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Alumni Band Opportunities

**Address:**

Oregon Alumni Band  
P.O. Box 80807  
Portland, OR 97280

**E-Mail:**

info@FDABA.com

**Web site:**

www.FDABA.com/  
homecoming

**New Web site:**

www.oregonalumniiband.com

## Come play with the Alumni Band

...as they cheer on the Ducks at Autzen Stadium on October 16, 2004 for this year's Homecoming game against Arizona! The event is free to all marching band alumni, and if you participated in a university athletic band program, your paid Oregon Alumni Band membership lets you join the group for the game. The 2004 Homecoming event is a great way to brush up on your musical skills while socializing with other past members. See below for details!

### Homecoming 2004 Schedule

9:30	Check-in at Armory (Across from Autzen). Free coffee/tea
10:00 - noon	Rehearsal, eat, party, & tailgate! You may purchase food and beverages at the Mo' Center at any time during these two hours.
12:00	Be in the stands
12:30	Kickoff
3:30ish	Ducks win
3:45ish	Post Game PARTY in the Armory parking lot!



### Important Homecoming Details

**PRE-REGISTRATION:**

- HOMECOMING IS FREE to all OMB alumni members who want to show up on game day and play.
- REGISTER IN ADVANCE online at [www.fdaba.com/homecoming](http://www.fdaba.com/homecoming), especially if you need sousaphone or percussion instruments.
- INSTRUMENT RENTAL: The Oregon Alumni Band will be providing percussion and sousaphones ONLY by request as noted on your Homecoming registration.

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If you need to borrow an instrument, check with a friend, local high school or music store.

• **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 - we'll try to mark the driveway entrance with plenty of green & yellow balloons! The entrance to the Oregon Alumni Band section of the Armory is at the back of the parking lot, through the roll door at the very back of the building.

## **Letter From the Board**

Football season is almost here, with opening day being September 11<sup>th</sup>. Of course that also means that Homecoming is also right around the corner, and we hope that you have set aside October 16<sup>th</sup> to join us and your fellow alums for some fun, frivolity, eating, drinking, playing and free football at our annual Homecoming Bash. Here you will find the schedule for that. As you will see, the schedule has changed somewhat from the past. In fact, there have been quite a few changes over the past few months. Some are in response to needs our alumni have expressed and some are in response to needs and perceptions that future alumni (current OMB and just graduated OMB) have expressed. We will explain some of those changes here.

First a little history (very little – I'm out of school already and don't need a whole bunch of "history") regarding our group and our mission. FDABA was formed to make sure that the needs, wants and desires of ALL generations of athletic band groups were heard and taken care of as much as possible. In addition, FDABA was formed to take care of the logistics and running of the Alumni Band during

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## Letter From the Board (Continued)

Homecoming and at any other events that alumni would be involved in. There were several reasons for this needing to occur, all of which would take too much time and paper (and I promised to be brief) as to when and how it did. In our bylaws it states that our goal is to facilitate the gathering of all members of bands that played at athletic events at the college or university level for the purpose of social interaction and fun. As musicians, this usually involves playing at an event and then partying in some way, shape or form before and after.

Four years ago, the board of FDABA noticed that while the membership had remained steady, it was only the same people continuing to renew. We were not gaining many new members from any generation. We consulted current members, past members that had and had not renewed their membership, the OMB office, current OMB members at the time, the director of OMB (Todd Zimbelman) and the UO Music office. After listening to every opinion we attempted to meet the wants and needs that were expressed at that time. Our hope was that as we changed we would grow as an organization in both numbers and finances so that we could better serve our membership and, through our membership, benefit the OMB with time, labor and resources. This winter, 4 years after making those changes, we re-evaluated our changes and positions. Here is what we discovered:

- 1) We have had only a couple OMB members from the last 4 years join FDABA.
- 2) Our membership base has continued to be the same people who had already joined and were continuing to renew.
- 3) In spite of the changes that were made to directly benefit the OMB, the perception of FDABA as a group by the current OMB was not necessarily a positive enough image to create a desire to join FDABA.

Obviously, the changes that we had made did NOT have the desired effect, regardless of the intent of those changes or our hope to attract a broader membership base from all generations of OMB Alumni.

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## Letter From the Board (Continued)

Once again we undertook a mission to discover how we could best grow and change and meet the needs of our current and future alumni base. We have sought out and heard from scores of people. Again we talked with current members as well as members that had not renewed and future members. Jeff Swanson and I went to the OMB banquet and polled scores of current OMB members on what they felt, what would cause them to want to join FDABA, why wouldn't they join, what they perceived as beneficial to them and what they did not. What you read from here on will reflect the content of those conversations with our current membership base, our future members and our desire to meet the needs of alumni while doing our absolute best to meet the mission statement that we were formed with.

