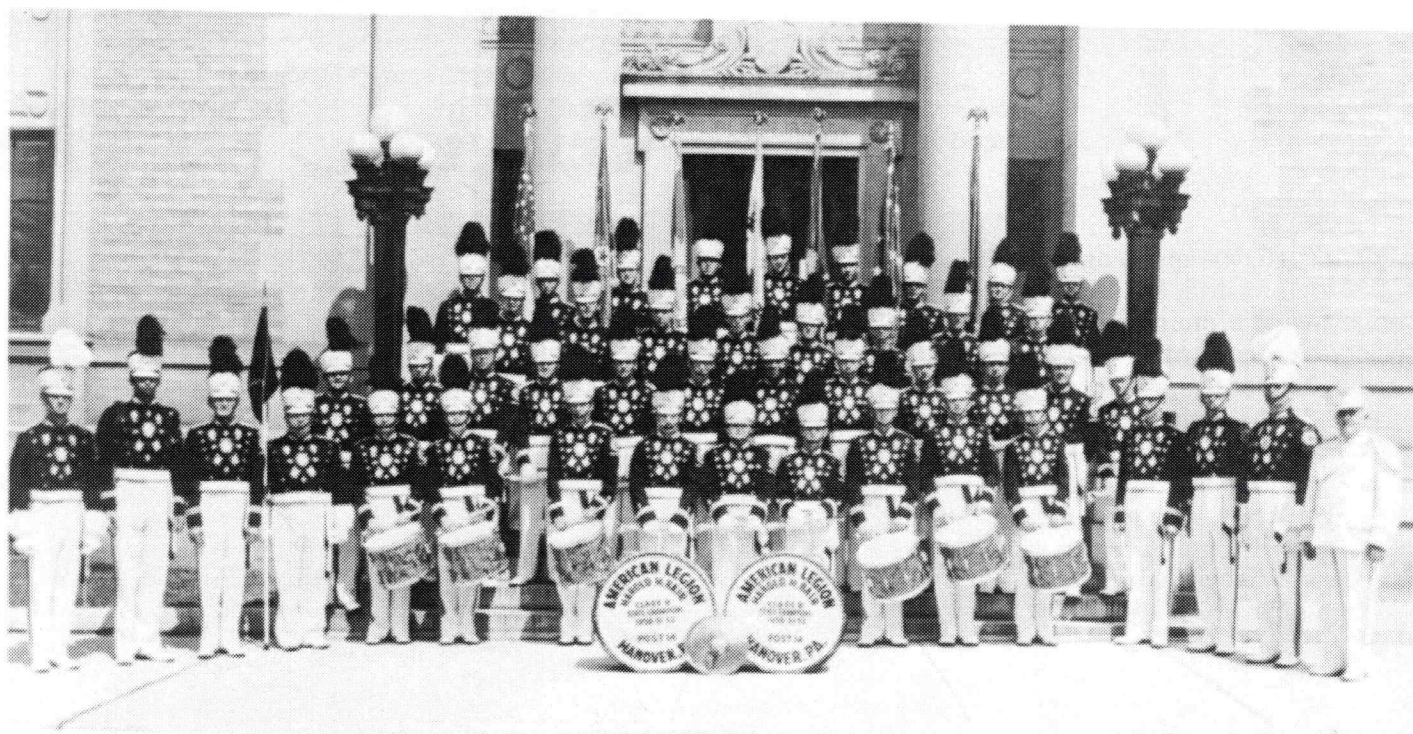
The "Bears" troop down a street in a parade sometime in the early 1950's



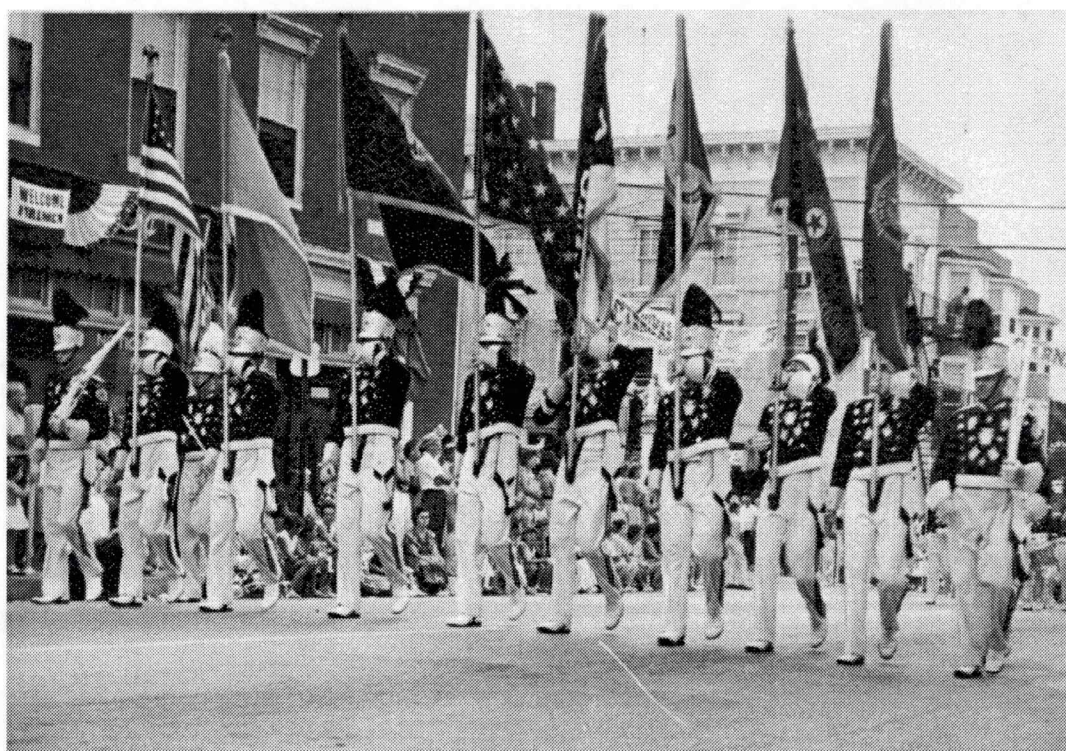
Drummers in front, buglers behind, the Lancers march down the street in the 1959 York County Firemen's Parade.

On the national front, drum corps activity was reaching new heights. The Holy Name Cadets from Garfield, NJ, became the first "touring" drum corps, traveling to the west coast and Canada in 1950. That same year, the Greater Miami Boys boasted a horn line of 96! The Longshoremen of Harrisburg won the 1951 VFW National title, changed their name to the Westshoremen due to a dispute with the labor union of the same name and proceeded to win the 1952 VFW National title in Los Angeles.

The Hawthorne Caballeros became the first senior corps recorded on album in 1952. The Aurand Privateers of Harrisburg won the 1954 VFW Open Class Title. The Erie Thunderbirds came on the scene in 1956. In 1957, the senior corps from the Richland, PA, Post evolved into the Reading Buccaneers; they went on to win the VFW National title in 1960, 1961, and 1962. In 1958, the Amboy Dukes were formed in Perth Amboy, NJ.



Another photo in front of the Hanover Public Library in the summer of 1958. This was the first corps to go by its new name - the LANCERS!



The Lancers Guard leads the corps in a fireman's parade in the early 1950s.

The Modern Age Of Drum Corps

Drum and bugle corps changed in the 1960's with a "cavalier" style of music, drill, and uniforms becoming evident. The nation's eastern drum corps dominated the scene. In the senior ranks, the Hawthorne Caballeros from New Jersey, the Reading Buccaneers, and New York City's Skyliners were in power. In the junior ranks the Garfield Cadets, Blessed Sacrament, and in the late 60's, St. Lucy's Cadets were the hallmarks of the activity. All three of these juniors hailed from New Jersey. The mid-western junior corps to top the charts in the 60's were Chicago's Royal-Aires and Cavaliers, Wisconsin's Racine Kilties, and the Troopers from Casper, Wyoming.

The Lancers were readily adapting to the trends in drum corps. The uniform (to be worn in 1961) reflected the drum corps styles of the day. The popular look was black satin blouses with a white "V" accompanied by black pants, white shoes, and white shakos.

The 1960 Lancers still didn't march in field competition but they maintained a vigorous parade schedule. On May 26, they were seen in the Hanover Memorial Day parade along with the popular Lyric and Moose Bands. Additionally, the high school, junior high, and elementary school bands of the area marched.

The Legion's junior drum corps and the VFW corps were no longer on the scene, but in 1960 the Westminster Starlighters Junior Drum and Bugle Corps were still active and graced many local parades. In addition to their numerous titles, the Starlighters won the 1966 Maryland VFW Championship. The talented members of this junior corps would later enhance the Lancers.

In 1963, the Lancers made a triumphant return to field competition after an eight year absence. The corps ended the year by attending the State Legion Convention in Pittsburgh, placing third in the Class "B" field competition and first in the parade competition. Harold "Skip" Groff handled the brass section and was joined at this time by Baltimore's talented Nick Biscotti as instructor of the Lancers' drum line.

Nationally, the early 60's were highlighted by the Hawthorne Caballeros, who became the first drum corps to appear in a television commercial (for L&M tobacco in 1961), and the Skokie Indians senior drum corps from Skokie, Illinois. The

Indians purchased the most expensive uniforms worn by a drum corps. These were full-dress costumes of the Chippewa Indian Tribe with a price tag of \$1,100 per man! The Westmoreland Esquires, one of the Lancers' prime competitors, were formed in 1960 and emerged as the Class "B" champs in 1963. They later merged with the Latrobe Colonials and competed in the Legion's Class "A".

Senior drum corps changed dramatically in August of 1963. Scranton's Dr. Sebastianelli called a meeting of interested senior corps, with the intention to form a governing body run by the corps instead of the Legion and VFW systems currently in place. The meeting, held at the Jermyn Hotel in Scranton, resulted in Drum Corps Associates (DCA). The goal was to unify judging standards and improve contest structure. Charter members voted the Skyliners' Henry "Lefty" Mayer as the circuit's first president.

The seven DCA charter corps were:

Reading Buccaneers
Connecticut Hurricanes
Albany Interstatesmen
Archer Epler Musketeers
Pittsburgh Rockets
Baltimore Yankee Rebels
New York Skyliners

The junior corps would seek this same independence in the late 1960's, however, most senior and junior corps remained affiliated with their American Legion, VFW, and CYO sponsors. This new independence marked the emergence of many good publications that dealt with drum corps issues of the day; Drum Corps News and Eastern Review were among the most popular of these periodicals.

In 1964, another major senior circuit was formed and included the Lancers. This was the Interstate Circuit, replacing the Pen-Mar Circuit of the 1950's. The Lancers competed in Interstate contests as well as Legion-sanctioned events.

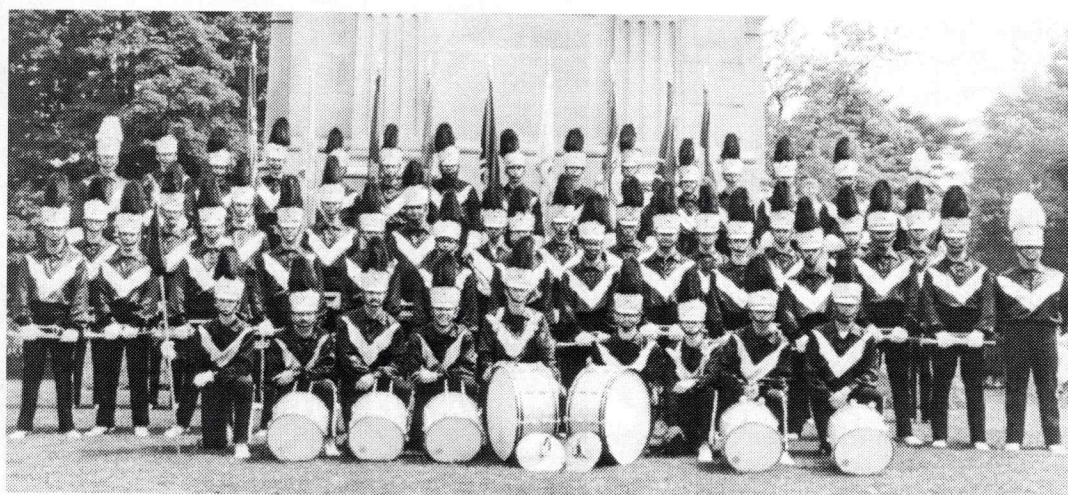
On September 9, 1964, the Lancers traveled to Mahanoy City, PA, for an Interstate Circuit contest. The following excerpt from Bill Devlin's article in the September edition of Drum Corps News recaptures the evening:

"More than 7,000 fans looked on as the Westshoremens of

A retreat sometime in the mid - 1950's. Retreat is a procession of all competing corps returning to the field to hear the results of judging; scores and placement. Typically, each corps will exit the field playing a selection in reverse order of finish. L-R: #1 - unknown, the Bears - Hanover, PA; Jersey Joes - Camden, NJ; Imhof Thunderbirds - Philadelphia; Reilly Raiders - Philadelphia; Yankee Rebels - Baltimore; Archer Epler Musketeers - Philadelphia; Burlington Highlanders; Olney Midshipmen - Philadelphia.



