



FROM the PODIUM Chris Smith, Director of Bands



Hello Boosters & Students,

As the school year draws to an end this will be the final Crescendo of the school year. I always enjoy editing the newsletter because it allows me to look forward to the good things to come. This edition always makes me think of all the happening from the past year.

I'd like to congratulate the members of the Comeaux Band; musicians, spinners, dancers and managers, on their many successes this school year. The "Spectacular Band from Spartan Land" was the fourth runner-up at the McNeese Showdown at Sundown and a Sweepstakes at the SLBDA District Marching Assessment, as well as, a Sweepstakes rating at the Vermilion parish Marching Assessment. The Wind Symphony earned the a Sweepstakes rating at the LMEA District Large Ensemble Assessment and the Symphonic Band an Excellent rating on stage and a Superior in Sight-Reading. There were numerous fine performances at the annual Recital Night concert. The Winter Guards Elite and Bleu had a fine Winter Guard season with Bleu earning the Bronze medal in the Novice class at the LMCGPC championships. Rhythm in Bleu, at the VIP competition in New Orleans, placed 1st in Class with their Jazz routine and 2nd in the Hip Hop category. The Comeaux trip band earned the high Gold rating, Best Over-All Band and the Adjudicator's Award at the Heritage Festival in San Antonio Texas.

There were also some individual accomplishments with eight members earning membership in the SLBDA honor bands, as well as, numerous students participating in area college/university honor ensembles. I'm proud of all of our students for their of their hard work and accomplishments.

I'd like to also commend the members of our Band Boosters, our band parents for their hard work and dedication to the Spartan Band. Without our loyalty and support it would be hard for our students to be successful. It's always a pleasure to work with you for the betterment of our students.

I wish all of our senior band members good luck in their future endeavors. Thanks for all of the energy and hard work you've put into being a member of the Spartan Band. I hope you will visit often to see how your alma mater is doing and to just say hello.

I'm looking forward to a great end of the semester, a wonderful Spring Concert and an enjoyable Band Awards Banquet. The New Year will bring with it some changes, new faces and a new excitement. We should all be ready to hit it head on and make the Spartan Band truly "Spectacular."

Chris

IN THIS ISSUE

Band Banquet	2
Bingo	6
Calendar 2017-18	6
Car Show	6
Contact Info.	7
Crawfish Boil	4
End-of-Year Auditions	4
Graduation 2017	5
Just Dance	5
Lagniappe	2
Letter of Intent	3
Band Online Store	5
President's Message	3
Summer Mail Out	7
Spin-Like-the-Wind	4
Sponsors	8

LAGNIAPPE Scott Geiger, Associate Director of Bands



Boosters,

I don't know how you're planning on spending your break (well for teachers and students), but I'm planning on getting moving again. Starting out by a jog on Saturday, and then again the whole week (missing Sunday). Of course I have a bunch of work to do outside of getting moving, I'm looking forward to jogging again. I say this because I'm not a big New Year's resolution person. I'm someone that as Spring comes around, I try to get back in the swing of things that are good for me. Of course you don't have to wait for spring, but I tend to start my spring cleaning/focus on health every year. I'm hoping to add a few more things to my list this year and start playing more. I will encourage you to do the same. For those returning, being healthier makes band camp easier. Get outside. Sweat a little. You won't be miserable, you won't need to go under the tent, and you'll learn and feel better when it comes around rather than by sitting in the AC all summer. You can even start by walking Mrs. Williams "Dragon 5k". Yes you pay to do it, but the money goes to help technology at Youngsville Middle School; in fact almost every 5k is for non-profit reasons. You don't need to run! Walking is great exercise. Another spring activity to work on are your scales and All-State music. All-State comes around pretty quickly when marching band starts up, and you forget about it.

Something to start thinking about - don't just do something till you get it right, but rather do it until you cannot do it wrong!

Last few things to note: marching band music is coming shortly!, and April just had her baby! If you don't know that last one, don't worry.

