



## Please welcome our 2016 seniors into “The Pride”!

The Pride Alumni Band Association would like to welcome the Class of 2016

- |                  |                   |                  |                      |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Isaac Alvis      | Alesha Carlton    | Evin Hessel      | Alexandra Nockengost |
| Paul Appleby     | Rene Delans       | Alissa Hyatt     | Erika Nockengost     |
| Megan Arsena     | Brittany Duncan   | Ceci Ing         | Jimmy O'Connor       |
| Autumn Ashbaugh  | Seth Dunphy       | Taylor Johnson   | Maddie Pachta        |
| Ron Barnhart     | Gabrielle Endlich | Katie Keeney     | Emily Pagonis        |
| Kaitlyn Baudo    | Shae Evans        | Hannah Lattimer  | Alexandra Pamfilie   |
| Madeline Bauer   | Ali Frank         | Ashley Leggott   | Rigel Pansmith       |
| Robert Bayer     | Gabe Glor         | Madison Marshall | Karlie Pulskamp      |
| Danielle Boehlke | Kelsy Graham      | Tanner Martin    | David Rogers         |
| Ryan Bowden      | Lindsey Hargrove  | Sarah Mellinger  | Andy Shafer          |
| Edward Bryant    | Matthew Harget    | Noah Mule        | Marcella Spann       |
| Ceara Busch      | Tim Heilmann      | Madison Murray   | Jacob Spinner        |
|                  | Devi Young        |                  |                      |

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As I start my 12th year as Alumni President, I continue to be awed and humbled by the love and dedication to The Pride by every one of you. It's because of your continued dedication that we start our 46th year of existence! I'd like to start off by thanking the alumni committee and our Directors Scott Curfman and Brandon DuVall for their continued dedication by putting together an incredible program this past year and we're already hard at work on your 2016 schedule! Your alumni committee is a very well-oiled machine at this point with much tenure and dedication, and continues to be an incredible group to work with, but we can always use fresh ideas from you, so please join us and get involved!

This past year we saw one of the larger groups of alumni gather for the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade, the majority of members having graduated within 3-4 four years! We also saw good attendance at the Stow Fourth of July parade!

You'll see John Walk's article later in the newsletter, but The Pride and I would again like to thank Eric Fawcett and Melanie Kennedy for taking care of John after the parade.

Our band show performance was awesome! You voted on the concert number and chose *Somebody to Love*, by Queen, and the crowd went wild!!! This year's band show is August 16th. We're hoping to see many of you attend!

Congratulations to Mr. Ron Wahl, for winning this year's Pride Award for his continued dedication to The Pride!

Our fundraising this past year was VERY successful, pouring at Rockin' on the River, IROK Rockin' and Festa Italiana. The Pride and the IMP had so much fun and camaraderie together pouring the suds, that we will join again in 2016 for Festa Italiana. A big thanks goes out to Trish Enos, IMP President, the IMP members, AND the Pride Alumni members, who continue to help make this happen! Together, we make a difference!

We awarded the eighth Pride Alumni Scholarship in May of 2016 to Mr. Robert Bayer.

We cannot continue to do this without you! Your help and participation helps us to help our beloved Tiger Marching Band! 2016 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 2016 calendar on the back page and make plans to attend some of these exciting events to show your 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, Doug Flinn at Acme, Trish Enos-IMP President, Dustin Harris and Courtney Lambert who always allow us to come home and use the band room, Brandon DuVall, Scott Curfman, Robert Feldbush for arranging our concert number, Jim Stanley and Victoria Burdette, our official Pride photographers from Distinctive Images, Marsha McKenna at the Falls City Press, and finally, thank you to all who attended this years' events.

The Alumni would also like to thank the Forshey's for once again having the Mustang available for the parades.

