



# NEWSLETTER 2009



## Welcome to the Class of 2010

The Pride Alumni Band Association would like to welcome the Class of 2010:

Brittany Adams  
Steve Bergeron  
Amanda Bibler  
Ian Bond  
Chelsea Bruce  
Alex Catanese  
Tyler Clark  
Cyndi Donnelly  
Leah Dove  
Kacey Endlich  
Casey Forshey

Kyle Francis  
Jessica Hartley  
Cathryn Humes  
Jeff Kuelling  
Allison Kump  
Deanna Lees  
Hannah Lewis  
Nick Long  
Joe McClure  
Danielle Menegos  
Megan Mlnarik

Amanda Nauman  
Galadriel Neer  
Kara Nitzsche  
Alissa Nivens  
Daphne Ohm  
Margaret Peebles  
Joe Pyke  
Jordan Rivera  
Walter Schostak  
Matt Shisler  
Jonathan Slack

Jacob Smith  
Victoria Stevens-Sommers  
Jessica Tasker  
Olivia Tavolier  
Daena Urbanski  
Christina Urycki  
Sarah Waibel  
Nate Wakefield  
Kevin Walter  
Zachary Warren

Please join me in welcoming our 2010 seniors into "The Pride"!

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As President, I'd like to start off by thanking the alumni committee for really putting together an incredible program this past year. Your alumni committee is a very well-oiled machine at this point with much tenure and dedication, and is a pleasure to work with. I'd also like to take a moment to thank Bob Feldbush, Scott Curfman, and Brandon Duvall for their continued support and guidance.

This past year, we saw the largest group of alumni ever gather for the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day parade! We had over 50 members, including 4 majorettes who won a trophy! We also had a great turnout for the 4th of July Parade in Stow, where we were moved very close to the front of the parade - FINALLY - no more waiting in the back!!!

Our band show performance was very solid with roughly 100 members. We were blessed to have 3 directors work with us this year. Scott Curfman's responsibilities with the Kent State Marching Band have forced him to turn over the band show responsibilities to Brandon Duvall (he's still doing our parades), who did an outstanding job his first year as director of "The Pride". Bob Feldbush, who directed the concert number this year in memory of Tom Cunningham, also worked with Scott and Brandon to tighten things up for us.

We invested many hours this past year cleaning and tightening up our routines for the band show (no more see-sawing on More) in an effort to continue putting on the best and cleanest show possible. After all, we are "The Pride of The Pride"! It is for that reason that in 2010, it will become MANDATORY to attend at least one practice for the band show (preferably Sunday). All 3 of our directors and your alumni committee felt this was a very reasonable request.

Our fundraising efforts this year were first rate! We poured beer at Rockin' on the River for 1 evening in June and joined the Woodridge Band Backers pouring the beer and wine for the Festa Italiana weekend in July. So many of you attended and lent your support, that we have been asked back for BOTH events in 2010! That's what PRIDE is all about! Due to your help and support fund-raising this year, we awarded the first Pride Alumni Scholarship in May to a graduating senior, donated the funds to purchase 1 complete uniform to the Marching Band, and just recently have sent ALL of our donated instruments to CIC for complete overhauls, so they're ready for you at the parades and band show in 2010.

We cannot continue to do this without you! 2010 is the year to get re-involved and re-acquainted with the Pride! This organization exists for you and because of you! Please review our 2010 calendar on the back page and make plans to attend some of these exciting events to show your continued pride and dedication!

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Bowers, President  
The Pride Alumni

## THANK YOU!

Please help the Pride to thank CIC who came through with rental instruments, Reiter Dairy who supplied cold drinks for the band show, Doug Flinn at Acme, Michelle Grimes- IMP President, Brandon Duvall and Dustin Harris who always allow us to come home and use the band room, Jim Stanley- our new Pride photographer, Marsha McKenna at the Falls City Press, Anne Fassnacht at PRIME Business who supplies our t-shirts, Prime Sports on Portage Trail for helping supply us with the Senior T-shirts and finally, thank you to all who attended this years' events.

