



JRHS BUGLE

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2008

TAKE



NOTE

In September

SEPTEMBER 6
Tag Day

SEPTEMBER 12
Home vs. Lee Davis HS

SEPTEMBER 16
BOOSTER MEETING
Board 6:15 PM
General Membership
7:30 PM
JRHS Library

SEPTEMBER 18
**Back to School Night
Performance**

SEPTEMBER 19
**Away Game
vs. Cosby HS
Performance at 7:00**

SEPTEMBER 20
**Band Plays at University of
Richmond Home Game**

SEPTEMBER 26
Home vs. George Wythe

SEPTEMBER 27
**Band Competition
Hermitage HS**



A Message from the Director:

Greetings From the Band Room!!

It is great to finally be here at James River High School! I want to thank everyone who has made my family and me feel so welcomed. We are getting settled in our new house and enjoying exploring Chesterfield County.

Band camp is now over, and the kids have worked very hard. We had our fair share of challenges, from my having to attend meetings, to the hot weather, and rewriting drill. Overall, it has been a very successful band camp and I am proud of our students for working through these challenges. We ended band camp with a successful "Show and Tell" performance for the parents on Wednesday night.

This year will provide many exciting performance opportunities including a return trip to the University of Richmond for a football game on September 20th. In addition to seven football games (5 home and 2 away), the Regiment will perform at three contests (Hermitage, Charlottesville, and Hanover), County Band Night at Thomas Dale High School, and VBODA State Marching Festival (at Liberty High School in Fauquier County). Please plan on attending these performances. We would love to hear the stand erupt when the Regiment takes the field! Please continue to check the website for updates.

I am looking forward to a very successful year. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me via email at Keith_Cottrill@ccpsnet.net or call the band room at (804) 378-4448.

With Regiment Pride!!

Keith Cottrill

From the President

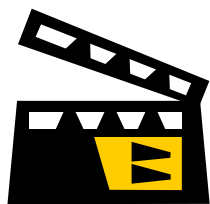
Marching Forward...



Welcome to the 2008 – 2009 school year. There is a major production under way!

Our show this year is entitled “A Night at the Movies.” As I was contemplating writing this article, I was reflecting upon that long list of names and mysterious titles that scroll down the screen of your favorite motion picture after the movie fades to black and the credits come up. The list includes the producers, the writers, the director, the cast, the production designers, the composers, the casting directors, the gaffers, the wranglers, the grips and the all important Foley artist (the person who makes the clip-clop sound of a horse’s hooves or the sound of the thud of a body slamming into the wall). It takes all of them to make a blockbuster movie.

It’s really not that different when it comes to producing a marching band program. The James River Regiment could not exist without all of our incredible volunteers, our band director, our school administrators, and our talented, hard-working students. We have many remarkable volunteers, but we always need and welcome more. My hope is that every family whose teen is involved in any of the James River band programs will see fit to volunteer in some capacity. It takes all of us to make our bands strong and no job and no amount of time given is too small. If you are not sure where you can help, look at the list of volunteer opportunities in your handbook that you received at the end-of-band camp BBQ. In the alternative, you can e-mail me at robinh@comcast.net or our volunteer coordinator, Gwen Schmitt, at schmittg123@hotmail.com. I’m looking forward to working with all of you in making a blockbuster of a marching band this season.



The production process has been underway all summer and our crew has been hard at work. The pit crew volunteers (the grips) cleaned and painted the trailers, the Regiment uniform volunteers (the costume supervisors) were busy measuring, sewing, ordering and organizing, the concession stand coordinators (the caterers) cleaned and organized the concession stand, the band camp volunteers (the wrangler managers, and health and safety coordinators) fed, photographed, healed and hugged our Regiment members for three weeks, the hospitality coordinator and volunteers (the greenswomen and greensmen) pulled off a successful end-of-band camp BBQ, and our fundraising coordinators (the investment group and accountants) have already held one fundraising event (Rita’s Italian Ice nights), are selling baskets and getting ready for our biggest fundraiser of the year, Tag Day. All of these people make my job as president much easier and I want to give them all a Band Booster Academy Award and standing ovation!

