

DEVIL'S PRIDE

Booster Club

November 2007

Dear Booster Members:

The final chapter of the "A" Corps' 2007 season ended with the banquet on Saturday, November 24, at the Marriott Hotel in Walnut Creek. Many of the Corps members were in attendance, which was wonderful. It was truly an enjoyable event and a great ending to a super year.

By now you have probably received the membership renewal letter and form from Katie Wills, the Membership Chairperson. We hope you will renew your membership for 2008. Again, your support is very important because what we do as a team makes positive differences on behalf of the "A" Corps members.

There are three (3) 49ers football games remaining at Monster/Candlestick Park. The dates are Sunday, December 9; Saturday, December 15, and Sunday, December 23, 2007. We are committed to these fundraisers. If you can help, please leave a message at (925) 846-0802. They are fun and worthy to our causes; however, there is nothing better than first-hand experience. Take advantage of these opportunities!

The Nominating Committee for Officers for 2008 is very busy trying to contact members who might be interested in serving during the year of 2008. Please give some serious thought to this issue.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 4, at the Collmers' home in Walnut Creek. There will be a potluck, brief meeting, and a gift exchange for those who wish to participate. So come and have lots of fun.

Mary Cloyd, President
Blue Devils "A" Corps Booster Club

***WELCOME TO THE 2007 AWARDS BANQUET IN CELEBRATION OF OUR
50th ANNIVERSARY AND
HONORING THE 12-TIME DCI WORLD CHAMPION BLUE DEVILS***



2007 was one exciting and fantastic year – so we had to make sure the Awards Banquet was a bit more than just special – and was it ever. We had the highest attendance ever! It was so great seeing so many parents and friends attending. Of course, seeing the vast majority of the 2007 Corps just made the whole evening that more special.

We thought we would try to give everyone an idea of how the evening went and looked with a few pictures.

To begin with, our Corps members all looked so elegant. We are pretty much used to seeing them in practice clothes and are always impressed with how they look all dressed up. As has been our tradition for many years, as each member went through the reception line, Norma Merrill made sure the Corps ladies received a white rose bouquet. We normally do white carnation boutonnieres for the gentlemen, but since this was a special year, we went for the white roses as well.

As everyone entered the ballroom, they were greeted by the sight of a room virtually alive with colors. A copy of the list of our 52 age-outs was at each seat and the tables were draped with black tablecloths and white napkins, white roses in a blue table decoration, gold-wrapped candies and gold tinsel draped around the hurricane lamps. Beautiful blue velvet holders (thank you Kaffy Cecil) secured the multi-colored balloons. Pete Emmons had our 2007 Championship flag prominently displayed. Many thanks to Ronnie Collmer for the fantastic life-size wall-hung silhouettes depicting the brass, percussion and guard sections.



All speeches were kept pretty short as we wanted to have time to view clips from the new DVD, "Inside the Blue Devils 2007." John Christensen and his crew did an outstanding job in producing this DVD and it would be well worth purchasing for your collection and/or if you want a great view of how things went during the season. As always, being able to view the DVD on the two big screen televisions was a major highlight of the evening. Just watching and listening to the reactions was wonderful and helped us to relive some great moments. Of course, we cannot thank Jim Serena and Anderson's Big Screen TV of Concord enough for making sure we have the use of the television sets. We are so grateful for this privilege and always remember the years of one 27" television set.

This year your Booster Club was extremely happy we were able to contribute significantly to the cost of the Championship rings and also able to present the yearbook to the marching members as a thank you for all their hard work and dedication and for providing us with so much enjoyment. With both the DVD and the yearbook, time was not a friend in getting them available for the banquet. We do thank John Christensen for making sure we got the DVDs and Debbie Odello and Gail Schultz for many extra hours put in to ensure the yearbooks would be available. The 2007 yearbook was dedicated to members of the Blue Devils past and present.

After dinner, the Brass, Percussion, Guard and Marching section awards and the Hall of Fame awards were distributed to the honored members. Jeff DeMello served as our official photographer and took pictures of each award winner with the award sponsor. The "Director's Award" for outstanding participation and dedication was shared by Brandyn Bettencourt (Drum Major), Janelle Yuen (Guard Captain) and Ricky Odello (Percussion). Receiving the "Blue Devil of the Year" award was Chris Huebschle (Brass). Chris and Ricky both have come through the "C"- "B"-and "A" Corps and are 5-year "A" Corps veterans. Our other 5-year veteran receiving her own awards was Guard Member Kristy Seeley who also marched in each Corps.

2007 had 52 age-outs. 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 faceplate on a background of blue velvet. The faceplates were engraved with *Blue Devils*, the member's name and the year(s) marched. Our 52 age-outs: 18 one year, 17 two years, 9 three years, 5 four years and 3 five years. President Mary Cloyd extended our congratulations to all the members and expressed our love and respect. We wish our age-outs the very best of luck in their new lives. We have to admit there were times when a few tears were present in the eyes of those who had the honor of working with and/or housing these young people. Goodbye is never easy. – and then the yearbooks and "THE RING" were distributed:



It takes a lot of people giving a lot of time to put on the banquet. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Pete Emmons (the man in charge of the entire event), Gail Schultz and Debbie Odello from the office staff. Right up at the top are all the Booster Club volunteers: Charlotte Hollenbeck, Norma Merrill, Maureen Scherzberg, Mary Cloyd, Katie and Tom Wills, Yvonne Moss, Kaffy Cecil. Ronni Collmer and Jim Serena.

BACK TO THE PRESENT:

As Mary mentioned above:

- Membership Chairman Katie Wills has sent out the reminders for renewing your membership in the Booster Club. Dues are still \$20 per family per year and we certainly appreciate your continued membership and support. If you are in the area, we would be so happy to have you join us at our monthly meetings. We need our member's thoughts. First Tuesday of each month at the I-HOP Restaurant in Martinez, except August (Finals Month).

- Nominations are being accepted for our January election of officers. If you have any suggestions or would like to have your name on the ballot, please call Maryanne Lynn (925) 689-6845.

We are definitely not happy to report that due to economic reasons, the ESPN broadcast has been eliminated for the coming year. We are hopeful things will work out later on as this has proven to be a highly successful venture and provides so many people the opportunity to see the performances of all these great young people.

Don't forget - January Camp: Our first camp of the 2008 year is scheduled for Friday, January 18, through Sunday, January 20. Meals provided: Saturday – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner. Sunday, Breakfast, Lunch. As we have done in the past, the Booster Club will sponsor the Saturday breakfast at each of the camps. The majority of our camps are held in Concord at the Blue Devil Hall and Devil's Food is normally parked at the rear of the building. If you can come by to help out, we would love to see/meet you. We are not positive what shape Devil's Food will be in as repairs are scheduled – but we always manage no matter what.

NOW IT'S TIME FOR FUN!!

OUR DECEMBER BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

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 \$20. Our host and hostess for the evening will be Ken and Ronnie Collmer. Good food – Good company – Short meeting and loads of fun. If you are planning to attend, please give Ken 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.

2007 Booster Club Officers

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

Blue Devil Hall

4065 Nelson Avenue
Concord, CA 94520
(925) 689-2918
(925) 689-0384 – fax
www.bluedevils.org

