

excerpt from the FREELANCING newsletter Sept. 19th, 1980:

### **1980 FREELANCER AWARDS DINNER**

by Lucille DeRose

On September 9, 1980, more than 250 members and friends of the Sacramento Freelancers attended their 18th Annual Awards Banquet in the Sacramento Inn's Martinique Room. Walt Geer, Master of Ceremonies and Chairman of the event, pointed out that the first such meeting took place in a bowling alley, and that many past banquets had been potlucks, to which everyone brought something and paid a dollar to eat it.

Parker Silva, Corps Director and first speaker, reviewed the 1980 Season. "I don't care what place we took, we had a good season and an outstanding Corps," he said. "They're the ones we're here to recognize tonight. I want parents to realize how proud we should be of our young people. Every place we went, we were accepted."

The first set of awards was presented by Russ Ikemoto. These were the fun awards, accompanied by peals of laughter and a few groans.

Parker's comment; "Don't feel left out if you don't understand. I was with them for some 30 days and I don't understand either.

Parker then introduced the Inner-Corps Council, a group of corps representatives who, he said, helped bring purpose and direction to the corps. They set up and handled the loading of buses, cleaning the schools, and were an avenue of communication between corps and instructors.

Don Silva introduced the staff, and the staff members introduced all corps members according to years of membership and section. Many special awards were given.

The finale of the evening was a photo slide presentation, with music, prepared by Mark Dong and Paul Zimny, using photographs taken by Andy Gee.

Other comments summing up the year's activity:

Don Silva: "The movement and growth of the corps was awesome----- a very humbling bunch of people."

John Zimny: "It was an extremely successful season. Ever since 1976, that was the year to beat. Now 1980 is the year to beat."

Wally Sheaffer; "A new Freelancers has been born."

Parker Silva: "Next year, look out for us! We're going to be there!"

**AWARDS PRESENTED :**

**HORNS: (Presented by JOHN ZIMNY)**

**Rookie of the year - Milton Gee**

**Most improved - Jeanie Keller**

**Most inspirational - Carl Allison**

**DRUMS: (Presented by ALLEN CHRISTENSEN)**

**Most inspirational - Gary Gardner**

**Most improved - Rob DuPriest**

**Rookie of the year - Jeremy Rexford**

**COLOR GUARD: (Presented by MARK DONG and CINDY MARVELLI)**

**Flag Rookie of the year - Kristy Mitchell**

**Flag most improved - Judy Couglin**

**Flag most inspirational - Kris Adams**

**Color Guard Co-Captain and Flag Sergeant - Martha DeRose**

**Rifle most inspirational - Vickie Merk**

**Rifle most improved - Alice Haines**

**Rifle rookie of the year - Angela Kereste**

**Color Guard Co-Captain and Rile Sergeant - Vickie Merk**

**MOST OUTSTANDING MARCHING MEMBERS: (Presented by PAUL ZIMNY)**

**Rifle: Kathy Cook**

**Flag: Sharon Duhm**

**Drums: Norman Bartlett**

**Horns: Kevin Keller**

**Freelancer of the Year: Russ Ikemoto**