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# The Frog Horn

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**The Frog Horn is the official newsletter of the TCU Ex-Bandsmen Association**

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## HOME COMING 2006 -October 28<sup>th</sup>



Well, it's that time of the year again! Time to start thinking about Homecoming and attending the TCU Ex-Bandsmen Association's BBQ luncheon and playing in the Alumni Band! Our luncheon will be held in the lobby of the Walsh Center from 11:30-1:30 on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

This year we will be inducting Dr. Ray Luke (Class of 1949) and Ronnie Martin (Class of 1958) into the TCU Band of Fame. Dr. Luke has devoted his life to music and is a retired Professor of Music from Oklahoma City University. Ronnie Martin is a musician, educator, writer and arranger and has headed up his own Big Band for several years. Congratulations to Dr. Luke and Ronnie Martin!

Equally exciting is a special presentation that we will make to Curtis Wilson for his 30 years of guiding the Jazz Studies Program at TCU.

Recapping Homecoming 2005, the 2005 edition of the Alumni Band may not have been the largest in recent years, however it was easily one of the **LOUDEST!** This year for 2006, let's plan of having even more members and being **EVEN LOUDER!!!** For most of us, being louder is not a problem...

This is also an election year and yes, all of the current officers are up for re-election.

Please note that the game time has previously been listed as 6:00pm. However, recent information is now showing a kickoff of 6:30pm. This means that if you want to march in with the band, we will be meeting at the Rickel Building (now known as the University Recreation Center) at 5:30pm and the pre-game performance will be at about 6:15pm.

The TCU campus is changing. Many new construction projects are off and running. For those of you that are interested in what this means for TCU, try the link below:

<http://www.physicalplant.tcu.edu/flyover/flyover.html>

One event that has gained in popularity (especially with the members of the Horned Frog Marching Band) is where the TCU Ex-Bandsmen Association provides cokes and snacks at one of their rehearsals the week before Homecoming. This year we will do this on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to be there to help or to catch their rehearsal, just be in the lower parking lot on the west side of Amon Carter Stadium around 7:30pm. We will give out the snacks around 8:00. If you would like to help with the cost of this event, please contact Mark Sakovich. Come on down!

**Don't forget to RSVP for the Homecoming Luncheon!**

**Homecoming 2006: TCU Ex-Bandsmen** members and their families are invited to a barbecue luncheon in the Walsh Center on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to celebrate the **102<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the TCU Band!** The Alumni Band will meet on the field of Amon Carter Stadium at 2 p.m. for the pre-game rehearsal. Following rehearsal, members can meet at the Rickel Building at 5:30 p.m. and march into the stadium with the Horned Frog Marching Band. Cost of the luncheon is \$8 per person or \$20 per family (couple plus children). Please RSVP to Mark Sakovich at (817) 428-0837 or by e-mail at [LCCC18@aol.com](mailto:LCCC18@aol.com).

**Jim and Wyn Jacobsen Fund Update:** Currently the Fund is at \$165,000 (including Life Insurance policies)! What does this mean for the TCU Band? The disbursement for 2006 was \$5,961 and will be used to help with travel costs for the bands to their many engagements. For more information on how you can help, please contact Adam Baggs, Assistant Dean for Advancement, College of Fine Arts TCU, P.O. Box 297044, Ft. Worth, TX 76129. Adam's phone number is 817-257-5332. You may also go to our web-site at: [www.exbandsmen.tcu.edu](http://www.exbandsmen.tcu.edu) for more information on the Jacobsen Fund and how it benefits the TCU Band. We are making great progress towards the next goal of \$250,000!!!

**What to wear to the events?** The attire for Saturday's Homecoming events is khaki pants or blue jeans with a purple or white TCU shirt. We will have **NEW** TCU Ex-Bandsmen Association T-shirts for sale at the luncheon. These are a **NEW** design and follow more closely with what the TCU Band is wearing. You **WILL** want to wear these shirts! Cost will be \$10 each.

**Pre-Game Update:** We want you! The Alumni Band will be performing at the pre-game show. You do not need an instrument. You do not need to be able to play (but can if you want to). Join us on the field for the pre-game! Rehearsal for this event will be on Saturday the 28th, from 2-3:00pm on the field at Amon Carter Stadium. Let's get out there and **MAKE IT LOUD!**

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary DVD/CD Orders & Souvenir Items:** The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary DVD and CD will be on sale at the BBQ luncheon. The price for the DVD is \$25 and the price for the CD is \$20. You can get both for just \$40! What a steal! We will also have the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lapel Pins for sale at \$10 each. These are really sharp!

