



A Letter from the President

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Save the Dates:

September 12—
Annual Golf Outing

October 23—
Homecoming!

Hey Band!

There is a light at the end of the tunnel and I am happy to say we are planning to have a normal (or as normal as our group can be) Homecoming this year! I don't have details to share yet, as we are still in the planning stages and I know everyone, including Athletics, the Department of Music and Theatre, and the ISUCF'V'MB are moving forward with safety foremost in everyone's minds. But I am optimistic that our rescheduled 40th Reunion will take place this fall, and I ask you to share my optimism.

But before we move forward, a special thanks to those of you who were able to join us via Zoom for last year's homecoming event. It's not a Zoom event without technological difficulties so thank you for your patience and your involvement! For those who were unable to attend, go to page 2 for some special videos that were shared with us.

And now we look forward to the 40^{th*}! Which will forever have an asterisk next to it, to recognize we moved it forward a year. There are several enthusiastic alumni who are working to reunite alumni from specific sections of the band, including our beloved twirlers and our stalwart past Alumni Band presidents. Read on to hear some of these amazing initiatives. How can you get involved? Take a moment to think of some of your fond memories from your years in the band, and the people who were a part of those memories. Then reach out to them and ask them to join us for the 40th! Note, we have two years of celebrating to squeeze into one year.

If you've been craving new merchandise to proudly display your alumni band pride, look no further! We are working on it and we need your help. Specifically, our artistry skills are a little lacking and we need your help with designs. Look to page 3 for more information.

While we look forward to fall, it is never too early to reconnect with your fellow alums. I encourage you, if you have not already done so, to check us out on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). In the meantime if you have any thoughts or suggestions for the Alumni Band Board, feel free to reach out! My email is below, or you can track many of us down through our Facebook page.

All the best,

Kelli

kahuser@gmail.com

Homecoming Goes Virtual

Last year, we held the Friday night social (and Homecoming in general) in the comfort of your own homes! We gathered on October 16 via Zoom to celebrate Iowa State. While it looked a little different, we still had several of the traditions we have come to love and we created a few new ones. The ISUCFVMB (actually) surprised us with Director Christian Carichner bringing us inside their rehearsal, where the band played all of our favorite cheers. Doc gave us a very special welcome and shared special words from past directors. And it's not Homecoming without the raffle, and board members Jay Chapman and Erin Kalkwarf made it happen, red tickets and all.

But we also were able to create some new traditions. Many years at the Friday night event we have



played videos of prior Marching Band shows. This year, we asked what shows held special memories for our members and dug through the archives to bring those shows to you. With the virtual setting, we were able to get some special guest appearances as well, including Jeff Johnson and past directors Matt Smith and Roger Cichy! [Click here for some video highlights!](#)

Technological difficulties aside, it was great to see so many faces and hear from many of you at our virtual event. It certainly will go down in the history books.

Pandemic Proofed Ensemble

The fall of 2020 found us in an unusual position where we faced the headwinds of a global pandemic and the prospect of keeping the band together and "marching forward" into a season of great uncertainty. While every day leading up to the semester felt like an entire month in terms of decision making and planning, one thing continued to stand out: We will need to act quickly with whatever decisions are made.

Securing funds to be able to keep the band safe—once the [science](#) indicated a path forward for the band—was essential to the viability of a 2020 Cyclone Marching Band season. I approached the Alumni Band for help, asking if they had any funds they would be willing to share with us to make the season happen. Of course, the Alumni Band Board not only crunched numbers to secure a "seed" gift to the band, they got the word out to all the alumni that their help was needed. Within 48 hours, we had raised \$20,000 to fund a plethora of PPE for the band. Custom masks for the musicians, bell covers featuring our beloved CY, larger water bottles to eliminate the refill procedure, filtration units for the band storage area, and LOTS of hand sanitizer.

Without that unprecedented level of support, the 2020 CMB may not have ever happened. And while we didn't actually "take the field" at Jack Trice, our presence was felt more than ever. You all truly "kept the music alive" this year, and on behalf of the entire band -- THANK YOU!

So let's do this again sometime.....the quick and huge fundraising, not the pandemic ☺

~Christian Carichner | Marching Band Director

ARTISTS WANTED

Are you creative?

Do you want to support the ISUCFVMB?

We are looking for people to create designs for Alumni Band merchandise.

Please email erin.kalkwarf@gmail.com if you are interested.

Please help us avoid a Microsoft Paint disaster!



This could be the face of the 40th Reunion!*

*Editor's Note: I would absolutely buy this shirt

Attention Twirlers/Majorettes!

Homecoming Alumni Band in 2019 spurred discussions among the six twirlers in attendance to discover the history of twirling at Iowa State University. Since I was the only one “retired” and with time on my hands, I was nominated to take on the task of researching ALL twirlers and/or majorettes that spent time with the Marching Band at ISU.

