



encore:

UPCOMING EVENTS

2008 ALUMNI BAND FALL REUNION

Saturday, September 13, 2008

Game Time: TBD

(Please check the alumni band web site, or your local paper the week of the game, and adjust this schedule accordingly.)

- 7:00–7:45 a.m. Registration (*NEW Band Hall in Demonstration Hall*)
- 8:00 a.m. Rehearsal starts
- 9:00 a.m. Drill rehearsal (*Dem Hall Field*)
- 9:50 a.m. LUNCH
- 10:50 a.m. Run-through on Adams Field (*formerly Landon Field*)
- 11:10 a.m. March to the stadium
- 11:20 p.m. Enter tunnel with pass (*go to seats*)
- 12:00 p.m. Kickoff

Public parking is available in the westmost lot at the corner of Kalamazoo and Harrison. For further parking information visit: <http://www.homefootball.msu.edu>.

2008 ALUMNI BAND GOLF OUTING

Friday, September 12, 2008

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Oak Lane Golf Course

Please see insert for details.

2008 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

Friday, September 12, 2008

Time: TBD, Dinner: TBD.

Place: TBD

Email will be sent with more information.

2008 HOMECOMING PARADE

Friday, October 3, 2008

Please see page 6 for details

a Message from the President

Most of the students have just departed for the summer (I can tell because I now can turn left out of my office onto Abbot Road again) but the band directors and the alumni board are already planning for the fall reunion. Make plans now to join us on September 13, 2008.

We hope to be using the renovated Dem Hall site for our rehearsal. Don't forget the golf outing and dinner on Friday, September 12. Bring a friend or two, and make a day of it.

Fall also brings to an end my term as president of the Alumni Band Board. I was blessed with an incredible group of volunteers who worked behind the scenes to bring you many opportunities to play at MSU. You can fill your calendar with our activities, so long as you keep us informed of your current snail mail and email addresses. Not only can you march in September, you can also ride in the Homecoming Parade in October, spend your winter holiday pepping up the men's hockey and men's and women's basketball games, and perform a concert at the Wharton Center in the spring. Thank you to all of the board members and other volunteers. You are wonderful musicians and friends.

A special thanks to the MSU band directors who continue the Spartan band excellence we have come to expect. We truly appreciate sharing concerts and marching with your students. I encourage those of you attending the fall reunion to take some time to chat with current Spartan Marching Band members. Students need to hear how proud we are of the current band, just as they need to hear how proud we were to be in the band back in the day.

We've nominated a great slate of officers for the next two years. I encourage each alumni band member to seek us out, offer (constructive) criticism, praise where we have earned it, or just add to our collection of war stories. Your feedback helps us put together events you want to attend, and your tall tales keep the band traditions alive.

Go Green!

**Terry McKenney Person,
MSU Alumni Band Association President**



Photo by Mike Bortz

FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND
INFORMATION, VISIT:
WWW.MSU.EDU/~ALUMBAND

MSU Alumni Band Association



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Dear Alumni Band Members,

It is hard to believe that two years ago my family and I were moving up to Michigan from Texas. Time certainly does fly by. We are very glad to be in Michigan and at such a great university.

During my two year tenure at MSU, there have been some very special events that have occurred largely due to your generous support and backing. In April 2007 we all shared a very important premiere of a new composition by Donald Grantham entitled "Starry Crown." This piece was dedicated to my predecessor John Whitwell in honor of his long and valuable career in music education. The commission was funded by a consortium of schools and universities that Professor Whitwell either attended as a student or was employed by as a music teacher. The MSU Alumni Band Association made a very generous contribution to this consortium fund. Since the premiere performance the piece has done exceptionally well. Professor Grantham indicated to me that it is his #1 piece for rental and that he can't keep it on the shelf. It is very satisfying to know that something that we all worked hard for is now getting so much attention and that every time an ensemble performs the piece they see Michigan State University as the premiere ensemble and consortium leader.

In December 2007 another very special and remarkable event occurred. The MSU Wind Symphony performed at the 2007 Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic/Convention in Chicago, IL. The ensemble was selected to give the grand finale concert for an audience of approximately 3000 people. The performance was one that I hope made all Spartans proud of their alma mater. Again, your generous contributions made that trip possible for the students. I know that I can speak for them in offering our heartfelt thanks. Incidentally, we closed this concert with the Grantham "Starry Crown." We definitely want to get our moneys worth.