**Tickets?** As in years past, if you march in with the band and sit with the band, you will not need a ticket to the game. If you **do** need a ticket to the game, we have arranged (with the ticket office) a special promotion for Ex-Bandsmen that will get you either a game ticket (for \$11.00) or a game ticket with food (for \$16.00) for the Homecoming game only. The game ticket with food will get you a game ticket, a drink and a hot dog. You may order tickets in one of several ways:

1. If you don't have access to the Internet, you may call the ticket office (817-257-3764) and tell them that you need tickets and that your promotional code is "EXBAND".
  2. If you do have Internet service, then you may go to [www.tcu.edu](http://www.tcu.edu), click on Athletics, click on Tickets, under the Tickets link, click on Buy Tickets, click on the link on left that says Promotions, enter the promo code "EXBAND" and buy your tickets.
  3. You may also go to our link at: [www.exbandsmen.tcu.edu/homecoming06](http://www.exbandsmen.tcu.edu/homecoming06) and click where it says to click "here". That will take you straight to the Promotions link where you enter "EXBAND" and buy your tickets.
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**Notes from Bobby Francis (Director of Bands at TCU):** The past year was an amazing year for the TCU Bands and this year is shaping up to be even more eventful. Last year was filled with many memorable experiences including visits from 3 major composers. The spring semester began with a Wind Symphony concert consisting of the music of Eric Ewazon. Dr. Ewazon was the Green Chair composer in residence at TCU and for almost a whole week TCU ensembles performed his music. David Maslanka was our guest for an extended rehearsal with the Wind Symphony on his 4th Symphony. The group later recorded and performed the work on a concert. It will be part of a new CD release from the group due out in November. Finally, Samuel Zyman was our guest composer for the Latin Arts Music Festival in April. He and Dr. Ewazon are on the faculty at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. The Horned Frog Marching Band had a busy year performing at home games and traveling to SMU and Oklahoma to support our great team....Oklahoma was a

lot more fun than SMU! Additionally, the band performed in exhibition for a couple of band contests in the DFW area.

Last year we also welcomed Mr. James T. McNair to the faculty as Assistant Director of Bands and Coordinator of Instrumental Music Education. He comes to us after a distinguished career as a public school music educator. He has taught in the Grapevine-Colleyville, Richardson and Lewisville school districts. He also is a former member (trombonist) in the Washington D.C. "Presidents Own" Marine Band. James is a great addition to the band staff and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the music students at TCU.

The chapters of KKY and TBS are both thriving. After some restructuring last year, the KKY chapter has grown from 3 to 31 members in just 11 months. With an anticipated pledge class of 15-20 this year, we expect membership to be at an all time high in just a few more months. These gentlemen represent the most outstanding musicians, students and leaders in the band program. TBS continues to impress with the quality of its members and the fine work they do for the TCU Bands. Their membership consists of 48 truly wonderful members of the band. We appreciate what both of these honorary band organizations do for the band. We also want to thank KKY alumni for hosting a cookout for the current TCU band members following the scrimmage in August last year and this year. Many, many of the KKY alums participated in providing hot dogs, chips and soft drinks to the band following the scrimmage and short informative "initiation" ceremony for all new TCU band members.

This year is going to be outstanding. The TCU Horned Frog Marching Band was selected as the only college band to perform in exhibition at the Texas State 5A Marching Band contest in San Antonio. We will perform at the end of the Finals Competition in front of the members of the top 5A bands in the state, their parents and directors...a recruiting dream!

Through a "blind Selection process", the TCU Wind Symphony has been invited to perform at the National CBDNA Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan on March 29, 2007. This is the first time in the history of the TCU Band that the invitation to perform at a National CBDNA has been extended. Most of the outstanding college bands in the country submitted a CD for the selection process. To use the usual "athletic analogy"...this is the Music equivalent of making the "Final 6-7" in the nation...this honor is bestowed upon only 6-7 university Wind Ensembles in the nation every other year...since it is an event that occurs every other year, it is more like the "March Madness Final 3-4". Additionally, we found out that of all those that were selected, we came in first. Other performing groups include University of Michigan, Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Florida State University, Indiana University, and the Harddt School of Music.

