



PRESIDENT'S LETTER A YEAR IN REVIEW



As we close another year of activity and enter the holiday season, I would like to wish both you and yours a wonderful and joyful holiday.

To reflect on the Hall of Fame for just a second – Those in attendance at the banquet enjoyed sharing the company of many of our members, guests and inductees. A special thanks to our banquet co-chairs, Cathy Cardaneo and Deb Warga. The event went off without a hitch. “Reflections of the People and the Activity” by Joe Marelo brought meaning to what this activity has done to help make the world a better place. The banquet would never have been what it is today without the efforts of Gail Langan who brings the new inductees to life through her videos. A wonderful time was had by all and may we continue to enjoy this experience for years to come.

This is the season for giving thanks and it is an appropriate time to thank those who help stabilize, promote, and preserve the WDCHOF. Time passes and people come and go, but their contributions should never go unnoticed. I would like to acknowledge the accomplishments of those individuals and their impact on our Association.

This year members of the board have decided it's time for them to move on:

- Last year Bob Neuhoff resigned as Treasurer and was replaced by Rich Warga. The Association is in a good financial position (I did not say great) and actually has a working budget! Wow, fiscal responsibility, in Drum Corps?!
- Bob Zarfoss, the Secretary of the Association since before I was President, has resigned. Most will remember Bob for his “mc” activity at the banquet. Bob, however, was very active behind the scenes with multiple responsibilities. His biggest contribution was being a sounding board for me when I needed to vent, propose an idea or just ask for input (sometimes he had a little too much!). Bob has been replaced by another Bob, Bob Cardaneo, as the new Secretary.



World Drum Corps HALL of FAME

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Dan Rippon – our web master, finally got us into the 21st century with, among other things, a website revamp and online voting. This was by no means a small project and it required much effort on his part.

Frank Dorritte – for his insights and energy that propelled the World Drum Corps Hall of Fame to new levels. “To go where no man has gone before”, so to speak. Frank worked hard to develop the Professional Achievement Award, exposing many accomplished professionals who were once involved with the Drum Corps from the last astronaut, Christopher Ferguson, to Star Trek’s Sulu, George Takei. Such an impressive group of individuals!

This year we unveiled a new category – The International Division, which validates the Hall of Fame as truly the World Drum Corps Hall of Fame with the induction of Shinichi Onodera and Sadao Yokota from Japan.

As we move forward to promote our Association, I must also give credit to the other members of the Board, without them many programs would not enjoy the success that we enjoy.

- Rick Morey – the new candidate process, a never-ending project that requires much time and effort throughout the year.
- Bob Findley and Bob Brady – the Scholarship Program (our first award in several years) and The Associate Members Program (getting the recognition it deserves)
- Bill McGrath – The Program Chairperson. Anyone who has seen the banquet programs over the last few years would have to acknowledge the upgrades (Thanks also to Ed Teleky for the sponsorship corporate advertisement efforts).
- Roy Wilson – Roy always makes sure we say the right things, the right way. Once again through his efforts and writing skills you may see an article about our organization in “Halftime Magazine”, another new adventure.
- Roman Blenski – “A new look, new apparel.” A new line of attire is always provided to make us look not as old as we are. His practical approach to sometimes difficult issues. It’s good to have his insight.



Last but not least, Larry Hershman, for his kind support of the new inductee pre cocktail hour. This is one of those things that helped set us apart and makes our organization stand out in the eyes of our members.

Onward and Upward to the New Year and the new challenges that lie ahead. In the days ahead reach out to an old friend, colleague or family member. Reflect on your time together and enjoy the memories and experiences you have enjoyed together. As we enter the new year perhaps you can plan a date to share some time together once again.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard S. Templin".

Richard S. Templin