



**FROM the PODIUM** Chris Smith, Director of Bands



Hello Boosters,

Welcome back just seems so shallow at this time. Perhaps God be with us would be more appropriate. The past ten days have certainly been painful for many in South Louisiana. From Denham Springs through Lake Arthur devastating flood waters Have affected hundreds of thousands of people. Many of those affected are in our Comeaux Band family or extended family.

We've been instructed what not to say to flood victims, we've heard people say at least it's just "things" you've lost, you're safe and that's the important thing. Well as a Katrina refugee, who truly lost everything; I understand, too fully, the pain victims of the flooding are experiencing. Those "things" you lost were your things. It does hurt and the devastation seems insurmountable at times, but rest assured you will overcome. It will take time and much effort, but you will not only survive, but flourish. Someone told not to tell flood victims that "I'm praying for you." Well, I couldn't have made it through the weeks & months after Katrina without people praying for me. Know that my wife Bonnie and I have all of our Comeaux Band family in our prayers.

School begins again on Monday, August 22nd. The band will try to get back to normal. This is important, not for the band's sake, but because a sense of normalcy is important to those who were affected by the disaster. While there certainly will be obstacles to overcome we will resume our normal rehearsal schedule the week of August 22nd. It will take a high level of focus and work ethic to make-up for lost time. The first few rehearsals will be refreshing what was covered in band camp due to the length of time since our last rehearsal, August 8th. I know there will be some extenuating circumstances, but please have your son/daughter at all rehearsals. Please contact me at the band office or by email if there is a need to miss a rehearsal.

Check the band calendar at least weekly (I suggest Sunday afternoons) to be prepared for upcoming events, performances and rehearsals. The calendar is usually updated weekly, normally on Friday's. The first Booster Meeting of the year is this Thursday, August 25th beginning at 6:30 in the band room. I hope to see you there!

A huge thank you to Krista Sansone, our Booster President and chairperson for Band Camp 2016. Camp went very well, with the exception of a few rained out rehearsals, this year. There were many boosters who came to work camp from full days to serving a meal or two. Your dedication, service and commitment to the Spartan Band is much appreciated.

Anyone interested in chaperoning any band event this year must attend one of the Chaperone Orientations. If you've attended in the past you need not attend again. The orientations will be held on Tuesday, August 23rd & Wednesday, August 24th in the band room beginning at 6:30pm. The orientation will last approximately one hour.

If there is anything that the Comeaux Band family or myself personally can do for you please just ask. We want to be there to help in any way we can. I leave you with a simple prayer that many have heard. I use it practically every day. "Lord grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the Courage to change the things I can, and the Wisdom to know the difference." See you at the meetings, Chris

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## **LAGNIAPPE** Scott Geiger, Associate Director of Bands



Well hello again... to most of you. For some of you, this may be the first time I say hello. Please make sure you come and see me multiple times and introduce yourself. I'm terrible with names. The more reminders the better. I will try and do a better job of "fessing up" that I don't know who you are so that I can learn faster as well.

Well here it is, I come back and some of the worst rains to ever hit Louisiana take place. Hopefully this isn't an omen. If you were some of the unfortunate to have sustained water damage, know that there are a TON of people out there that want to help you. Mr. Gautreaux (an Agriscience teacher) has been putting drives together to help with all the basic necessities. So if there's something you need, I can relay that to him. He's gotten an enormous amount of donations. He has done everything from helping people gut their homes, to securing diapers, to purchasing medications, to mass feedings. REGARDLESS, welcome to one of the greatest and most supportive communities you can find. It has truly been an exciting experience returning to the faculty at Comeaux to see how much they invest in the students here.

So something your child needs to be practicing (regardless of instrument, guard, or dance) is BREATHING. Please look up the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VisILLZkcWQ> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEz0ku-oXM4>

It's called The Breathing Gym. It will help all students learn to breath better by taking in more air while they remain active, as well as gaining better control of their breathing when they are feeling taxed physically. The video is only a portion of the entire DVD, but it's a good start, and something to investigate further on YouTube. More on breathing later in different articles, but it is something we will be doing in class, and something they can work on at home. It's the fundamental thing that we do in life and these two guys, although in a silly manner, can really help you do it better. Watch it. Practice it. Do it.

