



# THE RAM'S HORN

The Newsletter for the Lake Mary Marching Rams, Lake Mary, Florida  
Director of Bands: David Norona  
Editor: Dr. Sonia Bhatia

www.marchingrams.org  
February 2010

## A Note from David Norona

Greetings Marching Rams!

I hope this newsletter finds you having a wonderful New Year. The band is already in full swing in 2010 with multiple performances having taken place including the Jazz Band opening for the Glenn Miller Orchestra, the Marionettes first performance at the Universal Dance Association (UDA) **Regional Competition, the Winterguard's return to competing** on the Florida Federation of Colorguards Circuit (FFCC), and participation by nearly every student at FBA District Solo & Ensemble. Many fine performances!

Coming up in the next few weeks are some of the most important performances for our concert ensembles. On February 18th we have our Pre-MPA concert which is our dress rehearsal for our Concert MPA performances on March 4-6. Also continuing through February, March and April there are a number of Winterguard and Marionette competitions on weekends. See the calendar on our website - [www.marchingrams.org](http://www.marchingrams.org) – for all dates and times.

I look forward to seeing you all at our performances. Thank you to all of you parents for your continued support of the LMHS Band Program!

# Go Rams!

March On Rams!



## Tally of Volunteer Hours so far

From the beginning of summer 2009 through December 2009, Band Boosters have logged in an amazing total of **4,420 hours**.

This includes 1968 hours for Games/District, 156 hours for Practices, 380 hours for Summer hours/Band Camp, 1204 hours for Other Hours (which include fundraising, Apple Sale, Silent Auction, Uniform Fittings, etc.). This does not include the over 1,000 hours put in by our paparazzi!

We are not done yet! Please continue to log in your hours, and thank you for making sure the students are well taken care of at all events!

## From Miriam Rodriguez, Booster President

As our students begin the second semester of the 2009 – 2010 Seniors will begin to work on the end of the year Banquet. The Banquet Committee will meet for the first time during the month of February. All seniors are welcome to join the Banquet Committee. This year the banquet will be held again at the Sheraton Orlando, North on Friday May the 28th.

Seniors will receive their ticket at no cost as long as their band account is current and they have participated in all the required general fundraisers. Juniors, sophomores and freshmen, your tickets will be \$25.00 if your accounts are current and you have also participated in all general fundraisers. If you do not meet these requirements you will pay the full cost of \$35.00. The general fundraisers include apple sales and quarter days. All accounts must be paid in full by 4/30 in order for seniors to receive their free tickets and other students to receive their discounted ticket.

Family and friends are invited to join the Marching Rams as they celebrate another outstanding year. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of May. More information and details to come soon including the buffet details! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

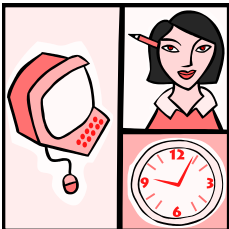
Finally I would like to take the opportunity to thank the parents and businesses who donated items for the silent auction. Thank you to the students for the creative and awesome baskets and thank you to all the volunteers that spent many hours soliciting donations, pricing the items and helping Teri and I set up, making this a successful fundraising. We could not have done it without all of you!

Now let's get ready for concert season, Solo and Ensemble, Symphonic Camp and District Festival.

Go Rams!

### Inside this issue:

Winterguard dates	2
Firehouse subs	2
Fundraisers	3
The Reads at All-State	4
Treasurer's report	6
Why fundraise?	6



## Letter from the Editor by Dr. Sonia Bhatia

Hello again families and students,  
Have you checked out the calendar at the band website lately? Activities every single weekend! Whatever happened to sleeping in on Saturdays — or Sundays? At least for the parents!

I will be videotaping several of the instrument solos

and ensembles at District and State, and Ray will cover the Marionettes. Look for assorted videos of the Superior instrumentalists on youtube, and again on the Concert Season DVD at the end of the year.

Meanwhile, Ray and I are committed to completing the Marching Season DVD at or before the Spring Break. Wish us luck and send us chocolates if we succeed :-)

Wishing you all a beautiful Florida spring and a great second semester,

Sonia

## From Jennifer Skaggs, Color Guard instructor

Greetings from the Flag Spinners!

Competition season is in full swing for the Lake Mary Winter Guard. We opened the season on January 23rd at Hagerty High School competing against 17 other guards. Our girls took 11th place at their premiere performance and will be working diligently to maintain the awesome performance given!

