

# Greenwood Marching Woodmen and Irish Guard

## Alumni Newsletter



*The Tradition Marches On*

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## Hello Alumni!



Dear Alumni,

**“The dreams that you dare to dream really do come true.”**

Last year when I started this passion project, my vision was to find a way to bring decades of Marching Woodmen and Irish Guard alumni, past band parents, past staff and all other former stakeholders together in order to support today's band. The development of the alumni database and the publication of this newsletter were all part of that plan, with the next step being the establishment of an annual direct donation fundraiser for the Greenwood Band Parent Organization (GBPO). Luke Aylsworth and the GBPO have been so supportive of all these efforts.

I am happy to say that this year the GBPO is having its very first annual Alumni and Friends Philanthropy fundraiser. The band parents work SO hard at fundraising and this seems like an easy and reasonable way we can help them. This is an option to show your support that does not involve buying a product or donating your time. You are invited to make a tax deductible donation of any amount directly to the GBPO. It is my own personal belief that the amount donated is not as important as the act of donating itself. I look at it as a way to acknowledge that your time in the program was important and meaningful and that you wish the current version of the Marching Woodmen and Irish Guard the same opportunities. It is with this heart that I ask you to consider making a donation.

If we can all come together in small ways, we can make a significant difference. The total amount raised, along with a list of donor names will be reported in the next newsletter.

Donations can be made [at this link](#).

Gayla Gunn, Class of 1977



Hello Greenwood Marching Woodmen Alumni and Fans!

It is an exciting time of year for the Greenwood Marching Woodmen! We have been working hard this summer to prepare for the 2023 marching season. I would like to thank Gayla Gunn for maintaining the alumni newsletter. I know I have had fun reading the previous newsletters. Thank you all for your support and help. We are very proud to represent the current version of the Greenwood Marching Woodmen! We intend to maintain the important traditions and expectations that have been handed down to us.

The show this season is titled "Immortalis". The title is Latin for the English word "Immortal". When I am working on the show design for the next season, I have noticed that personal experiences tend to work their way into the show design concept. Recently, my family experienced several losses. As we were grieving and experiencing these losses, I thought about all the ways we keep the memories of lost loved ones alive. How do we immortalize their memory? How do we keep them with us? In my own grief, I realized that by living by the example set by these individuals, I was in essence keeping their memory alive. It was a way to celebrate their memory every day. That thought led to finding music, poetry, and artwork that also reflected this thought. In those hours of planning, Immortalis was born. Our hope is to perform an uplifting show that everyone can relate to and help others find internal peace and reverence.

Here are some quick details about the show:

#### **Musical Selections:**

- Earth - Thomas Bergersen
- My Immortal - David Hodges, Ben Moody, Amy Lee
- Never Give Up On Your Dreams - Thomas Bergersen
- Tree of Life - Kevin H. Rix
- Promise - Thomas Bergersen
- Who Wants To Live Forever - Brian May, Michael Kamen

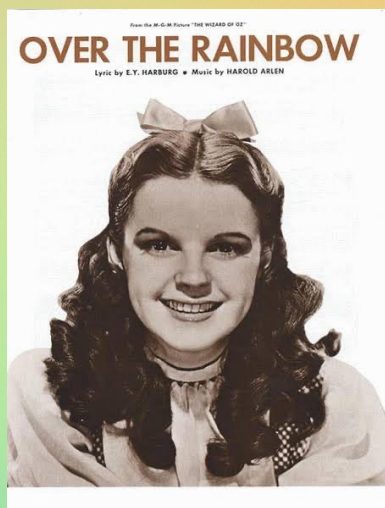
**Directors:** Luke Aylsworth, Joel Matthews, and Eric Zielsdorf

**Staff:** Markell Allen, Donald Kalugyer, Daniel Wiles, Eric Berger, Ben Lee, Matt Hahn, Matthew Black, Pam Wishmeyer, Ian Hehr, Travis Beck, Josh Conley, Darrick Betro, Charles Dieffenbach, Rachel Martin, Megan Dudenhoeffer, Lisa Knartzer, Dylan Watson, and Morgan Ingle.

