



Thank you Robert Morales (BDCG2011) for this photo!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER CAMP #3 – MARCH

While we really lucked out weather-wise for the January and February camps, we were not so lucky for our March camp. It really felt as though everything missed during January and February decided to pour on us.

We finally got out to watch some of the drill rehearsal. After about 15 minutes it started raining. Got a kick out of the fact that the majority of the instructors starting coming off the field while the Corps members started running back onto the field to do another run. Everyone got soaked.

This just shows the dedication and enthusiasm of this group of young people. For the first time in quite some time, we were allowed to use the gym at the school for the ensemble on Sunday. It was great seeing quite a number of parents and friends showing up to watch the rehearsal. We still had no idea of the theme or title of



this year's show. Dave Gibbs said he would be making an announcement "shortly." The music we have heard so far is absolutely beautiful and we can't wait to see and hear more.

In the meantime the 2011 show has been announced. Please find the details on the next page.

We have to shout out a big thank you for our Devil's Food cook crew. Not many people realized these great people made sure everyone was fed some very tasty

meals – even though Devil's Food was in the process of being remodeled and the majority of the truck was totally unusable. Cooking for that many people under some extremely difficult conditions was not easy. We were pleased to have a few new parents come to help.

If you are in the area during the next camp in May, come on by.

We don't think Devil's Food will be completed until at least the May camp, but we know Toby Bush will have some of the new cabinets and shelves in place. We can't wait to see the completed project. With Toby doing the construction, how can it be anything but great.



As always, we were appreciative of the people who helped out in Devil's Food, housed members and/or made sure they had transportation to/from rehearsals and in some cases to the airports.

Coming in for monthly camps can get very expensive and any way we can help to save them money is so appreciated.

THE 2011 BDA SHOW

(AS ANNOUNCED AT WWW.BLUEDEVILS.ORG)

"The Beat My Heart Skipped" includes such Bacharach treasures as:

- *A House Is Not a Home*
- *Summer of 77*
- *Walk On By*
- *One Less Bell To Answer*

- *Woman*
- *I Say A Little Prayer*
- *Wives And Lovers*
- *God Give Me Strength*



***But a chair is not a house
And a house is not a home
When there's no one there to hold you tight
And no one there to kiss goodnight***

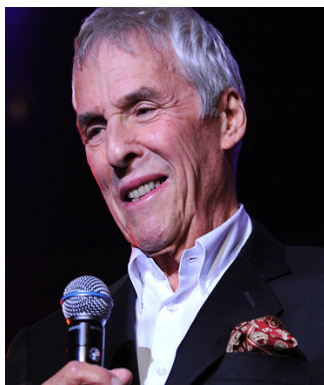
"On an almost daily basis, Burt Bacharach and his incomparable lyricist, Hal David, sat in a windowless cubicle and saw the outside world in intricate time signatures, diminished chord sequences, soaring melodies and thought provoking prose. Taken instrumentally, Bacharach's music screams with passion.

From the mightiest orchestral swell to the quietest keyboard glissando, you are always made to feel as if you're either about to be loved or about to be left. Whether it's that first glance or the last door slam is of little consequence. You feel a part of something - something big."

— **Serene Dominic** from his book
"Burt Bacharach Song By Song"

***Forever, forever you'll stay in my heart
and I will love you
Forever, forever we never will part
Oh, how I'll love you***

The avalanche of coverage and inclusion of Burt Bacharach's work into popular culture and classic reference should be of little surprise to anyone. Bacharach's rich catalog continues to garner a groundswell of worship from generation to generation and it was only a matter of time before the magic made it's way to the drum corps



performance arena.

The 2011 Blue Devils present a rich, and long overdue look into the mastery of Burt Bacharach's music.

***Together, together, that's how it must be
To live without you
Would only be heartbreak for me.***

Without question, there is a respected history and a living, breathing, very modern life-form taking shape in the Blue Devils production of *"The Beat My Heart Skipped"*. The maestro meets the motion in an emotional whirlwind of dazzling artistry rising from the blueprint of a seemingly ordinary array of yard lines. Bacharach along with the masterful performers of the Blue Devils are an invigorating combination of contemporary creativity with classic DNA. The joy of this invigorating combination travels the US for a summer of sheer drum corps celebration.