I hope you had a happy Passover, and Happy Easter everyone! Scott



GUARD AUDITIONS

This year's Color Guard auditions will be held on Wednesday, May 10, Thursday, May 11, Friday, May 12, Tuesday, May 16 and Wednesday, May 17. Auditions will be held at Comeaux High School. We are looking for as many candidates as possible to audition. If you know of any middle school 8th grade students, who will be attending Comeaux next year, and feel that they would be interested in Color Guard please have them attend the audition dates. Anyone attending Comeaux in grades 9-11 are eligible to audition. Help the guard and band out by helping us attain our 40 member goal for the Color Guard!

BAND AWARDS BANQUET 2017

As the year draws nearer to a close so too does the date Band Awards Banquet draw near. This year's Band Awards Banquet will be held on Monday, May 15th. The site for the event will be Le Pavillon at Parc Lafayette. Tickets are available now and are priced at \$22.00. All students and family members are welcome. All attending will need to purchase tickets. Students may use their ledgers to purchase tickets for themselves and their family members and ledgers must be in balance to purchase tickets. Doors will open at 6:30 with dinner served at 7:00.



Dress for the evening is shirt and tie for gentleman and dress or skirt and blouse for ladies. The menu will consist of: Tossed Greens with dressing, Stuffed Boneless Chicken, Seafood Alfredo & Penne Pasta, Corn Bread Dressing, Parsley Potatoes, Honey Glazed Carrots, Corn Macque Choux, Chocolate Cake, Bread Pudding, Dinner Rolls & Butter, Iced Tea & Coffee.

We hope all can come out to celebrate the 2016-17 school year at the annual Spartan Band Awards Banquet.

A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE, Krista Sansone

Happy Easter Spartans!



We had an amazing trip to San Antonio. The band performed phenomenally and earned a GOLD rating as well as two of our members receiving the "Maestro Award" for outstanding solos in band performance; Dawson Dew, our President and Lauren Dominique, section leader. The Kids enjoyed Sea World and Six Flags returning to Comeaux exhausted. However, ready to finish out the year with still a few exciting things in store. We are looking forward to the Car show, the Spring concert, Crawfish boil dinner sale; which should bring a lot of fun and entertaining music. Our seniors will also have their send off dinner, they will be missed, but have a bright future waiting ahead. As a senior mom it is a little sad and exciting at the same time. My son has grown in so many ways and become an amazing person due to his time in band; but the last four years have been a learning and growth experience for me as well. I have made some incredible lifelong friends during his high school years. They will always be friends and have enriched my life forever. The conclusion to our year is the Band Awards Banquet, I hope all will attend, it is so important to support our band family even if you may not personally be receiving an award. I am so proud of all my band kids and all their accomplishments. Let's enjoy this final time together and conclusion to this year and remember;

“Music expresses that which cannot be put into words
and that which cannot remain silent” Victor Hugo

COMEAX CAR SHOW SPECTACULAR

The 3rd annual Comeaux Band Car Show Spectacular will be held on Saturday, April 29th. The event will be held in the parking lot of Comeaux High from 10am - 3pm. There is no admission for spectators. Car and vendor registration is \$30.00. A flyer is available on the band website and can be downloaded and emailed to any and all friends. It's important that we get the word out about the car show.



In addition to the show cars (and that could include any motor vehicle), there will be food trucks and entertainment for all. Performing at the show will be the Claytones at 10:00am and Rory Suire at noon. Make plans to come out and spend a few hours enjoying the cars on display and visiting the vendor booths.

There will be need for a few helpers the day of the show. If you are able to help with set-up, registration, or clean-up, please contact our chairperson Kelli Touchet at 739-6072 or the band room at 521-7294. Let's make this the biggest and best show yet!

LETTER OF INTENT 2017

The Letter of Intent mailing for the 2017-18 school year was mailed on Friday, March 31st. This form will allow the directors know of your intentions for next school year. Plans have already begun by way of band calendar, summer dates, performances, etc. Please be sure to return this form by Friday, April 28th. Should you have any questions please contact or see Mr. Geiger or Mr. Smith.

