

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN BAND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

Winter Issue 2012
Volume 64, Issue 1

M fanfare

2011 Blast From The Past: Not Just Your Average Homecoming!

By Salo Korn '65

Homecoming 2011 was a success by any standard as 375+ band alumni returned for our 61st annual Blast From The Past. The weather cooperated and the football team did its part with a 36 to 14 win over Purdue. The special weekend included BandORama and the 50th anniversary reunion of the 1961 Russian Tour Band.

The Russian Tour reunion began at a Thursday dinner, with none other than Jerry Bilik providing the entertainment. On Friday night, all the members of that great band were inducted into the School of Music, Theatre and Dance Hall of Fame. On Saturday at halftime, they were honored with tremendous applause from
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A Family Affair! Blast 2011



BandORama 2011



Drumline at BandORama 2011



Jerry Bilik conducts morning rehearsal



The '61 Russian Tour Band at Halftime



On-field Director John Wilkins and Drum Major Jeff Wilkins



Left: The 1981 Rose Bowl Line back for their 30th reunion.



Halftime

Homecoming 2011



MMB picks 'em up at Pregame

(Continued from page 1)

the stands as the combined bands played "The Great Gate of Kiev."

Band O Rama was held on Friday night in a change from our normal schedule, resulting in the cancellation of the Friday evening UMBAA barbecue and rehearsal as has been customary the last few years. Many members attended the concert, and, since food has become a key part of any event, President Susan Sutherland arranged for a group of about 40 to have dinner at Cottage Inn. For the hat trick, in the third event on Friday, the Alumni Pep Band substituted for the Junior Band at that night's hockey game, and saw Michigan beat Ferris State 4-0.

On Saturday morning, with a noon kickoff, the annual business meeting and rehearsal set a world record for speed (and that's saying something!) President Susan Sutherland ran a tight ship. 9 board members were elected. They are: **Rich Alder, Pete Dalton, Roseanne Dolega, Jim Kozich, Jim Whiteman, David Aguilar, Jeff Henderson, Kristy Penney, and James Roach.** A moment of silence was held for those members lost to us in 2011. Band Mom Maggie St. Clair was honored upon her 25th anniversary as the master sergeant of Revelli Hall. UMBAA on-field Director John Wilkins once again led the

indoor rehearsal as only he can do it.

At the outdoor morning rehearsal we all had a few minutes to meet our future band alumni. Former director Dr. Eric Becher and former arranger Jerry Bilik were on hand to conduct us.

Thanks to your support, we were able to award scholarships to several MMB members.

The game itself was great fun and the weather was good until the rain came with about eight minutes left in the game. Happily it abated for post game as the sun came out and smiled on our team's victory.

The UMBAA would like to thank Dr. Scott Boerma, Dr. John Pasquale and Maggie St. Clair for their constant support, the MMB Equipment Staff who do the search and rescue missions which provide many of us with our instruments, Membership Secretary Gary Straffon who manages the registration and music folder requirements to make Blast a successful event, and our director, John Wilkins. In addition, thanks to the many others who volunteer their time so that we can come back to this great university and once again march on that special field and just once more pretend we are younger than we are.



Postgame Blast 2011



Dr. Boerma & 2011 UMBAA Scholarship Recipients



Carl's always helpful!



A couple of starving artists



80s Trumpet Power!



The 2011 MMB Trumpets and Alumni Trumpets with the two instruments purchased for the band in honor of our fallen section member, Bill Gage '78



We celebrate Maggie's 25 years of dedication to MMB

From Your President

By Sheri Moore, '91

Hello! My name is Sheri Moore, and I am so super excited to be the new president of our University of Michigan Band Alumni Association. I was a flag in the Michigan Marching Band and played the bass clarinet in the Campus Band.

Our organization has been very busy. As you know, we support all our School of Music Theatre and Dance (SMTD) Bands. In addition, we provide activities for you to socialize and participate in. In May we hosted a send-off reception for our exceptional Symphony Band following the Bon Voyage concert for their China Tour. We hosted another fun golf outing this summer, raising over \$1,000 for student scholarships. Our new marching band students enjoyed eating pizza and goodies during the band week luncheon.