### 2016 Officers

Congratulations to your 2016 Officers: Mark Bowers ('85), President; Steve Mietus ('81), Vice President; John Walk ('72), Treasurer; Mike Price ('99), Secretary

### In Memorium

## Michael Corbissero



It is with deep regret that we pass along the information that Michael Corbissero passed away on July 15, 2015. Mike was a great friend and believer in the Pride of Cuyahoga Falls, The Tiger Marching Band, as well as the Pride of the Pride, the Pride Alumni Marching Band

Mike's belief in these organizations is contained in his forward to Robert Feldbush's book "The Magnificent Monster" and is quoted below:

*"Most of us, if not all, have seen how the Scarecrow receives his brain, the Tinman his heart and the Cowardly Lion his courage. When you "made" the Tiger Band, you received trust, knowledge and pride. You learned to trust yourself, to trust the other members of the band and to trust Robert H. Feldbush. From that trust grew knowledge. Knowledge that you could become better as an individual. From the trust and knowledge grew pride. Pride in yourself. Pride in the uniform. Pride in what you had become. Again, this pride came from Robert H. Feldbush. As in the Wizard of Oz, we learned of the good witch and the bad witch. Enjoy the reading of this book understanding that some wizards are real and that not all monsters are bad."*

**Pride Alumni Band Association  
2015 Treasurer's Report  
Submitted by John Walk, Treasurer**

Beginning Balance 1/01/2015	\$ 7,214.25
Income:	
Italian Festival	1,671.00
Stow Fourth of July Parade	500.00
Rock'n on the River	958.00
IROK	1,000.00
Event Ticket Sales	40.00
Membership dues, pizza & merchandise sales	698.00
Expenses:	
Scholarship for Senior	(500.00)
Donations to IMP	(150.00)
Donation to Grid Iron Club	(175.00)
Donation - GoldTones dinner	(437.02)
Tiger Paws Memorial	(80.00)
T-shirts (for graduating seniors)	(380.24)
Pizza party for graduating seniors	(143.67)
Food & supplies (Sunday dinner)	(404.55)
Hall rental (Monday party)	(100.00)
Food & supplies (Monday party)	(410.00)
Pizza (pizza party w/Tiger Band)	(456.00)
Christmas Party	(244.75)
Newsletter	(258.51)
Gift certificates (directors, announcer)	(225.00)
T-shirts (for sale at show)	(193.71)
Rock'n on the River	(150.00)
Parade Supplies	(101.77)
Pride Award	(69.56)
PO Box rental	(80.00)
	<hr/>
Ending Balance 12/31/2015	\$ <u>7,521.47</u>

**Entertainment Committee**  
(Alan Cool)

Well it has been another busy year of partying with the Pride Alumni and the current Tiger Band! In case you did not know the Entertainment Committee is responsible for all of the food and party related entertainment that is hosted by the Pride Alumni. So to start the year off our first party is for the outgoing seniors after their last concert of the year. It is a pizza party hosted by the Alumni to wish our seniors well and to thank them for all of their hard work in the Tiger Band over the years. It is also when we get their information to keep in contact with them and to help bring them into the Pride Alumni. The next batch of parties happen with the band show. The first being the Chicken dinner after the Sunday practice. We got chicken and jojo's from Fiesta Pizza and Chicken on Bailey Rd. here in the falls. Then after Monday night's practice we go to the Italian American Club on 9th St. for our party. This year the first drinks for everyone alcoholic or not ++ depending on age and preference was paid for by the Alumni and then we had subs from Doug Flynn's ACME on Bailey Rd. We also had chips donated by Doug Flynn and ACME with Lawson's chip dip. The night of the band show as tradition we had "Chilly Willies" from Reiter Dairy for our post performance beverage. Then there is the always anticipated Pizza Dinner after the band show with the current Tiger Band. This year between the kids and the Alumni we went through a towering amount of sheet pizzas from Rocco's Pizza on Portage Trail. It may not seem like much but food keeps us all going and happy and the Entertainment Committee is happy to do the job. I could not have done it without the other members of the committee. Then there were the countless other saps.. I mean helpful people of Sue, Julie, Ron, Steve, Mark, Evan, Bridget, Sandy Gail, and Deanna. We would not have the "Chilly Willies" if not for the incomparable Eddy Hankins and none of this would be possible without the money from John Walk, So a big thank you to all from the bottom of my heart. If anyone has ideas or would like to help out please see me I am the tall nerdy glasses wearing drummer in the Percussion section.

