



The Royal Review



September 2005

Parent Meeting, September 20, 2005 7:30 PM

Note from the Director:

What a start to our season! We've hit the ground running, but before we compete, there's something I need to warn everyone about. There's only one thing that I like about trophies: they bring public recognition to a group of students that is known for their work ethic and discipline. However, even that logic is a double-edged sword- the public conversely assumes there's a lack of work ethic and discipline from those who don't come home with awards- usually a grossly incorrect assumption.

As an educator, trophies work against what I teach more often than not. My job is to teach students to consistently strive to improve their product. Think of the track star or swimmer who races against the clock, not against other athletes. Of course other competitors will provide additional motivation, but they aren't our focus. Football teams play *against* a specific opponent. Bands play every performance to be their best- there are no opponents.

Fortunately VBODA has implemented a judging scale that will be in place at every competition we attend this fall. We have a fairly objective means of feedback that will track our progress throughout the season from a scale of 1-100. It will

be these numbers, and not how we rank against other bands, that will determine our true standing against ourselves. Traditionally we start the season in the low 60's, and our goal is to be above 90 points in time for the state festival (VBODA).

My personal goal for the RBMB is to peak just in time for VBODA- not before, and not later. If we happen to get a few trophies along the way, they might provide some additional color to the band room, but that's about all. We will have a different means of gauging our success- judge's feedback, raw scores, and our personal assessment.

I look forward to a season filled with learning and improvement, and my personal favorite, beautiful music.

Kathleen Schoelwer
Director of Bands, Courtland High School
6701 Smith Station Rd
Spotsylvania, VA 22553
540-898-4445, ext. 6



Note from the President:

Band camp was a huge success!!! The marchers worked very hard during some extremely hot days. If you were not able to come out to see your child perform I believe you will be impressed during their first performance. Band camp would not have been successful without the many donations each of you sent to include fruit, hot dogs, chips and cookies.

I wanted to publicly acknowledge the assistance provided by Mr. Westbrook. He came out every day for two weeks to assist in food preparation, erecting tents, moving pit equipment and various other things that always seem to crop up. He also began work on the props that will be used in the show this year. In addition Mr. Westbrook bought and donated a new canopy tent to the band. If you see Mr. Westbrook please convey your thanks to him personally. He truly has given above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you Mr. Westbrook for your support and dedication to the music program at Courtland High School, it is GREATLY appreciated.

The CBPA conducted its first meeting of the new school year on August 16th. I was very impressed, but extremely nervous, by the great attendance. There were approximately 45-50 people in attendance. A picnic was held at Loriella Park during band camp and participation was wonderful. I estimate there were 60+ people there. This was a great opportunity to get to meet new people and get to know one another better. I hope those of you who were able to attend either of these events enjoyed them.

We also had an opportunity to participate at the Spotsylvania Film Festival selling concessions. Thanks to Vicki Burrow for coordinating this event. Also, I want to thank Rena Merrill for allowing the RBMB the use of her home and yard for the game night. This was another success in getting marchers together and spending time together.

I have heard other school administrators acknowledge that parent involvement equals success for the children. I would echo those thoughts and challenge those of you who were not able to attend either the CBPA meeting or picnic to attend the September CBPA meeting.

If you have any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact me or other board members.

Thanks to each of you for your support and I look forward to seeing you at the next CBPA meeting on September 20, 2005 at 7:30 in the band room.

Sincerely,
Karen Eudailey



Note from the 1st Vice President:

First of all, I want to thank **all** of you for taking time to come out to the Band Parents Meeting in August. I was very encouraged with all the parents that came out in support of your children, Miss Schoelwer and the CBPA. What a great way to start off our season!

As band camp has winded down, the season is getting off to a start. That is, our Fundraising Season. Currently we are

arranging a date for our **Fall Fundraiser Basket Bingo**. We will also be having a **Silent Auction** and **Concessions** will be sold during the event. So if you are interested in helping out and want to earn some points for your child's account please call or see me. Look for a flyer soon with the upcoming date.

