



Our 2007 Season Comes to an End

Tony Gutierrez, 2007 Band Director

The end of another great Oktoberfest season has come to an end. Another 100 hours filled with memories to add to our 35 year history of fun and fellowship with friends, family, customers, and countless strangers who experienced with us Gemütlichkeit—that good feeling you get when surrounded by good friends, good music, and good bier that only the LGB&D can offer.

Black Mountain NC

Doug Walker, Trumpet

I'd have to say that this year's Black Mountain gig rated as one of the best ever. The leaves turned late this year and were still in full glory on the first weekend in November, which added a nice fanfare to the trip up and back. The band sounded fantastic - for once we were small enough not to completely over blow the room, and everybody played very well together. Connie did an excellent job preserving lip while playing the well-known tunes for the many German speakers in the crowd. The dancers did their usual great job despite a lighting issue (resolved courtesy of some spare music stand lights - try that with the old beer can lights!)

The food at the gig was really good, and they did not run out (always a plus!) They DID run out of beer, exceeding the customer's expectations by quite a bit, but they had someone bring bottled beer in from their restaurant, so everything was ok. After the gig we missed Kay and her normal attention to duty as Quartermaster since nobody thought to order pizza before we got back to the motel at 11:00 PM. Turns out all the pizza places in town close at 11:00 on Saturday night. Connie and Philip Hren took a ride to the grocery store and came back with microwave pizza for everyone, so the day was saved.

From the Music Director

Doug Walker, Music Director

I want to thank all the band members for their hard work this season. New members especially deserve a lot of credit. We usually get 1-2 new members per year; this past 13 months has seen us add many more than that, and in key contributing roles to boot. Since Walhalla 2006 we have added Wayne Carlson, Doug Kelly, Philip Hren, Howard Oaks, David Roth, and Rob Rutten. I don't know how we could have gotten through the fall season without the contributions this great group adds - they are practically an entire band's worth on their own (or they would be if Doug could figure out how to play tuba and clarinet at the same time). Barb Hartsfield, John Thomas, and Steve Munie are coming to practice and working their way back into shape, so we have more on the way.

Existing members deserve credit, too. When we add a lot of new members, we go over things at practice that our existing members don't really need to see - like the Chicken Dance, or the Beer Barrel Polka. For the most part, we did this uncomplainingly this year, and in addition, I saw a lot of existing members helping the new folks by being flexible on what instruments they play at gigs, by helping them with roadmaps at gigs and practices, and teaching them the ins and outs of LGB&D life (like what the Goat Song is and why we always check pumpkin pie for ants).

Starting in January, we will begin preparing for our Germany trip. This doesn't mean that those not going to Germany can stay home, though. I am hoping that most of what we learn for January will find a place in our US repertoire as well. Please reserve Tuesday nights to the best of your ability and let's plan to knock their socks off in Kiedrich next June!

LGB&D Holiday Party

Saturday, December 8, 2007

Mark your calendars! Our annual holiday party is Saturday December 8, 2007 from 6:00 PM — 11:00 PM at the Gutierrez home, 12833 River Dance Drive, Raleigh 27613. Contact Catherine Sisson csls@mindspring.com if you would like to help.

Black Mountain NC



Connie conducts the band on the last performance of the 2007 fall season at Black Mountain NC.

LGB&D Annual Membership Meeting & BOD Elections

Tuesday January 8, 2007

The annual membership meeting and BOD elections is Tuesday, January 8, 2007 from 7:30—9:00 PM at Western Blvd Presbyterian Church Cafeteria 4900 Kaplan Drive, Raleigh NC.