



THE DUCK RECALL

Issue XII | The Official Newsletter of the Fighting Duck Alumni Marching Band Association

Letter From the President

Greetings Duck fans!

It's that time of year again when Duck fans and band fans collide. Yes, that's right, it's time for Homecoming!

Whether you are a newly minted fossil or you've been playing with FDABA since the beginning of time (or if you fall somewhere in between), we hope to see you at this year's Homecoming game to cheer on the Ducks as they beat the Stanford Christmas Trees (Cardinals). You also need to be at FDABA's "Man-I-Hope-We-Win-Post-Game-Soiree" at the Armory after the Homecoming game! We'll celebrate the Oregon win and spend quality time avoiding the post-game traffic on Centennial. This year's event will be an action-packed afternoon with an awards ceremony (as featured in *People* magazine and E! Online) and a food selection where the hot stays hot and the cool stays cool (see details inside). We want to see you there!

While our favorite boys in yellow got their new uniforms this year, we have been working to update FDABA's look as well...but we can't tell you anything else yet! It's a big, big secret! Current members will be the first to see the unveiled design, so go to www.fdaba.com and make sure your dues are paid!

In the meantime, dust off your horn, disinfect your duck lips and make your plans to head to Eugene for Homecoming 2003!

Bleeding Green and Yellow,
Phil Hodapp
FDABA President

In This Issue

2
Astoria Marching
Band

2
Mystery Duck

3-4
Homecoming
Schedule and
Game Day
Details

5
Volunteer &
Playing
Opportunities

Address:
FDABA

P.O. Box 80807
Portland, OR 97280

E-Mail:
info@FDABA.com

Web site:
www.FDABA.com

www.fdaba.com/homecoming

OMB Alums Infect Astoria with Marching Fever

“Astoria High School doesn’t have a marching band???”

Such was the incredulous reaction of OMB alumni Tom and Kathleen (Hicks) Strecker in 1996 when they moved to the historic burg of Astoria on the tip of Oregon’s north coast. When new band director Tracy Hafer took the helm at the high school in 2002, they offered to help start a field show marching program. The ball started rolling with a kickoff party in April, where Hafer and the Streckers introduced the program to students and parents and explained what was in store for the fall football season, and special guest Steve Kuske (1983 Astoria graduate; OMB drum major 1982-86 and current band director at Evergreen High School in Vancouver) brought words of inspiration from his experience leading top-flight marching bands.

For the rest of the spring, about 20 pep band students who had been meeting at 7 a.m. all school year started working with the Streckers to learn the fundamentals of corps-style marching. Support from the community and the parents has been overwhelming, with local merchants donating food and door prizes for the kickoff party and money for summer camp scholarships. One business owner even wrote out a check to a banner company for the gorgeous purple and yellow parade banner that led the band in the Astoria Regatta Parade in August. The high school industrial arts teacher has offered to have his students build podiums and equipment carts, and parents have pitched in to carpool students, help hem uniform pants and provide refreshments for those long parades.

Continued; see “Astoria,” page 5

MYSTERY DUCK

Can you guess the identity of this year’s Mystery Duck? We’ll give you a few clues. (See page 6 for answer.) This Mystery Duck:

Was a music major during WWII and is a lifetime member of the American Legion.

Played baritone in marching band, but only as an occasional substitute player (the only woman officially allowed in marching band was the majorette).

Has bugled at hundreds of military funerals, flag raisings and other events for more than two decades.

Played for the homecoming of General Ike and picnicked with him and his wife in their home town.