The students have worked incredibly hard and diligently to continue our musical growth and successes. This past March we submitted a recording to hopefully be chosen to perform for the upcoming national College Band Directors Association convention to be held in Austin, Texas, March 2009. In May, we were informed that we had been chosen out of a record number of submissions to perform the Grand Finale concert for this very prestigious association. This is a very coveted invitation that many university ensembles seek. We are honored to accept this invitation to perform at the University of Texas next March.

Of course a trip like this does not come without a large price tag. The University and the College of Music are going to contribute substantially but we will also have to seek outside sources as well. I am very happy to report that the Alumni Band Board has agreed to support this trip whole-heartedly and has set a goal of \$5,000 to be raised over the next nine months. I hope that you will find this endeavor worthwhile and contribute as you are able. A performance like this will propel MSU once again to the forefront of the college band world.

Thank you in advance for your generous contribution. As always, I am honored to serve as the Director of Bands at such a wonderful institution.

Sincerely,

Kevin L. Sedatole
Director of Bands



Photo by Lynn Brown

Beryl's Beat *spring* 2008

Alderman, Pete ('99, *Percussion*) is an industrial designer at MACI, has two children (Lily & Adam), and teaches drumline at Western High School.

Aurand, Charles ('54 & '58, *Clarinet*) send his thanks to Mrs. Falcone for her continuing service to the MSU music program.

Barry, Jim ('73 & '83, *Trumpet*) shares that wife **Linda** ('74) also retired after 30 years as a kindergarten and 1st grade teacher, the last 29 in Okemos. He is now trying to persuade her to march in the alumni band, as she played flute in the MSU Bands from '70-'74.

Bessolo, Amy Schimmel ('87, *Mellophone*) is a full-time mom, and works part-time as a landscape architect. She and her family continue to enjoy their life on the lake, (in the woods yet in the neighborhood near family)...the best of many worlds in one location. She also thanks Beryl for her continued work!

Blum, Richard S. ('65, *Tenor Saxophone*) has been practicing orthopedic surgery for 30 years in Milford, CT. He plays in local college jazz and symphonic bands.

Braciszewski, Terry L. ('79, *Trumpet*) adopted two brothers from the Dominican Republic. His family now has six kids.

Carl, Carrie ('94, *Mellophone*) has been teaching science at Hastings Middle School for 14 years. She still loves to play in bands, has taken up tennis and soccer in the summer and basketball in the winter, for exercise.

Chadwick, David P. ('56, *Clarinet*) participated in a concert tour in Ireland with the Washington, D.C. area chamber chorus, Voices 21.

Cowell, Robert ('75, *Trumpet*) retired after 30 years as a CPA. Daughter Maggy is obtaining her PhD from MSU.

Curtis, Betsy A. ('86, *Trombone*) works for the Genesee Intermediate School District as a music therapist working with special needs children, youth, and adults. She plays trombone in their school pep band.

Dalton (Strong), Melissa ('94, *Trumpet*) and **Scott** ('94, *Trombone*) enjoy spending time with their daughter Madeline (2½) in Oxford.

Dewalt, David ('79, *Percussion*) moved to Florida.

Draeger, Tim ('86, *Tuba*) and Rachael chair the family entertainment stage at the St. John's Applefest in Fenton, MI. They are always looking for good community bands and singing groups to play the stage the third weekend in September.

Dye, James B. ('50, *Whistle*) shares that life is quieter. He enjoys family, grandchildren, friends, and 57 years of fond memories of MSU, band members, and the Falcones.

Fisk, Al ('78 & '85, *Trombone*) is now a certified Barbershop Harmony Society Judge. He served on the panel in Denver (July '07) for the International Quartet contest.

Franklin, Larry R. ('59 & '67, *Clarinet*) toured St. Petersburg, Russia; Helinski, Finland; Tallinn, Estonia; and Riga, Latvia with the Detroit Conference United Methodist Chorale in the summer of 2007.

Fuller, John ('51, *Clarinet*) reports that he is still kicking.

Geerdes, Jeremy ('02, *Trumpet*) is happily married and teaching fifth grade in Caledonia.

Goff, Danforth O. ('66, *Percussion*) works with senior center music programs, the Lansing Concert Band, and some private drum lessons.

Gould, Susan ('91, *Alto Saxophone*) is in her 17th year as Greenville's high school band and orchestra director. She's an active adjudicator for MSBOA festivals, and a new member of the American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA) as of June 2007. She took the Greenville band to Orlando, FL in December '06 to march in the Citrus Bowl parade and the Walt Disney World New Year's Eve parade.

Haldeman, Candice ('03, *Mellophone*) teaches middle school band in Steger, IL.