**Instrument Rentals and Donations**  
(Mike Price)

I would like to thank everyone who borrowed an instrument this year as they were all returned in great condition. It was very nice this year to have almost run out of instruments for all of you to rent. That being said I am glad to also say that we now have a total of 7 piccolos and we have gained 4 flutes this year as well. Let's keep up the number of rentals this coming year and as always if you have or know of instruments that can be donated please get in touch with either myself or mark. Hope to see many of you at the parades and the band show.

**Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade**  
(Steve Mietus)

The sun was out, but the skies were cloudy. The temperature was quite pleasant and there was a very nice breeze in the air. What does one do on a day like that? Why not have a parade? And that's just what the city of Cuyahoga Falls did. Your Pride Alumni Band marched in that annual Memorial Day Parade. And as I said, the weather for this parade was perfect!

This year our line up was at the new Portage Crossing. Most of you once knew it as the State Road Shopping Center. The new shopping center is gorgeous, and it makes it hard to imagine that Montgomery Wards was once on the site.

This year we had over 60 marchers making it (I believe) the highest attended Memorial Day Parade for the Pride Alumni Band. And while I say this almost every year, I will never get tired of saying it. We had an outpouring of alumni from the "1" years ... class of 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14. I think that the "1" years outnumbered the rest of us.

Now I know that there are many more of you non-“1” years out there, so I expect to see you all come out next year and help us regain our bragging rights.

I don't know who ticked off the parade organizers this year, but for some reason we were unit #83 which put us toward the end of the parade. But then again, maybe they were saving the best for last! The only bad thing about having a high unit number is the wait that you have before step off. But that just gave us more time to reminisce with old friends and get acquainted with new ones.

Before we knew it, step off time came and Mr. Curfman (our Memorial Day director for many years now) started that darn whistle blowing. Actually, if memory serves, Mr. Curfman took it easy on us this year. Or maybe it was just the very pleasant weather that made it seem less daunting than in years past. In any case, we came, we saw, we marched! And played! Veni, vidi, marchi!

The crowd was very appreciative. The only people that weren't there to watch the parade were those of us participating in it. And for what it's worth, we get just as much joy out of providing the entertainment as those who receive it. We are proud to serve our community in this way and it seems very apparent that it is appreciated.

With the weather being so cooperative this year, we didn't even try to bribe Mr. Curfman into taking a detour through the Dairy Queen drive-thru. The young kids (children and grandchildren of alumni) who run through the ranks with bottled water to keep us refreshed also deserve kudos. Without them a Dairy Queen run would have been mandatory!

After countless times through the cycle of “This is My Country” and “Tiger Rag” (I say countless because nobody counted) we finally turned the corner from Portage Trail to 4<sup>th</sup> Street and passed the high school. While it was nostalgic to see our alma mater again, just beyond the high school was the judges' stand. That's when you dig deep and give it your all for the last run through of “Tiger Rag.” But wait ... there's more! That J.W. cadence awaits you after you think you've done all that you can. But you're the Pride Alumni Band, you can always do more. And we did, and you will too next year when you join us!

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

It only rained twice before the Stow 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Once for 11 days and once for 15 days! Seriously, it felt like that. We had a very wet beginning of summer, and a week before the parade the forecast called for rain on parade day. But as luck would have it, the forecast changed and we were blessed with near perfect weather for the parade. It was sunny with temperatures in the upper 70's with a mild breeze. See, you should have been there for this parade!

While our turn out was a bit smaller than in years past, we did have a good showing. Most exciting for me this year was that my niece Morgan Marshall marched for the first time as an alumnus this year and her sister Madison Marshal helped carry the banner. And as an added bonus, they were my ride home! (When YOU write the articles for the newsletter, YOU can drop the names of family members too! And hey, if you want to write the article, just come and march in the parade!) And as has been the trend for the last few years, we had a lot of members that were recent graduates. It gives me great “pride” to see so many new and young faces. They are the future of this organization.

Another great part of these events is the reminiscing with former classmates (I won't say old!). And as is almost always the case, making new friends and acquaintances. With an hour between line up and step off, we all seem to start off hanging out with those with whom we're familiar, and then we start expanding our circles to include everyone. And then just as you're getting to know some new alumni, it's time to step off.