SPIN-LIKE-the-WIND, Morrice Boutan, Instructor



Our competitive season has finally come to a close, all I can do is reflect back to the start of it all and look at the tremendous leaps and strides we have made as a unit since the beginning. The Color Guard has changed drastically since this time last year. Having the honor of helping these children become better humans on top of being better spinners has been rewarding and I wouldn't trade the feeling for the world. Seeing the students who thought they couldn't do anything achieve what was thought to be impossible makes everything worthwhile. Seeing them become more disciplined and self-motivated to be better at the activity that we all love is gratifying on so many levels as a teacher. There has been a big push forward to the future success of this Color Guard, and I cannot wait to see where this program will go within the next few years.

As we prepare to build our Color Guard again for next year we will be doing a lot to recruit the next aspiring members. We will be having auditions in May which will set the line for our marching and winter seasons. The process of letting our current seniors go and welcoming in new members is going to be a very tough pill for me to swallow. The seniors this year have been very helpful with this being my first year with the program by informing me of the way that things work for the guard and helping lead the newer members into being able to achieve. There is nothing like a good foundation of members to help the new people out, and for that I will always be grateful for the group that is graduating next month.

It is very exciting and nerve wracking to begin the audition process again. Starting from the very beginning again will be fun with newer members. The beginner technique blocks will be boring and tedious for the vets, but it wouldn't hurt for us to refresh our minds on the foundation that we start on to build the flourishing organization. The audition process will be fun and entertaining to get the prospective members a good look on how we work and what is expected of them. I cannot wait to start this process and get the season rolling again. Thank you to all for giving me such a great first year experience with the Comeaux Spartan Band. Morrice

COMEAX BAND CRAWFISH BOIL 2017



Tickets are now on sale for the 3rd annual Comeaux B and Crawfish Boil. The actual date of the dinner is Friday, May 12th. All monies and unsold tickets should be in to the band office by 2:30 on Friday, May 5th. Dinners will consist of 3 lbs. of crawfish and a potato. Tickets are \$15.00 each. Two dollars for each ticket sold will be credited to the student's ledger.

All students have receive 15 tickets. Additional tickets are available through the band office.

Help will be needed, but only to bag the boxed crawfish, collect tickets and deliver to vehicles in the pick-up line. Dinners will be available for pick-up from 4:00-7:00pm on Friday, May 12th. If you are able to help please contact our chairperson, Carey Lavergne at

207-9323. Our goal is to sell 1000 tickets, that's roughly 7 tickets per student. We can make this happen!

END-of-YEAR AUDITIONS

End-of-the Year auditions will be held on Tuesday, May 15th for Brass, Wednesday, May 16th for Woodwinds and Thursday, May 17th for Percussion. These auditions also serve as a portion of the final exams for all students. Auditions will be screened. Music was distributed on Wednesday, April 12th. The results of the auditions will help set the various classes (concert ensembles) for next year. Please be sure that you practice this music and work it up to the best of your ability. Everyone should strive to achieve the highest chair placement possible.

JUST DANCE, Victoria Domingue, Instructor

It's the end of another successful dance and school year. As the days seem to fly by, we reflect on the memories and friendships we have built over the past year.



When a group of people learn to perform as one team, they not only better themselves, but also show each other their best. I'm blessed with the opportunity to witness this personally, not only in performances throughout the year but also in rehearsal.

Thank you to the members of the 2016-2017 Rhythm in Bleu. You made this a memorable year, and I am so honored to be your coach. In this last Crescendo of the season, we say goodbye to our seniors: Angela, Chloe, Erin, Jade, Jordyn, and Kelci. We will miss them but we are excited to see them step into the next stage of their lives.

Auditions for 2017-2018 Rhythm in Bleu are right around the corner. Our returning dancers prepare themselves for tryouts, and the excitement is overwhelming for new friends and old friendships alike. Each year we strive to make better than the last, and this upcoming season will be no different.

As we go into summer, Rhythm in Bleu will begin rehearsing as a team. These practices can be the most rewarding of the year. It is here we begin to discover our current skill levels and push the boundaries to reach the next level. Remember to always be confident in yourself as you try new things. Our biggest competition should be ourselves, not those around us.

UDA Camp will be in June, and it's a great time to hone our skills. It's not just a competition, but also a time for us to bond as a team and learn what makes us strong together.