The Alumni would also like to thank the Forsheys for once again having the Mustang available for both parades. Also, Emily Kate and Shannon Fassnacht for leading the banner onward and our ever-present Alum-Youth for passing the water bottles – Jason Madigan and Stephen Fassnacht.

## In Memorium

As your Alumni Committee begins preparation for the 2010 season, it is with a deep sense of loss that we want to inform you of the passing of Tom Cunningham. Tom marched his way from this life in June, 2009. Tom opened up his home to the Committee for all our meetings and supported this organization and the current Tiger Band in many ways. Up until two days before his passing, Tom was still working diligently for the Alumni and had purchased the car magnets that now grace our vehicles in the Memorial Day and Fourth of July parades.



With his health declining, Tom pushed himself to perform “one more time” in the 2008 band show. He asked that he be allowed to pick our 2009 concert number, ‘You’ll Never Walk Alone’ and that it be arranged by Bob Feldbush. He also requested that the Alumni Band play ‘Tiger Rag’ at his funeral. We did not hesitate to honor his requests. Over twenty of our local alumni met at the Funeral Home and played Tom out in true alumni style.

Tom will be missed deeply, but we know we will never walk (or march) alone.

<b>Pride Alumni Band Association 2009 Treasurer's Report John Walk</b>
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Beginning Balance 01/01/09	\$4,967.62	Expenses:	
		Rock'n on the River	(40.00)
Income:		Scholarship for Senior	(500.00)
Italian Festival	2,250.00	Donation to IMP	(800.00)
Stow Fourth of July Parade	500.00	Food & supplies (Sunday dinner)	(199.00)
Rock'n on the River	4,066.00	Hall rental (Monday party)	(175.00)
Membership dues, pizza & merchandise sales	1,252.00	Food & supplies (Monday party)	(174.53)
		Pizza (pizza party w/Tiger Band)	(350.00)
Transfer to Savings Account	(680.00)	Christmas Party	(161.91)
		T-shirts (for graduating seniors)	(110.00)
		Pizza party for graduating seniors	(90.00)
		Drum Parts	(168.88)
		Purchase (1) Piccolo	(139.99)
		Web-Site hosting	(108.00)
		PO Box rental	(58.00)
		Newsletter	(978.78)
		Gift certificates (director, announcer)	(129.25)
			\$ 12,355.62
		Ending Balance 12/31/09 (checking)	\$ 12,355.62
		Ending Balance 12/31/09 (savings)	\$ 680.00

## 2010 Officers

Congratulations to your 2010 Officers: Mark Bowers ('85), President; Phil Frederick (89), Vice President; John Walk ('72), Treasurer; Sue Madigan ('69), Secretary

### Entertainment Committee

#### Another Year Another Party

(Phil Frederick)

Another show has come and gone and we all survived. The parties were a big success this year. I would like to thank Doug Flinn and ACME for donating the DanDee chips and always being helpful with our subs. I would also like to thank Rita at the American Legion for giving us a good price and always being helpful. Thanks to Allison at Fiesta Pizza for the chicken on Sunday. And Rocco's Pizza for Tuesday night's pizza extravaganza. And of course, I cannot forget Steve Pasch and Becky McArthur at Reiter Dairy for the donation of the fruit punch.

I would like to hear from anyone who has suggestions on how to make our parties better. If you have suggestions, send me an email at [tubaguy1989@yahoo.com](mailto:tubaguy1989@yahoo.com).

### Instrument Rentals and Donations

(Mike Price)

Once again, I would like to thank all of you who borrowed instruments at the band show for returning them in pristine condition! I would also like to once again thank Jim Stahl and CIC for donating the instruments to us for the duration of the rehearsals and band show. I would also like to report that The Pride Alumni Band Association is now the proud owners for a trombone and a PICCOLO! We are hoping to acquire one or two more pics before the next band show. If you or anyone you know would like to donate an instrument to The Pride Alumni Band Association, please contact Mike Price via email at [zauldage@yahoo.com](mailto:zauldage@yahoo.com). Once again, thank you to everyone who used the instruments and returned them in wonderful condition.

### Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade

(Steve Mietus)

The Pride Alumni Band once again made a spectacular appearance at the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade. As is the custom, many of the band members (as well as a large number of Cuyahoga Falls residents) had a pre-parade meal at the high school. As has been the tradition for many years, Valley Savings Bank sponsors a pancake breakfast at the high school before the parade. All donations benefit the Tiger Band plus there is a contest where you can guess the total number of pancakes served and win a cookout for friends and family. While I can't remember who won the contest, the real winner was the Tiger Band!

Then it was on to the parade. This year we lined up behind the State road shopping center. Do you remember the State Road Shopping Center? Well, I hope so, because your memories are all that you have left. Sadly, the State Road Shopping Center is no more. It has now been torn down and what will be put in place of it has yet to be decided. But in 2009 it served as the line up spot for the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade. This year, as in all previous years, we welcomed a large turn out of alumni band members. And once again, we were pleased to see so many new faces, especially those from the "0" years. You know ... "01", "02", "03", etc. You "0" people please keep on coming! And for you pre-"0" people, you need to keep coming too! This group is here for all of you, and without all of you, we couldn't entertain the masses as we do!

The parade stepped off right on time. One of the biggest thrills for the alumni band is seeing the current Tiger Band marching by. They're always up front, and deservedly so. After a very short wait, the Pride Alumni Band took to the streets. Just as we rounded the corner from Lillis Dr. to Portage Tr. the fly over from the C-130, or whatever huge airplane they use, buzzed right over us. OK, it was more like a roar, and we could feel the vibrations, but that always signals the official beginning of the parade.

The weather was with us, as we had a bright sunny day and the temperatures were very tolerable. That only meant that Mr. Curfman stayed cool and comfortable enough to blow that whistle way too often! OK, I may be exaggerating a little, but if you want to know for sure, get that old horn out, dust it off, and join us at the next performance. C'mon, you know you want to! So now just do it! As for the rest of the parade – how do you describe a parade? We came, we marched, we played, we had fun, and we went home. But once again it was a great event and the crowd was extremely appreciative and we loved entertaining them. And we definitely want you

there next year. And if you don't think you have what it takes to march a parade after all these years, you're wrong. According to my pedometer (courtesy of Bill Cosby – yes, Bill Cosby) it was only 5,431 steps. You've got that many steps in you, don't you? And if you do the math ... at 22.5 inches per step ... let's see ...  $22.5 \times 5,431$  ... carry the 2 ... place the decimal ... well, it's not that long. You can do it! So join us next year and see where the State Road Shopping Center used to be!

#### **4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade** (Steve Mietus)

The Pride Alumni Band was once again the star of the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Stow. The best part, as always, is that we have to line up well before the start of the parade. And while most units may look at this as annoying, for the Pride Alumni it's a rare opportunity to catch up and reminisce with friends from years past. Not only do you get to see a few friends from your years with the Tiger Band, but you also get to meet new members (well, old members who are new to you) and share your experiences of your days in the Tiger Band. And as usual, nothing can compare to "your" days in the band. But it is always fun hearing how exciting being a member of the Tiger Band was for someone else. It may sound sappy, but deep down we are all family.

The other thing that we do before the parade is talk about all those people who aren't there and should be. Yes, even you! You should have heard what we said about you! But if you come next year, you can join us in talking smack about someone else! We expect to see you there. There's only one rehearsal, and let's be serious, how much practice does it really take to march in a straight line?!?! Answer: just one rehearsal, or less!

