

BLUE DEVILS

“DEVIL’S PRIDE”

Booster Club Newsletter

January 2009

Dear Booster Members,

We have begun the year of 2009 with excitement and great anticipation. There will be new challenges, but as a team we shall do wonders.

The first “A” Corps camp was the weekend of January 16-18. It was a joy to see the young people who attended. We look forward to seeing more of them at future camps and other events.

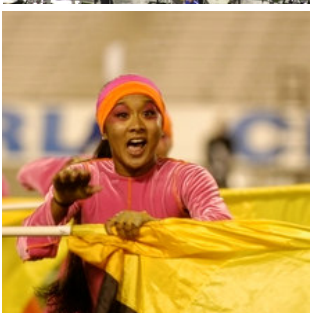
Thanks to those of you who have renewed your membership for 2009. We are also grateful for new members. Together we shall work as a team to make this a successful year in our efforts to support the Corps.

Fundraising activities will resume in the near future. Please volunteer to help at some of these events, if at all possible. It is fun, and you will feel good knowing that you reached out in a positive way to make good things happen on behalf of the Corps. Schedules will be made available as soon as possible.

The next Booster meeting will be on Tuesday, February 3, 2009. If you live locally, please attend the meeting and see what goes on and give your input.

Thank you for caring!

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



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WE ARE OFF AND RUNNING

Our first camp of the year was held during January, and what a time it was. We worried needlessly that it was going to rain and it was fun talking to kids from all over the United States about the different weather conditions.

Some were snowboarding in Seattle and others were spending time at the beach in Southern California while others from Pennsylvania said they had been freezing!

The weekend in Concord was pretty nice! Carol Vargas, Sheryl Miles, Mary Cloyd, Yvonne Moss and Karen Skinner (*Devil’s Food crew for the weekend*) made sure everyone was well fed.

We certainly did appreciate the extra help received from several parents who had traveled with their kids to the auditions.

As has been the norm for many years, we received some feedback that the new kids were amazed at how well they were fed and treated during the entire weekend.

As we have done for many years, your Booster Club sponsored the Saturday breakfast.

We had approximately 109 horn players in attendance. We got to listen to a few of the individual trumpets and the entire line on Friday and Saturday evenings.

109 talented horn players – what a beautiful sound!

We asked **John Meehan** if we could keep them all. Unfortunately a good many of the kids were “call-backs” who were still trying out for the Corps and John had to tell about 50 of them they were not selected.

We could tell by the look on John’s face that this was not a task he took lightly as he really does feel for the kids not making the Corps.

With all the Devil’s Food chores, etc., we were unable to get to the drum line rehearsals during the camp. However, we did learn that the battery has been set.



• **Pete Emmons posting the schedule**

We understand there were over 100 kids auditioning for the drum line (*total number of people auditioning for all sections of the Corps was close to 400 this year*). We were happy to see **Chris Slade** back in the snare line and also surprised to see **Andrew Odello** switch over from the bass line to the snare line.

For several years we have had at least one of the Odello boys in the bass line – one year we had 3 of the 4! At the present time, there are only 5 members who will be aging out at the end of the season, so the next couple of years or so should prove to be great ones for the drum line.

Our front ensemble (pit) had auditions in Mission Viejo, CA as most of the kids were from the Southern California area.

The color guard will not be with us until after the Winter Guard International (WGI) season is over. We understand the



• **A few of the attendees at breakfast**

audition hopefuls for the guard was phenomenal in number.

Approximately 85+ showed up for the auditions in Concord in November... and approximately 85+ were extremely talented. This would be hard for the instructors as we only had about 5 spots to replace. We had a young guard last year and not very many aged out.



• **Dave Gibbs addressing the attendees at the first general meeting**



Sorry to say we have not been able to get any information regarding this year's show theme or music.

When we approached **Scott Chandler**, all we got was a big grin and the comment that we were going to like what was proposed (we usually do).



• **DM Andrew Rogers**



• **Poster in our Bingo Hall**

As soon as we have some information, we will make sure it is in the newsletter.

Our next camp will be February 13-15. There will be a few of the call-backs at this camp and the majority of the Brass and Percussion lines should be present and ready to go.

If you are in the area and are so inclined, we always welcome additional help in Devil's Food. If not so inclined, you are always welcome to stop by and see what is going on.

A rehearsal schedule should be on the BD site close to the camp date.

HOUSING, HOUSING, HOUSING...

If you are local, please consider housing one or more members of the "A" Corps.

Housing Coordinator and Corps member **Rebecca Warren** has been doing a fantastic job working on this problem.

However, many of the kids have stayed at a Concord motel that offers a little discount to the Blue Devils, but this can get to be very expensive when added to the cost of airfares or driving to Concord.

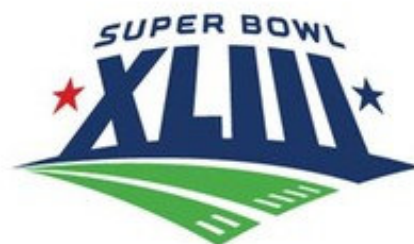
With tour fees and everything, staying at the motel during all-days is pretty much impossible. Two major housing sources that

have accounted for at least 35 members during the past will not be available for 2009 which adds to the problem.

