



BLUE ROCK BUZZ

Welcome to the first edition of the *Blue Rock Buzz*! As you have probably surmised, the *Blue Rock Buzz*, was your overwhelming choice in “Name the Newsletter!”

Our format for this newsletter will be a “work in progress” with your valuable help and insight. Any of your ideas or memories would be greatly appreciated. We hear that some of our alumni have gone on to experience extraordinary things in life that many of us would love to hear about. One of the ways we thought to highlight these stories is in our section entitled “Person of Interest.” This first edition will feature Peggy Glass Sliwinski, Blue Rock’s first Drum Major! Drum roll, please! Another series we would like to introduce in our first edition is the section called “In the Past.” To kickoff this section, we will be going down memory lane to the year 1966. “Out of the Blue,” Prescription Alley (health updates), “Letters to the Editor (your opinion counts), upcoming events, birthdays, anniversaries, pictures and your memories are additional segments for ongoing issues.

PERSON OF INTEREST...



Peggy Glass (Silwinski) was born August 14, 1941 in Altavista, Va., then moved to Wilmington, DE at age 8 where she lived most of her life. After living on Hilton Head Island, SC, Peggy later returned to Virginia for five years and now resides in Milford, DE. Peggy graduated from Conrad High School and attended Goldey-Beacom College in Delaware. Peggy worked at DuPont doing data processing, then later she and her husband formed their own Bookkeeping and Accounting business. Peggy has 3 children, 2 step-children and 4 grandchildren. Prior to joining Blue Rock, Peggy

marched at Diamond State carrying a flag in the Color Guard, went to rifle and then performed as their Drum Major. Peggy joined Blue Rock in 1959 while Blue Rock was transitioning from a Senior Corps to a Junior Corps. She was Drum Major from 1959 to 1961 and set a high standard for others to emulate. One of her fondest memories was working for Ted Sciarra and learning how to fly his plane...it was such a wonderful experience.

IN THE PAST...

The year is 1966 and Blue Rock was on the move! It was January and we were opening up in Rochester, New York which was sponsored by the Emerald Statesmen in the Rochester War Memorial in deep, deep snow. The scores for the competition were:

Blue Rock	88.83
St. Mary's Cardinals	86.92
Hawthorne Muchachoes	86.48
York Lions	83.58
Amprior Lions	75.56



Blue Rock took first in Horns; first in M&M, G.E. and best Color Guard! Do you remember marching on the wooden planks covering the ice rink and getting “snowed in” and spending the night in the Rochester War Memorial? Good times!

Now we are on the “grungy bus” heading towards Pompton Lakes, NJ in 90 degree temperatures in July where we came in second to Blessed Sacrament; the scores for the competition were:

Blessed Sacrament	82.500
Blue Rock	80.483
N.Y. Kingsmen	78.566
St. Raphael's	77.950
Garfield Cadets	77.250
Lakewood Goldenaires	71.250

The New Jersey VFW States competition "Top 4 Corps:"

Blessed Sacrament	90.60
St. Lucy's Cadets	88.45
Wilmington Blue Rock	87.45
Garfield Cadets	86.80

OUT OF THE BLUE...

We recently heard from brother and sister, Rob and Joanie French.

Joanie left Blue Rock in 1969. After graduating from the University of Delaware, she went on to teach children with autism in the state of Delaware. Joanie has gone international with her teaching skills, having taught in: Ecuador, South America; Beirut, Lebanon and is currently on her way to Cuba! No moss grows under Joanie's feet!

Rob served with the Marine Corps in Vietnam. Both he and his wife raised three children and now have six grandchildren. Rob is a retired Police Sargent from the Wilmington, DE Police Department. Rob spends his leisure hours riding his HOG (Harley)!

With great sadness, we learned that Bob French (Rob & Joanie's dad), Quartermaster among many other titles, not the least of which was FRIEND to all of us, passed away in 1998.

PRESCRIPTION ALLEY...

Ken Boulden - On March 1, 2014, Ken suffered a heart attack and soon after that, he underwent a heart procedure during which he unfortunately experienced a stroke. We are happy to report that Ken is about 95% recovered and possibly considering retirement. He also told us that he is going to make every effort to join us at the Reunion in June. We certainly look forward to "raising a glass" to his future good health!

Kenny Dennis - On November 21, 2014, Kenny also suffered a heart attack but is recovering well and participating in Cardiac Rehab. He will be undergoing an ultrasound soon to determine if he has need of a defibrillator or pacemaker. We wish him all the best!

Chuck Quackenbush - Chuck is still rehabilitating at Lutheran Crossings in Moorestown after a early November motor vehicle crash. He had seriously injured his left arm which necessitated having reconstructive surgery. Chuck was just recently able to have the pins removed from his arm and is continuing his rehabilitation.

*"In Our Prayers-" Please keep **Frank Burden** in your prayers as he battles a serious illness. Frank & Maryellen recently lost their older brother, Charles... some of you may fondly remember their Dad, Cal Burden, who was one of our bus drivers.*

BLUE ROCK NEWS...

John Palm has plenty to celebrate in 2015; January 6th was the birth of their new granddaughter, **Sienna Cattanea** who was born a wee bit premature at 2 lbs. 11 oz. Sienna will be staying in the hospital a little longer while gaining her strength. John will also be celebrating his birthday on February 6th...we wish them all the best!!!!



Jim Tarlton has secured the 1968 U.S. Open Championship Flag off of Ebay. It seems an antique dealer at the Chadds Ford Antique Mall placed the flag on Ebay for auction. Thank you, Jim, for securing our flag and that it has made it's way back home!

Don Deal won "Best Featured Soloist Award" at the U.S. Open Brass Band Championships last November in St. Charles, IL. The award was for his euphonium performance of "*Endearing Young Charms*," with the Madison Brass Band.

IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY...

Vicki Drummond Mell.....Jan 9
Anna M. Bonacquisti Caton.....Jan 22
Art Watson.....Jan 29

John Palm.....Feb 6
Ken Dennis.....Feb 7
Chuck Quackenbush.....Feb 12
Donna Slape Ferreri.....Feb 13
Martine Ireland.....Feb 14
Linda Morgan Gerace.....Feb 18
Linda Slape Seeney.....Feb 22

UPCOMING EVENTS...



ARE YOU READY FOR SOME DRUM CORPS????

ANNUAL BLUE ROCK GET TOGETHER

JUNE 5-6-7
MOTEL BAL HARBOUR
508 EAST STANTON ROAD
WILDWOOD CREST, N.J. 08260
(609) 522-3343

The Bal Harbour is only about a 5 minute drive to the Official Blue Rock Elks Parade viewing site at Kelly's Bar! The parade is at noon on Saturday, June 6th. Make sure you don't miss out on the fun and make your reservations as soon as possible.

EVENING WITH THE CORPS

7 PM - MAY 9, 2015

SPONSORED BY THE HAWTHORNE MUCHACHOES FOUNDATION, INC.,
HOSTED BY THE GOLDEN KNIGHTS AT THE STATE THEATRE IN NEW
BRUNSWICK, NJ - statetheatenj.org

PERFORMING:

HAWTHORNE CABALEROS
HAWTHORNE CABALEROS ALUMNI
FUSION CORPS
BRIDGEMEN ALUMNI
BLESSED SACRAMENT GOLDEN KNIGHTS
SAINTS BRIGADE

Please contact us at michaelbatten4@icloud.com. Send us your memories, pictures, birth dates, etc.

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