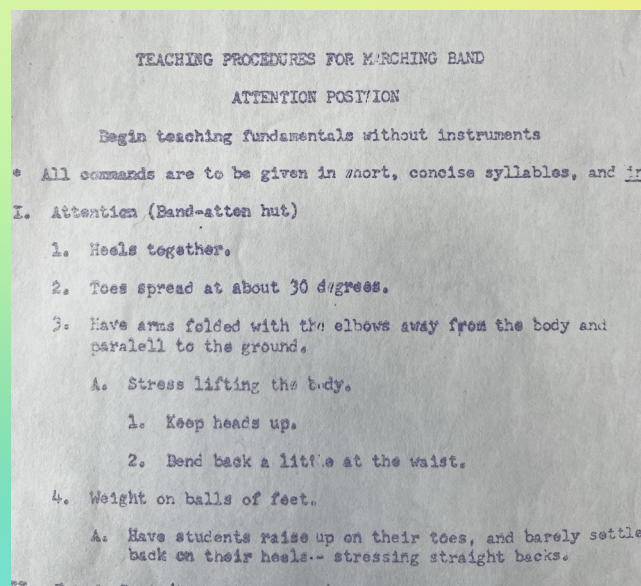
**Drum Majors:** Noah Darby, Olivia Forster, and Brayden Hafen

Luke Aylsworth  
 Director of Bands  
 Greenwood Community High School

## Two Beloved Traditions Turn 50!



The strains of “Over the Rainbow” rang out across the Greenwood practice field for the first time in the late summer of 1973.



### “Band, Heels Together” “GO”

The very first marching rehearsals with Herman Knoll focused on the importance of posture because it was the fundamental that set the tone, look, and set up of all future marching fundamentals in the band. The very first step in teaching good posture was “HEELS TOGETHER”. The band was initially called to attention with the command, “Band, Atten-hut”. That command was changed in one of the first rehearsals to “Band, Heels Together”, and we responded with “GO”. The teaching strategy was that the command “Band, Heels Together” immediately got us thinking about our posture and the response, “GO” showed that we WERE thinking about our posture and we were ready to go! You can see a snapshot of Mr. Knoll’s marching fundamentals outline that was handed out to all member of the band.

In another music tie-in, here is what the band members were listening to on the radio in between practices that hot August of 1973.

1. The Morning After—Maureen McGovern
2. Live and Let Die—Wings
3. Brother Louie—The Stories
4. Touch Me In the Morning—Diana Ross
5. Bad, Bad Leroy Brown—Jim Croce
6. Smoke on the Water—Deep Purple
7. Let’s Get It On—Marvin Gaye
8. Yesterday Once More—The Carpenters
9. Uneasy Rider—Charlie Daniels
10. Feelin’ Stronger Every Day—Chicago

# Years of Great Leadership - Thank You, DK!



Eric Zielsdorf, Joel Matthews, John Morse, Luke Aylsworth, DK, Steve Fletcher, Jon Sutton



Dan Rice, DK, Jon Sutton



John Morse, DK, Jon Sutton



John Morse, DK, Steve Fletcher



Sarah Huffman, Pam Wishmeyer, Melissa Goebel Morris '95

## Alumni Spotlight - James “Jimmy” Haskell



I wanted to be in the Greenwood Band since I was actually a 4<sup>th</sup> grader. Through friends at church and older friends in the MS and HS bands that took me to concerts and band competitions, I couldn't wait. My Mother (Anna Haskell – Bus Driver GMWIG) started me on my musical career by playing and taking piano lessons. I was very fortunate to have both parents “in my corner” cheering me on through MS, HS, College, and teaching my own bands.

