



WALTON BAND NOTES



Summer 2011

Mandatory Pre-Camp Meeting Thursday, July 21st, 7pm

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

On behalf of all of the families of the Walton Band, we would like to offer a warm welcome to all of our rookie students and their families! And to our veteran students and families, welcome back! Our directors have another fantastic marching show planned, there are ten football games and three contests on the calendar, as well as a very special once in a lifetime trip to Hawaii . . . sounds like another exciting year in the Walton Band program! Band Camp at Walton begins on Monday, Band Camp at LaGrange is only a week away, and just like that, the 2011-2012 marching season will be in full swing!

Our students are extremely fortunate to be part of Walton's nationally recognized music program, one of the finest band programs in the country. For those new to the program, the Walton High School Marching Band was awarded the 2009 John Philip Sousa Foundation Sudler Shield, an international award recognizing high school marching bands of "world class excellence." On the concert band side, our Symphonic I Band performed at the 2011 Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference in Savannah, Georgia in January. The bar is always set high for our students, and they never disappoint us! Thank you to **Mr. Mike Back**, Band Director, and **Mr. Jeff Pollock**, Associate Band Director, for keeping that bar set high, and for all the hard work that goes into continuing to offer our students these opportunities.

With a total operating budget in excess of \$200K, and only approximately 10% of that coming from the county, we hope you understand how vitally important our fundraising efforts are. The various fundraisers held throughout the year bridge the gap between our general operating budget needs and amounts raised through student fees. Many of these fundraisers are a great opportunity to earn credit for your student's account, but all of them are critical to the success of our program. Please be sure you join us in as many of these as possible; by volunteering, by participating, and by encouraging your student.

To our Rookie Parents (and students), we know that getting started can be a very overwhelming experience with all the information, calendars, and paperwork that's involved. We will be offering a Rookie Orientation Meeting in August that will allow you the opportunity to ask any questions you may

have. In the meantime, please feel free to contact any of the band parents identified within this newsletter. Everyone is willing to help!

New this year, all members of the marching band will be required to wear a black t-shirt under their bibbers (marching pants)! Please be sure to purchase a plain (no pockets, no writing or pictures) solid black t-shirt or a black Walton Band poly-dri shirt available through Walton Band SpiritWear. Whether your student is a rookie or a veteran, please be sure they have a black shirt and are ready for their new look!

We are excited about another outstanding Walton Band year full of life-changing experiences for all of our students, and we look forward to sharing it with all of you! Our directors have another incredible show planned for the marching band, so let's get started!

Your Band Presidents,

Ken and Kathy Stamm
thestammfam@aol.com
(770) 565-2430

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW COLOR GUARD DIRECTOR!

Hello Walton Band and Color Guard Families,

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as Pepe Ochoa, the new Color Guard Director for Walton High School. In recent weeks, the Color Guard experienced an excellent turnout for auditions and has been rehearsing very well twice a week since the beginning of June. These rehearsals will continue for the duration of the summer.

It looks to be a very promising year and I can't wait for the season ahead!

Looking forward to meeting you all!

Pepe Ochoa
Walton High School Color Guard Director

NEWS FROM THE BAND REPRESENTATIVES

2011-2012 STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Congratulations to our new student leaders! After a leadership training process held over the spring months, these new leaders were announced at the Band Banquet on May 13.

Drum Majors: **Jonathan Ebhogiaye, Michael Foo, Hannah Single, Carolyn Weihsmann**

President: **Esther Kim**

Secretary/Treasurer: **Torey Edwards**

Flute Leaders: **Kayla de Armas, Esther Kim, Dani Moase**

Clarinet Leaders: **Zack Croy, Janette di Monda, Torey Edwards**

Alto Saxophone Leaders: **Tom Layman, Chris Rockwell, Matt Sheahan**

Low Reed Leader: **Zack Davidson**

Trumpet Leaders: **Matt Kavney, Harper Morris, Patrick Weiland**

Mellophone Leaders: **Dixon Pendergrass and Kellie Stamm**

Trombone Leaders: **Christy McDougall and Kishan Patel**

Baritone Leaders: **Shannon Consolo and Anna Friday**

Sousaphone Leader: **Jess Edwards**

Percussion Leaders: **Lauren Floyd, Gabe Golan, Megan Goldston, Connor Kitchings**

Guard Leaders: **Rachel Cooper and Dagny Holcomb**

CONGRATULATIONS 2011 AWARD RECIPIENTS!