So although not the most ideal beginning to the school year, just know that this is only the beginning. A lot of work ahead of us... and a little fun too. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you sometime this year, be it at a concert, a football game, or a rehearsal. Scott

### **BAND BOOSTER MEETINGS**

Band Boosters? Who's a Band Booster? YOU are! If you have a child in the Comeaux Band, musician, dance member, guard member or band manager, congratulations, YOU are a Band Booster!

The Band Boosters hold an informational meeting monthly (with the exception of December) on the third (3rd) Thursday of each month.

The meetings are informational in that information on upcoming events are discussed, the calendar for the upcoming month is reviewed. Questions may be asked and the directors are available after the meeting to meet with parents as needed. The first page of the Crescendo has the meetings for the year listed. They are also on the calendar found on the band website [www.comeauxband.com](http://www.comeauxband.com).

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**



A band calendar of events can be found on the band website [www.comeauxband.com](http://www.comeauxband.com). Click the Calendar category at the top of the home page and then click Calendar of Events. Everyone is encouraged to check the calendar on Sunday afternoons. At the top of the first page (June) is the date the calendar was last updated. Updates are done at least once per week. You will notice on the home page a list of "upcoming" dates. Please be advised that this is not a complete listing. It contains some of the more important impending dates. The actual "Calendar of Events" is the official notification of band events, rehearsals and performances.



### **SENIOR NIGHT 2016**

This year's Band Senior Night will be held at the last game of the season, the LHS game on Thursday, October 27th. Seniors and parents will be recognized at half-time of the game. More information will be forthcoming concerning senior night. Make plans now to attend with your son/daughter, it's a most important night for them, one they've looked forward too for three years.

## A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE, Krista Sansone



Well this year has started off with a **BANG!** It has been a crazy whirl month; Band Camp was a success despite the heat and rain that tried to interfere. We had lots of great parents helping and members working extremely hard. We started school to be flooded out on the second day, and have many families devastated with damage to their homes. We are pulling through and helping where we can and will come out stronger and prouder than ever; In our true Spartan way!

I am so excited to get to know all our new freshman members and their parents, as well as see all of our returning members. This should prove to be a phenomenal year; Mr. Geiger is back, we have a great new show and a Spectacular group of band members! This year will fly by, make sure to enjoy every moment and make as many friends and memories as possible. Don't stop dancing till the music ends!

*"Music gives a soul to the Universe, wings to the mind,  
flight to the imagination and life to everything!" unknown*

Your Booster President, Krista Sansone



## BAND LEDGERS

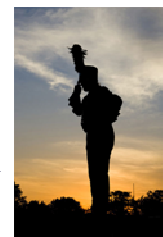
Band ledgers are kept for each student in the Comeaux Band Program. The ledgers are used for depositing monies earned through fund raising activities and payments made to the program. The ledgers are debited for all band assessments, trip payments and certain articles needed for band members. (See band handbook pg. 55.)

Quarterly mailings of the ledger will be made to parents. If you should desire a copy of your ledger at any time please either ask your child to request one from Mr. Smith or email Mr. Smith at [cbsmith@lpssonline.com](mailto:cbsmith@lpssonline.com). It is important that the ledger be kept in balance at all times. Fund Raising activities should be completed for upcoming payment deadlines, not for deadlines that are prior to the fund raiser. Fund raising monies are not credited to the band ledger until the fund raiser is complete.

If there is ever a payment deadline that you will have a concern meeting please contact Mr. Smith at the band office 981-1096. The band program is more than willing to help, but contact must be made and a payment plan set prior to the deadline date. *Student's whose ledgers are continually in arrears, and the parent has not made payment arrangements with Mr. Smith, will not be allowed to participate until their ledger is in balance.*

## 2016 DRUM MAJOR CAMP

The Drum Majors had a fantastic camp this summer. Returning to the Lafayette Music Crum Major Camp at the ABC Camp in Eunice, LA the Comeaux Drum Majors did a phenomenal job. Senior Drum Major Markaylen Wiltz, Junior Drum Major Ethan Antoine and Sophomore Drum Major Rachel Choate are ready for the marching season. All are energetic and enthusiastic. If band camp is any indication of what to expect, the Drum Majors should "conduct" themselves in a superior manner this year.





