

Ole!



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

Volume 5, Issue 1

January/February 2024

30th Anniversary? How Did That Happen?

By Chris Sortino

30th Anniversary? How did that happen?

When we started on this journey, we thought it might go for five years and we were happy with that. But thirty years? It's hard to believe. I guess we did something right!

As I write this article, I'm thinking we didn't do something right. We did a lot of things right.

We patterned managing the corps after Jim Costello's management style. It works. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

We were fortunate to have his blueprint to follow. Jim Costello once told me that a lot of the other

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Special Caballeros Receive Awards

By Chris Sortino

At the January 21st Rehearsal at Post 199, awards were presented to the members of the Alumni Corps who went the extra mile during the 2023 season to make a difference for all of us in the corps.

The **Lifetime Achievement Award** went to **Mike Del Vecchio** for being an inspiration for the rest of us, teaching all of us that you're never too old to get excited about this great activity that we love so much. At age 90, Mike proved it can be done at any age.

The **Mentor Award** was



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corps the Caballeros competed against had much more talent than they did. The one reason the Cabs beat these other corps, was they were organized. That's the pattern we followed.

That's all we knew. So when we first started the corps with all former Cabs, it was much easier than other corps had it when they were starting up. It was a proven commodity.

After five years the responses from former Cabs started to slow down just as we thought in the beginning.

It was time to make a critical decision. End it and say we had a good run with just Caballeros or open the membership up to folks from other corps. A huge majority chose the later. So because of that vote, we got another 25 years on the field.

Our membership now is about 50/50 Caballeros and non Cab veterans. One thing we all have in common is that we all want to be here. We are all Caballeros now.

"Once a Caballero, always a Caballero."

Rump!

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.....Awards!

presented to **Mary Sinisi** for taking new color guard members under her wing teaching them the ins and outs of fitting in and doing things the Caballero way.

Koichi Sugimoto received the **Ambassador Award** for his trip to Japan to continue the connection between the Caballeros and the Yokohama Inspires begun by former director Paul Bongiovi.

The **Special Recognition Award** went to **Rick and Linda Gathen** for their dedication and original ideas. Cases in point; making the Lake Hopatcong Elks Lodge available to the corps for rehearsals which is so helpful to us and the incredible job of putting together the Chuck Mangione dedication at the DCA Championship in Rochester, NY featuring the Caballeros Alumni Corps. What a night!

The **Super Achievement Award** went to several

members for different reasons.

The **Truck Crew** members, **Ken Clancy, Bob Durborow, Dave Scarber and Eric Weber** for all they do at every rehearsal and every show making it easier for the Drum Line, Color Guard and Contra Bass players to access our equipment.

Beth McGarril for her dedication running our Lottery Fundraiser Program which keeps the corps in the black when there are no shows, mainly the winter months.

Fran Lauritano for her leadership putting together a top notch American Section usually creating something out of nothing. I've seen her have one person in the section at the beginning of the year and end up with a nine person section. Simply amazing.

Larry Mastroberardino, our corps "Travel Agent". He makes a very difficult job seem easy when we are all tucked in and comfortable in our rooms. We never realize now hard a

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.....Awards!

job it is.

Kurt Zimmermann. Whenever the corps needed a field to rehearse on, with very short notice, he came up with a solution with his access to his high school field. He never once even blinked. He always asked "when do you need it" and then said "OK". Thank you for your dedication.

Jim Nargiso, our corps haberdasher. He takes care of our uniform needs from hats down to our pants. He also is at the post checking on the thermostats, fixing anything that needs to be fixed. Electrical, carpentry, he's there. Oh yes! He's also the corps' Business Manager and the Post Vice Commander.

The **Rookies of the Year Award** went to **Mike Shubert** and **Jill Johnson**. This lovely couple come all the way from Ohio and Western Pennsylvania to make rehearsals and shows. Their dedication

is exemplary and they are great musicians. Thanks for choosing our Alumni Corps Family.

The **Member Of The Year Award** was presented to **Ken Clancy**. He is in charge of the truck crew. Whatever time or place we need him, he is there. If there is a mechanical problem with the truck, he fixes it or gets it fixed. Without him, we cannot perform. Old reliable. We never, ever have to worry about the truck or what's in it. Thank you Ken for all you do.