As you know, it takes a lot of money to make a movie and running a band program is no different. On September 6, we will have our **REQUIRED FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY**, Tag Day. All Regiment members are required to participate in Tag Day. I cannot stress enough how important this day is to our band programs. More information about Tag Day is included in a separate article in this issue of The Bugle. Please read it and volunteer to help.

Finally, a movie cannot be made, and a band program cannot exist, without the director. A movie director is responsible for overseeing every aspect of a film. The director visualizes the script, controls the movie’s artistic and dramatic features while leading the crew and actors in the realization of the vision. This year, I am happy to welcome our new director, James River High School Director of Bands, Mr. Keith Cottrill. I have enjoyed working with Mr. Cottrill over the summer and all of us are happy to have him join our James River High School family. Movie production isn’t easy and neither is producing a band program. All of us are working hard to make this year’s production a blockbuster. **NOW - IT’S SHOW TIME!**



Robin Hegner

JRHS Band Boosters President

Tag Day Events

The **first phase of the Tag Day fundraiser**, the pre-tag day campaign, is coming to a close as I write this. There are still too many Regiment members who have not participated, and we are committed to having 100% participation. For those of you who have not yet sent in the envelopes that were sent home, or can not find them, just send in with your band or guard member 5 envelopes pre-addressed to anyone you know who would want to know about your son or daughter's participation in the Regiment. Leave it to those



you solicit to decide if they have the desire to donate towards the Regiment's expenses – and consider the broad-based family and friends support as you watch the Regiment perform. They look and sound so good in part because of your commitment to give them the tools to do so, and the rest is from their commitment to work hard as a team.

The **second phase of Tag Day is September 6** – the event itself. Thank you to those of you who have volunteered in any capacity. Remember, we need people who will be at home on September 6 from 10-10:30 to be a place for the kids to take a drink break. If you have not yet volunteered and can be a home volunteer, please e-mail Lisa Germano at lgermano@comcast.net.

Tag day is required for all Regiment members (marching band and guard). The day will start with light refreshments at 8 am (be there at 7:45am). Everyone will be dressed in uniform and will disperse after instructions to go in their pre-assigned cars to the James River District neighborhoods to talk up the Regiment and ask for donations. The day will end at noon, followed by a pizza lunch, courtesy of **Candelas**.

This is an opportunity to reach out to the residential sections of our school district and raise awareness of our presence in the community. Neighbors are asked to come watch the home football games and see the Regiment perform! As you watch the Regiment, consider the community support that makes it possible.

We need all the volunteers we can get to make this day a success — we need more drivers! Please sign up!

Our fundraising needs for this year will be defined by our success with Tag Day – take pride in your part to create it!

Lisa Germano – 323-5995
Laura Duke – 320-3937



A Reminder from the Treasurers

When submitting a check for payment to the band, please remember to include your student's name on the memo line.

Have You Signed Up to Volunteer for the Concession Stand?

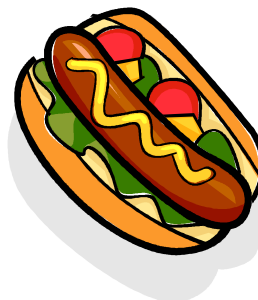
We still need more volunteers to work the concession stand for the home football games.

You do not have to pay to enter the game, and you get a free burger and drink. Students can help at the Freshman and JV games and earn hours for Beta and Key Club.

If you are new to the Regiment, this is a GREAT way to get involved and meet some of our outstanding students and their parents.

We also need someone to grill the burgers at each game.

To volunteer, please contact Gwen Schmitt at schmittg123@hotmail.com.



From the Regiment Uniform Coordinators

As we approach marching band season, here are a few rules regarding uniforms that parents and students need to remember.

