

The Herald

Pitt Band Alumni Council Newsletter

**Fall
2009**

Alumni Band Day 2009—Oct 10: Pitt vs. UConn

Greetings all Pitt Band Alumni,

We're approaching Summer and with that comes the anticipation of the upcoming football season. And along with that comes Alumni Band Day! Alumni Band Day is tentatively scheduled for October 10th.

We're looking forward to another year of dusting off the instruments and showing off our musical and marching skills, as well as the pre-game tailgate. We're confident that we'll have an even larger group this year than last.

Watch your email and check www.pbac.net for updates and details (as well as a registration form) as we get closer to the Fall season. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, concerns or comments at pbac.events@gmail.com.

Hail to Pitt!

Byron Fruit
Events Committee Chair
ENGR 06



The Pitt Band's Panther:

In 2008, the Student Government Board bought 10 panther statues that would be decorated by different student organizations. The Pitt Band was one of 26 applicants, and was awarded a statue. With the help of the Pitt Band's Greek organizations they painted the statue, which today represents the Pitt Band in the lobby of the Petersen Event Center.

The problem is that every year we need to reapply to keep the statue, and there is no guarantee that we will continue to keep it. For this reason, we would like to raise money to buy the panther statue from SGB, at a cost of \$4000. This will allow them to replace our statue so that we can keep ours. We need to raise the full amount by the end of 2009, and would appreciate donations. We will include the names of donors who give more than \$100 on a plaque to be attached to the base of the statue. Anything raised after the initial \$4000 will go to the PBAC scholarship. Please make checks payable to PBAC, include a note saying that it is for the statue, and send them to:

Pitt Band Alumni Council

P.O. Box 7273
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Hail to Pitt!
Kevin Miraglia
PBAC Communications Chair
CAS '07

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Things to remember:

- Register for Alumni Band Day!
- If you know someone did not receive this newsletter, share it with them!
- Join the PAA
www.alumni.pitt.edu/
- Check the website for updates:
www.pbac.net

2009 Scholarship Donors:

Clay Beringer
 Frank Bondarenka
 Ronald Book,
 in memory of
 Ruth Snyder
 Dan Boyd
 David Buchek
 John Crone
 Brian Dahm
 Andy Deao
 Thomas Eyles
 J. Roger Glunt
 Byron (Zorch) Har-
 ringer
 Clayton Hartman
 Kristen Karbon,
 in memory of
 Charles R.
 Matthews
 ('61)
 John Kolicius
 Ron Macosko
 Jessica Megliss
 Russ Myer
 James Provenzano
 Stan Roman,
 in memory of
 Ruth Snyder
 Valez Secarea
 David Shaner
 William Shank
 Marsha Soffer,
 in memory of
 Ruth Snyder
 Herb Soltman
 Randy Stadtfeld
 Joe Stemm
 Hank Swank
 Beatrice Swogger,
 in memory of
 Ruth Snyder
 Bill and
 Karen Turcan

Letter from the Director

Hello everyone! It hardly seems possible that another Pitt football season is just around the corner. With seven home games this year, there will be plenty of opportunity to get to Heinz Field and cheer on your University of Pittsburgh Varsity Marching Band!

This past year the University of Pittsburgh was one of only four universities that had its football team in a bowl game and its men's and women's basketball teams reach the "Sweet Sixteen" round of the NCAA Tournament. That is quite an accomplishment! Because of that success, the Pitt Band was afforded the opportunity to travel with those teams every step of the way. With the nucleus of our students returning and excellent auditions completed, our bands will again represent our University with pride. We'll support our teams with great enthusiasm as we continue to strive for excellence.

I remind you again that you are very important to our success. Strong band alumni support at our football pre-game concerts and tailgate tent party demonstrates that we are an important part of this University and that your undergraduate experience in band continues to be an important part of your life. Concerts start two hours before kickoff outside Gate A of Heinz Field, and the tailgate party is located in the Gold 2 lot near Dorsett Way. You don't have to stay long, just drop in to say hello! In this time of economic stress, visible support at our undergraduate band and alumni band events is so important. I look at the picture from the last game in Pitt Stadium ten years ago and see over three hundred alumni on the field. We can and should do that every year!! That school in Central PA does it, why can't we? Plan now to attend Band Alumni Day this fall.

