



# Member's Newsletter

Volume No. 2

October 2008

## 28 DAYS and COUNTING DOWN!

Can you believe it? 28 days and we will all be together in NYC starting this incredible experience? We are just so excited and hope you are too!

By now you should all have received a confirmation from Callene Derrick our Tour Manager letting you know if you have any paperwork missing and who your roommates are. If you have not received your confirmation, PLEASE contact Callene immediately.

**Group Photos is the "Official" Photographer for the Macy's Parade.** They will be taking our group's pictures on parade day. They offer great photos and you order/deal directly with them. You can pre-ordered online at <http://www.groupphotos.com/special>. They offer a special if you order now. Check it out!

Inside this newsletter is a multitude of information you should have in preparation for your experiences in NY. If there is something specific you would like to see in the November issue, please let us know and we will do our best to include it.

We know you are all hard at work mastering the parade route and Herald Square routines. Thank you for that. We look forward to watching this all come together at our first practice.

See you soon!

Karen & David

### Inside this issue:

Callene Derrick	1
Importance of A No Drop Performance	2
Under Garments	2
Friends & Family	2
Support Staff	3
Website	3
Tentative Itinerary	4

## Callene Derrick-Lorain, OH: Our Tour Manager



We would like you to meet your tour manager, Callene Derrick. Callene lives in Lorain, Ohio along with her husband Ken. They have 3 daughters and 7 grandchildren. Twirling has been a lifelong passion of Callene's. She comes from a well known twirling family. Many of you probably either know of or have heard of Callene's sisters Kaye Nickoloff and Edna Puca. Their parents, Edna and Cal Nelson, were the driving force behind Edna Kaye's Steel City Stutters of Lorain, Ohio.

This isn't Callene's first experience with the Macy's Parade but it has been a while. She marched, with Millers Blackhawks, back in 1965. Since then, Callene has been busy living an incredibly versatile life. She has been in property management for 36 years; worked in advertising sales for 3 years; owned and operated a flower shop for 10 years and even works part time as a webmaster. She has coached for 36 years and is presently coaching for Shannon Goss of the Shannonettes from Wellington, Ohio. In addition to being the Tour Manager for BTNI and the USA Baton Twirling All Stars, Callene serves as USA Tour Coordinator for USTA and developed trips to Canada in 2007, Ireland in 2008 and is working on Australia for 2009. She is also coordinating an educational twirling cruise for March 2009.

Callene is very familiar with the administrative side of baton twirling as well. She served on USTA National Board of Directors – 3 years 2004-2007; Mid East Regional Council – past President and current Secretary; Convention Co Coordinator for 2 years; Ohio State Baton Council – Past President, Treasurer and Board member 15 years. She was instrumental in the development of tabulation software for world, national, regional, state and local level baton competitions. She is currently the Set Up Coordinator for the Northern Ohio Baton Teachers Association's Parade of Contests.

You will be thrilled with the tour that Callene has put together for our NYC event. You will receive the very finest in customer service while having the time of your life! Thanks Callene!



### TEAMWORK

***“THIS IS A  
SAFETY  
PRECAUTION  
REQUIRED  
FOR YOUR  
WELL BEING ”***



### FAMILY & FRIENDS

## The Importance of a “NO Drop” Performance in NYC

Most of the 50 plus million people who will watch this parade on television as well as the 3 million who will be on the streets of NYC along with our Family & Friends are very unknowledgeable about baton twirling. They know it is pretty, looks hard and they equate it with ice skating. The one thing that everyone knows for sure is that dropping is obviously an error.

We are thrilled that you have made it onto the very first performance line of the USA Baton Twirling All Stars. We also know that come

parade morning, no matter who you are, you are going to be, on a scale of 1-10, at some level of nervous. That is natural and can be a good thing because it keeps you focused. However, nothing will do more for you than arriving into NYC with both the parade route and Herald Square routines mastered.

Tuesday night’s rehearsal with NBC is probably the most important performance of the week. That short rehearsal will show Macy’s and NBC that they were justified in adding a performance

group that exclusively twirls batons. You must each be at your very best that night. You must know what you are doing, confidently, and show that confidence via your outstanding performance skills (smiles & lines) as well as completing your performance error free.

You, all 150 of you, are the ambassadors for baton twirling to the world. You are qualified and will be awesome.

**We are already so proud of you!**

## Special Note About Under Garments

So many of you sent us questions about both the dance sneakers and the undergarments. We hope we answered your questions. If you would like to check out what everyone was asking go to the website and read the FAQs.

As we have said before, the temperature in NYC on parade morning will most likely be anywhere from 30 to 60 degrees. I would guess

somewhere around 45 at step off time. The parade is 3 miles long and will help you stay warm BUT if the temperature is 30, you will be very grateful you spent time getting the right undergarment.

The costumes are long pants and long sleeves. It is red velvet which will also help keep you warm. (Boys, your sleeves are just the tuxedo shirt sleeve so your arms will need

layering).

Make sure you have long sleeve, long pants undergarments. We can tack down any part that shows once you try it on with your costume.

Undergarments are **REQUIRED** by Macy’s as a safety precaution so please make sure you bring them to NY with you.

