

The Vanguardian

Winter 2002



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Santa Clara Chases The Standard Their Co-Founder Set

Chris Hollenback, Drum Corp World Editor

When Gail Royer, co-founder and director of the Santa Clara Vanguard for its first 25 years, passed away in 1993 after battling cancer, the storied corps that had given the activity so many memorable moments was thrust into a challenging transitional phase.

"It was definitely difficult," said Dan Vannatta, SCV General Manager, "because Gail had that image -- he was Santa Clara. It was a transition period because at the same time as he died, Jack Hurt retired." Hurt was the corps' longtime business manager who lent his accounting expertise. "Bud Romo managed the fleet and facilities and he retired shortly after. It was a complete changeover from the people who ran the corps for its first 25 years. It was a complete transition for five or six years."

In some ways, a lot has changed since '93. Royer's brass arrangements and knack for designing brilliant impact points has been missed. The Royer era included the Bottle Dance, the instant pants color change in '86, disappearing members, then a disappearing corps during the Phantom of the Opera show and a closing note from the tunnel in Buffalo. The staff has changed dramatically. The uniforms have been tweaked.

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PHOTO COURTESY DRUM CORPS WORLD

SCV Co-founder, Gail Royer



Goodbye and Welcome

Linda Garbarino, Exiting Booster Club President

Life in Drum Corps seems to be a series of comings and goings. New marching members join the corps each year and others leave. Those exiting the corps take a life-long experience with them. One of our SCV instructors, said in an interview that the friends he made in the corps would be his friends for the rest of his life. That's just the way it is.

The corps members echo that sentiment each year as they leave the marching field for the last time. Those ties that are developed are strong and emotionally based and can create the best friendships. Your sons and daughters may leave the field but their hearts stay with the corps. When our theme song "Clowns" is played anywhere, it instantly creates that emotional rush that embodies all that is good about the Santa Clara Vanguard experience.

see Garbarino, page 4



The Santa Clara Vanguard would like to offer our condolences and support to all those who lost loved ones in the September 11th attacks.



PHOTO COURTESY CHARLIE GIBSON

Combined SCV Hornlines performing at Christmas in the Park in San Jose

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Booster Club membership renewals are due annually. If you have not renewed for this upcoming year, do so today! If you are not a member of the Booster Club, what are you waiting for? Go to the SCV Website and download your application now!

http://www.scvanguard.org/booster_club/member_app_download.php

BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Remember, bingo is the life-blood of the organization. One of the most critical times in terms of help is during the off-season months of October, November & December. Please come down and help support the organization.

To sign up, please contact Maya Bonte-Salvucci at

1-888-640-1086

RE M I N D E R



When you see the eagle icon in the Vanguardian, surf to our website for more information, article continuations, and up to date information. It's only a short click away at www.scvanguard.org.

2002 Santa Clara Vanguard Directory

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Special Souvie Offer

Interested in purchasing some souvies from our Online Store? If so, check out the back of this issue on your address label. There should be a "Promo Code" underneath your address. From now until March 1, 2002 you can use this code in our Online Store for a one-time discount of 10% off your entire order. When you go to checkout, just enter this code in the box provided and instantly get at 10% discount. This offer is being offered only for YOU, the recipients of the Vanguardian. If you have any questions, please email webmaster@scvanguard.org. Thank you for your support!

Coming This Spring...

TRADITIONS 4

1999 - 2001

a new CD featuring championship performances from the ...

1999 - 2001 Santa Clara Vanguard
2000 Vanguard Cadets

From the Souvie Wagon

Jo Blatcher, Merchandise

Hello SCV Fans,

The 2001 season has officially ended and the inventory is done and all put to bed for another year. And even though the season may be gone, the souvies are not forgotten thanks to our great website... If you haven't checked it out lately please do so! We had a great Hoilday Sale and introduced a new and popular item - Vanguard Christmas Ornaments in red and

green. If you didn't get yours this year, we are looking at bringing them back for next Christmas.

We also need design ideas for the thirty fifth anniversary shirts and hats, If you have an artistic side and have any suggestions, please send them to me at the hall and we will see what we can do...

Thanks for the great year and see ya along the trail!

