



encore:

UPCOMING EVENTS

2011 MSU ALUMNI CONCERT BAND REUNION

Date: Sunday, May 1, 2011

Location: Dem Hall & E. Lansing H.S. Auditorium

Reunion Schedule:

8:00 a.m. Registration & Hospitality,
Dem Hall

9:00 a.m. Rehearsal, Dem Hall
*Find a seat at the part you feel comfortable performing.
We anticipate some or all music to be available in advance.*

12:00 p.m. Lunch, on your own
*Optional Event:
Brunch Buffet at the Kellogg Center
See page below for details*

2:30 p.m. Arrive for Concert
East Lansing High School
Auditorium
Arrive backstage and take your seat on stage.

3:00 p.m. Concert
Wear "dress-up" clothes.

Optional Event: Brunch Buffet

Time: 12 p.m.–2 p.m.

Location: Kellogg Center

Price: \$14.95/person

Please RSVP on the registration form.
Pay for your RSVP directly to the Kellogg
Center when you arrive.

2011 ALUMNI BAND FALL REUNION

Date: September 10, 2011

MSU vs. Florida Atlantic

Time: TBD

2011 ALUMNI BAND GOLF OUTING

Date: September 9, 2011

Time: TBD

*Keep checking the web site and the next issue
of the Encore for more information.*

a Message from the President

The MSU Alumni Band celebrated 40 years on September 25, 2010 with a very successful Alumni Band Fall Reunion. Close to 300 alumni band members, ranging in age from 22–89 gathered from all over the nation for a day of celebration, recognition, camaraderie, sharing stories, music, marching, and performance at the MSU vs. Northern Colorado football game in Spartan Stadium. Music representing the past 50 years of MSU Bands was performed on the field. Eighteen former Alumni Band Presidents attended, spanning all 40 years. The annual Friday night golf outing saw 39 members enjoy the sunshine and a great day of golf.

Former and current directors in attendance included Ken Bloomquist, Dave Catron, William Wiedrich, Kevin Sedatole, John Madden, and Cormac Cannon. MSU Men's Basketball Coach Tom Izzo, MSU President Mary K. Simon, Roy Simon, and Executive Director of the MSU Alumni Association Scott Westerman also made appearances. Their comments were a great hit with the band members.

Former members of any MSU Band are always welcome to become members of the MSU Alumni Band. It's a great opportunity to return to campus, make music together, and enjoy connecting with friends. In addition, the Alumni Band supports the MSU Bands through scholarships, special funding, communication and public relations.

The MSU Bands are fortunate to have Kevin Sedatole, John Madden and Cormac Cannon providing inspiring leadership and the finest instruction. As alumni of the MSU Bands, we are supporting a great band program whose shining reputation continues to glow and grow and whose traditions thrive.

The wonderful renovation of the Dem Hall rehearsal space has created a terrific on-campus venue for our Fall Reunion rehearsal. We will use that same space for the Concert Band Reunion rehearsal. We plan to follow rehearsal with an optional brunch at the Kellogg Center, prior to the afternoon concert at the new East Lansing High School auditorium. Please join us at the Concert Band Reunion on May 1, 2011 or the 41st Fall Reunion on September 10, 2011 — or both! Go Green!

Jim Barry, MSU Alumni Band Association President



Alumni and current SMB trumpet sections performing postgame at the 2010 Alumni Band Fall Reunion.

MSU Alumni Band Association



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Jim Barry

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Director of Bands

Kevin Sedatole

Associate Director of Bands and Director, MSU Spartan Marching Band

John Madden

Assistant Director of Bands

Cormac Cannon

Director of Bands, Emeriti

Ken Bloomquist
John Whitwell

Director of Spartan Marching Band, Emeritus

Dave Catron

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MSU Alumni Association Liaison

Gordon Spink

a Message from the MSU Bands

Greetings from the band office at Michigan State University. I trust that this letter finds you enjoying a positive start to the new year. Here on campus, the MSU Bands are enjoying a typically busy schedule. Thanks to all who participated in one of the Holiday Spartan Brass events. It is my understanding that we had record attendance from all of you, and that you covered a record number of games. I hope you enjoyed the fellowship of time together "back in the band" and perhaps a closer seat at your favorite Spartan athletic event.