We were also excited to launch our new website that was ready just in time for our BLAST registration. A number of alumni mingled at Cottage Inn prior to enjoying the 2011 Band-O-Rama that honored the 1961 Russian Tour Band and our own beloved Jerry Bilik. We were excited to renew our old tradition of winning homecoming by beating Purdue during our BLAST event. Our Alumni Concert Band continues to grow and enjoyed performing at Hill Auditorium in November as part of a concert with the Campus Band. It has been a fun-filled year!

There are tons of ways to participate and join in the excitement. Consider attending SMTD Band performances on a regular basis. My favorite, the Collage Concert, is coming in

January, where you are surrounded by musical snippets from every direction. You can join the UMBAA Concert Band and perform or come enjoy our concert on March 18th. Participate in or volunteer in one of our fun events. If you can't make it back to Ann Arbor, we would love to connect you with other Band Alumni in your area to simply watch a U-M event. We continue to look for volunteers outside of Ann Arbor to organize social or musical events in their area.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Musically Yours,
Sheri Moore

umbaa-president@umich.edu

BandORama and Blast!

By James Roach '63

On Friday, October 28, approximately 50 UMBAA members and guests met for a mingle at the Cottage Inn before attending BandORama at Hill. As always, when UMBAA members gather the discussion centers on "when were you in band?" and "you must know..." and "do you remember when..." However, it never seems to matter which eras are represented, as we share a common heritage and common experiences from our involvement in the Michigan Band.

Following a delicious pizza and salad buffet, much friendly banter, and a crisp walk to Hill Auditorium, we celebrated our Michigan Band heritage, enjoying spirited performances by the Concert, Symphony and Marching Bands. Special recognition was given to members of the 50th Anniversary of the Russian Band Tour and to noted composer/arranger/alum Jerry Bilik. The evening was a fitting musical "kick off" to Homecoming Weekend.



Dr. Scott Boerma (above) and Dr. John Pasquale receive UMBAA Special Citations from UMBAA President Sheri Moore.



Alumni Update listed by first year in MBands

Don Lewis '55 MMB

Retired in 2006 after an aerospace engineering career at TRW, COMSAT & NASA. Currently playing bass trombone in several ensembles in the Annapolis/ Chesapeake Bay area.

Geoffrey Kempter '77 MMB, Campus

Geoff recently moved back to Michigan after living in Colorado, New Jersey, California and Pennsylvania. He lives in Grand Rapids with his wife Ruth Stein and three children.

Brian Gmerek '79 MMB

is a clinical pharmacist in Oncology, Evergreen Hospital Medical Center (outside of Seattle). He lives in North Bend, WA with wife, Cheryl and two daughters, Amber and Nikki. Drummer in Cascade Jazz (quartet) since 1999. Perform weekly at Boxleys Place, jazz club in North Bend, with numerous players.

Cindy Gray Rochette '81 MMB

Celebrating 25 years of marriage this year!

Laura Ambrook Redmond '84 MMB

Enjoying living in the beautiful upstate of SC near Clemson with my husband and son (10). My husband is a one of the team physicians caring for Clemson University athletes and local teams and when we can't get back to Ann Arbor, we like attending the different for Div I sports CU offers. I received my Masters of Science in Nursing Innovation Intra/Entrepreneurship in 2010 from Drexel University, graduating with honors and am currently president and founder of LKR Evidence Consulting.

Wendy Parsons Fuller '89 MMB

I recently married the love of my life, Tony Fuller, and gave birth to our first child. Zoey Marie Fuller was born in March of 2011. Life is good!

James Hall '90 MMB

Married Susan Smith in August of 2010. Daughter Charlotte Hall born 7/1/2011.

Emily Marriott Borus '92 MMB, Concert

I currently reside in Shelby Township, MI and am the principal clarinetist with the South Oakland Concert Band. I also perform in the metro Detroit area with The Classic Winds woodwind quintet and teach clarinet and alto saxophone privately.

Christopher Mordy '92 MMB

In the past year, I started my own law firm, got married, and hopefully will have closed on a new house just before this year's homecoming. Now ... what to do for an encore ...

