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- UNL Band program is in “great shape,” according to Dr. Carolyn Barber.
- Russ Swanson, charter member of the UNL Band Alumni Association, loses his battle with cancer.

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The Belle Lyre

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SPRING 2012

Message From the President

By Steve Pearson

Open the Belle Lyre for the big news inside. We have planned the first UNL Band Alumni Association tour to an away game. We have planned an exciting trip to Chicago for the Nebraska vs. Northwestern game, October 18-21, 2012. We have an exciting agenda planned, and we invite you and your family to join us.

The 2011 fall reunion was fantastic. For the first time in several years, we had a game date other than the first game. The opponent was Fresno State. This year our game coincided with the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Our show used the exact same songs that were played at the halftime of the first game after the attacks in

2001. Professor Darryl White played an emotion-filled rendition of Taps, and the Alumni Band joined the Cornhusker Band on beautiful arrangements



Jack Snyder was honored for his career of contributions to the UNL Band program.

of Amazing Grace and the Star Spangled Banner. The stands were almost completely filled with attentive fans, and the music was incredibly powerful. For me

personally, it was the most memorable Alumni Band performance I have ever been a part of. Thanks to the band staff for including us in such an amazing show. We are still awaiting a date for the 2012 reunion, but we will post it on the web site as soon as it is finalized.

Our Friday night “picnic” was held at the Auld Pavilion in Antelope Park, and we honored Jack Snyder for his career of contributions to the University of Nebraska band program.

We are excited about our plans for the Chicago trip, and we will be underway soon with plans for the fall reunion in Lincoln. I hope to see you at both.

State of the Bands Report

By Dr. Carolyn A. Barber,
Director of Bands

It's time for my annual State of the Bands report, and I am pleased to say your band program is in great shape. I'd say that our recent visit to Florida was a nice change of pace, but

December was unseasonably warm and sunny in Lincoln. However, Lincoln doesn't have palm trees or Shamu, so there's that. Tony will fill in more detail on that, so I'll switch gears to the Big Red Express. BRE has enjoyed some recent and sorely needed equipment upgrades, and

they're sporting a new look for the basketball season. Intriguingly, they now wear baseball style shirts (?) but it seems to work. Doug remains the hardest working band director in the universe as he juggles the incredibly complex schedule for this group.

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State of the Bands

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The CMB plays during the Alumni Reunion game.

He also directs the two Campus Bands this semester. They are just in the start-up phase, but the rep he has chosen promises a very fun and rewarding semester for those groups.

Tony and the Symphonic Band represented the School of Music in grand style at the annual Nebraska Music Educators conference last fall. Their program included collaboration with our horn professor extraordinaire, Alan Mattingly, and a regional premiere. Each semester the band gets a little

bigger and a little better thanks to Tony's excellent leadership. Like Doug, he has a tricky task in balancing schedules as the demands on students' time increase across campus. A new rehearsal schedule will be in play for Fall Semester, and we're hoping this will ease the pressure a bit.

The Wind Ensemble is currently experimenting with a new assessment routine, and I'm eager to hear the results. They're not due until after the Belle Lyre's print deadline, so you'll have to wait until Reun-

ion Weekend for news on that front. The band's rep for the semester is bipolar. In March we'll be performing "lost" works from the 1920s and '30s, including an incredibly beautiful tone poem by Rodrigo and a quirky suite by Sousa. In April we'll swing to new, "hot" works including one of our commissions (Maslanka's 7th Symphony), and a vibrant trombone concerto featuring UNL's own Scott Anderson.

The Winter Festival for Winds

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Cornhusker Marching Band Returns to Citrus Bowl 20 Years Later

"We played the music of Stan Kenton, as we had on our last visit twenty years prior."

By Tony Falcone, Director, Cornhusker Marching Band

On Friday, December 30th, the CMB boarded an Airbus 330 bound for Orlando, Florida, and the 2011-2012 Capital One Bowl. The trip came on the twentieth anniversary of our last visit to Orlando for what was then called the Citrus Bowl. Fortunately

there was no ice storm to contend with this time around.

We arrived at Sanford Airport just north of the city and boarded buses for lunch at an area shopping mall. From there we proceeded to Colonial High School for four hours of Pregame, halftime, and Parade

rehearsal. The students had the remainder of their evening free at our assigned hotel, a Doubletree adjacent to Sea World and a short trolley ride to Pointe Orlando and other attractions.

