

“DEVIL’S PRIDE”

BLUE DEVILS BOOSTER CLUB

2014 - #2

We are extremely happy to report that our Tour Director Pete Emmons is home and recuperating well from his recent heart surgery. We are sure he is chomping at the bit to get back into drum corps action. Pat Siedling will be handling all the camp responsibility until such time as Pete returns. Cards may be sent to the Blue Devils Hall and they will be taken to Pete. Take good care of yourself, Mr. Pete.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY CAMPS – Even without the color guard and the pit members, we had an enormous amount of people for the January camp as many of these were “call backs” from earlier auditions. We had worried about reports of possible rain for the February camp. Rain and camps are really messy. However, we were truly blessed in that both our camp weekends were absolutely beautiful. These two camps are especially difficult as many of the call backs are told they did not make the Corps. However, we know that, as in the past, many of this group will get calls from the instructors later on as people are not able to continue in the Corps due to various reasons. Changes can be made up to and even during tour. It does bother us to find out that for some it is their last year to march and their former corps will not allow them to come back if they audition for another corps. Spots that were open due to 2013 age-outs: Bass: 2 Euphoniums: 4 Guard: 11 Mellophones: 8 Pit: 7 Snares: 3 Tenors: 3 Trumpets: 8 Tuba: 0 Drum Major: 1 Total 47. There are usually more openings as some members find they are not able to return for one reason or another.

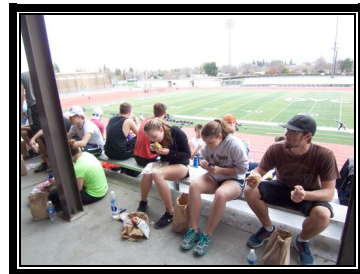
Of course, our Devil’s Food crew did a great job of getting everyone fed. It’s always fun to hear all the remarks from the new people: “I don’t eat this well at home” – “You mean I can have a second helping?” Sandy and Carol are absolutely the best. Many thanks to everyone who helped out.



Sack Lunch at DVC



Famous Cheese Bagels



Seats are a luxury

DCI WINTER BUSINESS MEETING – On February 6-9, more than 150 members of the DCI community met in Scottsdale, AZ. Dan Acheson and Wayne Leide reported in 2013 DCI realized its third most profitable year as a result of strong ticket sales and business growth across many sanctioned tour events, DCI championships, etc. Dan Acheson also reported the “Big, Loud & Live” broadcast in the movie theaters set another viewing record. The DCI World Championship Finals, combined with those viewing the live webcast, resulted in the largest audience for the season-culminating event since the 1981 Championships in Montreal. The meetings were held to assess the business of DCI, exchange best practices and to discuss the educational and competitive aspects of DCI’s World and Open Class corps. BD Executive Director David Gibbs was elected to a one-year term to serve on the Board of Directors.

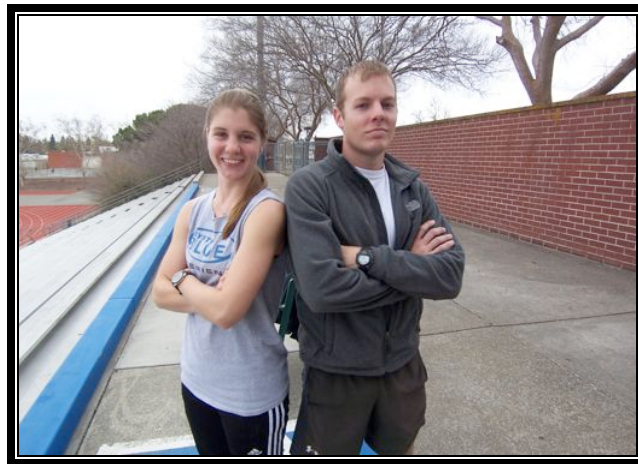
Extended discussion was held regarding issues that have arisen since DCI’s current judging system was implemented in 2012. There is confusion for performers and the audience alike, mainly due to the way the Open Class corps have been scored. The judging sheets for Open Class have been the same as those

used for World Class with just a difference in how they were applied. It was voted to utilize the same scoring system as the World Class units throughout the entire summer (previously starting with the World Championships in August). While this may result in lower scores, the corps staffs and members will hopefully “have a better understanding as to how they stack up across the breadth of the competitive spectrum.” Minimum show times: Open Class 8-1/2 minutes – World Class 10 minutes.

Two rules proposals were submitted. The first aiming to create an “Entertainment Effect” caption as part of the adjudication process with corps being awarded points based on their “art of communication with the audience.” The original proposal was rescinded in favor of backing a more broadly supported “Total Effect” concept. The concept will be further evaluated. The second proposal recommended any brass instrument be allowed in competition. This would include instruments not traditionally considered to be of the “bell-front” variety as stipulated in the DCI rulebook. The proposal passed overwhelmingly and will take effect with the start of the 2014 DCI season. (Will we possibly see trombones on the field???)

Set to be implemented for the upcoming season will be the reintroduction of a second percussion judge who will evaluate the corps’ performances from the press box at select major regional events and the DCI World Championships. It was emphasized this would not change or interfere with the role of the Music Analysis judge.

