

WORLD DRUM CORPS HALL OF FAME NOMINATION

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NOMINEE INFORMATION:

First Name: Chuck Last Name: Lute  
Address: 2576 Corvette Drive  
City: Erie  
State / Province: Pennsylvania Zip / Postal Code: 16510  
Primary Phone: 814-572-1470 Email: clute2576@roadrunner.com

Membership Type: REGULAR

NOMINATION CATEGORY: ADMINISTRATION (Director, Administrator or Judge)

PERFORMANCE HISTORY:

Corps Name: Westmoreland Esquires  
Years: 1968 - 69, 71 - 72 Position: Snare  
Corps Name: Erie Thunderbirds  
Years: 1972 - 83 Position: Drum Major  
Corps Name: Hamburg Kingsmen  
Years: 2015-Present Position: Drum Major  
Corps Name: Northcoast Brass Company  
Years: 2015 - Present Position: Drum Major, Drums

INSTRUCTIONAL HISTORY:

Corps Name: Westmoreland Esquires  
Years: 1971 - 72 Position: Percussion arranger, Instructor  
Corps Name: Erie Thunderbirds  
Years: 1975 - 83 Position: Visual Coordinator, Instructor  
Corps Name: Erie Thunderbirds  
Years: 1975 - 83 Position: Brass Arranger, Instructor  
Corps Name: Ohio Brass Factory  
Years: 1983 - 84 Position: Visual Designer, Instructor  
Corps Name: Gypsy Brass  
Years: 1985 Position: Brass Instructor  
Corps Name: Johnsonburg Grey Knights  
Years: 1986 Position: Brass Instructor  
Corps Name: Hamburg Kingsmen  
Years: 2015 - Present Position: Show Coordinator, Brass Instructor

ADMINISTRATION HISTORY:

Corps Name: Erie Thunderbirds  
Years: 1974 - 83 Position: Corps Director

JUDGING HISTORY:

Association / Group: : Drum Corps Associates  
Years: 1987 - Present/30 year Position 1: Field/Ens Perc,GE Mus  
Association / Group: Drum Corps International  
Years: 2001 - 2005 Position 2: Field Perc,Ens Mus,GE Vis  
Association / Group: ICA  
Years: 1984 - 89 Position 3: Every caption  
Association / Group: WGI Northeast Winter Guard  
Years: 1982 - 2001 Position 4: Every caption

#### SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

As Thunderbird Corps Director my major accomplishment was providing the tri-state area with a quality drum and bugle corps that competed yearly with all the senior corps at that time.

In 1974, after previous corps management resigned, I assumed the role of Corps Director and show coordinator, along with the drum major responsibilities. I also served as brass arranger/instructor and visual instructor. I worked in these capacities for the next 10 years. My responsibilities included designing the shows, hiring the staff, recruiting, and managing finances.

Throughout the years the Erie Thunderbirds made a substantial impact on the senior drum corps scene. While I was Corps Director we won the 1976 & 77 RCA Championships, the 1981 & 82 ICA Championships, and maintained top 12 DCA membership status during the years of 1975, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, & 82. The corps most significant accomplishment was in 1976, when we placed 8th in DCA finals.

We were able to have a successful competing drum corps by including the youth of our area. Being the local band director, I encouraged my students to participate in the drum corps activity. As a result, we had two age groups that worked well together and learned from one another. Not only was the corps doing well, but also my marching band won the Bands of America class A 1991 Grand National Championships. Today I am still teaching many of these same musicians who are members of area drum corps. Introducing music and drum corps to many individuals who have made it a life-long activity is something I am most grateful for.

#### SPONSOR COMMENTS:

Chuck Lute is one of those rare talented individuals who possess the skills to write and teach the brass, percussion, and visual programs, while simultaneously being the Drum Major, Show Coordinator, and Corps Director of a Top Twelve DCA Drum Corps. He also finds time to help others as a brass, percussion,, and visual judge.

He has his Bachelors & Masters degree in music education and Principals Certification from Edinboro University

Now retired, he taught instrumental music for 35 years with the Erie, PA School District.

He presently teaches and conducts the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Marching Band, and Highland Percussion at Edinboro University from 2002-present.

In addition, He also judged PFCJ West Penn Colorguard from 1978-1984 and continues to judge Band Circuits PFCJ, PIMBA, NYSFBC, LMBA from 1977-Present and is qualified to judge in every caption.

He is well respected in all circles of drum corps. He has dedicated his life to the drum corps marching arts.

He is the single reason why the Erie Thunderbirds continued and were most successful. They would not have survived without his outstanding leadership and talent. He never found a challenge too great, would meet adversity head on, and stand with you as a friend and supporter.

I would never have accomplished what I have in drum corps if it wasn't for Chuck Lute giving me the opportunity to write and teach for the Erie Thunderbirds Brass line early in my career. He continues to be my mentor.

Because of his versatility, I had a challenge in assigning a category (Brass, Percussion, Visual, and Administration) to check on the nomination form. He is qualified in all categories.

His ability, experience, and knowledge qualify him as a worthy candidate for the World Drum Corps Hall of Fame. I hope you will join with me in supporting him.

#### SPONSOR INFORMATION:

First Name: Stephen Last Name: Cooley

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