

# ALUMNI BAND NEWSLETTER



FALL 2021

**THIS NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT IS A CYCLONE WEATHER ALERT. DESPITE HIGH WINDS IN THE AREA, WE ARE PLANNING ON A NORMAL HOMECOMING AND WELCOMING YOU BACK TO THE STADIUM TO CHEER ON OUR CYCLONES ON OCTOBER 23!**

With a year off last year, perhaps you could use a quick refresher on Homecoming. We have an exciting Friday night event planned and hosted at Simon Estes Music Hall this year. We will have our Saturday meal and meeting at Scheman, a march-over to the stadium, and a halftime show with the ISUCF'V'MB. It will be a time to see your friends and reminisce while cheering on our Cyclones. And we will celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> Homecoming as the Iowa State Alumni Band.

[Registration is now open!](#) A reminder that as usual we will not know game time until one or two weeks before, so stay tuned for the Gameday schedule.

If you still have questions, look no further than this newsletter where we have FAQs on all of your questions (Do I need to memorize music? (No.) Can I borrow an instrument? (Yes.) etc.). And aside from Homecoming information, the newsletter also includes updates on pep band, our involvement in the National Association of Alumni Bands, an Alumni Spotlight, and more!

Still have questions or comments? Check out our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages or reach out to your Board members. You can reach me at [kahuser@gmail.com](mailto:kahuser@gmail.com).

I look forward to seeing all of you in person on October 22-23. Go Cyclones!

Kelli Huser

Alumni Band President

# From the Desk of Dr. Golemo...

Dear “Cyclone” Marching Band Alum –

You are cordially invited to attend Homecoming at Iowa State University, and more importantly, the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alumni Marching Band! We hope that you can attend and participate in all of the events and accompanying festivities! This is a significant anniversary and we need all hands on deck to help us celebrate properly!

Did you know that the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of anything is officially the “ruby” anniversary? Did you also know that we plan to bedazzle all of the alumni band sousaphones with rubies this year? Cardinal=rubies, Gold=brass sousaphones... makes sense, right?

Sorry to ramble... Alumni Band President Kelli Huser and the Alumni Band Board promise to have a great reunion party on Friday evening, October 22 in Simon Estes Music Hall. Marching Band Director Christian Carichner has an exciting halftime show planned and we need YOU to be a part of this performance.

Homecoming is all about renewing old friendships, creating new ones, and celebrating everything that is Cardinal and Gold – including the Cyclone Marching Band.

We are indebted to YOU for your continued support of our athletic bands through the Alumni Band. Their generosity exists in numerous ways, including scholarships, band banquet tickets for our senior members, musical instruments, special meals, perks for the band when we travel to bowl games... all which remind and demonstrate to our current band members that there IS a way to still enjoy, support and relive the Marching Band experience after you graduate.

If you haven't played your instrument for a while (or a few years), please don't worry. If you can remember how to correctly assemble your instrument, you'll fit in just fine. We'll even supply you with an instrument if needed! Rubies will be provided.

The enclosed schedule and registration information should provide you with the details. Please make every effort to attend this year's Homecoming.

I look forward to seeing you in October. Go Cyclones!!!



Michael Golemo, D.M.A.  
Director of Bands  
University Professor of Music

## SAVE THE DATE

September 12: ISU Alumni Band Golf Classic

October 22: Friday Night Gala

October 23: HOMECOMING

November 5: Band Extravaganza

November 11: A Tribute to Sousa

For a full list of ISU Band Concerts, click [here!](#)

# Hey Band!

I hope you've all had a great summer and are eagerly looking forward to an epic Alumni reunion this fall! We are planning for an outstanding season with the Varsity band that will include an appearance at the Iowa State Fair, marching exhibitions in Cedar Rapids and Central Iowa, and of course for the band shows ....I mean football games....at our beloved Jack Trice Stadium where we get to break in our new band stands for real this time! We hope to see you at Homecoming, or any other rehearsal you want to come visit! The students love to perform for a crowd so pack a picnic and enjoy the sights and sounds of the band next time you're in Ames! I personally can't thank you enough for all the support you give to our students at ISU - I promise we'll all work very hard to make you proud!

Go Cyclones!

-Christian Carichner

## Alumni Spotlight: The Cy's the Limit

This newsletter's Alumni Spotlight is shining on internationally acclaimed meteorologist Sean Stelten ('14, '16). After packing up his trombone and graduating not once, but twice, from Iowa State, Sean found his way to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, working at the U.S. Army base weather station. After a few years of providing weather support and daily forecasts for the island, Sean moved back to the States (during a pandemic - no small feat!) and is now providing forecasts for the island remotely from Oklahoma.

For anyone that knows a meteorologist, you know that it isn't all standing in front of a green screen and pointing at maps. In a constantly evolving field, Sean finds himself doing research and development of new technologies to better predict weather outcomes. As climate change increases the number and intensity of severe weather events, meteorologists are working with social scientists to learn the best ways to properly communicate risks to vulnerable populations. This is something Sean says band has helped him with in his career - in band we're forced to get to know people very quickly, and effectively communicate with them to work together. So whether it's synchronizing horn moves or describing the risks of a tropical storm, the ability to approach and relate to people is essential. But when asked his favorite band memory, Sean simply provided this [link with no context](#).