Along those lines, let me give you another reminder that our 100th birthday will take place in October of 2011. Leading up to that there has been a tremendous response to our DVD sales since the winter newsletter, and we hope that continues. Our archiving of pictures and letters is going well. Thanks to Jennifer Costello for organizing and doing all of the work on these projects.

Thanks also to our band alumni officers and committee heads for all of the important work that they do for us. Without them we would not have an alumni scholarship given every year, a pre-game tailgate party, receptions at our concerts, newsletters, alumni herald trumpets before every home football game and countless other services and projects they do for the band. Get involved, help the Pitt Band Alumni Council make a statement to the University community and collectively let's make this 100th birthday a real celebration!

Have a great summer. I look forward to seeing you at the games and other band events this coming year!

"Hail to Pitt"

Jack

Scholarship

Each year the Pitt Band Alumni Council (PBAC) offers a \$1000/year scholarship to an outstanding Pitt Bandsman or Bandswoman. The PBAC Scholarship Fund is supported by the generation donations of our Band Alumni and Friends. (This scholarship is independent of the scholarships funded by donations to the Department of Athletics and the Office of Institutional Advancement. To all our kind alumni who donate to our band students through those programs, we thank you!)

The initial year of the scholarship is comes from our Fund; the following years are supplied by matching funds from the Pitt Alumni Association and the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid.

(contd. page 5)

2009–2010 PBAC Membership, Merchandise and Event Registration Form
Return this portion to: Pitt Band Alumni Council—P.O. Box 7273, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Name: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Years in Band (e.g., 1950-53, 1992-1994) : _____ Years Graduated and Degree(s): _____

EVENT REGISTRATION

I plan to participate in:

- PBAC rehearsal & social at Trees Hall, Friday night Oct. 10 (optional but recommended) Alumni Band Day on Saturday Oct. 11
- Instrument or Auxiliary Unit _____ I will bring my own instrument I need to borrow an instrument

MEMBERSHIP

- PBAC Dues for 2009-2010 (\$20)\$ _____
(Dues cover Sept. 2009-Sept.2010. Dec 2008 and all 2009 graduates receive their first year membership free! Please write free next to the dollar sign and return this form so we have your current contact information!)

MERCHANDISE

- Alumni Band Shirt (\$25 M-XL, \$25 XXL, \$25 XXXL, \$25 4-5XL)\$ _____
 # shirts ordered _____ size(s) _____
- Alumni Band Hat (\$10 each) # ordered _____\$ _____

OPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Donation to the PBAC Scholarship fund\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED\$ _____

Please make checks payable to "PBAC" and make sure you note in the memo what the check is for!! **Return this registration form to the address above.** If you have any questions please contact Byron Fruit at (412-527-7131) or Katie Coperich at (412-965-4338) or pbac.events@gmail.com. If you know someone who has not received this newsletter, please forward a copy to them. Thanks!

Alumni Band Ticket Form (detach here)

Return by Friday, October 2, 2009 or call 1-800-643-PITT to order by phone

Name: _____
 Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

	Quantity	Price	Total
Friends/Family Tickets		\$15	\$
		Handling	\$5.00
TOTAL			\$

Please make all checks payable to the
"University of Pittsburgh" and send
 payment/registration form to:
 University of Pittsburgh
 Athletic Ticket Office
 P.O. Box 7436
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213-0436
Attn: Alumni Band Day

Please Charge My Credit Card: (Please print Clearly)

Visa MasterCard Discover

Card No. _____

Signature _____

Exp. Date _____

Return this portion of the form to:

Pitt Band Alumni Council
P.O. Box 99431
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Return this portion of the form to:

University of Pittsburgh
Athletic Ticket Office
P.O. Box 7436
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-0436
Attn: Alumni Band Day

Or call Katie McCulloch at (412) 648-8305 and purchase your family and friends tickets with your credit card.

*All orders must be in by **Friday, October 2** to ensure ticket delivery by mail.*

President's Corner

Another year for the books! It's almost time for football season and Alumni Band Day again. I hope that many of you consider coming to Alumni Band Day this year! The executive council has been working very hard to enhance all aspects of Alumni Band Day. Also, I would like to personally invite all of our alumni to stop by the Pitt Band tailgate at all of the home games. The tailgate will be located in Gold Lot #2 where the band starts their March to Victory parade. The tailgate will open 3 hours before kickoff with \$1.00 hotdogs, games and lots of fun! The band will travel to our tailgate after the pregame concert to play before they march into the stadium. We hope to see you there!