## **JUST DANCE, Jennifer Hebert, Instructor**

First, I would like to welcome everyone back to a new year. I would also like to offer my heartfelt condolences to all of our staff, band members, dance line members, and guard members affected by the recent floods. You are all in my prayers.

Rhythm In Bleu had an outstanding summer rehearsing and finally delivering an incredible performance at NDA camp this summer. They received not one, but TWO bids to nationals among many other accolades. They attended a camp that was very different and extremely challenging in many ways, yet adapted beautifully and pushed through the week with a wonderful attitude and resilience. Their triumph was due to their ability to overcome the surprise of the unexpected and the obstacles set before them as a result.

I mention this, because I know that we all have within us that same desire to overcome and succeed. Although our community has been hit with a horrible disaster and many of our friends and families have been affected, I believe we will all come out of this stronger and closer than ever as a community.

I am looking forward to our new season, and cannot wait until we can all perform together for that first game. God bless all of you. Jennifer Medver Hebert, Dance Line Instructor

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## **CHAPERONES for the SPARTAN BAND**

We welcome all Band Boosters to chaperone band events. In order to chaperone the Comeaux Band you must first attend a Band Chaperone Orientation. This is a one hour orientation explaining the needed for and responsibilities of those who chaperone the Spartan Band. This year the dates for Band Chaperone Orientations are Tuesday, August 23rd, Wednesday and August 24th. The orientations will be held in the band room beginning at 6:30. This is a onetime event good for your tenure in the band program. Those who have attended in previous year's need not attend again.

It is also important to note that all those chaperoning must wear a Comeaux Band shirt at the event. This can be a band show T-shirt, a Booster shirt or any of the band shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts or wind jackets that are available on the accessory order form.

Mrs. Christy Dew is the Vice-President of the Band Boosters and as such is in charge of band chaperones. If you have a question or would like to chaperone an event please contact Christy at 303-3489.

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## **CONCESSIONS**

Hot Dogs! Hamburgers! Cold Drinks! Get your Hot Dogs, Hamburgers and Cold Drinks at the Comeaux Band Concessions Stand.



I'm happy to say that Mrs. Jessica Couvillon is returning as the Band Booster Football Concession Chairperson. Jessica did a phenomenal job last year and I know will do the same this year. If every band booster were to work one game it would help Jessica tremendously in scheduling workers for both the home and visitor's concession stands. She'll need about 25 people at each game.

This year the schedule is as follows: Sophomores/Juniors Cecilia game - September 2nd, Freshmen/Sophomores Sam Houston game - September 30th, Freshmen/Juniors St. Martinville game - October 14th, Juniors /Seniors NISH game - October 28th and Freshmen/Sophomores LSH game - November 4th. If you are able to help in the concessions stands for any game please contact Jessica at 517-6825.

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

The Color Guard has done nothing but impress Courtney and I for the first few months that we have been working with them. They have persevered through numerous changes that have been thrown at them, and every time they rise to the occasion. The vets are spending time refining their technical skills and growing as performers, while the new students are starting to become comfortable with the idea of spinning a six foot pole. Overall the Color Guard is building rapidly as a unit and I am very excited to write the rest of the show and spend my time with such a great group of young ladies. Morrice



## **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.

To work bingo you must first join the Comeaux Backer's. Krista Sansone, our Booster President is also the Vice-President of the Backer's. You can contact Krista at 654-0896 to obtain a registration form. There is no fee to join the Backer's.

Mrs. Nicole Choplin does the scheduling for the Bingo Sessions. After joining the Backer's 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 and support the Comeaux Spartan Band! If you have any questions please contact Krista, Nicole or the band office 981-1096.

## **FALL RAFFLE**

The 2016 Band Fall Raffle is quickly coming to an end. All ticket stubs, monies and unsold tickets must be returned to the band room by Friday, August 29th. This is very important as every ticket must be accounted for prior to the drawing. On Friday, September 2nd, at the half-time of the Comeaux vs Cecilia football game the drawing will be held.

