

RE: MARCH 2 BOOSTER CLUB MEEING

Scott Johnson – Blue Devils Percussion Caption Head – will be our speaker at the March Booster Club meeting.

We are looking forward to a very informative meeting and hope you will be able to join us.

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

International House of Pancakes

1190 Arnold Drive

Martinez, CA

If you would like directions: (925) 228-332

BLUE DEVILS

“DEVIL’S PRIDE”

Booster Club Newsletter

February 2010

Let’s start this month’s newsletter with a quote by “A” Corps horn line member Garrett Faccone that we believe “says it all.”

*“Being a Blue Devil to me is a feeling of invincibility, a feeling of pride, and knowing that *It’s a great day to be a Blue Devil!!*”*

2010 CAMP – FEBRUARY

The February camp was great weather-wise in California. However, because of the weather in the rest of the United States, we were minus quite a number of Corps members. Many had their flights cancelled or delayed for so many hours that there was no way they could get here in time to make much of the camp. Maybe March will be better. There were two euphonium spots replaced and there is still one trumpet spot that came open.

The group that was here, however, worked extremely hard in mastering some of the drill and music presented to them. Many learned some new moves during the drill sessions and found they had quite a number of muscles they hadn’t thought about before! Yes, it’s early in the season. We got to listen to the first ensemble on Sunday evening. The drum line is smoking! The horn line is solid and had a very rich sound to it. We understand there will be some modifications to the new horns that should increase the caliber of the sound even more. These kids are talented. We do not have a positive list of music as yet and we are sure there will be more to come at the future camps. We did recognize a couple of selections, but we are not sure these are actually for the show or for encores, etc. We know the season is starting as Debbie Odello and her crew were spotted taking measurements and fitting uniforms.

It was great having so many friends and parents around for the weekend. We especially want to thank those who helped with the Devil’s Food chores and transporting kids from the hotel to the hall for breakfast each day – to rehearsals in Pleasant Hill – to and from the BART stations and/or the airports. We noticed some kids starting to call for taxis and we were able to find transportation so they did not have to spend the extra money. Again, if you might be able to house a Corps member or two for camps (and maybe all-days?), please get in touch with the 2010 Housing Coordinator Rachel Silva at (925) 580-7052 (zsilvaware@aol.com). Rachel is putting a list together of kids who will need housing, who will have a car, etc. All that is needed is a place to sleep (floors are nice) and a place to take a shower. If you can provide transportation, that is a plus, but not necessarily a requirement.

THE GREAT HUNT FOR PB&J

The Booster Club always provides PB&J for the Corps members during all-days. This, of course, gets to be quite an expense. We do check around locally for donations, but if you have any connections with any companies that could possibly donate any amount or have any suggestions/addresses to where we might write, please let us know. You can send an e-mail to williamssonjab@hotmail.com and it will be forwarded to the people working on this project. Be sure to indicate Blue Devils in the e-mail subject line.

BAD NEWS – GOOD (EXCITING) NEWS

The Bad News: The Blue Devils (and all California non-profit Bingo groups) have suffered an extremely serious financial setback. For some time the California Indian groups have been working on being the sole users of the electronic Bingo machines. Dave Gibbs and Bret Rios have been working diligently on trying to have this defeated. However, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled to terminate electronic charity Bingo in California....this accounted for approximately 30% of the Blue Devils' revenue. While our hard working people have been searching for other ways to find alternative ways to increase our revenue, nothing will be possible in time to impact the early part of the upcoming competition season. We can't tell you how hard Dave and Bret have worked on this issue; we sincerely thank them for all their hard work and time put into trying to defeat this unfortunate ruling. We were appreciative of the very informative discussion on this matter at the January Booster Club meeting led by Board of Directors member Brian Ripley.

What could be the very Good News: The Blue Devils is announcing a new way each and every one of us can help support the organization. Now offered are five unique VISA credit cards to choose from. Each card has pictures of the 3 corps, Alumni and the BD organization. After the first purchase on the card, the Blue Devils will receive \$50 and then a percentage of all future purchases on the card will also go to the Devs. All the benefits of the Platinum Visa Rewards Card will be yours – no annual fee for the card. An application form is available on the BD site – only takes a couple of minutes on-line or the form can be downloaded, filled out and mailed. If you use credit cards, why not look into this venture.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

-“B” Corps Annual Crab Cioppino Dinner – Saturday, March 27 (Antioch, CA Fairgrounds). This is an event not to be missed – just ask anyone who has gone before. This is an all-you-can-eat fundraiser for the “B” Corps. Dinner – dancing – raffles – FUN-FUN-FUN. All tickets must be reserved beforehand as no tickets will be sold at the door. The donation is \$45/person. For tickets call the BD Hall or Frank Milina at (925) 625-2132.

-“Preview” – Blue Devil Family Day - Sunday, June 20– Also Picture Day (Pleasant Hill, CA) – Schedule: Pictures in the morning – joint picnic at the park – evening performances. This is always a great time for BD families, friends and fans.

-DCI West – Stanford Stadium - Saturday, June 26 (Palo Alto, CA) - It's not too early to start thinking about tickets for this great show This show will once again be the premier show on the West Coast. The Stanford Stadium has been declared to be the “BEST” stadium in the country in which to see drum corps at its best.

There is a great poster available to the first 500 people forwarding their e-mail receipt or phone order confirmation/account number from MEGA MONDAY ticket order.

