



Crossmen

2006

“Changing Lanes”

***Your Journey and Quest for
Excellence Begins.....***

**Spring Training
&
Tour Handbook**

601 W. Hamilton St.
Allentown, PA 18101
610-821-0345 ext. 12 / 23
www.yea.org

SPECIFICATIONS OF LUGGAGE AND SLEEPING GEAR FOR THE SUMMER

Over the last few years the luggage that we carry underneath our buses has become more than we can handle. The luggage does not fit, it takes forever to “stuff” and the process causes damage to the bay doors and the bus suspension.

Your Suitcase:

Each member will be allowed to travel with only one **MEDIUM** sized suitcase or duffle bag. No larger than a 26 inch pull type suitcase will be allowed. **NO** Body Bags or Hockey Bags. If your bag is larger than what we have specified the administration team will reserve the right to not allow that particular suitcase to travel with the corps for the summer and the member will have to replace the suitcase with a smaller one.

Sleeping Gear:

Each member is allowed to travel with a sleeping bag, pillow and blanket. If you choose to travel with rubber foam for under your sleeping bag it must be no thicker than 1”, and must be able to roll up in your sleeping bag. You may also travel with one small air mattress, but again, this must be able to roll up in your sleeping bag.

The Right to Say No:

The administration reserves the right to pull any luggage off of tour that they feel will damage the bays of the buses that you will be traveling on this summer.

Side Note - No one wears all of the clothes they bring on tour. There are no parties, so leave the heels at home. Yes, it will hit 65 now and then - a sweatshirt does just fine.

Please, Please, Please...
for the sake of us all, and for the love of the bus drivers,
be reasonable!

SPRING TRAINING

The corps will leave the spring training site ONLY for Wal-Mart runs, laundry runs and medical emergencies. These times are only when the Administration has pre-planned and approved them. Otherwise, NO MEMBERS MAY LEAVE THE CAMP GROUNDS! If for some reason, you'd have your vehicle at Spring Training once you arrive, it stays parked.

The \$399 fee for spring training includes housing, food, instruction and equipment use for these four weeks. The price is the same for every member, regardless of the date that they are moving in with the corps.

Throughout spring training as well as tour, the corps will abide by 3 simple rules:

- 1) **DO NOT break the law**
- 2) **DO NOT embarrass the organization**
- 3) **You have agreed and signed member contracts and will follow these guidelines as well as those enclosed in the tour handbook.**

Injuries: if you do not march a performance due to injury or illness you will remain on the bus during the show and finale to expedite your recovery. This is not meant to be punitive, but to allow you the rest you need to recover and be back into rehearsal quickly. REMINDER: Tour is not a place for recovery; if an injury is severe there is a possibility that you may be sent home to fully recover.

Travel Back and Forth

If at all possible, members should fly in and out of Stewart International Airport in Newburgh, NY. Airport arrival and departure information needs to be called in to us at least 3 days in advance so we can schedule transportation.

* Daily Pick-ups Available at This Location

The second Choice for flying is Newark International Airport but should be a back-up plan if Stewart does not work out.

**If you are planning to travel to or from the corps on a weekend, be sure to check with the office as sometimes we may be moving for performances!

Spring Training is always an enjoyable time and is a key ingredient for the success of the Crossmen. It is during these intense rehearsals that the program really comes together and you start to get comfortable with the music and drill. These four weeks are essential in getting to know the other members of the corps – your newest family!

For those who are interested in Ground Travel:

Greyhound Station on Sturgis Road in Monticello, NY
Train Station: <http://www.mta.nyc.ny.us/mnr/index.html>
Take the Port Jervis Line to the Otisville, NY Station
* Daily Pick-ups Available at This Location

Emergency Contact

Deb Rogerson is the Tour Director for the Crossmen - she will be at Spring Training AND on tour for the entire summer. If you should ever have an emergency her cell phone number is 201-417-6871. While at Kutsher's, the Crossmen Spring Training Office number is 845-794-4281

YEA! Office in Allentown

Tiffany Duncan can be reached at either 610-821-0345, ext 23, or 201-543-8192.

MAIL

Outgoing stamped mail is collected in a mail tub at the food truck and mailed daily. There will be a list of mail drops and dates for the entire summer included in the itinerary, which will be ready in June.

During Spring Training, incoming mail is distributed as often as people travel from the office to Kutsher's.

