

# The Auburn University Alumni Band Newsletter



## Message from the Alumni Band President

Fall 2009

Greetings Auburn band family! Once again fall is rapidly approaching, and with it, the anticipation of another Auburn football season. This year we are excited to be ushering in a new era of Auburn football with the inaugural season of Coach Gene Chizik. As alumni and members of the Auburn family, we all welcome Coach Chizik back to the plains, and wish him and our team every success.



This year has been an eventful one for our Auburn Band. Under the direction of Dr. Rick Good, the Symphonic Band performed Carmen at the Alabama All-State Band Festival. Drs. Corey Spurlin and Doug Rosener lead the 380 member Auburn marching band in splendid performances during football season.

In addition, the Auburn marching band was selected as one of only eight bands in the country to compete in the ESPN/ Paramount Pictures contest promoting the DVD release of Indiana Jones and the Quest for the Crystal Skull movie. The Symphonic Winds group is planning its first ever International trip in 2010.

The outstanding leadership of Drs. Good, Spurlin and Rosener, and the hard work of the student musicians have made us all immensely proud of the continuation of the tradition of excellence of the Auburn Band.

I hope everyone is making plans to attend the Auburn Alumni Band's 23rd Annual Reunion to be held at the Homecoming game against Furman University on November 7.

This year with Homecoming being in early November, the weather should be ideal with cool fall temperatures. The reunion is a wonderful opportunity to see visit our beloved Auburn, see old friends, relive the days of our youth and generally just have a great time. It is amazing how even after 30 years, when I am surrounded by my Auburn band family, and our band strikes up WAR EAGLE, I feel like I am 18 years old again.

As time marches quickly by, our memories, and the friendships we have made become ever more valuable. Come relive old memories, and make new ones with us!

Even if you can not make it to the reunion, I would encourage everyone to maintain their membership in the Alumni Band Association. Your dues help support our current Auburn band with much needed scholarship funds. These scholarships help the Auburn band attract the best student musicians in the country, and provide opportunities to deserving students that might otherwise not be able to participate in our Auburn Band.

See you at the reunion! All the Best, and Glory to 'Ol Auburn!

**Ben Morris '81, President**

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## Message from the Director of Bands

As Director of the Auburn University Bands since 2007 and as Director of the Marching Band from 1995 to 2007, I have the pleasure to work with students from a diverse group of academic majors across campus.

While several are majoring in music, this is not a requirement to be a member. In fact, the vast majority are not music majors. The professional commitment of these students and their willingness to practice long hours to achieve perfection is inspirational.

We are excited to announce that the **Twenty-third Auburn Alumni Band Reunion** will be held on Homecoming, **Saturday, November 7th**, for Auburn vs. Furman. Mark your calendar and make those hotel reservations NOW! This year the AUMB is the largest student band in the history of the Auburn University Bands, and they are challenging all band alumni to have the largest Alumni Band as well!

The question is: CAN YOU HANDLE THE CHALLENGE, OR ARE YOU TOO OLD?

A special treat this year if you are able to come to campus earlier is the *Sounds of Auburn* concert that features the bands and choirs of the AU Music Department. This year will mark the 9th Annual *Sounds of Auburn* concert to be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 5th, 2009 in the Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum located on the Auburn University campus. If you have never attended this concert, you are missing quite an exciting night of entertainment. This has historically been the highest attended concert that the Music Department holds all year, and this year will be no exception!

For the past five years, The Auburn University Band program has seen an incredible growth of over twenty-five percent. Would you believe that 398 students registered and reported to band camp? The camp, open to any student who registered for the class, involved both a playing audition and a marching evaluation before the members were selected. At the conclusion of band camp our staff selected 380 members to be the 2009-10 Auburn University Marching Band, the largest ever!

This year's marching band will be performing six different half-time shows, as well as Pregame! We are excited with this year's home football schedule: including Mississippi State, Ole Miss, and Alabama. The AUMB will travel to Knoxville, TN and Athens, GA, and pep bands will be at the LSU and Arkansas games.



Rick Good  
Director of Bands

In February 2009, we hosted a very successful High School Symphonic Honor Band Festival that brought 250 high school instrumentalists to campus, and we look forward to doing it again this year. In addition, we will be adding a Junior High/Middle School Band Festival as well! In April 2009, the Symphonic Winds performed their program, *Carmen*, at the All-State Band Host Concert with great success! Professional recordings of this splendid performance are available through the band office. Also, this summer the Auburn University Bands hosted several successful summer band camps.

The Auburn University Band Department has four new Graduate Assistants: Jamie Bowman (University of Alabama), Taylor Keeton (Auburn University), Chris Hall (Troy University), Will Waggoner (University of North Alabama), as well as taking on Steven Clontz (Auburn University), as our Technology Assistant.

