

THE BLUE DEVILS

“Devil’s Pride”

Booster Club

November 2006

2006 AWARDS BANQUET: What a way to end the 2006 season! Our Awards Banquet was once again held at the Walnut Creek Marriott Hotel on Saturday, November 25. After spending so much time and energy doing all the things necessary to put on an event such as this, we were able to stand back and feel it turned out right.

Our Corps members all looked so elegant. We are so used to seeing everyone in practice and casual clothes, and we are always impressed with how they look all dressed up and looking so great. As has been our tradition, as each member went through the reception line, the gentlemen were given a white carnation boutonniere and the ladies a white rose bouquet.

As everyone walked into the ballroom, they were greeted by the sight of a room virtually alive with colors. The tables were draped with black tablecloths and blue (of course) napkins, blue and white roses in blue vases on mirrored bases, miniature candies with Blue Devils 2006 and the Godfather logo. Beautiful blue velvet holders secured our multi-colored balloons. The hotel did a fabulous job with the Christmas tree decorations and lighting.

Normal banquet speeches were pretty much absent this night. Most of the evening’s announcements were done by members of the Corps. Ollie MacFadden did an outstanding job as the primary MC for the evening. Between Ollie and various members introducing members of the staff (with comments as well for each), the entire room was laughing so hard...we noticed several people actually holding their sides. These kids could almost go on the road with a comedy act.

Throughout the evening clips from the new DVD were shown. There are two new DVDs available: The “Inside the Blue Devils 2006” depicting events throughout the year and the “Around the World With the Blue Devils” with film clips of our various international trips. John Christensen and his production crew did an outstanding job as both DVDs are extremely well done and a must if you have a Blue Devil collection. As in the past, being able to view the DVDs on the two big screen televisions proved to be the major highlight of the evening. Listening and watching the kids’ reactions to past events was wonderful and made us wish we could have been with them every minute of the tour. We are once again very grateful to Jim Serena for obtaining and setting up the televisions. What a difference from “way back when” when we all tried to view the tapes (we didn’t know anything about DVDs back then) on one 27” television. We cannot say thank you enough to Andersons Big Screen TV of Concord for their continued generosity in providing these televisions for our use at the banquets.

Your Booster Club was once again able to present the yearbook to the marching members of the 2006 Corps as a thank you gift for their efforts during the year. Getting the yearbook completed for final distribution at the banquet is a very hectic and time-consuming job and we are so grateful to all the effort put forth by Gail Schultz, Debbie Odello and Pete Emmons for making sure the yearbook was available for the members. And what a pleasure it was when it was announced the yearbook was dedicated to staff member Todd Ryan. Anyone could tell by the members’ reaction that this was an honor most certainly deserved.

Toward the latter part of the evening, the Brass, Percussion, Color Guard and Marching section awards and the Hall of Fame awards were distributed to the honored members. Francesca DeMello once again served as our official photographer and took pictures of each of the members receiving their awards. Receiving the "Director's Award" for outstanding participation and dedication was our multi-year DCI I&E world champion tenor player Tim Jackson. Receiving the "Blue Devil of the Year" award was our center snare and section leader Casey Brohard. This award is sponsored by Dynasty Musical Instructions and comes with a monetary scholarship award. Both of these young men have been an absolute joy to have in the Corps and both personify everything the Blue Devil organization strives for as its goal.

Our one-year age-outs received a framed engraved silver faceplate on a blue velvet background. As has been the tradition of the Blue Devils for many years, our multi-year age-out members received a framed "age-out" plaque which consisted of a silver war eagle with silver shako buttons on either side anchoring a silver chain and an engraved silver faceplate on a background of blue velvet. The faceplates were engraved with *Blue Devils*, the member's name and the year(s) marched. We extend our congratulations to all the award winners and our love and respect to all 135 members of the Corps and we wish our age-outs the very best of luck in their new life after drum corps. Our 51 age-outs were: 15 one-year, 20 two-year, 10 three-year, 4 four-year and 2 five-year. It's hard to get through the evening without a few tears being shed by those who have had the honor of working with and/or housing these young people. They are so easy to get attached to!

It takes a lot of people to put on the banquet and we would like to express our sincere thanks. Pete Emmons (the man in charge of everything) is at the top of the list along with Gail Schultz and Debbie Odello from the office staff. Right up there are all the Booster Club volunteers: Charlotte Hollenbeck, Norma Merrill, Maureen Scherzberg, Mary Cloyd, Maryanne Lynn, Katie and Tom Wills, Yvonne Moss, Kaffy Cecil and Jim Serena.



***It's flower day
Maureen-Mary-Norma-Char-Kaffy***



***Inside the ballroom at the Marriott
(Your imagination required!)***

REMINDER: Our Membership Chairman Katie Wills will soon be sending out the reminders for renewing your membership in the Booster Club. 2007 has all the potential of being one heck of a year (50th Anniversary and all). We will do our very best to make sure we get as much information in the newsletter as possible to keep everyone updated on happenings. Dues are still \$20 per family. We look forward to your continued membership and support.

NOMINATIONS ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED FOR OUR JANUARY ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

If you are interested in running for an office, please sure to contact a member of our Nominating Committee: K.C. Collmer (925) 827-1815 - Yvonne Moss (925) 229-3699 - Maryanne Lynn (925) 689-6845

ARE WE GOING TO HAVE FUN? YOU BET!!

As previously announced, our December meeting will be our annual Christmas Potluck/Meeting and voluntary gift exchange. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend. For anyone wishing to participate in the voluntary gift exchange, the dollar limit has been set at \$15. Our host and hostess for the evening will be K.C. and Ronni Collmer. Be thinking about this. Good food – Good company – Short meeting – Loads of fun. Who could ask for anything more? If you are planning to attend, please give K.C. and Ronni a call for directions and to let them know what you are planning to bring to the potluck as a sharing dish (925) 827-1815.

January, of course, is Super Bowl Month and we are in the process of planning a party. This will be another potluck of sharing dishes. More to come on this event later.

Our next Booster Club Meeting

TUESDAY – December 5, 2006

Home of K.C. and Ronni Collmer – Walnut Creek, CA

2006 Booster Club Officers

President	Mary Cloyd
Vice President	Yvonne Moss
Secretary/Treasurer	Sonja Williams
Membership	Katie Wills
Sunshine	Norma Merrill/Penny Ross

www.bluedevils.org-programs-a-boosters

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On behalf of the officers of your Booster Club, we hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.