Band Awards

President: **Yuv Malhotra**

Band Secretary: **Kristen Bostater**

Class Secretaries: **Dagny Holcomb, Ali Schoen, Caroline Hollar**

Rookie of the Year: **Kelly Huban**

Outstanding Marching Member: **Jacob West**

Leadership Award: **Will Brani, Megan Lindsay**

Outstanding Musician: **Scott Park, Kevin Chiou**

Outstanding Band Member: **Geana Gault**

Fall Guard Awards

First Year Member: **Annika Carter**

Most Improved: **Mickie Elliot**

Outstanding Performer: **Rachel Cooper**

Leadership: **Stacy Politykina**

Winter Guard Awards

First Year Member: **Natalie Whitcomb**

Most Improved: **Meg Kiely**

Outstanding Performer: **Madison Gibbs**

Outstanding Guard Member: **Stacy Politykina**

Scholarships

Burnowski/Brennan: **Claire Alexander, Dayle Alexander**

Robert J Cowles: **Will Brani, Geana Gault**

MARCHING BAND REHEARSALS

Band Camp at Walton will be held Monday, July 18 through Friday*, July 22 from 8am until 4pm. (*Please note that Friday's rehearsal will end at noon.) Attendance is required for all students. Students should arrive at school each morning in time to begin rehearsal promptly at 8am. It is **CRITICAL** that your students eat a healthy breakfast and apply sunscreen **BEFORE** arriving each day. **Each student should also bring a water bottle labeled with their name and section.** Students are outdoors for much of the day and hydration is a **MUST!** We will have water on hand to refill the students' bottles as needed. Students will also have a break for lunch each day for approximately one hour. Students are free to leave campus for lunch or they may bring their lunches and remain at Walton.

Band Camp at La Grange begins on Sunday, July 24 and continues through Saturday, July 30, ending with a preview performance that morning. Stay tuned for important details from the Camp Directors!

Post-Camp The band will also rehearse at Walton on Tuesday, August 2, Thursday, August 4, Tuesday August 9, and Thursday, August 11, from 6pm until 9pm. Please refer to your fall marching band calendar for the schedule of rehearsals once school begins. Note that the first Saturday rehearsal occurs on August 27. Attendance is required at all rehearsals-be sure to mark your calendars!

District 12 JAZZ FESTIVAL April 29

The Jazz Festival would not have run as smoothly as it did without the help of our generous volunteers! **Janet Taylor** chaired the event again this year. Thank you, **Janet!!** And a big thank you to **Flynn Larsen** and **David Keith** for giving up an entire day to help set the stage for each performance, to **Cathy Gross** for filling in everywhere all day and to **Jay Patel, Lisa Meredith, Mary Ann Layman, Jean Marie Schiraldi, Kitty Kepner, Nancy Lui, Mary Fitzgerald, Deborah Bales, Sean Rosenberger, Dave Brani, Susan Fulkerson** and **Ivy Foo** for their help throughout the day working the concession stand, guiding bands, and delivering Chick-Fil-A sandwiches. We extend a special thanks to **DeLise McCorkle** for once again providing a delicious homemade luncheon for the directors and adjudicators.

Database Information

Be sure to keep us informed of any changes in your contact information throughout the year and especially during the summer. We don't want anyone to miss important band information disseminated through the e-newsletter and the e-Blast.

Band Rep News continued

Want to get more involved?

We are looking for a parent or two to help with monitoring the parking lot before rehearsals. The Parking Lot Sentries help blockade PRIDE Field (Walton lower parking lot near the stadium) prior to band rehearsals during on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday afternoons and on some Saturdays. Please contact us if you are interested!

Feel free to contact us at anytime to offer your help as a chaperone or committee volunteer. If you are new to the program, you will quickly see that there are MANY volunteer roles the band booster group helps to fill! It is a fun way to get a close up view of the band in action!

Your Band Representatives,
Tom and Yvonne Single
heeby@bellsouth.net

FUNDRAISING NEWS...