I would say 99.9% of the alumni would remember Frank Bienas, “The Cheese & Sausage” man. Frank asked me several questions early in the fall of my senior year. When he found out that I was going to be a music major and teach band he drug me through the office doors to Mr. Sutton and asked, “Do you know Jimmy is majoring in Music?” The answer was WHAT!?! That moment Jon sat me down and filled my calendar that wasn't filled, with lessons and books to buy to prepare me for the auditions I would definitely be playing. Many thanks to Frank Bienas, and having to know everything about everybody. He is truly missed.

I had the great Dan Rice as our Middle School Director of Bands. And then entered high school with Gary Fields and Jon Sutton as the directors. This was a time when the high school doors were a round-about and through graduation had Gary Fields, Jon Sutton, Mike Sweeney, and Stan Roth as directors and/or assistant directors. The mainstay and steady arm through all the changes was Dan Rice. I know for a fact that he served as the HS assistant more than once without the title, pay, or hype. Dan just wanted the program to succeed and I am very pleased he was our MS director. Somehow, he saw to it that we ALL received a great education at the beginning, intermediate, and advanced bands at the MS level. This was before the HS director's team taught everything as it is today. We were also very fortunate to have Ron Bell as the Music Department Chair, Director of Choirs, and Music Theory Teacher, who always was pro-band as well.

I was very fortunate to be around and graduate when Mr. Sutton was found without an assistant for a summer and Jon asked me to act as the assistant and do what all great assistants do; collect health forms, shoe money, shoe order forms, pass out calendars, etc. Of course I was more than excited to do this and also worked with the Mooresville Pioneer Band Staff from 1983, 1986 under the direction of Jerry Weber. I worked on and off for years with Mr. Sutton at band camp, summer staff, etc. Whatever he needed, I was there. He was there for me and taught me many of things I still hold and cherish today.

Back pedaling; I had several college auditions, but only wanted to go to Indiana University or Indiana State University at the time. While both of these auditions went well, ISU offered a full music scholarship which sealed the deal since my father had just been placed on disability.

Indiana State University taught me many things by many directors. George Graesch (Wabash Valley Music Hall of Fame), Dr. William Wakefield, Bruce Lauffer, Dr. John Anderson and last but not least Judith E. Grimes. Again, I found myself once again with a revolving door of directors. Thank God! So many teachers and so little time to learn what each was best at teaching was a great Positive outlook. These lessons served me well throughout my teaching career. I was also lucky enough to be the student director of the ISU Marching Band Invitational the last 2 years of undergrad and was asked back by Dr. Dalvin Boone after graduation to fill this role as well. All the student workers, golf carts, adult workers, electricians and plumbers (at the stadium) announcers, and oh yes, the Judges! This would serve me well also as I was a contest host at every school I ever taught at.

I was also fortunate to meet and know Ruthanne Medworth through the ISU Marching Sycamores, Color Guard, and Sparkettes. Through Ruthanne, I met and worked summer band, fall band staff, and student taught for Bob Medworth, at Northview HS. If you wanted to see heated competition back then, Jimmy taught at Northview on Tuesday and Thursdays. Mooresville on Monday and Wednesdays and back at Greenwood on Friday and Saturdays. The students didn't know where he taught but the parents sure did! I was also very lucky to have student taught under Medworth's tutelage since Bob also taught at the new and exciting Star of Indiana Drum Corps. This allowed Bob to bring

## Alumni Spotlight

back methods to Brazil and allowed myself and many others to watch Star rehearse with the best instructors in the business. Bob still teaches Drum Corps, at a very high level, with the Blue Coats.

I taught in several school systems. My first job was at Winamac Jr/Sr High School in Winamac, Indiana. I also taught at North Montgomery HS in Crawfordsville, Prairie Heights HS in Brushie Prairie, Indiana, Sheridan HS (Marion-Adams) HS in Sheridan, Indiana and ended my teaching career at Owen Valley HS in Spencer, Indiana.

