

**AUBURN ALUMNI BAND BOARD MEETING**  
**AUGUST 6, 2022**  
**1:00 P.M. CST**  
**GOODWIN MUSIC BUILDING, AUBURN, AL**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Deborah Dickerson – President  
Mary Monk Tutor – Vice President  
Rob Cothran – Treasurer  
Taylor Nails – Secretary  
Gerritt Keaton – Immediate Past President  
Traci Ash  
Tamara Grizzle  
Gillian Johnston  
Christiania Jordan  
Sidney Keywood  
Betsy Logan  
Richard Martin  
Paul McCracken  
Jeffrey Rowser  
Alison Slade  
Paul Wright  
Scott Wright

Sarah Ferguson – Auburn University Bands, Coordinator  
Moirra Alsobrook – Auburn University Alumni Club

**UPDATE OF CURRENT AUBURN UNIVERSITY BANDS – SARAH FERGUSON**

\*First ever Concerto Competition with Symphonic Bands – New annual event. Students auditioned in October for professors from other universities. Each student prepared a full concerto and performed auditions in the recital hall. Winners were chosen by the outside judges and students performed their solos at two of the spring concerts.

Winners were:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dylan King – Alto Saxophone

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Michael Chen – Tuba and Julian Fiaschetti – Clarinet

Each got a small cash prize as well.

\*At commencement, Dave Clark, CEO of Consumer Worldwide at Amazon, spoke. Mr. Clark was a marching band member under Dr. Good and spoke about the band in his address.

\*The Pep Band was back in the basketball arena for this past season as they previously weren't due to COVID.

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\*Symphonic Honor Band was set for this past February but was delayed until June due to COVID – Omicron numbers rising. Students who were accepted for the February Honor Band came back as well as other students who applied to attend but couldn't due to other conflicts. Over 100 students participated.

\*Other successful Summer Camps – Marching Leadership, Auxiliaries

\*AUMB Preseason Camp with the current AUMB is going on right now. A record number of students turned out this year and the staff had to make a tough cut of about 50-60 students from the winds.

\*There will be five home games in a row this year. In those first five games there will be Marching Honor Band on September 10 and Alumni Band Reunion on September 24.

\*Symphonic Winds are auditioning right now. An International Tour is being planned for May of 2023 to Spain. It is a study abroad course. Students will write journals and participate in three to four performances in about ten days. The University pitched in for about half the cost for each student for previous trips abroad and the same is expected for this trip.

\*Planning to have Symphonic Honor Band again in February 2023.

\*Currently fundraising for golf carts so the bands don't have to rent or borrow golf carts during the year.

Questions:

Mary Monk Tutor asked if the bands pick Alumni Reunion dates or if the bands are told when it can be. Sarah confirmed that the University sets when the homecoming game will be.

Mary also asked if reunion could be detached from the homecoming game and if it would be possible to bring back family tickets and seating. Sarah said that tickets come out of the allotment, and we would need Alumni band numbers finalized early because those tickets would come from that section. Tickets near the Alumni band, not in the section, would need to be set later.

Mary asked if we could use a microphone for our business meeting the morning of Alumni Band rehearsal so that people could hear better and Sarah said that should be easy to arrange.

**AUBURN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION – MOIRA ALSOBROOK**

\*How can the Alumni Association support reunion weekend and the Alumni Band? Promotion through the Forever AU app, their website, and through email. They can provide promotional items such as shakers, koozies, etc. with the Alumni Association emblem at any of our events.

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\*The Alumni Association oversees over 130 affiliate associations which are regionally based as well as interest-based groups such as the Auburn Alumni Band, Auburn Knights, College of Agriculture Alumni, etc. and helps promote scholarships for students and promotes initiatives and objectives of the current program we are supporting. This allows for a lot of autonomy and freedom.

\*Benefits would be access to data, managing a database, event support, communications, branding, marketing, trainings, and premier benefits such as access to the Alumni Center would be free for reunion weekend or board meetings.

\*Scholarship donations can be difficult to track so affiliates are given custom giving links and it goes directly to the affiliate organization. Donors would be able to track gifts.

\*Interest based groups are allowed to charge membership fees.

\*Board members then asked further questions to find out a little more about being associated with the Alumni Association. This topic will be revisited at a later date.

**QUESTIONS BEFORE SARAH AND MOIRA LEFT THE MEETING**

\*Scott asked Sarah if Goodwin could be open for Alumni in the middle of the game for those who are tired and need somewhere to go. Sarah stated that the band room wouldn't be open until after the game because it is still in use. Rob suggested to pick an area of the student center for people to use since it is close to the stadium.

\*Moira was asked if a tent could be provided for alumni who want/need to leave the game early.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**TREASURER'S REPORT – ROB COTHRAN**

\*We recommended and voted last December to contribute \$12,000 to the endowment scholarship.

\*The market value for the endowment is \$122,733 and has quadrupled in four years.

\*We started this year on January 1 with \$5,378.11 in our account. We have had small expenses for reimbursements, PO Box, National Association of Alumni Bands dues, and the website.

\*We have had one donation of \$500 and two checks have come in for Reunion. Square and online have not been checked yet.

\*Currently have \$5,419.33 in the account. More will come in and go out for reunion.

Questions: Deborah asked how much will change when we change our website domain. Rob stated it should be the same or we should save a little bit.

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**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES**

Mary Monk Tutor motioned to approve the minutes as typed by Deborah Dickerson.  
Scott Wright seconded the motion.

All voted to approve the minutes. None opposed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

Deborah Dickerson stated the updated bylaws were added to the Alumni Band's Facebook page files.