**Ladies...I am SO PROUD of you for going out there and giving your best!** 18 guards and you were the only guard with NO DROPS! You were all so focused and fierce. Keep up the great work and we WILL climb that ladder to the top!

**Boysfriends...THANK YOU so very much!** Your support through rehearsals & performances has been tremendous. The timing is the hardest thing to achieve and you did it! We are so lucky to have such a great group of guys helping with our props & floor. Keep up the excellent work!

**Parents...Premiere would not have happened without you!**

Thank you for all you do. There was a lot of shuffling and timing **this past show and it wouldn't have happened without your support!** We love you!!

For up-to-date performance times & schedules, please check the band website, [www.marchingrams.org](http://www.marchingrams.org). You can also visit [www.ffcc.org](http://www.ffcc.org) for Lake Mary info as well as all other participating units.

See you on the floor!

Ms. Jen



## Winter Guard Performance Schedule

February 5th---FBA District Solo & Ensemble @ Deltona Middle School

February 13th---University High School (FFCC)

February 27th---Colonial High School (FFCC)

March 6th---Winter Park High School (FFCC)

March 13th---Freedom High School (FFCC)

March 27th & 28th---FFCC Circuit Championships (location TBD)

April 5th-7th---FBA State Solo & Ensemble in Ocala, FL

All FBA events are free to spectators. All FFCC events require admission; prices vary. All pertinent information will be posted on the website one week before the competition date.

Order your Subs!  
by Suzanne and Peter Sheres,  
Co-Chairs of Hospitality

Our next opportunity to feed the band will be for lunch on Saturday, February 13th, during symphonic camp.

Lunch will be ordered from Firehouse Subs. Order forms will be given out to the band on Monday, February 8th and **need to be returned by Thursday, February 11th**. The cost will be \$4.00.

Sub choices will be turkey, ham, veggie or roast beef, along with a cookie, soda or water.

We will also need the help of a few parent volunteers to help us serve lunch that day.

Fundraising is in full swing  
by Teri Bernard, Fundraising Chair

Happy New Year to all our Lake Mary Band Members and Families!!!! We are hitting the 2010 with our first fund raiser of the year.

On Super Bowl weekend (Friday, February 5th, Saturday, February 6th and Sunday February 7th) all band members, marionettes and color guard will be participating in our **Annual Quarter Day**. We will be stationed outside Walmart on Friday, Winn Dixie and Publix (see specific address locations and times on the Fundraising section of the Marching Rams web site) on Saturday and Sunday. So bring your instrument and smile and collect some donations!! We appreciate all our chaperones who have signed up the chaperone the students during their shifts. Thank you Parents!!!! All donations collected will be deposited into the general band funds account.

On Monday February 8th (during each class period) **we will begin our second fundraiser for the year...Yes** it is time for the **Candy Sale**. All money earned during this fundraiser will be deposited into the students (who participate) fair share account. If our students want to check out another box of candy they can do so on Friday, February 12th from 4:30 - 5 pm and Friday, February 19th from 2:30 - 3 pm. The Candy Sale Fundraiser will close on Monday, February 22nd. All students will be required to turn in their money from the candy sale during class on Monday. Any boxes of candy that have been opened cannot be returned —

sealed boxes only. More detailed information will be posted in the Fundraising section on the Marching Rams web site.

Our third fund raiser of the year will be our **Annual Cookie Dough Fundraiser** (YUM!!) We will beginning this Fundraiser in March, more details about with fundraiser will be posted on the web site after we finish up the Quarter Day and Candy Sale Fundraisers.

I would like to extend **CONGRATULATIONS** to our **EUPHONIUM and TUBA section**. During the Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser they had the highest level of participation with 55% of the students in that section selling Honey Baked **Ham Gift Certificates!!! Way to Go...You have won a Pizza Party**. (Mr. Norona will discuss the pizza party details with the section leader).

**The Silent Auction** during the Prism concert was a **SMASHING SUCCESS!!!!** All of us on the Silent Auction Committee would like to send out a big **THANK YOU** to all our parents who volunteered to help us run this event. We could not have done it with out each and every one of you. It is such an honor to be able to work with all of you. Each of you stepped up and because you did the Silent Auction ran **SUPER SMOOTH!!!!** All your time and energy is very much appreciated!!!!