Brandon Duvall led us once again in this parade, and he did something that I had never seen done before. As we were lined up in our rows for step off (we were in row E-7) we had the ETC show choir truck in front of us blaring recorded music from a speaker system. As row D left, Mr. Duvall had us jump out of our line and tag on to the back of row D. We actually cut in line in a parade! After over 40 years of marching in parades, that was a first for me. But that just goes to show you, nothing stops the Pride Alumni Band!

Once we got on the street, the cycle began. Of course I'm talking about the change up between “This is My Country” and “Tiger Rag.” Once again, nobody is quite sure how many times we went through the cycle, but suffice

it to say it was a lot. Now unlike Mr. Curfman, Mr. Duvall realized that the whistle is not a solo instrument, so we were quite able to catch our breath between selections. The first stretch is the hardest, as it's mostly uphill. Once you start going downhill, you know that you can finish the parade.

Getting to that point, however, is a bit grueling, but hey, you were in the tiger band. You used to do this (and more) in a wool uniform! (Do they still make uniforms out of wool?) It doesn't matter; you're in shorts and a T-shirt. And you're almost to the judges' stand. And this year Mr. Duvall timed it perfectly. He started "Tiger Rag" just before we reached the stand, and we finished as we crossed the stand. But that wasn't the kicker. It was that the J.W. cadence kicked off while we were still in front of the stand! I still don't know who decided to do 2 cadences of J.W. at the end of a parade, but we mustered the drive we needed to knock it out, and then some!

And I can't close this article without recognizing some people behind the scenes that make this even possible and tolerable. First we need to thank Mr. Curfman for running the taxi service taking members from Holy Family, where they parked their cars at the end of the parade route, to the line up site so that they didn't have to walk the route twice. And the biggest kudos go out to the kids (sons, daughters and grandkids of alumni) who run through the ranks with bottles of water to keep us hydrated on the march. Running up and down the ranks the entire length of the parade, I truly believe that they took the most steps in the parade. A bit THANK YOU to all who made this another great event for the Pride Alumni Band.

**Festa Italiana / Rockin' on the River**  
**(aka – Our Fundraising Efforts)**  
(Steve Mietus)

The Cuyahoga Falls Alumni Band along with the IMP was once again tapped (pardon the pun) to pour and serve beverages for the annual Festa Italiana at the Falls River Square. The event ran Friday, Saturday and Sunday July 17-19. We run one truck, the Lions Club runs another truck, and the Alumni and Lions split the third truck. As seems to be the usual, the Alumni Band runs the busiest truck and shares the second busiest. And to be honest, the truck we share with the Lions is run primarily by the Alumni Band!

For the first time in recent memory, we could not complain about the weather. Friday and Saturday were gorgeous! A little hot maybe, but wonderful. We did see some clouds, but no rain! There was a little rain on Sunday, but not enough to keep people away! Friday night broke tradition on the main stage with, instead of Italian music, they had rock bands. There was a Beatles tribute band and their warm up band was a Springsteen cover band. Both were GREAT and I should mention that the Springsteen band had Goldtones members as their lead guitar and drummer! Way to go Tigers!

Saturday and Sunday had the usual Italian singers that are famous among the crowd, but none of us ever heard of them. But they were good singers. My only complaint (and it's personal) is that without a live back up band and recorded tracks instead, it was really like Italian karaoke. But it was good music and it kind of made you feel like you were in the wedding scene in "The Godfather!" Oh, and I would be remiss if I didn't mention the food. I think I bought something from almost every vendor. And I took my wife down on Sunday and she sampled from the rest! There were absolutely no complaints. And my bathroom scale will confirm that there was a lot of great food to be sampled.

As usual, our re"mark"able President, Mark Bowers, had the event well organized. He knew what we were doing before we did! And while everyone knows that those that serve as well as those who pour from the taps work very hard, there are those kind of behind the scene that work their butts off too! Those are the truck captains appointed by Mark. OK, "truck captain" sounds like a great title, but it's really just a "bar back." The truck captain gets to carry countless cases of the bottled beer, Peroni, from the truck to restock the ice bins, as well as the cans of Mike's Hard Lemonade. They get to uncork the wine bottles, and keep everything else stocked up and ready to go. Perhaps the most important function is to change out empty kegs. I don't know about you, but I'm getting too old to climb up in a truck, crawl over a sea of kegs, switch the tap from an empty keg to a full one, and then crawl back over the sea of kegs carrying the empty one with you. Thank you for giving me that honor Mark! But to be fair, Mark was also a "truck captain" as were Scott Curfman and John Walk.

