

The Weekly Reeder

The Lesbian & Gay Big Apple Corps Newsletter

Vol. 29, #13. Monday, January 14th, 2007

Thanks for Forwarding!

Our fall concert was once again a success, thanks in no small part to all you Apples who sent our email advertisement to your friends and family! The BAC extends its gratitude to the following people for spreading the word and making sure as many people as possible heard our beautiful *Portrait of a Season*:

Odin Medina
Brandon Travan
Craig Devereaux
Santo Marciano
Fran Novak
Graeme Fullerton
Amy Nichols
Danton Bankay
Marita Begley

Jon Aceto
Louisa McMurray
Michael Adams
Leslie Becker
Dale Aucoin
Brian Worsdale
Ron Rivers
Bryan Marsey

Andrew Berman
Jean Sinclair
Stacy Kovacs
Ginnie Asman
Sergio Bustamante
Scott Sayers
Nancy Kushner
Joe Avena

Stay tuned to future Reeders for more information on our band's success last season!

Scott Sayers and Doug Ethe Coat Check at the BAR

Hello band! It's great to be back and taking on a new role in this wonderful group. I have already jumped right back in. On Saturday, January 12, 2008, my fiancé (Doug) and I manned the coat check at the **Big Apple Ranch**. For any of you who do not know what the Big Apple Ranch is, it is a gay, country western style evening of dancing. It takes place every Saturday night at 39 West 19th Street, 5th Floor. Our marching band plays there every year on their Back to School night and they just give us DROVES of money for one of the easiest performances ever!



Saturday night was another example of practically free money. Doug and I earned \$150 dollars for the band and not only did we have a ton of fun, but we learned a valuable lesson. Never let Marita help out! As you can see from the picture, she somehow ended up in all the coats and mixing them all up! Okay, so it wasn't that dramatic, but it certainly made for a great night. Not only are the cowboys and cowgirls hot (rawr!), but everyone is super friendly.

The Big Apple Ranch has been kind enough to let the Big Apple Corps man the coat check the first Saturday of every month, so it would be so great to see a lot of new faces there every month. The time commitment isn't even that great, because it is possible to split things up so you don't have to stay the entire night if you just can't spare one Saturday evening. Doug and I arrived at 7:30pm and underwent a very brief training (Jon, one of the organizers of the BAR, is a really sweet guy). Plus, there are unlimited sodas and even one beer if you so choose. And we were done about 1:30am, but there are plenty of places to sit and plenty of downtime (to catch up on those old magazines you have sitting around). Plus, if you bring a friend, it makes it that much more entertaining for you. Oh, and private bathrooms! Very nice!

I encourage everyone to consider spending an evening at the BAR some time this year and help us earn some much needed funds so this band can just continue to grow.

Sincerely,
Scott Sayers & Doug Ethe

Make Your Opinion Count!

Over the weekend, the Fall 2007 Survey was distributed to all members via email. If you did not receive the survey in your email, please contact **Brandon Travan** (brandon@btravan.com).

Submit Your Expenses

As part of an effort to determine the actual cost of Marching Season, the BAC Executive Board has asked all members to fill out a form listing all of your expenses from marching season, including gas, tolls, hotel fees, meals, etc. If you have not submitted your expense form for the 2007 season to **Jon Aceto** yet, please do so ASAP. If you need a form, please see Jon Aceto. We hope to use this information in the future to better calculate the parade fees we ask for, and to better allocate scholarship money.



Overheard at:
Andrew and Lindsay's
Apartment last night

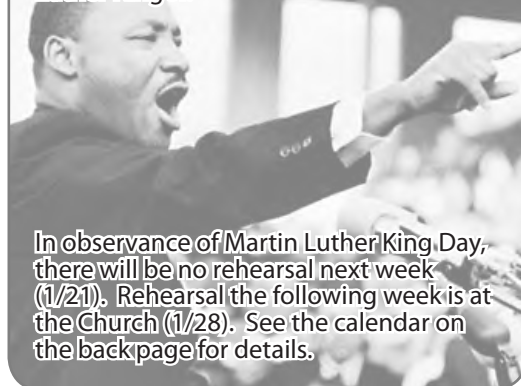
Andrew Berman: Did you hear anyone say anything funny at rehearsal last week?