Santa Clara Vanguard

35th Birthday Dinner

March 10, 2001

\$5.00 at the door

Memorabilia, videos

Merchandise available

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Pacific Procession tickets available

*Performances by the Vanguard, Vanguard Cadets
and the Alumni Corps*

Below, new cymbal instructor Armando Olivares rehearses with students at the Audition Camp




PHOTO COURTESY CHARLIE GIBSON

New Website Design for 2002

Brian Marsalli, Webmaster

If you have visited the SCV website recently you probably noticed that it looks dramatically different than before. On January 1st we rolled out a completely new look. The redesign has been in progress for the past few months as I felt the site needed some spice. There seemed to be no better time to do it than as SCV begins it's 35th Anniversary celebration.

Some things to look for with the new site are a more consistent navigation scheme presented across all pages in the site, increased integration of pictures in the site, and a new history and repertoires section for both corps that bring the history, sound files and pictures together in one place.

Enjoy the new site and thank you for supporting the Santa Clara Vanguard. We look forward to bringing you another great year of Drum Corps! 

Garbarino, from page 1

As your children enter or exit this activity, remember that the skills, the discipline, the sense of belonging, and the meaning of friendship stay with them forever. Our goal as parents is to help our children find meaning in their lives, to become productive citizens and thoughtful, caring human beings. You get what you put in. At the very least, you learn what you have to commit to the activity and the concept of teamwork. At the most, you are recognized as a highly productive member of a world-class team. Either way, you win.

As the exiting president of the Santa Clara Vanguard Booster Club I have learned what it takes to be a team member. I would like to thank the team. Special thanks to Dan Vannatta, General Manager, for his devotion and work on behalf of the organization. Former marching members and current corps managers, George Brown and Rick Valenzuela have to be recognized for their incredible passion for excellence and skillful leadership.

I would like to recognize every member of each booster committee and staff that support those committees. High marks go to Mary Minjares, Membership Committee Chairperson and her team. A salute to the Vanguardian Staff, under the leadership of Charlie Gibson, and editor Sharon Garcia, and webmaster/graphics expert, Brian Marsalli. Hats off to the hard-working bingo staff and committee: Charlotte and Dave Luciani, Bud Romo, Pamela Dunn, and Lori Gibson. Special recognition to Jo Blatcher, coordinator of our souvenir program. High

general effect to John and Gloria Flores and their team for the nationally-recognized Pacific Procession Drum Corps Show. This year's booster club was successful because of these stars.

Many new folks enter the "field of volunteerism" each year. Often they step forward because they want to give back. For many whose names are listed above, they were marching corps members, others were the parents of those members or life-long fans of the activity. So we say good-bye to life-long friends like Ken and Nancy McGuire. Ken served as Booster Treasurer. He gets his "green feather" for staying power and tenacity. Thanks to Ray Pulver, Booster Vice-president. His skills in event organization will continue to serve the corps for many years to come. Thanks to Veronica Flores, Secretary to the Board and Booster Club, who, with great skill, has recorded this year's meeting history.

As you go off the "field" for the last time each step takes you to a new challenge. In each of us resides the better person for the experience we left. Each of us now must reach out and take the steps that will further enrich our life experiences. I listed names of folks above who do that everyday for Santa Clara. Next year I hope to see your name on the list. It's not a hard step to take. The payoff is found in the faces of the kids as they give their best in each and every performance on the field.

The true measure for all of us is the performance we give in life off the field.

Children's Adventures in Movement Update

Carol Abohatab, Dance Company

Children's Adventures in Movement continues in an eight-week series for winter, teaching dance concepts of balance and muscle awareness, anatomy, space, time, and energy. Children will discover movement unique to their bodies through structured improvisation in a creative environment. Fun and Adventure are Inherent!!!

The eight-week series is held on Saturdays from January 19 through March 9. The three age groups are: 4-5 years, 6-7 years, and 8-10 years; each group meeting separately. Ages 4-5 from 10:00 to 10:45 am, ages 6-7 from 11:00 to 11:45 am, ages 8-10 from 11am to noon. Registration fee is \$30 in advance or at the door; classes are free. Please arrive earlier than class time to register so that classes can begin on time. Attendance at the first class (Jan 19) is required. If this is a problem, please state that when reserving a spot.