Hayes, Chad ('96, *Trombone*) shares that he has a son (2).

Helmer, Bruce G. ('48, *Clarinet, Alto & Tenor Saxophone*) plays in the DeWitt Community Concert Band, is in good health, and turned 85 this year.

Hickson, Gene ('53, *Clarinet & Drum Major*) has a granddaughter (14) who is showing great promise as a twirler!

Huizinga, Sue (Townley) ('89, *Tenor Saxophone*) quit her job working as a financial healthcare administrator for the last 14 years to stay home with her two daughters (9 & 11). She now works part-time as the music director at the Unitarian Universalist church in Muskegon.

Johnkoski, Stephen ('77, *Trombone*) joined the instrumental music faculty at Kellogg Community College teaching in the trombone studio, and the social science department.

Kaiser, Chris ('92, *Tuba*) and **Barb (Patterson)** (*Baritone*, '93) are enjoying life with their three children, Claire (7), Ian (4), and Emma (1). Chris teaches social studies at Charlotte High School and Barb works part-time as a speech pathologist.

Kausch, Eric ('03, *Percussion*) began his fifth year of teaching music. He is currently director of bands and choirs at Stoney Creek High School in Rochester Hills, MI. Now that he completed his master degree in music education from "the other school" he enjoys riding his 2006 Harley Davidson Road King Custom. Go Green!

Koning, Paul D. ('79 & '81, *Percussion*) is senior manager of packaging engineering at Cisco, and enjoys volunteering with his two sons' drum activities. After three seasons at UCLA, and four years in the Santa Clara Vanguard drumlines, Derek is now a member of the MSU compline and drumline. Devon (13) is a drummer at Miller Middle School in San Jose, CA. After 30 years, Paul will "attempt" the MSU Alumni Band this year!

Kraus, Amy ('86, *Big Ten Flags*) shares that her motorcycle safety training company, Alpha Training Center, purchased eight acres of land and built a 4000 sq. ft. facility. They are Michigan's largest private provider of motorcycle safety. She is in her second year as treasurer for the City of Lansing.

Malcuit, Tracey-Fox ('84, *Alto Saxophone*) works as an instructional paraprofessional for a special education program at Pottersville Public Schools, has been working with Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue for seven years, and is returning back to school to obtain a health & human services degree with the University of Phoenix. Dyland is now 11!

McCaffrey, Mindy ('91, *Alto Saxophone*) began her fifth year as a hospice volunteer coordinator for Memorial Home Services, has lived in Illinois for seven years, and recently moved to a country home to have more land for the dog (maybe dogs??) to roam.

Beryl's Beat *spring* 2008

McMullen, Susan (Aula) (*Trumpet*) and husband Marc have moved with boys Conner (5) and Sean (2) back to Truckee, CA for new jobs.

Monroe, Bill ('81, *Trombone*) shares that both his sons are in his high school band.

Mortensen, James W. ('82, *Trombone*) shares that his daughter joined the SMB as a freshman this fall.

Nelson, Nancy ('74 & '77 *Alto Saxophone*) share that Matthew and Michael officially became members of the MSU Alumni Band upon graduation in 2007. Michael played in the SMB for four years, the Symphony Band for one year, and the Spartan Brass for six years. Matthew played in the SMB for one year. They are the sons of **Jack** ('72 & '74) and **Nancy** ('74 & '77) **Nelson** and the grandsons of **Henry** ('47 & '52) and **Phyllis** ('44 & '69) **Nelson**.

Nielsen, Erik W. ('73, *Trombone*) shares that son Patrick is entering MSU this fall.

Osborn, Michael ('92, *Tuba*) entered his 16th year of teaching in Brighton and was elected vice-chair of the Kappa Kappa Psi Board of Trustees at the 2007 national convention.

Piatt, Bob ('60, *Euphonium*) shares his memory of Leonard Falcone calling him in late August and asking if he would like to play in the band. Leonard was also a good friend of his Muskegon High School Band Director William Stewart.

Rimpau, Joy ('75, *Euphonium*) transferred to GM's Lansing Grand River Assembly plant building Cadillacs. In 2006 she took a three-week cruise/tour of New Zealand and Australia with her mother, and continues to play in the Meridian Community Band and at St. Thomas Aquinas church.

Sachs, Bill (*Alto Sax*, '67 & '75) and Ann (O'Brien) ('69) welcomed their third grandchild in winter of 2007. Trieg William Matthews was born 8 lbs, 21.5". Bill and Ann have two more grandchildren, Kevin (7) and Kendra (10).