Saturday morning we headed to downtown Orlando for the Fresh from Florida Parade.

After lunch and some well-deserved rest at the hotel, we went to Universal Studios Orlando for a showcase performance in the late afternoon. The students then had free run of the park, and rang in the New Year before returning to the hotel after midnight. The highlight of the visit for many students was a trip to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter, and there was much consumption of Pumpkin juice and but-

ter beer.

New Years Day began with a final rehearsal at Colonial High School, followed by gigs at the Capital One Bowl Kickoff Luncheon and an enthusiastic pep rally at Pointe Orlando.

The students had the rest of the evening free. Many of them returned to see Harry Potter again!

January 2nd was GAME DAY! We checked out of our hotel, then headed for the Citrus Bowl and our match-up with the University of South Carolina Gamecocks. After performing for our players' arrival, a corporate tailgate, and our won Husker Huddle, we proceeded into the stadium for the game. The pregame and halftime performances were

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Marching in the Fresh from Florida Parade

Capitol One Bowl Trip

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top notch, and, coincidentally, we played the music of Stan Kenton, as we had on our last visit twenty years prior. Despite the game not going our way, the students played with spirit throughout, embodying

Showcase performance at Universal Studios.

our mantra “no matter the opponent, no matter the score.” Following the game we changed into our “civvies,” loaded the semi, ate dinner, and bussed back to Sanford Airport for our return to Lincoln. The students had a great time, performed well, and exhibited the class that has come to be expected from “The Pride of All Nebraska.”

Please visit (and “like”) our Face-

book page at www.facebook.com/UNLBands, where you’ll find a photo album from the trip, links to parade video, and much more. While you’re online, click on over to Twitter and “follow” us there, too: www.twitter.com/UNLBands.

As always, thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2012 Alumni Band Reunion!

Photos pulled from: www.facebook.com/UNLBands

“As always, none of this would be possible without the support and encouragement of the alumni.”

State of the Bands

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and Percussion is right around the corner. We experimented with a new online application and audition process, and it seemed to work well. Numbers are up, and the faculty is smiling so that’s a good sign. Middle School Band Camp and High School Marching Band Camp are all continuing to inspire middle and high school students in their musical development. As an added bonus, they are also inspiring students to join the ranks of UNL undergraduates which helps

to keep the School of Music strong. Finally, Doug and I were welcomed with open arms at the various Big Ten band meetings in Chicago last month. It is heartwarming to experience a powerful appreciation for tradition balanced with a strong drive to innovate. “Leaders” and “Legends” aren’t just empty terms for our new colleagues, and they are already looking to us to step up and contribute in meaningful ways. Rest assured we’re ready, willing, and very able.

As always, none of this would be possible without the support and encouragement of the alumni. Our goal continues to be to build upon the strong foundation you set in place. Keep in touch with the Band Alumni Association, visit the band’s website for updates on events and initiatives (www.unl.edu/band/), and Go Big Red!

Band Alumni Association Shirts

Our clothing vendor will reopen the online store for a limited time only for purchasing Band Alumni Association shirts. All purchases are handled between you and the clothing vendor. Shirts will be shipped directly to you from the vendor. *The BAA is not responsible for any part of your purchase.*

Shirts are available in red and black. Please note, only the flag line alumni are allowed to wear black shirts for the reunion weekend, but anyone is welcome to order a black shirt if they want one. The online store will be open from March 1-31, 2012. It will open again later in the summer to purchase shirts for the 2012 season. Visit <http://www.promoplace.com/22974/stores/unlalumniband> to order your official Band Alumni Association shirt.



Ranelle, Tami, and Erika enjoy the Alumni Reunion game.

UNL Marching Band Loses Dedicated Band Alum and Member of the Greatest Generation



Russ (left) and his brothers Bob and Ben.

Photo credit: <http://tinyurl.com/6n2da3j>

Russ Swanson, a charter member of the UNL Band Alumni Association lost his battle with Merkel cell skin cancer on November 16, 2011.

Russ was a devoted member of the Association and served on the board of directors until 2010.

He played French horn in the UNL marching band and was

part of the Rose Bowl band in 1941.

Swanson grew up in Lyons, Nebraska. He was a navigator on a B-24 crew in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He was called up for active duty again during the Korean War where he served as a navigator on a B-29 crew.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, November 26, 2011, at St. Paul United Meth-

odist Church in Omaha. Attendees at the memorial service sang "Band Song," and then a pep band made up of band alumni played "Hail Varsity" and "There is No Place Like Nebraska."

