

Ole!



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

Volume 4, Issue 5

Septober/October 2023

Cabs Alumni Corps Rocks DCA Weekend

By Chris Sortino

This year's DCA Championships were very different and interesting especially for the Caballeros Alumni Corps.

We put on the drums, picked up the horns and grabbed the flags three different times during the three day end of year event.

Friday night was the I&E and Mini-corps competition in the Convention Center attached to our hotel. This night was also a long planned tribute to flugelhorn master Chuck Mangione featuring the Caballeros Alumni Corps. This was not only different for us but quite an honor. The planning for

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"El Matador"

By Larry Kerchner

I wanted to do something special for the Alumni Corps' 30th Anniversary, so I looked back over my drum corps life and how, as a kid, I wrote a Spanish piece for Blue Rock entitled "El Matador" as a homage to my favorite corps, the Hawthorne Caballeros. I suppose it wasn't much of a homage, having been written for G-D bugles with two Soprano parts, two Baritone parts, and one French horn part, which limited what I could write, but I fantasized that I had written it for the Caballeros! We didn't use it then, but a few years later, we had acquired a Contra, a few Mellophones and some rotary valves, so I was finally able to teach it. Man, did I think it was

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.....Alumni Rocks

this night had been in the works for months.

We wanted to make this evening very special for Mr. Mangione. During the planning stages, an idea was proposed that we increase the size of our 52 member horn line. A call went out to former members and their friends and friends of friends to join our ranks for this spectacular performance.

Larry Kerchner arranged the three songs to play for the tribute early in the year and we used them all season in our regular show. Larry interviewed many horn players and the result was we ended up with a total of 87 horns for the tribute.

After we found out how many horns we would have, Larry said three songs aren't enough to pay tribute to this legendary performer, so we learned a fourth song. The songs we put together for the evening were "Echano", "Bellavia", "Land Of Make Believe" and "Hill Where The Lord Hides."

The larger horn line posed a problem though. The corps could no longer fit on the stage. So we positioned everyone on the floor.

We ran through the show a couple of times and waited for the guest of honor to come into the room. Chuck entered with his family and friends to the cheers of around 2,300 people. He and his guests took up over 60 seats in the first two rows.

Before we played, there was a film documentary of all the times that Chuck was a commentator on the DCI Championship broadcasts. This film was introduced in person by DCI and radio personality, Steve Rondonero.

Then it was our turn to play. What a sound. The power of the corps was deafening. We blew their faces off.

After we were done, Jeff Kievit, famous trumpet player from the Muchachos and successful recording artist and performer presented

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.....Matador

cool! Surely, if the Caballeros heard it, they would beg me to use it! LOL!!!

Fast forward to 1971. I had been writing for, and flying down from Boston to teach the Cabs for a couple of years and the Muchachos for a year, when I had the opportunity to write my first original for the Muchachos (pre-"Espiritú del Toro" and "Pictures of Spain"), so I dusted it off and re-wrote my "El Matador" piece, this time for G-F horns with rotary valves (a big deal)! Not only did I use it for their opener, but over the years, I've used bits and pieces of it with the Muchachos, Cabs, and Cabs Alumni. In fact, the "Chorale" and the beginning of "Jazzmerelda" are both from "El Matador." The one thing I had never done was to write a full-blown version for the Cabs Alumni and 3-VALVED HORNS!!!

Now I've come full-circle

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.....Alumni Rocks

Chuck Mangione with an honorary membership into the World Drum Corps Hall Of Fame. Chuck was also presented a check for \$4,000 to the go to the many local Rochester charities. One show down. Two to go.

Saturday evening we had a music rehearsal outside the convention center on the sidewalk in midtown Rochester. We drew quite a nice crowd. Some were our fans. Some were drum corps fans and some were just curious what all the loud music was all about.

Sunday morning, the corps traveled over to the stadium to participate in the Alumni Spectacular. We warmed up by the truck and then proceeded to the field. The size of the crowd was very disappointing. I don't know if it's the lack of Alumni Corps or the fact that only a few do a drill, or is it that there are only a few that turn the fans on and hold their interest. We

did a real good job and the audience seemed very appreciative. After our performance, we went back to the hotel to relax and get something to eat.

Two school buses were ordered to take the corps back over to the stadium for our second performance of the day.

The final contest was well on its way when we arrived. We warmed up behind one of the buildings on the sports complex grounds. When the last competing corps was finished, we marched onto the field. The evening audience was almost the size one would expect for a championship contest.

We went on to show the crowd what the Caballeros Alumni are all about. It was our best performance of the year. We peaked at the right time and the audience responded in kind.

Our final appearance of the weekend was our drumline playing the competing corps onto retreat.

If this was the final contest at this stadium, I'm glad we ended it.

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.....Matador

and fulfilled my childhood fantasy. I finally got to arrange "El Matador" for the Caballeros!!! My inspiration!!! And I'm glad it's the Caballeros Alumni, because that's where Jim Costello's traditional look and style still reside. This one's for you, Cos!