Good luck to everyone trying out for the 2017-18 Rhythm In Bleu! Have a great summer! Victoria

ONLINE STORE

Next year the Comeaux Band Program will be "getting out" of the accessory business. Through Action Specialties the band will open an "Online Store." This website, www.comeauxbandstore.com, not open quite yet, will be the only place to order band accessories that used to be on the accessory order form. Band shirts, socks, shoe bags, sport bags, etc. will be ordered online with a credit card from Action Specialties. Orders will be bagged and tagged with the student's name and shipped to the band office to be distributed. Boosters who wish to chaperone any and all band events/performances must purchase a Chaperone Shirt found on the online store.



Uniform parts such as khaki pants, belt and dress shirt, warm-weather shorts will still be purchased at School Time Uniforms. Look for more information concerning the Online Store in the Summer Mail Out.



GRADUATION 2017

This year's high school graduation will be held on Saturday, May 20th. Graduation is held at the Cajun Dome. The Comeaux graduation will be at 4:00pm and should be over by 5:30pm. Report time for all students is 3:00pm. Dress for graduation is shirt and tie for gentleman and dress or skirt & blouse for ladies. No spaghetti straps, sandals, tennis shoes or flip flops should be worn.

Rehearsals for graduation will be on Wednesday, May 17th, Thursday, May 18th and Friday, May 19th. All rehearsals will be from 2:45 - 4:30. All student musicians not graduating are expected to participate in the gradua-

A NOTE from the BAND PRESIDENT, Dawson Dew, President



Hello Boosters and band students!

The band trip was a huge success and I hope everyone who attended had a great time, I know I did! We should be proud of our performance because it is very difficult to do what we did, especially to do it well. I'm proud of the organization as a whole.

Marching season is quickly approaching and it breaks my heart knowing I will not participate this year. Please cherish those moments because they will be over in a blink of an eye.

Marching season approaching also means that End-of-Year auditions and officer applications are also coming up. Please be aware of what you are signing up for when filling out your officer application and make sure you are committed. It is very important so the band can be successful. Practice, practice, practice your end of year audition music, it decides your chair placement for the following year. FIGHT for first!!!

Seniors, you have a month, then the real world takes over and we're adults! Continue making fun memories while doing what's expected!

Please invite your friends and family to the banquet held in May! It should be a fun event and I want it to be memorable considering it will be the seniors' last one!

Thanks for a great year! Dawson Dew, Comeaux Band President

2017 –18 SUMMER DATES & CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Summer dates have been posted on the band website home page. These dates are set and should not change as of now. The calendar of events is also posted on the website under Calendar. This calendar is tentative, but most dates should be solid. Please begin using this calendar when planning personal and family events for next year. We must do a better job next year over-all of having less excused and unexcused absences from rehearsals. The band program does not often call rehearsals with less than two weeks notice and rarely adds rehearsal to the posted calendar.

BINGO

The Comeaux Backer's Organization is continuing to sponsor Bingo Sessions at Metro Bingo. Sessions are held on Friday's (8:30pm - 1:30am) and Sunday's (12:30pm - 5:00pm) at the Metro Bingo on the Evangeline thruway toward Carencro.



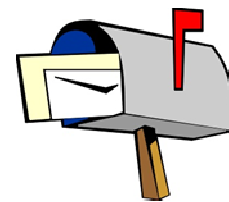
Mrs. Nicole Choplin does the scheduling for the Bingo Sessions. You may contact Nicole at 224-4442 to schedule sessions. It is important that once you've scheduled a session that you do, in fact, work the session.

Presently sessions pay as follows \$80.00 for a workers & callers and \$160 for a manager. You may train to be a caller or manager and both positions are in high demand. Monthly the Backer's will make a donation to the Comeaux Band for the amount worked. Fifty percent (50%) is credited to the band student's ledger and fifty percent (50%) is credited to the band program. Remember that the amount credited to the band program will be debited from the student's fund raising proportion for that semester.

If your name is not on the Bingo Workers List it should be. This is a great way to earn monies for your band ledger, reduce your Fund Raising Proportion and support the Comeaux Spartan Band! If you have any questions please contact Krista, Nicole or the band office 521-7294.