Russ leaves behind Joan, his wife of 66 years, sons Bill and David, granddaughter Erin, grandson Sean, and his brothers Ben and Bob.

*"Hear the trumpets playin',
Hear the crowd a-sayin',
NU Band is on Parade!"*

NU Band on YouTube

Fresh from Florida Parade

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dYOL_N68_g

Inside the Cornhusker Marching Band—A Nebraska Story (NET)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eAVaBEAUK48>

We Got a Situation Tuba Gameday Skit

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8l-C5qtP_pw

Away Games—A Nebraska Story (NET)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C#Z2aLhY7Eo>

Stay Connected Online!

<http://nebandalums.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2204552307/> (Cornhusker Marching Band Alumni)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/37382806010/> (UNL Flagline Alumni)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nebraskadrumlinealumni/> (Nebraska Drumline Alumni)

http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=3071061&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr

<https://www.facebook.com/UNLBands>

<https://twitter.com/#!/UNLBands>

<http://www.unl.edu/band>

Jack enjoyed himself at the annual BAA picnic.



2012 Outstanding Bandsman Award



Gary Shuda accepts his Outstanding Bandsman Award.

This year's Outstanding Bandsman honoree is Percussionist and Music Education major, Gary Shuda. During his tenure here at UNL he has served as Percussion Section Leader for the Cornhusker Marching Band and Principal Percussionist in the Wind Ensemble. He's also been involved in the Jazz program and played for the Big Red Express on

drum set. Mr. Shuda is very active as a private instructor and marching percussion coach, serving area high school programs and starting his own teaching enterprise, Gary's Percussion Studio. He even spent a semester teaching African drumming techniques to students at McPhee Elementary School in Lincoln. He hails from Grand Island where he was a 2008 graduate of Grand Island Northwest High School. Currently, Gary is student teaching at Lincoln Southeast High School.

Other honors bestowed at the banquet:

Band Key: Sarah Anthony, Zack Bresler, Davit Foote, Joanie Halouska, and Ali Malik

Musicianship Award: Sarah Anthony, Zack Bresler, Kevin Cooley, David Foote, Joanie Halouska, Tommy Krueger, Emilee Sadler, Michael Taylor

Marching Red Award: Tara Gonser, Sean Grosshans, Kevin Halvorson, Abigail Heiser, Meghan Leonard, Melanie Severin, Shane Williams

Service Award: John Brandt, Daniel Clough, Nick Doty, Andrew Kroeger, Andy Krueger, Jason Lenz, Mett McCown, Brandi Zwiener

Rod Krogh Continues to Recover

On October 27, 2011, Rod Krogh was involved in a severe car accident in Lincoln, in which he sustained life-threatening injuries. Rod is an alum of the Cornhusker Marching Band who played trombone from 1985-1989. He is also a former member of the BAA Board of Directors. With numerous surgeries and great determination, Rod has continued to make remarkable progress.

In December, a group of Cornhusker Band alumni played for an impromptu pep rally for Rod and the other patients at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital. A mix of fight songs and holiday music cheered all who were in attendance. Rod himself, with the help of his son, David, led the pep rally.

The alums who participated were pleased to see how well Rod had progressed. He has had tremendous support in his recovery from his wife Dawn, family, and friends.

On Christmas Eve, Rod was allowed to return home. Though Rod has additional surgeries and rehabilitation ahead of him, his progress thus far is nothing short of miraculous. Rod and his family were special guests at the UNL Band banquet in January.

If you would like to read more about Rod's progress, past and future, visit his Caring Bridge web site at <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rodkrogh>.

The link to the 10-11 news story on the impromptu alumni pep rally at Madonna is http://www.1011now.com/home/headlines/Miraculous_Recovery_for_Lincoln_Man__135841343.html.

"We knew that music had healing powers. We thought that Rod would appreciate that we were able to get together and play for him again."

- Bill Maltas -

University of Nebraska Band Alumni Association

Chicago Tour for Nebraska at Northwestern

October 18-21, 2012

Join fellow Band Alumni and their families for the first BAA tour to a Husker away game. Take advantage of this opportunity to visit one of the country's great cities and take in a Husker game with fellow alumni. The tour is open to all BAA members and their guests. Children are welcome on the trip. We recommend you review the itinerary carefully to assess whether it would be appropriate for your child or children.