I would love to mention the names of all of the volunteers that helped with serving and pouring, but the list would likely turn this article into a tome, and Julie Storad already nags me enough about the length of my articles!

## **Rockin' on the River**

This year we only had one "Rockin' on the River" event to work. In case you hadn't heard, the event promoter decided to move his event out of Cuyahoga Falls and to the city of Lorain. The alumni band was offered a date to pour adult beverages for the event. While it was quite a poke do drive to Lorain, in true alumni fashion we showed up in force. And as usual, we combine with members of IMP to staff these events.

The new site is very attractive and very spacious. The set actually resembles the Falls River Square, except it's not an amphitheater and the crowd area is open field and not cement. There was a very good crowd and with the more open area, the music wasn't quite so loud at the trucks. We could actually hear each other talking! The event went without a hitch and we once again earned quite a bit of money to support the Tiger Band! And even though the trek to the concert site was quite long, it just shows the lengths that the alumni band will go to in order to support the Tiger Band!

## **IROK Riverfront Festival**

As most of you know, Rockin' on the River left Cuyahoga Falls and was replaced by the IROK festival. For those of you who didn't know, Rockin' on the River left Cuyahoga Falls and was replaced by the IROK festival! IROK is a combination of the Irish Festival and the Octoberfest Committee. They took over the entire summer concert series at the Riverfront Square. And they are going back to the roots of the Rockin' philosophy of making it all about charity and supporting the community. Forty-one charitable organizations plus the Boy Scouts are the recipients of the proceeds. And fortunately, the Pride Alumni Band was asked to serve beverages for the event on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

While it was a hot day, the weather was very nice. Unlike the beginning of summer where it rained nearly every day, we haven't seen rain for a few weeks. That meant that while it was hot, there was no humidity, so it made the work that much easier. As usual, we combined with IMP to staff the event, and as usual, we had a lot more people than were necessary. But many hands make light work!

A big change to the IROK festival is that there's no pouring the "adult beverages." Everything is served in cans or plastic bottles, and you know what that means ... NO KEGS TO CRAWL OVER AND CHANGE!!! We still had to make repeated trips to the truck to stock the cans and bottles in the giant coolers, but Festa Italiana had us used to that. And additionally, they had "beer wenches" (the girls gave themselves this title, not me!). There were 4 girls who would tote around coolers and sell beer ... ummm ... adult beverages in the crowd. While it lessened the line for our servers, it took time away from the truck captain (yours truly) to stock them up and collect their money. But in true alumni band fashion, when I was tied up with the beer wenches and the front line needed stocked, Lori Rose (class of '07) didn't even ask. She stepped up to the plate and went to the back of the truck for stock. (Mark Bowers take note: Lori would make an excellent truck captain next year!)

## **Band Show**

(Ken Snyder)

Congratulations to the Pride Alumni Band for another outstanding performance at the 2015 Preview of Bands at Clifford Stadium on 11 August 2015.

Sunday was a huge success. We had a great turnout and both registration and practice in the south parking lot went very smoothly. It was a bit warm though. The temperature was in the mid-eighties with humidity about the same. With school beginning a week earlier than what everyone was used to, the band show was also moved up one week. It's possible that just one week could have made a difference in the daytime high. Former Tiger Band directors Mr. Brandon Duvall and Mr. Scott Curfman co-directed the Alumni Band at both practices and the band show. Sunday's practice was followed with a chicken dinner in the cafeteria.

Practice on Monday evening was held in the stadium. Rain was eminent. In fact, lightning was also a threat. The band was lucky to run through their routine twice. There was a steady downpour by the time practice ended. Personally, I thought that the rain felt refreshing compared to the heat on Sunday. A party followed 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. The weather was great. The sky was clear and the daytime high had been seventy-eight. The pre-game show featured our very own, Tiger Band. The Alumni Band joined the Tiger Band for the playing of *The Star Spangled Banner*.

