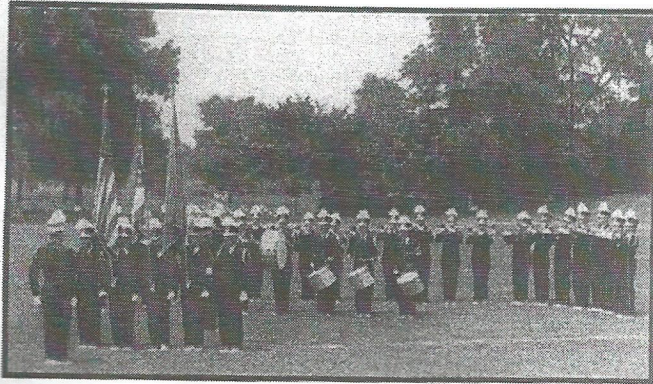


Fast-Stepping Drill Unit Organized Locally by American Legion

From an old American Legion Pamphlet

Hall Adkins Post No. 134 American Legion organized the Circleville Drum and Bugle Corps in August of 1949. For its first two years, it was strictly a marching unit. They practiced on the infield at the Pickaway County Fairgrounds. They were known as the Gladiators.



Gladiators Drum and Bugle Corp 1953

The color guard consisted of Fred Boggs, Harry Clifton Leonard Coffland, Charles Bartholomew and Clark Martin; *Drum Major*, Dick McAbee; *Majorette*, Phyllis Dresbach; *Tenor Drums*, Lloyd Brittlinger, Carl Bach and Glenn Pearce; *Bass Drums*, Dudley and Mark Coffland; *Snare Drums*, Jim Morrison, Gerald Ayers and Paul Helwagen; *Cymbals*, Jim Shea; *First Soprano Bugles*, Clifford Kerns, Charles Dunkle, Bob Elsea, George Helwagen, Tom Larimer, Bob Liston, Carl Radcliff, Dick Strous and Arthur Bowman; *Second Soprano Bugles*, Pete Cook, Martin Garner, Ed Heath, Jim Price, Roger Smith and Harold Stonerock; *First Baritone Bugles*, Don Valentine and Dave Steele; *Second Baritone Bugles*, Bob Valentine and John Happenny; *Third Baritone Bugles*, Dick Shaw and Joe Sheets; *Tenor Bugles*, Marcus Albright, Bob Boggs, Dudley Radcliff and Don Woodward; *French Horn Bugles*, George Nicholson and John Bell.

Later members included Tom Shea, John Simison, Wayne Brown, Mark Coffland, Reynold Green, Bob Grubb and Blenn Cook, Carl Tracy, Ira Barr, Lloyd Spangler, Jim Pickel, Bernard Smith, Truman Eberly and Russ Liston.

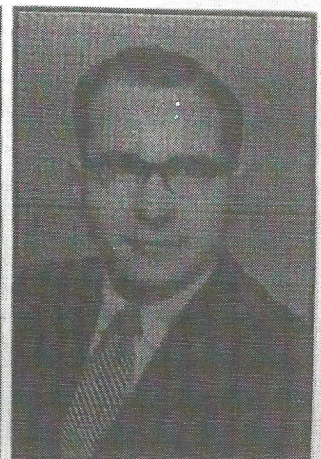
In 1951 they entered their first competition at the Ohio State Legion Convention where they earned fifth place. In 1952 and 1953 they had improved their performance to earn a third place award. The Corps went on to perform in Lisbon, Cleveland, Columbus, Mansfield, Bellefontaine, Marion, Portland (Indiana) and Cincinnati. They also performed at the Veterans Hospital in Chillicothe as part of a Labor Day program, the Ohio Legionnaires Convention at the State House, the Chillicothe



Front Row L to R: Fred Boggs, Clark Martin, ??, Dud Coffland, Carl Bach, Glenn Pearce, Paul Helwagen, Jim Morrison, Gerald Ayers, ??, Harry Clifton, Delores Elsea. Row Two: ??, Jim Shea, Mark Coffland, Clifford Kerns, ???. Row Three: ??, ??, Mark Albright, ??. Row Four: George Helwagen, Bob Liston, Pete Cook, ??. Row Five: ??, ??, David Steele, ??, ??, ??. If anyone knows the unidentified members of the band, the editors would like to have this information.

Halloween Parade, the Jackson Apple Festival and the Corn Festival in Piqua, Ohio.

The local unit hosted a competition at the Pumpkin Show in 1951. Truman Eberly, band director at Circleville, was the director. Later Clifford Kerns was the music and drill director. Since both held degrees in music, they were great assets to the corps. Kerns was presented with an award for winning the championship senior American Legion drum major competition at a convention in Columbus. Don Valentine was the Corps Commander. Richard McAbee was the drum major.