Jason Wuellner '92 MMB, Concert

Jason and Sara Wuellner welcomed their second child, Beck Elliott in July of 2011. Beck is the brother of 2-year old sister, Madison Elizabeth. Jason is the founder of two music related businesses including a student musician recruiting service and a woodwind reed vending service. He is also a founding member of the popular local horn band Brass Jacket which is coincidentally, searching for trumpet and trombone players.

Jason Townsend '96 MMB

Finally got married to the woman I had met on the first day of band camp! Still remember that day like it was yesterday. She was walking back from Elbel field to Revelli Hall, blond hair shining in the sun, when I turned to my friend and said \"she's the one!\" **Devonie (Pinsell, '96 MMB)** and I dated for over a decade while moving around the country, but tied the knot when my acceptance into the MBA program at U-M brought us back to Ann Arbor. Even thought about joining the MMB again, but knew it would be impossible to top the first time around!

Bob Robke '97 MMB

I live in Dexter, MI with my wife, Amy, and our two children, Nathan (6) and Addison (4). I work in Ann Arbor at a not-for-profit public health company.

Kimberly M. Smith '01 MMB, Campus, Concert

I am the Program Coordinator for the Program in the Environment in LSA. In this capacity, I manage marketing and communications for the program, handle alumni relations, advise undergraduate students, plan academic events, and oversee the scholarship distribution to our students.

Beth Corbin Winters '01 MMB, Campus

My husband Patrick and I are expecting a baby girl in December of 2011. Although she is being born into a divided household of UM/MSU, she's been listening to the Michigan fight song in the womb! :)

Emily Green '03 MMB, Campus, Concert

I just graduated from Michigan State's Veterinary school this May and am now working in a mixed large and small animal practice in upstate New York.

Benjamin Iwrey '03 MMB, Campus and Kirstin Northenscold '03 MMB

Ben writes: Kirstin Northenscold (my MMB sweetheart) and I celebrated our second wedding anniversary on August 8th of this year. We just bought our first home in downtown Indianapolis. I'm a compressor aerodynamicist for Rolls-Royce; Kirstin is an English teacher at University High School in Carmel.

Lisa Trotzke-Laws '03 MMB, Campus, Concert

After teaching ballroom dancing in Ann Arbor for 3 years, I worked on a cruise ship in the Caribbean and moved to Florida to pursue a career in dance fitness. I am currently enjoying all of Orlando's perks and soaking up the sun all year long!

Robin Boeke '04 MMB, Campus

After graduating from the University of Michigan with a BSE, Robin completed a Master of Science at Oregon State University. She now work as an atmospheric scientist with the Climate Sciences Branch at NASA Langley Research Center.

Gary Chia '04 MMB, Campus

is studying composition at Manhattan School of Music.

Gina Thomas '04 MMB, Campus

is an ER and Neuro RN in Metro Detroit.

Bridge Bienkowski '05 MMB

has graduated with a masters in civil engineering from the University of Texas.

Justin Kirik '07 MMB, Campus

is currently a graduate student at the University of Virginia pursuing a doctorate in aerospace engineering.

SUBMISSIONS for ALUMNI UPDATE:

News items of current activities are welcomed for the MFanfare. DEADLINES: Materials must be received by July 1 for FALL Issue, November 1 for WINTER ISSUE, February 1 for SPRING Issue, April 1 for SUMMER Issue. Submit online, via email or mail.

Tell us what you've been up to so the rest of us know ...recent promotions, awards, positions, births, family, publications) This material is for publication; please be specific but brief.

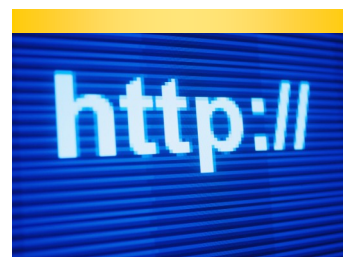
ONLINE at www.umbaa.org

MAIL to: M Fanfare Alumni Update
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Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
E-Mail to mfanfare-editor@umich.edu



UMBAA Website Changes & Login

By Linda Stone Ridley '73



There have been many changes on our new UMBAA Website

www.umbaa.org in the last few months!

The membership form is now only available after logging into the site. Some people were filling out the form including credit card information only to get a message that their email address wasn't on file. They weren't billed for the amount, but it was confusing. The need to enter two cryptic words has also been removed.