The official logo of Drum Corps Associates. Formed in 1963 to unify judging, contest structure and to form a governing body run by the corps.

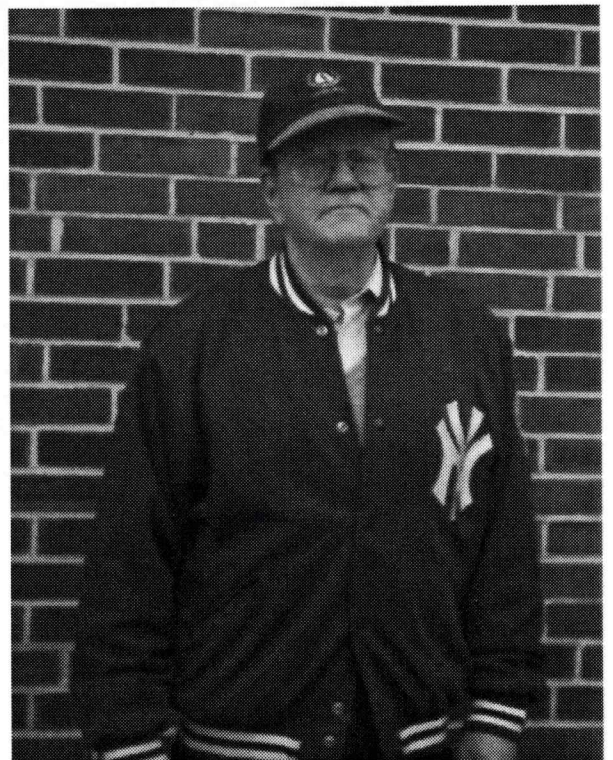


The Lancers pose at the Gettysburg National Cemetery after the Memorial Day parade, May 1964.



This photo was taken in July of 1961 at a parade somewhere ...

Jim Gulden, former member and drum major, outside the Post Home during a visit to an Alumni Corps rehearsal, Spring 1995.



**American Legion State Championship
July 17, 1964
Philadelphia, PA**

Olney High School Stadium

Class "A"

1	Reilly Raiders	84.31
2	Archer Epler	81.36
3	Esquires	78.36

Class "B"

1	Hershey Chocolatiers	75.71
2	Milton Keystoneers	74.41
3	Bangor Yellow Jackets	72.76
4	Hanover Lancers	71.30
5	Emmaus Sentinels	70.80
6	Sharpsburg Cadets	68.10

Class "D"

1	Vasella Musketeers	84.61
2	Bracken Cavaliers	79.53
3	York White Roses	79.46
4	Levittown Pennsylvania	71.35
5	Aragon Cadets	62.42
6	Ridley Park Rangers	59.58

Millersburg and Mechanicsburg kicked off...started strong, got stronger at concert with their famous Alabama Jubilee and left the crowd happy with Varsity Drag. Second to take the field were the "Candy Kids" of Hershey with the familiar strains of Candy and Start of Something Big. This was a rejuvenated Hershey corps...soloist "Fats" Beshore gave the concert You Made Me Love You a little something extra that was lacking in previous shows.

"The battle that was expected did not materialize, that being between Milton, Hershey, and Hanover. The surprising Lancers from Hanover came on strong...off the line with power, precision, and determination, blessed by the beautiful color presentation of You'll Never Walk Alone. It finally developed into an upsetting second place for the Lancers, and now it looks as if the battle for the circuit championship in the Harrisburg Farm Show Arena on September 19 is to be a four-way fight."

The Interstate Circuit Championships (September 19, 1964)

**Interstate Circuit Contest
Septemebr 9, 1964
Mahanoy City, PA**

attendance 7,000

1	Westshoremens	82.50
2	Hanover Lancers	77.36
3	Hershey Chocolatiers	75.66
4	Milton Keystoneers	71.20
5	Emmaus Sentinels	69.36

held at the Harrisburg Farm Show Arena was one of the first major field shows held indoors. Most shows moved indoors due to weather conditions; this one was planned indoors due to the lack of stadium availability in the area. Seating capacity was set at 9,900.

Corps slated to appear were the Hershey Chocolatiers, Hanover Lancers, Bangor Yellow Jackets, Milton Keystoneers, the Stateliners (Byram,CT), the Wanderers (New Rochelle,NY), the Colonials (Morristown,NJ), and the newly-merged Westshoremens-Bonnie Scots from the Harrisburg area. (Unfortunately, we were not able to find the results from this contest.)

The season came to an exciting end when the Lancers were crowned 1964 PA Lions State Champions in Harrisburg. The corps held its first annual banquet at the Legion on November 14 of that year. At this banquet, Francis Heck and Jim Gulden were awarded plaques for over 20 years of service to the corps. Francis was a snare drummer with the corps, as was his father, Mr. Truman Heck. Truman's name appears on the first roster of the corps in 1921.

Jim Gulden joined the corps in 1944. In his youth, he was a member of the "Sons" junior corps at the Legion and served as drum major at the age of eight. He is the nephew of Mr. Leonard Houck, a drummer with the corps in the 1920's. Jim went on to join the Westshoremens in 1967 as drum major and marched with them until 1974.

Jim's contributions to this publication are valuable (he easily filled a 90-minute cassette with drum corps stories as we taped his interview). His drum corps background and his affiliation with the Hanover Historical Society provided us with important research material. Jim's leadership and legacy as one of the corps' finest drum majors is a vital part of the organization's history.

At the 1964 banquet, these men also received awards for their devotion to the corps:

Chester Bowman ,Bill Reese, Hank Weaver, Carroll Granger, Bud Stark, Bruce Ness, Don Slonaker, Charles Rupp, Robert Reese, Jim Altland, Larry Wentz, Wayne Houck, George Zimmer

The banquet, attended by over 125 people, was followed by a dance with music provided by the Clefman Quintet.

On November 17, the corps appointed officers for the 1965 campaign:

President- Bill Reese, Quartermaster- Hank Weaver, Historian- Leon Bowers, Librarian- Ronald Wentz, Drum Major- Jim Gulden, Ass't.Drum Major- Larry Wentz, Color Guard Sgt.- George Zimmer, Ass't. C.G. Sgt.- Glenn Unger, Bugle Sgt.- Ronald Wentz, 1st, Ass't. Bugle Sgt.- Leon Bowers, 2nd Ass't. Bugle Sgt.-Charles Stark, Drum Sgt.- George Sinnott, Ass't. Drum Sgt.- Kenneth Myers

Committee Chairmen:

Ways & Means- George Zimmer, Music- Ronald Wentz, Entertainment- Glenn Unger, Uniforms- Hank Weaver, Flags- Bill Reese, Audit- Leon Bowers, Publicity- Ted Bode

In 1965, Lancers' President Bill Reese and his talented instructional staff of "Skip" Groff on horns, Bob Zarfoss on percussion, and Baltimore's Don Brager on drill lead the corps to great achievements. The Lancers' Jim Gulden was president of the Interstate Circuit. New uniforms of black satin blouses with white-pleated gussets on the sleeves and a white diagonal panel on the front now included the first "wearing of the Green." Green shakos, green cummerbunds and dickeys, and green trim on the blouses added to the classic look that would carry the corps into the 1970's.

Doylestown, PA, was the site of one of the corps' victories in August that year, followed by another PA Lions State Championship title. Other corps now competing in Interstate were the Lambertville Volunteers and the Bordentown Jersey Devils, both from New Jersey.

The first of the corps' "Profiles in Music" contests was held in 1965. "Profiles" became one of the finest drum corps competitions in Interstate and Class "B" circles. The show's name was derived by corps members in honor of John F. Kennedy's book *Profiles in Courage*. The "Profiles in Music" Trophy was presented courtesy of Posie's Sub Bar, Hanover.

At the 1965 Legion States, Drum Major Jim Gulden and Assistant Drum Major Larry Wentz lead the Lancers to the Class "B" title with the following repertoire:

That's Entertainment, Them Basses, When Johnnie Comes Marching Home, Of Thee I Sing, In the Mood (concert), Satin Doll, St Louis Blues, Moon River

The corps performed a busy schedule in 1965:

MAY

State Lions Convention, Phila (1st)
Gettysburg Memorial Day Parade
Hanover Memorial Day Parade

JUNE

Glen Rock Firemen's Parade
Lancaster Co Firemen's Convention (1st)
"Profiles In Music" Contest
Concerts (2) at Gettysburg
Taneytown Firemen's Parade (1st)
Concert for Gettysburg Carnival

JULY

New Freedom Firemen's Parade (2nd)
Carlisle 4th of July Celebration
Dundalk, MD July 4th Parade
Catonsville, MD 4th of July Parade
Hershey Competition (Exh)

Legion States CLASS B CHAMPS

Shrewsbury Firemen's Parade
New Cumberland Contest (2nd)

AUGUST

Hampstead Firemen's Parade
Allentown Fair Contest (3rd)
Adams/Franklin Co Firemen's Convention at Littlestown (1st)
West Newton, PA Contest (2nd)
York Co All-Star Football Game
Cumberland Valley Firemen's Convention at Shippensburg (1st)
Lock Haven Contest (3rd)

SEPTEMBER

Mahanoy City, PA Contest (2nd)
PA State Firemen's Convention in York

OCTOBER

Dover Halloween Parade
Dillsburg Halloween Parade
Spring Grove Halloween Parade (1st)
Gettysburg Halloween Parade (1st)
Hanover Halloween Parade
Hagerstown Halloween Parade (1st)

NOVEMBER

Chambersburg Halloween Parade (1st)
Gettysburg Veterans Day Parade (1st)
World Series of Drum Corps" Concert in Harrisburg
Chambersburg Santa Claus Parade

To celebrate the end of the season, the corps held its second annual banquet on November 27, 1965. The Lancers then began planning their assault on the 1966 season with the battle-cry "Wicks in '66 !" (Slang for "Vicks 'em" or grease 'em in 1966!)

Locally, the Gettysburg Cannoneers Junior Drum and Bugle Corps was formed July 1, 1965. Sponsored by the American Legion Post 202 and VFW Post 15 of Gettysburg, the corps entered field competition in 1969. The orange and black-clad corps also had a highly talented staff. Drill and brass instruction was handled by Bill Tabeling; the color guard was instructed by Nancy Tabeling. Drum instructor was the venerable Walter Mitzel.