CONGRATULATIONS! During the Spring Gala in April, the Pitt Band Alumni Council presented 2 awards. The first award is the Pitt Band Alumnus(s) of Distinction which is given to an individual who has been successful in their career. The second is the Pitt Band Continuous Service Award which is given to an individual who displays outstanding service to the band program beyond their marching years.

We presented the Pitt Band Alumnus of Distinction Award to Aldo Zini

(ENGR '75). Aldo, president and CEO of Pittsburgh-based Aethon, Inc leads the nation's largest healthcare robotic company focused on automating delivery and transportation applications within hospitals. Aethon's core product, the Tug, is the first low-cost autonomous robot that is positioned to change the way hospitals and other industries manage the movement and delivery of goods. Aldo is also the lead trumpet player for the Pitt Alumni Dance Band.

Jen Costello (ENGR '05) was honored with the Pitt Band Continuous Service Award. Jen is a committed member of the Pitt Band staff. She not only works on the game day staff as our videographer but she done amazing work at creating our video archives! She has continued her dedication to the band after graduating and utilizes her talents to catapult the Pitt Band to another level. Her skills have even been showcased at KKY/TBS national conventions where she has taught seminars.

The PBAC congratulates both Aldo and Jen. We applaud your achievements and continued dedication to the Pitt Band.

Hail to Pitt

Katie Coperich (Welsh)



Scholarship (contd.)

The 2008 Pitt Band Scholar was Ana West, a mellophone player from Zelienople, PA, who attended Seneca Valley Senior High School before matriculating at Pitt. Her academic program at Pitt is Applied Developmental Psychology Plus Early Childhood Education and Special Education offered through the School of Education. Upon graduating with her degrees and certifications, she plans on being an elementary school teacher.

Ana, who is also a brother of Kappa Kappa Psi Fraternity, says, "I have enjoyed being in Pitt Band immensely! The whole experience is one I will remember for the rest of my life! Not only is the band devoted to musicianship and discipline, but the atmosphere is one of camaraderie and excitement. Band has really been a great outlet for me; it's a great way to be involved on campus and forces me to schedule my time. Being in the Pitt Band is without a doubt one of the best experiences I have had at Pitt!"

One special memory for her was the Backyard Brawl at WVU her freshman year. "I was lucky enough to go and although the weather was freezing, we kept warm by playing 'Victory'/'Hail' twenty times when we won!"

In addition to the main Scholarship, the PBAC also awards two smaller one-time book scholarships each year. These scholarships are named in honor of Frank E. Bolden, a distinguished Band alumnus. The 2008 awardees were mellophonist Laura Dum and trumpeter Jeremy Anderson.

Thanks again to all our donors and congratulations to our awardees.

Ryan Minster



Pitt Band Alumni Council
P.O. Box 7273
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Katie Coperich

President

Brian Dahm

Vice President

Jason Donovan

Secretary

Carol Nichols

Treasurer

Save the Date:
Alumni Band Day
October 10, 2009

ATTENTION ALUMNI! Pitt Band Archive Sale

Pitt Band Video Archive DVDs are now available to alumni and fans of the Pitt Band. The archives collection consists of over 160 DVDs of past Pitt Band performances from 1937 to the present. The footage has been transferred to DVD from various original formats of media including film, reel to reel tape, and VHS tape. The videos include recordings of past halftimes performances, band trips, bowl games, and concerts. These DVDs are available in exchange for donations to Pitt Band Alumni Council.

For order forms, and a complete list of available DVDs, please visit www.pbac.net. Check often for updates and new additions to the archives collection.

Join the PAA

“Being a member of the Pitt Alumni Association entitles you to many benefits and services that include members-only publications, advanced notice of events, discounts for Alumni sponsored events as well as retail discounts at the Pitt Shop, and Bookstore. You will also have unlimited access to the online community where you can reconnect with classmates, add class notes, and network with other Pitt professionals. The Pitt Career Network is available to [PAA] members as well as learning and travel opportunities.”

Visit <http://www.alumni.pitt.edu/> for more details.