



SPARTAN SOUNDS

WEST SPRINGFIELD BAND
6100 Rolling Road
Springfield, VA 22152
www.wshsband.org



December, 2007

Director's Notes

As of our last newsletter we were talking about the summer coming to an end. As I write this note we have had our first two-hour snow delay of the school year, marching season has ended, we survived football playoffs and we are in the middle of the second quarter. The year is going by quickly, and there is much more to come.

The Marching Spartans had a wonderful competitive season. The first place finish at the Marine Corps Invitational in Annapolis was a fitting way to end the season. The magnitude of the band's progress from August through November was simply amazing. The reason for this was attitude. The band, as a whole, desired excellence. Because of the outstanding commitment level the marching band improved every week of the season, right up through the very last week. I am extremely impressed and very proud of each of the young people who worked so hard for so long to make the band successful. We had exceptional student leadership and responsive band membership. By sharing the workload and taking real responsibility our leadership team and band members carried our ideas about how a band should operate to a new level of success. Bravo Marching Spartans! You have set a standard that will be the path for other to follow.

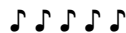
The Wind Symphony completed two Tiny Tots concerts, playing for about 1,400 pre-school and kindergarten students. Next week we will have our winter concerts. Jazz Ensemble, Concert Band, Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony will all be playing on Wednesday evening, December 12 at 7:00pm. We do not normally have this event all in one night, but due to a calendar conflict we moved all the bands to one evening. Please plan to attend and listen to the work of each of the groups. They have all worked very hard in preparation for this concert.

As we look to the next several weeks we will be into Band Festival preparation mode. For the uninitiated, the District Band Festival is to band what the SOL Exam is to and English class. The only difference is that the band's assessment is done corporately and publicly, including the publishing of the results. Out bands will be preparing two selections each from the Virginia band and Orchestra Association's Selective Music List. Then, between February 28 and March 1, each band will play their selections for a set of judges, mostly college band directors, who will evaluate the group on both the concert performance and sight reading.

As you may know, the Marching Spartans received a Superior Rating at the State Marching Band Festival in October. If the Wind Symphony

receives a Superior Rating at the District Band Festival, West Springfield will be named a Virginia Honor Band. We hope that we will be successful in that endeavor. It is my sincere belief that our band members are among the finest students at West Springfield. They are having a fantastic year thus far and our expectations are that the year will continue in the manner in which it has begun.

Mr. Holscher, the entire instructional staff and I would like to wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season and a joyous 2008!



JUST A FEW WORDS

It is really hard to believe that the Holidays are upon us. Seems like yesterday we were complaining how "HOT" the football field was during practice. A lot has happened since then. We traveled to SIX competitions including a trip to Ohio, fed the band several *gourmet* dinners, handed out approximately 1200 bottles of water, and won Championships in Annapolis. IN ADDITION, the football team continued to win games and the band continued to play the fight song thru November. WOW!! It was a season to remember.

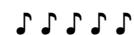
This past week, the Wind Symphony performed The Tiny Tots concerts. They were a huge success. It was an amazing sight to see all of the faces of the pre-school kids light up when the characters came bouncing down the isles. Thank you to Louis Shands for chairing the event and also thank you to

the "Seniors" who entertained and "bounced" down the isles. I believe a good time was had by all. It was a wonderful way to begin the Holiday Season.

In the coming months, we will be looking for help with the District Band Festival, there will be pre-festival concerts, another fundraiser for the student accounts, the Wind Symphony will travel to a major University for a music clinic with Professors, Spring Trip will be in March and we will have a Silent Auction and Dinner in May. These are only a few of the activities that are around the corner. Please take a moment to look at your busy calendar to see when you might be able to help. It is with the help and contributions of the parents that enable the band program to be successful for so many students.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and we will see you at the January Band Booster Meeting, on Wednesday, January 9, 2007.

Carole Zok
Band Booster President
President@wshsband.org



2007 Marching Band



2007 Marching Band Show

community outreach event was a big success!

