



NEWSLETTER 2010



Welcome to the Class of 2011

The Pride Alumni Band Association would like to welcome the Class of 2011:

Hailee Arsena	Carly Draves	Emily Hiner	Katie Nix
Emily Beck	Catherine Draves	Chris Holland	Kat Plascik
Katie Borton	Caroline Flanagan	Elise Irland	Raelyn Roxbury
Breanna Brunswick	Kelley Flinn	Robert Alan Kent	Emily Schwarz
Domenic Carobine	Tony Foti	Kaitlyn Kough	Cory Scott
PJ Chronister	Shannon French	Anna Lemmon	Katelyn Shambach
Ali Clem	Spencer Furniss	Kayla Lewis	Rachel Thomas
Sarah Clemons	Julie Gross	Haley Loughney	Joe Ward
Evan Cook	Adam Haywood	Valerie Miller	Rachel Weigandt
Meghan Davis	Ali Hessel	Kayla Motyka	Michael Weyandt
Austin Dodd			Natalie Wilson

Please join me in welcoming our 2011 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 and they're already hard at work on 2011! Your alumni committee is a very well-oiled machine at this point with much tenure and dedication, and continues to be a pleasure to work with.

This past year, we saw one of our larger groups of alumni gather for the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day parade, with just under 50 members. I am constantly told by parade organizers and city officials that The Pride Alumni is one of the most beloved groups in the parade. 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, and we even appeared on the NBC Channel 3 - WKYC News!

Our band show performance was very respectable with just under 100 members, although we'd like to see more of you out there! This was also, Brandon Duvall's (current Tiger Band Director) first year as solo director of "The Pride" at the band show. He did an outstanding job! Scott Curfman continues to direct us for our 2 parades.

A BIG thanks goes out to Scott Curfman who invested many hours this past year cleaning and tightening up our routines for the band show 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 it is now MANDATORY to attend at least one practice for the band show (preferably Sunday). All of our directors and your alumni committee felt this was a very reasonable request.

This past year we invited the IMP to help us with our two fundraising events (Rockin' on the River and Festa Italiana) and we split the proceeds. Our two groups had so much fun and camaraderie together, that moving into 2011, our 3 fundraisers (2 Rockin on the Rivers and Festa Italiana) will again be a joint effort. A big thanks goes out to Michelle Grimes, IMP President, who helped make this happen!

Due to your continued help and support at our fundraising events last year, we awarded the second Pride Alumni Scholarship in May to a graduating senior and plan a third for this spring! ALL of our donated instruments went to CIC last year for complete overhauls, so they're ready for you at the parades and band show this year. We also added 4 more piccolos to our inventory!

We cannot continue to do this without you! 2011 is the year to get re-involved and re-acquainted with the Pride! This organization exists for you and because of you! Please review the 2011 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

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER (Brandon DuVall)

Greetings to all of our former Tiger Band Members!

As we begin 2011 and start to look towards the future, I wanted to take a few moments and reflect on this past season and lay the foundation for another outstanding season in 2011. For those of you that don't know me yet, my name is Brandon DuVall and I am the director of the CFHS Tiger Marching Band. I joined the staff of the Cuyahoga Falls Schools Instrumental Music Department in August of 2001 and became the Tiger Band Director in June of 2004. 2011 will mark my 8th season as the Tiger Band Director and 2nd season as the Director of the Alumni Band. Cuyahoga Falls, and especially the bands at Cuyahoga Falls High School, has a long and distinguished tradition of excellence. I love history and have worked to acquaint myself with the history of this band. Working with Mr. Feldbush, Mr. DeMarco, and Mr. Curfman has allowed me to gain an even greater appreciation for what it is that makes the Tiger Marching Band such a special organization. Conversations with alumni have helped me appreciate some of the special things that maybe even their directors were not aware of. We all have those band trip stories that we keep to ourselves! I love watching old videos of the band from the 1960's through today. In 2009 I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Feldbush and Mr. Curfman in directing the alumni band for the August 18th band show. It was a great learning experience to work so closely with two men whom I tremendously respect.

The three of us worked well together to produce a spirited band show performance. When 2010 rolled around, we took the training wheels off the bicycle and I got to direct the alumni band by myself. Spending an entire season with the 172-member Tiger Marching Band was not nearly as intimidating as working with the Alumni Band! Because of the different generations of marchers, and the variation in marching style, it was quite a task to get the band off the ground. Luckily, the alumni band continues to have members that offer their assistance to the director so we could get it right.

By the time the alumni band took the field on August 17th I had learned a great deal about them and how to make it work. Once I became comfortable with what we were doing I really started to enjoy myself. This makes me even more excited to direct the band again at our show this year – scheduled for August 16th, 2011. I would strongly encourage those of you that participated in 2010 to come back this year – and bring a friend or two (or three, or four, etc.).