When given the opportunity to step on a soap box and talk about what he's most passionate about, Sean kept it simple: we need to do what we can to curb the effects of climate change before it gets worse. Less work for him, more beautiful days at Jack Trice Stadium, it's a win for everybody! As for the weather on the field on October 23, 2021, Sean says we can expect either sun or clouds, dryness with a bit of moisture, and lightning that may or may not exist.



**SEAN STELTEN**

Trombone | '14, '16

# FROM THE BOARD

## Pep Band

The ISU Alumni Pep Band is looking forward to the upcoming pep band seasons. By all accounts the season will be normal (or at least as normal as we all get). We fully expect we'll be asked to help out with men's and women's basketball, volleyball and maybe even wrestling again!

Since we've not had an opportunity to play together for some time, we are going to hold our pep band practice this year in conjunction with our 40<sup>th</sup> Homecoming Reunion. The exact time on the Friday of Homecoming will be determined as we get closer to the date, but plan to show up at Music Hall maybe around 4:00 PM that afternoon, and still be done in time to catch some of the Varsity Band practice.

Some things will stay the same – same “uniform” as usual — and some will change – new drummer placement. But the excitement of having the Alumni Band in the house will never change!

If you are not receiving pep band-related emails, send me an note at chapmanjay@mchsi.com and I will get you on the list.

See you soon and GO CYCLONES!

Jay Chapman, Alumni Pep Band Director

## National Association of Alumni Bands Conference

This year's NAOAB symposium was held virtually in June and was very successful. ISU was well represented, as I was able to present on a panel about Leadership Succession, and Christian Carichner presented on the panel titled "Dear Alumni Band... Sincerely, Your Band Director."

Next year, the NAOAB plans to hold the symposium in person, in conjunction with the College Band Directors conference in Orlando. We're already planning the trip, and hope to represent ISU well again. If you are looking for more ways to get involved to support the Alumni Band and also the Varsity Band students, I highly encourage you to run for a position on the ISU Alumni Band Board.

Erin Kalkwarf, Past-President

**Did you participate in the Varsity-Alumni Mentorship Program?**

**We'd love to hear from you!**

Follow [this link](#) to a brief survey about the program and give your thoughts on how we can improve it in the future!

**Thanks!**

Allie Lenselink, Newsletter Editor

# JOIN THE BOARD!

Again this year you will be able to vote for the new board members online. A separate email will go out to those who register for Homecoming with a link to the voting webpage.

## **Ballot Positions for 2021-2022:**

- President-Elect *(Note: this position progresses to President and Immediate Past President)*
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Newsletter Editor
- Public Relations Chair
- Directors at Large (3)

If you are interested in running for a position on the board please contact President-Elect, Kevin Beichley at [kevin.beichley@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.beichley@gmail.com).

For a full list of duties of the various positions, please see the [Alumni Band Constitution](#).

## **COMING SOON: ISU ALUMNI BAND MERCHANDISE!**

We're working with Dogtown to get some ISU Alumni Band apparel and other items available for purchase! Keep an eye on your inbox and on our Facebook page so you can get your hands on this exclusive design by Director-at-Large Breanna Kixmiller!

# HOMECOMING 2021: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

## Uniform

The Alumni Band official uniform:

- The Alumni Band fleece jacket
- Red shirt
- Black pants/ Black jeans
- Black socks and black shoes

We encourage Cyclone colors with all accessories! If you do not have a jacket, you will need to purchase one with your registration. Recent graduates (2019 – 2021) and current students receive a discounted price. All jackets are men's sizes (S-4XL) and to guarantee your jacket size, register by September 30 (this is also the deadline for early registration!). All specific jacket questions should be directed to Erin Kalkwarf.

## Instruments

The Iowa State University Band Department will supply the following items to those who will need them:

- Mellophones
- Baritones
- Sousaphones
- Percussion
- Flags

If you need any of these items, please indicate in the appropriate spot on your registration form. Due to limited availability, all horns are on a first come, first served basis. Those using borrowed instruments will still need to supply their own lyres, and will be responsible for returning their instrument to the proper place after the game. Those in need of other instruments not listed should try to locate them through other local sources, such as local schools, music stores, or other ISU band alumni. Music flip folders will be provided at rehearsal Saturday. All other items (reeds, valve oil, etc.) are your responsibility.

## Marching Options

Did you know that there are several options for participating in the halftime show? The three options can be chosen during registration:

- Marching On-Field: *March the halftime drill on the field*
- Stationary On-Field: *Stationary position on the field*
- Not participating at halftime: *Enjoy the show from the sideline*

The stationary on-field position is being offered as a less strenuous way to participate in Alumni Band. You'll still be on the field with the rest of the alumni band, but instead of marching the drill you will march on the field, stand and play, and then march off the field. How simple is that?! A

limited number of these positions are available and they will be filled on a first come, first served basis so please register early if you are interested. Hopefully everyone can find a participation level that will work for them in order to return to Alumni Band, or join us for the first time. Trust us, you can do it!

