

THE BLUE DEVILS

“Devil’s Pride”

Booster Club

October 2005

Dear Booster Members:

The 2005 Drum Corps season was an incredible experience for the Blue Devils “A” Corps members. The trip to Europe, from all reports, was an experience that the members will treasure for a lifetime. They performed well, met new people, and learned about other cultures. What a terrific group of young people! We are very proud of them.

Thanks to those of you who continue to renew your membership in the Booster Club. Also, thanks to the new members. Each of you helps to make positive things happen on behalf of the “A” Corps members. You will notice a change in the name of the Membership Chairperson. Carol Christopherson resigned this position because of other commitments. Thank you, Carol, for doing a super job. Katie Wills has agreed to be the new Membership Chairperson. You will be hearing from her soon. Please be ready to respond by sending in your dues, which will enable you to continue to receive the monthly newsletter informing you of the happenings in the Booster Club, etc.

There have been various fundraisers during the year: The Motorcross Racing in January, Giants baseball games, Quilt Raffle, 49ers football games (more to do), and we shall be involved in the Rolling Stones Concerts in November. Thanks to those members who have worked so diligently to make these events a success. However, there is still work to be done. If you are on the local scene, please agree to help at some of these events. You may call me at (925) 846-0802 in the evening or leave a message. These fundraising activities enable us to do the things we do for the Corps members; without them, positive things would not happen.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Booster meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2005 at the International House of Pancakes in Martinez at 7:00 p.m.

We wish you well, and thank you for caring.

Mary Cloyd, President
Blue Devils “A” Corps Booster Club

FROM MR. GIBBS:

Try as we may, we could not get anything specific, but Dave did inform us that the staff is very busy working diligently on the concept and music for the 2006 performance. There are thoughts of making a slight change to the Corps uniform...nothing specific at this time. With our extremely talented staff, we know the Corps will look as magnificent and elegant as in the past. We were absolutely delighted to hear that there will be some California shows scheduled in 2006. Having the first show of the season being the only California show was pretty much of a bummer for us Californians! We are looking at June 17-18 and July 1-2 (Reminder: don't put anything down in ink as things change quite often). Dave will be publishing a show schedule soon.

If you know anyone wanting to audition for the 2006 Corps (or if you want to attend), Brass auditions have been scheduled for: 11/11 – RCA Dome & Indiana Convention Center (Indianapolis, IN), 11/19 – Haltom High School (Fort Worth, TX), 11/26-27 (Valley View Middle School (Pleasant Hill, CA). Battery Percussion: 12/10-11 – Valley View Middle School. Front Field Percussion: 12/10-11 – Location to be announced. Color Guard: 12/9-11 – Diablo Valley College (Pleasant Hill, CA). More detailed information can be found on the Blue Devil web site.

The annual Picture Day / Family Day / Night is scheduled for Sunday, June 11. This is one busy, fun day for everyone as the entire Blue Devil Family gets together for a fantastic BBQ and performance by the entire Blue Devil Corps – “A” – “B” – and “C”.

2005 AWARDS BANQUET - The 2005 Awards Banquet is set for the Marriott Hotel in Walnut Creek, CA on Saturday, November 26 (the Saturday after Thanksgiving). Cost for the dinner will be \$35 payable to the Blue Devils. If you plan to attend, please contact Sonja Williams. E-mail reservations may be made, but payment must be made prior to the event. Sonja may be contacted via e-mail at williamssonjab@hotmail.com. Please make sure you have "Blue Devils Banquet" in the subject line so the message does not get automatically deleted. The deadline for reservations will be Friday, November 18, as we must give a guaranteed number to the hotel. Checks may be sent to: P. O. Box 4184 – Walnut Creek, CA 94596. We hope to have a good attendance to join the Corps members in celebrating a very spectacular and eventful year.

Gail Schultz is working hard trying to make sure the DVD's will be available at the banquet, and Dave Gibbs is doing the same for the yearbook. Both items take an enormous amount of time and energy and we certainly appreciate Gail and Dave's hard work.

BDESSERTAINMENT - From what we have heard, this venture is gaining in popularity by leaps and bounds with each and every performance. The audience reaction at the Sterling Jewelers' Managers Meeting in Orlando was one the event planners could not have imagined or had experienced at past meetings. The audience was literally standing on tables with sets of drum sticks clacking and yelling "MORE." At the Jerry Lewis Telethon they got to meet and interact with quite a number of celebrities and was one of the hits of Jerry Lewis. It's great these kids are always treated with great respect and courtesy. The audiences love them and they have always conducted themselves in a manner that would make any organization proud. Sure hope these kids are keeping journals of all their travels and experiences.

FUNDRAISER SCHEDULE:

The Booster Club will be working the 49ers Football games on:

-October 30 (Tampa Bay) – November 6 (NY Giants) – November 20 (Seattle Seahawks) – December 4 (Arizona Cardinals) – January 1 (Houston Oilers) – All Sunday games.

-We will be working the Rolling Stones concerts on Sunday, November 13 and Tuesday, November 15.

If you can help out on any of these dates, please contact Mary Cloyd.