Corps Advisor Award. This is a selfish award on my part.

When I took the reins as director, there were three people that guided me through the journey. Without them, I never could have been successful. Their advise was invaluable. **Doug Tennis, Steve Raclofski and Rita Bongiovi.** I can't thank you enough for all that you have done for me and the corps.

All the award winners are true Caballeros.

Thank you all again!

Remember When

Fifty Two Years Ago

September 3, 1972

DCA Prelims

Jersey City, NJ

1 Caballeros	91.25
2 Buccaneers	89.90
3 Skyliners	89.90
4 Crusaders	88.05
5 Hurricanes	87.70
6 Yankee Rebels	85.20
7 Les Diplomates	84.55
8 Kingsmen	79.90
9 Sunrisers	78.75
10 Rockets	76.05
11 Commanders	71.10
12 Matadors	70.15
13 Whalers	63.80
14 Bonnie Scots	61.45
15 Renegades	59.75

January Birthdays

Mike Palmquist
 Bob Menear
 Steve Barney
 Javier Morales
 Guy Aucoin
 Jim Nargiso
 Tracey Doherty
 Vince Marchese
 Bill George
 Karen Londino
 Robin
 Mastroberardino
 Mary Sinisi
 Ann Leib



OFFICERS

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

Trivia Answer

Volume 4 Issue 6

**Q: The Caballeros
 stopped the Sky-
 liners undefeated
 streak in 1972.
 Where was that
 contest?**

A: Schenectady, NY

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 Avenue

Hawthorne, NJ
 07506



February Birthdays

John Gerdes
 Larry
 Mastroberardino
 Cortez Howard
 James J. Costello jr.
 (COS)
 Kathy Lawson
 Bob Durborow
 Steve Andreazza

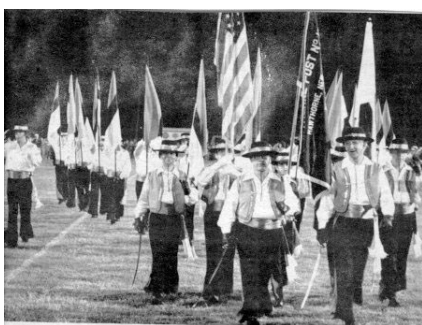


Trivia Question

**What was the only
 year that the
 Caballeros
 won the Nationals
 and the DCA
 Championships?**

Ole! is published every
 other month.
 Next issue: March/April
 2024

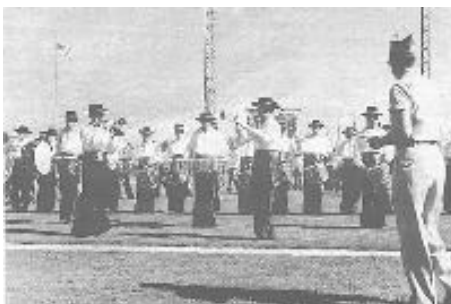
Pics From The Past



Remember When

**Sixty One Years Ago
August 17, 1963
Waterbury, CT**

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 Caballeros | 88.950 |
| 2 Skyliners | 87.766 |
| 3 Hurricanes | 84.066 |
| 4 Sunrisers | 82.913 |
| 5 Marksmen | 81.566 |
| 6 Gay Blades | 80.933 |
| 7 Criterions | 71.616 |



HELP

WANTED!!!

**We Need Your
Help.**

**The Alumni Corps
could use another Bass
Drummer.**

**We have openings in
the Baritone & Contra
Bass sections.**

**We need people to fill
out our Color Guard-
most of all.**

**You'll meet great and
talented people, great
instructors and make
lifetime friends and
march with the
Greatest Alumni Corps
on the planet.**

**What ever section you
choose, you'll be glad
you did.**

Please pass the word.