The Lancers of 1966 "wicksed" 'em pretty good! The corps had another very successful season on the field and in parades. Drum Majors Jim Gulden and Larry Wentz along with Guard Sgts. George Zimmer and Glenn Unger lead the corps to yet another Legion Class "B" State Championship, this time with a new repertoire:

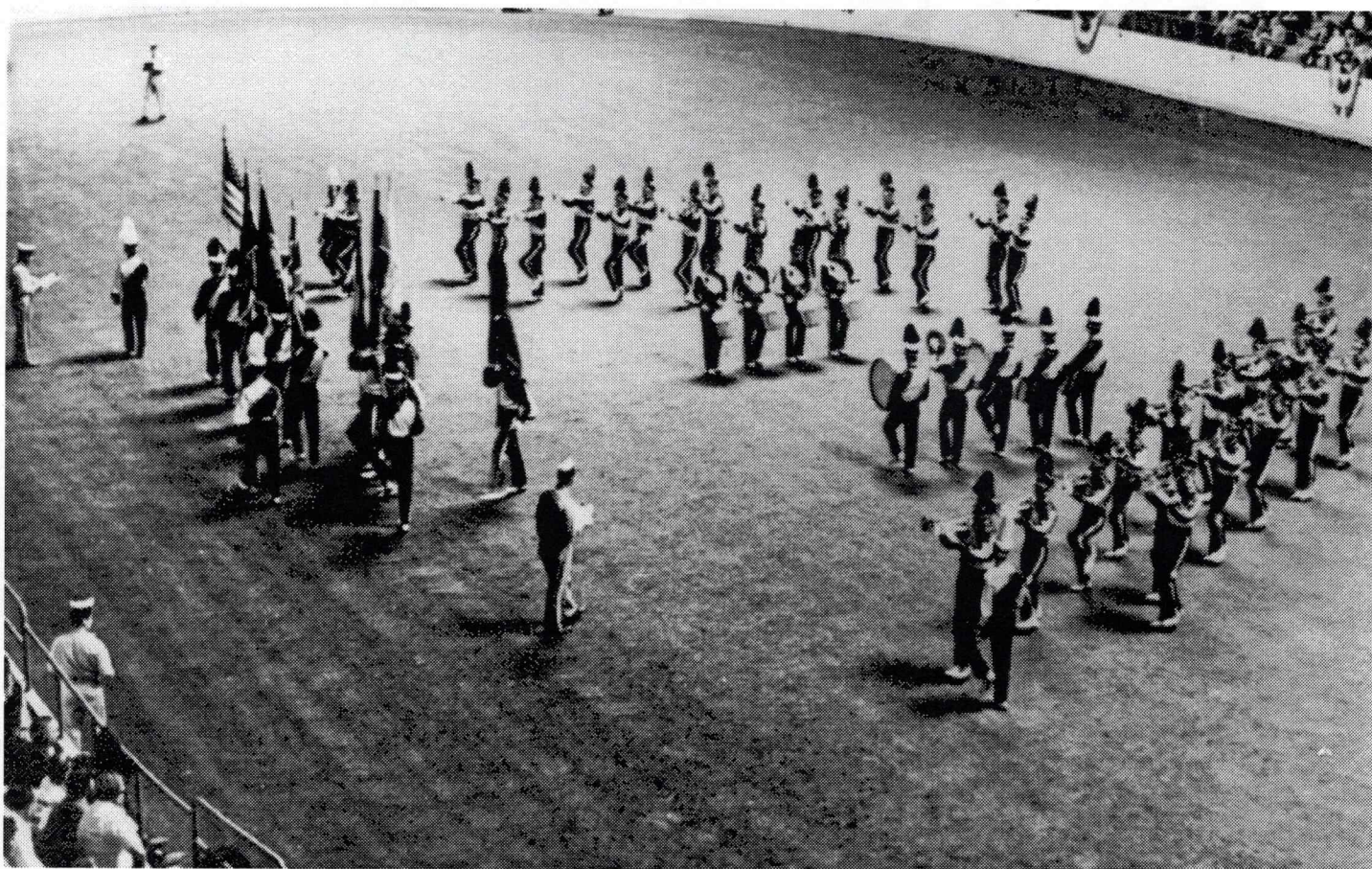
Artistry in Rhythm, Lover, No Other Love, You'll Never Walk Alone, Of Thee I Sing, In the Mood, Satin Doll, Climb Every Mountain

An article in the Wind Gap Blue Eagles' (April 9, 1966) contest program said of the Lancers, "The corps has always been one of the top parade corps in Pennsylvania..."



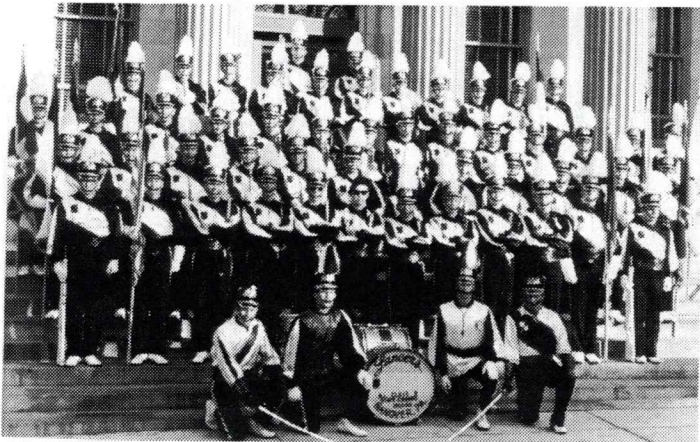
Spring, 1965 - brass instructor Harold "Skip" Groff rehearses the bugle section in the Pershing Room of Post 14.

Drill instructor Don Brager goes over some ideas with buglers and guard members during a 1965 rehearsal.



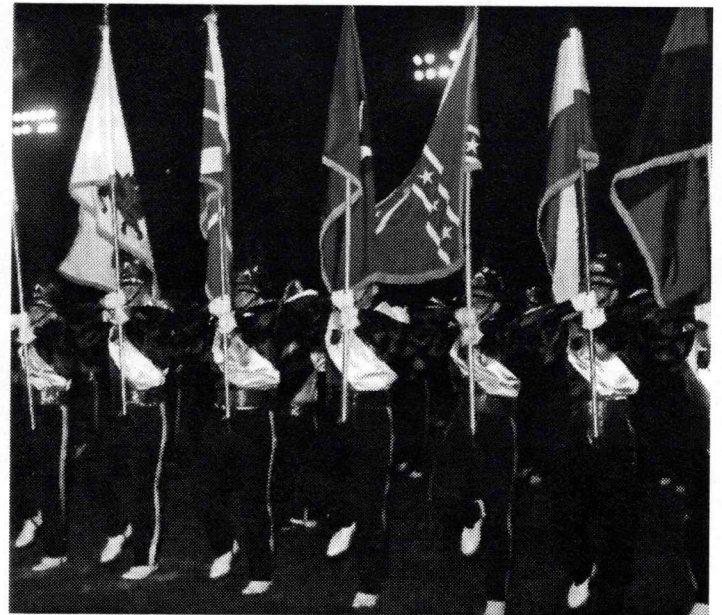
In July of 1965 the corps performs its Color Presentation, "When Johnnie Comes Marching Home", at the Harrisburg Farm Show Building.

Some of the Lancers' 1965 percussion line. Left to right: George Sinnott, Ken Myers, Mike Marchio, Stan Dutterer, Francis Heck, Larry Raubenstine, Mike Seibert, Charles Rupp and Ken Mayers.



The Lancers in front for the Gettysburg Post Office on Memorial Day, 1967.

The Lancers's Color Guard moves sets into position during a contest in 1965.



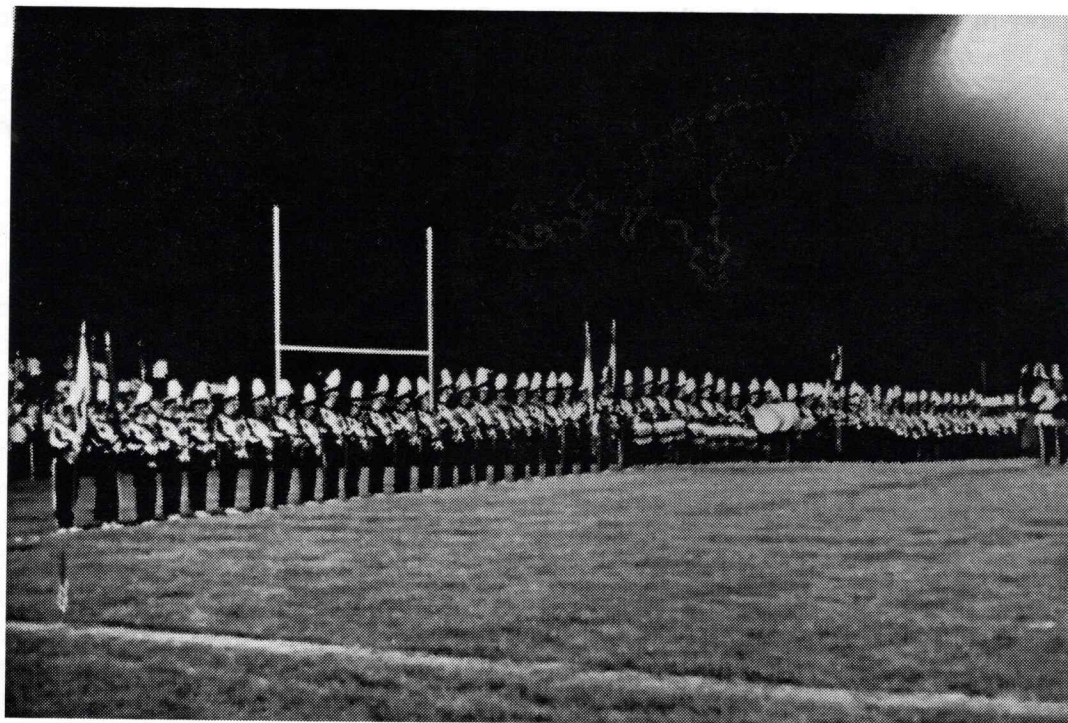
"The Hanover Lancers"

WIN SECOND CONSECUTIVE PA. AMERICAN LEGION STATE TITLE



JULY 22, 1966 - HERSHEY STADIUM . HERSHEY, PA.

This photo was reprinted from the program for the 1967 "Profiles in Music" competition.



On the starting line at "Profiles in Music", the Lancers prepare to enter the field of exhibition, June 1967. During the 1960's, a drum corps began its drill on one goal line and exited over the opposite end of the football field.

The 1967 Lancers continued their winning ways but fell short of the Legion State crown on July 21 in Pittsburgh. The corps finished second to longtime combatants, the Emmaus Sentinels.

The mid to late 60's brought more change of style. Instrumentation began to change. "Olds" G-F bugles were carried for the first time in 1968 by the Long Island Sunrisers; in 1969, they were the first senior corps to carry tympanies onto the field. Dick Janes of the Yankee Rebels was reported to be the first in a senior corps to carry multi-toms on the field; these were actually bass drums carried horizontally. Color guard techniques involved more "flash" than previous military regimentation. The Lancers, along with some of their old opponents, including the Gardner Guards, the Keystoneers, the Westshoremens, and the Sentinels, were joined by a new breed of regional corps. Just a few of those included the Patriots from Dunkirk, NY, formed in 1966; the Cumberland Freestatesmen formed in '67; and the Providence, RI, Matadors formed in 1969.

The Lancers came prepared for the 1968 season. Changes in marching and maneuvering prompted the corps to employ the services of Hawthorne Caballeros' drill-technician Ralph Silverbrand. The corps maintained the Carroll County Legion Post 31 in Westminster, MD, as the "spring-training camp" and the 1968 PA Lions Championship was once again claimed by the Lancers. Lead onto the field this year by Drum Majors Larry Wentz and Posie Pfaff, the corps entered the competitive season in a new circuit. The repertoire for the "Great in '68" season was:

Theme from Khartoum, Going Out Of My Head, Battle Cry of Freedom, And the Angels Sing (concert), Washington Post, Two for the Road, Young Girl

The 1968 edition of the "Profiles In Music" contest was another success featuring the famous Mt. Carmel Mounties as the exhibition guests. This was also the last "Profiles" to be sanctioned by the North East Circuit.



Roll Out The Red Carpet

On Saturday April 20, 1968, officials from 13 drum corps met to form an organization very similar to the successful DCA which was now in its fifth year. The new organization met in the Congress Inn's Red Carpet Lounge, Harrisburg.

After agreements on a charter and the election of officers, the group decided on the name Red Carpet Association. Its stated purpose was to promote drum corps activity in Pennsylvania and neighboring states. The circuit would grow to include corps from New England and Canada to the mid-west and below the Mason-Dixon Line.

The original Red Carpet Association RCA charter consisted of:

Sentinels, Emmaus, PA
Lancers, Hanover, PA
Whalers, New Bedford, MA
Thunderbirds, Erie, PA
Esquires, Westmoreland, PA
Reilly/Musketeers, Philadelphia, PA
Westshoremens Bonnie Scots, Harrisburg, PA
Allegheny Monarchs, Pittsburgh, PA
Gardner Guards, Altoona, PA
Demons, Maumee, OH
Keystoners, Milton, PA
Highlanders, Hazelton, PA
Plus, representatives from what was believed to be the Vasella Jr. Corps from the Philadelphia area.

