

# Summer Edition

## Directors News Letter



Ken Dining  
MYCGC President  
Summer Edition

Hello Everyone!,

Fall is quickly approaching, and as the leaves begin to change, it's time to begin thinking of your plans for the 2013 Winter Guard Season!

You should have all by now received a note from Scott Snell with the 2013 Winter Schedule. I need to personally thank Scott for working on getting this finalized. It was no small task in trying to work to help groups with gym weekend conflicts, work around the WGI 2013 Schedule as well as the 2013 Easter Holiday. A copy of the schedule is also located at the end of this News Letter. I set it up so you can just fill out and send.

Thank you for everyone's patients!

## **MARK YOUR CALENDERS!**

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### **November Judges Clinic Information:**

#### **Below is a note I received from Richard Fishette**

Hi Ken,

The NYFCJ annual Clinic for the Color Guard season is going to be held on Sunday, November 18, 2012. The event will again be held at the George Eastman House in Rochester, NY.

This year's clinicians will be Kristen O'Melia and Jeff Namian.

This clinic, as in the past, is open to all of your circuit's directors and instructors. I believe that the past few years have been successful in bridging the gap between the judges and instructors helping to educate us all of us who have attended. Hopefully this will continue to grow and benefit us all.

We, the Federation, appreciate this sharing and hopefully we can continue to develop this relationship for years to come. Thank you.

Richard J. Fischette  
NYFCJ - Caption Head

I highly recommend that you take advantage of this clinic, it can help you during the 2013 season!

## MYCGC Fall Meeting and Clinic!

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The Fall meeting will take place Sunday Sept 23rd at Homer High School .

I'm working currently with the Judging Community to address questions you have an interactive forum

I am also working to provide a demonstration on how to set your programs up for success and growth during a season.

A full agenda with details will be released early September for you to share with your Staffs.

### *Helpful Information to share with your School:*

I have been asked several times to see if I had any information I could share with schools from programs who are challenged with Schools not understanding the importance of a Winter Guard Program. Shortly after the 2012 WGI's I reached out to the Marketing Director of WGI and asked if they could help supply us with some items we could have to share with our schools. Below is a document WGI's released that may help some of you with when you are challenged with Budgets and Rehearsal Space.

See the Next Page for printable versions of this Article...

Also, when you visit wgi.org, if you select Color Guard and then proceed to educational Articles you will find one entitled, "Creating a competitive Winter Guard Program". This article contains a great deal of information and includes even more in-depth information regarding the benefits of the program.

I hope you find these articles helpful!

# THE BENEFITS OF WINTER GUARD

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The benefits students derive from being in a winter guard are innumerable.

## EXPERIENCES THAT MOLD THE STUDENTS' FUTURE

- Students experience a “community” of peers all focused on a positive common goal.
- Students learn about commitment.
- Students learn that competition is a means to set new standards and they learn to push themselves to meet and try to surpass those standards.
- Students learn to respect their competitive peers and grow from that experience.
- Students learn how to cope with situations that sometimes don't feel “fair” and they learn how to turn that experience into motivation for growth.
- Students learn the art of communication to others through performance.
- Students develop the self- confidence to tackle tough tasks and see them through to completion.

## ARTISTIC AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Students benefit physically from the training and demands placed on them through movement, dance and prop manipulation.
- Students build endurance through expanded rehearsal and training programs.
- Students learn how to solve problems creatively and adapt to the need to be flexible in their pursuit of their performance objectives.
- Students learn music. The rhythmic and dynamic challenges placed on them turns them into visual musicians as they illustrate the sound of the show through body and equipment.
- Students broaden their aesthetic reality through diverse program and performance situations.

## BENEFITS TO THE SCHOOL AND THE COMMUNITY

- The presence of a competitive guard in a school places the students in the public eye bringing positive awareness to the school and the community. They are a Public Relations asset.
- Marching Band programs are enhanced through the guard's ability to create and illustrate the music for the gratification of the viewing audience.
- The commitment and dedication of the guard, learned through winter programs, enhances the performance standards of the entire band.