REMINDERS:

- Don't forget to clean out those unused **CD's, DVD's, Video Games, or Computer Games**. Mrs. Sahlin can sell them on E-Bay and earn more dollars for our Marching Band.
- **Script Orders** are due soon. See Mrs. Kau for an order form
- Save those **Ukrop's receipts** and turn into Mrs. Cooksey by Sept. 12th

Finally, thank you to Mrs. Burrow and all the workers for taking on our August Fundraiser with the Spotsylvania Film Festival. She and others battled the heat and the bugs to help raise additional funds for the marching band.

Sincerely,
Shawn Haynes
smhaynes03@adelphia.net
(540)898-5486



Band Parents'
Meeting
Band Room
September 20, 2005,
7:30 PM.

Spirit Night At Fuddrucker's:

Spirit Night is held once a month from 6-9 PM as an opportunity to earn funds for the RBMB and spend time with the band kids and their families. When you enter Fuddrucker's you will be given a little ticket that you give to the cashier when you pay for your order. Fuddrucker's donates a percentage of that evening's proceeds to the RBMB. It couldn't be any easier. Marchers that hand out tickets will receive community service hours.

So write these dates on your calendar and join the RBMB for food, fun and friendship. The dates for Spirit Night this semester are:

Sept. 15
Oct. 20
Nov. 17
Dec. 15

Please make sure you encourage family, friends and neighbors to attend.

Have you submitted your favorite family recipes for the cookbook?

Recipes are due Sept 9.

Email to

Lynda Mersiovsky or

Kathv Cooksev

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo will be held Saturday, Oct 8th at 7PM. There will be baskets to win, a silent auction and concessions. This is always a fun and successful evening for the RBMB and the community. Information and tickets to sell will be coming home soon. Please read this information carefully.



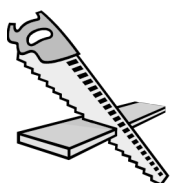
DUES PAYMENTS

You should have already paid your August dues.
The next dues payment of \$100 is due
September 20.

Pit Crew/ Prop Building

Anyone interested in helping with the pit crew and/or building props, please contact Pete Burnett @ 898-7237 or

PeteBurnett@adelphia.net



SCRIP

Scrip is one of the band's on-going year round fundraisers. For a list of the vendors go to the band website and click on CBPA and Fundraising. There is also an order form. I generally order every two weeks during the school year. If you have any questions about the program feel free to contact me.

Deanna Kau
Scrip Coordinator
898-2839

Bkau@adelphia.net

**Scrip Orders Due
Sept 6th and 20th**

UKROP'S RECEIPTS

Ukrop's receipts are due September 12.

Receipts dated between March 14, 2005 and September 10, 2005 will be accepted. Please do not highlight the amount or date (the highlighter fades the ink). Please give them to Kathy Cooksey or put them in the safe in an envelope with your child's name and "Ukrop's Receipts" on the outside. Any questions, contact Kathy Cooksey @ 710-2352 or

kcookal4@msn.com

Performance Dates to Remember:

Sept 16 - Home Game
Sept 17 - Competition and JMU game
Sept. 24 - Competition
Oct 1 - Competition
Oct 7 - Home Game
Oct 15 - Competition
Oct 21 - Home Game (Homecoming)
Oct 28 - Home Game
Oct 29-30 VBODA Competition and
Denbeigh overnight trip
Nov 4 - Home Game (Senior Night)

There will be a broadcast of highlights from the Drum Corps International 2005 World Championships on ESPN2 on Sept 6 from 10pm-midnight (tape it and watch it later). This is really cool stuff!

"Marching Band on Steroids".

Denbeigh Overnight Trip:

Oct 29-30 the RBMB will be traveling to the Virginia Beach area for a competition and then staying overnight. We will have a limited number of extra rooms at the hotel for parents that might want to accompany the band to this event. If you would like to take advantage of the group rate we have been given, you need to contact Karen Eudailey. These rooms will go on a first come first served basis.

Hotel Info:

Cost: \$71.06/room
Sand Castle Ocean Front Hotel
1307 Atlantic Avenue
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

**Check the website regularly for
updates ;
www.royalbrigade.org**

Contacts:

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*Check the website regularly
for updates:*
www.royalbrigade.org