Now on to the parade itself. Each year we move up a bit further in the line up. The official step off is at 10:00 A.M., but the Stow 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade is one of the largest, if not the largest in the area. So in year one (for the alumni band) we were in row "W", and in the back of the row to boot! And with a 10:00 step off for the first unit, we were finally under way just before 11:00 A.M. This year, if memory serves, we were in row "F". We were actually stepping off and on route 59 by 10:20. So those of us who have endured the slow move from the back of the ranks to the front are glad to have shouldered that burden for you just so you can now join us for the parade next year. Do you feel guilty now? You should! But all that guilt will wash away when you join us next year for the parade!

Oh, that's right, this article is supposed to be about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Again, we stepped off right on time with beautiful weather once again. The skies were sunny, the temperatures were tolerable, and the hills in the parade route all appeared to be going downhill! OK, they weren't all going downhill, but we were up to the challenge. The crowd seemed a little larger this year. Maybe it was because of a renewed sense of patriotism, maybe because of an increase in "stay-cations," or maybe it's because they heard the Tiger Alumni Band was marching once again. I'm not sure which one is the most accurate, but I'd like to think it was the latter. And from the crowd response when we went by, and with every kick off of Tiger Rag whistled by Mr. Curfman, I'm convinced that I was right. And for the first time in as long as I can remember, nobody counted how many times we played Tiger Rag, but rest assured, it was one less than time than we had still left in us.

We hit the judges stand in full Alumni Band stride and played Tiger Rag for the "whatever number" time, and it was just as resounding as the first time we played it coming out of the Stow-Kent Shopping Center parking lot (they haven't torn that one down yet!). And as is tradition, following the performance in front of the judge's stand, we jump right into two cadences of the "J-W." It's always a bonus to have "J-W" (John Walk) there himself. The Pride Alumni Band was once again the hit of the parade and we didn't lose a single member in the 7,896 steps of this parade. Yes, the count was once again thanks to the pedometer provided by Bill Cosby. Did I mention that I met Bill Cosby? Obviously by doing the math you can see that the Stow parade is ... well ... let's see ... 7,896 and take away the Memorial Day steps ... divided by 22.5 inches ... and you get ... well, the Stow parade is longer, but it's just as much fun. The only thing bothering me is why the Memorial Day parade ended on an odd number and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July on an even number? I guess for the Stow parade I must have ended on my right foot by mistake.

#### **Italian Festival** (Steve Mietus)

The annual Italian Festival took a bit of a different turn for the Alumni Band this year. In the past the Alumni Band played for the annual Cuyahoga Falls Italian Festival. This year there was a bit of a change. The previous festival moved to Akron and another Italian Festival moved in. And they were very receptive to the Alumni Band (thank you Terry). We didn't get to play, but our services were requested in an area in which we are quickly becoming

very proficient: pouring the adult beverages that the attendees enjoy so much. With our experience in providing our services to the "Rockin' on the River" events, we were a natural to give service to this event. And as in Alumni Band tradition, we came through with flying colors.

Yes, the initial catalyst was the money that we earned, which of course goes to supporting the Tiger Band. But there was a bonus. This event presented us another opportunity to visit with friends from our years in the band as well as those from other (lesser) years. Of course, the lesser years were any other year than that in which you graduated! While we were not permitted to partake of the libations that we were serving, we didn't need to! The company and bonding that we shared were intoxicating enough to keep us working hard, and of course we were able to partake of the food and other vendors that were present. We were as happy as a polar bear on her own iceberg! And if I had Ms. Sally's magic mirror from "Romper Room", I saw Mark, Scott, Bob, Barbara, Sue, Ted, Annie (no truth to any rumors about Annie's cherry strudel), Mike, my other alumni band member Mike, John, Terry, Doug, Rick, Karla, Sandy, and Tom. There were many others (and thank you to all), but it was the last time we were able to see Tom. He will be missed. But Tom would want you to join us for this event next year, so watch your e-mail and update your information on the Pride Alumni Band web site at <http://www.pridealumni.org/>. See you all next year!