Homecoming 2003 Tentative Schedule

8:00	Check-in at Armory (Across from Autzen). Free coffee/tea
8:30 - 9:45	Rehearsal
10:00	Brunch (Pre-registration required; see menu pg. 4)
11:00	Walk to Autzen / tailgate
11:30	Be in the stands
12:30	Kickoff
3:30ish	Ducks win
3:45ish	Post Game Soiree and awards ceremony at Armory (free food for FDABA members; \$6 for non-members)



Important Homecoming Details

PRE-REGISTRATION: Homecoming is free to all alumni band members who want to show up on game day and play; however, by registering in advance, you can save time, money and hassles. Pre-registration involves sending your information and a nominal fee to FDABA to cover the cost of your food so we can give you a warm meal before the game, loan you an instrument if needed, and transport you to and from the Armory if physical conditions prohibit you from walking. Pre-registration also allows you an opportunity to contribute to this year's OMB scholarship fund.

PARKING: You have several options. We suggest parking at Alton Baker Park or along MLK/Centennial loop and walking. Both the stadium and the Armory charge \$20 or more for parking. Or take the Centennial Blvd. LTD bus or carpool to save money. Please note that if you or your instrument require transportation from the School of Music to the Armory, we can shuttle you (pre-registration is required; see previous paragraph).

DIRECTIONS to the Armory: The Oregon Armory is located at 2515 MLK Jr. Boulevard (formerly named Centennial Boulevard). If you are headed toward Autzen from Coburg Road, the Armory is the brick building set far back from the road on the left side, near stadium Entry 1. Watch for the Boy Scouts sign and the FDABA road signs- we'll try to mark the driveway entrance with plenty of green & yellow balloons and FDABA signs! The entrance to the FDABA section of the Armory is at the back of the parking lot, through the roll door at the very back of the building.

MUSIC: We are attempting to get music out early this year to allow you time to practice. Please visit our web site at www.fdaba.com/homecoming for details.

Homecoming Brunch

Pre-Game (to be served following rehearsal)

Salmon Mousse
Vegetarian Frittata
Homefried Potatoes
Bacon
Fresh Fruit
Coffee Cake
Beverages

Price: \$12 (member)

\$17 (non-member)

Post-Game Soiree

Post-Game (to be served while others are trying desperately to get out of the parking lot)

Sandwiches
Soup
Fresh Vegetables
Chips
Soft Drinks

Price: free (member)

\$6 (non-member)

Post-Game Awards Ceremony

- Who: You
Where: The Armory
When: As soon as you can cross the road safely after the game (no offense to chickens)
What: The First Annual MIHWWPGS* Awards Ceremony

Welcome to an awards ceremony based loosely on a combination of band banquets of the past and most high school reunions! We'll give you a nomination form at registration (you may nominate yourself or someone you know). After the game, we'll see who traveled the farthest, who has had the longest break from playing their horn since Homecoming, who was in band before the inception of the wheel, etc. Who knows, we may just come up with a few accolades on the spot! You can also nominate others for your own award as well. No purchase necessary; must be present to win.

*Man-I-Hope-We-Win-Post-Game-Soiree

...Astoria, continued from page 2

And the Streckers have sunk everything into developing a program that will benefit the kids, the school and the town. Why? Well, besides being lifelong band geeks, Tom (marched with OMB in 1986) and Kathleen (B.A. in German, 1989) have played in every kind of musical ensemble imaginable, and they say unequivocally that marching band was the most fun they ever had. They're hoping the Astoria students will learn the same kind of self-discipline and respect they did from marching in high school and college.

So what's in store for fall? The home football crowds won't know what hit them when Astoria's very first halftime show EVER rocks the stadium with opener "Back in Black" (AC/DC), flag feature "Carry On My Wayward Son" (Kansas) and finale "You Shook Me All Night Long" (AC/DC). Sure, the drills will be simple and the number of students will be small, but... Astoria High School will have a marching band!

If you are interested in helping the Astoria High School Marching Band with equipment or other resources, please visit our web site at www.fdaba.com/astoria.html or e-mail laura@fdaba.com for details.

Volunteer Opportunity

Festival of Bands: 10/18

The OMB needs you! They take the field twice at this year's FOB for exhibition performances, and they need help covering the dozens of stadium jobs while they're on the field. There are two shifts: one from 2:00 - 4:00 and one from 7:45 to 9:15. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer, please contact festival@fdaba.com!