Participation in the Walton Band fundraising efforts is vital to the success of our award winning program. The Walton Band offers a very large, comprehensive band program that provides many opportunities for our kids. Cobb County provides funds for a small portion of the total expense, and the Band Boosters coordinate fundraising efforts to supplement these funds. The Band Directors prioritize needs such as performance expenses, instrument purchases, instrument repairs, sheet music, copyright fees, uniforms, and operating costs of the trucks, just to name a few. Please support our fundraising efforts by volunteering for one or more of them. It is a great way to get involved and chances are you'll develop a few friendships along the way! Our fall fundraisers are summarized below.

Season Football Tickets

Come sit with other Walton Band parents in Raider Valley right next to the band! Order forms were included in the band camp packets that were mailed to your home. The August 4th date to claim your reserved seats from last year is fast approaching. After August 4th, seating requests will be honored in order of the date the ticket order form is received. Thank you to **Ann and Tim Willingham** for coordinating the football tickets. They can be reached at (770) 973-8698 with any questions.

Band Football Dinner

Mark your calendars for Friday, September 16th! Our annual football dinner will be held that evening from 5-7 pm in the Commons at Walton High School. This year's dinner will be a catered BBQ dinner and will include your choice of pulled pork

or pulled chicken served with bun, coleslaw, baked beans, cookie and a drink. The cost will be \$8 per person, but if you purchase season football tickets, your dinner is included in the package price. Look for an informational flyer/reservation form in an upcoming eblast message. Thank you to **Peg Weihsmann** and **Jenny Seitter** for heading up this event. Peg can be reached at (770) 565-0538 with any questions.

Pictures

The date for the Walton Marching Raider Band group and individual pictures is Saturday, August 20th. These pictures make a wonderful keepsake. The full band picture that is submitted to the yearbook will be taken at 9:00 am. Leader and sectional group pictures will be taken immediately after the full band picture and individual pictures will follow all group pictures. Thank you to **Julie Edwards** for coordinating our band pictures again this year. If you have questions, Julie can be reached at (770) 565-8127.

50/50 Raffles

The Walton Band will conduct 50/50 raffles at our home games this fall. The tickets are sold before the game and during the first half of the game. One winning raffle ticket will be drawn during the third quarter with 50% of the cash collected going to the winner, and the other 50% going to the Walton Band! Look for the band parents in the black and white striped shirts selling tickets.

Rock-a-Thon

We always kick off the new school year with our largest fundraiser of the fall! Rock-a-Thon begins Thursday, July 21st, so get on your mark, get set, GO! Rock-a-Thon information packets will be ready to be picked up at the mandatory meeting. Rock-a-Thon is the best opportunity to earn credit for your student's account while promoting and supporting our band program. Thank you to **Susan Corley** for chairing this event. Susan's contact information is (770) 955-1421.

Recycling

We recycle printer cartridges, PDA's, old laptops, and cell phones. Boxes for these items are located in the band room (to the right of the tall blue cabinets) and in the Walton front office. We also recycle newspaper/junk mail and aluminum cans. The receptacles for these are located at the rear of the school near the baseball field. The band received over \$700 for recycling your throw away items last year. If you are interested in chairing this fundraiser, please call Pat Consolo at (770) 265-7880. This is a minimal investment of time and you can pick your own hours!

Fundraising News continued . . .

Scrip Gift Card Program

Scrip Is Fundraising While You Shop®. The Scrip program allows Walton Band families and friends to purchase gift cards to use for everyday expenses like food, clothing, gas, and entertainment while earning a percentage of each dollar back in revenue to the band program and student accounts. The cash rebates for retailers range from 2% to 50%. The best part is that 90% of the rebate value goes to your student's account and the remaining 10% of the rebate goes to the band general fund. Orders will be taken at the mandatory meeting, and then weekly orders and sales will begin in August.

Order forms are available on the band website at www.waltonband.org. Thank you to **Diane Giordano and Janet Taylor** for chairing this program again this year. This fabulous duo sold over \$250K in gift cards last year, earning rebates worth over \$14K! Of that \$14K, almost \$13K was distributed to student accounts! Diane can be reached at (770)641-9786 with any questions about the gift card program.

