

**The following history was provided by an eastern Oregonian who marched locally
from 1963 thru 1971.**

We thank him for his generous donation of Pacific Northwest Drum Corps history.

BAKER SCOUTS DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

Baker Scouts were mostly a standard parade style corps: American flag section, small drum section, and 10 to 15 horns (give or take) that appeared to be in the valve/rotary format (might have been just single piston models), were in brass - not chrome. The snare drummers had basic knowledge of rudiments. The (single) tenors and bass drum members all had straps attached to the bottom of their sticks (through pre-drilled holes) which they wrapped around their hands and then would twirl the sticks over their heads at certain intervals (like the "British military band" style). They wore the standard Explorer Scout uniform (same outfit worn at times by Madison Scouts, St. Paul Scouts, Racine Scouts, Buddhist Scouts, etc.). If you look up the You Tube Video "Baker Elks Drum and Bugle Corps," you'll hear much of the same music that the Baker Scouts played, although the Scouts were a little more serious about it.

Baker Scouts, Athena Falcons, and Pendleton Rangers all had within their membership ranks, during certain years, some individuals having better than average skills and abilities in percussion, brass and/or color guard performance, and they would have fit in easily with higher level drum corps had they chose to expand their drum corps experience (for example, some Rangers went on to march with DCI finalist corps). Note: Other northwest corps had the same circumstances, but only referring to the eastern Oregon drum corps here.