We have had several occasions over the last year or so to showcase Auburn talent. Our Marching Band was selected as one of only eight in the country to compete in the ESPN/Paramount Pictures Battle of Bands last year. By the way, the Auburn Band was the only college band chosen from the state of Alabama, War Eagle! Prior to that, the Band was invited to march in the St. Patrick's Day parades in Dublin and Limerick, Ireland. Our students represented the University so well that they brought home three trophies from this experience: Best Musical Performance; Most Entertaining; and the Best Overall Band. The significance of these performance opportunities speaks very highly of the caliber of our Auburn students, not only on a national level but internationally as well!

We look forward to hosting you at this year's Alumni Band Reunion. WAR EAGLE!

-Rick



The 2008 AUMB performing their Ireland-themed halftime show program for the Sounds of Auburn concert.

## The Auburn Bands Remembers: Tommy Goff (1933-2008)

Alabama Music Hall of Famer and Auburn University Alum Tommy Goff passed away last year in September. Tommy earned his undergraduate degree from Auburn in 1958 and his master's degree in 1962.



Tommy served as the Auburn High School band director from 1958 until his retirement in 1989. Under his direction, the Auburn High School Band and Jazz Band earned numerous Superior ratings at district, state, regional, and national contests. The band was selected to perform at the Southern Music Educators National Conference Convention in Atlanta, Georgia in 1977 and performed at the Southeastern United States Band Clinic at Troy State University in 1977.

The Auburn University Bands is proud to be able to claim Tommy Goff as our alum, and he will be missed.



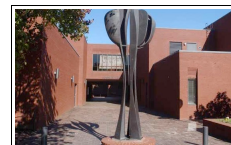
## Coming to the Alumni Band Reunion?

We look forward to having you! Along with this newsletter is a registration form for you to fill out and send in, so we'll know to expect you. Let us know as soon as you can, so we can make all the necessary preparations to ensure that our 23<sup>rd</sup> Alumni Band Reunion will be the best we've ever had!

If you have never been a participant in our Alumni Band Reunion, this is the year to join us! The Auburn University Marching Band is bigger than ever, and we're challenging you all to make this year's Alumni Band the biggest yet as well. Whether you graduated in 1959 or 2009, we hope you will come on down to join us on November 5<sup>th</sup>!

## New Music Building Fund

The Auburn Band has practiced in Goodwin Hall since 1974 and has since nearly doubled in size. Matter of fact, the past five years alone the band has experienced a twenty-five percent growth in membership! Only a small number of our students receive any scholarship support and most of the scholarships we award are for less than \$1,000 annually. Because of the band's growth, Auburn University is in the beginning stages of plans for a new Band Hall and adjoining practice field to be located off Samford Avenue on the west side of campus. A fundraising campaign is under way to fund the project, which is estimated to cost \$15 million.



These additions would allow us to provide an indoor practice facility with adequate space and a safe environment for the students during inclement weather.

When you support Auburn, you help put talented students on center stage from Jordan Hare Stadium to Ireland, where they bring recognition and honor to the university through their performances and showmanship.

Please visit <http://www.auburn.edu/auband/giving> for more details!



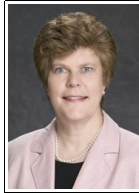
*The current, crowded band hall in Goodwin Music Building.*



*Planned location for the new \$15M music building.*

## New Music Department Chair

The Auburn University Bands is proud to welcome Dr. Sara Lynn Baird as our new Chair of the Auburn University Music Department. Dr. Baird will be honored as a part of our halftime show on September 19, for the West Virginia game.



Welcome to Auburn Dr. Baird, and WAR EAGLE!

## Alumni Band Reunion Contact Info

Your first stop for information on any Auburn Bands event is of course our website, which can be found at <http://www.auburn.edu/auband/>! On our site, you can find a calendar of events, descriptions of all our ensembles, a photo gallery, and regular news updates on our band program, including the Auburn University Alumni Band.

You are also free to email us at [band@auburn.edu](mailto:band@auburn.edu) or to call the band office at (334) 844-4166 if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

**Auxiliary members:** If you'd like to get in touch with our Auxiliary staff, you can contact our Tiger Eyes Coordinator, Kristina Cammack, at (334) 590-6013 or via email at [kristina.cammack@gmail.com](mailto:kristina.cammack@gmail.com). For contact information for individual line coordinators, visit our website at <http://www.auburn.edu/auband/teinstructors/>!

**Drumline members:** If you need drum line equipment, please check with your local high school band to see if you can borrow what you need. If you cannot borrow equipment from the high school, contact Dr. Doug Rosener, Assistant Director of Bands and Percussion Instructor, and request to use an AU instrument. You can contact Doug at (334) 844-4166 or via email at [rosendb@auburn.edu](mailto:rosendb@auburn.edu).



*Director of Bands Emeritus Dr. Johnnie Vinson*

## Alumni Band Board of Directors

### President

Ben Morris '81  
11065 Alpharetta Hwy  
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404-863-3831  
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### Past President

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### Secretary/Treasurer

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### Board Members

Neal Brumbeloe  
Davis Cooper  
Becky Rowe  
Clyde Morris  
Owen Bailey  
Steve Fleming  
Sara Cothran  
Jeff Burnside  
Dell Paradise  
Kim King  
Ward Miller  
Johnnie Vinson

## AUMB Decorative Pillows

Want to own a piece of Auburn Band history? We still have a few AUMB Uniform pillows for sale! For pricing and an order form, visit our website at <http://www.auburn.edu/auband/> and scroll down to the bottom of the page for details!