The Children's Adventures in Movement started with a Pilot Program –Workshop, which lasted four Saturdays in September of 2001. It was a great success, with 40 dance students – girls and boys - from Santa Clara and surrounding areas. Many SCV alumni brought their kids, and got a chance to meet and/or reunite with other alumni! It was great fun, and an adventure for all. The first full eight-week session this Fall also was well-received. The children had a great time as they came up with very inventive movements and dances for each class! The kids in the 4-5 year old class worked on shapes and locomotor movements, balance and weight ideas, as well as spatial concepts. They also loved to dance out their favorite animals and weather conditions! The 6-7 year old children worked more with shapes and movements as they related to the anatomy of their bodies, as well as the qualities of those movements. They enjoyed dancing adventures in different scenarios and environments! The older students worked on solos which incorporated movement qualities (sharp, heavy, light, swing, sustained, etc.), bound and free flow movement, spatial ideas

(positive and negative, high/low, etc.), and technique of the muscles in order to make their dances work! All classes culminated by showing their dances in an informal setting at the end of each class on the last day of the workshop!

Register in person at 1795 Space Park Drive, Santa Clara or you can call 408-727-5534 x18 to reserve a spot in the upcoming class. Someone will call you back to confirm. Form fitting, easy-to-move-in clothing is suggested, bare feet, and hair tied back and secured (buns are not necessary, just the ability to see while running and moving in space!). PLEASE COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN!!!

ELECTION RESULTS

These are the results of the 2002 Booster Club officers and Board of Directors election. Elections were held at the November booster club meeting.



*L-R: Terry Lee, Brad Andrews, Veronica Flores, Charlie Gibson, Romie Evans, Linda Garbarino, and Jerry Marsalli
Not Pictured: Dan Domingo*

Booster Club President: Romie Evans

Vice-President: Linda Garbarino

Treasurer: Jerry Marsalli

Director-at-large: Terry Lee

Director-at-large: Brad Andrews

Director-at-large: Charlie Gibson

Director-at-large: Dan Domingo

Secretary: Veronica Flores

The newly elected officers take office on January 12th.

Congratulations and good luck!

DCI Tickets

The Booster Club has purchased a block of tickets for Semi Finals and Finals in Madison. If you would like to purchase tickets for both, call the Booster office and reserve these with Dan Vannatta at ext 10. We have also secured a block of rooms at the Howard Johnson which is 4 blocks away from the stadium. If you would like to reserve a room, again call Dan at the office.



Vanguard Director's Report

Rick Valenzuela, Vanguard Director



Welcome to the 2002 season for the Vanguard! This is looking to be a spectacular year as the Santa Clara Vanguard celebrates its **35th Anniversary!** I hope you can participate with us as we reach another milestone for such a storied organization.

Looking back at the history of this organization makes me happy and proud that I am still able to be a part of it since I started marching in 1983. The Vanguard has affected many people through its performances, but more importantly, it has affected the people that have been a part of it.

I can't imagine what the Vanguard would be like ... if there would even be one, with out Gail Royer. There have been perceptions of what he was like – some correct, and some incorrect. But, if you were a marching member during his tenure, you knew the *real Mr. Royer*.

Speaking of marching members, we just concluded our Thanksgiving Audition camp, in which we had over 480 people audition to be a member of the Vanguard or Vanguard Cadets. *Another record for SCV!*

The staff now has the very difficult task of filtering down to the 135 members who will be marching as the Vanguard this year (64 Brass, 37 Guard, 32 Percussion, 2 Drum Majors). I would like to thank all of those that were at auditions and wish you the best of luck. I'd also like to thank all of the volunteers that helped throughout the weekend!

The bulk of the design team has returned for the 2002 season – Myron Rosander (Visual Caption Head/Designer), Jim Casella (Percussion Caption Head/Arranger), Dean Westman (Arranger), Rob Jett (Color Guard Caption Head/Designer). The new changes to the design staff include Jed

Weeks (Brass Caption Head) and Mitch Rogers (Program Coordinator). The rest of the staff includes (new additions in bold):

Tour Director: Mike Laughlin

Assistant Tour Director: Michael Yoho

Brass: Antonio Castro, James Gerard, Chris Moura, Stephen Smith

Guard: Allan Dekko, Brandy Dubose, George Staib

Percussion: Jim Ancona, Glen Crosby, **Vince Gardner, Murray Gusseck**, Jeff Huffman, **Armando Olivares**, James Ragsdale, David Reeves

Visual: **Ron Hardin**, Dylan Thompson, **Brian Soules**, Bryan Williams, Daemon Williams, Mike Zerbini

Consultants: Ralph Hardimon, **Gordon Henderson**

The design staff is hard at work on finalizing this year's show. Our last meeting was held in December, and we'll be posting announcements of the 2002 repertoire on our website soon.

