

## THE 5th MICHIGAN REGIMENT BAND

The 5th Michigan Regiment Band, an internationally noted official American Revolution Bicentennial Project of the State of Michigan, is an 160-member re-creation of the Civil War Band (1861-1865) of the 5th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment.

The original regiment, with its band, was mustered through Fort Wayne, Detroit, in the early fall of 1861, and included a 24-member band, plus 20-additional fifers and drummers from the individual companies.

The new unit was formed in Howell, Michigan in the fall of 1973. It includes an 80-piece Regimental Band, a Regimental Color Party, a Historical Flags Color Party, the Regimental Dancers, the Regimental Fifes and Drums, the Regimental Bugle Band, the Regimental Banjos and Singers, and the unit quartermaster and ordinance sections. Smaller units, including the Brass Choir, the Saxophone Quartet, and the Woodwind Quintet are also a part of the entire unit.

It is appropriate that the band was formed in Howell, because Company I (The Livingston Company) of the 5th Michigan Volunteer Infantry was from the Livingston County area. The Regimental Commander killed at Fredericksburg, while leading a futile charge, was Lt. Col. John Gilluly of Brighton, also in Livingston County.

Gilluly, as a captain, had formed and commanded Company I when it was mustered into the regiment in 1861. He is buried in the cemetery by the millpond in Brighton.

The regimental musical units are under the direction of Major J. Gordon Small, Bandmaster, who is also the assistant conductor of the famous Detroit Concert Band. Bandmaster Small is a virtuoso cornetist, a post he has held with the Detroit Concert Band for 11 of the 18 years he has been with that unit.

Bandmaster Small is also the composer of the Michigan Bicentennial March, and numerous other works. His bicentennial march was selected to be played immediately before Governor William Millikin's swearing in on January 1, 1975, when the 5th Michigan performed for the Governor's Inauguration in Lansing.

The Assistant Bandmaster of the unit is 1st Lt. Betty Smith, a French Horn virtuoso, who has also been the conductor of a number of school bands during her career.

Commanding the entire unit is Major David L. Jaehnig, who was a founder of the unit, and who serves as the Bicentennial Commissioner for the City of Howell. Major Jaehnig has extensive background in band management in Michigan and Colorado.

Since its beginnings, the unit has toured extensively in Canada and the Midwest. It was, for example, selected by the Canadian government to perform at Old Fort Henry in Kingston, Ontario with the Fort Henry Guard--an honor usually reserved to the United States Marine units from Washington, D. C.

The group has also performed by special invitation at the annual Canadian National Exhibition, joining in the Exhibition Parade, which was viewed by 750,000

spectators, plus millions on Canadian television. Other bands selected for that honor included the Royal Air Force Band from London, England; the National Band of New Zealand; and the Carabinieri Band from Rome, Italy.

The many other engagements of the 5th Michigan are equally high in the list of honors: Henry Ford Museum as the ceremonial band for the Let Freedom Ring Ceremony; Greenfield Village for the annual Muzzleloaders Festival; Toronto's Ontario Place Forum, usually hosting the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Band, or popular and classical events; Toronto's Old Fort York where the unit was welcomed by the brigadier in charge of the Toronto Historical Commission; Burlington, Ontario, crowds swamped the band shell and Queen Victoria park for welcome and to hear the unit last August, as crowds vaulted from a normal 200-300 per band concert to more than 2000 as the 5th Michigan arrived.

And the list doesn't end there: From Belleville to Chatham, Ontario, from Marshall to Mt. Clemens; from Cedar Point to invitations to Disney World, from Romeo's Peach Festival to invitations to Spokane, Washington's Expo '74; and from Old Fort Wayne to Tecumseh's Sesquicentennial the 5th Michigan logged more than 60 performances at home and abroad in less than a year.

Now the Michigan Council of the Arts has taken over some of the burden, making the only band grant in the history of the National Council of the Arts ...10,000 to help the 5th Michigan and smaller Michigan communities combine to bring music and the arts to everyone.

Precision, musical excellence, and historical tradition have brought the 5th Michigan Regiment Band to international prominence, and negotiations are now working to bring the unit to Australia in 1976, to Europe in 1976, to Washington, D. C. in 1977, and to the major world marching-musical festivals in the years upcoming.

Members of the band range in age from 13 to 73, as families and professionals, students and professional men combine several times weekly to rehearse, plan, and perform for many thousands of spectators.