## Saturday Meal At Scheman

A Saturday meal is included with your full registration, or may be ordered separately if you do not intend on joining the band at the game. Saturday meals can also be ordered for guests through the registration form. All diners will need a meal ticket, which will be included in your registration packet. Packets can be picked up Friday night or prior to Saturday morning rehearsal.

## Golden Alumni Shuttle

If you are in need of transportation assistance, the Golden Alumni Shuttle will be available for use. This shuttle will also run from Scheman to the Bergstrom Indoor Practice Facility before rehearsal on Saturday. Please indicate on the registration form your desire to use the shuttle so that there is enough transportation for everyone.

## See Who's Coming

You can see who is coming to Homecoming in advance! Our online list of people who have registered for the reunion is updated continuously so keep checking. This is a great way to follow up with that friend of yours who needs reminding... you know...the one you always called on Saturday morning to make sure they were up on time! Find a link on our [website](#).

## Help a Senior Attend Band Banquet

With your help, the Alumni Band provides tickets for every senior Varsity Band member to the annual Band Banquet. The year-end banquet is always a highly anticipated event for Varsity Band members, and for many is one of their last official activities with the band. By adding this ticket to your Alumni Band registration you are able to thank a senior band member for their years of dedication to the ISU Bands. A wonderful way to welcome graduating seniors to the Alumni Band. Please consider gifting this opportunity to a Varsity member.

# HOME COMING 2021: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Where do I pick up my jacket that I ordered when I registered?**

You can pick up jackets at check in on Friday night or Saturday morning. If you are unable to attend we can make arrangements to get your jacket to you.

## **Do I still need to know how to play my horn well anymore?**

No. We gather to have fun with friends, network, and enjoy being on the field together.

## **Do we memorize music?**

No. Hard copies of the music will be available Saturday morning at rehearsal. If available, we will notify you where to find the music in advance if you would like to practice and/or memorize.

## **Do I need to provide my own lyre?**

A limited number of lyres are available for checkout on Saturday morning. If you prefer a bell mount lyre, you are responsible for providing your own. Music and lyre return is something we keep refining each year. We will have containers to collect them near the trucks for borrowed horns parked outside the indoor practice facility.

## **Why do we wear black pants and shoes?**

Black pants and shoes, along with the jacket, help provide a uniform look for the group and looks snazzy on the field!

## **Where can I park?**

We pay for parking at Scheman just like a wedding or conference that uses it. Tell them you are with the Alumni Band.

## **Is there a full dinner on Friday night?**

No. We typically offer hors d'oeuvres and light snacks. Look for more information as we get closer to celebrating Homecoming 2019.

## **What if it rains/snows?**

You are encouraged to layer up under or over your jacket to stay dry and warm. Hats and gloves are also welcome! Check the forecast and plan accordingly.

## **I already have a season ticket, why are we buying one with the Saturday package?**

You aren't buying a ticket for the game with your registration. Registration fees cover other aspects of the reunion, but the seats the Alumni Band sits in are donated by Athletics. Guest game tickets that you can purchase during registration will not be next to the band, but are located wherever there are available seats.

## **How much do we actually play or march?**

It depends on the year. It is typically one short song on our own, a joint song with the Varsity Band and then Fights. Stands music is limited to basic ISU Cheers.

## **Is there child care?**

Not at this time.

## **Do we stay for the whole game?**

Yes. However, we know that for late games people may have to get home right after half time because of a long trip and/or children. We can work out individual cases as they arise.

## **Do I have to enter/sit with the band?**

Yes. Since we don't pass out individual tickets for our group seating in the stands, we all need to enter together.

## **What should I bring?**

Good memories, a good set of lungs, black pants, black shoes, and your jacket. Don't forget your instrument (unless you are borrowing one that is!). There will be opportunities to purchase raffle tickets Friday and Saturday, so feel free to bring some cash to help support the ISUCF'V'MB and enter for your chance to win some great prizes – including registration for Homecoming 2020!

## **Am I allowed to bring in alcohol?**

Absolutely not! We are still representing the band and must follow the rules of Jack Trice Stadium.

## **What happens if I something happens suddenly and I can't attend?**

We know plans can change on short notice. Contact President Kelli Huser (kahuser@gmail.com) as soon as you can. We don't typically allow refunds, but have provided partial refunds on a case by case basis.

## **I would like to get involved and help run this event, how do I do that?**

Run for the Board of Directors! Contact the President-Elect to add your name to ballot (Kevin Beichley - kevin.beichley@gmail.com)! See page 5 of this newsletter for more information on available positions.

## **I'm a new alumnus, how do I make friends?**

Start saying hi to people! Encourage your friends to return with you – the more of you that return together each year, the more fun you will have!

**Registration for Homecoming 2021 is open now!**

**See you at Jack Trice Stadium on October 23<sup>rd</sup>!**

## **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