The Alumni Band can only continue to exist and thrive if YOU choose to be a part of it. When you march in the Memorial Day Parade (May 30), 4th of July Parade, and the Band Show (August 16) you are reminding our community that the Pride that comes with being a member of “The Pride of Cuyahoga Falls” does not end when you walk across the stage at Blossom Music Center. I continue to be humbled and amazed to work in a community that continues its’ fervent support of our Instrumental Music Program, and your support is an important part of our continued success.

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 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.

Pride Alumni Band Association 2010 Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance 01/01/10	\$ 8,172.28
Income:	
Italian Festival	1,526.00
Stow Fourth of July Parade	500.00
Rock'n on the River	1,090.00
Membership dues, pizza & merchandise sales	910.75
Transfer from CD (closed)	1,016.00
Expenses:	
Rock'n on the River	(40.00)
Scholarship for Senior	(500.00)
Donation to IMP	(550.00)
Food & supplies (Sunday dinner)	(199.00)
Hall rental (Monday party)	(200.00)
Food & supplies (Monday party)	(225.80)
Entertainment (Monday party)	(100.00)
Pizza (pizza party w/Tiger Band)	(350.00)

Shirts (for sale at show)	(491.72)
T-shirts (for graduating seniors)	(360.00)
Pizza party for graduating seniors	(100.00)
Instrument Repair	(657.50)
Purchase (3) Piccolo	(419.97)
Pride Award	(52.06)
PO Box rental	(60.00)
Newsletter	(877.47)
Gift certificates (director, announcer)	(190.80)
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Ending Balance 12/31/10 (checking)	<u>\$ 7,840.71</u>

2011 Officers

Congratulations to your 2011 Officers: Mark Bowers ('85), President; Steve Mietus ('81), Vice President; John Walk ('72), Treasurer; Mike Price ('99), 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 always being helpful with our subs. I would also like to thank the Italian Center 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.

Instrument Rentals and Donations (Mike Price)

Mike Price here with your annual instrument update. First off I would like to once again thank CIC for allowing us the usage of some of their instruments for the band show this year. I am also proud to let everyone know that we are now the proud owners of a total of 4 piccs and 1 tenor sax. We have acquired a few other instruments as well this past year. The instruments that the alumni own have all been taken up to CIC and re-padded, re-corked, oiled and are ready for action throughout the following year. This means that the excuse of "I don't have an instrument" will no longer work, so come and join us this year for all the instrumental festivities!

Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade (Steve Mietus)

The Pride Alumni Band once again made a spectacular appearance at the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade. This year there were some notable changes. On somewhat of a somber note, Valley Savings Bank no longer sponsored the pancake breakfast before the parade. Certainly, we can understand their decision given these economic times, but sadly it's also a big loss for the current Tiger Band, as they were the beneficiary of the proceeds. The next change is also somewhat somber. We lined up where the State Road Shopping Center USED to be. That's right – if you've been out of town for a while, the shopping center is gone! They had started taking it down last year, and the demolition is now complete. It's just a fenced in pile of rocks now, but it's slated to be developed later.

As always, we assemble early at the (former) State Road Shopping Center. This year, along with the catching up with old friends and acquaintances, we also reminisced about the good times we had at the various stores in the center. Montgomery Wards (before they left), J.C. Penny (before they left), Radio Shack (before they left) and even the bowling alley (at least they didn't leave until the end). And we not only reminisced with old friends, but we made many new ones. Once again we were pleased to see so many new marchers.

After the appropriate amount of reminiscing, it was time to start marching. OK, it was time to go because Mr. Curfman blew the whistle! It always has us in awe (or at least me, anyway) to watch the current Tiger Band march past us. For a split second we see ourselves back in high school, wearing that uniform, and marching in the parade. Then we snap back and thank our lucky stars that we get to wear shorts and T-shirts instead! See, that's another reason why you should be there next year! And don't worry; we have a T-shirt for you if you don't already have one.

The weather was once again with us, as we had a bright sunny day and the temperatures were moderate. We can't leave out the "fly by" by the big military airplane (I really need to find out what kind of plane that is) and I think we actually felt the breeze from the props as if flew by. But after the "ooo's and ahhh's, it's time to step off. The nice thing about the Memorial Day Parade is that you start out going up hill a bit, but then it's all down hill from there. So it goes by fairly quickly and easily, especially since we were lucky enough to catch all the lights this year!