The officers for the RCA were:

President: Dave Naus, Sentinels
Secretary/Treasurer: **Bill Reese, Lancers**
Publicity: Bernie Solomon, Esquires
Contest Coordinator: Chuck Saia, Westshoremens Bonnie Scots

The North Eastern Circuit over-lapped the Interstate Circuit at about this time and included some of the RCA charter member corps in a junior/senior circuit. Senior corps in these organizations were all eventually absorbed

by DCA or RCA. The idea of having two major senior circuits in the east may have seemed strange, however, the geography of the circuit structures did not dilute the size and talent of these senior corps (at least for a while). The DCA corps were mostly "big city" organizations while the RCA corps came mostly from suburban communities and smaller cities.

The 1969 Lancers made a valiant attempt to revitalize their stronghold on the drum corps scene. Ten RCA contests were on the schedule for 1969, including the June 28 "Profiles In Music" contest in Hanover. The corps remained busy with exhibition performances as well, including numerous appearances at Baltimore Orioles' games at Memorial Stadium. The repertoire for the 1969 season kicked off with the Broadway hit, *Put On A Happy Face* followed by the pop-tune *Going Out Of My Head*. Color presentation was the majestic *Washington Post*. The big-band concert number of *And the Angels Sing* was followed by the powerful movie theme, *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*. The corps exited the field with the movie theme from *The Cardinal*.

In 1969 a busy schedule kept the men moving...didn't these guys ever sleep?

May 25	Hagerstown Parade
May 30	Hanover Parade
	Gettysburg Parade
May 31	Allentown Competition
June 7	Dunkirk, NY Competition
June 28	"Profiles In Music"
July 2	New Freedom Parade
July 4	Puncsatawney Competition
July 8	"Hanover Night" at Baltimore Orioles game
July 12	Hazelton Competition
July 18	Pittsburgh/Legion States Competition
July 19	Legion States Parade Verona Competition
Aug 1	Allentown Competition
Aug 9	New Bedford, MA Competition
Aug 16	RCA Championships Allentown
Aug 23	Swissvale Competition



Hank Weaver, the corps' Quartermaster, ladels hot soup from his car trunk during a drill rehearsal in 1966. Drum corps is supposed to happen in HOT weather!



Soprano buglers at a 1966 practice. L-R: Ron Hoover, Mike Hoffacker, Unknown and Ron Wentz.



A rehearsal in the spring of 1966. Left to right: Don Slonaker, Wayne Houck, Phil Hoke, Glen Hoke and Leon Bowers.

The 1969 schedule also included a busy autumn of parades and events.

Inter-corps social clubs began to form in the corps during the 60's. **The Cardinal Puff Club** (through our research, we concluded their purpose was to uphold ancient philosophies), **The Rebel Division** (the Lancers from Maryland), and the **Turtle Drum Division** (a name contrived by the duo of Sinnott and Kephart concerning the Lancers' drum line, year in and year out) are examples of the light-hearted camaraderie still enjoyed by the Lancers

"Ye Lancer Newsletter" was the drum corps' in-house news source of the day, containing everything from schedules to updates by corps committees.

An accepted fact in drum corps activity is the occasional

Can you believe it? The Lancers even had their own equipment truck to transport gear to jobs in the late 1960's!

"drought" experienced by every corps, usually due to a combination of economic and social pressures. Historically, the positive aspect of this frequently results in parity in the drum corps community. It's interesting to have seen the change of "dynastys" as different corps moved in and out of power.

The late 60's was marked by one of these shifts. The Connecticut Hurricanes became a perennial power of DCA, winning the 1967 and 1969 DCA crown; the Baltimore Yankee Rebels were 1969, 1970, and 1971 American Legion National Champions. In the junior ranks, the Madison Scouts and Racine Kilties were joined by the powerful Blue Rock from Wilmington, DE, as the contending corps of that era.





Drummers and buglers march down the streets of Gettysburg, PA on Memorial Day 1967.



SOUP'S ON!

The 1970's

In 1970, the Hanover Lancers celebrated the 50th Anniversary and on May 31, they were again crowned PA Lions Club State Champions. President Bill Reese, Vice President Stan Dutterer, Secretary Larry Shipley, and Treasurer Harold Nace operated a highly talented corps including an excellent staff consisting of "Skip" Groff, bugles; Bob Zarfoss, percussion; and Alan Stansbury, drill.

Drum Major Larry Wentz lead the corps with a show that blended traditional and modern music. The opener of *It's A Great Country* was followed by *The Bullfighter*. Color-pre contained elements of *Battle Hymn* and *When Johnnie Comes Marching Home*. A medley of Bert Bacharach's hits *San Jose*, *Walk On By*, and *Traces of Love* provided the concert number. The movie theme from *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly* was again used out of concert, the corps exited to its trademark *You'll Never Walk Alone*.

The corps' full schedule of contests now had them competing against an impressive cast of RCA competitors in addition to the circuit's charter corps:

Garden Statesmen, Dover, NJ
Connecticut Yankees, Stratford, CT
Commanders, Burlington, Ont
Matadors, Providence, RI
Rockets, Pittsburgh, PA
Royalaire, Guelph, Ont
Suburban Knights, Getzville, NY
Patriots, Dunkirk, NY

The 1970 "Profiles In Music" contest featured the Yankee Rebels as the exhibition corps, while yet another corps dressed in orange, black, and white had a busy season. The 1970 Gettysburg Cannoneers Junior Drum and Bugle Corps kicked off a successful year with a repertoire of: *Hang 'Em High*, *Talk To the Animals*, *That's Life*, *I Walk With God*, *Persian Market*, *My Lord and Master*

The Cannoneers featured Bonnie Thomas as Drum Major and Debbie Carver and Sandy Heyser as Color Guard Captains. The corps' business manager was George C. Boehner.

The Lancers unfortunately experienced one of those previously mentioned droughts in 1971. Actually, the only negative aspect was the corps' size; though it was smaller than usual, the corps didn't lack spirit and determination. The Lancers had quite a few 4th and 5th place finishes and placed near the bottom at RCA Championships. This did little to tarnish the morale of the corps. The fun-loving bunch enjoyed experiences such as the episode of the missing bus. An announcer at the Providence, RI, contest was left with the impression that the corps was missing an entire bus of members.

As the Lancers stood on the starting line the announcer remarked that these courageous souls were willing to compete with only half of the corps. In fact, the entire corps was on the field.

This was also the year that the Hanover Lancers met the 27th Lancers. On July 24, 1971, the corps traveled to Revere, MA, for a combined junior- senior show. Hanover's practice site happened to be the practice facility of the 1971 World Open Champions, a powerful newcomer on the junior scene and a corps that would change the future of drum corps.

Considering '71 was a rebuilding year, the Hanover corps of only 26 horns, 14 drummers, 13 guard members, and 2 drum majors still had a highly skilled staff of instructors. "Skip" Groff was assisted by Jeff Spangler on horns, Bob Zarfoss handled the percussion, Jim Clingan was now the color guard instructor and Larry Wentz handled drill design and instruction. Drum Majors were Larry Wentz and Daral Beard.

Corps officers were:

Bill Reese- President
Dave Markle- Vice-President
Larry Shipley- Secretary
Harold Nace- Treasurer
Stan Dutterer- Business Manager

The 1971 repertoire included the opener *King of Kings*, the medley of *Hang 'Em High/The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*, a color-pre of *Battle Cry of Freedom*, and the Bacharach-concert of *San Jose*, *Walk On By*, and *Traces*.

Drum Major Larry Wentz directs the corps from the stands at Sheppard Myers Field during "Profiles in Music", July 1972.



The Sentinels Present

THE SIXTH ANNUAL

"Round-Up of Champions"

Sr. Drum & Bugle Corps. Competition

Saturday, July 11th, 1970, 8:00 P.M.

RAIN DATE SUNDAY JULY 12, 1970 2:30 P.M.

EMMAUS HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM

THE CONNECTICUT YANKEES, STRATFORD, CONN.
THE PITTSBURGH ROCKETS, PITTSBURGH, PA.
THE HANOVER LANCERS, HANOVER, PA.
THE GARDEN STATESMEN, DOVER, N.J.
THE MATADORS, PROVIDENCE, R.I.

EXHIBITION BY THE SENTINELS

TICKETS:

RESERVED SECTION	\$2.25
CHILDREN 6-12	1.00
CHILDREN UNDER 6	FREE



The Lancers faced some stiff competition at a show sponsored by the Emmaus Sentinels near Allentown, PA on July 11, 1970.

The Cannoneers Drum & Bugle Corps was formed in 1965 by three former Gettysburg Sons of the Legion Drum Corps Members. This photo was taken in 1971.

The Lancers' French Horn section troop the stands following a contest performance - summer 1973. L-R: Unidentified guard member, Vern Keeler, Kervin "Chip" Hoover, Greg Churchey and Steve Myers.



Two of the Lancers' infamous all-male rifle line, Rick "Greek" Kranias and Dave DePrimo at a show in the summer of 1973.



Baritone buglers Bill Amspacher, Chris Carman and Mike Miller march the drill during the "Drum Solo" during a 1973 competition.

Coming out of concert, a drum solo was followed by *St. Louis Blues* and the exit of *The More I See You* lead the corps to a finale of the *Jesus Christ- Superstar* fanfare.

The '71 competition schedule included:

June 5	Midland, PA	4th...48.60
June 26	Hanover	Profiles In Music
July 10	Torrington, CT	5th...43.60
July 24	Revere, MA	5th...40.65
Aug 7	Bellefonte, PA	4th...47.30
Aug 14	Cumberland, MD	5th...44.60
Aug 21	Providence, RI	5th...42.00
Aug 28	Erie, PA	RCA Championship

Red Carpet Association Champoinship
August 28, 1971
Erie, PA

1	Pittsburgh Rockets	71.65
2	Burlington Commanders	69.65
3	Guelph Royalaires	69.00
4	Rhode Island Matadors	59.45
5	Emmaus Sentinels	51.75
6	Getzville Suburban Knights	50.80
7	Erie Thunderbirds	47.45
8	Altoona Gardner Guards	47.10
9	Dunkirk Patriots	45.20
10	Cumberland Freestatesmen	43.20
11	Hanover Lancers	39.80

RCA corps not in this championship:

Yankees- Stratford, CT
Renegades- Saugus, MA
Vagabonds- Torrington, CT
Shoremen- Pulaski, NY

In October 1971, junior drum corps sought independence from American Legion, VFW, and CYO sanctioning and formed a central governing body called Drum Corps International (DCI). DCI's purpose was to organize and unify junior corps leadership, standardize rules and judging, and expand corps' exposure and public media coverage. Thirteen charter members of DCI included the dominant corps of the day— the Anaheim Kingsmen and the Madison Scouts, the reigning world champion 27th Lancers, and future power Chicago Cavaliers.

DCI would change the face of drum corps in both the junior and senior ranks. The progression of styles that quickly evolved from the DCI corps were absorbed by a number of the senior corps, causing a new wave of

creativity and enthusiasm throughout the entire drum corps world.

The 1972 Lancers had undergone an extensive rebuilding program during the off-season and emerged with a proud and larger drum corps. The horn line was increased to 37 and equipped with a set of new G-F bugles. Changes in the 21-man drum line included the addition of double-tenors and tympanies.

The corps kept the black, white, and green uniforms. However, the expanded membership resulted in a shortage of uniforms so the drum line adopted a green and white striped jersey that created an almost "nautical" look. The determined corps' start of its "youth movement" would grow through the 1970's. The officers were now Dennis Beard, President; George Sinnott, Vice President; Ron Klunk, Secretary; Harold Nace, Treasurer; and Stan Dutterer, Business Manager.

A fine staff of Harold "Skip" Groff, horns; Bob Zarfoss, percussion; Larry Wentz, M&M; and Jim Clingan, color guard, remained as the cornerstone of the '72 corps. Drum Majors were Larry Wentz and Daral Beard.