-Come January we will be looking forward to the Super Bowl Potluck Bash. Our main guys working this fundraiser are Bill Cecil and Jim Serena.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2006

Ken Collmer and Maryanne Lynn are currently busy working on the election of officers for next year. The election will be held at the January meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, please give Mary Cloyd a call.

A BIG THANK YOU – To Mary Cloyd, Maryanne Lynn, Bill & Kaffy Cecil, Carol Vargas and K.C. Collmer for working so hard at our annual "Devil's Food Clean-Up Day" held recently (a chore "gladly" taken on each year by members of the Booster Club. The food truck looked great by the end of the day. Again, thank you.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU!

A simple thank you does not nearly express our sincere appreciation for all the hard work Carol Christopherson has done in setting up a very organized and effective membership program. It's not easy keeping track of everyone and making sure all the dues are paid and recorded in an accurate and timely manner and working on a membership drive, but Carol was very effective. Being a very busy person, Carol has found it necessary to curtail some of her responsibilities, but (we are happy to say) is still a very active member of the Booster Club. In addition to taking care of the membership duties, Carol was a very instrumental part of our highly successful quilt fundraiser last year.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CHANGE:

Katie Wills has graciously agreed to take over the Membership Chairman's duties for the coming year. Everyone should be hearing from her soon regarding the 2006 membership drive. If you have any friends or relatives who might be interested in keeping in touch with what the Blue Devils are doing, see what you can do to encourage

them to join. If you are local (or like to travel), we meet on the first Tuesday of the month – usually at the I-HOP Restaurant in Martinez, CA. Everyone is welcome to join us whenever they can. The more people we have at the meetings, the more input we can get on how and what we can do for the coming season.

BLUE DEVILS A HIT IN KOREA

(Courtesy - Pete Emmons)

On Tuesday October 10th the battery section of the 2005 Blue Devil percussion ensemble boarded Korean Air flights for Seoul Korea to participate in the 7th Annual Seoul Drum Festival.

Upon arriving in Seoul on Wednesday 11th, due to crossing the International Date Line, we were met by our hosts and transferred to the Somerset Palace Hotel. The Somerset Palace is an exquisite serviced residence hotel located in the heart of Seoul. That evening we had a meeting with all the groups and a committee member to outline the week's activities.

Thursday was a day, actually an afternoon, of rehearsal. After visiting the performance venue, an incredibly large outdoor stage located at the Seoul Plaza across from City Hall, we went to a park located nearby to put together a 30-minute stage production. The show consisted of warm-up exercises, sections of the 2005 show and solo pieces by 3 of the members. We were visited by a group of toddlers from a day care center. They had a great time watching us rehearse and playing the drums. Many office workers came out to watch as well and were most appreciative. Many pictures were taken as we worked through the show. After a short break for dinner, we returned to the stage for a tech rehearsal and staging for the opening ceremonies

Because everything had gone so well with the rehearsals, it was decided that Friday could be a free day. Everyone was on their own to explore this fascinating capital city. Friday evening was opening ceremonies and the first of our 3 performances. Each year the Festival Committee invites 6 or 7 foreign groups to participate along with local Korean acts. This year's foreign representation was quite varied and very exciting. Along with the Blue Devils performing over the three days were Yamada Taiko & Yosacoi Dancers from Japan, Ju-Percussion from Taiwan, Bomba from Cuba, Bob Percussion Duo from Sweden, Cie Cameleon from France and the Drummers Collective from the US. It was a great opportunity for the members of the Blue Devils to be exposed to an incredible variety of traditional and contemporary percussion ensembles.

Friday was a very rainy and gloomy day. Even though it impacted attendance, to a degree, it did not affect their enthusiasm for the performances. The audience sat on the ground in the plaza. White plastic sheeting was spread across the plaza because of the damp conditions. After a traditional Korean percussion ensemble, the Blue Devils took the stage. We were featured with the groups from France and Taiwan. All performances were wonderful and well received by the audience.

Saturday and Sunday morning and afternoon were free and the members had a great deal of time to explore ancient cultural sites and experience this exciting city on the Hang River. Both days were beautiful days with lots of sunshine and the attendance reflected that. Each evening there was between 4,000 to 5,000 people sitting on the lawn in the plaza enjoying the show

Following the last performance and closing ceremonies on Sunday, all of the groups were invited to attend a reception dinner in the Sejong Center for the Performing Arts. There was quite an array of western and local cuisine. The committee chairman thanked everyone for a successful festival and presented each of the groups with a beautiful crystal sculpture as a reminder of our time in Seoul, and our participation in this exciting event.

The Seoul Drum Festival 2005 was indeed an incredible experience for the members of The Blue Devils and we would like to thank everyone involved with the committee for their hard work and the opportunity to participate in such an exciting International event.



Performers in background



NEXT BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2005

7:00 p.m.

I-HOP Restaurant – Martinez, CA

2005 Booster Club Officers

President	Mary Cloyd
Vice President	Yvonne Moss
Secretary	Sonja Williams
Treasurer	Bill Cecil
Membership	Katie Wills
Sunshine	Penny Ross

www.bluedevils.org-programs-a-boosters-

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