## Family & Friends Tidbits

F & F tour members really have the best of both worlds. You are on the tour with your special “All Star” AND you don’t have to practice! You have the freedom to go on side trips that you and your friends (both old and new) plan either in advance or once you arrive at the hotel. All you have to remember is to be back to take charge of any “All

Star” for whom you are the “Responsible Adult”. **Monday** you are free all day (till 5PM) so that would be a good day to go into NYC and take in all that she is. **Tuesday & Wednesday** you are free until noon.

As we get closer to the big week, we will release a more detailed, but still not finalized itinerary. You should start putting your

“free time side trips” together now!

If you want help with NYC information, ground travel etc., you can contact David at [BTNI2@aol.com](mailto:BTNI2@aol.com). He will be more than glad to help.

Take advantage of every opportunity to create your own memories from this incredible trip.

## The Staff and Their Responsibilities To The All Stars

While in our practice sessions, your assigned staff member will serve as your “coach” so to speak. They are all baton coaches and will know what it takes to get you to a “primo” performance level.

### ADMINISTRATORS

**Karen Cammer, NY**  
Director

**David Mindlin, NY**  
General Manager

**Callene Derrick, OH**  
Tour Manager

### SPECIALIZED STAFF

**Alicia Savelli, NY**  
Registered Nurse

**KeriAnn Lynch, NH**  
Choreographer

**Bill & Amy Rahn, NC**  
Videographer/Documentary

**Barbara Shore, CO**  
David’s Assistant

**Ursula Carlozza, NY**  
Karen’s Assistant

**Sharon Termini, NY**  
Callene’s Assistant

### ALL STARS’ ASSISTANTS

**Denise Collado, NY**

**Kim Jarett, NY**

**Hope Kowalski Porta, NJ**

**Patti McKenna, NY**

**Kaye Nickoloff, OH**

**Debbie Salem, CA**

**Laurie Sellars, NY**

**Nancy Wasek, NY**

**Patti Wojtowicz, NJ**

*THANK YOU to this special group of people. They will assure you all have the time of your life!*



## You Are Our Inspiration

**Nobody who ever gave his best regretted it.**

*George Halas*

**The first thing is to love your sport. Never do it to please someone else. It has to be yours.**

*Peggy Fleming*

**Put everything you’ve got into everything you do.**

*John C. Maxwell*

*YOU WILL IMMEDIATELY BECOME A ROLE MODEL FOR A YOUNG PERFORMER WATCHING THE PARADE.*

## Go to [www.usabatontwirlingallstars.com](http://www.usabatontwirlingallstars.com)

The website that was created just for the All Stars is now up and running. You can also pick up other information via the BTNI website at [www.batontwirlingnetwork.com](http://www.batontwirlingnetwork.com). If you don’t find what you need on the website, please let us know.

If you have any general questions about this event, please

email them to us at [BTNI@verizon.net](mailto:BTNI@verizon.net) or [BTNI2@aol.com](mailto:BTNI2@aol.com).

We will be constantly updating the FAQ section of the website so we can help you feel confident as you prepare to arrive into NYC. When you ask a question, everyone will benefit from the answer. If you have a question that is

strictly tour related, please email Callene directly at [clderrick@centurytel.net](mailto:clderrick@centurytel.net). If your question is about the routines, KeriAnn would love for you to contact her directly at [Keriannlynch1@yahoo.com](mailto:Keriannlynch1@yahoo.com).

**Don’t be afraid to ask us anything. There is no such thing as a stupid question!**

**Check for updates on the web!**

# BASIC & TENTATIVE ITINERARY

(This will continue to be finalized and is subject to change)

## Saturday, November 22, 2008

### **Arrival into New York City and Holiday Inn at Harmon Meadows.**

All Tour Package holders must check in to the hotel by 8PM. Hotel check in begins at 3PM. Callene Derrick & All Star staff will greet you at the USA Baton Twirling All Stars' Registration table in the lobby. Between 3PM & 9PM. Once settled in your room, you are on your own for the balance of the day.

## Sunday, November 23, 2008

### **Orientation**

**First Practice (Outside)** Attire: Layered for outdoors

### **Costume Check**

**Show at Medieval Times in Lyndhurst, New Jersey** Attire: Everyday Casual

## Monday, November 24, 2008

**Practice, Practice, Practice and then Practice!** Attire: White sneakers, anklets, black shorts, supplied T shirt, hair pulled back as described on DVD, clean baton (NO TAPE-we will be taping them alike for camera), no jewelry except small stud earrings, no nail polish.

## Tuesday, November 25, 2008

**Practice** Attire: See Monday Practice BUT with your black dance sneakers.

**Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular with the Rockettes** Attire: Supplied Rehearsal Outfit

**NBC Performance Rehearsal in Herald Square (Lights, Cameras, Action-You will feel like a celebrity!)**

## Wednesday, November 26, 2008

**Full Dress Practice** Attire: Official Costume without cold weather undergarments

### **Performance for Family and Friends**

**Broadway Show** Attire: Dressy Casual

**Early To Bed-You have a BIG Day tomorrow!!**

## Thursday, November 27, 2008

### **Parade Day**

### **Happy Thanksgiving!!**

4:30 AM Breakfast

5:30 AM Board the buses Attire: YOU MUST BE FULLY DRESSED FOR PERFORMANCE

7:00 AM Assemble for Line Of March

9AM Parade Step Off

Noon Return to hotel

4:30 PM Thanksgiving Dinner and Closing Ceremonies Attire: Dressy/Semi Formal

## Friday, November 28, 2008

### **Departure Day**

Hotel Check Out by 12PM