

July 14th 2003

Wow, we are done with SoCal!!! Hard to believe in 3 short days our 2003 corps will be leaving on the trip to Nationals!! And they have done an amazing job this season! I am proud of each and every one!!! But before we head into the sunrise, I just wanted to take a moment and than all the people who have helped out this season!!

First of all, **Lizz Richardson** (Rachelle -guard)**Les Mason** (Tiffany and Dezi -guard)and **Lauren Bloom** (alumni). Lizz is the Corps/Guard manager and has kept us all on track with our paperwork so everything is running smoothly! Not to mention early morning jaunts to urgent care with sick members!! (remind your kids to drink water!!!! and EAT!!!) She's the best!!! Les, has to live in the pirate ship BonniMason, where work is hard (he has sewn flags!!), there is no rest and the pay is bad, but he gets stuff to work... Puter, the sad cart and countless other things. He is MacGyver for drum corps! Lauren is the Kitchen manager. We all know what would happen if I was doing it ...it would be bad!!! Lauren is amazing in the kitchen. And considering our kitchen travels in a Wells Cargo trailer and comes out at each stop, what she does is just shy of miraculous. Ask your kids, they are probably eating more stuff than you have ever seen!! And in the off season, when they ask for Laurens Italian Drum Corps Chicken with Cheesy Potatoes, just ask her and she'll get you the recipe! Thank you so much for all their work this season!

Next, all of you parents who have helped do concessions volunteer at shows and most of all, drive long hours to the shows to cheer on the members!! It was the best when we were at West Covina last night and there were as many parents there as at our home show!!! Wow!!!! You are all incredible!!! I LOVE seeing those new 'E' shirts in the crowd!!!

There are 7 folks that I need to give public kudos's to by name (I don't usually do that...I'm always afraid of forgetting someone!!) First off, **Selma Cozart** (Deb-brass) and **Pam Otto** (Shauna -guard). Selma did 10 of the tunics (from scratch!) so I didn't have to ... and they look 'mahvelous'!!! Pam sewed the beautiful purple flags you see in the show ... that surely gave 'pop' against those red uniforms!! Next, **Mo Newmann** (Julie- front ensemble) for helping our with the truck and equipment. I know I can always count on her to help out and give it 100% !!! And I cannot (and neither will those hungry kids!) forget the mom's heading out with the corps this week on the cooking crew, **Donna Boyce** (Hunter-brass) , **Sue Givens** (Chris-front ensemble) **Kelly DeChant** (Peter-brass) and our returning veteran cook, **Heidi Angood** (Kaitlyn-guard). Did I tell you how hard it's going to be??? Again, thank you to you all for your help this season!!!

I also need to thank the booster board for helping out and making it look as though I kind of know what I'm doing!! **Gail Flickinger, events** (Kelly-percussion), **Jodi Wojcik, accounts** (Michael-brass, assistant dm) **Adrianna Irwin, newsletter** (alumni) **Dennis Irwin, records and merchandise** (alumni and new hubby of Adrinanna as of 7/5/03...congrats!!) And as an aside, it really is a fun group to work with so if you interested in any of the open positions, please call me when we get back!

Finally, a HUGE thank you to **Alan Cox** and the rest of the staff for giving our kids all this great opportunity! There is no way all of us can ever give back what they have all put into this organization and without them, our kids would just be, well, boring! Thank you from all of us parents!!

It looks like the summer is going to end well and in closing if you do get a chance to make it to one of the shows back East, wear that 'E' gear so I can find you and give you a big I-miss-California hug!!!! Look out Florida, here comes Esperanza!!!!!!!!!!

Bonnie Mason
Booster chair...