“DRUM MAJORS BOND BEYOND COMPETITIVE LINES” – Nearly 40 World and Open Class drum majors were invited to Scottsdale for a leadership-focused weekend. This program was organized several years ago by Gene Monterastelli. Representing the Blue Devils were Kristen Lichtenthal and Adam Schrock. Both Kristen and Adam served as drum majors during the 2013 season. Their comments:



My name is **Kristen Lichtenthal**, Drum Major for the Blue Devils Drum and Bugle Corps. This past February, I attended my first DCI Drum Major Seminar. The seminar is hosted each year by Gene Monterastelli, who takes extra care to create a supportive and successful circle of DCI Drum Majors. We spent the weekend working with past Drum Majors of various corps, speakers from the DCI Administration staff like Tony Dicarolo, and motivational speakers such as Fran Kick. They gave presentations on different aspects of leadership, representing your corps in the media, and creating a great working environment for yourself and the members of your corps. Outside of presentations, we took part in several group discussions. These opened my eyes to the way that other corps' leaders handle the same challenges we all face on tour. It was an amazing experience talking one-on-one to other Drum Majors in a non-competitive atmosphere! We were able to learn from each other and present new ideas for the season ahead. I cannot wait to see my new friends on tour and hear how their season is going! My favorite part, however, was the time we got to spend with the directors of the different corps, and even the director of DCI, Dan Acheson. It meant so much to me to be treated as a professional by the men and women at the top of this organization. I will carry what I learned with me throughout the summer, and I would recommend the seminar to the Drum Majors of any corps. Thank you again to DCI and Gene Monterastelli for hosting, and thank you to the Blue Devils for helping with flight and lodging.

Hello – My name is **Adam Schrock** and I am one of the Blue Devils drum majors. In February I had the privilege of attending the annual drum major seminar in Phoenix, AZ. It is held each year at the same time as the Directors' annual meeting and we stayed in a hotel with our directors and staff. We spent most of the weekend in sessions talking about qualities of great leaders and discussing situations we the drum majors face each summer. Speakers included Gene Monterastelli, Fran Kick and past DCI drum majors. We would then break into small groups where we could share ideas and collaborate on ways of improving our role in our respective organization. I learned a lot from the presentation, but the most important things I learned that weekend came from simply talking to my fellow drum majors. We all go through very similar situations and it is great hearing others' perspectives. It is also a great way to make friends that I think will last a lifetime. The entire weekend we were treated like professionals and fed very well. I really appreciate the Blue Devils for allowing me to attend the seminar and for arranging for my flights. The experience I gained in that one weekend will continue to pay dividends all summer as I try to make this the best Blue Devils Drum Corps DCI has ever seen.

UPCOMING EVENTS –

“B” CORPS CRAB FEED – Our “B” Corps will be holding their fantastically popular Crab Feed fund raiser on Saturday, March 22. If you have gone to this event before, you know what a fun evening it is. The cost: \$45 donation. This year the menu will feature marinated crab, salad, etc. Of course there will be the silent auction, raffle and great music for your dancing pleasure. Reservations must be made in advance by calling Frank (925-625-2132), Debbie (925-689-2918 Ext. 0) or Nancy (925-625-0594).

BLUE DEVIL FAMILY DAY PREVIEW- Saturday, June 14 at Pleasant Hill. This is our annual family get together for a full day of Blue Devils. The morning starts with Jolesch Photography taking the Corps members' pictures and then everyone is off for a great hot dog BBQ with all the fixings. “A” Corps families usually bring some sort of unrefrigerated dessert. All are welcome. The day is topped off with performances by all three Blue Devil corps. Tickets are now available for the Blue Devils Family Day Preview by calling contacting Gail Schultz at the BD Hall.

UPCOMING SHOWS -The **MidCal Champions Showcase** will be at Clovis on Friday, June 20. The **DCI West Stanford show** will be Saturday, June 21 in Palo Alto and is the highlight of the season before the Corps takes off on tour. Many people opt for tickets that include a great BBQ from the Back 40 Restaurant. If you would like, the Blue Devils have a block of rooms available at the Stanford Park Hotel. **Moonlight Classic** in Sacramento will be on Sunday, June 22. **Corps at the Crest** in Walnut on Saturday, June 28. Questions regarding tickets and room reservations for Stanford may be obtained by calling either Gail Schultz or Debbie Odello at the BD Hall (gschultz@bluedevils.org or dodello@bluedevils.org).

We will try to keep you informed of the shows during the 2014 season. Hopefully there will be a show near enough that each and every Booster Club member will be able to attend at least one. We plan to check a little bit more into the Media Box way of keeping in touch.

2014 MEMBERSHIP DUES – Please remember to send in your \$20 2014 membership dues and renewal form. We definitely do not want to lose you as a member....you are much too important for that to happen. Where else can you be a valued and vital member of a group and, if you are not local, not have to worry about meetings or anything like that? Sad to say, we have a very small local group, but we are going to work on that with the new parents coming into the “A” Corps family. Dues may be mailed to Sonja Williams – P. O. Box 5212 – Bay Point, CA 94565. Thank you for your continued support.

2014 Officers

President – Sonja Williams
Vice President – Maryanne Lynn
Secretary – Charlotte Hollenbeck
Treasurer – Kaffy Cecil
Sunshine – Maryanne Lynn
Acting Membership – Sonja Williams

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