In reflecting on the fall, the SMB certainly enjoyed a historic and memorable season. Our team won the Big Ten title (shared). We beat Wisconsin, entitling us to the Rose Bowl in my opinion (old tie-breaker would have had us there), however, the BCS 3-way tie-breaker rules put us in the Capital One Bowl in Orlando. The SMB had a wonderful three-night trip (yes we flew the band on one charter aircraft!). In addition, the SMB traveled three other times during the season: once to Ford Field (win over Florida Atlantic), once to Ann Arbor (3rd win in a row over U of M), and once to Indianapolis (Lucas Oil Stadium). The Indianapolis trip was another historic event as it included an exhibition performance of the SMB at the Bands of America Grand Nationals Marching Band Competition for high school bands from all over the United States. We attended the event at the special invitation of BOA, and were able to do two performances in front of huge audiences. Our performances included "snap shots" of virtually everything the SMB does: the traditional pregame show included all famous elements, a very aggressive halftime show (Rock music of the group "Journey"), and portions of our standard Spartan Stadium postgame show. This was packed into two 15-minute slots, and met with enthusiastic response from this national audience. Rest assured that there are high school bandos from all over the county who have now seen the kick-step and the spinning of the "S" Live!

On the concert bands side of things, the Symphony Band was selected to perform at the Michigan Music Conference (formerly in Ann Arbor each January) at the DeVos Hall and Convention Center in downtown Grand Rapids. The convention is attended by music teachers at all grade levels and disciplines — elementary to university — from across the state of Michigan. The Symphony Band was selected by blind audition (recordings submitted) and given a prime-time performance slot at the convention (9:00 PM). We made 2000 printed programs, and we ran out. Needless to say, it was a large and appreciative audience supporting our MSU Band students. The reviews of the concert have been great! Thanks to all of you who were able to attend!

Some of you may not be aware of the current structure of MSU Concert Bands. In case you aren't, here's the review. Kevin Sedatole, Director of Bands, conducts the Wind Symphony (primarily graduate students). I conduct the Symphony Band (several grad students and mostly upper division undergrads). Cormac Cannon, Assistant Director of Bands, conducts the Concert Band (mostly 1st and 2nd year undergrads). Music majors populate all three of these bands (with a few non-majors involved). In addition to these three ensembles are two Campus Bands for non-music majors, led by our five graduate assistants, Colin McKenzie, Richard Frey, Jamal Duncan, Paul Crockett, and Armand Hall. These men also assist the three directors with the other bands and classes, including the Spartan Marching Band and Spartan Brass. We have a "great team!"

Thanks for all you do in supporting Michigan State University, the College of Music, and our beloved MSU Bands! It is our goal to continue to make you, our alumni, proud of what we do. I look forward to seeing you at our next reunion, concert, or athletic event.

GO GREEN!

John T. Madden

Associate Director of Bands

Director, Spartan Marching Band

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Anderson, Robert ('50, *Trumpet*) is in his 14th year with Akron N.Y. Community Band. He also plays in a concert band and a swing band.

Barry, Jim ('73 & '83, *Trumpet*) and Linda enjoy many MSU Band rehearsals and performances during their semi-retirement. Jim teaches private trumpet lessons and plays in the Lansing Concert Band. Linda teaches English language learners part-time in the Okemos elementary schools.

Becker, Gina ('79, *Flute & Alto Sax*) is assistant director of the Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys. Her daughter, Beth, played in the CMU "Pit" and enjoyed playing with the MSU Band last fall. Her son, Jon Mark, is drum major for Comstock Park; and her twins, Danny and Noah, play trumpet and snare. She recently bought a grand piano and wishes she could play as well as her son, John Mark.

Bertolini, Phillip ('85, *Tuba*) was appointed Deputy County Executive/CIO for Oakland County in 2005. He is responsible for the Business Continuity Recovery project for all departments and divisions of county government. He was an MSU College of Communication Arts and Sciences 2010 Outstanding Alumni Awards winner.

Blue, Jim ('78, *Trumpet*) is married and lives in Grand Rapids. For 18 years he has worked as an environmental and safety manager at Wolverine Worldwide, and enjoys boating.