While on tour, incoming mail is distributed as people come from the office to tour locations (normally weekly), and at mail drop sites. Mail can be delivered to the address below up until June 16th.

Until we can provide you with a detailed list of mail drop addresses, you should tell your friends and family to send your mail to:

Envelope

The Crossmen
601 W. Hamilton St.
Allentown, PA 18101

MEMBER NAME

*They MUST put your name in the lower left-hand corner!

Packages

The Crossmen
601 W. Hamilton St.
Allentown, PA 18101

MEMBER NAME

*They MUST put your name in the lower left-hand corner!

EMAIL

You will be able to receive email messages from your friends while you are on the road with the Crossmen.

The email address is: crossmenontour@yea.org

This communication will be printed and put in the mail bin to the corps for delivery on mail drop days. E-mail does not receive priority service. **THIS IS NOT FOR EMERGENCIES.** Members will only receive email about once a week.

Be sure to note the name of the member and the corps if sending e-mail through the Webmaster. We insure confidentiality of all e-mail past the one individual responsible for downloading electronic communication.

TOUR

A complete itinerary for the 2006 Crossmen Summer Tour including housing sites, mail drops, emergency numbers, and show information will be sent out as the information becomes finalized.

WHAT DO I BRING ON TOUR?

Here is a typical packing list of what you will need to bring on tour with you.

Bags to bring:

- 1. Suitcases or Medium Sized Duffel Bag.** See Page Two
- 2. Carry on bag.** Remember that others must use the limited space available on the bus. Carry-on items are limited to one backpack-sized bag, a pillow, blanket, jacket, and one purse-sized bag. You should probably include the following items in your carry on bag: toiletries, walkman, tapes, books, etc.

NOTE ON BAGS: Due to the use of large bags in the past, damage to the buses has caused great stress and financial loss. **DO NOT BRING LARGE BAGS!**

When the bus bays are stuffed, the doors break and we end up with major problems on the road.

Sleeping Gear: See Page Two

Clothing: You should bring clothes for 2 weeks. We will do laundry at Laundromats approximately every 12-14 days, so you should be covered.

Be sure to bring plenty of socks and underwear, shorts, t-shirts, a couple of sweatshirts and pants (for the evenings), a pair of jeans, and whatever else you like to wear. Not much clothing is required for rehearsals because you are outside in the sun all day, but it does get cool in the evenings, and the air conditioners get chilly on the buses. It also rains periodically over the summer, so you may want to be prepared for the elements. Also, you may want to have an extra pair of shoes in the event that the first pair gets wet. It is always nice to put on dry shoes once the rain has stopped.

******MANDATORY******

Members of the brass and percussion sections must have a plain black t-shirt, black boxer or briefs for the guys, and black socks to wear under the uniform. Also, the horn players will need to have black gloves (no holes) for rehearsals and performances. You can purchase these gloves from the corps throughout the summer.

Toiletries: This is up to you! Items to consider include: soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, powder, shaving gear, towels, ample supply of prescription medicine (advise us of all medicines being taken), personal first aid supplies, aspirin, sunscreen, bug repellent/antiseptic, contact gear, etc.

For Rehearsals: REQUIRED

- Hat to keep the sun off of your face
- Insulated water jug to drink from (minimum size 1/2 gallon)
- Lotion to protect you from the sun
- T-shirt (required on hand at all times and worn when deemed necessary by corps administration to be a health/safety issue or a public rehearsal situation)

For Free Time: There isn't much free time during the day, so bring what you would use while traveling. Many people bring their Walkman, books, tapes, letter writing materials, journals, etc.

Money: There are not many opportunities to spend your money. You may need money for buying something to eat or drink at the occasional supermarket stop, for laundry, or when the corps has a free day. A good guide is \$3-5 per day, but everyone has different needs. We have had members spend as little as \$60 for

the full summer and others who spend over \$500. You will need to budget for 6-7 laundry days at \$10 – 12 each over the course of the summer. Also, depending on our plans, you'll need personal cash for free days throughout the summer.

NOTE ON MONEY: Do not bring a lot of money. Having large amounts of money on the road is not a good idea. Bring traveler's checks in \$20 increments rather than cash; with a bankcard as a backup (you will not always have access to an ATM whenever/wherever you need cash). Also, the corps will not loan out money or cash checks or money orders.