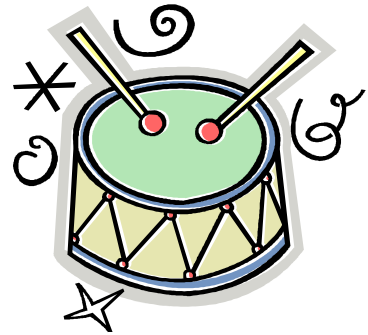
Students must wear their “*A Night at the Movies*” band camp t-shirt under their uniform jacket. Alternatively, a white lightweight cotton t-shirt may be worn under the jacket. However, students wearing a plain white t-shirt instead of the band camp t-shirt will not be allowed to remove their uniform jacket if the Band Director indicates jackets can be removed. Students must also wear lightweight, light colored shorts, leggings, stirrup pants or long legged thermals under the uniform pants. **Please, no patterned or colored undergarments** (they show through the pants). Blue jeans, denim materials, or other heavyweight pants under uniform pants are not permitted because these cause excessive wear, stretching, and breakage of the stitching in the uniform pants. Students must also wear **solid white, calf or knee-length** socks (no colors on the heels) with their uniforms.

The purpose of band uniforms is for all band members to look the same on the field. Therefore, hair (both ladies and gentleman) must be pulled back so that no hair is visible from the front. Jewelry is not allowed.

Students must take home and wash the white gloves after each performance. Dinkles (marching band shoes) must be cleaned regularly and maintained in a scuff-free condition. We recommend Mr. Clean Magic Sponges for cleaning Dinkles.

The Uniform Committee can always use help washing uniform pants after Friday night games that occur the night before a Saturday competition. Bring a laundry basket to the band room after the game and return the uniforms to the band room by 9:00 a.m. the next morning. It's not difficult and “seasoned” uniform moms will tell you the easiest way to do it. In an effort to keep uniforms clean before each performance, students are not allowed any food or drink, except water, in the stands before halftime.

Students must show their pride of the band program through their appearance. The Band Director, Uniform Committee, Chaperones and/or Pit Crew will make uniform inspections prior to each performance to ensure proper appearance.



Keeping the beat!

Our Drumline and Frontline (the Pit) have been practicing throughout the summer to make sure they are ready to be the heart beat of the Regiment. Keep your eyes on them for many exciting moves and sounds while on the field. They have worked very hard to impress you all, and it shows.

We are reintroducing marching cymbals this year, and I know you will enjoy watching them as they make their debut. We have not used marching symbols for at least 5 years. Please let Marshall, J.P, Justin, and Christian know that you like their new section. In fact, the entire group loves it when you tell them how good they sound and look.

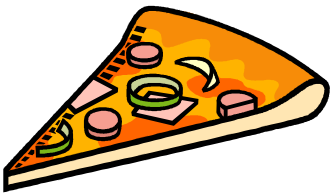
If you have any questions or comments for the percussion lines please feel free to contact me. Ann Powell 651-2266

Fundraising News

As many of you know we have had a successful start with a \$70 donation from **Rita's Italian Ice Water in Midlothian**. Wawa donated 156 assorted drinks to the students at Band Camp on Wednesday, August 20. Kroger donated a \$10 gift card that was used to purchase snacks for Band Camp. Sam's Club donated a \$25 gift card that was used to purchase watermelons for the students. Ukrops at Stony Point donated all the paper products for the picnic on August 27. Remember to support these merchants who support our Band.



CiCi's Pizza (now located on Busy Street off Courthouse Road) has been very generous with us. They have provided the pizza we have served the students at Band Camp and they are ready to partner with us for CiCi's Pizza nights starting Thursday, September 4. Between the hours of 5 pm until 8 pm every Thursday the Boosters will receive 15% of all sales. The band will have practice after school until 4:30 pm every Thursday, so please encourage your student to have their dinner at CiCi's on Thursdays. Families are invited and encouraged to come. The more participants we have the more money CiCi's donates to the Band.



In addition to CiCi's "Thursdays", CiCi's has offered to close their store early and re-open for James River High School students and their friends and families after every home football game. The Boosters will sponsor this event (yes, I will need parent volunteers) and will receive 15% of all sales until final close. This is a great opportunity to help meet our budget and provide a safe place where our students are welcome. Many thanks to Chris and Greg, the managers at CiCi's for their great friendship.

On Back to School Night (September 18) we will kick off our newest fundraiser: We will be selling two **Limited Edition Collector Baskets** hand woven by American Traditions Baskets Company of Ohio in our school colors using hard maple wood. The baskets complete with a cloth liner in your choice of purple or green and clear plastic protector will sell for \$45.00. Baskets can be purchased without the liner and protector as well. We have on hand a limited number of baskets to sell but will be taking orders through November 10 to ensure delivery before Christmas. Order forms will be available on our web site as well as in the Band Office and Main office at the school.