Brown, Douglas ('70, *Trumpet*) produces a one-hour radio program featuring band music. It is on 10 stations and growing. It can be heard online at windandrhythm.com.

Chevallard, Phillip ('77 & '79, *MB Director*) and Barb celebrated their 39th anniversary last October. In 2006, he created ConductYourLife, LLC, a leadership training company. He and Barb cherish their years with the SMB.

DeBenedetti, Geanna ('89, *Twirler*) and husband Jeff, manage Las Positas Golf Course and own a golf shop in Livermore, CA.

Ed Deeb ('60) was honored by The Detroit Tigers in June 2010, presenting him with the 2010 Community All-Star Award for his work with young people and Metro Detroit Youth Day. The award was given for hosting nearly one million youngsters since 1981 at Metro Detroit Youth Day and for awarding nearly 700 college scholarships to youngsters.

Draeger, Tim J. ('85, *Tuba*) and **Rachel** ('88, *Color Guard*) are happy to report their two older daughters are now in the band at St. John Fenton where they are instructed by SMB Alum Ryan Gonder.

Geerdes, Jeremy ('02, *Trumpet*) and Marci welcomed their second child, Madelynn, in

2010. Big brother Benjamin (1½) is teaching her how to be a Spartan!

Glovac, Barbara ('80, *Alto Sax*) shares that daughter Kristin graduated from MSU in 2009. Youngest daughter Katie is a freshman in the SMB playing alto sax.

Gulick, Matt ('89, *Trombone*) recently became a clinical nurse manager of the critical care, progressive care, and rehab care departments at Gratiot Medical Center in Alma, MI.

Hedlund, Denise ('91, *Alto Sax*) and **Tom** ('90, *Trombone*) are proud to announce their daughter Ashley is in her second year performing in the MSU Spartan Youth Symphony under Cormac Cannon. Their son Ben is following Tom's footsteps and learning to play the trombone.

Helmer, Bruce ('48, *Clarinet*) retired from the DeWitt Community Concert Band after 20 years. He still plays with the Caravan Circus Band throughout the summer.

Hudson, Keith ('68, *Clarinet*) retired from teaching band and orchestra in Greenville, MI. He enjoys playing classical, jazz and Klezmer. He sails and races his Flying Scot in the summer and enjoys cross-country skiing in the winter.

Jones, Kenneth ('79, *Alto Horn*) shares that son Mark is a baritone player in the SMB.

Koehn, Norman ('68, *Clarinet*) keeps busy substitute teaching and looks forward to every upcoming MSU game and SMB event. He taught industrial and physical education for 42 years and coached hockey, football, and baseball. He has many special memories of his years in the SMB to share with family and friends.

Levandowski, Paul ('85-'91, *Tuba*) is returning to MSU to obtain a music education degree. He has returned to musical theater, performing at the Riverwalk Theater in "Sleeping Beauty" and "Caroline, or Change."

Lunde, Robert ('93, *Baritone*) started his fifth year working for Volkswagen of America, Inc. and is still an avid movie lover.

Markwick, Jack ('70, *Trumpet*) recently retired from the commercial (retail) real estate industry after 28 years. Next up — sailing his boats.

McCaffrey, James ('80, *Percussion*) recently became a school music specialist for Meyer Music in Grand Rapids and works with many band directors who are SMB Alumni.

Melnick, Vicki ('91, *Alto Sax*) was promoted to associate director of the Ohio State Student Athlete Support Services office.

Monroe, Bill ('81, *Trombone*) teaches band in Midland, Michigan.

Nichols, Jon ('73 & '79, *Percussion*) is the honorary and emeritus activities chair for the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association. In addition to an active schedule of clinics and judging throughout the year, Jon recently released a composite CD of his performing groups from his 35 year teaching career. He also released a CD entitled *The Best of the Grand Rapids Accordion Ensemble* — an adult group he has conducted since his retirement in 2007 and says, "Stop laughing, Mr. Bloomquist!"

O'Connor, Brian ('90, *Drum Major*) launched a new ship for Cunard last October — a new Queen Elizabeth. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II served as Godmother during a Royal Naming Ceremony in Southampton, England.