Louise Shands

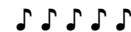


Some of our 2007 Tiny Tots Performers



TINY TOTS CONCERTS

On December 4th and 5th the Wind Symphony performed for over 500 preschool children each day. The program consisted of holiday music, favorite Disney tunes, and an introduction to the different types of musical instruments. Following tradition, some of the senior students dressed up as Mickey & Minnie Mouse, Pooh Bear, Rudolph, Santa & Mrs. Claus, etc. and danced through the audience. They also gave hugs to many of the children after the concert. Thanks to the volunteers who helped sell tickets, usher, apply makeup, and get the students into their costumes. This



SAVE THE DATE

SAVE THE DATE for the 3rd annual Big Band Dinner and Auction -- Saturday, May 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the West Springfield High School cafeteria. This is our fundraiser that generates money for the capital improvements fund. Capital improvements are used for those items outside the operating budget such as instruments and new equipment for all the band programs. We've changed the venue and lowered the prices but that will not mean a change in fun. Look forward to an exciting evening of good food, live music, games and of course the possibility of outbidding someone for a fabulous prize. We hope everyone will join us. Tickets will be available in the spring and prices have been set at \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 5-12, those under 5 are free.

Of course an event like this requires a lot of work behind the scenes and we will need your help. Our solicitations team will be the first to get started, they will be meeting before the end of December. If you have a special talent of asking for donations either by phone, letter or face-to-face then this is the team for you. If you prefer to decorate, serve dinner, greet guests, take photographs, run a game, or help process guests the night of the auction then we have a team for you. Information on teams will be available at the winter concert and will be sent out by email later this month. Please think about joining one of our teams. They are a great way to get involved with the band and they don't all take a huge time commitment.

Our first Auction meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Band Room. Please join us to find out more about the event and to volunteer to help make the Auction a success again this year.

To volunteer, please contact Frank Knickerbocker, our volunteer coordinator, at fknick@aol.com or myself at devined@cox.net. We look forward to hearing from you.

Kristi Devine



We send out a huge Thank You to all of our Tag Day volunteers! To date the band has received a total of \$21,100!

Marching Spartan Spirit!

By Art Horn, Chaperone Chair



The 2007 Marching Spartan season was outstanding thanks to all of you! Our students, staff and parents made it successful and fun. ***The Marching Spartans finished strong and proud!!!***

From the first competition to the first home game you came and provided excellent support. In the heat of Ohio or the cold at South County HS and the playoff game at Westfield – you showed your support and passion for our students and the ***Spartan Bands***. Everyone pitched in as a team from the ***Uniform Crew*** (Thanks Moms!) to ***Hospitality*** (Thanks Diane, Barbara & Team) to our ***Concessions Crew*** (Thanks Everyone) to the ***Pit Crew*** (you know who you are – Thanks Dads!) and our ***Chaperones*** on the buses during events – You made it happen. Whether at a home game or an away game your help and support was heartfelt and outstanding. Even the rain couldn't dampen your team spirit. ***We couldn't have done it without you – Great Job – THANK YOU!!!***

It was a championship season – Thanks Spartans! Everyone demonstrated our Marching Spartan Spirit. You made it happen and you kept it fun! Thanks everyone for a great season!!!

Now it's time to take a break and get ready for the holidays with family. You deserve some rest!

As we head toward a new year, you will want to join us for our **WSHS Band Boosters meetings** on the **first Wednesday** of each month at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Band Room**. Come join our leadership team and add your unique talents to the team! To keep the **Spartan Bands** in performance shape takes a lot of resources – time, talent and treasure. We treasure our students and the time we can spend with them. The **Band Boosters** is one place that your teen will welcome your participation in student life at WSHS. You'll make new friends as you meet other band parents and help out with **Spartan Band events**. Whether you have a lot of time or only a little time you can donate to the **Band Boosters** there's a place for you! All you need to do is come to the next meeting!

I would like to ask you to consider being a **chaperone** for a future **Spartan Band event**. We have parents chaperoning each band event. You can volunteer to serve at one event or several if you would like to do so. The nice thing about being a chaperone is that you get to see the event up close, to support our **Spartans** and to meet our great staff and parents. So we'll see you in January 2008. Did I mention the **Spring Trip???** *It's always our favorite event of the year!*

Thanks for your help & support!
Happy Holidays!!! Feel the Power – Go Band!

