

# Ole!

The Newsletter of the  
Hawthorne Caballeros  
Alumni Association/  
Drum & Bugle Corps

Volume 1, Issue 3

May/June 2020

## Trying To Exist In A World Without Drum Corps

What to do this weekend? Seems to be the question I keep on asking myself while quarantining during this mandatory stay-at-home rule, policy, whatever you want to call it, handed down by the governor of the great state of New Jersey, home of the Hawthorne Caballeros Alumni Corps. Don't get me wrong, I think our governor has done a good job up to this point. It seems all these rules are working. The virus is slowly leaving the state.

I look at our schedule and I'm okay with the "weekend off" portion of it because I will do what I would normally do during a normal year; BBQ, float in the pool, lay out in the sun, have a few,

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## Caballeros..... InThe Beginning Part Three

*By Mike DeVecchio*

### Caballeros History Part 3, 1954 .

As the year starts, the news confirms that the Reilly Raiders were disqualified and had to return the orange flag. The Caballeros moved from second to first place, the new national champs and received an additional \$250 to make the \$1000 first prize. Gabarina had filed this charge against the Reilly Raiders and had the evidence, and I believe this increased their winnings by \$150. Thus, the struggle ended against Reilly for not adhering to the rules of the American Legion and received the penalty when you do not.

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Ole! is published every other  
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## .....The Beginning

Next thing to be decided is what will the Caballeros do in 1954 to match the surprise Tango of 1953 which brought the crowd to their feet? One thing they came up with was a new concert. A concert that was different from any other type currently being played by drum and bugle corps. The concert was arranged by a very well known arranger and instructor, musical director Hy Dreitzer who had been with the Gabarina corps from New York. Hy and George Rodriguez put together a classical style concert of Spanish songs, pretty much played as a concert orchestra would play them. The opening selection was "Malaguena", followed by one of George's favorite songs that he played as part of the trio of songs when competing in individual contests, called "Taboo." This song contained a solo in which George employed a style referred to as "flutter-tonguing." Some referred to it as "growl or gravel tonguing." It was different than anybody had

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## Alumni Event Schedule 2020

**Saturday, September 12 \***

Parade

Atlantic City, NJ

**Sunday, November 1 \***

Veterans Day Parade

Clifton, NJ

**Saturday, November 21 \***

Parade &

Stage Show

Plymouth, MA

**Saturday, December 5 \***

Parade &

Pot Luck Lunch

Hawthorne, NJ

**Saturday, December 5 \***

Music, post 199



## Alumni Rehearsal Schedule 2020

**Sunday, October 4 \***

Music, Post 199, 12-5

**Sunday, October 18 \***

Music, Post 199, 12-5

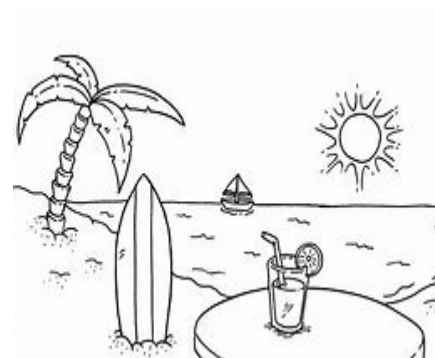
**Sunday, November 8 \***

Music, Post 199, 12-5

**Sunday, November 15 \***

Music, Post 199, 12-5

**Saturday, December 5 \***



## Trivia Answers

### Issue 1

**"George DelMonte"**

### Issue 2

**"None" or "Zero"**

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## .....The Beginning

been playing at the time and added exhilaration to the solo, to the delight of the people in the stands. The third and final song was called "El Relicaro."

This concert was difficult to conduct so Mr. Albert Mura, the Caballeros regular horn instructor and arranger, conducted it. The opening which was similar to the slow "Rumps" of "Espana Cani", only the notes were played very short with a long gap in between until they got to the melody line of "Malaguena." The tempo would accelerate and then come to an abrupt stop. Then have to be conducted again becoming more dramatic and leading to an accelerated ending. This was followed by "Taboo." George really let loose with his solo and the crowd was not only startled at his first few notes, but then gave him *Wows!* And *Applause!* for the strange sound of this solo. It was a whole new sound coming from a one-valve bugle. The final song was

"El Relicaro." The song started was written in  $\frac{3}{4}$  time. We marched in a slow tempo for the first refrain, one cymbal crash, and we came charging forward out of the concert and ending abruptly in a company front and then into the bow made famous by Hawthorne Caballeros. Yes! This was a famous Spanish tradition made by the matadors when they defeated the bull. When the Spanish people applauded the Matador, he bows as he accepts the flowers being thrown to him for being such a great bullfighter. This received a tremendous amount of applause from the audience many of them understood what this meant. Eight beats on the base from for every left foot and then we hit the crowd full blast with the introduction to "Valencia."

