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**A Legend  
Lives Forever**



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**Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps  
Reunion 2004**

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**Over the weekend of September 11th, 2004, while America was mourning the horrendous terrorist attack three years earlier, alumni of *Logan Square, Mel Tierney, and The Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps* reunited to celebrate the love and memories of an organization that molded each of us into who we are today.**

**As we celebrate this holiday season and ring in the New Year,**

***Let us give thanks for being led, each in our own way,  
to the doors of Vanguard Hall....***

***Let us forever cherish the rekindling of friendships,  
and promise to nurture those relationships....***

***Let us remember, without tears but with happiness,  
our Vanguard brothers and sisters who have left this world....***

***Let the Vanguard mantra – Honor, Dignity, Pride – live forever in our hearts....***

***And let us pray that the world will one day reflect the  
respect, discipline, unity, and love that once was***

***THE VANGUARD***

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ON THE STARTING LINE  
FROM CHICAGO, SKOKIE, AND DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS ...

**THE VANGUARD!**

THE VOICE OF THE VANGUARD

[www.desplainsvanguard.com](http://www.desplainsvanguard.com)

December, 2004

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**Happy Holidays, Vanguard!**

**Kudos to Jay McGuffin** for the article titled "Des Plaines Vanguard holds 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion" published in the November issue of *Drum Corps World*. The article details the weekend's events and includes quotes from **Bill and Sam Agnello**, and **Larry Johnson**. Four photographs were published including a picture of the amazing Memorabilia exhibits. However, the most poignant photo was of **Jay Knebl** at the Sunday morning Farewell Breakfast after being awarded "Vanguard of the Decades" by **Mike Krueger**, and receiving a standing "O" from the people on whom **Jay K.** had an amazing impact during and after his tenure in the corps. Thanks, **McGuff**, for all you've done with the website, and for keeping the Vanguard legacy alive in *Drum Corps World* and in *A History of Drum and Bugle Corps, Volume II*. **Listen up, Vanguard!** **Be sure to check out the Vanguard website often, and encourage your friends to sign the guestbook if they haven't done so already!**

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**Another Professional Musician in the Vanguard Family!** Come one, come all, to see **Jim and Mary Grosso's** band, **Thursdays Child**, at **MOLLY MALONE'S IRISH PUB** on Saturday, February 19th at 9:00 PM. The pub is located at 7652 W. Madison, Forest Park. I will put a reminder in the next two newsletters, but mark your calendars now!

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**Bill O'Connell's Chicago Skyliners better than ever!** A late Thanksgiving celebration took place at Fitzgerald's on 11-28 when **Bill Agnello**, **Mike Deane**, the **Irish sisters (Toni O' and Cathy O')**, **Jay Knebl**, **Mike Krueger**, and **Jim Grosso**, together with spouses and

friends, gathered to hear the Skyliners, who were in great form. The band is taking December off, and will return to Fitzgerald's on **January 30<sup>th</sup>**. More info is forthcoming!

**Ma Yo! Hows about a little culture, 'eh?** Please join some of the Fitzgerald's regulars at the theatre (that's right) on Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 2PM when they see **The Man Who Came To Dinner** starring **Royal Airs** alum **Adam Szlagowski**. Theatre info: Gunder Mansion of the North Lakeside Cultural Center, 6219 N. Sheridan Rd., Chicago, 60660. Call 773-764-0353 for tickets. If you are coming to the play, be sure to contact **Mike Deane** at [deaneonpratt@aol.com](mailto:deaneonpratt@aol.com). Mike, who's from the Rogers Park neighborhood, is planning a post-play party (**Woo-Hoo!**) at his condo after dinner at a local restaurant.

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**Corrections and Changes:**

Please note that the address of **Bill and Barb Agnello** as published in the *Reunion Memory Book* is incorrect. The correct address is: 1515 Galloway, Inverness, IL 60010. My apologies for the typo!

**New email address for Marguerite Hohs-Glaeser** - [alitlwhil@sbcglobal.net](mailto:alitlwhil@sbcglobal.net)

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**Many thanks to Julie May-Melia** who has found an audiotape of '75 and is burning it on a CD for us. **If anyone has an audio recording of '73**, please contact Cathy O'.

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**God bless you and yours during this holiday season.** Please contact me at [glenletourneau@wowway.com](mailto:glenletourneau@wowway.com). if you would like to include anything in future newsletters.  
**Cathy O'Connell Letourneau ('69-'76)**

A Holiday Verse  
By Carol Tokarz-Bender

'Twas a few days before Nationals,  
spent the night on a bus,  
then jumped off for practice  
with nary a fuss (right!)

Battle jackets aligned  
in the uniform truck,  
horns, drums and the flags,  
polished boots and white bucks.

And then on a gym floor,  
a good night was bade,  
when what through the hallways,  
echoed the words – “panty raid!”

The morning of Prelims,  
and try as they might,  
Cavies just couldn't cut it,  
and it was such a sad sight.

Then after the warm-ups,  
our circle was formed,  
hands all crossed together,  
Ozos under proud uniforms.

“Pull it in” (but not needed)  
a pep talk began,  
then the words “line ‘em up” and  
our hearts a strong stand.

The lights from the field  
shone bright like the stars,  
a path breaks to the starting line,  
here comes THE VANGUARD!

On Kilties, on Troopers,  
On Marlboro Dukes,  
We're allergic to Green though  
'cause they made us p...

The crowd's on their feet,  
Their roar so sublime,  
Then we heard from our D. M.  
And began to Mark Time.

The judges just stood there,  
squinted to find tics,  
scratched their head in amazement,  
we won't need these Bics.

The finale was ablaze  
with color and sheen,  
It was just about perfect,  
except for that green.

Then announced from the stands,  
And exclaimed with such might,  
You other corps are ok, But  
THE VANGUARD'S OUTTA SIGHT!!!

The happiest of holidays to all!!!