- **Name Change** – We are changing our name and logo to “Oregon Alumni Band”. This will more accurately reflect who we are. While Fighting Duck Alumni Band Association has flair and a somewhat cool ring to it with the words “fighting” and “duck”, the reality is that everyone calls us the “Alumni Band”. The links that we have on the OMB page and the UOAA page will attract more potential members if our name more accurately reflects who we are. People are having a hard time identifying with all the letters in FDABA. Since most folks already call us the “Alumni Band” (even at games where announcers are given copy with our name and call letters on it), why fight it? Calling ourselves the “Oregon Alumni Band”, in addition to labeling ourselves as people see us anyway, also aligns us more closely with the OMB (grads go from OMB to OAB), the U of O (Oregon), our mission and membership base (Alumni and serving their needs) and allows us to modernize the logo.
- **Homecoming schedule** – We have shortened up the whole day. Basically, we will meet about 2.5 hours before game time, run through some tunes, go tailgating, play our stuff when and where we are supposed to during the game (TBD) and party afterward (and probably party before and during too!). This will allow folks that live further away to not have to leave so early from their homes. It also provides a much more relaxed, social, party like atmosphere for all members

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## Letter From the Board (Continued)

so that they can enjoy the game and each other's company before, during and after. In addition, to make the day less expensive for our members, there will not be a catered function at post game. Also, each year there is a drain on resources because we must commit to the caterer to purchase a certain number of meals, which we base on pre-registrations. Now that Homecoming is not necessarily a "pre-registration" type of event it has become impossible to predict that amount accurately. Instead, we will party together and folks can bring whatever they wish to eat and imbibe (drink) with.

*\* Important note!!!! – Even though pre-registration is not "required", we have to provide a gate list to the Athletic Department. They are increasingly picky about this as they cordon off a large section of seats (200) that they could sell at a premium. Also, due to the constraints of scheduling someone at the SOM to get us instruments for homecoming, the only instruments that we can provide are the drumline and sousas. If you need something other than that, you can contact Phil via e-mail ([DuxRGr8@aol.com](mailto:DuxRGr8@aol.com)) and there is a chance he can get it. Good recommendations for procuring your own horns would be your local high school or middle school band. For a small donation to their band fund, I have seen many a director part with an unused tenor sax or such.*

- **OMB support** – We will, through our membership dues and donations, support the OMB by providing the snack at 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break that the OMB currently pays for out of it's pocket. The percentage of the amount we will pay has yet to be determined because, according to our bylaws, we must use LAST YEAR'S membership dues to cover those expenses for this year. Current OMB members expressed a strong desire to have FDABA (now OAB) support and visibility throughout the year rather than just a one-time gift of scholarships that they perceived to only benefit a few members of the group. There will still be a place here at OAB where we maintain a scholarship fund should you choose to donate through us to that, but dues will no longer be spent on scholarships. The goal of scholarships was not only to benefit the recipients, but

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## Letter From the Board (Continued)

that future members would want to continue that tradition and wish to join FDABA to do so. This would increase all areas of membership and resources and allow an infusion of youth and excitement and an inclusion of all generations in our group. Obviously, based on feedback, awarding scholarships was NOT meeting this end. This was also true of the band BBQ that FDABA (now OAB) provided at the end of band camp. I will be there each game to help distribute the snack along with band staff, and any other Alumni Band members that are already at the game would be MORE than welcome to come join me in spreading the word - and the food.

Our primary mission is to facilitate the gathering of Alumni from all generations in a social setting that is fun and enjoyable for all. Our heartfelt desire is to make sure that we are serving our Alumni and that our Alumni have a place that they can go and relive their glory days (from the 30's to the present) with music and fun together. Of course, as Alumni, we want to aid the OMB as much as we can. We will strive to do so as we find places and opportunities that will benefit the OMB, it's members and the Alumni. However, we are an ALUMNI band and are not set up to be a booster group for a band or the fund-raising arm of the OMB. As the OAB, we are here to meet YOUR needs, to facilitate YOUR fun and to socialize together each and every opportunity we have. We can't wait to see you on October 16<sup>th</sup> at Homecoming to root on the forces of good and put the Cats out in the litter box they belong in. Let's get together and party!

Sincerely,

Phil Hodapp  
President  
OAB

and

Jeff Swanson  
Vice President  
OAB

### **Mission Statement**

The Oregon Alumni Band 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.

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## **Alumni Band Opportunities**

### **Pick-Up Band: 9/11**

Join the OMB to cheer on the Ducks! Oregon vs. Indiana, 12:30 Kick-off. Email [pickup@fdaba.com](mailto:pickup@fdaba.com) to register. Registration is done through the OMB, and you MUST register in order to attend. Please register as soon as possible so OMB may process your request.

### **Pape Jam: 12/4**

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 as they eviscerate Vanderbilt at the premiere winter playing opportunity. Tip off TBA. Stay tuned to our web site at [www.fdaba.com](http://www.fdaba.com) for late-breaking information as it becomes available.

### **Festival of Bands: 11/6 (Volunteer Opportunity)**

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](mailto:festival@fdaba.com)!

## **Join the Oregon Alumni Band Board!**

Do you have a vision of where you would like this organization to be in the future?

Do you have skills (marketing, recruitment and outreach, communications, computer, organizational, etc.) that would benefit the Oregon Alumni Band?

Would you like to play a bigger role in the organization?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, we need you! The Oregon Alumni Band Board is seeking new Directors. If you think you may be interested, please visit our website at [www.fdaba.com](http://www.fdaba.com) and click the link for "Board Opportunities."

O R E G O N



a l u m n i  
b a n d

## Oregon Alumni Band

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