Lindsay Famula: Leslie wasn't there. Nothing funny was said.

Submit your overheard quote to
proko5@gmail.com



The BAC honors the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



In observance of Martin Luther King Day, there will be no rehearsal next week (1/21). Rehearsal the following week is at the Church (1/28). See the calendar on the back page for details.

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Masthead photo is of BAC members putting together the concert program at the dress rehearsal (11/30/07), courtesy of **Brandon Travan**.

Symphonic News

Photos from the Concert



Top row: Concertmaster Fran Novak; Louisa McMurray, Lindsay Famula, and Ana Del Cambegley with their clarinets. **Second Row:** Rich Tucker gets pinned; Scott Still, Michael Tolliver, Jo Ellen Fusco, and Dale Aucoin get into the holiday spirit. **Third Row:** Graeme Fullerton, Brandon Travan, and David Woods at intermission; Dawn Kariotakis-Perez and Ian Signer moisten their reeds. **Bottom Row:** Dr. Jonathan Babcock of the ECMC becomes an Apple; Joe Pero grins; Erin Frawley gleams. Photos courtesy of **Brandon Travan**.

Shameless Plug

Our very own **Amy Nichols** is performing in the pit orchestra of her school's production of *Anything Goes!* Performances are this Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights (1/17-19) at the **Brearley School**, located at 610 East 83rd Street. Thursday night's performance is at 7:30pm and the Friday and Saturday performances are at 8pm. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

Idle Hands...

So, some of you have been wondering what **Jim Babcock** has been doing with all his free time since he left the board. Well, he's been busy making a rug, something that he's been wanting to do since March 2002. But 96 committee meetings, 1645 hours of phone calls, 15 concerts, 5 postcards and programs, 2 posters, and an anniversary calendar took up a lot of his time. [And don't get him started on the Archives... he lost track of the number of hours that took to organize. And there are still 500+ photos and slides to be scanned.] Finally, last fall he adapted a cross-stitch pattern and after many hours of latch-hooking, a 3' x 6' canvas and 24,852 strands of yarn... voila! Patience really does pay off.



Fast Boat to China

The Ridgewood Concert Band (of Ridgewood, NJ) is doing a concert tour of China during the Beijing Olympics (7/2-13) and is looking for an Associate Band Director and other performers to join them. If interested, contact **Andrew Berman (proko5@gmail.com)** for the posting, and call **Perform America** at 212.714.3526.

So Bad It's Good

(A month and a half ago) **Graeme Fullerton** found this hysterical clip on YouTube of a woman in a beauty pageant doing a trumpet solo and interpretive dance to a disco rendition of the Star Wars theme. This is the gift that keeps on giving.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wffwg7pA0t8>



Marching News

2008 Season Kickoff!

If It's January, It Must Be...Marching Season!?!



*This is the first in a series of articles by Marching Director **Marita Begley**, responding to band members' feedback on the 2007 marching survey and offering a peek at the 2008 season.*

For starters, I want to thank all of you for the time and thought you put into the surveys—not to mention the 2007 marching season! I try to set my sails according to the needs and wants of the band as a whole: knowing I can't please all of the people all of the time, I aspire to please most of the people some of the time. . . . One of my most important goals is to foster an environment in which we all feel that we matter and that our opinions are heard. Another of my goals is to do my part to create a marching band in which we all feel that we are getting something unique and wonderful out of the experience—both musically and personally. And my third goal, which in many ways threads through and around the other two, is to make the entire season—from soup (the Town Hall) to nuts (Halloween)—a blast, a wild ride, the most fun you can have and still be legal. In short, FUN, FUN, FUN! (Which in this band, I might add, necessarily includes EXCELLENCE, because in New York City, being anything less than stellar is anything but fun!) To that end, I will do my best to mold a 2008 season that takes full advantage of our collective tastes and talents when it comes to routines and music. Which is why I like to say...