Other Things: If you are in the brass or percussion sections you will need to have black shoe polish or preferably, soft scrub and a rag/brush. Most people use soft scrub to clean the debris and stains off their Dinkles. Brass members will also need silver polish, rags, and other supplies to clean their horns

LIFE ON THE ROAD

Traveling with a drum & bugle corps is a unique experience. We travel with 4 coach buses, 2 tractor-trailers, a box truck, an RV and a van. Most of our traveling is done at night while you are asleep, but there will be occasions when we will stay over night at a housing site and you will get a full night of "floor time". While traveling we do stop 2 or 3 times per night at rest stops, and you will be allowed to get out and stretch or buy something. *Just a note on rest stops:* because of our strict schedule at many rest stops members *will not* be allowed to make purchases. Staff, adults and drivers will be allowed (we know this is not fair). There will be stops that you will be able to make purchases, however... the line can & will be cut off as time dictates in order to get back on the road. If you get off of the buses at a rest stop it is your responsibility to know when the corps is leaving, and BE THERE!

When we leave for tour on June 24th, you are expected to be with the corps at all times until after Finals, which is August 12th. Members are not to leave the corps unless prior arrangements have been made in advance. This is for your safety - so please do not ask.

If you are still in school when spring training begins, you are expected to report immediately following the end of school, and should also attempt to attend rehearsals on nights and weekends when possible.

BASIC DAILY SCHEDULE - Once on the road we settle into a routine daily schedule. The times listed below may change according to daily arrival times, but the basic outline is the same.

8:00 AM	Stretch & Run
9:00	Breakfast
10:00	Marching
12:30	Lunch
1:30	Sectionals
3:30	Ensemble
5:00	Dinner, Pack, Clean
6:45	Depart for show
7:15	Warm up / Show / Retreat / Snack
12:00	Depart for next site
4:00	Arrive / Sleep

BEHAVIOR

There is something special about being a member of the Crossmen. Many of the behaviors you are expected to do you will pick up through adopting the attitude of being a member of a world-class organization. The following is a brief outline of certain situations and the expected appropriate behaviors.

IN HOUSING SITES: You need to remember that although we are staying in the school, we are guests in that school. It is important that we treat all facilities with the utmost respect. The corps tends to stay at the same facilities from year to year, and we need to continue to maintain good relationships with the schools. This includes keeping food and drink out of the gym, being considerate to the students or sponsors at that particular facility, and leaving the school cleaner than when we arrived. Each member of the corps will have a daily job to aid in the operation of the corps on the road, and the Drum Majors will assign these.

While rehearsing, members must have a shirt with them at all times (not necessarily being worn). Often we unexpectedly find ourselves in situations where a rehearsal turns into a public clinic with local band students, directors, and school administration watching. You are virtually “on-stage” and therefore representing the organization at all times during the summer even while on the buses!

Shirts must be worn at all meals.

Bikini’s are not permitted during rehearsals.

Most housing sites are public schools, in which case smoking is prohibited on school property. Corps administration will identify a smoking area off school property for those members over 18 years of age. Due to the physical nature of our activity, smoking is highly discouraged.

IN UNIFORM: When you are in uniform the following rules apply:

1. At no time should you eat, drink (except water), or smoke in your uniform. Accidents will occur unexpectedly that may dirty, stain, or permanently damage your uniform.
2. Running in uniform is strictly prohibited; it is out of character and shows a lack of respect for the uniform.
3. Do not lean or sit on anything while in uniform unless instructed. In this instance you may sit on your gloves or a towel to prevent exposure to any dirty surfaces.
4. Do not ever swear in uniform. This is disrespectful to the uniform and the beliefs of the organization.
5. Do not ever polish your horn or your shoes while in uniform. Once again, accidents will occur unexpectedly, and you may end up spilling polish on the uniform.
6. Shaving in uniform should never take place. Due to the nature of some of the uniform parts, hair and other items will cling to the fabric.

The general rule is that if you have any concerns as to if you should or should not be doing something -- DO NOT DO IT. When you are wearing the uniform, you are not looked upon as an individual but as a member of a well-respected drum corps – the Crossmen. Most of the fans that see you behind the scenes will form their opinions of the ENTIRE CORPS from their opinions of you and how you behave in uniform. This also carries over to when you are wearing your corps jacket or any other time that you are outwardly representing the corps.