Safran, Laura (Wednesday) ('84, *Percussion*) and John's twin boys started band and travel soccer this fall. They are engineers at IBM (John) and NXP (Laura) in East Fishkill, NY.

Scott, Joseph ('62, *Tuba*) played tuba in the Mid-Michigan Concert Band under Claude Lemmer this past year.

Silverstros, Nick (*Tuba*) is serving his second tour of duty in Iraq. He is a lieutenant colonel, and sorry to miss the fun of the fall reunion.

Smith, Ian ('07, *Trombone*) is completing a fellowship at U of M's School of Dentistry, and works in the field of bone tissue engineering.

Spry, Gerald (*Percussion*, '64) traveled with the MSU Alumni Band to Canada, New York, and Interlochen to conduct and teach, and directed the Waterford New Horizon Concert Band.

Stimson, Jeff ('99, *Trumpet*) completed his masters in music education coursework in July 2007 and is currently working on his thesis. He is in his 9th year teaching band, 7th year at Three Fires Middle School.

Thelen, Glenn ('95 & '97, *Trumpet*) and **Cassie (Borden)** ('95, *Mellophone*) have been married 10 years and have three children, Emily (8), Stuart (6), and Danielle (2). Glenn is in a band in Clinton county.

Thomas, Robert M. ('82, *Baritone*) shares that the kids are moved out and he is enjoying the peace and quiet. He still plays in the Novi Concert Band, enjoys karate, and works too many hours!

VanDyke, Harrison ('50 & '52, *Trumpet*) attended the 30th Annual International Punster Competitions, in Austin, TX, and tied for 4th place. He continues to play trumpet, and is a cantor at St. Patrick's Church in Mt. Dora, FL. He has 10 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren scattered around the U.S.

Voelkner, Tricia R. ('97, *Tenor Saxophone*) began her 9th year as a music educator, and her 6th year as instrumental music director at Edsel Ford High School in Dearborn, MI. She enjoys spending time with her husband, Andy ('89-'93), their daughter April (6½) and their three dogs: Maestro, Melody and Mozart.

Wade, Clarence H. ('51, *Trumpet*) recently retired having played two years with the Motor City Brass Band. He just completed recording 172 trumpet solos on tape and celebrated 58 years of marriage to Edna Reuling ('49). Laura plays clarinet in the Bay City Symphony Band and Deborah plays euphonium in the Motor City Brass Band. Randall plays piano in the Swing Band in Bellingham, WA University Band.

Welton, Arthur R. (*Flute-Piccolo*, '50) had a great trip to the Canadian Rockies.

Weiss, Jane Dombroske ('82, *Mellophone*) directs a junior high band in Saginaw, MI and is busy raising her three high school-age children (all brass players, of course!)

Weyersberg, Kurt ('81) and Lynn celebrated 25 years of marriage in 2007.

Williamsen, Bob ('85, *Tuba*) Christy, Nelson (8), Chrissy (5), Lee (4) live in Evergreen, CO. Bob is vice president of sales for Intellidot Corp, a healthcare technology company selling to hospitals. Christy was a cheerleader at Wake Forest University, and is now a retired pediatric oncologist, full-time mom, and home school teacher.

Slate Officers 2008–2009

President: Bill Sachs

Vice President: Jim Barry

Secretary: Betty Elliott

Treasurer: Greg Pell

At-Large: Jack Nelson, Lynn Kelsey

The board wishes to thank all who volunteered for a position on the board. We received inquiries from several very qualified candidates. Vote to be held at the Alumni Band Fall Reunion on September 13th.

2010 MSU Alumni Tour Band

The MSU Alumni Tour Band will be heading to Italy in 2010. This destination to Italy is particularly appropriate given the first trip destination was Italy in 1985. Thus, the year 2010 will celebrate the 25th year the tour band has been actively traveling out of country, enjoying the scenery and playing concerts. This past April, at the spring luncheon, Lauralee Campbell, tour agent, presented a list of cities that would comprise the tour. They are: Milan, Venice, Florence, and Rome with concerts in each city. Ken Bloomquist will be on the podium (he has conducted on every tour). This trip should be another exciting and enjoyable tour for the band and spouses/friends. This fall on Alumni Band Day, either a lunch or supper will be organized for tour band participants—both veterans and newly interested persons—depending on the time of kickoff. More information regarding the fall meeting will be available at a later date. Dale Bartlett can be contacted for information at 517-332-4495 or bartle17@msu.edu.