Red Carpet Association Champoinship
August 26, 1972
Erie, PA

1	Pittsburgh Rockets	77.75
2	Guelph Royalairs	74.80
3	Emmaus Sentinels	67.65
4	Erie Thunderbirds	67.55
5	Sudbury Imperial Knights	67.45
6	Kingston Grenadiers	67.30
7	Rhode Island Matadors	63.85
8	Getzville Surburban Knights	62.70
9	Kawartha Cavaliers	62.40
10	Hanover Lancers	58.20
11	Dunkirk Patriots	51.75
12	Cumberland Freestatesmen	49.50
13	Westmoreland Esquires	39.20
14	Johnsonburg Diplomats	33.50

The 1972 repertoire was typical of the corps' field productions, opening with a regal kick-off number and followed by a patriotic color presentation, modern "pop" numbers, and a powerful finale. Rimsky-Korsakov's *Procession of Nobles* was a stirring opener, followed by

the march *Semper Fidelis*. The color-pre, arranged by "Skip" Groff, was a medley of great patriotic songs that the corps affectionately called Skip Stew. Three Dog Nights' *Joy to the World* was the concert number. The "rock" theme continued with *One Fine Morning*, made popular by the group Lighthouse, and an exit of *Never My Love*.

Drum Corps Associates Champoinship
September 3, 1972
Jersey City, NJ
Roosevelt Statium

1 Hawthorne Caballeros	90.60
2 New York Skyliners	89.75
3 Reading Buccaneers	88.65
4 Rochester Crusaders	88.20
Connecticut Hurricanes	88.20
5 Quebec Les Diplomats	82.35
6 Baltimore Yankee Rebels	80.45
7 Long Island Sunrisers	76.00
8 Hamburg Kingsmen	74.30
9 Pittsburgh Rockets	73.90
10 Burlington Commanders	63.15
11 Rhode Island Matadors	58.95

The Lancers improved contest scores through the 1972 season. Show results were:

June 7 Sunbury, PA	4th	46.65
July 1 Dunkirk, NY	4th	57.30
July 8 Hanover	Profiles In Music	
July 29 Emmaus, PA	4th	56.55
Aug 5 Pittsburgh, PA	3rd	60.05
Aug 12 Cumberland, MD	3rd	64.20
Aug 26 Erie, PA	RCA Championships	

Performance styles changed nationally during this time. No longer were corps "kicking-off" from goal line company fronts; they began what was called "coming-out-of-the-corner" (this being the far left corner of the field as viewed from the stands). Later in the 70's, corps would actually start on the field itself in many different formations. RCA by-laws also were changed allowing circuit members to compete in the top DCA circuit and a few of the 1972 RCA finalists did just that. Would the Lancers dare to enter the World Championship arena in the future?

The Hanover Lancers of 1973 continued to grow and improve. That year, the rifle line was formed and became a corps trademark. Jim Clingan's 5-man rifle section drew raves and would soon be the envy of senior drum corps. Jim had marched with the Westminster

Starlighters, came to the Lancers as a "lone" rifle carrier, and founded the elite group. In 1976, he became a member of the Madison Scouts and marched in the rifle line considered one of the best ever in the history of drum corps.

In the competition arena, the corps had improved its scores by an average of 20 points since 1971. The '73 repertoire opened with a majestic fanfare and *Procession of Nobles*. The mood changed with the modern-day *One Fine Morning* and the concert *Theme From the Men*.

Red Carpet Association Championships
August 25, 1973
Erie, PA

1 Erie Thunderbirds	76.35
2 Guelph Royallaires	76.25
3 Pittsburgh Rockets	72.45
4 Syracuse Brigadiers	69.85
5 Kingston Grenadiers	63.80
6 Emmaus Sentinels	63.25
7 Kawartha Cavaliers	62.30
8 Hanover Lancers	60.25
9 Getzville Suburban Knights	59.55
10 Dunkirk Patriots	57.50
11 Sudbury Imperial Knights	52.10
12 Cumberland Freestatesmen	48.45
13 Verona Cavaliers	45.50

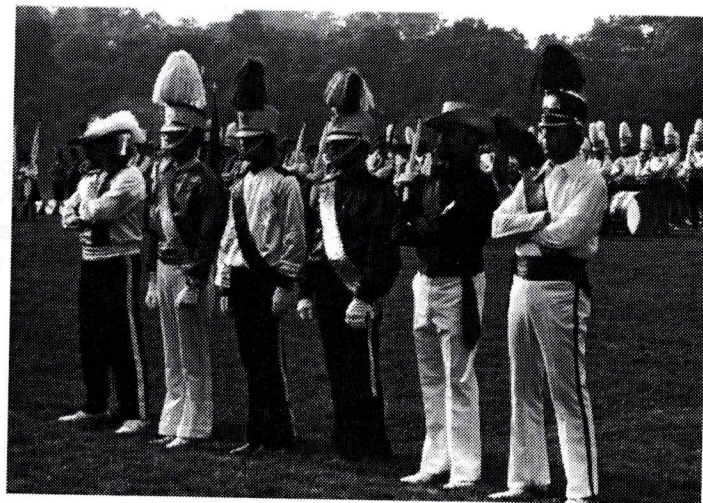
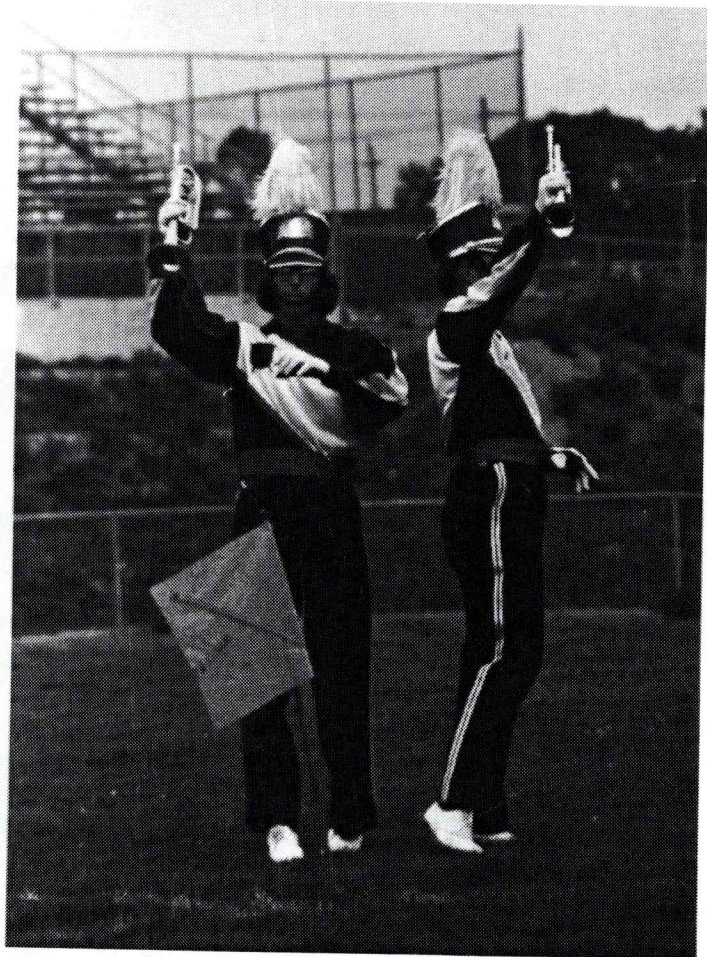
Drum Corps Associates Champoinship/Prelims
September 2, 1973
Rochester, NY
Hollander Stadium

1 Hawthorne Caballeros	91.25
2 Reading Buccaneers	89.10
3 Connecticut Hurricanes	86.10
4 Quebec Les Diplomats	85.95
5 New York Skyliners	82.50
6 Rochester Crusaders	81.25
7 Baltimore Yankee Rebels	79.10
8 Long Island Sunrisers	70.95
9 Hamburg Kingsmen	69.55
10 Rhode Island Matadors	68.20
11 Guelph Royallaires	67.15
12 Erie Thunderbirds	66.00
13 Syracuse Brigadiers	65.75
14 Burlington Commanders	62.05
15 Pittsburgh Rockets	61.95
16 St. Paul Brass, Inc.	60.95
17 Hanover Lancers	56.30
18 Emmaus Sentinels	54.20
19 Saugus Princemen- Renegades	53.25



Playing a concert for Great Britain's Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip on Sunday, June 15, 1973. The corps was in Kingston, Ontario, Canada for the city's Tercentennial celebration.

Waiting for the scores at Herkemer, New York on June 16, 1973. Drum majors from all competing corps line up along the side line. Lancers' drum major Larry Wentz is on the far right.



Bill Reese (right) and Jim Morrison have a soprano bugle maneuver to add visual effect during a drill.

1974 was the first year women marched with the corps. Music arranger and drum major Jim Milbrand is at the bottom of photo. Bill Rapp, drill designer and drum major is heading for the sideline through the rifles.



A concert, "Theme from the Men" during a show in 1974. Doug Geeting, snare and Tom Ernst double tenor are on the left. Behind them are Gary Milburn, tympani and Richard Chronister, cymbals. French horn players on right are Steve Myers and Curvin "Chip" Hoover.



The corps moved out of concert with the unique *Meadowlands*; color-presentation was again the "Skip" Groff arrangement of patriotic themes. The exit *I'll Remember You* completed the Lancers' show.

Jim Milbrand replaced the legendary "Skip" Groff as brass instructor. Bob Zarfoss was still in charge of percussion. Larry Wentz designed and taught the drill, and Jim Clingan instructed the color guard and rifle line. Drum Majors were Larry Wentz and Daral Beard. The 1973 officers included Stan Dutterer, President and Business Manager; Gene Nace, Vice President; Tim Bowers, Secretary; and Harold Nace, Treasurer.

The corps had the pleasure of performing in the presence of England's Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip in Kingston, Ontario's Tercentennial Parade held Sunday, June 15 following Saturday night's competition.

Two goals were achieved during the '73 season. First, the corps out-scored the intimidating Pittsburgh Rockets in the Cumberland show. Then, the hallmark of the season occurred when the Lancers traveled to Rochester to participate in the semi-finals of the DCA World Championships. The season's shows and scores, including the RCA Championship and DCA preliminary results were:

June 16	Herkimer, NY	3rd	
July 7	Penn Hills, PA	2nd	60.80
	14 Kingston, Ont	5th	60.15
	28 Emmaus, PA	3rd	61.65
Aug 4	Hanover, PA	2nd	68.30
	11 Cumberland, MD	3rd	69.60
	25 Erie, PA	RCA Championships	

It's difficult to keep pace with changes incurred by the 1974 Lancers. Most notable was the addition of women after 53 years of being an all male corps. Any conflicts on this move were quelled as the banner line of 24 women proved their worth ten-fold. Like the already famous Lancer rifle line, "the Guard" would soon dominate RCA. They were crowned 1974 RCA Color Guard Champs and became one of the best in senior drum corps.

In '74, the main body of the corps remained in the traditional black, white, and green uniform; the drum line kept its green and white jerseys. The new guard was outfitted initially in the same black and white silk tops, black shakos, black skirts with white pleats, courtesy of

the former Gettysburg Cannoneers color guard, and white majorette boots. These uniforms were soon replaced with white dresses and a green sash. Shakos and black riding-boots completed the uniform.

The guard carried white flags with a black horse-and-lancer design. The new white flags were designed and silk-screened by Rick Kranias. Production was assisted by several corps members and completed at Stan Dutterer's basement. The new flags were hung to dry on the clothesline in the Dutterer's backyard. The rifle line wore green shirts accented by white vests and white slacks.

Red Carpet Association Championships
August 24, 1974
Erie, PA

1	Guelph Royallaires	85.60
	Erie Thunderbirds	85.60
2	Hanover Lancers	79.35
3	Emmaus Sentinels	79.20
4	St. Paul Brass, Inc.	77.65
5	Kingston Grenadiers	72.50
6	Dunkirk Patriots	72.05
7	Sudbury Imperial Knights	67.45
8	Getzville Suburban Knights	64.50
9	Verona Cavaliers	56.90
10	Cumberland Freestatesmen	55.35
11	Dover (NJ) Gardenstatesmen	51.85
12	Pittsburgh Vigilantes	45.90

Drum Corps Associates Champoinship
September 1, 1974
Rochester, NY
Hollander Stadium

1	Hawthorne Caballeros	83.50
2	Reading Buccaneers	82.15
3	New York Skyliners	77.35
4	Rhode Island Matadors	70.35
5	Rochester Crusaders	67.95
6	Connecticut Hurricanes	66.70
7	Baltimore Yankee Rebels	65.95
8	Long Island Sunrisers	59.70
9	Guelph Royallaires	56.15
10	Erie Thunderbirds	54.65
11	Hanover Lancers*	45.10
12	Emmaus Sentinels	43.05

* The Lancers took 2nd place in General Effect M&M

The Lancers were still able to function as a traditional senior drum and bugle corps, performing in local parades and events. However, they were becoming increasingly influenced by the styles and attitudes of the top senior corps and by the junior corps of DCI. The youth movement created a "new" drum corps, enthusiastically drawn to the competition arena after the 1973 attempt to gain world-class recognition. The goal of 1974 was to win the RCA Championship and make "Finals" at DCA World Championships. The corps maintained affiliation with Post 14, but on September 23, 1974, it became incorporated as a separate entity and was legally known from this time on as the "Lancers of Hanover, Inc".