Opatich, Bona ('85, *Baritone*) performed with the Empire Statesmen this past summer and celebrated 13 years with the Motor City Brass Band.

Pulter, Daniel ('81, *Percussion*) shares that his son is in his senior year in the SMB and is section leader of the percussion section.

Reeves, Jodi ('85 & '93, *Mellophone*) marked her 20th year at Sparrow Hospital, 17th in the ER. She still works weekends and never gets to football games (except Alumni Band of course)!

Rimpau, Joy ('75, *Euphonium*) enjoyed her first year of retirement with more time to play euphonium, as well as learning trumpet and bugle. She also was in charge of planning her 40th high school class reunion.

Schlosser, Heidi ('96, *Trombone*) is the band director at Western Middle School in Auburn, MI. She is in her 14th year of teaching.

Searfoss, David ('69, *Trumpet*) enjoys performing with various philharmonics including performances of Verdi's "Requiem" under new Los Angeles Philharmonic conductor Gustavo Dudamel in Nov. 2009 at the Disney Concert Hall, and Respighi's "Feste Romane" with the L.A. Philharmonic in April 2010 under British conductor Thomas Ades.

Sielaff, Sonia ('05, *Clarinet*) joined the Norwegian Opera and Ballet Orchestra as associate principal clarinet for their 2010–2011 season.

Swanson, Dana ('87, *Alto Sax*) is in her third year at the University of Oklahoma teaching American history and Western civilization and advising students in the College of Liberal Studies.

Taylor, Stacy (Couture) ('93, *Mellophone*) is pastor at the Panama UMC. Son Benjamin is a freshman and daughter Abigail is in the 8th grade. She also is a substitute teacher.

Topliff, Roger ('54 & '59, *Clarinet*) continues to play jazz concerts, dances and weddings. He returned to Hiram College (Ohio) where he

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taught during the '60s for a "decades" reunion. It was his first time back in 40 years and he had great fun!

Webb, Susan ('74, *Flute*) is a middle school choir director in Boulder, CO. She plays flute in the Rocky Mountain Concert Band and is a proud mom of David, Jeff, and Sarah.

Woloson, Susana ('85, *Trombone*) worked for the U.S. Census Bureau in 2010, and now does contract technical writing and editing. She plays in her mom's Heritage Concert Band in Troy and occasionally plays a blues jam session here and there.

in Memoriam

Shirley A. Brehm (*Trombone*) passed away September 17, 2010. Shirley attended Michigan State College in 1943 and upon completing graduate degrees at MSU, she joined the faculty in Teacher Education remaining in this position until her retirement in 1988. Shirley maintained a life-long interest in music and was a member of the MSU Alumni Band, Meridian Community Band, East Lansing Kiwanis Band, and the Senior Class Band. She played the trombone. *To read more visit the Alumni Band website.*

James (Joe) Laird ('77, '84, *Alto Saxophone*) passed away at age 55 on December 23, 2010, in Nashville. He was Vanderbilt University's Assistant Director of Bands until his retirement due to multiple sclerosis. Despite his disabilities, Joe continued to compose, arrange, and mentor. He had a profound impact on, and earned the highest respect of, his music colleagues and

students across the country. Joe earned three degrees from MSU, including a PhD in composition. He wrote and arranged hundreds of works, especially for marching band. Many of his arrangements have been performed by thousands of Spartan Marching Band members over the years and became staples of the SMB repertoire. Although it was quite an expedition, he and his wife, fellow SMB alum, Rhonda, attended the Alumni Band Fall Reunion in September. He was thrilled to be back on campus and see many old friends for the last time. Joe was loved by the many with whom he shared his gifts of music, his positive attitude, talent and friendship.