# *Auburn University Alumni Band, Inc.*

P.O. Box 1155  
Auburn, Alabama 36831-1155

August, 2009

Dear Band Alumni,

Plans are now being finalized for our 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Alumni Band Reunion. This is your invitation to join us and take part in this event.

**DATE:** Saturday, November 7, 2009  
(Auburn vs. Furman)

**PERFORMANCE:** The Alumni Band will march into the stadium and around the field, play in the stands, and perform on the field with the student band as part of the half-time show.

**SCHEDULE:**

**Thursday, November 5**

7:30 – 9:00 p.m. “**SOUNDS OF AUBURN**” (AU Coliseum).

**Saturday, November 7**

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Registration, coffee/juice and doughnuts at the Band Hall, Goodwin Music Building. Pick up membership cards, football and lunch tickets.

7:45 a.m. Alumni Band Board of Directors meeting (Recital Hall).

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Music rehearsal and business meeting (Band Hall).

9:45 – 10:45 a.m. Marching rehearsal with the A.U. student band (Hinton Field, on Davis Drive across from Terrell Dining Hall).

11:00 a.m. Quick lunch at Terrell Dining Hall. Cost of the meal is \$8.00 per person. Family members and guests are welcome. Lunch orders must be placed in advance on the enclosed form by Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

12:01 p.m. Warm up and line up outside stadium, march in.

1:30 p.m. Kick off. Auburn vs. Furman.

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Post-game social gathering for A.U. Alumni Band and friends. Goodwin Music Hall Breezeway!

(over)

**UNIFORMS:** Navy blue pants or skirt and white shirt or blouse. (Navy blue shorts are also OK if you prefer, depending on the weather.) White shoes and white socks (tennis or athletic shoes are fine). Hats and sunglasses are strongly recommended.

**TICKETS:** Admission to the Furman game is available to performing Alumni Band members at no cost other than your membership dues. Tickets for family members are available at the regular price of \$35.00. Tickets will not be mailed but can be picked up at the Band Hall when you arrive on the morning of the game. Tickets may also be ordered directly from the Athletic Department Ticket Office and mailed to your home. (These tickets will not be in the Alumni Band seating area.)

**INSTRUMENTS:** If you don't have an instrument, you might consider borrowing one from your local high school. The student band has a few extra percussion instruments that can be reserved by contacting Doug Rosener, Associate Director of Bands, at (334) 844-3160 no later than Friday, October 16th. This year we have **NO sousaphones** that are available for use by Alumni Band members, SORRY, but we sold them all last year!

**MUSIC:** Music will be posted on the Auburn Band website for you to download and practice by Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Last year, our 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Alumni Band Reunion was a great success. Let's make our *Twenty-third* this year even better! Be sure to read the enclosed newsletter that contains additional details about the reunion as well as news concerning the current A.U. Bands.

Please return the registration form to let us know that you will participate. Be sure to enclose a check for your dues and tickets (if needed). There is also a space to let us know you will attend the Saturday night social gathering.

The primary key to our success in this endeavor is your participation. We sincerely hope that you can be with us to play and march again this year. We look forward to seeing you in Auburn on November 7<sup>th</sup>!

***War Eagle!***

*The Planning Committee*

# 23rd ANNUAL AUBURN ALUMNI BAND REUNION

## Registration/Order Form

\_\_\_\_\_ YES! I (we) plan to participate in the Twenty-third Annual Alumni Band Reunion.

\_\_\_\_\_ NO, I (we) can't attend this year, but my Alumni Band Dues are enclosed.

Please complete this form and return it along with a check for your dues and football tickets (if needed) to:

**AUBURN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI BAND**  
**P.O. BOX 1155**  
**AUBURN, AL 36831-1155**

**NOTE:** Deadline for lunch orders and football ticket orders is **Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**.

(Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Years in the Auburn Band: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_ Part preferred: \_\_\_\_\_

**Alumni Band music will be available to download on the Auburn Band website by Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

### Order Form:

\_\_\_\_\_ Dues \$15.00 individual (\$25.00 married couple, both Band Alumni). \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(In order to participate at the game, you must pay Alumni Band dues!)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Class of 2009* membership dues **FREE** (first year only).

\_\_\_\_\_ Tax-deductible contribution to the Auburn University Alumni Band \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(The Alumni Band holds 501c.3 tax-exempt status with the IRS.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Football tickets for family @ \$35.00 each. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Tickets will not be mailed. They can be picked up at the Band Hall on the morning of the game.

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday lunches @ \$8.00 each. Menu will include: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Turkey w/Swiss sandwich on a sub roll, chips,  
cookie, apple and canned soft drink.

\_\_\_\_\_ I (we) plan to attend the Saturday night social gathering. Donations \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
will be accepted to help defray the cost of the refreshments.

*TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Auburn University Alumni Band**