To our friends, families and supporters. You too can be a

part of this special year by volunteering your time and/or donating your money. This organization has thrived off the dedication, determination, and work of the young people who have marched here, and survived off the support and dedication of the volunteers and sponsors who have given so generously to the organization. We can use your help, whether it's



PHOTO COURTESY CHARLIE GIBSON

Brass auditionees gather for instructions during the camp

monetary support or volunteer support.

I hope you can be a part of the 35th Anniversary of the Santa Clara Vanguard.

Have a safe and fun New Year!



Vanguard Cadets Director's Report

George Brown, Vanguard Cadets Director

Hello and welcome to the Vanguard Cadets Corner. I hope that your holiday season went well! It is a wonderful time of the year to share and spend time with friends and family. As we close the 2001 calendar year, we have already begun the 2002 corps season.

I am very excited about the upcoming 2002 season as the Vanguard organization celebrates its 35th anniversary. This upcoming season will have a lot of performance opportunities for the Vanguard, Vanguard Cadets and Vanguard Alumni, together as well as separately. This year will culminate in all three corps performing at Drum Corps International Championships in Madison, Wisconsin, August 5-10th. If you are looking for information on championships week in Madison, Wisconsin, please check the SCV website at www.scvanguard.org or DCI website at www.dci.org.

To all alumni, I hope you will be able to participate in this wonderful opportunity to share the Vanguard performance experience with the current corps members.

To all of our fans and boosters, please join us this season and share in the celebration of the Vanguard 35th anniversary.

We've continued to develop combined corps auditions and each year we see better and more positive results. We started this year with a combined Vanguard and Vanguard Cadets Audition Camp during Thanksgiving Weekend.

Approximately 500 auditionees attended the weekend of rehearsals. Throughout the weekend, attendees were evaluated and placements were made to both corps. On Saturday evening



PICTURE COURTESY CHARLIE GIBSON

Horns working on marching in November

and Sunday daytime, the Vanguard Cadets had their first rehearsals during the camp. The turnout and placements for the Vanguard Cadets was tremendous (i.e., 30 guard members, 11 contras, 30 snares, etc.) I felt the results of the Audition Camp and rehearsals were very positive for both the attendees and staff. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help at the audition camp. Everyone involved made it a great success and positive presentation of the Vanguard organization!

In December, the 2002 corps season began with a combined Vanguard, Vanguard Cadets and Alumni performance in the San Jose Holiday Parade and a standstill at San Jose's Christmas in the Park. Both of these performances were done to some record-setting crowds while the weather left something to be desired. Many thanks to everyone who participated and helped continue these annual first performance events for the Vanguard organization.

The Vanguard Cadets are running weekly rehearsals every Sunday afternoon for all sections and will add Wednesday evening weekly rehearsals for the Brass and Percussion in January. Please make sure you call the information line at 408-727-5591, ext. 53 for details on the rehearsal times and locations.

Even with the tremendous turnout at the Thanksgiving weekend rehearsals, there are still openings in the Vanguard Cadets, so spread the word and bring anyone interested to any of the rehearsals. We have all the needed equipment and staff resources to work with anyone from the novice through the experienced musician who would like to be involved.

Finally, please join me in congratulating and welcoming the staff for the 2002 season.

Assistants: Gary Meegan, Philip Alexander

Brass: Ken Rydeen (Coordinator/Arranger), Shawn Hines, Aaron Jenson, Charles Ancheta, Susan Chase

Guard: Diane Corbett (Coordinator), Tyree Leslie (Coordinator)

Percussion: Dave Dilullo (Coordinator/Arranger), Tanya Acojedo (Pit Arranger), Jon Oglevee, Tommy Finklea, Brian Marsalli, Jeremy "Spike" Van Wert, Chris Cyr, Blair Wilkie

Visual: Josh Garbarino (Coordinator), Oliver Bullock (Designer), Andrew Canty, Adam Goetz, Seth Honeycutt, Robert Nieves, Chris Arriola

DM Consultant: Bryan Kreft

2002 Pacific Procession Preview

John Flores, PP Chairman

Plans are currently underway for next year's show, which will include a big celebration for Vanguard's 35th Anniversary. We are currently meeting with drum corps representatives to ensure a July show date, which will hopefully include a national touring corps.

It has been rumored that the Madison Scouts may be one of the corps visiting California this summer. The PP Committee is excited about their participation in the show to help SCV mark this special anniversary. In any case, we're working diligently to make this a memorable event.