The 1974 repertoire included the opener *Music for a Ceremony, House of the Rising Sun*, the concert number *The Men*, and the color-pre of *Battle Hymn of the Republic*.

The corps' treatment of the Jesus Christ Superstar epic became a trademark. *I Don't Know How To Love Him*, the harmonious *Day By Day* from *Godspell*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar* completed the medley.

The brass arrangements and instruction was handled by Jim Milbrand, the prestigious Bob Zarfoss continued to handle percussion. Rifle Captain and instructor Jim Clingan was joined by two new staff members, Nick Wray now handled the color guard and Bill Rapp directed the M&M captions. Drum Majors Larry Wentz and Jim Milbrand lead the corps through a schedule that included the first competition victories since the mid-60's:

Red Carpet Association Championships
August 23, 1975
Hamilton, Ontario
Tiger Stadium

1 Rochester Phoenix	88.06
2 Guelph Royallaires	83.53
3 Erie Thunderbirds	82.85
4 Hanover Lancers	79.70
5 St. Paul Brass, Inc.	72.65
6 Hamburg Kingsmen	67.33
7 Dunkirk Patriots	65.50
8 Kingston Grenadier/Yardmen	60.00
9 Emmaus Sentinels	59.28
10 Sudbury Imperial Knights	56.85
11 Johnsonburg Diplomats	55.13
12 York White Roses	52.05

Red Carpet Association Championships
August 28, 1976
Erie, PA

1 Erie Thunderbirds	85.89
2 Johnsonburg Diplomats	79.21
3 Carlisle Westshoremens	77.63
4 Guelph Royallaires	76.96
5 Hanover Lancers	75.98
6 Hamburg Kingsmen	72.78
7 Kingston Grenadier/Yardmen	71.85
8 Dunkirk Patriots	66.64
9 York White Roses	57.74
10 Sudbury Imperial Knights	50.59

June

22 Turtle Creek, PA 2nd 75.40

July

6 Kenville, NJ 1st 76.00
 14 Bangor, PA 2nd 72.90
 20 **Hanover, PA** Profiles in Music
 27 Emmaus, PA 1st 79.55
 28 Newark, NJ 1st 69.45

Aug

3 Williamsville, NY 2nd 79.80
 4 Gowanda, NY 3rd 69.00
 10 Cumberland, MD 3rd 72.60
 24 Erie, PA RCA Championships

The Green Machine

After a dynamic 1974 season, the Lancers grew to 105 members. The 45-person horn line replaced french horns with mellophones while the 21-person drum line added chimes to the section. The colorguard of 24, main guard of 4, and the 7-man rifle line were again proclaimed RCA's best in 1975.

The corps deservingly acquired new uniforms this year. Kelly-green blouses with white cummerbund and white dickey were worn with black pants and black shakos with white plumes.

With the 1974 DCA placement, the '75 Lancers were cursed with a schedule of both RCA and DCA competitions. The corps won all but one of the regular-season RCA shows, which was a hotly contested second place to a very clean, well executing renegade nemesis from Rochester, NY, called Phoenix. This show was sponsored by the York White Roses, who reappeared in senior drum corps in 1975.

Stan Dutterer continued as the president. His officers were Gene Nace, Vice President; Donna Smith, Secretary; and Harold Nace, Treasurer. The staff of Jim Milbrand, brass; Bob Zarfoss, percussion; Nick Wray, guard; Jim Clingan,

rifles; and Bill Rapp, M&M again proved their talent. Drum Major Larry Wentz was assisted by Jim Milbrand and Bill Rapp. The repertoire opened with the ceremonious *First Suite in E Minor* followed by *House of the Rising Sun*. The concert number, an arrangement of Maynard Ferguson's version of Elton John's *Don't Let the Sun Go Down On Me*, was followed by the color presentation of *Strike Up the Band*. *I Don't Know How To Love Him*, *Day By Day*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar* was again the finale. The RCA and DCA contest schedule included:

June			
7	New Haven, CT	(DCA) 5th	45.11
14	Johnsonburg, PA	(RCA) 1st	66.70
21	Emmaus, PA	(RCA) 1st	69.00
28	Hershey, PA	(DCA) 5th	52.65
July			
15	Hanover, PA	(RCA) Profiles in Music	
12	York, PA	(RCA) 2nd	67.00
19	Warminster, PA	(DCA) 4th	54.26
August			
2	Reading, PA	(DCA) 4th	57.00
9	Cumberland, MD	(RCA) 1st	78.00
23	Hamilton, Ontario,	RCA Championships	

The Lancers entered DCA pre-lims August 30 at Rochester, NY, and finished with a score of 61.60. DCA cut back to a 10-corps format for finals; the Lancers' pre-lim score put them in the 16th position.

Unfortunately, due to a 1975 DCA rule, the Lancers and three other corps that held both RCA and DCA memberships could not face each other in contests not sanctioned by DCA. This ruling was changed for the 1976 season, but it made 1975 difficult for the four corps affected. The Emmaus corps would drop its DCA affiliation, while the remaining three front runners for the RCA crown could not compete against their peers or hone skills in RCA competition.

The 1975 "Profiles In Music" contest in Hanover on July 15 featured a junior/senior corps line-up. In the junior show were the Crossmen from West Chester, the Townsman from Carlstadt, NJ, and the Cambria Cadets from Ebensburg, PA.

The Lancers experienced an unstable off-season in 1976, but returned to full power and dominated the Red Carpet circuit by performing in the "DCI" style they adopted a year earlier. Changes in the corps included the addition of xylophones in the drum line and new uniforms for the champion color guard. The banner line now wore the green blouses, adding black skirts and black boots. The entire corps accented the uniforms with white gauntlets.

Brass arrangements were now taught by Dave Hughes. Heading the M&M caption was Charles Brodie. Bob Zarfoss remained as percussion chief and assisted by Walt Mitzel. Drum Major Nick Wray was now assisted by Color Guard

Sergeants Marilyn Weister and Ernie Kranias.

The 1976 repertoire opened once again with *First Suite in E Minor*, followed by the modern medley of *Chameleon and Free*. *Don't Let the Sun...* was used again for the concert number. The medley arrangement of *Strike Up the Band and America* made a powerful color presentation. The corps exited with *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

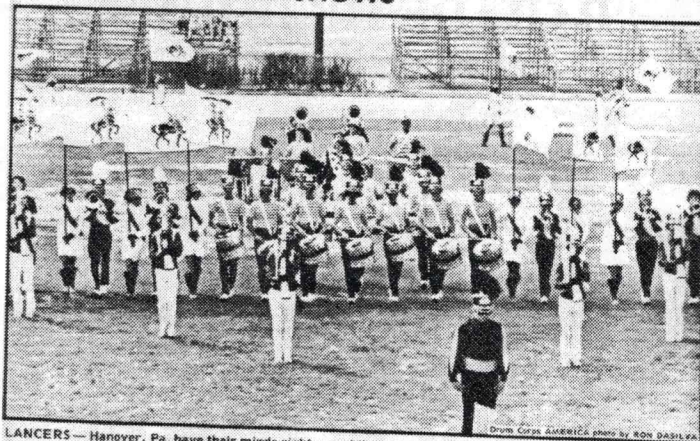
The corps' busy schedule for 1976 had them in 11 competitions, 2 field exhibitions, and 10 parades. The corps fell short of its goal to capture the RCA crown but they made a strong showing at DCA pre-lims, missing finals by only three positions.

The 1977 Lancers started the season rather slow and patiently, adjusting to the many changes necessary to bring the corps to high caliber.

Corps Director Stan Dutterer and his officers acquired the services of a few new staff members. Joe Aiello and Bob Musser were brought in to design and instruct M&M; Kathy Musser handled the color guard; and Jack Keeley of

Hanover Lancers remain undefeated . . .

LANCERS — PHOENIX ROLL UP VICTORIES IN RED CARPET SHOWS



LANCERS — Hanover, Pa. have their minds right — and their scores right as they zero in on the RCA World Senior title.

The powerful Lancers of Hanover, Pennsylvania indicated they're prepared to do battle with all comers by rolling up impressive wins in the RCA opener, sponsored by the Johnsonburg Diplomats on June 14th, repeated their feat at the Sentinels show on June 21st in Emmaus, Pennsylvania. Scoring in the 70s in both contests.

In winning nearly all captions in both shows, the Lancers have set themselves into the prime challenger position for the RCA Championships to be held August 23rd in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. To date, the most exciting headline has got to belong to Phoenix of Rochester, N. Y. They've a bass soprano line including 4 or 5 unbelievable soloists. I shutter with expectancy to see Phoenix with 10 more horns. The excitement created and power unleashed would be magnificent.

After a week of grueling practice, Phoenix, who finished second to Hanover Lancers on June 21st, "smoked" past all opposition and delighted the crowd in Dunkirk, N. Y. on June 28th with an impressive 75.3.

The second place Dunkirk Patriots showed a brass section that seems to come at you from every angle, especially in their new opener. The Patriots are smooth and fluid in their drill mixing difficulty together with execution.

Combining the talents of Steve Cooley on brass, Doug Kleinhaus on drums, and Dick Lewis for drill, the Patriots will continue this year to have the type of show that made them a top contender in R.C.A. last season. Their all - new repertoire consists of "Temptation", "The End", "Uskador '75", "Living in A House Divided", and a medley of folk songs the Patriots call "National Omelet".

Another RCA corps making news is the Johnsonburg Diplomats who only last year were a parade corps. This year the Diplomats have won top horns in 2 of 3 shows in which they've competed and in Dunkirk's "Holiday of Brass & Percussion" won top color guard honors.

Like everything else in the Diplomats, their guard comprised of 20 flags and 6 rifles is showing amazing improvement every week. And everytime I see the Diplomats there are more horns, drums and color guard, which seems to be the fruit of a strong recruiting program.

The Suburban Knights are proof size doesn't mean quality. Fielding a somewhat smaller corps, the Knights cover a lot of ground and their production is excellent. Guard adds tremendously to show as flag highlights add greatly in presentation of music.

There's so much going within the RCA ranks . . . for example: The Emmaus Sentinels have a woman soprano player who is around 55 years old and has a daughter also marching in the corps . . . Four of the corps, Lancers, Sentinels, Erie Thunderbirds and Guelph Royalaires were all DCA finalists in 1974 proving the overall strength of RCA is equal to that of DCA. And there's so much more!

If you want to enjoy the excitement of a drum corps the way it should be, then make plans to see an RCA contest this summer.

