

BLUE DEVILS

Booster Club Newsletter

"DEVILS PRIDE"

Spring 2012

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We were very pleased to see the progress made at the spring camps. The mornings were spent with the visual staff and afternoons and evenings working on the music. Camps were going full bore in March to be followed by welcoming the color guard in April. We didn't have a clue as to the theme or title of this year's show until May, but that is not unusual for this time of year.



It isn't that we were keeping things secret; the administrative staff was still busy working on all the rights to use the music both on the field and on the recordings – plus a multitude of other administrative things that need to be finalized before a public announcement is made.



Nothing worse than announcing one thing and then having to change it to something else later on. We think a portion of the music sounds a little like a couple

of other years but definitely with a new twist. We can't wait to see and hear more of what our instructors will come up with. Yes, it is going to be another interesting year. Just check out the BD web site for dates and locations and come on by and see what you think – visitors are always welcome to the Blue Devil practices.

Once again we were blessed with beautiful California weather for the spring. Whew! Rainy weather during camps makes for a very messy, sloppy weekend.

We certainly appreciated everyone who showed up to help with the cooking and cleaning chores. For camps, the members are fed breakfast and (if Devil's Food stays at the Blue Devil Hall) they pack a sack lunch both days and dinner is provided on Saturday. This time dinner consisted of a great spaghetti dinner with Caesar salad, garlic bread, corn, fruit and chocolate pudding with whipping cream – the dinner received great reviews with many members coming back for seconds and thirds.



Members were able to eat inside the Bingo hall and spent some time conversing and meeting with a few of the Bingo players. It was our pleasure to invite some of the Bingo workers to join us for dinner. If you happen to be in the area during any of the rehearsal dates, please stop by and say HI.

Of course, we always welcome anyone who would like to help with Devil's Food. It is fun getting to know the kids as they come in to say hi, get a cup of coffee, tea or whatever.

Once again, we feel we most definitely have some of the most wonderful young people we could possibly ask for.

If you have any questions, just send Sheryl Miles a quick note at (smiles@bluedevelils.org). We hope to see you here or on tour.

We definitely need help from our local parents and friends with future baseball and football games. The income we get by working the concession stands is what makes it possible for the Booster Club to provide so many things for members of the "A" Corps. While we certainly appreciate the help we get from the Renegades and the Santa Clara Vanguard personnel, when we have other people helping, any money received is prorated and our share gets reduced. In order to retain one of the best moneymaking concession stands, we are required to have a certain number of workers and we have not been able to reach this number with just Blue Devil locals. Once the new 49er stadium is built, we will most likely see our treasury reduced considerably.



We are working on our "Peanut Butter & Jelly for All Days" endeavor. If you know of any company who might be willing to donate anything, please let us know. We would be most grateful for any amount of PB&J (have you seen the cost of peanut butter lately?). While we do try to provide a dinner or two, by all-days, PB&J is a major lunch source for many of the members and we go through a massive amount of PB&J and bread.

We are also starting to work on our "Toiletries on Tour" collection. As the vast majority of kids have depleted their funds by the middle of tour, the Booster Club sends a few things along to help out. The most popular items they either lose or run out of are toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, Gold Bond powder (sample size), body wash, and black socks. We currently have a supply bar soaps, shampoo and conditioners that have been donated.



Our luck ran out weather wise a couple of times with rain/wind/cold! Did our Devil's Food crew panic? Of course not. The tables for the sack lunches were set up right inside the Bingo hall out of the rain. When

everything is being blown off the tables, the breakfasts and dinners are served inside Devil's Food, cafeteria style. From all the laughter that went on from the members and the cook crew, it was obvious our "Devil's Food Cafeteria" was a huge success. While it was extremely busy, it was definitely a fun time. Thanks to all the Devil's Food volunteers.

Sonja Williams



APRIL BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

What a treat it was to have Brass Caption Head, John Meehan, as our guest speaker. We were able to ask many questions about how the shows are conceived and produced, BDEntertainment, System Blue, John's role in the production of the show, his background and current involvement in other endeavors. The evening was very enjoyable and extremely educational. We hope to be able to have other staff members join us at future meetings when time allows.

Also, our sympathies go out to Lee Kelley and family following the passing of husband George who spent many, many years involved with the Blue Devils

CRAB CIOPPINO

SPONSORED BY BLUE DEVILS B DRUM & BUGLE CORPS



"B" CORPS CIOPPINO DINNER

Once again this very popular fund-raising event was sold out! And, once again, everyone in attendance had an evening of a great dinner, great music, meeting up with old friends again and meeting new ones – just an evening that was extremely fun. The auction prizes were outstanding. The Milena and Odello families and their crew certainly know how to put on a well-



organized event. Special thanks to the group from Half Moon Bay that helped with the cooking, etc.

This group used to be part of The Los Cabelleros/Half Moon Bay Dons, which was one of the most spectacular drill teams in the area in the 1950s and 60s.



A CORPS 2012: CABARET VOLTAIRE!