It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got That Zing

Based on your survey comments, we are all (uncharacteristically!) in complete agreement: if the music isn't hot, the crowds will snore instead of roar—and so will we. So an explosive set list is key. But just how do we go about getting one? Well, thanks to the magic of the Internet, a great set list is within downloadable distance. And like last year, I am inviting all interested band members to be part of

the music selection process! Here's how it works:

There are three major marching music publishers (**JW Pepper, Arrangers, and Hal Leonard**), and all of them post sound files of many of the arrangements on their websites. This is the greatest invention since the flip folder, because it allows directors to listen to an arrangement and know for sure whether they're buying genius (give a listen to "Late in the Evening" and "Hey Baby") or elevator music (see if you can listen to the whole arrangement of "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" or "Thriller"). Starting in the fall, I comb through these publishers' sites, listening to each and every blessed sound file until I have found what I believe are the best 30 or so arrangements in print. And that's why I need you to...

Lend Me Your Ears

Come to the Listening Session at my office in Times Square on **Thursday, January 31, 7-9 p.m.** (4 Times Sq., corner of 42nd St. and Broadway, 14th Floor; bring ID and ask for Marita Begley, ext. 2333, at the desk)—and join me and our drum majors and section captains as we listen to the arrangements and make the final cut so I can assemble the hottest set list ever for 2008. We did this for the first time last year, and I found it incredibly helpful—and I know many members LOVE contributing ideas and being involved in the music selection process. (If you want to do a little website searching on your own, please do so and e-mail me your picks so I can have your sound files ready for listening. One caveat: Please don't judge an arrangement by its title; listen to it all the way through, since many a smokin' intro turns into music you could grocery-shop to by bar 10...!)

As for what gigs we'll do in 2008, as always that's up to you—which brings me to the...

Town Hall/First Rehearsal/ Marching Season Kick-off Party

This year's TH/FR/MSKP will be held on **Thursday, March 6, 6:30-10 p.m.**, at the LGBT Community Center (208 W. 13th St., just west of 7th Ave., in the big

room on the first floor). The Town Hall (read on if you need to know what a Town Hall is...) is the night we gather for the first time in 2008 to get psyched for the coming marching season. It will be your first chance to find out the theme and hear all of the songs; to get your music and your music CDs; and to play through the pieces for the first time. And now for the Town Hall part: We meet every year to discuss the parades and other gigs we've been invited to appear at in 2008, and then we vote on which will make our schedule and which will get our regrets. So whether you want more gigs or fewer, more travel or less, come join the discussion and vote for your fave parades. The back of the marching band T-shirt is completely in your hands!

Help Put the BIG in Big Apple Corps!

If you've been around for a few summers, you may remember that I pledged to grow the band 10 percent annually. Full disclosure: I have failed. And I need your help. Clearly this is not something I can single-handedly achieve. Membership Coordinator **Stacy Kovacs** has pledged to put her shoulder to the recruitment grindstone, but we still need your help. What can you do? Here are a couple of ideas:

- See me or Stacy; get a supply of our "Come Play With Us" postcards and/or our recruitment flyers targeting brass, percussion, and woodwind players and color guard members; and put them up in music stores, the LGBT Community Center, and especially places in your neighborhood. Remember: Potential members live in your 'hood—not just in Chelsea and the Village.
- Do as **Amy Nichols** did and go to websites like craigslist.com and post our pertinent recruitment info (see Stacy, me, or any board member if you need help with this).
- Tell Stacy or me YOUR brilliant recruitment idea and win OUR ETERNAL GRATITUDE!!!

Next week, we'll start reviewing your survey comments—one steamy topic at a time!

Marita Begley, Marching Director

BAC Directory

Telephone 212.591.2886
 Email info@lgbac.org
 General list bigapplecorpsband@yahoo.com
 Chat list bigapplecorpscomm@yahoo.com
 Board list bigapplecorpsboard@yahoo.com
 Newsletter bigapplecorpsreeder@yahoo.com
 Website http://www.lgbac.org
 Mailing address 332 Bleecker Street #K48, New York, NY 10014

BAC Dues

Dues are \$60 per season (three seasons per year) or \$160 for the entire year (paid by October 30). Make your check payable to TriMusicAngle, Inc. or to pay by credit card, just visit <http://www.lgbac.org> and hit the donate button. If you have financial difficulties, please speak confidentially with our treasurer to make alternate arrangements for satisfying your dues.