Thanks for Joining Us!

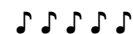
STUDENT ACCOUNTS

Thank you to everyone who has paid their various band fees, been in contact with me and kept their accounts up to date. There are still a few families that owe fees. We have been trying to contact you by email, telephone and regular mail. If you have never heard from the boosters then we don't have any contact information for you. Please fill out a band registration form, one is attached at the end of this newsletter, so we can keep you informed of the different band activities. Payment of fees is important to the operating budget of the entire band program and students who owe fees will not be allowed to participate in non-classroom groups such as drum line or winter guard.

On the other hand we have many students who are adding to their accounts by taking advantage of fundraising opportunities such as Scrip and People Power. Students have added a total of over \$9000 so far to their student accounts and only about half of the students in the band program participate. We encourage everyone to find a fundraiser that they can support. The money you earn goes a long way toward paying your fees, attire purchases, even spring trip costs.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about your student account, I'm happy to help.

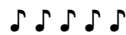
Thank you,
Kristi Devine
devined@cox.net



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Greetings to band families! Even as we change seasons and focus, our volunteer pool and continuing need for volunteers march on. For example, to adequately prepare for next year's Tag Day, we are starting our contacts even now! Our organization depends on sustained involvement of all band parents – not just parents of marching students. Please join me to discuss volunteer opportunities whenever you see me around!

Frank Knickerbocker
Booster Volunteers
703-866-1909
fknick@aol.com.



The Concession Stand Thanks You!

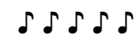
A huge THANK YOU to all the volunteers who bought supplies every week, and to the volunteers who helped set up before every home game, and to the volunteers who braved heat, cold, wind, and rain to man both of the concession stands this season!

We had an amazing group of volunteers including Nick Fleegal, Diane & Rich Wink, Debra Brittenham, Joel & Suzanne Jensen, Cathy Swider, Nancy Voss, Lori & Taylor Larson, Frank & Nancy Knickerbocker, Bryan DeAngelo, Vikki Middleton, Karen Byer-Storch,

Kathy Fuller, Jill Wesselman, Joy & Joe Shannahan, Phil Franke, Lyn & Steve & Peter & Taylor Whitney, Joy Skeete, Mark Zettlemyer, Audrey Bigelow, Marguerite & Matt Saitta, Art Horn, Karen Koenig, Kristi Devine, Bonnie Burkhardt, Sam Halle, Stryker Smith, Tommy Bateman, Lisa Langlais, Kristin Scott, Joanne & Thadd Buzan, Jean & Mark Gilbertson, Kirk Davies, Nancy Yonkers, Charlotte Peterson, Cindy Kronz, Dorothy Doyle, John Farris, Lynne Biwer, Anne Walker, Jim Zok and Doug Smith.

We are extremely grateful to Lynn and Greg Jones who showed us the ropes this season, and who put up with our panicky phone calls especially on Friday afternoons! Lynn has been in charge of the concession stand for many years and she makes it look easy, but it is hard work and takes many hours during the week to prepare for both the JV/Freshman games and the Varsity games. Lynn has done an amazing job (we know that first hand) and puts in more hours to run the stand than anybody realizes. Please thank Lynn & Greg the next time you see them.

Mo & Brett Fleegal

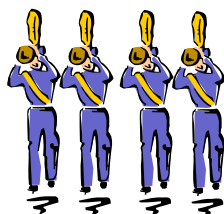
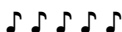


FROM THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

We would like to thank the many parents who helped with the marching band dinners this fall. The students enjoyed several fine and well-deserved meals prior to their home game performances. Thank you to those who helped set up and serve and to all those who made delicious desserts. Many

students and parents also enjoyed the reception following the October Wind Symphony and Orchestra Concert. Thank you for those contributions. Our next event will be the reception following the December 12 Winter Band Concert. Your help and contributions make these concert celebrations wonderful events. Many thanks.

Co-Chairs: Barbara Shearer
shearerfour@cox.net
Diane Smith
dd_smith@verizon.net



GREETINGS FROM THE UNIFORM CLOSET!

