

Summer 2009 Newsletter

Wow what a great tour! We got to night sail for 4hrs on the SS Badger Ferry across Lake Michigan and we had individual 5lb chicken dinners hosted by the Sun Prairie Lions Club in Wisconsin at their club house in the country. We performed in field competitions in Wisconsin and Michigan and took home 2 first Place prizes in our class for field show and 2 Second Places. We did a great parade in Sun Prairie taking a first place, another in Kenosha and 2 parades in Traverse City, Michigan. Our Drum Major won 1st Place in our class at finals and so did our Percussion Group. Good for them!

We marched the Lions International Parade in Minneapolis proudly representing Saskatchewan, North Dakota and South Dakota Lions of Multiple District 5 and won 2nd place for Precision Drill in our category. We travelled over 5,000 miles with a bus driver who was as crazy as we were and very accommodating for our group. He even came to watch and support the group on his day off. We had a nurse to keep us healthy, cooks to keep us fed and equipment personnel to keep our stuff in shape. The truck arrived on time, never ran out of fuel and even sometimes beat us when they weren't lost! We got to stay in a bomb shelter in Minot and at the Boys and Girls Clubs in Waukegan, Illinois and Minneapolis. We had laundry piles deeper than some gravel piles and it too was taken care of! The weather cooperated the whole time and we had an exhausting but fun day at Six Flags Chicago Great America riding the rides! The largest North American Waterpark at Wisconsin Dells- Noah's Ark --added to the thrills.

And of course we shopped! We shopped at the Cherry Festival in Traverse City, Michigan ,and at the Mall of America in Minneapolis and then we hit the outlet malls in Albertville, Minnesota. We certainly have stimulated the US economy, no wonder the dollar is going back up! Our instructors kept us moving at rehearsals and our tour coordinator kept us moving the rest of the time. We travelled and stayed in North Dakota, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. We even went thru Rugby the geographical center of North America -so our driver Ken informed us. We were hosts to the Edmonton Sabres when we shared our school and we took them on our bus to parades and competition in Sun Prairie when their bus broke down and they could not get a replacement since it was the Fourth of July weekend. We never did any hospital visits or had any very ill people to speak of and no emotional melt downs either. How crazy is that? We arrived in Saskatoon on time on the 14th for a BBQ with the parents. We were tired but I think most would do it again in a heartbeat. We even stayed on budget!

Next year promises more of the same. We will be registering Thurs Sept 10 6-8pm at 238 Ave V North (Bedford and V) You can call 683-0888 or 249-4949 for more information.

We have Beginner Band Tues 6-7pm (\$30 month & 2 commitment bingos), Jazz Band Sundays 4-5pm (\$10 month) and Marching Band Sundays 1-4 with once a month clinics.(\$40 month & 5 commitment bingos plus Tour \$800). All fees and Tour can be completely fundraised if your willing.

Band Camp at Manitou Beach is Sept 18,19,20th. We leave from the Bandhall by bus. Load is at 4pm on Friday Sept 18th. Please do not park in front of the Band Hall this day. Parents pick up Sunday after they share a noon BBQ with us..

Hope to see you there!