The committee is also working on a venue for this year's Pacific Procession. Although SJSU's Spartan Stadium is a

highly desirable facility, other facilities are being investigated including Cal State Hayward and possibly Santa Clara University. A request to use Spartan Stadium has been submitted however, SCV will be competing with both the San Jose CyberRays and Earthquakes professional soccer teams, for dates this summer.

A meeting with PP committee members will be scheduled sometime in January to discuss the 2002 event and celebration. We look forward to seeing everyone then if not sooner.



PICTURE COURTESY CHARLIE GIBSON

Percussion section auditionees at the camp in November



PHOTO COURTESY BRIAN MARSALLI

Miss Amana volunteers enjoying the Audition Camp

Volunteering

Maya Salvucci, Volunteer Coordinator

I would first like to thank all the individuals who volunteered their time this past season, whether it was with bingo or camps or on tour. Your participation made such an impact on how smoothly these activities ran. Your hard work and generosity were very much appreciated.

Now it is time to focus on the coming year. Bingo (Tuesday, Friday, Saturday evenings and Sunday midday) always needs volunteers. It takes a minimum of 8 people and as many as 15 workers to have it run smoothly. The old adage of the more the merrier is absolutely true, especially when working bingo. Please schedule your bingos in advance to make scheduling easier. The Volunteer phone number is **1-888-640-1086**.

Corps members: Now is also a good time to start working off this year's bingo requirements. There will also be bingo

marathons scheduled throughout the year starting off with New Year's Eve.

Camps are held once a month, and although the kitchen crew is pretty much in place, we can always use a couple extra hands with setting up, making the drinks, serving meals and breaking down. And we are ALWAYS in need of donations (fruits, veggies, baked goods, #10-size cans of various food items, etc.). If you would like to help out or donate groceries, please call the Volunteer phone line.

To the volunteers that have already started to donate their time, and hard work: *What more can I say than "you have my deep appreciation, AND I THANK YOU!"*

Alumni

Corner

Bill Gradwohl, Alumni Reporter

Welcome to 2002. The Santa Clara Vanguard Alumni Association has a fantastic year planned. The SCV Alumni Corps has started rehearsals and our numbers are growing exponentially. The formal kickoff date is an organizational meeting on Sunday night, January 6th at 6:00pm. This meeting will cover the orientation for the SCVAC for the season's much anticipated activities, the update of SCVAA membership profiles, collection of dues (\$35 for SCVAA and \$50 for the SCVAC-bring your checkbook!) and the distribution of instruments. The first "official" rehearsal is the next night, Monday night, January 7th, 2002 at 6:30pm. We are hearing from some of our friends that have been absent for a few years and some that have just marched this past season. How about that Mike Hurd. Mike has moved back to the bay area from Utah to get closer to the SCV. Mike has helped with the audition camps and worked some bingo's. Mike says he's here to "give back". Thanks Mike!

All past members are welcome to join. The SCVAA membership is defined as a performing member of either the A corps or Cadets, who has completed one or more seasons of competition with the SCV organization. As members of the SCVAA, we are an auxiliary of the SCV Booster Club. As members of the booster club, our primary mission is the support of the Santa Clara Vanguard organization.

SCVAC General Manager Dan Vannatta has announced that plans for housing the Alumni Corps are coming together. The SCVAC will stay at the Regent hotel, walking distance from Camp Randall Stadium. Program Coordinator, Scott

Bay Meadows Wrap Up

Maya Salvucci, Volunteer Coordinator

Well, another year and another day of fun! We started at the Santa Clara train station and picked up a few others along the way. We all had a good laugh when we watched Lisa and Frank Chavis run to the other side of the tracks to get on the train.

As in the past, we had a wonderful and tasty array of food. The race that was named for Santa Clara Vanguard was a winner for all us. Even Ken Mcguire won this year!

Another good day with SCV friends.

Pierson has announced a tentative concept of the '02 SCVAC show. There are plans for 3 movements featuring music from each decade with a tribute to the late Fred Sanford.

Activities this past fall have included our "day at the races"; October 21st and event coordinator Maya Salvucci reports that a great time was had by those in attendance. Earlier this December, the combined SCV, SCV Cadets, and members of the SCVAC assembled for a Holiday parade performance in downtown San Jose as well as a standstill concert at Christmas in the Park. Check the hotline for announcements of future events.