An article about the Lancers appeared in the magazine *Drum Corps America*, July 1977 75

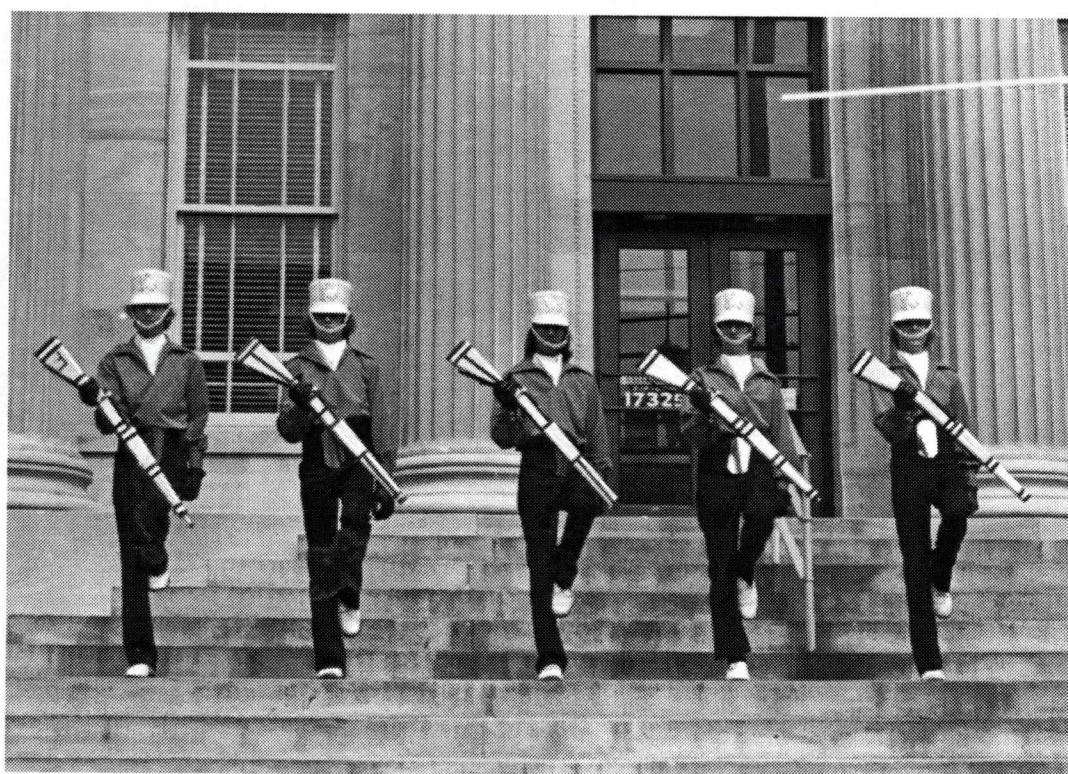
The 1976 Lancers pose in front of the Gettysburg Post Office following the Memorial Day parade.



Ernie Kranias as - who else? - Groucho Marx at the 1976 year-end Lancers Banquet. Say the secret word and win a gag award!



The Lancers famous all-male rifle line marks time on the steps of the Gettysburg Post Office on May 1976. Left to right: Duane DeWire, Brett Price, Gary Hung, Donnie Hoffnagle and Ernie Kranias.



Philadelphia proved to be a talented, motivating brass instructor. Bob Zarfoss remained to instruct the drum line.

The season was a microcosm of the 70's decade for the Lancers, growing and improving constantly, until finally reaching the goal. The Lancers were crowned Red Carpet Champions on August 27, 1977, in Jamestown, NY. In the victory, the corps made RCA history by completing a clean sweep of the major scoring captions; Brass, Percussion, General Effect, Marching and Maneuvering, and a fourth consecutive Color Guard title.

Drum Majors Nick Wray and Stan Tucker lead the corps onto the field with the championship repertoire featuring the opener *Coronation Theme* from the opera Boris Gudonov, the Latin concert number *Malaguena*, and an out-of-concert drum solo based on *Sabre Dance*. The serene production number of *Feelings* set the stage for the thunderous finale of a Stan Kenton arrangement of *MacArthur Park*.

With the RCA crown and expectations of becoming one of the top 10 senior drum corps in the nation, the Lancers traveled to the DCA Championships in Allentown the following week. What happened to the corps in Allentown can only be explained as a "drum corps glitch." The Lancers drew a difficult afternoon preliminary position and performed well below their standards. Under any other circumstances, a below-par performance could easily be shrugged off and the corps would re-group. But this was different... a hard-fought season culminating with the circuit title, a national championship arena, and the desire to "crack" the top-ten made this situation difficult for the very young and talented Lancers.

Over the winter months of 1977, the corps experienced a decline in membership and faced a demanding budget if they entered the field of competition in 1978. Director Stan Dutterer and his staff decided to ride out this storm by entering a rebuilding phase.

The Lancers were inactive from field competition for the 1978 and 1979 seasons. The corps held fund-raisers and performed in parades during the next two years, patiently waiting for the right time to enter the arena once more. Mike Chase handled the brass instruction and Kevin Shellhammer took charge of percussion in 1978 as the Lancers relied on homegrown talent. The defending champions retired their membership from RCA, and also broke formal ties with Post 14, choosing to face their burdens and pursue the rebuilding process from within.

Red Carpet Association Championships

August 27, 1977

Jaamestown, NY

1 The Lancers*	79.45
2 Guelph Royallaires	75.17
3 Johnsonburg Diplomats	74.15
4 Hamburg Kingsmen	71.75
5 Dunkirk Patriots	70.12
6 Pittsburgh Rockets	55.98
7 Danville White Sabres	42.20

***A sweep of all scoring captions, an RCA record:**

Brass

Percussion

General Effect

Marching and Maneuvering

Guard - 4th consecutive year

****This was the only first place award of the 1977 season for the Lancers**

Drum Corps Associates Champoinship/Prelims

September 3, 1977

Allentown, PA

1 Long Island Sunrisers	95.35
2 Hawthorne Caballeros	92.35
3 Reading Buccaneers	90.85
4 Rhode Island Matadors	90.10
5 Rochester Crusaders	86.40
6 New York Skyliners	85.50
7 Ontario Ambassadeurs	82.15
8 Connecticut Hurricanes	81.15
9 Carlisle Westshoremens	75.65
10 Erie Thunderbirds	73.65
11 Chicago Connection	71.05
12 St. Paul Brass, Inc.	70.70
13 Guelph Royallaires	70.00
14 Baltimore South Wind	68.35
15 Hanover Lancers	65.00
16 Dunkirk Patriots	57.80

The 1980's

Patience and timing are two of the many virtues needed to operate a successful drum and bugle corps. In 1980, the Lancers' patience was rewarded and the timing was right for the corps to enter competition again. After an extensive recruiting program and managerial changes, the corps of 96 members embarked on a new journey. Gene Nace was President, Nick Wray, Vice President, and Jim Rohrbaugh was Secretary/Treasurer. They assembled the fine staff of Charles Brodie, brass arrangements; Mike Chase, brass instruction; Kevin Shellhammer, percussion; Bob Everitt, drill design; Duane Dewire, rifles; and Nick Wray, Drum Major.

The 1980 repertoire included the opener *Russian Easter Music Suite*, a color-pre of *America*, and a concert of Stan Kenton's swing-arrangement of *Intermission Riff*. The corps then featured four selections from the Superman movie score including *Planet Krypton*, a drum solo based on *March of the Villains*, the *Love Theme*, and as a finale, the main theme from *Superman*.

The corps remained in the kelly-green, black, and white uniforms but added black Aussie-style hats. Meanwhile, the rifle line acquired an ominous look in a black version of the Madison Scout-style uniform. That "Madison-connection" in the Lancers' rifle line continued when Duane Dewire marched with the Madison rifles in 1979.

By 1980 the Red Carpet Association was no longer in existence, and a new circuit was formed that drew the Lancers' attention. The International Corps of America (ICA) was formed during the Lancers' hiatus and was ready to stage contests for the 1980 season. This circuit boasted members of the defunct RCA, a few relatively new corps on the scene, and a few names from the past.

Highlighting the ICA roster in addition to the Hanover Lancers were:

Thunderbirds, Erie, PA
Minnesota Brass, Minneapolis, MN
Defenders, Troy, NY
Steel City Ambassadors, Pittsburgh, PA
Princemen, Melrose, MA
Archer Epler Musketeers, Upper Darby, PA
Brass Factory, Alliance, OH
Bushwackers, Keyport, NJ
Crusaders, Rochester, NY
Empire Statesmen, Rochester, NY
Renaissance, Penn Argyle, PA
Yankee Rebels, Baltimore, MD

Records show that the corps sponsored a "Profiles In Music" contest in Hanover on June 5 (which may have been moved indoors to Southwestern High School due to inclement weather) and on July 7, held a very successful DCI show. This show marked the first Sonny Sheppard Memorial Competition and brought the corps in contact once again with the renowned 27th Lancers. They were the same 27th Lancers that were featured in the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, NY.

This show also featured the Troopers from Casper, WY, the Garfield Cadets, the Boston Crusaders, and Avante Garde from Saratoga Springs, NY. The L'Offensive De Jonquiere from Quebec and the Royal Brigade from the Meadowlands of New Jersey rounded out this fine DCI show.

Faced once more with a heavy schedule of DCA and now ICA shows, the Lancers apparently started off on the right track by winning the first ever ICA show on June 28 in Penn Argyle, PA.

International Corps of America June 28, 1980 Penn Argyle, PA

1 Hanover Lancers	68.65
2 Baltimore Yankee Rebels	66.60
3 Penn Argyle Renaissance	58.00
4 Ohio Brass Factory	40.40

Exhibitions were provided by the Garfield Cadets and the Emerald Grenadiers (one of the few remaining all-girl corps). The Lancers' victory was covered in the June issue of Drum Corps World and included this line about the Lancers Rifles: "You won't believe the proficiency of the rifles until you see for yourselves, for they have a show within a show and this is the best rifle line among senior corps."

The corps celebrated its return to national and local activity and the Bresler Ice Cream Company of Hanover featured Lancer Lime Sherbert as custom flavor-of-the-month when Lancer Week was proclaimed by the Mayor during the week of the July 7 DCI show. Lancer Week was highlighted with a Monday night concert by the Lancers at Hanover's Center Square. The corps had even more reason to celebrate when it was announced that the Lancers were once again housed by the Harold H. Bair Post 14 American Legion.

THE SONNY SHEPPARD MEMORIAL

SANCTIONED BY DRUM CORPS INT'L. INC.

Sponsored By . . .

THE HANOVER LANCERS SR. DRUM & BUGLE CORP.

MONDAY, JULY 7, 1980 - 7:30 P.M.

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HANOVER, PA.

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ROYAL BRIGADE
Meadowlands, New Jersey



27th LANCERS
Revere, Massachusetts



AVANT GARDE
Saratoga Springs, New York



GARFIELD CADETS
Garfield, New Jersey

The Lancers sponsored a DCI Sanctioned show in July, 1980 featuring some of the best Junior Corps in the world. The 27th Lancers finished a close second a month later at Drum Corps International Championships



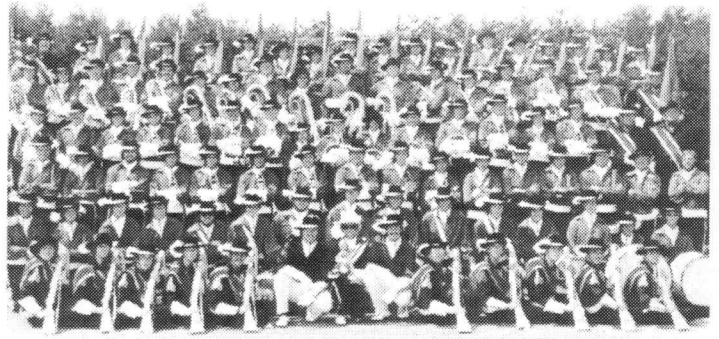
Nick Wray, drum major for the 1980 corps, reads announcements after an Independence Day performance outside Post 14.



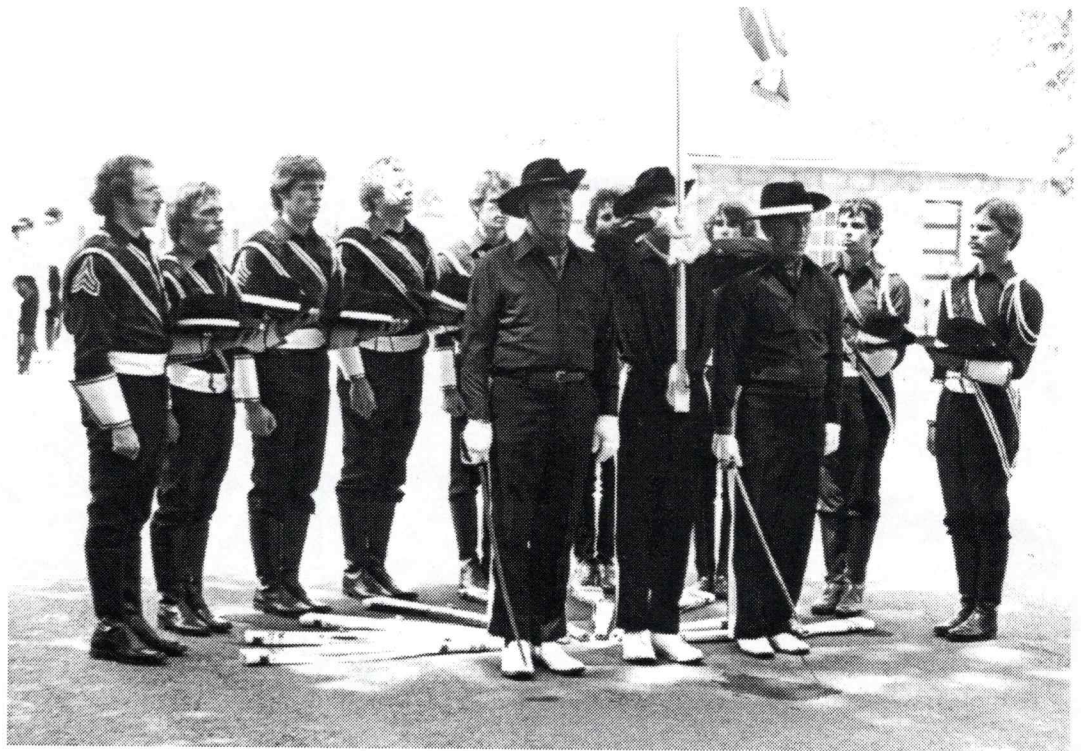
Here's something you don't see everyday - a drum line with marching tympani! This parade was in the summer of 1980.