Another bonus is seeing all the fans that are there to support us and all of the marching units. As for me, my entire family marched in the parade this year. I with the alumni band, my twins with their respective scout troops, and even my wife marched with the dog to raise money for our troops. OK, the oldest didn't march because he was away at college, but he did it every other year. But there was one problem. We saw many of you Tiger Band Alumni sitting on your lawn chairs. While we appreciate your applause and support (we really do!), we want you to get off your lawn chair next year and join us in the parade. You know you want to, and you'll be welcomed with open drum sticks.

4th of July Parade (Steve Mietus)

The Pride Alumni Band was once again the star of the annual 4th of July Parade in Stow. I heard from many people (other Tiger Band alumni as well as nonpartisan spectators) that we sounded even better than the Stow Band. Well, doesn't that go without saying?!?! And the kicker this year is that Channel 3 (WKYC – NBC for those of you who have forgotten) took some footage of us and we were on the news! It was a thrill to see the alumni band on TV, and while you think our swollen heads would have shrunk by now ... they haven't! And they won't! It's amazing that even at our respective ages; we still get excited about seeing ourselves on TV. Please direct all calls to our agents.

This paragraph is from last year's newsletter, but I'm leaving it in this year as well, because it's true. "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. I've mentioned that each year we move up a bit further in the line up, but this year was outstanding! Thanks to the vigilant efforts of our esteemed President (Mark Bowers), we were not only in the first third of the parade, our line up spot was next to the Sprint store (where there was shade, quiet, and even a Subway store close by) instead of the middle of the hot parking lot. That meant we were able to hark back to all those good times we had, catch up on whose doing what (see the above paragraph), and not have sunburn set in even before the parade starts.

The parade stepped off right on time, and since our line up spot was at the front, we were able to see it. The weather was nice, but it wasn't ideal "parade weather." It was sunny, the skies were clear, but it was quite warm. OK, it was HOT! We almost wished for that big plane from the Memorial Day parade (I really do need to find out what kind of plane that is) to fly by and create a breeze. Luckily, there was a decent breeze in the air, and you could hear the "ahhh's" every time it came around.

The parade went off without a hitch, and once again we were able to catch all the lights! For this year's July 4th Parade (as well as the Memorial Day Parade) Mr. Curfman added a second song to the play list. He has a very easy arrangement of "This is My Country" that we insert between our playing of "Tiger Rag." And don't let the fear of having to memorize a new tune stop you from joining us next year. Most of us memorized it during the warm up rehearsals, so we do expect to see you there next year.

I won't lie, the Stow parade is a long parade, but let's face it. You need the exercise! As we start out, we realize that it's a hot town, it's summer in the city, and the backs of our necks are getting dirt and gritty – oh, wait! That's Lovin' Spoonful lyric, but it fit! We start to wonder why we do this every year, and we wonder where the heck the

end of the parade is. Then about halfway through, we see light at the end of the tunnel. Then before you know it, you're crossing Rt. 91 and you can see the judges stand and you hear the Alumni Band announced. Next you hear the thunderous applause for the Alumni Band which only increases as we finish "Tiger Rag" and go into the "J-W." That's when you realize that THIS is why you do this every year. And next year, YOU should do it too!

I'll close with 3 last reasons why you should make certain you join us for next year's parade. While you're marching and getting parched, a water carrier will come up and give you a bottle of water. At that moment, you can't remember water ever tasting so good. And when you get home, after you jump in the shower, you can't seem to remember the last shower that felt that good. Lastly, when you sit down and have that first cold beverage, you don't remember it ever tasting so good either. See what you're denying yourself by not joining us. Hope to see you there next year!

Festa Italiana (Steve Mietus)

This year the IMP joined us, as well as the Woodridge Bandbackers, the Marine Reserves, and the Cuyahoga Falls Lion's Club in staffing this event. All Cuyahoga Falls groups helping Cuyahoga Falls groups! And like all events in the past, this one went off without a hitch.

The weather was very cooperative with only the slightest bit of rain. The event was every bit as successful as those held by the previous sponsors, and given that now they are all local clubs, it was that much better. While this was a non-drinking event for the working alumni, there was a great deal of jovial interaction, camaraderie, and a good time was had by all. And, of course, nothing prevented us from partaking of the food and libations after our shifts were over! And we did!!!

Even though this is a three day event, with the number of people that we have volunteering and the shortness of the shifts, it is really quite effortless. And I would be remiss if I didn't mention that we receive a very generous donation for our organization in appreciation of our efforts. So when the alumni band (probably me!) gives you a call next year to ask you to volunteer a few hours of your time, please don't give it a second thought. Take whichever shift (or shifts) fit into your schedule and come lend a hand and join in the fun. Plus, it's the only way to make sure that nobody is talking about you behind your back! Oh, I forgot to mention we do that too! Just kidding – or am I? There's only one way to find out! See you next year!