The bow was no ordinary bow! It that it was designed and scripted by Jimmy Costello. The left foot was brought back till the toe of the shoe was along side of the heel of the right foot. At the same

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## ***Remember When***

### **Sixty-Six Years Ago**

#### **August 1954**

1	Caballeros	90.366
2	Skokie Indians	88.050
3	Conn. Yankees	87.166
4	Appleknockers	83.266
5	Satin's Angels	83.183
6	Rockets	82.600
7	Brigadiers	82.333

### **Sixty-One Years Ago**

#### **August 1959**

1	Caballeros	89.410
2	Brigadiers	87.100
3	Skokie Indians	84.560
4	Rockets	83.310
5	Hurricanes	82.540
6	Grey Knights	79.790
7	Boys of '76	76.550
8	Black Knights	75.490
9	Spirit of St. Louis	69.960
10	Lamplighters	68.510

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## .....Trying To Exist!

and spend time with the family. Now I come to an event on the schedule. Now what? There is no ride to a practice field. There is no having dinner with my friends. There is no warmup. There is no tuning of the drums. There is no hearing the announcer introducing us to the crowd. There is no making music and hearing the roar of the appreciative fans. I miss all of this. There is a big hole in my life. This is not natural. This is not fun. HELP ME....PLEASE!!!

So I look forward to what's left of the schedule that has not been cancelled. Will any of that be cancelled? Who knows?

In the meantime, I'm try-



### Trivia Question

**How many National Championships have the Caballeros won in a row?**

ing to keep my hands in shape by playing on a drum pad as much as possible and reviewing the parts to keep my mind nimble. In between all this drum corps related stuff, I'm keeping busy catching up on all the things that I have been putting off to be done in the house. Been having happy hour with our friends via facetime. I have a vacation planned in August. I hope that won't be cancelled. There are so many things that are unknown. I've been listening to a lot of drum corps recordings from the past. It's a nice trip down memory lane, anything to fill the drum corps void.

I'm looking forward to Atlantic City, Clifton and Plymouth and believe it or not, all the rehearsals. I want a crowd to hear our beautiful show this year. It's too good not to be heard by the public.

Well, that's my story. I'm sure there are at least a hundred more just like it, one for each person in the corps.

Hang in there folks. Stay safe and stay well. I miss you all terribly,

Chris Sortino—Editor!

## ***Remember When***

### **Fifty-Six Years Ago**

#### **August 1964**

1	Caballeros	83.533
2	Brigadiers	79.475
3	Reilly Raiders	78.133
4	Ballantine Brewers	76.730
5	Princemen	75.200

### **Forty-Seven Years Ago**

#### **August 1973**

1	Caballeros	89.000
2	Hurricanes	85.100
3	Buccaneers	84.800
4	Les Diplomates	83.500
5	Skyliners	82.600

### **Thirty-Six Years Ago**

#### **August 1984**

1	Caballeros	90.600
2	Buccaneers	88.300
3	Bushwackers	84.650
4	Hurricanes	82.800
5	Skyliners	82.750
6	Sunrisers	82.650

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## **...Beginning**

time you leaned slightly back on the left leg and you bent the right leg slightly and at the same time the bugle was placed in a vertical position against the upper body with the right arm bent to be level with the ground and the left arm went behind the back also parallel to the ground. The most important move was the bow. It was done from the neck down only. It was slight but enough to have the Sombrero fully exposed to the crowd. This was all done on one count. Once again there were cheers and applause for another first to the drum corps world by the Caballeros from Hawthorne. This exit from the concert formation was so well-received that by the end of the season, a few other drum corps had managed to make the concert ending in a similar manner.

Deeper into the season, the crowds became more aware of this concert. The fact that it was more like a concerto, as soon as we stopped in the concert

formation and the drum major brought up the bugles, people were starting to quiet the crowd. They wanted to be able to clearly hear the distinct opening of our concert because it went from a dramatic loud start to a very soft entrance to the next part. It was without a doubt a new direction for concerts in the future of drum corps.