Clarence Rhodes ('50) Michigan State University Alumni Band members gathered on September 1, 2010 to help lead the *MSU Fight Song* and *MSU Shadows* for the celebration the life of a



1st Row, L to R: Gary Baron, Ian Levine, Gary Marx, Jim Barry, Tom Fredericks, 2nd Row, L to R: Greg Lindsey, Jerry Mattson, Barry Baker, Greg Pell, John McDaniel, Dick Gulliver (Picture by Matt Rhodes)

great Spartan, Clarence "Dusty" Rhodes, MSU class of 1950, and MSU Distinguished Alumnus, who passed away at age 82, on August 28, 2010. Dusty's career took him from WKAR radio to newspaper publishing to an international career in TV news and broadcasting. His voice welcomed visitors to Spartan Stadium in the '60s. He did radio play-by-play for MSU football for many years, including the famous 1966 MSU-Notre Dame tie. Family and many friends gathered at "Dusty's," his famed restaurant, and joined in the music of Michigan State as they remembered a loyal and beloved Spartan.

Shirley L. (York) Shafer ('55, *Baritone*) passed away August 1, 2010. Her daughter Rebecca stated, "Thank you for including this in your newsletter. She really loved MSU!"

Floyd E. Werle: 1929–2010 stands as one of the true giants in the history of military music in America. During his 32 years in Air Force Music, 30 as Chief Arranger of The USAF Band, Symphony Orchestra and the Singing Sergeants in Washington, DC, he created an unequalled library of compositions and arrangements. His extensive music collection which is The US Air Force Band Library, one of the largest such collections in the world (which houses over 900 of Werle's compositions and arrangements), was officially named the "Floyd E. Werle Music Library." For the past seven years, Werle resided in Oakland, California where he served as the volunteer organist for two small but dynamic Methodist congregations He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in July of 2009, and passed away peacefully at his home on July 19th, 2010. *To read more visit the Alumni Band website.*

Members of the 2011 Alumni Band Board



MSU Alumni Band Board members pause for a photo at their quarterly meeting on January 16, 2011 held at the Kellogg Center on MSU's campus. Pictured from left to right are: Nancy Nelson, Listserve Manager, Jack Nelson, Special Events Coordinator, Bob Rice, Historian, Tim Fox, Member Relations Coordinator, Bill Sachs, Past President, Dale Bartlett, Touring Band Representative, Greg Pell, Treasurer, Jim Barry, President, Lynn Brown, Golf Outing Coordinator, Betty Elliott, Secretary, Stacie Detgen, Vice President, Lynn Kelsey, Member at Large, Melissa Mackey, Member at Large, John Madden, Associate Director of Bands

Italy — Full Circle: MSU Alumni Touring Band 2010



By Diane and Rod Ham

In 1985 the MSU Falcone Alumni Concert Touring Band was “brain-stormed” by Leonard Falcone to tour Italy and play concerts in his native province. However, Mr. Falcone passed away just a month before the group was to leave. Ken Bloomquist then took over the baton as Director of the Touring Band.

Since then, the MSU Alumni Touring Band has visited and played concerts in six other international trips. They then returned to Italy this year — a full circle. This year, 58 touring band members and their guests departed from Detroit on June 21, 2010 for Milan, Italy for 12 days — minus instruments. Unfortunately, there was insufficient instrumentation for a quality touring band this year. However, the touring tradition continued and the trip, once more, was ably planned by Lauralee Campbell. Even more cities, towns and sites were visited than usual, including flying over the Swiss Alps on the way to Milan.

The tour of Italy was spectacular! The plains of the north around Milan included a tour of Verona with its Roman arena that is still used for operas and plays. Then on to Garda in the Lake District with a day

trip to Venice, and a tour of the 14th century Doge’s Palace and a gondola ride. Another special day was a boat trip on Lake Garda around Sirmione and its quaint castle and fun shopping. A bus ride through the agricultural lands of the Po River Valley took the group to Pisa to see the Leaning Tower. There was a two-night stay at Montecatini Terme with a day trip to Florence — including a walk over the Ponte Vecchio Bridge which was lined with shops selling leather goods and gold jewelry. In Tuscany there were the medieval towns of Siena, San Gimignano and Orvieto where wonderful ceramic pottery was made. Next was Rome and its Coliseum, Forum, Vatican City, Sistine Chapel plus a must-do “Three Coins in the Trevi Fountain” after dark. A memorable farewell seven-course dinner at Tivoli adjacent to ancient Roman ruins was followed by a three-day extension to Pompeii, Capri and the Amalfi Coast.

