



JTHS Band Alumni Association
P.O. Box 1261
Joliet, IL 60434
www.jthsbaa.org

Well, folks... it's January 2012, and the Centennial Concert is just around the corner. The next 6 months will fly by much quicker than any of us expect. July 29 will be here soon!

On that note, there are a number of different house-keeping things that need to be communicated to everyone:

Musical Events:

Rehearsals: Sunday July 15 & 22, 1:00pm-4:00pm

Friday, July 27, 7:00pm-10:00pm

Saturday, July 28, 9:00am-11:30am, 1:00pm-3:30pm

Concert: Sunday, July 29, 3:00pm (expected 1:30pm call)

Conductors: Ted Lega, Kevin Carroll & Michael Fiske

Social Events:

Dinner: Saturday, July 28, 6:00pm cocktails/7:00pm dinner, \$35/person

Joliet Historical Museum Tour: Sunday, July 29, 9:00am

We have over 120 signed up to play in July. For those members that haven't yet signed up to perform, we strongly encourage you to do so in advance. Due to space restrictions on the stage, the board may need to split performers into multiple ensembles. ***To that end, if you haven't signed up by May 1st, we may not be able to accommodate you.*** We certainly don't want to eliminate anyone who wishes to participate, but for logistical reasons if we have unexpected numbers show up for rehearsal the weekend of the event, we may have no choice but to do so.

For those of you who have signed up to perform, we're currently working with the conductors to plan the program. We hope to represent as many aspects of the century's milestones. When the music is available, we will distribute pdf files via the website for your practice. Instructions for downloading will be emailed as soon as things are set up.

All rehearsals and the performance will be held at Joliet Central High School. Just remember, "if you're on time, you're already late." Concert attire will be black slacks or knee-length skirts and white collared tops. We will have Centennial Polos available for order in the near future.

As part of the concert weekend's social events, we have planned a celebratory dinner. This event will take place at the Carpenters Union Hall on Essington in Joliet on Saturday night, July 28. The cost is \$35 per person with a cash bar. (Please make checks payable to JTHS BAA.)

On the morning of the concert, the Joliet Historical Museum will graciously open their doors for band alumni and family to experience the “Strike up the Band” exhibit.

Now, on to some of the other issues facing us! Concerts are **expensive**. Right now the budget is approximately \$8000. As the board continues to locate additional alums, the costs will climb with additional mailings. We plan to defray these costs in several ways. First off, we’re looking for individual donors and all donations will be acknowledged in the concert program.

Along with this, we’ve decided to do the program a little different this year. We’re going to do a larger program, as there are many things that we want to include, like a synopsis of the history of the bands, the directors and more! To do this, we’re going to include an ad book for local businesses, and for individuals, if they wish to place an ad. The costs will be included on the aforementioned form. We will be selling business card size ads 8 per page up to full page spreads. Also available will be the inside front, inside back and back covers at a slightly higher rate than full page. (Please make checks payable to JTHS BAA.)

Finally, at the request of Tony Contos (JTE Band ‘68) who is currently the Executive Director of the Joliet Historical Museum, a number of alums have been working with his staff to put together a centennial exhibit celebrating the band’s rich history. In the last few months, the work and discussion has centered around the history from how/why the band formed in 1912 through the split into three schools in 1964. There are several reasons for this; first there isn’t a large amount of space for the temporary exhibits, second, there’s a lot to tell.

Recently, Tony met with the board to explain his vision for the display—short, medium and long term. A large number of artifacts have been collected to display and tell the story. Again, like the concert, exhibits such as this aren’t cheap. Tony has proposed several different scenarios, based solely upon how many funds are raised. One idea is an audio/video kiosk made available to anyone who wants to tell their personal stories of how the band has influenced their life.

This idea would be twofold. Initially to gather the stories of visitors to this first exhibit. Then moving towards a second exhibit in 2014, celebrating 50 years of Central, West and 18 years of East bands.

The estimated cost of such a device is \$2500. What the board is asking is for you to consider a small gift to help fund the exhibit. No contribution is too small...it follows what we learned in band – individually we can do a lot, but together we can do amazing things, so much so that it often surprises us! (Please make checks payable to Joliet Historical Museum.)

In closing, we are all very excited to be part of this once in a lifetime event! We hope you all participate, bring your stories, reconnect with old friends, and to make new friends. If you can be of any service to assist in the planning for these events, please let us know @ alumniband@jthsbba.org! Along those lines, if you haven’t yet joined the BAA for this year, we encourage you to do so! Your membership helps us to directly support the bands.

Thank you in advance for your generous support,

JTHS BAA Board