***Though I try to forget
It just can't be done
Each time the door bell rings
I still run***

BOOSTER BITS



"B" CORPS CRAB CIOPPINO FUND RAISER: As always, this event was extremely well organized and the attendance was to capacity. Members of the "B" Corps served as our servers for the evening and we kept them hopping.

The food was so great it was hard to stop eating. Of course, being so full we excused ourselves from taking part in the dancing portion of the evening. However, it was fun watching everyone having a good time dancing to the very enjoyable music.



The raffle prizes and the items for the silent auction were unbelievable. Putting this event together had to take an enormous amount of time and energy. Once again - well done. Put us down for next year.

WORD FROM OUR JAPANESE MEMBERS: We were happy to hear from our Japanese members that they were all ok and so far not affected by everything that has been going on. As far as we know, most of them are currently planning to be at the next camps. We

also heard from several former members and they reported on the various people they knew. They all expressed their appreciation for the fact that so many people were concerned about their welfare.



AFTER FINALS BRUNCH: It is final – we are going to have our traditional “After Finals Brunch” in Indianapolis on Sunday, August 14 at the Wyndham Hotel. Since the brunch is sponsored by the Booster Club as a thank you to the Corps members and the touring staff, there is no charge to them. The brunch is, of course, open to family, friends and fans.

The estimated cost will be \$35 (*same as last year*) and we are asking for prepaid reservations. More details will be published in a later newsletter, but if you think you might be interested in attending, we estimate the starting time around 10:00 a.m. and the brunch is usually over before 1:00 p.m.- we eat, laugh, cry and say our goodbyes.

We have learned that flights out after Finals can get booked up very early, so please take this in to consideration if you plan to attend the brunch.

BASEBALL & FOOTBALL FUND RAISERS

The boosters have a schedule for the various games we can participate in - contact mossyvonne52@gmail.com. As this is our major fundraiser, we are very concerned about the current situation going on with the football teams.

Should there be fewer (or no) games, this would have a very serious impact on our income. Hopefully we will be able to work more baseball games.

Since we are given a better booth when we have more people, please consider helping in this area. Even one or two games during the season would be extremely appreciated.



FROM DEVIL'S FOOD MAESTRO CAROL VARGAS: HELP FOR DEVIL'S FOOD !

Good Afternoon, I have a tip which I found in one of my books. Who knows, it may work... *"a handful of dry laundry detergent scattered in garbage cans after cleaning will help repel flies and other insects."*

Also: ask people to save the plastic coffee can lids. We use them a lot for the grease cans. Never have enough.

NEW CONFERENCE ROOM

We aren't sure just who was involved in designing the new conference room at the Blue Devils, but the room

turned out to be one that really shows off the accomplishments of the Blue Devils in an extremely classy manner. There is one wall that is the “International” wall. We were also pleased to see the pictures and images of the DCI Championship trophies in the Bingo hall.



CONGRATULATIONS !!

to Blue Devils A guard and Open Guard – Champions!!! and to SCV winter drums – Champions!!



PB&J

As we approach the May and June all days the corps needs sustenance and traditionally the boosters have helped with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to get them through the day from breakfast to dinner.

This year the boosters are a little more financially strapped than usual and so we can sure use donations of peanut butter, jelly, bread, gift cards, or cash to help sustain these wonderful athletes and performers through the dog days of tour prep. Contact Yvonne Moss if you can help



mossyvonne52@gmail.com

FIRST SHOWS EARLIER THIS YEAR

The Blue Devils will be meeting the major competition much earlier this year and in more competitions than ever in Texas and elsewhere. The first shows are scheduled for June 18 (Fort Worth, TX) and June 19 (Round Rock, TX)

DCI HALL OF FAME

CONGRATULATIONS TO TODD RYAN VISUAL CAPTION HEAD AND MARCHING INSTRUCTOR !

For more than 30 years, Todd Ryan has proudly worked "down in the trenches," teaching corps members how to march, while demonstrating his profound ability to "clean" the most complicated drill forms and movements. "The practitioners/cleaners are sometimes looked upon as occupying a somewhat less glamorous step on the scale of who most influences the drum corps activity," said Hall of Fame member James Elvord.

