

Annual BluBall promotes fun, raises money

A capacity crowd packed Doylestown's VFW Saturday night for the eighth annual BluBall.

The event – brainchild of Doylestonians Chanin Walsh and Jonathan McSurdy – was begun as a way for a group of friends to get together, listen to good music, dance, eat, drink and be very merry, all while raising money for a good cause.

The duo formed a 501(c)3 named in honor of their former meeting place, Roosevelt's Blue Star, and they dedicate proceeds to a different charity each year. To date, more than \$20,000 has been raised and given to Tabor Children's Services, Twilight Wish Foundation, and the Bucks County Woman's Fund among others.

Part of the fun is in attendees trying to outdo one another from year to year, dressing up in anything blue. Women often scour consignment shops or their closets for old ball gowns, and almost anything goes, from blue jeans to blue hair, in attempts to be crowned King and Queen of the



Henry Farris of Langhorne paints blue moons and stars on Sara Webber of Doylestown.

Ball.

"We just want to have fun and give money away," says Walsh, "and it gets better and crazier every year."

Music was donated by Rick Allen and the Upsetters, a dance band specializing in '70s and '80s rock, and Sound FX DJs from Montgomeryville.

This year's beneficiary is Roxy Reading, a four-year-old volunteer, nonprofit group that provides support and comfort to students with emotional, psychological and physical challenges in



Cheyenne, dressed as the BluBall Fairy, and Jeff Mease of Springtown. Cheyenne was later crowned Queen of the BluBall.

Photographs and text by Brenda Lange

the Central Bucks School District, through visits with therapy dogs.

Tax deductible donations can be made to The BluBall Fund at the Bucks County Foundation, Attn: Linda Goodwin, 60 E. Court St., P.O. Box 2073, Doylestown 18901.



The Electric Slide gets everyone dancing.



Janet Bergman of Ottsville, a volunteer with Roxy Reading, shows off a dog scarf she embroidered.



Court, crowned King of the BluBall, and Coline Ebeling of Solebury.



Chanin Walsh and Jonathan McSurdy award Tom Pirrone "Bluest" of the ball.