I was lucky that the Sheridan administration, staff, students, parents, community, etc. were ready for the program to go and go they did. 1993 saw Sheridan back in ISSMA State Finals (5<sup>th</sup>) in Class D after being out many years. Winter of 1994 the Concert Band received Superior ratings, the Winter Guard achieved State Finals with the IHSCGA and the Pep Band rocked the gym every home game. In 1994 the Sheridan band placed third in the ISSMA State Finals, The winter guard made IHSCGA finals once again and made a WGI regionals finals appearance as well. The Concert bands entered group I for the first time and sat on stage between Carmel and Lawrence Central and received Superior ratings at this level as well. 1995 was one of those mystical years. Sheridan was the 1995 ISSMA Class D State Champions, the concert band received Superior ratings in Group I, and the winter guard/pep bands had great seasons as well. Many Thanks to Greenwood Alum Todd Clevenger for acting as my drill writer, assistant, and brother. Also, Greg Hagen was our Guard instructor and always did what Greg did best; make everyone around him better. In 1996 Sheridan again placed in the top five for the ISSMA State Finals, The Concert Band played their best literature to date receiving Superior Ratings in Group I, while the winter guard was IHSCGA State Runner-Up, and the Indoor Percussion won 3 Ohio Shows and made Finals in the 1996 WGI Percussion Championships in Dayton, OH. What a great 4 years for this school and its community.

I moved on to Owen Valley HS and spent two years there before my father wasn't able to run the family business any longer. So, I gave up my career for my family. While all of this was going on a new organization in Indiana was forming. It was the Indiana Percussion Association and I was fortunate to be one of the founding members serving as Treasurer, Judge Coordinator, Scholarship Committee, and helped IPA to be one of the largest and most successful indoor associations in the country.

Since Indiana and Ohio are really close together, Winter Guard International Percussion had seen and heard of all of our work with IPA. They approached me to be one of their Percussion Administrators, and under Mark Thurston, traveled all over the USA and abroad hosting WGI Percussion Events and Educational Seminars. I did this for 18 years and was elected to the WGI Hall of Fame in 2012 for my efforts. I would like to thank everyone in IPA and WGI for the hard work, dedication, and discipline while I was involved.

After all of that, I have been lucky enough to be asked to adjudicate Marching Band, Indoor Percussion and Winds all over the country. I have judged finals in the following states; Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Louisiana, and Hawaii, to name a few.

I now live back in Indiana (Indianapolis) with my husband Rob (21 years) and our four 4-Legged children, Ava, Lucy, Olive and Shelby.

I absolutely know and understand that if it weren't for the dedicated teachers from 6 year old me taking piano lessons, to Greenwood Middle School Band and High School Band, and my years at Indiana State University, none of what you have read would have been possible. I would especially like to thank ALL my former teachers and current friends still teaching or retired for their effortless work and putting up with me.

Sincerely a Woodmen for Life,

Jimmy Haskell

Greenwood Marching Woodmen and Irish Guard Member (1979-1983).

# 2023 GMWIG Performance Schedule

- Sept. 8- Home Football Game- Mooresville
- Sept. 9- Lawrence Central Marching Invitational
- Sept. 16- Meijer/Ray Skillman Greenwood Marching Invitational
- Sept. 22- Home Football Game- Perry Meridian
- Sept. 23- Avon Orthodontics Marching Invitational
- Sept. 29- Home Football Game- Decatur Central
- Sept. 30- ISSMA Marching Invitational- Whiteland Community High School
- Oct. 7- ISSMA Regional- Evansville Central High School
- Oct. 13- Home Football Game- Whiteland
- Oct. 14- Cavalcade of Champions- Center Grove High School
- Oct. 21- ISSMA Semi-State- Pike High School
- Oct. 28- ISSMA State Marching Band Open Class Finals- Lucas Oil Stadium

## New Items For Purchase at the Rainbow Market



For information on pricing and purchase, email [rainbowmarket@ghsband.org](mailto:rainbowmarket@ghsband.org)

Thank You!

Julie Lash  
Andrew Short  
Luke Aylsworth  
Charlene Dudenhoeffer  
Melissa Goebel Morris  
Jimmy Haskell