At our last meeting, the Steering Committee for 2002 was elected. 3 committee members have completed their 2 year term of service. These distinguished members are Pat & Sarah Bayani, Dan Day, and Dan Smith. The SCVAA thanks them for their dedication and commitment. Returning to the Steering Committee are Brad Andrews and Maya Salvucci. New members are Manny Cabarloc, Donna Sinagra, and Bill Gradwohl.

Plans for the coming months include the SCV 35th Anniversary Spaghetti Dinner, scheduled for Sunday night, March 10, 2002. This event will be quite the festive occasion as we celebrate this organization's years of memories. SCVAA Casino night is coming April 14th, '02, 6:00 to 9:30.

Remember, rehearsals for the SCVAC are on the 2nd and 3rd Mondays at 6:30 pm. If you were part of the 25th Anniversary SCVAC, you know that you will want to be part of this year's historic events. Talk to your fellow alumni. Let's "represent" as only the SCVAC can!



PHOTO COURTESY MAYA SALVUCCI

Bay Meadows attendees with the winning jockey for the Santa Clara Vanguard Race



Yet the tradition Royer started remains. The Vanguard star. The felt hats. The red/green/white color scheme. The energy. And since 1999, the corps has strung arguably three strong shows together, melding the sophistication and crowd appeal that made the Royer corps famous.

Could SCV be entering another golden age in its "New Era?"

"Absolutely," Vannatta said. "Drum corps goes in cycles. We went in a down cycle. Now we're in an uprise. The staff is staying together. The kids want to come back. We have 400 to 500 people scheduled to try out this year."

Certainly the brass line is enjoying one of its most successful runs. The guard, boosted by an off-season dance program the last few years, is at least as strong as the Royer years. While the drum line probably wasn't as talented in 2001 as it was in 1999, Jim Casella's drum parts are adored by fans and critics alike and the SCV Cadets had a powerhouse 10-person snare line last summer, loading the corps with future talent to pick from.



PHOTO COURTESY RON WALLOCH

The end of Vanguard's 2002 Show "New Era Metropolis"

"I believe the fans never lost respect for the Santa Clara Vanguard," Vannatta said. "Gail had the respect from other directors and the judging community because of his talent and achievements. Gail told us at the beginning that 'it will be easy to get to the top. The hard part will be staying there.' Our rise to the top happened so fast and made such an impact on the activity, it would be difficult for any organization to maintain that level of 'larger than life.'"

"As far as DCI goes, we have been going through internal changes for several years, and I can understand why the attention that we believe our organization should receive has

not been what we would expect. We have been a supporter of DCI since the beginning, and intend to continue. Rick (Valenzuela, corps director) is becoming more involved with what's happening behind the scenes. With the changes that have happened within our organization over the past 10 years, that has to have some effect, but I do believe people are starting to listen to what we have to say again."

And what would the corps like to see?

"Obviously, Nationals on the West Coast would be great," Vannatta said. "We are seeing a surge of drum corps growth in our region, and we have a responsibility to support that. SCV has toured every year since 1968 going wherever the activity is. Unfortunately, it meant we left our region for most of the summer. What we would like to see is more corps coming to the West Coast. We better than anybody understand the difficulties of a national tour, but if the activity wishes to continue it's overall growth, all regions will need to be supported."

But the corps can only really control what it does, and Vannatta said the organization is strong. So strong that the corps is in tremendous financial health despite the fact that it resides in the Silicon Valley, one of the most expensive places to live and operate in America.

"Before bingo was legalized in California, the leaders of the booster club took a chance and purchased our building and prepared it for running bingo games," Vannatta said. That was before real estate prices launched out of sight when computer technology companies moved in droves to the Santa Clara area.

"Almost as soon as the state legalized the (bingo) game, the hall was completed and we started operating games before anyone else. That was in 1975. Along with making money, you have to effectively manage it. That as well has been a strong point of the booster club. Another expensive cost is transportation. The booster club took the task of purchasing a fleet and committing to its maintenance. Our commitment to safety as well as image is inherent in the manner in which our fleet is maintained."

The pattern is obvious: the Santa Clara Vanguard Booster Club helped the franchise survive the post-Royer era, and continues to make it go today.