The group has also been invited to perform at the TMEA convention on Thursday night, February 15, 2007. If you are a music educator or if you live close to San Antonio, please join us for that very special concert. These invitations represent the highest honors that ANY college band can hope to receive in its entire history...we have the invitation to do all three in one year. As you can read in Mr. Wilson's column, the TCU jazz program is thriving as it has for 30 years. Curt will be honored this November 30th at his fall jazz concert for his 30th anniversary at TCU. Please come be a part of this special recognition of a special person.

I hope you all will be able to join us for these performances. As always, go to the band website at [www.music.tcu.edu](http://www.music.tcu.edu) for concert and recital schedules. I look forward to seeing you all at homecoming. Please plan on being in the homecoming band and on attending the bar-b-que. See you then!

**Notes from Curt Wilson (Director of Jazz Studies at TCU):** The Jazz Ensembles will be busy this fall with several area concerts. Here are some of the dates, times and locations:

Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> (Wed.) 7:30pm Pepsico Recital Hall- Annual fall Jazz Combo concert  
Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> (Sun.) 7:30pm Gaylord Texan- Christmas music (Jazz Combo)  
Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> (Tues.) Noon Student Center- Pre-Thanksgiving Concert (Tu/Th Band)  
Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> (Thur.) 7:30pm Ed Landreth- Annual fall jazz concert (both big bands- M/W/F and Tu/Th)

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Also, our new **DOUBLE CD** will be available towards the middle of September. It is on the SEABREEZE label and is titled **LEAPFROG**. The first cut on CD2 is the old Les Brown arrangement of Leapfrog, which by the way, is the basis for FROGJAZZ that the Horned Frog Band plays in the stands. The CD also includes performances by Los Angeles trumpet artist **Wayne Bergeron** and sax whiz **Tony Campise** of Austin, AND our very own talented **Rene Ozuna** (who brought the house down at last spring's Latin American Music Festival!). The DOUBLE CD will sell for \$15.00.

**Vice-President's Comments:** It is hard to believe that Curtis Wilson has been at TCU for 30 years. That means I started there 32 years ago! What a lot of memories that all brings back. I was in Curt's first band, and was there when we won the Wichita Jazz Festival as the best College Jazz Band in the country. Curt's drive and attitude helped catapult TCU to the forefront of Jazz studies and performance IN THE NATION. He has been and continues to be one of the best things about TCU, especially for the local high schools and their Jazz programs. I remember starting the first TCU Jazz Festival, with Stan Kenton and his orchestra, and playing alongside of the best sax players in the world. The leaders of the band were incredible musicians, and still are today...Mario Cruz, Mo Trout, Kim Corbett. I count myself lucky to have been in the same band with them, and found a true appreciation for Jazz and music through the eyes and ears of Curtis Wilson. The memories of the gigs we performed tend to meld together, and the trips we took are becoming a blur in my mind, but I remember the look on Curt's face when it was announced that we had won the Wichita Jazz Festival. It was one of pure joy and satisfaction in finding that he was back home at TCU and doing what he truly enjoys and was meant for – teaching young Jazz musicians. (I also still remember trying to get that monkey to do something funny with that record so we could use the picture on the cover of our first record album...that ages me, now doesn't it?) Congratulations Curt on 30 great years and keep up the good work!  
-Peter Sakovich, M.D.

**President's Final Comments:** What an exciting year to be involved with the TCU Band! If you haven't been to the campus recently, you will be surprised with all of the construction that is taking place. The area where the quadrangle was located will soon have a "new" look to it. Also, if you haven't heard the band recently, they are awesome. And the football team has done pretty good too!

This edition of the Frog Horn is going to reach more Exes than ever before! Our support of the Jim and Wyn Jacobsen Fund has been phenomenal. We have GREAT Ex-Bandsmen that help support the band AND our Association. So what can we do to make it better? **PARTICIPATE!** Come to the luncheon, show your support for the band and the Exes that will be inducted into the Band of Fame, play in the Alumni Band, sit with the Band at the game! Heck, listening to Curt Wilson alone is worth showing up for...

Our luncheon is really a great family event. And it's still a good deal with individual prices at \$8.00 per person or \$20.00 per family. (Yes, this means that due to the generosity of several of our Exes, your family can eat for only \$20.00!) However, I do need to hear from you if you are coming so I can estimate how many meals to order from the caterer. My info is below, so let me hear from you (and soon)!

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P.s. Curt will kill me for admitting this but having the monkey on the first album was MY idea... But I made it up to him by helping Peter pay for the t-shirts at the first TCU Jazz Festival!

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