2017 SUMMER MAIL OUT

The annual Summer Mail Out for all students returning to, or joining the Comeaux Band should be mailed by Friday, May 19th. This mailing contains many pieces of information that are important to next year's band. Please read through this information thoroughly so that you are prepared for next year including a few changes that are being made. Should you not receive this mailing by Wednesday, May 24th please contact the band office.



SAN ANTONIO TRIP BRINGS AWARDS

The San Antonio trip has come and gone, but the memories still remain. The band had a good trip to Texas and performed admirably. The trip band earned the highest Gold Rating, the Adjudicator's Award and the Best Over-all Band Award. Lauren Doming – Alto Saxophone and Dawson Dew – French Horn earned the Maestro Award for outstanding solos in band performance. We congratulate the members of the trip band on a fine performance, as well as, a fun and exciting trip. Here's looking to next year's trip, Washington, D.C.!!!

WINTER GUARD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Comeaux Winter Guards "Elite" and "Bleu" had fine performances at 2017 Louisiana Mississippi Color Guard and Percussion Circuit Championships on Saturday, April 1st. Bleu finished 3rd in the Novice Class earning the Bronze medal and Elite finished 4th in the Scholastic Regional AA only 1.86 points from the Bronze medal. Congratulations to all members of Elite and Bleu on a great Winter Guard season and to their instructors Morrice Boutan and Courtney Verret for their expert guidance and instruction.



PERCUSSION LINE AUDITIONS

The Percussion Line auditions will be held on Wednesday, May 10th and Thursday, May 11th. Auditions will be held in the band room from 4:30-6:30pm. Any and all percussionists wanting to be a member of the 2017-18 Percussion Line must attend these auditions. Returning students must have balanced ledgers to participate in the auditions.

CONTACT INFO

Band Office: 521-7294 100 West Bluebird St., Lafayette, LA 70508

Chris Smith

Director of Bands
cbsmith@lpssonline.com
337-303-5851 cell

Scott Geiger

Associate Director of Bands
sdgeiger@lpssonline.com
337-573-5393 cell

BOOSTER MEETINGS

May 18

Meetings begin at 6:30
in the band room.

BOOSTER CHAIRPERSONS

BAND SECRETARY	Kathleen Prather	349-3060
BINGO SCHEDULE	Nicole Choplin	224-4442
BOARD MEMBERS		
President	Krista Sansone	654-0896
Vice– President	Christy Dew	303-3489
Treasurer	Stephanie Choate	501-2464
Secretary	Sostan Babineaux	519-6131
Public Relations	Tom Coleman	214-549-1492
Dance Rep.	Barbara Comeaux	298-8774
Guard Rep.	Tonia Young	212-4891
General Member	Kathleen Prather	349-3060
CAR SHOW	Tonny/Kelli Touchet	739-6072
CAR WASH	Margueritte Hoffman	581-0369
	Marla Ours	349-8100
CONCERT GREETER	Stephanie Choate	501-2464
CRAWFISH BOIL	Carey Lavergne	207-9323
CHAPERONES	Christy Dew	303-3489
CONCESSIONS	Jessica Couvillon	517-6825
EQUIPMENT CREW	Clayton Choate	303-6036
FISH FRY LUNCH	Alyson Trahan	985-688-8215
GUARD SHOW	Tonia Young	212-4891
UNIFORM MOM	Mindy Portier	344-8422
HYDRATION-MEDICAL	Heather Moore	852-9814
	Daniel Fontenot	552-7451



SPARTAN BAND SPONSORS 2016-17

When possible please patronize these establishments and vendors. Without these sponsors the Comeaux Band would not be able to accomplish it's many endeavors. If you're able thank them for their support of the "*Spectacular Band from Spartan Land.*"

Super 1 Foods

3D International Custom Sign & Design

Adrien's Supermarket

Albertson's Supermarket

Congress Cleaners

Comeaux Backers

Heleaux's Grocery

Home Depot

Lafayette Music, Co.

Little Caesars Pizza

Nouveau Photo

NuNu's Fresh Market

Pizza Village

Scott's Drum Center

Texas Roadhouse