Executive Board

President:	Jon Aceto	ispeak7@execpc.com	212.569.0103
Vice-President	Brandon Travan	brandon@btravan.com	917.974.4471
Secretary	Andrew Berman	proko5@gmail.com	516.526.7576
Treasurer	Michael Sbabo	mike1amb@aol.com	917.270.7693
Events Coordinator	Doug Ethé	dethe@nyc.rr.com	917.399.5736
Member-at-Large	Dan Perry	danperry73@mac.com	347.526.7293
Mem. Coordinator	Stacy Kovacs	jargyn@aol.com	917.684.8794

Incllement Weather Cancellation Policy

If the weather looks threatening for a rehearsal, the decision to either cancel or go ahead with the rehearsal will be made by 5 pm. To announce a cancellation, an email will be sent out to the band list and the message on the band's answering machine (212.591.2886) will be changed.

Artistic Directors

Concert	Brian Worsdale	brian.worsdale@earthlink.net	718.621.3941
Marching	Marita Begley	Marita_begley@condenast.com	973.680.9360

Director of Development

Joe Avena	blackhorn@earthlink.net	917.209.6778
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Librarians

Hilary Albert	hilarymeg@hotmail.com	914.924.8925
Jack Parton	arssubtilior@hotmail.com	917.833.5969

BAC Mission Statement

The Lesbian & Gay Big Apple Corps, established in 1979, is one of the leading lesbian and gay musical organizations in the United States. Our mission is to provide the lesbian and gay community with a supportive and friendly environment for musical and artistic expression and, through performance, to promote social acceptance, equality and harmony for all. We welcome interested individuals of all orientations to come see for themselves how artistic dedication within a social environment can create quality entertainment that pleases, educates and challenges us to grow.

January/February 2008

BAC Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
13 Charles Lee's Birthday (flute)	14 Concert Band Rehearsal, 7-9:45pm @ The Church**	15 Fran Rosen's Birthday (band-aide)	16 Exec. Board Mtg 7 @ Marita's office† Karleen Roberts' Birthday (trumpet)	17 Frank Castillo's Birthday (Trumpet)	18	19 Joseph Alexander's Birthday (dancer)
20	21 Martin Luther King Day	22	23	24	25 Rich Tucker's Birthday (clarinet)	26 Bryan Marsey's Birthday (trumpet)
27 Nancy Kushner's Birthday (clarinet, alto sax)	28 Concert Band Rehearsal, 7-9:45pm @ The Church**	29	30 LGBA 2008 Committee Meeting 7pm @ Michael's office§	31 Marching Band Music Meeting at Marita's office† Bethany Mills' Birthday (trumpet)	1 (Feb)	2
3	4 Woodwinds Sectional, 7-9:45pm @ The Church** Andy Greenspan's Birthday (clarinet)	5	6	7	8 Lisa Moyer's, Joe Vazquez's, and Marita Begley's Birthdays (sax, color guard, clarinet/AD)	9 BAC runs coat check at Big Apple Ranch***
10	11 Concert Band Rehearsal, 7-9:45pm @ CityCenter*	12 Steven White's Birthday (alto sax)	13 Exec. Board Meeting, 7pm at Mike's office‡	14 Valentine's Day	15 Amy Nichols' Birthday (clarinet)	16
17	18 Presidents Day Emily Forman's Birthday (trumpet)	19	20	21	22	23

Rehearsal Schedule

for 1/14

Gazebo
 Piano Concerto
 Clarinet Candy
 Candide
 New World
 Symphony

for 1/28

Song and Dance
 Huapango
 American Elegy
 Sedona
 Hoe Down

* CityCenter Studios is located at 130 West 56th Street between 6th & 7th Avenues

** This event takes place at The Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew at 263 West 86th Street between Broadway and West End Avenue.

*** The Big Apple Ranch is located at Dance Manhattan Studios, 39 West 19th Street between 5th & 6th Avenues, on the 5th floor.

† Marita Begley's office is located at 4 Times Square, 14th Floor. Contact Marita if you plan to attend (Marita_begley@condenast.com).

‡ Mike Sbabo's office is located at 121 West 27th Street, Suite 1104.

§ Michael Tolliver's office is The McKissack Group, located at 150 W 30th Street, Suite 1200. Contact Michael if you plan to attend (MWTolliver@aol.com).

Planning Ahead:

- 2/25: Concert Band Percussion Sectional
- 3/6: Marching Band Town Hall Meeting
- 3/10: Concert Band Brass Sectional
- 3/24: No rehearsal (Easter)
- 5/2: Dress rehearsal
- 5/3: Spring Concert