Band Show (Ken Snyder)

Once again, the Pride Alumni Band did an outstanding job at the 2010 Preview of Bands at Clifford Stadium on 17 August, 2010. The festivities began with something new: a Pre-Band Show party at the Red Fox Pub on State Road, Saturday evening. This was intended to welcome those participating alumni who came from out of town.

Sunday was a huge success. Not only did we have a great turnout, but both registration and practice went very smoothly. It was a little on the warm side but nothing like the Fourth of July Parade. Brandon Duvall, the director of the Tiger Band, pulled double-duty and directed the Alumni Band as well. The event was followed by chicken and jo-jos in the cafeteria.

Monday evening registration and practice went equally well. Actually, since we were able to practice on the field, it went even better. Again, Mother Nature cooperated. A party followed afterward at the Italian American Center on Ninth Street.

Tuesday night, the evening of the Band Show finally arrived. As always, we had our picture taken in the bleachers under the Tiger emblem. This was followed by the pre-game show featuring the Tiger Band. It is always a thrill when we, the Alumni Band, play *The Star Spangled Banner* along with them. The song was directed by Brandon DuVall.

The first band to perform was from St. Ignatius High School. They were followed by the Open Door Christian School, Streetsboro High School, and Woodridge High School marching bands. Then it was our turn.

I must admit, the biggest thrill for me during the entire 2010 Alumni Band season, was the cheer that we received from the crowd when we took the field at the Band Show. It sends a chill down my spine every year. A huge part of that reception came from our very own Tiger Band.

We did our running cadence on-field followed by a jump halt and our fanfare. Randy Fillmore, the voice of the Alumni Band introduced us and after four bass drum beats, we took off downfield playing the first segment of *Tiger Rag*. That was followed by the circle-drill to the song *More* and a conversion that put us into a concert formation.

Prior to the playing of the concert number *Impossible Dream*, we were able to catch our breaths during the presentation of the Pride Achievement Award. The 2010 recipient was Bob Feldbush and deservedly so. If it wasn't for Bob, we might not have the Alumni Band or the tradition that we enjoy now.

After the concert number, we went through another conversion that set us up for the remainder of *Tiger Rag*, the three count turn around, stomp down, bow and extension. Again, **THE CROWD WENT WILD**. This was followed by the running cadence off field which led us into JW. That's when the adrenaline kicks in. We're exhausted and it really doesn't matter because **IT'S ALL ABOUT BAND!!!**

Following our performance there was a ten minute intermission in order for the crowd to regain their composure. In the second half, we were treated to the Kent Roosevelt, Massillon, Nordonia, and Green High School bands.

Next there was the award presentation. The Alumni Band has two awards: the oldest marcher and the person who travels the farthest in order to participate in the Band Show. Both awards were given to one person: Mary Newell Dickinson, clarinet player from the Class of 1965. She hails from St. Helen's, Oregon.

The exclamation point to the evening was The Cuyahoga Falls High School Marching Tiger Band. They were completely and totally awesome. After the Band Show the Tiger Band and the Alumni Band gathered in the cafeteria for the annual pizza party. It's always a pleasure.

On behalf of the Alumni Band members and the committee I want to thank Brandon DuVall, Dustin Harris, and the IMP for their hard work preparing for the Band Show and the support that they have given us. I also want to thank the Cuyahoga Falls Board of Education, and the City of Cuyahoga Falls for their continued support.

CURRENT TIGER BAND NEWS
(Visit their website at 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 2011 Pride Alumni Schedule

- Fundraiser #1 Rockin' on the River
Friday, May 27, Meet at 4:45PM, Event 5-11PM
- Memorial Day Parade Sun. May 29 Practice 1:00PM @CF High School
Mon May 30 Line-up 8:30AM @ State Rd / Portage Trail
- Fourth of July Parade Sun June 26 Practice 1:00PM @ CF High School
Mon July 4 Line-up 9:00AM @ Stow Kent Shopping Center
- Fundraiser #2 Festa Italiana
Friday, July 22, 5-11PM
Saturday, July 23, 11-11PM
Sunday, July 24, 12-11PM
- Preview of Bands
Band Show Sun Aug 14 Registration 12-2PM Practice 2-5PM
Mon Aug 15 Registration 5-6PM Practice 6-9PM
Tues Aug 16 End Zone Photo 6:30PM Show 7:00PM
Attendance at one practice is **MANDATORY** to march!
- Fundraiser #3 Rockin' on the River
Friday, August 19, Meet at 4:45PM, Event 5-11PM

As in past practice, our fundraisers are NON-DRINKING events. You must also be 21 years of age to pour beer.

Check out our website at www.pridealumni.org for further information on all of the above events.

Pride Alumni Band Association
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