"Looking into the Vanguard organization, you would see a booster club that takes their responsibility of providing the financial support very seriously," Vannatta said. "Many people are surprised to find that the booster club is the managing body

see DCW, page 11

SCV Begins New Membership Program for 2002

Brian Marsalli, Operations Supervisor

The Santa Clara Vanguard Booster Club has developed a new membership system to be inaugurated for the 2002 season. The program integrates the old membership system with a donation and benefits package that members can receive for joining at levels higher than the basic membership. In short, there are 7 different levels now available within the organization.

Each level is part of the "Star Membership Program" and contains a benefits package for each member as well as a tax-deductible contribution to the organization. The basic level, available for the same \$25 annual fee, gives the member a basic general membership in the Booster Club along with a subscription to "The Vanguardian", a Booster Lapel pin, and a 10% discount on all SCV merchandise. As the levels progress, members will receive items like Pacific Procession and DCI tickets, Videos and CDs, SCV Apparel, and more.

For more details and specific information on what you receive at each level visit <http://www.scvanguard.org> and click on the "2002 Star Membership Program" banner on the main page. Questions can also be addressed by sending an email to booster@scvanguard.org. Thank you for your support and contribution to SCV!



PHOTO COURTESY CHARLIE GIBSON

Guard auditionees stretch and flex in November

DCW, from page 10

of the Santa Clara Vanguard. They own all the assets and make the decisions regarding budgets, establish policies and monitor all actions of the organization. They operate the bingo games, maintain the fleet and manage all the business and financial matters of the organization."

Things are going so well for the boosters that the organization can afford to send not one, but three corps to the DCI Championships in Madison. Besides the Vanguard, the SCV Cadets -- who took the division II title at their last appearance in 2000 -- and the SCV Alumni Corps will perform. That's a feat that only the Madison Drum Corps Association can match.

"It will show the depth of our organization," Vannatta said.

And while some corps are asking for more and more money to appear at shows, SCV has restrained itself.

"I'm concerned over what effect this trend will have on the activity," Vannatta said. "Although the cost of supporting a drum corps is continually increasing, the cost of sponsoring shows is also increasing. In moving towards a market that is driven by whatever each corps can demand as compensation, we could be heading in a direction where we have less shows with fewer corps in them. Also, as with any business, the cost will be passed on to the consumer in the form of higher ticket prices. I don't think there is going to be an easy answer to this dilemma.

"The one thing is, drum corps is not our business," Vannatta said. "Drum corps is our passion. It's not necessary for us to charge more to perform. We want to perform. The booster club does everything it can to make sure the kids can.

"It's not because of performance that we exist. It's for the performance that we exist."

Perhaps that was never more evident than when it shined in the smiles of the members during their "New Era" rap at the end of last year's DCI Finals performance. Their energy and excitement, usually restrained by the corps' disciplined, classy approach, was opened up by the joy of connecting with the audience and striving to be the best they could.

Those values are what led the corps through the post-Royer transition, Vannatta said.

"The corps is what held it all together," he said. "The placement wasn't there, but that's not the driving force behind this corps. It's the values, the teaching -- that's what held it together."

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Santa Clara, CA 95054



Upcoming Events

January

- 1/6 2002 Alumni Corps Kickoff Meeting - 6:00pm
1/7 2002 Alumni Corps Rehearsal - 6:30pm
1/7 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:00pm
1/12 Booster Club Meeting - 10:00am
1/18 - 1/20 Vanguard Brass & Percussion Camp
1/25 - 1/27 Vanguard Cadets Camp

February

- 2/4 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:00pm
2/6 Booster Club Meeting - 7:00pm
2/15 - 2/17 Vanguard Brass & Percussion Camp
2/22 - 2/24 Vanguard Cadets Camp

March

- 3/4 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:00pm
3/9 Booster Club Meeting - 10:00am
3/10 SCV 35th Birthday Dinner - 6:30pm
3/8 - 3/10 Vanguard Brass & Percussion Camp

2002 BOOSTER CLUB OFFICERS

President: Romie Evans
Vice President: Linda Garbarino
Treasurer: Jerry Marsalli
Directors-at-Large: Charlie Gibson, Terry Lee
Brad Andrews, Dan Domingo
Chairman of the Board: TBA
Booster Meetings:
Monthly 1st Wednesday, 7:00pm
Quarterly 2nd Saturday, 10:00am
Board Meetings:
Monthly 1st Monday, 7:00 PM

General Manager

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Vanguard Director

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Vanguard Cadets Director

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Volunteer Coordinator

Maya Salvucci 1-888-640-1086
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