If you can help in any way, please get in touch with Rebecca at (925) 963-3490 or rjw1@stmarys-ca.edu to find out what would be involved.

Housing can change your life a bit, but it is definitely well worth the time and effort to get to know these kids. Thank you in advance for any help you can offer.

We also would like to say thank you to the families that have already made arrangements to house members this next year.



TAMPA BAY 02.01.09

SUPER BOWL PARTY

This year's Super Bowl party will be held at the Concord home of **Jim Serena** and will be our usual potluck with everyone bringing a sharing dish. This is a fun time and we would love to see our members. If you are able to attend, please contact Jim at (925) 689-2641 for further details and directions.

A COUPLE OF DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, June 13 - Diablo Valley College - Pleasant Hill, CA: Once again we will be combining Precision West and the Blue Devils Family Day as we did last year.

The day usually starts off with pictures in the morning, the fantastic potluck buffet in the early afternoon and the performance in the evening. Tickets for the Precision West portion of the day are now available through the Blue Devil Hall.

All seats will be General

Admission for \$10 (children under 8 will be free). The show will not be a DCI judged show, but we understand there will be some exciting new twists and performances by the Mandarins, Renegades, Santa Clara Vanguard and Vanguard Cadets, Blue Devils "C", "B" and "A" Corps.

In the tradition of Family Day, there will be performances by the Blue Devils combined percussion and brass ensembles.

Saturday, June 27- Stanford University - Palo Alto, CA: Labeled the "Best of the West", this show will have performances by the three Blue Devils corps, both Santa Clara Vanguard

corps, Bluecoats, Mandarins, Renegades, Troopers and Velvet Knights.

Tickets are now available through DCI and range from \$75-\$15 with groups of 25 or more discounted.

The \$75 Skybox ticket includes a BBQ dinner, VIP parking pass (very helpful), reception in the press box and VIP badges.

The \$50 Premium ticket includes the BBQ dinner and VIP wristbands.

Reminders of the shows will be published in future newsletters, but we wanted you to have the information in case you want to get your tickets early. As of now, we do not have a tour schedule for the Blue Devils.



DCI MEMBERS IN THE 2009 ROSE PARADE

DCI was well represented in the 2009 Rose Parade by several members who were in the Bands of America National Honor Band.

We did not feel we could learn of this and not pass on the news.

Luke Djordjevic (*The Academy*), Rich Caschera (*Jersey Surf*), Dominic Zanaboni (*Colts*), Weston Oloencki (*Carolina Crown*), Donny Lavrenz (*Capital Sound*), James Dawson (*Boston Crusaders*), McCormick Wooden (*Carolina Crown*) and Tanner Smith (*Carolina Crown*).

Our congratulations to these young men!



Not only was Drum Corps represented in the Presidential Inauguration Parade by **the Cadets, The Colts** were also honored as being one of the few groups selected to participate in the parade. The corps were only two of less than 100 groups chosen to participate in the parade out of nearly 1,400 applicants.

If you have access to the Internet, be sure to go the DCI or Colts site to read various newspaper articles and Colts Executive Director Greg Orwoll's review of the trip.

The article really makes a person feel as though they were right there with the group. A very well done article. If you do not have access to the Internet and would like a copy, please let us know and we would be more than happy to send a copy to you.

Just reading the article makes us even prouder to be associated with this activity and the caliber of kids it attracts.



WELCOME TO THE CASCADES

With a unanimous vote of the DCI World Class member corps, the Cascades from Seattle, WA were approved to compete as a World Class corps on the 2009 DCI tour.

The corps was founded in 1957 and won the DCI Division II title in 2000.

In 2002 the corps became the first Pacific Northwest corps to become a Division 1 World Championship Finalist. **Again - Welcome!**



FYI: FAN OF THE "BLUE MAN GROUP"?

Notice on the DCI site that if you mention DCI20 when purchasing tickets to see this unbelievable group, there is a 20% discount.

New York, Boston, Chicago, Las Vegas and Orlando are shown as show sites.

REMINDER

Don't forget to send in your Booster Club renewal for 2009 to Membership Chairperson **Katie Wills**. 2009 should be another exciting year and we would not want anyone to miss out on being kept as informed as possible.

We certainly value your continued support and hope to enroll many of the families of our new Corps members.

Contrary to some belief, just because your son or daughter has "aged-out," that does not mean you have to age out as well. We have members from all over the United States, Canada and countries overseas. Some members have been involved since the 1970s!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of officers for 2009 was held at our January meeting. The results are: President - **Mary Cloyd**, Vice President - **Yvonne Moss**, Secretary - **Sonja Williams**, Treasurer - **Pat Worley**. Continuing as Membership Chairperson will be **Katie Wills** as will **Penny Ross** and **Norma Merrill** as our Sunshine ladies.

Many thanks to our hard working Nominating Committee (*Tom Wills, Norma Merrill and Maryanne Lynn*).

OUR NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009
I-HOP Restaurant - Martinez, CA
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

OFFICERS:

Mary Cloyd
President

Yvonne Moss
Vice President

Sonja Williams
Secretary

Pat Worley
Treasurer

Katie Wills
Membership

Penny Ross/Norma Merrill
Sunshine

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