We went on with the show for the rest of our selections. Of course, playing "Adios" going off the field as our exit number was another surprise for the crowd. At the end of "Adios" we went into the bow. Again, another outstanding applause from the crowd, not only for our performance, but for the bow itself signifying that we were thanking them for appreciating our show.

As far as the 1954 season was concerned, we had improved somewhat in drumming and bugling and as usual our marching score was above the other corps. We didn't have a winning season, but we were still getting scores closer to Archie and Reilly.

Late in the season we had a contest down in York, Pennsylvania and the Reilly Raiders were not at the show so the only corps we were competing against was Archie. Jimmy Costello figured that Archie would not be concerned about competing against the Caballeros because their biggest rival, Reilly, would not be at the show. In addition, George Rodriguez was not there either. George did teach yours truly, Michael Delvecchio, how to do the flutter-tonguing in his solo. I did it! Guess who won the contest? The Caballeros from Hawthorne New Jersey. Next week at practice George and I had a great laugh about my winning the show. I had great fun busting his chops on that one!

Again, the magic of James Costello. Like he said with Reilly not being in the show, Archie might let down a little, and that little was all we needed.

We went to Washington D C. and Jimmy worked us very hard to take another national title. A corps we hadn't heard from much before

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## ...Beginning

from Skokie Illinois called the Indians, came in second place in Washington.

In addition, as far as the music in 1954, the only change from 1953 was the concert and "Yankee Doodle Dandy", the color presentation was replaced with "Of Thee I Sing Baby."



## May Birthdays

### May

Mary Lou Bonn  
Bill Hoyt  
Tyrone Laval  
Guy LaFlamme  
Arline Clayburn  
Lisa Menear  
Tony D'Andrea  
Bob Hendershot  
Bob Bonn  
Lizann Lander  
Richard Jessop  
Roger Perez  
Larry Di Renzo  
Ann Durborow  
Steve Tanner  
Denny O'Connell

### OFFICERS

**Alumni Assn. President**  
Larry Mastroberardino  
**Alumni Corps Director**  
Paul Bongiovi  
**Alumni Corps Asst. Dir.**  
Steve Raclowski  
**Post Commander**  
Doug Tennis  
**Ole! Newsletter Editor**  
Chris Sortino

## June Birthdays

### June

Ed Zwanziger  
Rich Stanzack  
Patrice Schwab  
Nancy Mingle  
Lou Blancato  
Marianne Kerr  
Andre Thibault  
Barry Wagner  
Steve Raclowski  
Dave Hughes  
Bill Duncan  
Debbie Darcy  
Allan Vogel  
John Merthens  
Robert Doyle  
John Smith  
Mike Risley

*Happy Birthday!*



## HALF NOTES...

Condolences to Alumni Corps tenor drummer **Nick Stefano** on the loss of his father. May he rest in peace.....former Caballero soloist **Sal Macaluso** lost his wife Charlotte last month. Condolences to Sal and his family.....**Carl Kilhefner**, former marine and former percussionist with the Reading Buccaneers and the Caballeros Alumni Corps passed away this Spring due to cancer. Carl was one of the good guys who could have marched anywhere but chose the Cabs. Condolences go out to his family.....a big thank you to one of the founding members of the Alumni Corps **Tony Vaccaro** for his article "HI! I'm A Fan" seen in the last issue of the Ole! Great stuff Tony....also thanks to **Vince Marchese** and **John Smith** for their "Tribute to Jack Pratt" article in the March/April issue of this newsletter.....and a special thank you to **Mike DelVecchio** for his continuing series "In The Beginning" a history of how the Hawthorne Caballeros got its start and their journey to success .....that's all for now!

### A "Bit of Wit" from the Quill of Charlie Bratton...



Traced my family tree, it grows mostly nuts.

A Georgia state trooper pulled over the driver of a pickup truck in 1975. The trooper asked "Got any ID" The driver replied "Bout whut"

Two guys walk into a bar. The third ducks.

I was addicted to the "Hokey Pokey" Thankfully I turned myself around.

Bathing suites don't shrink in the water. They shrink when they're stored in the closet all winter.

I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.

## HELP WANTED!

**The Alumni Corps has openings in ALL SECTIONS, especially Contra in the Horn line, Color Guard and openings for Bass, Cymbal and Double Tenor in the Drum Line.**



**The OLE! welcomes all impressions/expressions. Send your input/articles to Cabalumno1@aol.com**