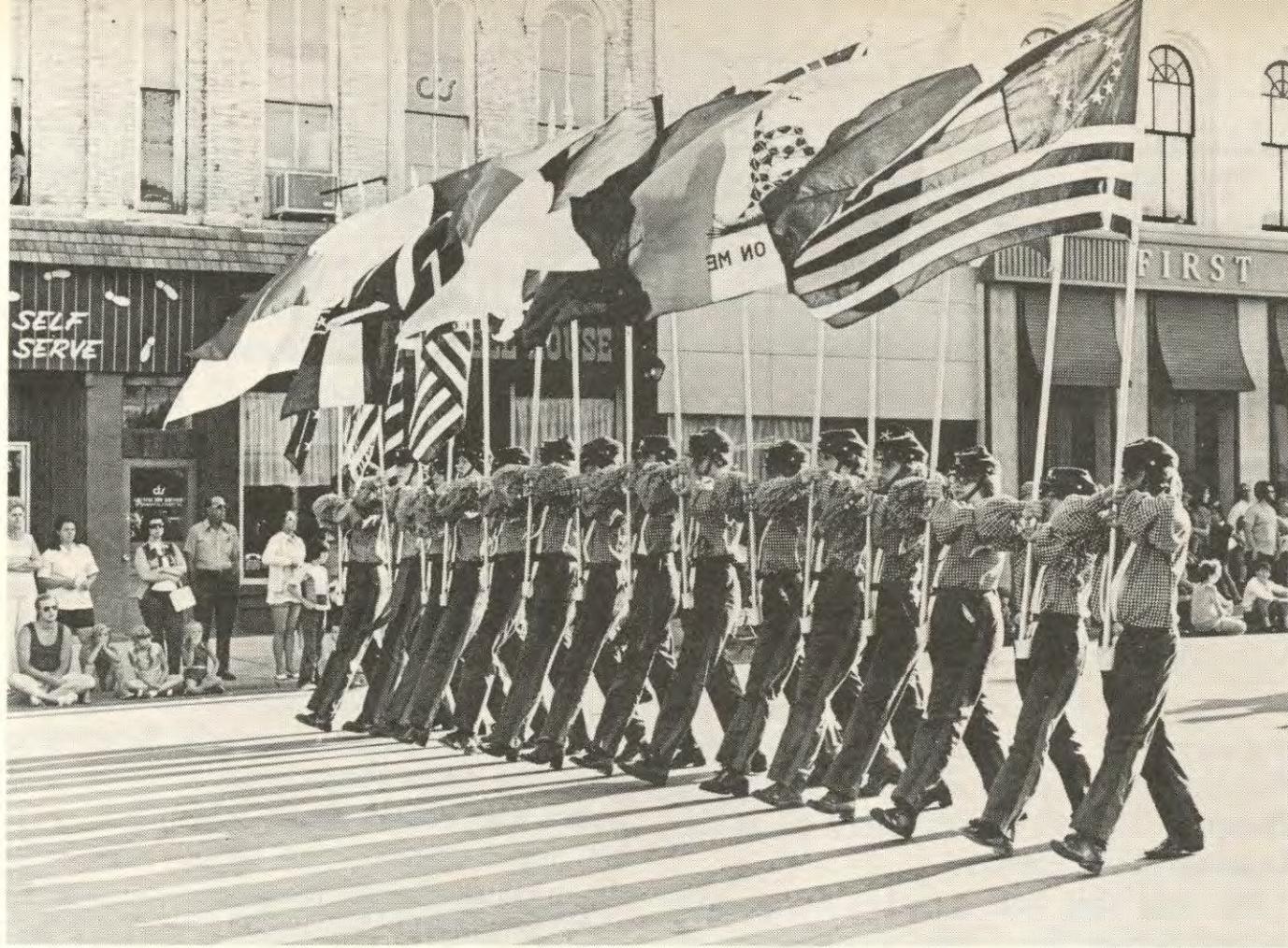
The unit is the only American Revolution Bicentennial band that was begun from scratch for the 200th Birthday Celebration. The unit is an ongoing project, however, and it will continue to thrill the audiences across the state and the world in the years to come. As the bicentennial ends in 1789 plus 200, the 5th Michigan will continue to represent American history and tradition.

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"REMEMBER"

The Historical 5th Michigan Regiment Band, the American Revolution Bicentennial unit from the City of Howell will be in DeWitt Sunday, May 11, DeWitt Football Stadium 3-5:00 PM. In case of rain, in school gym. \$1.50 adults, \$1.00 students.

SUNDAY MAY 11, 1975 - 3:00 P.M.



5th Michigan Regiment Band Historical Color Guard during a hometown performance in Howell.

## 5th Regiment Band Coming to DeWitt

On Mothers' Day, May 11, DeWitt will be host to Michigan's 5th Regiment Band, a Michigan Bicentennial project. It was formed in Howell in 1973 as a recreation of the Civil War band of the 5th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment. The 160 member unit includes an 80 piece regimental band, a regimental color party, an historical flags color party, dancers, a saxaphone quartet, a woodwind quintet, a brass choir, a bugle band, a fife and drum section, and a banjo and singers section.

The DeWitt program will be at 3 p.m. in the high school stadium or, in case of rain, in the high school gym.

Admission will be \$1.50 adults, \$1.00 students.

The films, "Cooper's Craft," and "Williamsburg, the Story of a Patriot," will be shown at the DeWitt High School auditorium twice, Sat. Sept. 13, and once, Sun. Sept. 14. There will be no charge.

On Founders Day, Oct. 4, there will be an open homes tour in DeWitt, with several homes, both old and new, open to the public. That same day will find many other project going on in DeWitt.

DeWitt was officially recognized as a U.S. Bicentennial community, Feb. 3.



SPONSORED BY THE DEWITT  
BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

SUNDAY, MAY 11,  
1975 3:00 P.M.

ADULT TICKET \$1.50  
STUDENT TICKET \$1.00

DeWitt High School Stadium