Let the fundraising fun begin!!!!

### Upcoming Fundraisers

**Quarter Days:** (Mandatory)  
Feb 5-7. Signups in Band Room

**Candy Sales:**  
Mon Feb 8, 2010  
Feb 12 & 19: Pick up more candy  
Feb 22: Money/Candy due

**Cookie Dough:**  
March. Dates TBA

For more information please contact  
Teri Barnard 407-314-1641  
[tbarnard@marchingrams.org](mailto:tbarnard@marchingrams.org)



Check out the **Multimedia** page of the band website for videos of the band in action. And hundreds of photos!

Contact information:

David Norona, Director of Bands: [David\\_Norona@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:David_Norona@scps.k12.fl.us)  
Stephanie Kersten- Wright, Instructor for Marionettes:  
[marionettecoach@yahoo.com](mailto:marionettecoach@yahoo.com)  
Jennifer Skaggs: Instructor for Colorguard: [guardcoach@gmail.com](mailto:guardcoach@gmail.com)



### Hey Rams:

Our Nationals season has started and we have been working very hard to perfect all of our routines. Our Nationals are almost a month away and we can't wait to show all the other teams that we are ready to win.



We just recently had our UDA Regional Competition at Seminole High School and were very successful. We received first place in Combo, second place in Hip-Hop and third place in Kick. JV received second place for both of their routines, Pom and Hip-Hop. Also, congratulations to all the girls who performed solos. They represented the Marionettes very well. These people are: Rachel S, Courtney L and Kelly S.

We also participated in the Magic Competition last weekend, and were selected the Competition Grand Champions, including 1st place in Varsity Kick, Varsity HipHop and Varsity Pom, 2nd place in JV Pom and JV HipHop. Due to these awards Varsity Kick performed during the Magic pregame, and Varsity Hiphop performed during Halftime.

We are looking forward to FBA on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Please come out and support us, and look for additional competition information on the band calendar.

With Love,

Daniela Garcia- Captain

### What to Wear?



Band T-shirts and Band sweatshirts of course! A few are still available. The order form is at the website. You can also take some home at the Feb. 18 pre-FBA concert. **Shirts are \$10 and sweatshirts are \$20.** For more information contact Nancy Goldenberg 407-767-7931 [ngoldenberg@marchingrams.org](mailto:ngoldenberg@marchingrams.org)

All-County Honors Band, January 30 2010. Guest conductor was Dr. Bentley Shellehamer.

Congratulations to these Lake Mary Band students for being among the best of the best in Seminole County:

Omar, Sameer, Matt, Ashley, Rachel and Corey. We are proud of you!

Gator Night on Feb 18, after the FBA pre-concert. **You know you'll be hungry!**

**Let's have dinner together after the concert and raise some money for the band! (Carryout counts too!) At Gator's Dockside, on Lake Mary Blvd.**

**Make sure you tell 'em you are with LM Band!**



---

# My Experience at All-State Honors Band

by Rachel Read, Clarinet

All-state was one of the most rewarding and unforgettable experiences of my life! Over those 3 days I learned more than I ever thought I would.

It all started with my audition, which was back in September. It consisted of scales, sight reading, and prepared pieces. Out of the 500 clarinet players who auditioned, I was one of the 32 selected, and was ranked 12th chair.

We spent approximately 7 hours per day in rehearsal. Even though the rehearsals were incredibly long, they felt like they only lasted an hour. Each student came to the rehearsals completely prepared and ready to work. Therefore, as an ensemble we

could focus on the music. Which was so much fun! There are no words that can describe the magic that happened in that room. Each sound that the band made was beautiful and every student was giving 110% all the time. Our conductor, Dr. Andrea Strauss, was one of the most inspiring individuals I have ever met. She was hilarious, and she made every second of rehearsal fun. I am so grateful that I had the opportunity to meet and learn from her.

This experience has affected me in such a positive way. I believe that I have grown so much as a musician from it and I hope I will be able to go back in the years to come.

---

## Chaperoning my daughter at All-State

By Wendy Read, beaming mom

I was so proud and honored that Rachel was selected for the Florida All State Band this year. She was also selected in 8th grade, so we had an idea of what was to come and came well-prepared.