Have You Ever Heard *the* One About Leonard Falcone?

Do you have a favorite story about Leonard Falcone? Would you like to be a part of a project to honor his memory?

Unless you're from another planet...or were born yesterday...you know that Leonard Falcone was the Director of Bands at MSU from 1927 through 1967, and continued as Professor of Low Brass until 1984. His work helped to lead the Band and Music Department (now College of Music) to national prominence, and he helped to establish the tradition of excellence which continues to this day as his legacy every time MSU Bands perform.

It's time for a book to document the extraordinary life of this wonderful man! We have the facts, dates, photos, clippings, tapes, programs, and countless other pieces of memorabilia, but the funny stories, incidents, testimonials, and anecdotes are needed to bring the narrative to life.

Have you ever noticed that those of us lucky enough to have come into contact with Dr. Leonard Falcone (as band members, private students, faculty colleagues or fellow band directors, adjudicators) always have stories to tell about this gentle man? He was gifted musically beyond belief...one of the most completely honest persons ever to live, and he was also kind, loving, a bit naïve and the perfect straightman and unwitting master of the double entendre. Isn't time to record some of these wonderfully human, funny, touching and meaningful anecdotes or testimonials before they're forgotten?

Without giving away the whole story, source or punch line...Did you ever hear about Leonard...

- ...with a shotgun?
- ...arguing with William D. (yes, you know who!)
- ...drinking on the podium (while conducting Wagner) in a Bavarian beer tent?
- ...conducting a symphony orchestra...and asking the cello section to play more like baritones?
- ...putting his baritone in a waste basket?
- ...changing a tire after a blowout?
- ...chastising the "sassaphone" section?
- ...rolling his car over...and still making it to the rehearsal on time?
- ...admonishing the MSU Marching Band (after an away game) because some members "for the first time ever in the history of the Band"...were drinking on the overnight train ride back from Columbus? (Yeah, right!)
- ...and the last time he conducted the MSU Fight Song?

There must be hundreds more of these stories...if we can only get them in writing before it's too late.

Beryl Falcone and daughter, Cecilia, have agreed to be the custodians of all submitted stories. Former MSU Band member, Rita Griffin Comstock, (Class of 1968 – distinguished retired English teacher) has agreed to write the book. The hoped for date of publication is sometime in 2010.

If you wish to be a part of this project to honor Leonard Falcone, please direct your written stories and/or testimonials to: cecefalcone@msn.com (the preferred method) or

Mrs. Beryl Falcone
413 Lancer Lane
Lansing, MI 48906

Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, years in the band and instrument.

Thanks,

Fritz Stansell (Class of 1954)



MSU Alumni Band to Participate in Homecoming Parade

On Friday evening, October 3, 2008 the MSU Alumni Band will participate in the MSU Homecoming Parade. All band members that have provided the band with a correct email address will receive an email in mid-September with registration information and parade details. Band members will be able to register by email, at the Alumni Band Fall Reunion, or by calling Jack Nelson at 517-655-3627. You can also email Jack at jackn4952@cablespeed.com. There is no cost to participate in this event. The band will perform on the same type of truck as last year.

Own a CD Copy of the Photo Archives of the MSU Alumni Band!!

- 1600+ photos
- 5 audio tracks (Fight Song, Shadows, etc.)
- Photo Montage slide show

*Available only in-person
at the Fall Reunion*

Cost:

Your donation to the MSU Alumni Band — Please be generous!!
Donations will be used toward the activities of the MSU Alumni Band —

- MSU Band scholarships
- Commissions of new band music
- Alumni Band Newsletter
- Alumni Band Reunions
- Purchase of new instruments
- Alumni Band Concerts, etc. etc.

Note: All costs associated with this project have been donated.
No MSU Alumni Band funds will be used.

Since the Last Issue



(Left to right): Cheryl Ambs and Cece Falcone chat before the 2008 MSU Alumni Band Spring Concert.

Photo by Joe Levine.



MSU Professor Emeritus Kenneth G. Bloomquist directs the MSU Alumni Band at the 2008 Spring Concert.

Photo by Joe Levine.



Surf on Over to Our Web Site

Next time you're on the web, stop by the MSU Alumni Band web site. You'll find information about upcoming events, a digital copy of the newsletter, email addresses of members, and lots of pictures!
<http://www.msu.edu/~alumband>

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) 484-1899, mailing a note to MSU Alumni Band, c/o Beryl Falcone, 413 Lancer Lane, Lansing, MI 48906, or emailing Gary Baron at: tyzilm7@msualum.com.