We've had a great Marching Spartans season! Thanks for all the helping hands and support. We couldn't have done it without all of our wonderful U-Crew folks. The student crew did an amazing job this year under the leadership of Catie Smith. Thank you for your smiles and "let's do this" attitude!

SPIRITWEAR will now be sold through the uniform closet. If you wish to purchase any of the spirit wear items please contact Nancy Yonkers or send in a completed order form with payment. We have plenty of the size L and XL student and family sweatshirts in stock and ready for sale. These are a nice way to keep warm during the winter

months, especially for our students who do not like to wear heavy winter coats.

There are still several concert students who have not paid for their attire. With the winter concerts now upon us, please make sure your student's attire fits and is ready for their performance. For the performance, we ask that the girls wear closed toe shoes and stockings and the boys wear black socks and dress shoes.

Some have asked if we have any of the old marching uniform jackets for sale. YES we do. They are \$35 each and shakos are \$15. Please contact me if you are interested in purchasing them. If you know of any organization that could benefit from the extra jackets and shakos, please let me know. We would love to see them be used rather than stored.

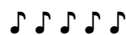
Looking ahead to next year, many of us on the committee have graduating seniors, so we will be looking for more helping hands in the uniform closet next season. If you would like to join in the fun, please feel free to contact me and I'll share with you some of the ways you can help.

We'll leave the light on for you! Until next time!

Cathy Morrison
703-866-4759
vandee@verizon.net
Dorothy Doyle
703-451-1202
doylekevinj@verizon.net
Marian Stryker
703-440-4034
mbjwk@verizon.net

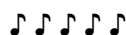
SCRIP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Gift cards make great last minute presents (and build up your student account)! You still have time to order scrip for the holidays. If there is interest, I will place an order on Friday, December 14, that should be delivered by Tuesday or Wednesday of the last week of school. A form is attached at the end of the newsletter listing the gift cards we offer. As an added incentive, a number of stores and restaurants are offering holiday bonuses, including Borders, Staples, Eddie Bauer, Lands End, Lowes, Linens n Things, GameStop, BP Gas, Shell, Exxon, and Burger King. Questions? Call or email Susan Anderson, 703-644-8486, scrip.order@wshsband.org.



YOU HAVE TO EAT SOMETIME

On Tuesday, September 4, the Band began our Second year of "Dining for Dollars" program with the Glory Days Grill. Last year we raised \$499.09 for the band, just by eating. All you have to do is stop by any Glory Days for dinner (or Carryout) -- Monday thru Thursday and all day Sunday, save your receipt (not the credit card receipt), put it in the Black Box in the Band room or give it to a Board Member, and at the end of the school year Glory Days will donate 10% of the food sales back to the Band. It is truly an open-ended opportunity to help support the band. As many of us say "It's all about the food!!"



CANDY AND BULB FUNDRAISER BEGINS JANUARY 15

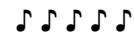
The annual candy and bulb fundraiser is an ideal venue for students to earn money for their individual student accounts. Check to see your band student brings home a packet.

Many of the items are inexpensive and at least 40% of his or her sales will go to his or her student account. The more orders made by the entire group, that percentage may go even higher (up to 50%)! Last year we had a large number of orders and students received 45% of the total sales into their accounts.

This is the last major fund raiser before the spring trip. This is an excellent way to fund a portion of the trip or for spending money at the trip. It can also be used for band fees for next year.

If you are interested to taking on the coordination of this program for next year (my son graduates this year), please contact me. It is not a difficult program to run and it is labor intensive for a very short time. You are even welcome to shadow me as I go through the process this year.

Lois Kurth
730-451-5628
KurthSJ@aol.com

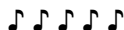


VIRGINIA DINER GOURMET NUTS AND CHOCOLATES

This year, 60 band students earned nearly \$6,500 in "free money" through sales of Virginia Diner Gourmet Nuts

and Chocolates. Total sales was nearly \$13,000 and half of each student's sales gets credited to their personal band accounts to be used as they desire to pay for band-related expenses (including spring trip expenses and spending money). Once again, Joree Jensen was the top salesperson, with over \$1,100 in sales and over \$550 in "free money." Four others -- Buster Bigelow, Anna Lees, Alison Vossmoore, and Mike Yonkers -- had over \$500 in sales.