SpiritWear

Show your support for the Walton Band by wearing Walton blue! The Walton Band will offer a variety of high quality t-shirts, poly-dry polo shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, pajama pants, garment bags and other Walton Band logo items that appeal to students and parents. Many of the items may be personalized with embroidery (this is certainly a plus when looking for a garment bag in a sea of 200 garment bags). SpiritWear will be sold at monthly Monday parent meetings. Thank you to **Jean Marie Schiraldi** for co-chairing SpiritWear. We currently need a second co-chair to help Jean Marie so please contact Pat Consolo at (770) 265-7880 if you can lend a hand.

WFFF - Walton Family Feeding Frenzy

Anyone who eats dinner can support the Walton Band with this monthly fundraiser! Join your family, friends, and other Walton Band students and parents for dinner at a selected restaurant. Order from the menu, eat in or take out, and present your Walton Family Feeding Frenzy flyer with your payment. How easy is that? The restaurant will then rebate a percentage of the daily proceeds back to the band. Look for flyers attached to the weekly e-blasts for details. If you are a foodie and interested in coordinating this fundraiser, please contact Pat Consolo at (770) 265-7880.

Your Co-Financial Vice Presidents,

Pat and Tony Consolo

pat.consolo@lmco.com

tony.l.consolo@lmco.com

770-594-9676 (Home)

770-265-7880 (Pat)

404-444-7671 (Tony)

Susan and Bob Corley

sakcorley@gmail.com

racorley@gmail.com

770-955-1421 (Home)

614-378-2071 (Susan)

614-572-5703 (Bob)

ADMINISTRATIVE BAND NEWS

The Band Awards Banquet in May certainly was a wonderful way for all of us to celebrate the conclusion of another great year for our band program! A special thank you once again to the 2011 Banquet Committee of **Sue Rogers, Pat Consolo, Heidi Lipman** and **Cathy Gross** for the many hours they worked to insure that we all had a most enjoyable evening.

Band Camp 2011 is almost here!

The camp directors and chaperones are busy putting the final touches on what promises to be another great band camp! Please look elsewhere in this newsletter for additional important information.

Band Camp Idol Competition

The drama will unfold later this month! Who will be chosen as Walton High School's *2011 Band Camp Idol*? Be at Band Camp in LaGrange to find out! The winning performance will earn a \$100 cash prize! Last year's show was fantastic, and this year's competition promises to be even more exciting! Students should contact Mr. Abrams (770) 649-8372 or alanrabrams@mindspring.com if they are interested in being a contestant.

Uniform Fittings

We need several parent volunteers during the week of Band Camp at Walton to help out with marching band uniform fittings on **Monday, July 18th, Tuesday July 19th, and Wednesday July, 20th**, each day between 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. If you are available to help out during any of these time slots, please contact **Lara Rodgers** at (770) 380-6878 or squeakrogers@bellsouth.net.

Important Dates

July 18-22	Band Camp at Walton
July 18,19,20	Uniform Fittings (4:30-6:30pm)
July 21	Mandatory Pre-Camp Meeting
July 21	Rock-A-Thon
	Fundraiser Begins!
July 24 – 31	Band Camp at LaGrange
Aug 2,4	Full Band Rehearsal, 6-9 pm
August 4	Last day to Renew
	Football Season Tickets
Aug 9, 11	Full Band Rehearsal. 6-9 pm
August 20	Band Picture Day
September 16	Football Dinner

Volunteers!



Calling all Volunteers

Attention parents! The band's continuing success depends not only on our wonderful students and directors, but also on the enthusiasm of our parents and YOUR involvement. There are numerous available volunteer opportunities in our band program and we need your help! A volunteer sign-up form was included in the packets sent recently to all band and color guard students. Please review the form and don't be shy – no experience is needed for most of the volunteer opportunities. You will find the time you give to our program will be very rewarding, and you just might make some new friends, too! Please contact us if you are interested in chairing or serving on a committee, or if you just want to discuss the possibilities.

Hope you are having a great summer!

Your Co-Administrative VP's,

Alan and Margaret Abrams

(770) 649-8372

alanabrams@mindspring.com

mlabrams@mindspring.com

COLOR GUARD CORNER....

The Guard season is off to a great start with our new director, Pepe Ochoa! The girls have been practicing very hard since the first of June. We're all looking forward to a great season.

Thanks to all the parents who have offered to help this fall. We're looking forward to working with the returning families and getting to know the new ones as well!