Truman Eberly and Clifford Kerns

POINTS ON WHICH CORPS ARE JUDGED ARE:

1. Inspection 10 points
2. Marching & maneuvering 30 points
 - (a) Intervals, Distance, Files and Ranks (10 points)
 - (b) In Step and Execution (10 points)
 - (c) Precision and Military Bearing (10 points)
3. Drumming 20 points
 - (a) Position (1 point)
 - (b) Execution (7 points)
 - (c) Ensemble, Expression, & Rhythm (8 points)
 - (d) Repertoire (4 points)
4. Bugles 20 points
 - (a) Position & Execution (8 points)
 - (b) Ensemble and Rhythm (4 points)
 - (c) Expression (4 points)
 - (d) Repertoire (4 points)
5. General Effect 20 points

By "General Effects" is meant all of those elements in the Corps Performance which collectively present with impressive effectiveness its superior ability, originality, and showmanship.

SCORE	NAME OF CORPS
()	"Satan's Angels", Bellefontaine, Ohio
()	"Thunder Jets", Dayton, Ohio
()	"Wolverines", Detroit, Michigan
()	"Spitfires", Forrestville, Ohio
()	"Gaily Grenadiers", North College Hill, Ohio
()	"Comets", Portland, Indiana
()	"Demons", Toledo, Ohio
()	"Cavaliers", Marion, Ohio
()	Hall-Adkins Post No. 134, Circleville, Ohio

Miss Delores Elsea captured winning honors in 1953 in the State Legion Majorette Championship. In the winter of 1953 the American Legion Department of Ohio passed a ruling barring all girls from further competition. Delores was later replaced by Phyllis Dresbach, former head majorette for the Circleville High School Band. Dresbach won statewide recognition for her ability as a baton twirler and won first place in the highly-rated baton twirling contest at the Circleville Pumpkin Show.

The corps participated within the Midwest Drum and Bugle Corps Circuit. It was organized to promote pageantry and improve the excellence of each corps. The circuit was composed of units from Portland (Indiana), Bellefontaine, Circleville, Cincinnati, Dayton, Forestville, Marion, North College Hill, Norwood and Toledo, as well as Detroit, Michigan.

Each of the competitions were judged by thirteen of the All-American Drum and Bugle Corps and Band Association for excellence in music, marching and maneuvering, drumming, bugling, showmanship, and other areas.

"Red" Coffland (age 62) and Fred Boggs (age 53) were the two oldest participants in the Circleville Corps.

The Women's Drum corps Auxiliary Association was formed in 1951. The Association worked to create good feeling and spirit for the Corps. It had its own projects to raise money for the Corps equipment fund. In 1951-52 the money raised was used to buy new equipment and gloves. The Corps was self-supporting and with its winnings purchased new drums, new bugles and complete new uniforms.

Elaine Bowman served as President; Anne Coffland, Vice President; Dorothy Cook, Recording Secretary; Donna Valentine, Corresponding Secretary; Marjorie Kerns, Treasurer; Virginia Bartholomew, Executive Board. Members included Marcella Shea, Betty Heath, Haydee Boggs, Bert Albright, Bess Radcliff, Ola Steele, Lillian Smith, Eleanor Price, Fairy Shaw, Betty Liston, Lillian Morrison, Mary Helwagen, Barbara Stonerack, Jennette Martin, Jo Bach, Deloris Elsea, Jo Ann Woodward, Daisy Brittinger, and Carolyn Valentine.

The Corps rehearsed every Thursday at 8 p.m. at Memorial Hall. Gradually their attendance fell. After a public appeal they experienced a renewal of enthusiasm, but decided to limit the number of appearances they made.

Members participated in several civic functions, including a drive for polio and the Christmas "Toy Tour."

No. 491 Date 3/14/50

TREASURER
HALL-ADKINS POST No. 134
AMERICAN LEGION

Pay to *Third National Bank #11926*

Eleven Hundred Nineteen + 2/10 Dollars

For *Note for Drum Corps Uniforms*

Countersigned: *[Signature]* Adjutant

[Signature] Commander

Genealogy Classes

Genealogy Classes will be offered by the library on November 2, 9, 23 and 30 at 7 p.m. The four sessions will range from beginning to more expert searches. Forms will be provided. The cost for the classes is \$25.00 per person. Please register by sending your check to PCHS, 210 North Court Street, Circleville together with your name, address and phone number. Classes will be approximately one hour each evening. A tour of the library will be included.