- The Welcome menu now has tabs for **About UMBAA, History, Bylaws, Special Citations and Web Links**. The **Members** menu has tabs for **Board** (including an updated list of board members), **Legends and Lore** and **In Memoriam**. If you login to the site, the **Members** menu also has tabs for **Member list** and **Band Ring Order Form**.
- We've added **Homecoming 2011** under **UMBAA Top Stories**, and the article includes photos and some quotes from members (we could use more quotes!).
- The **UMBAA Concert Band** page has been updated with information about the Winter session.
- The **Legends and Lore** page has links for each decade, but we have no stories since 1995. Please send your stories to umbaa-webmaster@umich.edu and include your first year in the band.
- Soon to come - minutes from UMBAA board meetings and a **Frequently Asked Questions** section.

[LOGIN @WWW.UMBAA.ORG](http://www.umbaa.org)

In order to update your membership information or to sign up for the UMBAA Concert Band, you will need to login. The first time on the site on the Welcome page, scroll down to "**Already a UMBAA member but need login information? Click here!**" on the right side. Click on the link, enter your name and the email address that you provided to UMBAA. If you are in our database and your first name, last name and email address match what we have for you, you'll get back two emails. One of the emails has a link that you'll need to click on to activate your account. After your account has been activated you can login using your email address and the temporary password emailed to you.

The website requires users to be logged in before seeing the Membership and Concert Band forms. If you are not sure what email address we have for you or have any problems creating a login, send an email to umbaa-webmaster@umich.edu including what band(s) you played in while at UM, your first year in the band, and the name you used when in the band.



2011 UMBAA Scholarship Recipients
Symphony and Concert Bands

Thanks to you, scholarship awards totaling \$13,000 were presented to members of the Concert Band, Symphony Band, and the Michigan Marching Band in 2011.

MMB Members

Josh Albee, Senior, Percussion, Cymbal, Clarkston, Michigan

Kenrick (Kenny) Aylesworth, Junior, Tuba, Macomb Township, Michigan

Catherine Blair, Junior, Clarinet, Dexter, Michigan

Chad Gregory, Junior, Trumpet, Allen Park, Michigan

Rob Lentz, Senior, Tuba, Iowa City, Iowa

Steven Rish, Senior, Alto Saxophone, Harrison Township, Michigan

Matt Schottler, Senior, Clarinet, Gilbert, Arizona

John Syverson, Junior, Trumpet, Northville, Michigan

Symphony/Concert Members

Travis Blume, Sophomore, Oboe performance, Hurst, Texas

Stephen Byars, Senior, Tuba, Performance and Music Education, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Maureen Conway, Senior,

Clarinet, Music Education, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Brian Dunbar, Second-year masters, Flute Performance, St. Augustine, Florida

John Larson, Senior, Percussion, Music Education, Pickerington, Ohio

Peter Nesbitt, Junior, Trombone, Music Education and performance, Grand Ledge, Michigan

Chris Plaskota, Junior, Euphonium, Music Education and performance, Naperville, Illinois

Ryan Reynolds, Senior, Bassoon Performance, Alpena, Michigan

UMBAA Scholarships

UMBAA Concert Band

By Peter Larson '85

The Fall 2011 UMBAA Concert Band session, under the direction of U-M doctoral candidate Langston Hemenway, concluded on November 13 with our first-ever performance at Hill Auditorium. UMBAA CB continues to grow both musically and numerically, and performed on the Hill stage as guests of the University of Michigan Campus Band. The concert was a great melding of traditions and generations of musicians at the University of Michigan.

Performing at historic Hill Auditorium brought back memories for everyone in the band. For some, it had been decades since last taking that stage. For others, only a few years - and in one case a matter of months. Regardless of the time elapsed, performing in such a special venue certainly created many new memories for Concert Band members.

We were guest conducted by band member Mary Mullison, a School of Music, Theater and Dance alumnae. Mary conducted *Joy Revisited*, by another Michigan alumnus, Frank Tichelli.

The band has a tradition of sorts, playing a piece by Tichelli at each concert. The opportunity to play music that was composed after our last foray into a concert band provides many of us with new perspectives into the contemporary band music world. We would like to thank Mary for her time and talent as our guest conductor session. More importantly, we would like to congratulate and commend her for a job well done!