Your Color Guard Representatives,

Lisa Cooper

lrcoper@gmail.com

(678) 523-4086

Trisha Moseley

trishmoseley@att.net

(678) 520-5108

LaGrange College BAND CAMP 2011 NEWS!

It's almost here! Our annual week of Band Camp at LaGrange College is just days away!

By now, you should have received your student's marching band **summer packet**, which contains important information about band camp and the upcoming marching season. *(Contact one of the Camp Directors A.S.A.P. if you have not received this packet!)*

Please be sure to attend the **Mandatory Meeting for Parents and Students** on **Thursday, July 21 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Walton Theater. Doors will open at 6:30 to allow you plenty of time to turn in forms, make last minute payments, etc.

This meeting will be your final opportunity to turn in the necessary permission forms/insurance card copy and to pay any outstanding fees in order for your student to attend camp. The band camp chaperones will be formally introduced and will be available to answer your questions about camp. ***Donations of bottled water and individually pre-wrapped snacks will be gratefully accepted at this meeting!***

Band camp **check-in at La Grange College** will take place on **Sunday, July 24**. In order to minimize everyone's waiting time, **check-in times are staggered**, based on the student's last name: A-H = 12:00 noon; I-Q = 1:00 p.m.; R-Z = 2:00 p.m. **Please be sure that your student eats lunch prior to their arrival at camp!**

It's going to be the best band camp ever – we can't wait!!

Your Band Camp 2011 Co-Directors,

Michele & Dean Morris

Dean: 770.331.2635

Michele: 770.595.0703

mich2000@bellsouth.net

Gloria & Mike Frey

Mike: 404.372.2161

Gloria: 404.219.2533

gafrey@mindspring.com



Walton Band Hawaii 2011!!

Aloha! Only **128 days** until we take off for Honolulu! We do have a few spots available so if you would like to go, please contact us as soon as possible. The 7th payment (combined trip and Band Fees) was due on July 15 (\$360). Payments can be returned to the Band Box or mailed to: **Pat Consolo, 4811 Fernie Court, Marietta, GA 30068**. If you wish to make a payment using your credit card, you may use Google Checkout through the link on the Walton Band website. The password is PRIDE.

Parent Pride Trip

Karen and Tim Huban are coordinating the friends and family trip (aka Parent Pride Trip). For more information, please contact the Hubans at khuban@bellsouth.net. Initial sign up for this trip has already occurred so please contact them immediately if you are interested in participating.

Coca-Cola Fundraiser

Phil and Sandy Mikul conducted a Coca-Cola Product Sale during the first two weeks of May to help students build student account funds. The sale was open to all students, those going on the Hawaii Trip **and** those hoping to build funds for general Band Fees. Almost \$600 was credited to Student Accounts. Thank you, **Phil and Sandy!**

Tentative Trip Itinerary

Leave Atlanta on Monday, November 21, and depart Honolulu on Sunday, November 27, 2011. The estimated trip cost is \$2,700 per student and includes round-trip airfare, lodging (at the beautiful Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort in Waikiki!), all local transportation, activities and most meals. The itinerary will include a tour of Pearl Harbor, a tribute performance by the Walton Band at the USS Battleship Missouri, participation in the Waikiki Holiday Parade down Kalakaua Avenue, and numerous activities for the students including the Dole Pineapple Plantation, the Polynesian Cultural Center, a hike up Diamond Head, and lots of beach fun.

Stay tuned! Roommate, flight and bus signups for the trip will take place after we return to school in August.

Thanks for your attention!

Your Hawaii 2011 Trip Directors,
Tom and Yvonne Single
(770) 587-5791
heeby@bellsouth.net

ATTENTION PARENTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS!

Don't miss the first performance of the season Saturday, July 30th at 11 am at the Troup County Stadium in LaGrange! Our students will be spending the week learning music and marching drill for their fall show, and this end-of-camp performance will be your very first opportunity to see the 2011 Walton HS Marching Raider Band in action!

Help Wanted:
Newsletter Formatting Editor!

If you are comfortable with Microsoft Word, and are interested in helping out the band for a few hours a month, then we would make a perfect pair! We need a wonderful band parent to take over this position right away.

Please send me an email and let me know if this sounds like something you may have an interest in.

Thank you,

Kathy Stamm
thestammfam@aol.com