Sunday, January 7 ***Music Rehearsal****12:00-5:00****Post 199****Sunday, January 21 *****Music Rehearsal****12:00-5:00****Post 199****Sunday, February 4 *****Music Rehearsal****12:00-5:00****Post 199****Sunday, February 18 *****Music Rehearsal****12:00-5:00****Post 199****Sunday, March 3 *****Music Rehearsal****12:00-5:00****Post 199****Sunday, March 17 *****All Sections****12:00-5:00****JFK High School****Sunday, March 24 *****Music Rehearsal****12:00-5:00****Post 199****Alumni 2024****Partial Schedule****Sunday, April 7 *****Music Rehearsal****12:00-5:00****Post 199****Sunday, April 14 *****All Sections****12:00-5:00****JFK High School****Saturday, April 20 *****Lancers Indoor Show****York, PA****Saturday, May 4 *****Camp Weekend****T.B.D.****Sunday, May 5 *****Camp Weekend****T.B.D.****Saturday, May 18 *****Buccaneers Alumni
Show****Robeson, PA****Monday, May 27 *****Memorial Day Parade****Hawthorne, NJ****Saturday, June 8 *****Elk's Parade****Wildwood, NJ****Sunday, June 23 *****Drill Rehearsal****T.B.D.****Saturday, June 29 *****Parade****Lewisburg, PA****Sunday, July 7 *****Drill Rehearsal****T.B.D.****Friday, July 12 *****30th Anniv. Banquet,****La Reggia****Secaucus, NJ****Saturday, July 13 *****Grand Prix****Clifton, NJ****Saturday, July 20 *****Alumni Field Show****Milton, PA****Saturday, July 27 *****Field Show****Mt. Olive, NJ****Wednesday, July 31 *****Field Show****Glassboro, NJ**

Alumni 2024 Partial Schedule

Sunday, August 4 *

Field Show

Reading, PA

Saturday, August 10 *

T.B.D.

Saturday, August 17 *

T.B.D.

Sunday, Sept. 15 *

Music Rehearsal

12:00-5:00

T.B.D.

Sunday, Sept. 29 *

Music Rehearsal

12:00-5:00

T.B.D.

Sunday, October 13 *

Music Rehearsal

12:00-5:00

T.B.D.

Sunday, October 27 *

Music Rehearsal

12:00-5:00

T.B.D.

Sunday, Nov. 10 *

Veterans Day Parade

Clifton, NJ

Sunday, Nov. 17 *

Rehearsal, Guard @ F.H.

12:00-5:00

Post 199

Saturday, Nov. 23 *

Parade

Plymouth, MA

Saturday, Nov. 23 *

Stage Show

Plymouth, MA

Saturday, December 7 *

Final 2024 Rehearsal

11:00-3:30

Post 199



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.



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

HALF NOTES...

Congratulations to two of the Alumni Corp's best, Rick Gathen and Duke Terreri for being inducted into the Buglers Hall Of Fame. You guys deserve it.....amazing as it may seem, the corps finished the music for the 2024 show.....the talent in this corps is incrediblegood to see **Bobby Bongiovi** playing in the snare line a couple of weeks ago. Hope to see you back here soon.....congratulations to all the Alumni Corps Awards recipients. You are all very deserving of the honor.....nice to see **Pat Vasquez** at the last rehearsal, also saw **Mr. & Mrs. Gene Marotta** at the same rehearsal. Good to see all of you,,,,,,it was an honor and pleasure for some of our drummers to play at the Drumming for Our Veterans on Long Island.....all proceeds go to the Veterans hospitals on Long Island. A wonderful charity to be sure.....that's all for now!

Semi-Funny Jokes...

A TEACHER said to his class, "George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but admitted it. Why didn't his father punish him?"

One young student replied, "Because George was the one holding the ax?"

A DUCK is standing next to a busy road, cars zooming past while he waits for a break in traffic. A chicken walks up to him and says, "Don't do it, man. You'll never hear the end of it."

WHAT IF dogs fetch the ball only because they think we really like throwing it?

MY UNCLE said he had never seen a bald dog, so he injected himself with cocker-spaniel hormones. Now he has a head of wavy hair, but his ears keep flopping in his food and he has fleas and my aunt won't let him on the couch.

IF YOU HAVEN'T been to Disney as an adult, just imagine you're standing in line at the DMV...and that's it.

A PHOTOGRAPHER was hired to take pictures at a lawyers' convention. After lining everyone up for a group shot, He shouted, "On the count of three, everyone say, 'Fees!'"



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