"Todd through mastery of his craft has shattered that tradition and has shown there is pure genius in the practical art of teaching. Todd is considered among the best, if not the best of all present day movement technicians." Ryan got his start in drum corps in the 1970s first as a member of the 32nd Hussar, before spending seven years with the Madison Scouts from 1973-79.

He went on to serve as a staff member with a number of corps including the Madison Scouts, Les Eclipses, Star of Indiana, Pioneer, and the Blue Devils where he still teaches today. Many dedicated and extremely talented individuals make a career in drum corps never having the opportunity to instruct a group that has won a DCI World Championship. Ryan has not only achieved that feat with one corps, he's done it with four, including the Madison Scouts (1988), Pioneer (1991, 1995), Star of Indiana (1991), and the Blue Devils where he's been involved with an incredible string of eight championship titles since 1994.

Even with that almost unimaginable competitive success to his credit, Ryan continues to do his job with a trademark understated and modest demeanor. "One thing that strikes me about Todd is his unassuming nature. He is always in the background," said DCI judge

and Hall of Fame member George Oliviero.

"He prefers do his work with the corps members and doesn't wish to be a visible part of celebrations and [judge] critiques, etc. That leads me to understand that his work is FOR the members!"

As drum corps performances have become more advanced and physically demanding, Ryan has been instrumental in developing new techniques to allow corps members to execute difficult maneuvers while playing, marching and maneuvering at fast tempos.

According to former Star of Indiana Director James Mason, who brought Ryan in to be a part of his corps' staff in 1989, "The technique that Todd perfected [with Star in the early 1990s] is currently one of the most successful marching styles that we have today."

Ryan's lasting legacy will no doubt be one that is measured by the sheer number of corps members he has instructed, many whom have gone on to become visual staff members and caption heads for top drum corps and marching bands across the country.



• **Todd Ryan applauding the Blue Devils during last year's victory encore performance**

"Great teachers are the 'life blood' of great organizations," said former Blue Devils Director and Hall of Fame member Michael Moxley. "Todd Ryan's impact on the performance and competitive achievements of the Blue Devils has been tremendous, and the drum corps activity has been the beneficiary of scores of new teachers that have learned under the skilled direction of this 'master of the art.'"

REMEMBERING STAR OF INDIANA FOUNDER BILL COOK

Bill Cook, Bloomington, Ind. businessman, philanthropist and founder of the Star of Indiana Drum and Bugle Corps who died late Friday, April 15 at the age of 80.

Cook, with a grant from his company Cook Group Incorporated, founded Star



of Indiana in 1984. Under his leadership the corps quickly rose to competitive success, winning the Drum Corps International World Championship in 1991.

After the 1993 DCI season, Star of Indiana morphed into the stage shows "Brass Theatre" and the Tony award-winning "Blast!" Many former Blue Devils benefited from his tutelage in Blast.

A GLIMPSE OF THE APRIL CAMP MEETING

Saturday morning, 8:45 AM. Blue Devils Bingo Hall, The corps has their food, breakfast and sack lunch, graciously prepared by the Booster club and some staff. Pete Emmons starts off the meeting with talk and reminders about forms, forms, and more forms. The color guard has arrived to the sounds of raucous cheering. Scholarship applications are discussed (more forms). Payment of fees is addressed (more forms).



Then Drum Major Andrew plays a video documenting the 14 time World Champion Blue Devils down through the years. Pretty impressive and lots of memories for us older folk including the first event trip for the Blue Devils in 1973 When the bus broke down within the first 3 hours. What an auspicious beginning demonstrating the tenacity of the corps from day one.



Dave Gibbs then spoke about legacy and despite the rich legacy of the Blue Devils this show belongs to this year's corps not the past. System Blue was mentioned highlighting the success based growth of the Blue Devils into a groundbreaking worldwide business marketing their own top-notch products. The education aspect of BD was addressed concerning the numerous

clinics and camps the corps will conduct across the country and indeed throughout the world.

Then Dave addressed important aspects of the components that make for a successful corps:

Responsibility, dreaming of personal and group achievement, how a dream comes from action, commitment, and dedication, all hallmarks of a successful corps and how the Blue Devils set the standard for all corps. He cited choices concerning attitude and behavior, as well as mentioning having fun and learning from the best staff in drum corps, that success in the corps and in life comes from being

positive and leading by example, walking the walk, not just talking the talk.