RETREAT: While the corps is on retreat there is no talking or moving – you are either at attention or parade rest. We do not play games over lines nor do we react to comments made by people or members of other corps. Whether the corps wins or not, the reaction is the same - none. The horn captain or another senior member will call you to attention to be recognized, and then you will return to parade rest. Ranks will not be broken until the corps has assembled and the final instructions have been given. When it is done, the drum majors will dismiss the corps.

This is done because we feel it is demeaning to the other corps to celebrate our victory or their defeat. It is also a long-standing tradition that the corps displays a professional bearing at all times.

AFTER DISMISSAL: Before you do **anything** after the show, you must change out of uniform (on the buses), and put it and your equipment away. You are responsible for the upkeep of your uniform and equipment throughout the summer. If there is any damage to your uniform or equipment, report it immediately to your caption head, or one of the members of the staff so that we can get it repaired as soon as possible. After you have taken care of your uniform and equipment, you may then speak with your family and friends and get something to eat at the food truck. After the show, it is your responsibility to know when the corps is leaving, and be on time!

IN GENERAL: Never speak about other corps or other corps members in a demeaning manner. They are all people like you trying to do their best. It is without a doubt an honor to wear the uniform, and you only have a limited amount of time to march in the corps - make the most of it, and carry on the pride and honor that has lived with the organization for over 25 years.

HOW TO WEAR YOUR UNIFORM

Physical Appearance

Men – Facial hair is acceptable but must be neatly trimmed – If you have no facial hair then you must be clean-shaven for each performance. Hair must be neat and cut SHORT. It should not touch the collar of your jacket. **(THIS WILL BE MONITORED VERY CLOSELY!)**

Women - Your hair must be gelled, pinned up, or put in a bun of some sort so that there is no loose hair showing outside your Aussie. It must look neat when you are not wearing your Aussie. Clips must be black or metal – no bright colors! Make-up may be worn in a conservative fashion only. No lipstick. (This does not include color guard members)

These requirements are meant to create a look of uniformity throughout the corps.

1. You may not wear any jewelry while in uniform (watches, neckpieces, bracelets, etc.). It is acceptable to wear a religious pendant (i.e., a cross, Star of David, etc.) on a chain, so long as it is not visible outside the uniform.
2. You must wear the proper undergarments while in uniform. Even though you supply these items, they are required parts of the uniform. These items include black mid-calf or higher socks, a Member t-shirt or plain black t-shirt and undergarments. No v-neck shirts can be worn under your uniform.
3. It is mandatory that your horns and Dinkles (uniform shoes) be polished before every performance. Procedure entails a complete and thorough covering of the shoes with black shoe polish or soft scrub. A spot polishing of scuffs will not do, as they tend to show through and cause a non-uniform finish when the polish dries.

HALF UNIFORM / FULL UNIFORM

1. All members must exit the buses in **full** uniform. There will be times when you will be given instructions as to getting off the bus in half uniform, but this occurs in situations of excessive heat, stretching, etc. In this case, your pants should be fully zipped; your jacket is off and folded in half over your left arm with the gauntlets safely tucked inside your Aussie (which is also in your left hand).

Unless word comes from administration via the drum major or a bus announcement, you should be in FULL UNIFORM at all times.

2. Do not change into or out of uniform in public – KEEP IT ON THE BUS!

OTHER THINGS TO THINK ABOUT WHILE IN UNIFORM

1. If someone approaches you prior to a show while you are in uniform with the intent of having a friendly talk -- engage in a short polite conversation, then let the person know that you must get ready for your performance, and that you will be able to talk to them afterwards.

2. After your show when the corps is waiting to go on retreat, it is OK to have a friendly conversation with someone from another corps. You must make sure, however, that you are alert and ready to go back out onto the field at the appropriate time.

3. After retreat, you must make sure that you change out of your uniform and properly hang it on its hanger BEFORE you do anything else. Also, do not ever take your plume on the bus. They are fragile, and tend to get badly damaged in this situation.

Above all, be constantly mindful of one important rule, there is a special way to look and to ACT as a member of this organization, and it is your responsibility to foster this appearance. ***You represent The Crossmen - past, present, and future!***

INSURANCE

Youth Education in the Arts carries \$1,000,000 liability insurance for the activities and events that we sponsor. This insurance does not cover medical expenses of the members while on tour. It is up to you to make sure that you have health insurance and the appropriate information with you when we are on tour. If you are injured or sick and need to go to the hospital, you need to have checks, a credit card or some other form of payment in order to pay the fees. YOU MUST HAVE SOME SORT OF IDENTIFICATION WHILE YOU ARE ON THE ROAD WITH THE CORPS.