Remember: Virginia Diner orders may be submitted all year long on the internet, and students receive 40% credit for these sales. Go to www.virginiadiner.com and click on "fundraising", then "Virginia-other sites," then "West Springfield HS Band." Enter your student's name and 40% of the sale will go into your student's band account. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Voss at (703) 250-6820 or nbvoss@msn.com.

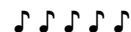


UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 29 – Jazz Concert
Dec 4-5 – Tiny Tots Concerts
Dec 12 – Winter Band Concert
(All bands)
Dec 18 – Spring Trip Deposit Due
Jan 5 – District Band Auditions
Jan 18 – Spring Trip 2nd Payment Due
Jan 31-Feb 2 – District Band at West
Potomac
Feb 2 – Colorguard Regional
Feb 11 – Spring Trip Meeting
Feb 20-21 – Prefestival Concerts
Feb 28-Mar 1 – Band Festival at WSHS
Feb 29 – Spring Trip Final Payment Due
Mar 7-11 – Spring Trip!

Mar 17-21 -- Spring Break!

All dates are subject to change. Stay tuned to the Band website, www.wshsband.org for up to the minute details on the events listed above.



WEST SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS SCRIP ORDER FORM -- last update: November 28, 2007

Retail Stores	%	Scrip \$\$ Amounts	\$\$ Amount Purchased
Amazon.com	3%	25	
AMC & Loews (Theaters)	6%	25	
American Eagle Outfitters	7%	25	
Auntie Anne's	7%	10	
Barnes & Noble / B.Dalton	8%	10 & 25	
Bath & Body Works	12%	10 & 25	
Bed, Bath, & Beyond	6%	25	
Best Buy	1%	25-100-250	
Blockbuster	6%	10	
Borders	8%	10 & 25	
Brookstone	11%	25	
Build-A-Bear	7%	25	
Circuit City	2%	25 & 100	
Claire's	8%	10	
CVS Drug Stores	1%	25	
Dick's Sporting Goods	4%	25	
Dress Barn	7%	25	
Eddie Bauer	8%	25	
Express	12%	25	
Family Christian Stores	8%	25	
Finishline	9%	25	
GameStop/EB Games	2%	25	
Harry & David	9%	25	
Home Depot/EXPO Design	2%	25 - 100 - 500	
iTunes	3%	15	
J C Penney/Eckerd Drug	4%	25 & 100	
Jo Ann Fabrics	5%	20	
K Mart	3%	25 & 50	
Kohl's	3%	25 & 100	
L L Bean	14%	25 & 100	
Land's End	8%	25 & 100	
Linens and Things	7%	25	
Lowe's Home Imprvmnt	3%	25 - 100 - 500	
Macy's	9%	25 & 100	
Marshalls/TJMaxx/HomeG	6%	25 & 100	
Men's Wearhouse	7%	25	
Michaels	3%	25	
Office Depot	3%	25	
Old Navy/Gap/BananaRep	8%	25	
Payless Shoes	12%	20	
Pier One Imports	8%	25	
Pottery Barn/Teens/Kids	7%	25 - 100	
Radio Shack	3%	25	
Regal Theaters	7%	25	
Ross Dress for Less	7%	25	
Sears	3%	25 - 100 - 250	
Sports Authority	7%	25	
Staples	4%	25 & 100	
Talbot's	10%	25	
Wal Mart	1%	25 & 100	

Gas Stations & Hotels& Air	%	Scrip \$\$ Amounts	\$\$ Amount Purchased
BP Gas	1.0%	50	
Exxon / Mobil	0.5%	50	
Shell	0.5%	25 - 100	
Best Western	11%	25 - 100	
Hyatt Hotels	8%	25 - 100	
Marriott Hotels	11%	50 - 100 - 500	
American Airlines	7%	100 - 250	

Grocery Stores

	%	Scrip \$\$ Amounts	\$\$ Amount Purchased
Giant	4%	25 - 50 - 100	
Safeway	3%	25 - 100	
Shoppers Food Warehouse	5%	20 - 50	