This remarkable motivational address was followed by an overview of the season and the early start against top competition as well as the 5 special shows highlighting the top 8 corps both in competition and collaboration. He presented quite a vision of the season as the corps continues their prep for the tour launch in 6 weeks, Vintage Gibbs! He ended by meeting with the color guard to go over forms and forms and forms.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

SUNDAY, JUNE 12 – Blue Devil Family Day – Diablo Valley College – Pleasant Hill, CA.

We had a great turn-out last year with so many family members and friends. We usually start the day with pictures of the three Corps by Jolesch Photography, a fantastic potluck at the park and an evening of entertainment by the three BD Corps members. It's a great day and truly a "Family" event. Tickets on sale now from the BD website.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24 – Mid-Cal Tour of Champions – Buchanan High School - Clovis, CA. We are looking forward to seeing The Cadets, Phantom Regiment, Blue Knights plus several of the California corps. Tickets are on sale at blueforyou.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25 – DCI West – Stanford University – Palo Alto, CA

What a great day this is. Tickets are on sale at www.blueforyou.com. If you can, check out the tickets that include the fabulous BBQ before the show on blueforyou.com. It's well worth it!

FUTURE CAMPS - May 27-30 (Memorial Day Camp). As always, if you are available to help out with Devil's Food duties at any of the camps for any length of time, we would LOVE to hear from you.

Please contact Sheryl Miles at: smiles@bluedevils.org



• Rehearsal at MARS (photo provided by Kevin Ronan)



BLUE DEVILS TOUR 2011

- June 12 [Family Night Preview](#) - Pleasant Hill, CA
- June 15 **Leave on tour**
- June 18 [DCI Ft. Worth](#) - Fort Worth, TX
- June 19 [DCI Austin](#) - Round Rock, TX
- June 21 [Drums Along the Sandias](#) - Albuquerque, NM
- June 22 [Southwest Corps Connection](#) - Mesa, AZ
- June 24 [MidCal Champions Showcase](#) - Clovis, CA
- June 25 [DCI West](#) - Stanford, CA
- June 26 [Moonlight Classic](#) - Stockton, CA
- July 2 [Corps at the Crest](#) - Walnut, CA
- July 3 [Western Corps Connection](#) - Riverside, CA
- July 6 [Corps Encore](#) - Salt Lake City, UT
- July 9 [Drums Along the Rockies](#) - Denver, CO
- July 10 [Drums Across Nebraska](#) - Omaha, NE
- July 12 [Summer Showdown](#) - West Des Moines, IA
- July 13 [Sioux Empire Spectacular](#) - Sioux Falls, SD
- July 16 [DCI Minnesota](#) - Minneapolis, MN
- July 17 [Show of Shows](#) - Rockford, IL
- July 18 [Brass Impact](#) - Kansas City, MO
- July 21 [DCI North - Dallas](#) - Denton, TX
- July 22 [DCI Houston](#) - Houston, TX
- July 23 [DCI Southwestern Championship](#) - San Antonio, TX
- July 24 [I & E Championship](#) - San Antonio, TX
- July 26 [Mississippi Sound Spectacular](#) - Ocean Springs, MS
- July 27 [DCI Southern Mississippi](#) - Hattiesburg, MS
- July 29 [Masters of the Summer Music Games](#) - Murfreesboro, TN
- July 30 [DCI Southeastern Championships](#) - Atlanta, GA
- July 31 [NightBEAT](#) - Charlotte, NC
- August 3 [Music In Motion](#) - West Chester, PA
- August 4 [East Coast Classic](#) - Lawrence, MA
- August 6 [DCI East](#) - Allentown, PA
- August 7 [Music in Motion](#) - Piscataway, NJ
- August 8 [Drums Along the Waterfront](#) - Orchard Park, NY
- August 11 [DCI Quarterfinals](#) - Indianapolis, IN
- August 12 [DCI Semifinals](#) - Indianapolis, IN
- August 13 [DCI Finals](#) - Indianapolis, IN



• *The new version and the old version*



• *Luxury is having a curb to sit on while eating*



Check out photos, videos, recordings and member blogs on:

<http://bluedevils.org/mediabox/>

Meetings the first Tuesday of every month - Come join us !

I-HOP Restaurant - Martinez, CA

7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

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