Born in the heart of Europe in the midst of WW1, the Dada movement displayed a raucous skepticism about accepted values and may have had the greatest influence on contemporary art of any avant-garde movement.

The first public gathering of Dada came to life within a small café turned cabaret named to pay homage to the great satirist of Enlightenment mores and politics – Voltaire. The cabaret would soon become a theatrical event that involved radical innovation-its definition of a mode of artistic practice in which art could elicit audience response, be it shock or conspiratorial amusement.

Welcome to the challenging, whimsical, thought-provoking world of **Cabaret Voltaire** which launched an age of questioning that made its international way into a variety of artistic forms from poetry and theatre to dance and sculpture.

"I wish to blur the firm boundaries which we self-certain people tend to delineate around all we can achieve." (Hannah Hoch)

The search for the Dada parallels in today's world fuels the 2012 Blue Devils production with a range of music from the influential Satie to the iconic exploration of Mingus.



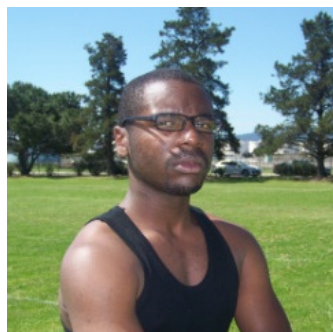
Zurich Old Town, Switzerland
Cabaret Voltaire Exterior

Dada lives through an exciting circle of musical and visual questions and answers.

Disruptive by design and irreverently iconoclastic, the Blue Devils' show travels the U.S. for this exciting showcase of drum corps most talented performers. For more details including the music selections see bluedevels.org

FROM TWO DRUM MAJORS:

Marvin James Reed Jr.



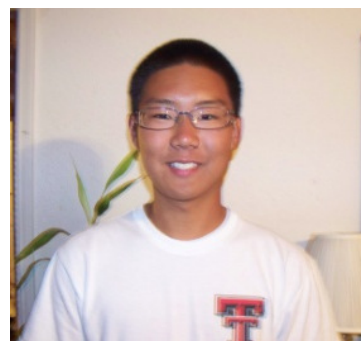
He is from Sacramento, Ca and is a Sociology Major at Sacramento State. He ages out in 2013 and afterwards hopes to stay connected with BD and work with high school marching bands. He would also like to judge Drum Majors in the NCBA circuit. A favorite quote - *"Begin*

with the end in mind"

Isaac Lee

From Plano, TX. he attends Texas Tech University as a Music Education Major, having graduated from Plano Senior High School. He ages out 2014.

After BD he hopes to become administrative staff member or instructor for Forte, his alma mater Open Class Corps. His first time participating in the Blue Devils organization, He comes in with much passion and enthusiasm and will strive to do his best. He is definitely looking forward to being a part of the best marching ensemble in the world, as well as Cheesy Bagels (*a Devil's Food favorite*).



WISDOM FROM DEVIL'S FOOD'S OWN CAROL VARGAS

- 1 ATTITUDE is the mind's paintbrush. It can color any situation.
- 2 The power to win must come within.
- 3 4 steps to Achievement: Planning, Preparation, Practice and Persistence.
- 4 Never settle for less than your best..
- 5 An error doesn't become a mistake until you refuse to correct it.

Removing burnt from a pan: If pans and skillets are burned , fill them partly with water , add 1 tsp baking soda and then boil gently until pan/skillet is clean.

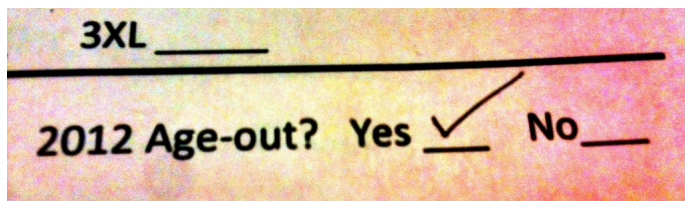


DEMOGRAPHICS OF A CORPS, 2012

States represented:

AL-1	AR-1	AZ-7	CA-92
FL-4	HI-1	IN-2	LA-2
MI-1	NE-1	NM-1	OH-1
OK-2	OR-2	SC-1	TX-20
UT-3	VA-1	WA-3	

CANADA-1 JAPAN-2



Age Outs:

1 YR-7	2 YR-12	3YR-11	4 YR-5
5 YR-1			

By Section

Bass-3	Snare-2	Tenor-2
Pit-4	Euphoniums-3	Mellophones-2
Trumpets-4	Tubas-5	Guard-10
DM-1		

Ages:

15-2	17-4	18-13	19-40
20-46	21-34	22-10	

Average Age: **19.79**

Total Yrs in the corps: **263**



DCI HALL OF FAME FROM BD

Mel Stratton: Blue Devils visual instructor and designer 1970-1980

Working with the Blue Devils during the corps' formative years, Mel Stratton is a drum corps visual pioneer that helped lay the foundation of success that the corps still stands on today.

