



Greece Marching Band Blue Knights

The "Blue Knights" Express

March 18, 2008

The Director's Corner

Welcome back, everyone! I was so excited to see such a wonderful turn out at the opening day of rehearsals last week! This could be a breakout year for the Greece Marching Band!

As this is the first newsletter of the new season, I just wanted to explain some things about the newsletter.

This section is designated for my weekly comments and communication. It is important to me that you know my feelings and thoughts about the past week and future events. The column to the right is for informational and instructional purposes. You will find some enlightening knowledge and thoughts about marching band and the marching activity, as well as a schedule of events for a particular day of performance. On the back, you will find reminders about fundraising, money that is due, uniform fitting, etc.

Please make sure that you look for this letter EVERY Tuesday (or at the least once a week). Whenever more information is added about a performance, you can disregard old information on previous newsletters.

I'm looking forward to a great year! Talk to you all again soon!

Rehearsals left before performance...

9

(Mighty St. Joes on 4/26)

The Greater Good...

The marching activity is possibly one of the greatest team sports you can participate in. There is a true marriage between individual contribution and group effort. Every person is responsible for their own actions, but only when it is added with everyone else's actions does it become a marching band.

Whether we are marching in a parade, warming up for a stand-still performance or taking the football field in a competition, we do it as a unit. There is no single group that is more important than another. The wind instruments, percussionists and Color Guard make up our marching band. The wind instruments will carry the musical melody. The percussion will keep us grounded in a steady beat and add percussive accents. The Color Guard carries the main visual color and choreography that defines the music that we play.

It is this true symbiotic relationship between music and visual that makes us so special. And while we try our hardest to blend together as one, it is important to note that as performers, we all contribute individually.

The staff of any successful marching band will take these individual talents and work with students to understand the greater good. Perhaps in school you play 1st trumpet but in marching band we asked you to play 2nd. Maybe you are tops in your dance studio, but in marching band other people are put in leadership positions. Remember always; embrace the positive contributions you can bring to the band. We all want the same thing...to look and sound great!

Important stuff to know

- ◆ The **deadline for commitment** to the marching band is Tuesday, March 25th. By that time, you must make a decision to stay with the band for rehearsals and performances through May 26th. Your registration money (\$30) and forms are due then as well.
- ◆ If you need to be **absent** for a rehearsal, you **MUST** email Mr. Hoffman as soon as possible to let him know at **grecemarchingband@hotmail.com**.
- ◆ Remember that if you are a new member, please keep in mind you will need to **buy marching shoes and gloves** (approximately \$27 total). More information about that will be coming home soon!
- ◆ **Uniform fitting** will take place on Tuesday, April 1st and Thursday, April 3rd. More information will be forthcoming regarding exactly when you have to be prepared to get fitted.
- ◆ The **Lottery Raffle and Candy Sale** fundraiser has the potential to be largest in GMB history. Start getting people at home, work and school pumped about the possibility of winning money! They have 31 chances to win for just \$5. It will be great to have the funds to start our summer off right!
- ◆ Calling all parents, the Boosters are looking for more parents to **help sew flags and uniforms**. Please contact Lisa Murphy about Volunteering!
- ◆ All of the latest information can be found on the website. Please visit **www.grecemarchingband.org** to find out more about rehearsals, performances, social events and fundraisers.

Greece Marching Band
Jeff Hoffman, Director
2300 English Road
Rochester, New York 14616
585.966.4675
grecemarchingband@hotmail.com

This Week's Schedule

Thursday, March 20th

Rehearsal at West Ridge: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Color Guard starts at 6:15pm

Tuesday, March 25th

Rehearsal at West Ridge: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Color Guard starts at 6:15pm

Upcoming Events

Fri, March 28th – Buffalo Niagara Film Festival presents "From the 50 Yard Line", a documentary about the drama, emotion and excitement of marching band. Check it out if you can make it out.
<http://www.buffaloniagarafilmfestival.com/2008-films/FromThe50.php>

Sat, April 26th – Mighty St. Joe's Alumni Corps Indoor show at Apollo. We perform at 7:00pm sharp. Dress rehearsal will be from 12:00-1:00pm. You need to be back for the performance by 5:45pm.

Sat, May 10th – Lilac Festival Parade in Downtown Rochester. Details TBA. This usually happens around 10:00am and we report to WR by 8:00am.

Mon, May 26th – Memorial Day Parade in Greece. We typically march at 2:00pm.

Booster Contact Information

Connie LaRocque, President
865-4377 or President@grecemarchingband.org

Contact any Executive Board member via the website:

www.grecemarchingband.org

Please feel free to ask any questions or provide any feedback that you have to Mr. Hoffman or one of the parent boosters. We are more than happy to address any concerns. You can email Mr. Hoffman at grecemarchingband@hotmail.com or call him at 966.4675.