We were lucky enough to have rooms right at the hotel where she was rehearsing, so I got to see the practices first-hand and the direction that the band was getting from their amazing conductor, Dr. Strauss. She was incredibly positive, motivating and a powerhouse of energy. Her interaction with the students, her musical knowledge, and her amazing sense of hearing were so moving. She had a way of lighting up each of the kids, and they performed at 100% from 8:30 in the morning until 5:00 in the evening.

Rachel walked away from the experience as a better musician. The performance at the Tampa Art Cen-

ter gave me Goosebumps--the children were amazing and it was difficult to believe that this was a group of high-schoolers. I absolutely loved it. I hope that Rachel will audition next year and that we will both be driving together to Tampa again!



Congratulations Rachel! ↑ We are proud of you.

---

**Don't forget! Band Banquet on Friday May 28!**



## An Update by Laurie Nossair, Treasurer

Greetings Ram Parents and Students,

### Very successful Silent Auction

We raised an amazing \$2,156 for our Silent Auction during the Prism Concert. Thank you to all the wonderful and devoted parent volunteers who donated items, spent hours soliciting donations, organizing the donations and labeling them and then helping during the actual auction watching the tables and taking the money. We also collected an additional \$1,573 in ticket sales. Our profit on Gator night was \$140. We had lots of hungry band students and parents participating in a yummy and fun fundraiser.

### Dues are now past due

All dues should already have been paid in full (Band \$210, Colorguard and Marionettes \$195) We still have many students that haven't fulfilled their band dues requirements.

Remember that students must be current with their dues by April 30 in order to attend the Band Banquet at no charge (Seniors) and reduced ticket price (all others.) Full ticket price is \$35. An unpaid balance can also affect graduation.

You will have an opportunity to raise more money for your band fees by participating in the candy sale. This is an easy way to raise money during the Valentine Day week.

### Fair Share statement

The latest statements are now available on the website.

Please review the January statements and call me with questions. It's very helpful to be able to resolve any issues that may arise early rather than waiting until the end of the year.

For privacy purposes, the statement is to be posted under **your son or daughter's student ID number, not their name.** At the top of the pdf file, simply run a search for **your student's ID name, and the statement will be easy to find.**

### Making payments in cash

If you send in Fair Share payments in cash, please put it in **a sealed envelope with the student's name, the dollar amount and the purpose of the funds on the outside of the envelope that is available in the band room.** (see details below) Remember, if there is no name on the envelope **we won't be able to credit your child's account.**

### Returned checks

If your check has previously bounced, we can only accept payment in cash or money orders. All Returned Checks will be assessed an additional \$17 to cover bank fees.

**If any of you have any questions about your student's account please don't hesitate to contact me at 321-945-9152 or [lnossair@marchingrams.org](mailto:lnossair@marchingrams.org)**

Thanks for all of your help and support. GO RAMS!

### Information for the Payment Envelope

Pre-stamped envelopes are available in the band room. All you have to do is fill in the information and enclose the funds.

If you are sending in an envelope from home, please include the following information on the front of envelope:

1. Date of payment
2. **Student's name**
3. What section they are in (sax, clarinet, drumline, Marionettes, color guard etc)
4. What you are paying (Fair Share, accessories, instrument rentals, etc)
5. The amount enclosed
6. Whether you are paying by cash or check, and check number. Please make all checks payable to **LMHS Band Boosters.**

### Why do we need to raise funds and How is the money used?

The band program spends money throughout the year --

- \* Buying rights to the music that we play during marching season and concert season
- \* Having guest clinicians during band camp
- \* Renting a moving van for each away game, paying for tolls and gasoline
- \* Dry cleaning all marching uniforms several times a year
- \* Dry cleaning tuxes and gowns during concert season
- \* Entry fees to festivals
- \* Catering Senior Night
- \* Maintaining school-owned instruments
- \* Renting a hall for Band Banquet and catering.

The school gives us a certain amount every year but we typically need to raise an additional \$55,000 per year to cover the Band's expenses. To pay these bills, the Band Booster organization raises funds throughout the year -- e.g.

- ◆ Band dues
- ◆ Selling Apples, Cheesecakes, Honey Baked Ham Certificates, Candy sales, Quarter Day
- ◆ Selling DVDs of the band
- ◆ Silent auction during the Prism concert
- ◆ Working in the concession stands (we receive a percentage of the profits from the Lake Mary HS Boosters)