A special part of the performance

was the opportunity not only to play *Civil War Fantasy* by Michigan alumnus Jerry Bilik, but to have Jerry come to Ann Arbor to conduct the piece at the concert! The Sunday concert and Thursday night rehearsal gave band members a chance to explore this moving piece written in 1961 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the Civil War. The fact that we performed the piece 50 years after it was first played on the field at Michigan Stadium by Dr. Revelli's band was not lost on the composer or the band. Playing under Bilik's baton - when it wasn't flying out of his hand or breaking - provided us with unique insight into the piece. At several times during rehearsal, Jerry stopped to explain the music from his perspective, providing us with information about the Civil War era tunes woven together to create the piece, as well as the feelings and mood that he was creating throughout the score. The band also performed Bilik's *Block M March* to close our part of the concert.



UMBAA presented Langston Hemenway with its first ever Distinguished Service Award for his direction and assistance with the Concert Band. He has conducted us in five of our eight sessions. He has shared his talents and musicianship with the band, helping us lay the foundation of our band and grow musically as an ensemble. We are fortunate to have Langston and other talented resources at the School of Music, Theater and Dance; and we are grateful that



UMBAA Concert Band on Stage at Hill

Langston has been so willing to share his expertise and friendship with us.

After a stellar performance by the U-M Campus Band, UMBAA provided a reception in the lower lobby of Hill Auditorium, giving alumni, students, and their families an opportunity to meet each other and share stories of our experiences at Michigan. We would like to thank the Board for organizing and providing the reception for both bands, as well as you, the dues-paying members, for your financial support that allowed us to host the post concert reception for the students in the Campus Band and their families and friends.

We would also like to thank Dr. John Pasquale, conductor of the Campus Band, for inviting us to join them in concert at Hill Auditorium. In addition, many thanks to Michael Haithcock, Director of Bands, for his support of UMBAA Concert Band and for his able assistance in organizing the concert at Hill.



2011 UMBAA Concert Band in Rehearsal at Skyline High School, Ann Arbor

Join the UMBAA Concert Band

The UMBAA Concert Band is looking forward to our Winter 2012 session. Rehearsals will begin at Skyline High School in Ann Arbor on Thursday, January 19, 2012 at 7:30 pm. Our next concert

will be at Huron High School in Ann Arbor on March 18, 2012. All UMBAA Members in Good Standing (MGS) are invited to join the concert band, although it would be helpful if you

were somewhere within driving distance to Ann Arbor. If you would like to join us, we would love to have you. Please go to www.umbaa.org for more information.



Dr. Boerma and Members of the Fanfare Band in Times Square

Fanfare Band in NYC

By Jonathan Bower '08
Junior, Trombone—MMB

In December, Dr. Scott Boerma and 13 members of the Michigan Marching Band's Fanfare Band along with Drum Major Jeff McMahon

were invited to New York City to perform at a reception for former U-M football coach Lloyd Carr's induction into the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame. Although only in the city for around 20 hours, the band members and staff had a lovely time. It was even complete with a spontaneous performance on Times Square!

Get Tickets to Wynton Marsalis and the JLCO!

Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra are in concert on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 7:30 pm Hill Auditorium

To reserve any of the 20 seats that have been reserved for UMBAA for this event, please send an email to Susan at susanrsutherland@gmail.com indicating the number of tickets that you would like. You will get a reply with the address to send the check, but your spot won't be held until a check for the ticket(s) arrives in the mail. You will receive an email confirmation that your check has arrived. Each ticket is \$37.40 and your seats will be located on the mezzanine level.

Revell Hall • 350 East Hoover Street
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M Fanfare, Newsletter of the
University of Michigan Band Alumni Association

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AND THEIR FIRST YEAR IN THE MICHIGAN BANDS

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M fanfare

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
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Watch the MMB
in performance
at the 2012
Sugar Bowl,
January 3, 2012!
GO BLUE!



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University Bands Performances

Symphony Band, February 3, 8 pm Hill Auditorium

Concert Band, February 8, 8 pm Hill Auditorium

Symphony Band Chamber Winds, February 17, Stamps Auditorium
Walgreen Drama Center

Alumni Concert Band, March 18, Huron High School

Go to www.umbaa.org for more information