**Band Show**  
(Ken Snyder)

Congratulations to all Pride Alumni for another great Band Show performance. Even Mother Nature couldn't dampen our spirits. Over the years, I think that we have been very fortunate as far as the weather is concerned, with very few exceptions. Even the heat and humidity could be much worse during the third week of August than it has been over the last decade or so. However, as you all now, the Sunday afternoon practices can be a bear. We'll call that 'good conditioning'. If you can live through that, then the Band Show should be a piece of cake.

The participating Alumni (approximately 100) dedicated their Band Show performance to the memory of Tom Cunningham, Class of 1973, who passed away in June. The concert number, "You'll Never Walk Alone" had been requested by Tom and was also a tribute. The song was both arranged and directed by Bob Feldbush. Along with Bob, Scott Curfman and Brandon Duvall collaborated in directing the Alumni Band. They are truly awesome and deserve our thanks.

The Alumni Band award winners at the Band Show were: Oldest Participant – June Cain, Class of 1952; Band member who traveled the farthest – Jim Kierstead, Class of 1970, from Boston; Pride Award – Tom Cunningham, Class of 1973. Tom was the first recipient of the Pride Award which honored his outstanding contributions to the Pride Alumni Band over the years. It was intended for his family to receive the award for Tom. However, due to the weather, that ceremony was postponed until the One More Time Concert.

The Preview of Bands Band Show wouldn't be what it is if not for the area bands that attend. I feel that they all deserve recognition:

Lorain Clearview Marching Band; Saint Ignatius Wildcat Marching Band, Streetsboro Marching Rockets, Open Door Christian School Patriot Marching Band, Woodridge High School Marching Bulldog Band, Massillon Tiger Swing Band, Nordononia 'Lancer' Band, Ken Roosevelt Rough Rider Marching Band, Springfield Spartan Marching Band, Green High School 'Bulldog' Marching Band and Highland High School "Pride of Highland" Marching Band.

Also performing was my personal favorite, the Cuyahoga Falls High School Tiger Marching Band. They were great!!!

We would like to show our appreciation to the Cuyahoga Falls School System for use of the facilities. We would also like to thank the Alumni Committee for their hard work (again).

**CURRENT TIGER BAND NEWS**  
(Visit their website at [www.cftigerband.org](http://www.cftigerband.org))

The Tiger Band is taking donations of all old cell phones, empty ink cartridges, Acme receipts and box tops. These can be dropped off at the band room anytime, or, please make arrangements with one of the Pride Alumni Committee members.





## Events to Remember

### Your 2010 Pride Alumni Schedule

Memorial Day Parade Sun. May 30 Practice 1:00PM @CF High School  
Mon May 31 Line-up 8:30AM @ State Rd / Portage Trail

Fourth of July Parade Sun June 27 Practice 1:00PM @ CF High School  
Mon July 5 Line-up 9:00AM @ Stow Kent Shopping Center

Fundraiser #1 \* Festa Italiana  
Friday, July 23, 5-11PM  
Saturday, July 24, 11-11PM  
Sunday, July 25, 12-11PM

Preview of Bands  
Band Show Sun Aug 15 Registration 12-2PM Practice 2-5PM  
Mon Aug 16 Registration 5-6PM Practice 6-9PM  
Tues Aug 17 End Zone Photo 6:30PM Show 7:00PM  
**ONE PRACTICE IS MANDATORY IN ORDER TO MARCH IN THE SHOW**

Fundraiser #2 \* Rockin' on the River  
Friday, August 20, Meet at 4:45PM, Event 5-11PM

\* Both Fundraisers are pouring beer at the Front Street Mall. These are NON-drinking events for us, and you must be 21 years of age to serve.

Check out our website at [www.pridealumni.org](http://www.pridealumni.org) for further information on all of the above events.

**Pride Alumni Band Association**  
**P. O. Box 942**  
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