Thursday, October 18, 2012

We will depart Lincoln at 8:00 am via deluxe motorcoach. We will stop for lunch on your own en route. That evening we will check in at a downtown Chicago hotel for a three night stay. You will have the evening in Chicago on your own.

Friday, October 19, 2012

On Friday morning, attendees have the choice of visiting the **John G. Shedd Aquarium** or the **Chicago Art Institute**.

Sharks, dolphins, whales, jellyfish, giant sea turtles, and endless colorful species — not to mention the building's gorgeous architecture — make the John G. Shedd Aquarium a feast for the eyes as well as the brain. Your pass gives you access to the Abbott Oceanarium and Polar Play Zone, Wild Reef, Amazon Rising, Caribbean Reef, Waters of the world, and the Shedd's fantastic aquatic show mixing ocean animals, and land animals in a stunning, multi-media presentation.

The Art Institute of Chicago houses one of the most impressive collections of art in the world. It's also filled with exhibits that will excite and fascinate, from collections of masks, spears, and suits of armor, to a miniature recreation of homes from the 13th century until modern times.

A visit to **Millennium Park** will let you experience this award-winning center for art, music, architecture, and landscape design. The result of a unique partnership between the City of Chicago and the philanthropic community, this 24.5 acre park features the work of world-renowned architects, planners, artists, and designers.

Our stop at **Navy Pier** will give you the chance to see this Chicago landmark with over 50 acres of parks, shops, restaurants, and entertainment. Attractions include the Ferris Wheel, musical carousel, and Wave Swinger. Visit the Chicago Children's Museum or the IMAX theatre. Visitors can putt-putt their way around with the new miniature golf course, or by renting a bicycle built for two that looks like a car. (Admissions may be required for some activities at Navy Pier.) This stop will provide an opportunity to purchase lunch on your own.

Free time in the afternoon will provide opportunities for additional Chicago site seeing. A **group dinner** in a Chicago restaurant is included in your tour package.

Our Friday will conclude with a **Chicago Theatre** or **Comedy Show**. Included in your package is a group entertainment outing. Tour organizers will choose a touring Broadway Musical, a professional Chicago theatre production, or a show by one of Chicago's famed improv comedy troupes for the entire group to attend.

Saturday, October 20, 2012

On game day, motorcoach transportation will take us to Evanston, Illinois, home of the Northwestern Wildcats. Your premium ticket to the **Nebraska vs. Northwestern Game** is included in the cost of the tour. The rest of the day is on your own.

Sunday, October 21, 2012

Sunday morning we will check out and load the bus, departing for Lincoln at 9:00 am. We will stop for lunch en route.

Charges, Deadlines, and Deposits

The cost of this tour is \$674 per person double occupancy. Triple occupancy is \$574 per person. Quad occupancy is \$524 per person. Single occupancy is \$974 per person. Included in your price is motor coach transportation, three nights' hotel, admission to

BAA Chicago Tour, continued...

Shedd Aquarium OR Chicago Art Institute, stops at Millennium Park and Navy Pier, Friday night group dinner, Friday night show ticket, and football game ticket.

A deposit of \$250 per person is due by March 31, 2012, to reserve your spot. Space is limited, so register early! The balance of your payment is due by August 31, 2012.

At least one registrant in each party must be a current member of the UNL Band Alumni Association.

Checks should be made payable to Travel with Barb, our travel agent for this trip.

Cancellation Policy

If this trip is canceled for any reason, you will receive a full refund. No cancellations will be accepted after March 31, 2012. If your plans change after March 31, you may sell your space to another Band Alum or forfeit your deposit, as financial commitments will be made by the tour based on the number of deposits received. Cancellations made after August 31 will forfeit the full trip fee, or your space can be sold to another Band alum.

Registration Form

Name:
Address:
Telephone:
Email:
Occupant 2 Name:
Occupant 3 Name:
Occupant 4 Name:
Tour Choice: _____ Shedd Aquarium OR _____ Chicago Art Institute
<i>Note: Each tour must reach a minimum number to constitute a group. If one of the choices does not reach that level, we may consolidate into one tour.</i>
Deposit payment: \$250 x number of attendees = _____

Remit Checks by March 31st to:

Travel With Barb
11711 M Circle
Omaha, NE 68137

UNL Band Alumni Association



Don't Miss Out!

This trip is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the great city of Chicago and cheer on the Huskers as they face the Northwestern Wildcats.





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UNL Band Alumni Association



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