Playing Opportunity

Pape Jam: 12/6

Did you ever want to be in Basketball Band but were afraid to audition? Come join us at the Rose Garden for an action-packed evening as we support the Ducks at the premiere winter playing opportunity. Stay tuned to our web site at www.fdaba.com for late-breaking information as it becomes available.

Mission Statement

The Fighting Duck Alumni Band Association is an independent network of alumni and friends of the University of Oregon Athletic Bands created for the purpose of fostering camaraderie and friendships, facilitating homecoming activities, and supporting the Ducks through various performance opportunities.

MYSTERY DUCK: LOIS ABRELL

We were fortunate this year to find Oregon alumni Lois Abrell, a music major who has remained an exemplary model of lifetime musical achievement. Please take a few moments to read along as we take you through some of the details of Lois's long musical career.

Having come from a very musical family (her mother was a coloratura soprano and pianist, her father played tuba, and her siblings played clarinet, cornet and piano), Lois herself exhibited early signs of a determined musician. Once handed her brother's cornet at the age of four, she said, "John, you pedal and I'll blow."

Her love for music never wavered. She went on



Lois Abrell U of O Music major 1938-1942

(photo courtesy American Legion)

to play Alto Horn in the Lebanon Town Band, then switched to Baritone in her freshman year in high school. Her parents, recognizing that she was beyond needing brother John's help pedaling this time, bought her a new Buesher baritone that she affectionately named "Peetter Paul" (see picture below). Peetter Paul has traveled extensively with Lois in her musical endeavors through high school and on into college at the University of Oregon, where she majored in music.

At the U of O at that time, the marching band was made up of ROTC men, and as a result, there were no women in the band. The only woman in the group was the majorette. But band director John Stehn occasionally tapped her shoulder to fill in for a missing baritone player, so she got to go to a few games in marching band after all. She also played in the orchestra under Rex Underwood's baton.



Lois was also selected from the other students at the School of Music to put on programs at the Oregon Caves for their nightly campfires.

Peetter Paul (complete with travel stickers)

MYSTERY DUCK CONTINUED



Top: School of Music, 1938
Above: Lois and Peetter

After graduating from college, she taught a year at Silverton and then joined the Women's Army Corps (for the band, of course). Their band (the 400th ASF Band) traveled throughout the U.S. on the Four Freedoms Bond Tour. They also played in Three Rivers and Montreal for the 2nd anniversary of the Canadian Womens' Corps.

But Lois cites her most memorable Women's Army Corps band experience as the day they got to play in Kansas City, Missouri for the homecoming of General Ike. They followed up the welcome concert with a trip to Abilene (Ike's home town). In Abilene, they joined Ike and his lovely wife for a concert and picnic in the park.

By her own admission, though, her grandest time was when she met future husband Jim while coming home on furlough. Jim was in the Air Force on his way back from his home in Indiana to his station in Washington. After they met, he went on to England, as he was the Crew Chief on a B-17. They did not see each other again until he came to Ft. Des Moines to pick up Lois to come to Lebanon for their wedding on October 22, 1944. (Jim passed away last January.)

Lois handed down her musical ability to her children. Her daughters played instruments ranging from flute and clarinet to French Horn, so again, the family tradition of strong women brass players lives on! We asked Lois what advice she would give to recent graduates. She offers, "Keep up with your music - If there is a band, orchestra or choral group in your town, join in and lend your talent to give pleasure to yourself as well as others." And at nearly 83 years young, Lois follows her own advice. She directs her church choir and performs extensively for veteran services, memorial services, flag dedications, ceremonies and grand openings, church events and more.

When we asked what advice she had for FDABA, she requested more marches rather than straight fanfares. Therefore, we are adding a march to our Homecoming repertoire this year, and we hope to hear the crowd clapping along in time, just as they did in 1938!



FDABA

P.O. Box 80807

Portland, OR 97280

www.fdaba.com/homecoming