CLOSING REMARKS

The staff and administration of Youth Education in the Arts are committed to providing the members of the Corps with the best possible summer experience. Please use this handbook to guide you through the summer, and answer any questions you may have concerning the drum corps. Have a great summer!

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

YEA! wishes to recognize the following issues relative to substance abuse:

1. It is important to keep the lines of communication open between members and staff regarding the use and abuse of alcohol and illegal chemical substances by anyone in the organization.
2. Substance abuse is a serious problem in the United States and may be a significant problem with a member or personnel of the corps.

YEA! therefore wishes to state publicly that:

1. The organization supports the laws of the United States and the various states relative to the use of alcohol and chemical substances. Including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, tranquilizers, crack, barbiturates, and diet pills.
2. YEA! is opposed to the non-medical use of any drugs by any of its members or staff.
3. YEA! recognizes the importance of performing at maximum capacity both as a unit and as individuals.
4. YEA! expects all associated with it to report in a state of mind and physical condition that will allow them to perform their assigned duties and responsibilities in a competent and safe manner.
5. YEA! realizes that an impaired member will not only be a danger to him / herself, but may put at risk all members of our drum & bugle corps, and may prevent performance at a maximum capacity.
6. YEA! therefore prohibits the use of illegal substances by its members, staff, and officials.

Constructively, YEA! will:

1. Inform members of their responsibilities as members.
2. Attempt to educate its members relative to the safe use of drugs via consultant, health officials and other experts.
3. If significant abuse is noted as a problem with an individual, YEA! will act in such a manner to bring a halt to such behavior. The appropriate action will be determined by the Executive Director of the Corps, after consultation with the Board of Directors, staff personnel and/or medical authorities and may include termination from the corps.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

YEA! has adopted the EEOC's definition of sexual harassment. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of sexual nature is considered to be sexual harassment when:

- submission to such conduct is made either directly or indirectly a term or condition of employment or participation;
- submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment or participation decisions which affect an employee, volunteer or student;
- such conduct has the purpose or the effect of unreasonably interfering with an employee's, volunteer's or student's routine performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.

The following are some examples of conduct, which may be considered sexual harassment and, therefore, are prohibited by this policy;

- repeated, unwelcome and offensive sexual flirtations, advances or propositions;
- continued or repeated verbal abuse of sexual nature;
- continued or repeated graphic verbal commentaries about a person's body;
- display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures;
- continued or repeated suggestive sexual comments or remarks;
- continued or repeated insults, humor or jokes about a person's sex or traits relating to sex;
- continued or repeated touching, pinching or brushing a person's body.

Sexual harassment does not refer to occasional socially acceptable compliments. It refers to behavior that is unwelcome, personally offensive or sufficiently severe or repeated that it alters the conditions of employment and creates an abusive working environment.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any employee, volunteer or student knowingly violating this policy is subject to disciplinary action, which may include reprimand, suspension, or dismissal.

“What to Bring” Checklist

Essentials

- Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Towels
- Washcloths
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Shower shoes
- Contact lens products (if needed)
- Shaving gear
- Shirts
- Shorts
- Underwear (briefs)
- Socks (practice & show)
- Sunscreen
- Shoes (2 pair recommended)
- Hat
- Shoe polish OR Soft Scrub
- Silver polish
- Identification card
- \$\$\$ For food on the road
- Rehearsal Bag
- Water Cooler
- Red Towel (Horn Players)
- Dot Book & Drill Chart Supplies

Miscellaneous

- Pain Medicine (Tylenol/Advil)
- Bug spray
- Blanket for bus (it gets cold!)
- Sweatpants
- Long sleeve T-shirt
- Pair of jeans
- Nice outfit for free days
- Journal/Notebook
- MESH Bag for dirty clothes
- Extra shoelaces
- CD/tape player
- Batteries
- Duct Tape
- Nail clippers
- Small ziploc bags
- Scissors
- Quarters for laundry
- Detergent
- Dryer sheets
- Stain stick
- Phone cards
- Flashlight
- Band-Aids
- Poncho
- Camera & film
- “Ace” bandage
- Gold Bond