

PRESS RELEASE

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HEADLINE: NORTHERNAIRES INSTRUCTORS ANNOUNCEMENT

Menominee, Mich., Jan. 21, 2010 – The Northernaires Drum & Bugle Corps from Menominee, Michigan are proud to announce their instructional staff for the 2010 season.

The brass caption head is Jon Basten from Oshkosh who is a graduate from UW-Green Bay and is finishing his Masters in Education and instruction at UW-Oshkosh. Jon's background includes being a member of the Northern Step Drill Team/Northmen from Green Bay and Appleton Americanos during his junior corps marching days. He later taught brass for the Northmen who captured a 3rd place finish in DCI during his tenure. Jon is also helping the Americano Alumni brass.

Also working with the brass is Ken Norman from Racine who is in the Drum Corps World Hall of Fame for his brass arrangements that are played all over the world. Ken spent many years with the Racine Kilties and is a professional musician with groups in the Chicago area. Ken also works with the Chicago Royal Airs Drum & Bugle Corps and has co-founded both the Belle City Brassworks and Penguin Players show troupe in Racine.

The percussion caption head is Jim Cairns from Menominee who played with the Northernaires in the 60's & 70's. Jim has been a long time instructor with the corps and has excellent percussion and teaching skills.

Also working with the percussion is Jerry Whitton from Menominee who also played with the Northernaires in the 60's. Jerry also has great percussion skills and is a leader with the group.

Co-caption color guard head is Selina Larson from Menominee who spent many years with the Northernaires Winter Color Guard in WGI competitions in the 90's & early 2000's. Selina also was in the Americanos for a couple seasons in the color guard. Selina has excelled in both flag and sabre work and dance.

Also color guard co-caption head is Gloria Meyer from Menominee who is Selina's mother. Gloria was part of the original color guard when girls were introduced to the all-male Northernaires corps in 1970. Gloria was the director of the Northernaires Winter Color Guard and also owns a uniform making shop called GloGirl Designs for drums corps, high school color guards or show troupes.

Leading the Honor Guard and M&M (marching & maneuvering) is Doug Klatt from New Holstein who marched with the Northernaires in the 1950's & 60's. Doug's background also included being involved with local color guards in WGI competitions. Doug helps shape the corps marching skills and presentation and is the corps Honor Guard Captain.

Working with Doug is Gene Nason from Davenport, Iowa who also marched with the Northernaires in the 1960's. Gene was the corps M&M, color guard instructor, and business manager in the 1970's. Gene also was a member of the Houston, Texas Bayou City Blues Sr. Corps and Kilties Sr. Corps in the 1990's and 2000's. Gene's great experience in M&M will compliment Doug in the corps drill and maneuvering.

The visual program and drill is written by Chris Wellner from Green Bay who marched with the Northernaires in the 1970's and 1980's. Chris also marched with the Manitowoc Royal Knights Jr. Corps and Bayou City Blues Sr. Corps. Chris is a graduate from Northern Michigan University and is a member of the professional music society Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Chris has taught brass and wrote drill for the Northernaires and Northmen in the 1980's and has worked with the Northernaires Winter Color Guard in the 1970's and 1980's. Chris is also the corps director.

The corps will be entering their second season in SDCA competition and 57th year of existence and will be hosting their home show "Drums In The North" on Sunday, April 18th, 1:00 pm at the Menominee High School gym. Six corps are scheduled to appear including the Ishpeming MI Blue Notes. Tickets for the show will go on sale in February.

If you would like to join, registration forms, rehearsal and schedule information is available on the website at www.northernaires.net or contact Chris Wellner at (920) 265-1294 or email director@northernaires.net.