All members of the Comeaux Band are expected to sell 20 tickets (2 booklets). On August 26th all band ledgers will be debited \$20.00. All tickets sold will be credited to band ledgers by Monday, August 29th. If you have not picked-up your twenty tickets to sell please do so this coming week.

## **PICTURE DAY**



Comeaux Band Picture Day has been postponed until Thursday, September 8th. During class periods students will take individual pictures. These pictures will be taken in the marching coat (musicians), formal uniform (dance line), uniform jumper (guard), show shirt and navy shorts (managers). After school the band will dress in full uniform and take the group picture in the stadium.

Mr. Danny Izzo, from Nouveau Photo will take the pictures. Mr. Izzo will mail to each student the proofs of their individual picture and an order form. Pictures are purchased directly from Nouveau Photo and will be distributed through band classes. This is not a fund raiser for the band program and the band program does not earn a percentage of picture sales. Pictures are taken as a courtesy for band members and parents. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Smith at the band office 981-1096.

## **A NOTE from the BAND PRESIDENT, Dawson Dew, President**



Hello Comeaux Band!

I hope you all are adjusting to the start of the new school year. I know it can be a big adjustment going from grade to grade, especially if you are coming from middle school. Do not worry; Comeaux High can be a great experience!

I wanted to stress to the students to try your hardest to get involved. Comeaux Band is a big time commitment, but there is time to do more things and meet new people! There are plenty of sports, clubs, etc. that you can join to make your high school career a memorable one. Just do some research!

Students also need to make sure they maintain the necessities it takes to make a good band. Practice Daily. Even if you feel like you do not have enough time to practice; take your horn out and work on a scale or two for ten to fifteen minutes! Everyone has that time. We are a team and a family. We are only as strong as our weakest player. Do not be that player.

We need to make sure practices on the practice field are successful EVERY rehearsal. This includes staying focused, listening, not talking, and thinking ahead at ALL times. Constantly be thinking of what needs to be done from set to set and also the show as a whole. Not talking on the field needs to be obvious amongst the band. Talking is simply distracting. If there are people talking then we cannot hear instruction, and what needs to be done, will never get done.

Parents! I urge you all to get involved as much as you can. Come to the football games! Come to performances! Your kids will love seeing that you're there supporting them; I promise. Coming to events will not only make your kid happy, it will give YOU a chance to have fun and make new friends as well!

Please make sure you are looking at the calendar almost daily. Everything is tentative and changes could have been made. Remember to never be on time, be early! Thanks, Dawson Dew - Comeaux Band President



### **RHYTHM in BLEU**

This summer the members of Rhythm in Bleu participated in the NDA Dance Camp held on the campus of Northwestern University in Natchitoches, LA. The young ladies of Rhythm in Bleu set the standard high for the year. Many accolades, as well as, awards were given to and earned by the dance line. The following were team awards: Home Routine - Superior Gold w/ Nationals Bid, Team Routine - Superior - Gold w/ Nationals Bid, Innovative Choreography Award - Victoria Domingue (Tech), Power Performance Award and the Spirit Stick.

The following were individual awards earned by team members: 4 All-American Winners; Angela Comeaux, Erin Denlinger, Brynn Romein, Natalye Bradley, 1 Top Gun – Kicks; Erin Denlinger, 11 All-American nominees – Pink Ribbons; Jordyn Delcambre, Jade Pourciaux, Anna Dronet, Gabrielle Olivier, Ramie Choplin, Madilyn Suire, Tori Lalonde, 33 Superior Class I and Class II Blue Ribbons; Angela Comeaux, Jordyn Delcambre, Kelci Flowers, Erin Denlinger, Chloe McElhanon, Jade Pourciaux, Brynn Romein, Anna Dronet, Natalye Bradley, Gabrielle Olivier, Kamryn Casteel Tamie Choplin, Madilyn Suire, Madelyn Richard, Alexis Barksdale, Bridget Bireley, Olivia Mire, Tori Lalonde, 3 Excellent Class I and Class II Red Ribbons; Erin Denlinger, Gabrielle Olivier, Alexis Barksdale, 8 Showmanship Yellow Ribbons; Angela Comeaux, Chloe McElhanon, Gabrielle Olivier, Kamryn Casteel, Ramie Choplin, Madilyn Suire, Bridget Bireley, Tori Lalonde, 7 Technique Green Ribbons; Angela Comeaux, Kelci Flowers, Erin Denlinger, Chloe McElhanon, Brynn Romein, Gabrielle Olivier, Madelyn Richard, 3 Spirit Purple Ribbons; Natalye Bradley, Gabrielle Olivier, Alexis Barksdale.