Restaurants

	%	Scrip \$\$ Amounts	\$\$ Amount Purchased
Applebee's	7%	25	
Arby's	7%	10	
Baja Fresh	6%	25	
Baskin Robbins	8%	2	
Bob Evans	9%	10	
Boston Market	11%	10	
Burger King	3%	10	
California Pizza Kitchen	3%	10	
Cheesecake Factory	4%	25	
Chili's/Macaroni Grill	10%	25	
Chipotle Mexican Grill	9%	10	
Cold Stone Creamery	7%	10	
Cracker Barrel	8%	10	
Domino's	4%	5	
Dunkin Donuts	3%	10	
Great Harvest Bread Co.	7%	10	
Honey Baked Ham	11%	10	
Kentucky Fried Chicken	8%	5	
Legal Sea Foods	12%	25	
Noodles & Co.	7%	10	
Old Country Buffet	4%	25	
Outback/Bonefish/Carraba	3%	25	
Panera Bread	8%	10	
Papa John's	7%	10	
Pizza Hut	8%	10	
Red Lobster & Olive Garden	8%	25	
Red Robin	8%	10	
Ruby Tuesday's	7%	25	
Ruth's Chris Steakhouse	9%	50	
Starbucks	6%	10 & 25	
Subway	2%	10&50	
TGI Friday's	7%	25	
Uno's Pizzeria	16%	25	
Wendy's	3%	10	

***Note: The percentages listed on this form are the percentages that will be credited to your student account. Percentages are subject to change at any time before order is placed with the vendor by WSHS Band.

TOTAL ORDER	\$
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PURCHASER	
EMAIL OR PHONE	
STUDENT	

*

To Order - Email scrip.order@wshsband.org
 or Call 703-644-8486
 Make checks payable to: WSHS Band Boosters

2007-2008 WSHS BAND PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM

Complete and return to the Black (Orange) Box in the Band Room or mail to:

West Springfield HS Band Boosters
P.O. Box 523181
Springfield, VA 22152

This form is due no later than **September 5th** and is **required** for **ALL** students taking any band class at WSHS.

Student's LAST Name: _____ FIRST Name: _____
 Address: _____ Home Phone: _____
 City & Zip: _____ Student's Cell phone: _____
 Graduation year: _____ Gender¹ _____ T-shirt size (Adult): S M L XL XXL
 email address²: _____

Bands you would like to be a member of (check all that apply): Instrument: _____

_____ Wind Symphony³ _____ Symphonic Band _____ Concert Band
 _____ Beginning Band _____ Percussion Class _____ Jazz Ensemble
 _____ Mixed Ensembles _____ Marching Band⁴ _____ Indoor Drumline⁵/Guard⁶
 _____ I will not be participating in Band. Reason: _____

Student lives with: _____ Mother _____ Father _____ Both _____ Guardian/Other _____

Father's LAST Name: _____ FIRST Name: _____
 email address²: _____ Work phone: _____
 email address²: _____ Cell phone: _____

Mother's LAST Name: _____ FIRST Name: _____
 email address²: _____ Work phone: _____
 email address²: _____ Cell phone: _____

¹ Used for uniform planning purposes only

² Addresses are not published and used only by band directors, officers and Boosters. More than one email address (i.e., home and office) should be listed if you would like information to go to multiple addresses. The band program utilizes email and the Internet (www.wshsband.org) to disseminate information to both students and parents.

³ Participation in Marching Band is **required** for enrollment in the Wind Symphony. By indicating that you would like to be a member of the Wind Symphony, you are committing to being a member of the Marching Band⁴.

⁴ Marching Band Fee is \$450.00. This fee is **non-refundable**. A **\$250** deposit is due no later than **May 15th** with the balance due **July 15th** (a late fee—\$50.00—will be assessed after this date). Marching Band Commitment Form is also required. Additional expenses (i.e., uniform, travel) may also be required.

^{5 6} \$500.00 Fee required with participation. Additional expenses (i.e., uniform, travel) may also be required.

Do not write below this line

This Section is for Band Staff Only

Revision Date: May 2007 Date form received: / /