Following the pre-game show, the first band to perform was the Wildcat Band from Mogadore High School. Next was the St. Vincent-St. Mary Fighting Irish Band, followed by the Rough Rider Band from Kent Roosevelt High School. Then it was our turn.

When the Alumni Band was called to attention, they received a huge reception from both the crowd and the Tiger Band. I think that everyone in the band got an adrenaline rush from the cheering. The band did their running cadence on field followed by a jump halt and our fanfare. Randy Fillmore, the voice of the Pride Alumni Band, introduced us. He then dedicated the performance to the memories of Dean Sterling and Mike Corbissero who had passed away during the preceding year. After four bass drum beats, the band took off downfield playing the first segment of *Tiger Rag*. That was followed by the circle-drill *More* and a conversion that put the band into a concert formation.

Next, the band was able to catch their breaths during the presentation of the Pride Achievement Award. The 2015 recipient was Ron Wahl from the Class of 1966 AD. He was honored for his dedication to public service, a supporter of the Falls music programs, and for marching in almost every Preview of Band Shows for over forty years.

Playing of the concert number followed the award presentation. For the second year, the Pride Alumni Band Committee asked the band to vote online as to which song they wanted to play. First, during band show registration, each member was asked what song they would like to play as a concert number. From that, the committee compiled a master list, which was condensed to four songs based on different musical time periods. The final four consisted of *Never My Love* by the Association, *MacArthur Park* by Donna Summer, *We Are Young* by Fun. And the winner was *Somebody to Love* by Queen (arranged by Mr. Robert Feldbush). The voting process was such a huge success in 2014 that the committee is going to continue to ask for the band's input in the future.

After the concert number, there was another conversion that set up 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 the band into J.W. Once again, the adrenaline kicked in and exhaustion wasn't a problem because **IT WAS ALL ABOUT BAND**.

Following the 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 Springfield Spartan Band and the Bulldog Band from Green High School.

Next was the award presentation. The Alumni Band has three awards other than the Pride Achievement Award: the band member that travels the farthest to march in the band show, the "most senior" participant, and the best-represented class. Kristin Rickard from the class of 1994 traveled all the way from Saint Port Lucie, Florida. The "most senior" participant was June Cain from the class of 1952. The class of 2015 had the most marchers with 16.

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

In all, we had 123 members that participated in the show, which were 18 more than those who attended in 2014. Next year let's hope for at least 130.

On behalf of the Pride Alumni Band members and committee, I want to thank Brandon Duvall and Scott Curfman for their hard work and leadership. I also want to thank our announcer, Randy Fillmore, Marsha McKenna from the Falls-News Press, CIC, the IMP, Distinctive Images, and a special thanks to Dustin Harris and Courtney Lambert for their continued support.

## **History of the JW – Updated 2015**

### **(John Walk)**

I am very proud and deeply honored that a drum cadence that I wrote so many years ago is still a part of the tradition and spirit of this great organization. Several times I have been asked to tell the story of how the 'JW' came about. I'd like to share it with you again briefly because, this year, there is a new chapter to that story.

Back In the summer of 1971, going into my senior year, I was inspired to write a 'rock 'n roll' drum cadence. Two songs, each with a drum solo as a signature part of the song gave special inspiration. The first song was 'Wipeout' by the Surfaris. The second was 'In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida' by Iron Butterfly. The Pride Alumni Band, just like the Black Tiger Marching Band always plays the JW as we exit the field after our show.

We also play it at the end of every parade, as we pass in front of the review stand.

Well, this year at the Stow Fourth of July parade, the 'JW' almost killed me, literally. At the end of the parade, as I was playing the lead tenor drum part in the 'JW', I felt some pain like really bad heartburn in my throat. By the time we finished the parade, I knew something more serious was wrong.

Some people might call this a coincidence, but I know that my heavenly Father put two Angels with skin there at the parade to be with me that day.

My new favorite Pride Alumni majorette, Melanie Kennedy, class of 1984, is a nurse in the heart catheter lab at Akron City hospital. Melanie was supposed to be working that day, but had traded days with another nurse in order to be at the parade. My new favorite Pride Alumni bass drummer, Eric Fawcett, class of 2003, works as a Paramedic for Sandusky County. They took charge and took care of me until the Stow Rescue Squad could get me to City Hospital. Melanie called her boss, my new cardiologist Dr. Hughes, to tell him that she was sending a 'special' patient and to get the catheter lab all ready.