**MOST OF ALL, THE STUDENTS FIND JOY THROUGH PERFORMANCE, ESTABLISH LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS WITH THEIR PEERS, LEARN TO NETWORK WITH OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN GUARDS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND CREATE MEMORIES THAT LAST A LIFETIME.**

# WGI Mourns the Passing of Fred J. Miller

*Article from WGI.org August 3, 2012*

WGI mourns the passing of Fred J. Miller, a master showman of the pageantry arts and integral force of the indoor color guard and percussion activity. A resident of Centerville, Ohio, he was born on March 6, 1932, the son of Orville and Betty Miller. He passed away today, August 3, 2012, at the age of 80.

A lifetime resident of the Dayton area, Fred graduated from Chaminade High School in 1952 and attended the University of Dayton. He was the Director of Bands at Fairborn High School from 1957 to 1968, eventually serving as Music Supervisor for the district. His theatrical skills were evident by directing ten of the most popular musicals in the district's history.

Mr. Miller was a founding member of the United States Twirling Association and founded the Miller's Blackhawks Twirling Corps establishing a record unequalled in the twirling world by winning national championships every year from 1956 through 1968.

The next evolution of the Miller's Blackhawks was to enter the color guard world becoming one of the most memorable and impressive groups of the 80's and 90's. The Blackhawks personified Fred's dedication to excellence, showmanship and sense of family. The guard earned a silver medal in only their second appearance at the world championships in the newly created A Class in 1980. This was followed by a move into the highest class of competition and receiving the bronze medal in 1985, 1986 and 1989 and a coveted silver medal in 1987 for their memorable "Colors" show.

Fred J. Miller was also crucial to the development of a young WGI in the early 80's. He served as Treasurer for many years even personally guaranteeing financial solvency when times were lean for the new organization. Fred was also the President and Chief Executive Officer of Fred J. Miller, Inc., a family owned company established by Fred and his wife, Marlene, and was the first sponsor of Winter Guard International, leading the way as usual.

After the 1982 championships, Mr. Miller was crucial in opening doors in Dayton, Ohio, to bring the event to his home city. He was the foundation for the relationship with the city and the arena of his alma mater, University of Dayton. His legacy will forever be entwined with the University of Dayton Arena, home to the WGI World Championships for the past 27 years.

Fred J. Miller was inducted into the WGI Hall of Fame in 1995 as recognition as an enthusiastic and crucial catalyst in the development of the internationally recognized organization WGI had become because of his efforts.

"It's impossible to picture a world without Fred J. Miller in it," said WGI Executive Director Ron Nankervis. "There are no words that can adequately express how sad a day this is to lose someone who has touched countless lives. He will be missed at every gathering of twirling, marching band, drum corps and especially indoor color guard and percussion enthusiasts forever."

Fred J. Miller leaves his beloved wife of 53 years, Marlene, and his devoted family of daughter, Mary Lynn Dorow, and sons Mark and Mike Miller along with their spouses and eight grandchildren.

## 2013 MYCGC Show Date PICK Sheet:

GUARD NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Competing Class in 2013: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE:	SHOW HOST	Attending	SHOW HOST	Attending
January 12th	CNS Sr		New Hartford	
January 19th	Homer		Phoenix Sr	
January 26th	Shen		Sherburne-Earlville	
February 2nd	Jordan-Elbridge		Mexico	
February 9th	Liverpool		Laurens	
February 16th	WGI Regional (Victor, NY)			
February 23rd	Albany		ESM	
March 2nd	Central Square		Mohonasen	
March 9th	APW		Oswego	
March 16th	Maine-Endwell		Johnstown	
March 23rd	CNS Jr		Vestal	
March 31st	EASTER SUNDAY			
April 6th and 7th	Mid-York Championships: Attending: YES or NO			

\*\*\*Please note that show picks are due by September 1<sup>st</sup> to Scott Snell:

"Scott Snell" <membership@edisonclub.com>

Best wishes to everyone during the fall season! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach-out to me anytime!

If you have any New Items, that you would like me to share in the next News Letter, please let me know, I would be happy to share it!

Looking forward to a FANTASTIC 2013!

See you all soon!

Sincerely;

Ken Dining

MYCGC President