Congratulations to the members of Rhythm in Bleu and their instructor Mrs. Jennifer Hebert and Tech Mrs. Victoria Domingue for a great summer camp. The Comeaux Band Program is proud of your achievements and look forward to our upcoming performances during the football season.

## **SATURDAY REHEARSALS**

There are two Saturday rehearsals scheduled for the Spartan Marching Band; Saturdays, August 27th and September 10th. Both rehearsals are from 5:30-8:30 in the evening. These rehearsals are important for the band's success and all are expected to be in attendance.

On Saturday, September 10th all students should report to the band room for 2:15 to participate in the 59 minute fund raiser. Students will be fed dinner prior to the rehearsal that evening.

## **FUND RAISING PROPORTION**

The Band Fund Raising Proportion was instituted some seven years ago to eliminate minimum numbers for fund raising activities. All students are expected to raise in fund raising events \$100.00 for the band program per semester. For each fund raiser the percentage credited to the band program is debited from the student's fund raising proposal for that semester. (See the band handbook pg. 31.) On December 1st and May 1st of each year the student's band ledger will be debited the amount owed on the fund raising proportion. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Smith at the band office 981-1096.

## **ALL-STATE CLINIC AT ULL**



Anyone who is planning to audition for All-State this year may want to take advantage of a great opportunity. On Sunday, September 11th the ULL Music Faculty will be holding an All-State Audition Music Clinic. The clinic will begin in Angelle Hall and break into like instrument groups. This will be a hands on clinic so bring your horn and music. You need not register and the clinic is free.

## **BAND STAFF 2016**

This year's band staff looks to be a good one. There are five returning members and six new members to the staff. The band department secretary is Mrs. Kathleen Prather. Kathleen is the mother of freshman Seth Prather in the saxophone section. The dance instructor Mrs. Jennifer Hebert is returning and joining her on staff is Victoria Domingue as dance tech. The guard staff is new this year headed-up by instructor Morrice Boutan, a music ed major at ULL. The guard tech, although new to the staff, is not new to Comeaux as Courtney Verret the a guard captain on last year's guard. The percussion instructors are both returning members of the staff Alyxis Mayeaux and Nick Romero both music ed majors at ULL. Working on the wind/marching staff is returning member Ryan Vicknair a music performance major at ULL. New to the wind/marching staff is Lauren Faulk working with flutes/clarinets and is a music ed major at ULL, Sarah Frazier working horns and altos also a music ed major at ULL and Myron Saul working low brass a music business major at ULL.

**CONTACT INFO**

Band Office: 981-1096      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  
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**BOOSTER MEETINGS**

August 25  
September 15  
October 27  
November 17  
January 19  
February 16  
March 23  
April 20  
May 18

Meetings begin at 6:30  
in the band room.

**BOOSTER CHAIRPERSONS**

<b>BAND SECRETARY</b>	Kathleen Prather	349-3060
<b>BINGO SCHEDULE</b>	Nicole Choplin	224-4442
<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>		
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
<b>CAR SHOW</b>	Tony/Kelli Touchet	739-6072
<b>CAR WASH</b>	Margueritte Hoffman	581-0369
	Marla Ours	349-8100
<b>CONCERT GREETER</b>	Stephanie Choate	501-2464
<b>CRAWFISH BOIL</b>	Carey Lavergne	207-9323
<b>CHAPERONES</b>	Christy Dew	303-3489
<b>CONCESSIONS</b>	Jessica Couvillon	517-6825
<b>EQUIPMENT CREW</b>	Clayton Choate	303-6036
<b>FISH FRY LUNCH</b>	Alyson Trahan	985-688-8215
<b>GUARD SHOW</b>	Tonia Young	212-4891
<b>UNIFORM MOM</b>	Mindy Portier	344-8422
<b>HYDRATION-MEDICAL</b>	Heather Moore	852-9814





## 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*