Mary Monk Tutor stated that the bylaws need to be added to the website as well.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Betsy Logan and Alison Slade will get together with Rob Cothran at reunion in September to go over the audit.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Alison Slade, Gillian Johnston, Deborah Dickerson, Mary Monk-Tutor, and Gerritt Keaton will serve on the committee. Deborah will email members about when they can meet and will also send out an interest email to the Alumni Band membership to see who would like to serve on the board.

Mary Monk Tutor asked if the Nominating Committee prepares the slate of officers and Deborah said yes, they are the ones to do that. We will need to fill the Vice President spot when Mary moves up to President.

**NON-COMMITTEE – WEBSITE**

\*Scott Wright presented news on our upcoming new website. We will be transferring the website from Jeff Holbrook and Scott will be running the website. The Alumni Board will now have control over the Alumni Band website.

\*We will have a three-year commitment with Godaddy.

\*\$57 domain registration for three years and all privacy settings. This is an introductory rate.

\*Scott will find out who has control of the Alumni tab on the band website and will find out if that tab can be linked to our new website.

**SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE**

\*Alison Slade, Christiania Jordan, and Scott Wright will need to be on the committee and have administrator access to the Facebook page. Currently Christiania has access and Deborah will add Scott and Alison.

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\*Sarah Ferguson can contact AU Photo Services for historical photos of the band to add.

\*Scott said the main idea of the website is to communicate and find information.

\*Mary asked Paul about the hype video he made. He said he was trying to get the word out about reunion to the younger generations which led to Scott saying we could possibly do an Instagram or Facebook Live on the day of reunion.

\*A small conversation about reunion took place. Mary mentioned we could do a picture on the field of all members spelling out the number 35 for our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and it would look great on social media.

*\*Gillian and Traci had to leave at 2:25 p.m. CST but rejoined via Zoom in the car.*

*\*Betsy Logan arrived at 2:25 p.m. CST*

#### **PROMOTIONAL ITEMS COMMITTEE**

\*The committee currently consists of Scott Wright, Christiania Jordan, Mary Monk-Tutor, and Gerritt Keaton.

\*Gerritt Keaton is housing the current inventory of promotional items.

\*The website has been shut down for ordering currently.

\*Deborah asked if we had any updates on items or what else we could sell. Christiania suggested visors possibly from the same place we get our hats.

\*Scott suggested doing a hat that was a different color other than white that wouldn't necessarily be used for the performance since those have to be white.

\*Rob reminded us to limit what we order and that we have limited amounts in the past because we don't have storage for extra items after reunion.

\*Christiania mentioned that we have used Victory Designs in the past for several of our apparel items and Scott asked if they could dropship items. Deborah said we should ask Victory Designs about that since they have our logo.

\*A discussion went on at length about preorder items and was tabled for their committee meeting.

\*Mary asked Gerritt if he would be willing to chair the Promotional Items committee and he declined.

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\*Rob asked about the Square Readers that we use at Reunion for purchases being paid for by card. He said the Treasurer and the head of Promotional Items committee should physically have readers and have training on how to use them.

*\*Alison had to leave the meeting at 3:01 p.m. CST*

\*Paul Wright and Traci Ash will help with the committee as well. Traci agreed to be the Chair of Promotional Items Committee.

\*A meeting for only the Promotional Items committee was scheduled for Thursday, August 11, at 6:00 p.m. CST. The Committee will consist of Paul Wright, Christiania Jordan, Traci Ash, Scott Wright, Mary Monk Tutor, and Gerritt Keaton. Gerritt will be unable to attend the meeting but will make sure he gets the inventory of items he is currently housing to Traci.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **REUNION – RICHARD MARTIN**

\*Currently have 30 registered.

\*Meals are \$12.50 on the Google Doc at registration, but the price for the meal has gone up.

\*Rob noted that, as Treasurer, he needs to be an Administrator for Square.

\*Richard asked if there was a place on Square for people to buy a replacement shirt and Rob said that it had been done as a miscellaneous charge previously since there are very few who must buy a replacement shirt. We did not want confusion between the replacement shirts and other preorder shirts.

\*Deborah said that Sarah Ferguson says because of COVID, people who need to borrow a school instrument for reunion need to contact her directly.

\*Deborah talked about how this is the first year to have the Front Ensemble at Alumni Band and will be using the current band's Front Ensemble instruments.

\*Reunion Reception discussion was tabled to the Reunion Committee when they have a meeting.

\*Discussion of Silent Auction items.

\*Let Richard know if there is a specific demographic you would like a break down of from reunion registration information.

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\*Discussion of a tent near the band field for reunion. If people need a break, they should go across the street to the Student Center.

\*Discussion of Tiger Transit on Gameday for Alumni needed/wanting to leave the game early.

\*Rob Cothran said we need to have a Post-Reunion meeting and would be convenient to have one this year since reunion is earlier in the season. The only things that take a little time to gather after reunion are from the band office and we would have a good idea of where we stand around two weeks after the reunion. It would also be good to include our new Board Members in the meeting after reunion.

\*A Post-Reunion Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25 at 7:30 p.m. EST/6:30 p.m. CST

**CLOSING**

\*Another meeting to finalize reunion details and talk further about the Alumni Association is set for Tuesday, September 13 at 7:30 p.m. EST/6:30 p.m. CST.

\*In the meantime, we should talk to some of the other affiliate groups about what they think of working with the Alumni Association.

\*We need to see what other benefits there are to working with the Alumni Association aside from marketing.

\*Traci will reach out to the Ag School to see who she can talk to and see what the Alumni Association does for them.

\*Gerritt stated if this were to be a partnership that we embark on, we need to make sure to keep Dr. Good in the loop.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING – GERRITT KEATON  
SECOND – BETSY LOGAN  
3:50 P.M. CST**