Ole! is published every other month.
Next issue: November/
December 2023

September Birthdays

Mike Marando
 Rita Bongiovi
 Carol Farren
 Don Gardner
 Bob Steinhilber
 Diana McNeff
 Dennis Magarro
 Terry Hass
 Hank Grilk
 Jim Bounds
 Rose Cataneo
 Ray Schmerin
 Caren Frech
 Micheline LaFreniere
 Tom Ashby
 Chris Sortino

OFFICERS

Alumni Assn. President
Larry Mastroberardino
 Alumni Corps Director
Chris Sortino
 Alumni Corps Asst. Dir.
Tyrone Laval
 Post Commander
Mike DelVecchio
 Ole! Newsletter Editor
Chris Sortino

Trivia Answer

Volume 4 Issue 4

**Q: How many rifles
 did the Caballeros
 carry in 1977?**

A: 10

Trivia Question

**What corps were in
 the first DCA
 Championship in
 1965?**

October Birthdays

Norman Dykstra
 Enoch Jeon
 Lauren Jessop
 Bob Fitzpatrick
 Ray Williamson
 Bob Castor
 Madison Yaniga
 Francine La Pierre
 Lorraine Cardozo
 Sam Brero
 Linda Smith

Remember When

Sixty Four Years Ago

May 31, 1959

Preview Of Champions

1 Reilly Raiders	89.70
2 Caballeros	87.50
3 Brigadiers	84.00
4 Appleknockers	77.55
5 Buccaneers	77.20

Alumni

**Association
 Dues for 2024
 are now due.**

Please give the
 \$10 dues to Larry
 Mastroberardino
 or Greg McNeff or
 mail to Greg
 McNeff 143
 Mohawk Ave.
 Hawthorne, NJ
 07506

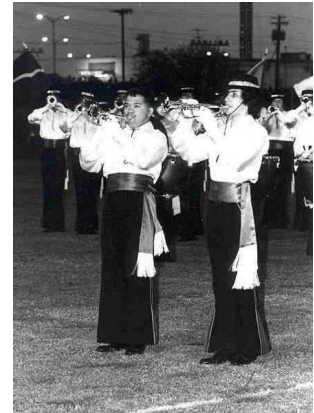
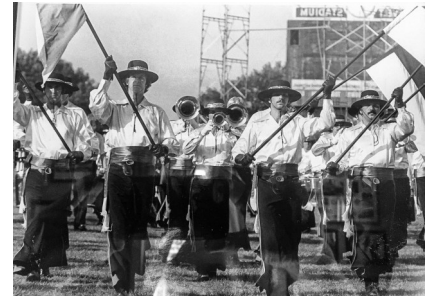
Somebody Up There Likes Us!

As some of you may know, our tenant (Church) that rents the upper floor in our home (American Legion Post 199), gave us notice that they would be vacating the premises for good at the end of October this year. This is our main source of income for the Post. The Post and the two corps that reside there, thought we were going to have to find a new home and a new sponsor. We had meetings to brainstorm for a solution. We came up empty. We hoped and prayed we would find an answer. Well, our prayers were answered. Another church in town just lost their home and heard about our vacancy. What's the chances.

Somebody up there does like us!



Pics From The Past



An Apology Is Due!

I would like to issue an apology to baritone Bill Kennedy for unintentionally leaving his name off of the birthday list in the last issue of the Ole!

It will not happen again.



Friday, September 1 *

Mangione Tribute

Stage Show

Rochester, NY

Saturday, September 2 *

Music Rehearsal

Rochester, NY

Sunday, September 3 *

Alumni Spectacular

Field Exhibition

Rochester, NY

Sunday, September 3 *

DCA Finals

Field Exhibition

Rochester, NY

Sunday, September 24 *

Music Rehearsal

12:00-5:00

Lake Hopatcong Elk's

Sunday, October 15 *

Music Rehearsal

12:00-5:00

Lake Hopatcong Elk's

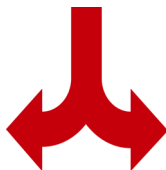
Sunday, October 29 *

Music Rehearsal

12:00-5:00

Post 199

Alumni 2023 Schedule



HELP WANTED!

We are looking for help operating our truck.

Drivers: Looking for up to two additional qualified drivers. These people will need to show capability to drive our truck in city streets, such as Hawthorne, and park our truck next to the competing corps' trucks and trailers. This requirement is to assure our insurance company we certify our new drivers.

We can always use help with water bags and lightweight equipment when required. Applicants don't need to be members but associated with members.

Anyone interested in helping us can contact Bob or Kenny at any rehearsal.