The Stow Rescue Squad and ER confirmed that I was having a heart attack. The happy ending is that the catheter lab found one blocked artery, and they were able to fix it by deploying two stents. Because of everyone's quick and effective care, I did not suffer any permanent damage. I am now quite happily doing rehab exercise, not quite so happily modifying my diet. But I am looking forward to many more years playing with my Pride Alumni band and watching the Black Tiger Marching Band.

## **We Want Your Band Stories**

In just three short years the Pride Alumni Band will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary! In preparation for the big event, we thought it would be a great idea to compile a collection of your personal band stories from back in the day. No matter how far back that day was, we would like to hear your stories. We don't want specific names mentioned (including your own) as all names will be removed to protect the guilty! If you want to include the approximate year, that is fine. Our vice-president, Steve Mietus, will collect and edit the stories. While we're not quite sure how we will share the stories, we need to collect them first. If you have a story (or stories) that you would like to share, please email them to Steve Mietus at [smeitus@neo.rr.com](mailto:smeitus@neo.rr.com) and please put "Band Story" in the subject line.

# INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PATRONS OF CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO

## 2016/2017 - IMP Patron Form

The purpose of IMP is to provide money and support for instrumental music in the Cuyahoga Falls public schools. All parents of children in any instrumental music program are members of IMP: however anyone interested in maintaining and improving the quality of the music program in our schools may become a member.

The IMP benefits all Falls public school bands by the purchase and care of uniforms, instrument repairs, scholarships, purchasing new music, assisting with band trips, school instrument repair, social and recreational activities, and providing chaperones and other necessities that the Board of Education is unable to provide under Ohio State Law.



The IMP supports the 800 plus band students in our program through a variety of fundraisers, including, this Patron Program, Band Shows, Tag Day, Patron Drives, Golf Outing, Car Washes, sales of Entertainment Books, candy and food, Varsity Gold Cards, and various other events throughout the year. We need both your time and financial support to help maintain the high standard of excellence for which the Tiger Band Is known. Join us or send your contribution or Patron check to IMP today!

Become a sponsor of the IMP and reserve a place in our programs for recognition of your support. Music students who have graduated less than 4 years ago may become an **Alumni Patron for \$10.00**. The following levels of support will be included in our printed music programs: **\$25.00 Patron, \$50.00 Gold Level Patron, \$75.00 Black Level Patron, \$100.00 Honor Level Patron, \$150.00 or more Director's Level Patron.**

Patrons in the Honor Level will receive a pass to enter all IMP musical events free of charge. Patrons at the Director's Level will receive 2 passes to all IMP musical events. Free events must be sponsored by the IMP. Other non-instrumental groups such as the M&M's, Spring Musical and band shows at other locations are not included.

## Events to Remember

### Your 2016 Pride Alumni Schedule

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

#### Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade

May 29, 2016 Sunday- 1-2:00 PM Band room Memorial Day Practice; Instruments available

May 30, 2016 Monday- Cuy. Falls Memorial Day Parade, starts at 9:00 AM; Line-up 8-8:30 AM

#### Stow Fourth of July Parade

July 3, 2016 Sunday- 1-2:00 PM Band room Fourth of July Practice; Instruments available

July 4, 2016 Saturday- Stow Fourth of July Parade, starts at 10:00 AM; Line-up at 9 AM

#### Preview of Bands Show \*\*

August 14, 2016 Sunday- 12 – 2 PM Registration/instrument rental; 2-5:00 PM Rehearsal \*\*

August 15, 2016 Monday- 5-6 PM Registration/instrument rental; 6-9:00 PM Rehearsal \*\*

August 16, 2016 Tuesday- 6:30 PM End-zone picture; 7:00 PM BANDSHOW \*\*

**\*\*ONE PRACTICE IS MANDATORY IN ORDER TO MARCH IN THE SHOW (Preferably Sunday)**

2016 Fundraising events TBD and we will post on the [www.pridealumni.org](http://www.pridealumni.org) website and on our Facebook Page [Pride Alumni Marching Band](#).

**Pride Alumni Band Association  
P. O. Box 942  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223**