



The Company of Fifers and Drummers
2012 Junior Fife and Drum Camp

Introducing

**The Connecticut Yanks Ancient
Fife and Drum Corps**
Drum Notes

Auditions:

It's getting to be that time again! This year we're posting the audition music earlier, hoping that with more time, your participation with individual corps will not be impacted.

We're also changing the audition process for 2012. Anyone wishing to audition for the Ensemble Drum Line must play both audition pieces posted on the web site – you do not get to choose your own audition piece this year. The audition selections are:

- General Audition Selection: When We Go Down To Washington
- Ensemble Audition Selection Snare: Peter Street Reel & Blarney Solo
- Ensemble Audition Selection Bass: Peter Street Reel & College Hornpipe

The Music:

The music selected for the 2012 Junior Fife & Drum Camp comes from the repertoire of the Connecticut Yanks, one of the state's most celebrated senior ancient fife and drum corps from the 1960's and '70's. Just as the New York Regimentals fife line pushed the envelope in writing and playing, so too did the Connecticut Yanks drum line. The Yanks produced many great players that are still involved with fife and drum. Not only was the snare drumming difficult; bass drumming was featured on it's own, rarely seen at the time. Off-setting the snare accents, the bass drum gave the music another voice. Most of the corps' medleys featured difficult drum solos. For that reason we are choosing to play an Ensemble Medley; as opposed to individual fife and drum solos. Once the musical selections have been posted online, it is important that you learn as much as you can before you arrive at camp. Don't plan on waiting to memorize all the music during the week of camp.

Style & Approach:

From the interpretation of the rudiments to the visuals, we will be trying to play as close to the Yanks' style as we can. This year we are very fortunate to have a number of instructors who were a big part of the Yanks' tradition. Don Mason, Allan Ziemba, Paul Cormier, and Charley Poole Jr. are just some of the former drummers that will be helping out this year. We will rely on them heavily to show us the Yanks' style. Over the last few years, we have explored the style and techniques of many great drum lines: Lancraft, Mariners, Sons of Liberty, Moodus, New York Regimentals, and Stony Creek. It is very important you understand that this is just one other way of playing. The great thing about our fife and drum community, there is no one way of drumming. All of this makes what we do so special.

Communication:

Whether you are a first year drummer or a 5 year vet, it is very important to us that **EVERYONE** gets the most out of camp. Since the music is our most challenging to date, please do not hesitate to ask for help as it is appears on the website. We will help as much as we can prior to the camp. You can email:

Brendan Mason- buppababi1@netscape.net and
Donald Mason- dmoonlight@yahoo.com

Finally, as we say every year... if you come away knowing more than when you started the week, we all will have been successful. We want you to enjoy your time at camp, but still improve your drumming skills. Both are definitely achievable!

In The Ancient Spirit,

Your Drum Instructors