A snare drummer with the Blue Devils Drum & Bell Corps in the 1960s (*the pre-cursor to the drum and bugle corps*), Stratton settled back in the Blue Devils' hometown of Concord, Calif. With the Blue Devils he would serve as a designer and overall visual instructor (*then known as marching and maneuvering*), in addition to the caption head for the organization's winter and summer color guard programs.

According to 2008 Hall of Fame inductee Rick Odello, Stratton became one of the most influential visual and color guard instructors in Blue Devils history by creating drills that excelled in both visual imagery and difficulty.



Blue Devils alum and 2004 DCI Hall of Fame inductee Stephanie Lynde said. "He was fully committed to bringing about change no matter what ... He was always asking the question, 'What else is possible?' And, 'How can this get better than it is?' Therein was the foundation of the Blue Devils' philosophy and the expansive energy that continues to go beyond what we could ever imagine possible."

Working with a staff made up of future Hall of Fame greats, Stratton would be responsible in the corps' early years to put the group on a trajectory toward greatness. After placing 23rd in the Blue Devils' first national tour and trip to the World Championships in 1973, just three years later the group would win its first of four Championships between 1976 and 1980.

Scott Johnson: Blue Devils percussion director and arranger 1994-present

While percussion instructor and arranger Scott Johnson could certainly hang his hat on the incredible number of competitive accolades he's helped achieve on the performance field — *an incredible 14 World Championship titles with the Blue Devils and a dozen high percussion caption awards* — he is perhaps better known among students and colleagues for his masterful ability and willingness to teach and share his "tricks of the trade" with audiences around the world.

"If there is one area in which Scott has immeasurably contributed to the marching arts, it is in the largeness of his generosity in giving to his students his time, his patience, and his unwavering passion and dedication to the drum corps activity," said Neal Flum, a former student of Johnson's and currently the associate director of athletic bands at the University of Alabama.



"As great is the number of titles, awards and honors that Scott has earned through his tireless work and dedication, but far greater is the number of lives he has positively affected."

It is Johnson's caring personality and casual demeanor that many say is what makes him such a valued, respected and effective educator to all who he comes in contact with.



"Not only is Scott an example of the best player, musician and arranger, he has the personality that few develop to make students truly feel valued and respected," said Ron Hardin, who worked with Johnson on the staff of the Santa Clara Vanguard.

"Scott's motto has always been, 'If you're not having fun, you're doing it wrong.' The genuine enthusiasm he brings to each and every rehearsal and meeting has been unmatched in anyone I've worked with." He is a sought after clinician and educator in a growing number of countries including Japan, Canada, Germany, The Netherlands, South Africa and Indonesia.



REMINDER

Tickets are now available at bluedevils.org for Family Day (Pleasant Hill), MidCal Champions Showcase (Clovis), DCI West (Stanford), Semifinals and Finals (Indianapolis).

B CORPS REPERTOIRE

Ecstatic Waters

From quiet streams to roaring rivers, with calm collecting pools and bubbling springs, water's diverse path is one of nature's most dynamic forces; with the power to carve canyons from solid rock, and the ability to provide life all along it's path, water lends it's versatility to Blue Devils B in 2012!

Will you brave the rapids? ...or enjoy the peaceful tranquility of the calm surface yet marvel at the raw power of the current underneath? Make no mistake, it will be an extraordinary journey, and you will always remember your adventure on the "Ecstatic Waters"!

Calm

Ecstatic Waters - Steven Bryant

Rapids

Kingfishers Catchfire - John Mackey

Ecstatic Waters

Steven Bryant

Over the Edge

Original Music - John M. Meehan, Brian Dinkel, and John Mapes

Splashdown

Original Music - Brian Dinkel, John M. Meehan, and John Mapes

River's End

Kingfishers Catchfire - John Mackey

Original Music-John M. Meehan, Brian Dinkel, and John Mapes



BLUE DEVILS A CORPS DCI TOUR

June 22 - Clovis, CA	July 21 - San Antonio, TX
June 23 - Stanford, CA	July 23 - Lafayette, LA
June 24 - Sacramento, CA	July 25 - Hattiesburg, MS
June 30 - Walnut, CA	July 27 - Murfreesboro, TN
July 1 - Riverside, CA	July 28 - Atlanta, GA
July 3 - Ogden, UT	July 29 - Charlotte, NC
July 7 - Denver, CO	July 30 - Charleston, WV
July 9 - Omaha, NE	July 31 - Dublin, OH
July 10 - Waukee, IA	August 3 - Allentown, PA
July 14 - Minneapolis, MN	August 5 - East Rutherford, NJ
July 15 - Rockford, IL	
July 16 - Olathe, KS	
July 19 - Denton, TX	
July 20 - Houston, TX	

August 9-11

Indianapolis, IN

DCI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Booster Meetings

Meetings - 7 PM the first Tuesday of every month at the IHOP in Martinez - Come join us!

OFFICERS:

Sonja Williams - President

Tom Wills - Secretary & Sunshine

Katie Wills - Membership

Yvonne Moss - Vice President

Kaffy Cecil - Treasurer

Newsletter coordinator/writer : Tom Wills

Newsletter format editor :

Hans Kloppert - The Netherlands