The 1978 edition of the Lancers marches in a parade, the location of which is not known.

The Lancers after the 1980 DCA Championships in Hershey, PA. The corps placed 12th in finals that year.



The 1980 rifle line, circling the main guard, stands at attention as the corps performs music from "Superman" during a July 4th appearance at Hanovers' Wirt Park.



Xylaphone player Ron Day plays during drum solo "March of the Villians" from "Superman" at a July 4th, 1980 performance.

The original Alumni Corps organizers outside Hanover Hardware in 1982. Left to Right: Leon Bowers, John Null, Wayne Houck and Jim Altland.



On March 23, the doors of the Legion were open to all ex-members of the corps for a social gathering when a reunion was held in 1980. The result was the formation of the Lancers Alumni Association on April 8, 1980.

This organization was founded by three of the corps' most notable members: Jim Altland, President of the Alumni; Wayne Houck, Vice President; and Leon Bowers, Secretary/Treasurer. Formed as a supporting group for the corps, the alumni held quarterly meetings at the Post, sponsored an annual Lancers Old-Timers Night, and assisted with equipment purchases. By 1983 the alumni membership totaled 140.

Records of the inaugural ICA season were not available, however, the circuit did continue for at least three years with a championship held at Towson State University in Maryland on August 27, 1983.

The 1980 Lancers capped off a fine return to competition by attaining associate membership at the DCA Championships held in Hershey. A large field of 17 drum corps entered prelims.

The 1981 Lancers continued with a talented, young corps and an expanded staff. The brass arrangements of Ted Luckenbaugh and John Bugosh were now taught by Brian Moul, an individual who would play an important role in the corps' future. Steve Young headed the percussion section, Ken Greene designed the drill, and the rifles were instructed again by Duane Dewire. Ms. Gwen Litton handled the color guard. The corps' officers were Nick Wray, President; Jim Rohrbaugh, Vice President; Debbie Reichart, Secretary; and Kay Raubenstine, Treasurer.

***Drum Corps Associates Championships/Prelims
September 1980
Hershey, PA***

1 Reading Buccaneers	89.40
2 Hawthorne Caballeros	86.35
3 Connecticut Hurricanes	84.60
4 New York Skyliners	84.55
5 Long Island Sunrisers	83.65
6 Harrisburg Westshoremens	83.25
7 Rochester Crusaders	78.25
8 Rhode Island Matadors	75.30
9 Erie Thunderbirds	71.20
10 Le Clique Allouette	65.00
11 Baltimore Yankee Rebels*	60.00
12 Hanover Lancers*	52.70
13 Niagara Regionnaires	51.90
14 Wind Gap Renaissance	44.00
15 Ohio Brass Factory	43.10
16 Tyrone Guard	39.50
17 Malden Princemen	36.30
(* Associate members)	

The repertoire for the 1981 season featured a few numbers from the past. Opening with *Easter Music Overture*, the corps then moved into *If He Really Knew Me* and *Star*. The concert of *Malaguena* was followed by the hit *Love the World Away* as the corps left the field.

Records show that the corps planned two drum corps shows in Hanover that season; one on July 10, the other on August 14. The DCI show was to have these corps appear: 27th Lancers, Spirit of Atlanta, North Star, Cavaliers and Memphis Blues.

No information was found on the corps entering ICA or DCA Championship competition in 1981.

By 1982, drum corps in general began to experience yet another "drought," this time affecting entire circuits. Interest seemed to be waning as the cost of running drum and bugle corps reached levels that caused corps managers to simply close the doors of their respective organizations. (It's amazing that the activity was able to sustain the pressures of the mid-1980's and rebound in the 90's.)

The 1982 Hanover Lancers were faced with the same pressures as other drum corps but touring and equipment costs did not deter the group. Although the Lancers fielded a smaller corps of 75 members, they entered the season with pride and integrity. An outstanding staff and executive board of drum corps veterans maintained the corps. The officers were Corps Director Steve Young and Business Manager Jim Gulden. The board members consisted of Gene Nace, Ken Snyder, Ken Kuhn, Nick Wray, Jim Gulden, and Steve Young.

Members of the large instructional staff were:

Brass Arrangements:	Jerry Kelsey
Brass Instruction:	Gary Caffery
	Dave Gible
Percussion Arrangements:	Tom Hannum
Percussion Instruction:	Ron Church, Tom Hannum,
	Dan Magsamen, Steve Young
Drill Design:	Frank "Skip" Rizzutto
Drill Instruction:	Rick Widener
Guard Instruction:	Gwen Litton
Rifle Instruction:	Greg Moffit

Drum Major Brian Gable lead the 1982 corps with a repertoire that included Dvorak's *Slovanic Dance #1*, *The Legend of Pancho Villa*, and the percussion feature of *Carnival*. A jazz arrangement of the 1950's hit *Steam Heat* was followed by the exit number of *My Way*.

The Lancers tackled a full schedule that appeared to be a combination of ICA and DCA contests plus 10 regional parades. In addition to the June 5, "Profiles In Music" contest (a DCA line-up that featured the Reading Buccaneers, the Harrisburg Westshoremens, the Steel City Ambassadors from

Pittsburgh, and the Lancers), the corps traveled to Hershey and Mechanicsburg as well as to Holmdel, NJ, Baltimore, MD, Troy, NY, and Alliance, Ohio. Participation and results from any championship contests were not found.

The most obvious change in the national scene from 1981-1982 was the utilization of "percussion pits," this was the placement of "fixed" percussion (tympans, xylophones, and most any percussion hardware) just outside of the front side line.

The Last Hurrah?

The Lancers boldly entered the 1983 season not knowing if they would see its completion. But the "Green Machine" did enter DCA prelims before numerous pressures again forced the corps into inactivity.

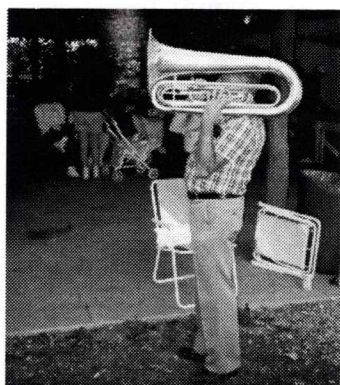
In late 1983, the Hanover Lancers closed the doors. But would it be for the last time?

Strange things happened on the way to the 1990's. In the late 70's and the early 80's, a few drum corps that had disbanded formed "alumni drum corps." These "old fellas" were resurrecting corps as parade units and based existence on modest budgets and informal structure. What started as a novelty in the early 80's became popular in 1990. Two of the first senior alumni corps to surface were the Archer Epler Musketeers and the Baltimore Yankee Rebels. These were



The Lancers 1st Ever Reunion unveiled percussion equipment cleaned up and ready to use along with some bugles reclaimed to get the Alumni Corps off the ground.

Jim Altland gives a contra-bass bugle a workout at the 1990 reunion. Jim was one of over 100 former Lancers to attend the all day, and well into the night, event.



also the first to perform traditional field shows in exhibition beginning in the late 1980's. Around the northeast, alumni corps began springing up at an unbelievable rate.

In this rebirth, corps regained values lost during decades of modern competition. These organizations were again community oriented, participating in local parades and events.

In 1984, the Lancers Alumni Association announced the formation of an alumni drum corps to march in the Hanover Halloween Parade that year. This proved very successful as members spanning generations came together for one more parade.

Soon after, this edition of the Alumni Association ceased operations. It seemed that the Lancers were destined to be only a memory.

On July 10, 1988, drum corps again graced Sheppard Myers Field as the Hanover High School Band Parents sponsored a DCI-sanctioned show entitled "Profiles In Brass." This show featured Canada's Dutch Boy, the Garfield Cadets, the Florida Wave, the Canton Bluecoats, and the Crossmen from Delaware County, PA. The Harrisburg Westshoremen performed in exhibition.

Around the country, the phenomenal growth of the alumni drum corps activity continued. Merely mentioning the names of these organizations caused drum corps fans to shiver in anticipation...imagine seeing Blessed Sac, the Springfield Marksmen, Archie, and Baltimore on stage or on the field once again. Interest in seeing more of these units resurface caused the formation of a national alumni-networking organization. The Great Alliance of Seniors (GAS) was formed in 1990 to monitor and assist the growing activity whose possibilities were now deemed limitless. Timing was just right...past generations of drum corps people were finding means to once again enjoy the traditional aspects of drum corps, not just watching "the modern competitors."

Dreams Really Do Come True

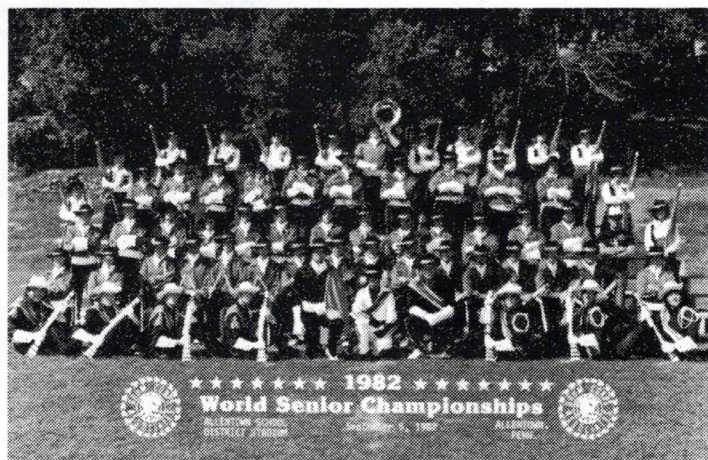
And soon, "old drum corps" qualities would be back in Hanover.

During the summer of 1989, a few ex-corps members conversed about the possibilities of staging a reunion of all the "old" Lancers. By December, the group formed a committee to plan a reunion picnic. This committee consisted of William "Chip" Crumrine, Rick Johnson, Chris Carman, Bob Bortner, and Steve Myers, all alumni from the 1970's.



Gary Caffery, brass instructor and soprano soloist, plays his bugle at "Profiles in Music", which was held indoors at Southwestern High School due to rain - June 1982.

The 1982 Lancers Sr. Drum & Bugle Corps at DCA Championships in Allentown, PA. This was to be the last year of field competition for the Hanover corps.



Soprano buglers perform during the June 1982 "Profiles in Music" show at Southwestern High School.

SONGS

Written by Mr. Emory Gobrecht

The Legion Song

As we march along, we'll sing the Legion Song
Our voices proclaim, throughout the vast domain
The stars and the stripes, we'll give a hip-hoorah
As we sing the song of the Legion to the good old USA

My Dear Old PA

My dear old PA, the Keystone State they say
For we love the fields and woods along the way
The mountains and the hills give you a thousand thrills
You're dear to my heart, Pennsylvania.

Indoor practice at the Legion, 1965. Bugle players use horns with a piston valve and a slide to get the right notes.

Drum Major Charles Bunty leads the Corps in a parade in Philadelphia during the mid-1950's. Frannie Heck described this uniform: "The eagle head looked more like a ruptured duck, so we cut the d__ed heads off".