We will ask that each student sell at least one basket, with or without the liner and protector. For each student who sells more than three baskets, he or she will receive a contribution to their student account in the amount of \$10.00 for each basket over the first three. Student participation in this project is very important. Please support this project. It is the success of projects like this that provide charter buses for travel to competitions and instructors for our programs like the Jazz Band.

Starting with the first home football game, September 12 we will be selling **automobile magnets in the James River logo and colors**. This is a first for our school. You can show your school spirit by purchasing your magnet at the Concession stand. Magnets will be sold at all home football games as well as by the Band Council during lunch on selected days. Of course, any member of the Board will be glad to help you make sure that you have your own magnet to display your Rapid Pride.



Fundraising News (continued)



In November, watch for our very successful annual **Poinsettias sale**. This has always been well received in our community and very successful. We are counting on this effort to raise the funds to help carry our program into the spring.

Providing the income upon which our program relies and which sets our program apart from other bands depends on your support of our fundraising efforts. Please keep in mind corporate match programs for those of you who work for companies that provide this generous form of support. The information you need for your employer is on our web site's home page.

Last but not least, keep the Band in mind during **Ukrop's** Golden Gift Program that is scheduled to begin in February. Information will be on our web site as to where you can take your certificates so that the Band can benefit. More details on this will follow.

We are considering additional fundraising projects for after the first of year. If you have any suggestions, please contact me at adbowen@msn.com. I am always looking for help. If you would like to be involved in any of the above or future projects, please let me know.

Sandy Bowen
Vice President of Fund Raising

The Reason for Band.....Thoughts from a Band Dad

The sights and sounds of a marching band are exciting: music that makes you want to dance, the flash of brass instruments and the dazzle of flags; the awesome precision of many individuals, moving as one to the heart-pounding rhythm of drums.

And when it's YOUR band doing those things very well, it makes you swell with pride, whether you're a band member, parent, student, teacher or administrator.

So, why does band exist? What is its purpose? I was asked this question the other day and thought back to my days in high school band and my four years in the University of Pittsburgh marching band. In the end, my answer was based upon what I gained from my experience in band.

Why does band exist? So a school can create a marching machine and be proud of its accomplishments and look to bring more honor to the school? Well, maybe, but really, that's only a by-product of band, not why it exists.

The purpose of band is something else. And it's the real reason you're in the band, whether you know it or not. It's the real reason why you or anyone should join the band...and maybe it's time someone told you, if you haven't figured it out by now.

The purpose of the band is make you a better person. Yes, it's that simple.

Through band, you learn skills that will serve you well throughout your life. The question is: Will you take advantage of the opportunity? So, what does the band offer?



Band offers you tools to succeed in life. In band you learn the true meaning of
 Commitment
 Determination
 Teamwork
 Leadership
 Respect for authority, and
 That hard work can be fun and gratifying.



Equally important, it offers you a place to develop and learn to use those skills.

These things don't happen simply because you want them to. You need to practice them. To test them out. To challenge yourself and see whether you can rise to the occasion. To help and encourage those next to you to challenge themselves as well.

By signing up for band, you made a commitment to band. To put it first on your "to do" list. Did you really? Are you on time? Do you do what you're told? Every time? Do you listen when instructors and section leaders are talking to you? Or, do you do something less, and tell yourself it's still good enough?

If you can't do it in band, what makes you think you can do it in life? All the skills you need to be successful in band and make a band successful are the same skills you need to be successful in life. As you get older, things won't come to you as easy as they may have come to you when you are young. Now's the time to step up and learn. If you do that, all the "icing on the cake" like Honor Band will happen. But, it's just icing, it's not the purpose of band.

~Joe Hegner
 Band Dad

Contact/E-mail Updates:

Send changes to your mailing address/e-mail to:
 jrhsboosters@yahoo.com

Bugle Articles:

Articles are due the 22nd of each month. E-mail them to our mailbox at
 jrhsboosters@yahoo.com

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You can reach any member of the Board members at jrhsboosters@yahoo.com

James River High School Band Boosters
 3700 James River Road
 Midlothian, VA 23113