Sunday, November 5 *

Veterans Day Parade

Clifton

Sunday, November 12 *

Music Rehearsal

12:00-5:00

Post 199

Friday, November 17 *

Bus Leaves For

Plymouth From

Hawthorne Pool

Saturday, November 18 *

Parade

Plymouth, MA

Saturday, November 18 *

Stage Show

Plymouth, MA

Sunday, November 19 *

Bus Returns From

Plymouth, MA To

Hawthorne

Saturday, December 2 *

Final Rehearsal

11:00-3:30

Post 199



30TH
ANNIVERSARY
Dinner

Date: July 12, 2024

Place: La Reggia, Secaucus NJ

Time: 6:30pm – 11:30PM

Cost: \$125.00pp (open bar)

Cocktail hour/BUFFET Dinner/Venetian hour

Deadline: June 15, 2024

[\(No tickets will be sold at the door\)](#)

[There will only be 250 tickets sold](#)

Check Payable to:

Hawthorne Caballeros Alumni Drum Corps

Checks can be given to : Larry Mastroberardino OR

Mailed to : Steve Racowski 49 Sand Hill Road, Vernon NJ 07462

Tables of 8 or 10 can be reserved.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Meadowlands Plaza

201-272-1000

**Block is under the name of
Hawthorne Caballeros Alumni
(Attached to LaReggia)**

\$104.00 per night plus tax

Cut off date: June 10,2024

The 2024 GAS Reunion will be held at the Genetti Hotel, Williamsburg PA.

I am happy to be one of the Representatives for the Hawthorne Caballeros and Caballeros Alumni Drum Corps along with Mike DelVecchio.

As stated in the flyer, Room reservations can go ONLY thru myself . Mike and I will also be glad to accept your checks for the Events and Banquet

Any questions, feel free to ask either of us.

Best Regards

Larry Mastroberardino - President

Hawthorne Caballeros Alumni Association



2024 GREAT ALLIANCE OF SENIORS GAS REUNION

THE GREAT ALLIANCE OF SENIORS GAS ORGANIZATION WILL HOST IT'S 38TH IN PERSON REUNION ON:

DATES: FRIDAY, MAY 3, AND SATURDAY MAY 4, 2024

EVENTS PLANNED: GAS Weekend Tickets Required

**FRIDAY: Welcome Social and Chorus Performances 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM SATURDAY
10:00 AM: Talent Show; SATURDAY 6:00 PM: Banquet**

LOCATION of EVENTS: GENETTI HOTEL

200 WEST FOURTH STREET WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

Home of the "Little League World Championships"

GENETTI HOTEL ROOM COST:

Thursday (Early Birds) \$95.00 Plus Tax

Friday & Saturday - \$115.00 Per Night Plus Tax

Room Rate After April 1, 2024 - \$130.00 Per Night Plus Tax

Breakfast Included with Room Reservation!

NOTE: NO INDIVIDUAL CAN MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS ONLY YOUR REPRESENTATIVE!

GAS REUNION WEEKEND TICKET COST: \$90.00 Per Person

Individual Checks Make Payable to: Great Alliance of Seniors.

Checks can be given to Either Larry Mastroberardino OR Mike DelVecchio

OR MAIL TO Larry Bourne, 34 King Charles Circle, Rosedale, MD 21237

TICKET AND ROOM AVAILABILITY: (Because of Space Limitations)

HOTEL RESERVATIONS AND GAS WEEKEND TICKETS MUST BE ARRANGED AND BOOKED THROUGH YOUR ORGANIZATION'S GAS REPRESENTATIVE ASAP AND NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2024.

HALF NOTES...

What a thrill meeting **Chuck Mangione** at his tribute in Rochester. I was surprised how shy and quiet he was but a perfect gentleman.....another big thrill was the size and sound of the horn line at the tribute. 87 strong. WOW!.....Latin Express was a joy to listen to at the I&E Championships. Great job guys.....condolences to our Honor Guard's **Helen Smyth** on the passing of her husband. May he rest in peace..... congrats to Alumni Corps' baritone soloist and director of Latin Express **Andy Grilk** on his induction into the NJDCHOF.....the same honor was bestowed on **Josh Katz** of the Caballeros competing corps.....this was the last time that the DCA Championship will be held in Rochester. The merger of DCI and DCA will be very different. No one really knows where we go from here..... that's all for now!

Semi-Funny Jokes...

I was at the gym and decided to jump on the treadmill. But people gave me weird looks, so I started jogging instead.

As long as cocoa beans grow on trees, chocolate is fruit to me.

The apathy club meeting has been canceled again.

A doctor making a house call was taken to the patient's room, but soon came downstairs and asked for a screwdriver. Five minutes later, he was back, this time asking for a can opener. A few minutes after that, he demanded a chisel and hammer.

The distraught wife couldn't stand it any longer and exclaimed, "Please, doctor, what's wrong wit my husband?" "I don't know yet," the doctor answered. "I can't get my bag open."

My favorite road sign is "Falling Rocks." What exactly am I supposed to do with that information? They may as well have a sign saying, "Random accidents ahead." "Life's a lottery, be lucky."



HELP WANTED!

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



Articles for the OLE!

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