The hotels were excellent and provided an opportunity to discuss the events of the day around the pools and evening meals. Leonard Falcone would be proud of the tradition he started — 25 years, eight international tours, and back to Italy — full circle.

From *the* Fall Reunion

Honored *for* Their Service



Henry Nelson, first president of the MSU Alumni Band (1971–1973), and Beryl Falcone, wife of Leonard Falcone, (MSU Director of Bands 1927–1967) were honored at the 2010 Alumni Band Fall Reunion morning rehearsal for their years of service.

Henry had just celebrated his 88th birthday, and Beryl’s 90th was celebrated in grand style five weeks later at the new Spartan Club. (Photographer: Dale Bartlett)

Alumni Tour Band *Update*

The Alumni Tour Band had planned a trip to Russia in 2012. However, due to Ken Bloomquist needing to undertake treatments for a recently discovered cancer, this trip was cancelled. Ken is doing well, although the chemotherapy sessions are taking their toll on his physical state as so often happens. Discussions are ongoing as to future plans for the tour band. Ken is anticipating being ready to go in 2013 to a place undetermined at this time. The tour band remains a viable organization and interested persons are asked to stay tuned for future plans.

Help Us Update *Our* Email List

Each time a special update is sent to our MSU Alumni Band email list our server bounces back a number of emails for one reason or another (recipient address rejected, rejected by the recipient, not our customer, mailbox is full, mailbox unavailable, etc.). If your email address is listed below you can help out by: letting us know your new email address, cleaning out your over-filled mailbox, or telling your spam filter to allow mail from "list.msu.edu". Send email address changes to: alumband@msu.edu

We try to limit the use of our ListServ and hope to be able to keep you all updated in the future. Here is the latest batch of bounced email addresses:

aleclloyd@ARQ.NET
 arheem@AOL.COM
 bdklink@AOL.COM
 bmichel@ISMI.NET
 bonny@HTDCONNECT.COM
 brunner6@MSU.EDU
 deveyr@MSN.COM
 doctorjon88@AOL.COM
 drjohnone@cablespeed.com
 Dumo47@hotmail.com
 ebclarinet@VERIZON.NET
 eichber1@MSU.EDU
 gholzhei@GATEWAY.NET

glotfel1@MSU.EDU
 hurlbur3@MSU.EDU
 JDWINTER14@AOL.COM
 jginther@WOWWWAY.COM
 JOEL@JACKPINE.COM
 josephmadden@COMCAST.NET
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 laucherem@MSU.EDU
 levandp@ATT.NET
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 tam@baubie.org
 weathe26@MSU.EDU
 wetzelad@MSU.EDU



39 golfers enjoyed the 12th Annual MSU Alumni Band Golf Outing held on September 25, 2010. Coordinator Dale Bartlett has presided over the sunshine once again!



Follow Us Online!

Stop by the MSU Alumni Band's newly designed web site. You'll find information about upcoming events, a digital copy of the newsletter, email addresses of members, and lots of pictures! www.spartanband.net/alumni. Check out "Michigan State University Alumni Band" on Facebook.com!

Since *the* Last Issue

New Record!



Alumni Band members perform at the MSU vs. Texas men's basketball game.



From left to right: Bill Haines, Jack Nelson, Jim McCaffrey, Hank Minster, Tim Draeger

157 Alumni Band members performed at least once from Nov. 12–Jan. 6th for various MSU sporting events. In total, 615 players participated in 13 bands, setting a new record for participation. The bands performed at five women's basketball games, four men's basketball games, and four hockey games.

Five members participated in all of the events. Bill Haines, Jim McCaffrey, Hank Minster, Jack Nelson, and Tim Draeger.

This year, family members of the participants were invited to attend the hockey and women's basketball games as guests of the Athletics Department. 145 family members attended, and Spartan athletic teams were 10-3 for these events.

A big *thank you* to all the participants! Let's set another new record next year!

Change of Home or Email Address

To keep you informed, please let us know when you move or have a change of email address by calling (517) 351-4582, mailing a note to MSU Alumni Band, c/o Tim Fox, 1850 Snyder, East Lansing, MI 48823, or emailing Gary Baron at: tyzilm7@msualum.com.