-Sneak Preview - Watch for information in the April newsletter regarding a first-time “Blue Devils Sneak Preview of the 2010 Season” and how you can be included. Knowing Gail Schultz, this will be another one of those events you won't want to miss.

Going to Indianapolis? – The Blue Devils have a block of rooms at the Omni Hotel. If you are interested, it's not too early to check with Gail Schultz or Debbie Odello re reservations. And – The Booster Club “After Finals Brunch” will be held at the Omni Hotel on Sunday, August 15.

REMEMBER: You can always call the BD Hall or check out the web site for additional information.

-2010 Performance Schedules: (Remember – Never put anything in ink as changes are quite normal)

Winter Guard

February 6
Amador Valley HS Pleasanton
February 13 Fresno Regional
February 20 Leigh HS San Jose
March 6 Union City Regional
March 13
Independence HS San Jose
March 27
Monta Vista HS Cupertino
April 3 Circuit Championships,
Independence HS San Jose
April 7 Depart for Dayton
April 11 Return from Dayton

"A" Corps

June 20 Pleasant Hill, CA
June 25 Clovis, CA
June 26 - Stanford, CA
June 27 - Stockton, CA
July 3 Walnut, CA
July 4 Pasadena, CA
July 5 Riverside, CA
July 7 Ogden, UT
July 10 Denver, CO
July 13 Hutchinson, KS
July 14 Omaha, NE
July 15 Sioux Falls, SD
July 17 Minneapolis, MN
July 19 Kansas City, MO
July 20 Edmond, OK
July 22 Dallas, TX
July 23 Houston, TX
July 24 San Antonio, TX
July 26 Lafayette, LA
July 27 TBA, LA
July 28 Hattiesburg, MS
July 31 Atlanta, GA
August 3 Salem, VA
August 4 TBA Northern, VA
August 6 Allentown, PA
August 8 Buffalo, NY
August 12-14 Indianapolis, IN

"B" Corps

June 20 Pleasant Hill, CA
June 25 Clovis, CA
June 26 Stanford, CA
June 27 Stockton, CA
July 10 San Jose, CA
July 11 Dublin, CA
July 16 Corona, CA
July 17 Long Beach, CA
July 31 DeKalb, IL
August 2 Cedar Rapids, IA
August 4 Eau Claire, WI
August 6 Greendale, WI
August 8 Dubuque, IA
August 12-14 Indianapolis, IN

BLUE DEVILS ON-LINE SHOPPING MALL

The Blue Devils are excited to launch their new Shopping Mall. The mall gives quick access to stores with one shopping cart and account. System Blue offers a multitude of products developed specifically for performing groups – from sticks and mallets to marching shoes and practice pads, all at affordable prices. The Shopping Mall is THE one-stop site to order the Blue Devil merchandise. Gift certificates are now available and they can be e-mailed direct to “anyone, anywhere, anytime”!

I Luv Band – “Eat, sleep, breathe marching band? Then this is the site for you!” This is a new on-line store offering merchandise made specifically for members of today’s marching activities. We understand the promotional items geared for the bands have been extremely popular and the sales have been very good.

Of course, Gail Schultz always has the most up-to-date and interesting Blue Devils items each year. These go way past T-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. Check out the BD site or give Gail a call.

Where are they now? – and What are they doing?

Received a very nice article regarding former Blue Devil Jerry Ridgway. Jerry has the distinction of having the most years as a Blue Devil as he started out as the mascot in the “C” Corps for a couple of years, went through the “C” Corps, the “B” Corps and aged-out of the “A” Corps with a total of 22 years being part of the organization. Jerry is now an Air Force pilot stationed at Cannon Air Force Base after spending quite a length of time overseas. Being interested in helping young people with their musical skills, Jerry volunteered to help the 180 member Clovis High School marching band improve their marching skills as his Air Force schedule would permit. His enthusiasm has definitely rubbed off onto the kids – stated Band Director Bill Allred, “I tell him he’s a squirrel on crack out there with the kids; he’s just so energetic. Always professional and respectful, he is still very demanding and the students appreciate that because they know challenge will make them better.” Jerry’s parents, John and Muriel, have been very involved with the organization throughout the years in a multitude of capacities. Are we proud of Jerry? How could we not be?

The “CHASE” for \$1 million – Congrats to our fellow corps:

The Morgan Chase Foundation recently ran a contest which gave \$5 million in grants to various non-profit groups. Carolina Crown, Cavaliers, Colts and Phantom Regiment were four of 100 organizations making it into the final round of voting and each received \$25,000 and were in the running for the \$1 million. We were happy to see four drum corps in the top 50 of the finalist organizations. Phantom Regiment came in 26th with 10,111 votes, Carolina Crown 31st place with 9,267 votes, The Cavaliers in 36th place with 8,465 votes and the Colts in 46th place with 6,758 votes. If you should hear of any other contests such as this, let us know. Let’s see what the Blue Devil fans can do.

Membership – Newsletter

A big thank you to everyone sending in their 2010 Booster Club membership dues. Another big thank you to those who have included donations as well. Once our 2010 roster is set, Membership Chairman Katie Wills will be sending out letters to the families of our new Corps members inviting them to join.

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010
I-HOP Restaurant
Martinez, CA - 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

2010 Officers

President	Sonja Williams
Vice President	Yvonne Moss
Secretary	Tom Wills
Treasurer	Kaffy Cecil

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