My research will be attached to the History of the Marching Band page. I spent countless hours scouring ISU Bombs (the ISU yearbook), the ISU Alumni Association, and Facebook in search of names, hometowns, years twirled and pictures. Although not complete, my research has uncovered 45 young ladies dating back to the fall of 1952. The first “identified” twirlers were Barbara Johnson Bragonier, Beverly Leech, Carolee DeRuyter and D. Gail Haiges in 1956.

I have a couple of “missing” years where I can find no record or names of twirlers. If anyone can help with names, hometowns, years twirled and pictures, (or to correct information that I may have wrong), I would love the assistance. I've had the pleasure of visiting with a number of the early pioneers of twirling at ISU and loved their insight into the beginning of twirling's contributions to the marching band.

ISU has been fortunate to have sisters, mothers and daughters and even World Champion twirlers that have graced the field. I would greatly appreciate any and all assistance in completing this research **and would like to invite ALL former twirlers and majorettes to participate in the 40th annual Homecoming Alumni Band on Saturday, October 23 vs. Oklahoma State!**

Sandy (Gorowsky) Huber | Dodge Center, Minnesota | bhuber@kmtel.com

Alumni Spotlight

In honor of our upcoming 40th anniversary, this Alumni Spotlight is Kirk Hartung (Trumpet - '79), co-founder of the ISU Alumni Band. Kirk's time in the Varsity band seems to have been full of exciting trips some older members may have been present for, like the Peach Bowl trip in which they celebrated New Year's twice on a plane, and legends even younger members know about, like the advent of the pregame "Cyclones" and the classic line: "We're the Varsity Band!"

After graduating from Iowa State, Kirk attended the big school in eastern Iowa for law school and saw that they had an alumni band and thought - if they can do it, why not us? While it started as a way to bring friends back to Ames and get a chance to march across the field again, the ISU Alumni Band has far exceeded any expectations the founders had at its conception. Kirk mentioned several points of pride: the fact that people from far and wide come back year after year, the fact that we put on an actual show with actual formations, and, most excitingly, the overwhelming support for the Varsity band: paying it forward, as it were, to ensure that the current band has as good of an experience as we had. (Check out page 2 for information on the fundraising campaign just this last year!)

As for the future, Kirk had nothing but positivity in mind. Every year he looks forward to seeing old friends and putting on a show, but 40 years is something pretty special. He's hoping to get at least 400 people to come back - 100 per decade of Alumni Band! Imagining over 750 people on the field after the whirlwind of 2020 is truly exciting, and we all hope it can become a reality. Like many Alumni Band members, this experience continues to be an important part of his life. It's people like him and all of you reading this that make the Alumni Band such an integral part of the overall band program at ISU, and, when given a chance to say whatever he wanted, Kirk simply asked for everyone to pay it forward and give back what they can - giving isn't limited to just donations, your time and talents are always appreciated whenever they can be given!



Kirk Hartung | Trumpet | '79

National Association of Alumni Bands Conference

In 2019, I attended the 3rd National Alumni Band symposium in Seattle, WA, with President-Elect Kevin Beichley. It was a great experience to learn what other Alumni Bands across the country do. Some are like us- celebrating annually at Homecoming, a few do a great deal of fundraising, and others are just getting started. When the NAOAB was formally organized in 2020, I volunteered to serve and have been appointed as the Western Regional Officer, liaison to bands in California, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, and Hawaii. We have been having virtual webinars during the pandemic, which has actually worked out quite well for our first year.

If you are considering joining the ISU Alumni Band board to serve your fellow alumni and support the ISUCFVMB, I invite you to join me in attending the NAOAB virtual symposium in May. Dates and times are still being worked out, but shoot me an email and I will keep you updated.

Immediate-Past President | Erin Kalkwarf | erin.kalkwarf@gmail.com

2020 Scholarship Recipients:

Jack Evans - Senior - Sousaphone
Sarah Hughes - Junior - Piccolo
Hunter Grace - Senior - Drumline
Elise Cameron - Junior - Tenor Sax
Kate Heine - Sophomore - Mellophone
Maren McGuire - Senior - Twirler
Emma Brady - Sophomore - Colorguard

Varsity- Alumni Mentorship Program

To everyone who filled out the survey - THANK YOU! We received a great number of responses, to the point where some Varsity members may even get the honor of having two mentors! Emails have been sent to all participants, so check your inboxes for a virtual introduction!

For questions, email allisonlenselink@gmail.com

2020-2021 ISU Alumni Band Board Members



President: Kelli Huser, '09

Past President: Erin Kalkwarf, '05

President-Elect: Kevin Beichley, '09, '10

Secretary: Nicole Barbee, '08

Treasurer: Chris Colvin, '02, '05

Public Relations: Gianni Giglio, '17

Newsletter Editor: Allie Lenselink, '17

Pep Band: Jay Chapman, '90

Directors at Large, 1st year:

William Polzin, '10, '13

Chris Davidson, '09

Breanna Kixmiller, '18, '20

Directors at Large, 2nd year:

Zachary Bennett, '17

Emily Worthington, '11

Joe Waters, '10

Director of Bands: Dr. Michael Golemo

Marching Band Director: Christian Carichner

