HOMECOMING 2012
-October 20th

50th Anniversary for the TCU Ex-Bandsmen Association!

Yes, you read it right! This is our 50th Anniversary. What better than to celebrate it with a new conference and a new stadium! Maybe we’ll have a cake...!

Uncertainty:

This year there is some uncertainty as to our activities for Homecoming. Part of that is due to that fact that the game time has not yet been announced AND we do not have any ticket information.

This is the generic announcement that was placed with the Alumni Association (Special Interest Groups):

**Ex-Bandsmen Association**

Date: Saturday, October 20, TIME TBD
Cost: $5.00 for brunch or $10.00 for lunch – will be determined once we know game time
Who's Invited: TCU ex-bandsmen and their families are invited to brunch/lunch
Details: TCU ex-bandsmen and their families are invited to celebrate Homecoming 2012 with a brunch/lunch before the game in the lobby of the Mary D. and F. Howard Walsh Center for Performing Arts. The Alumni Band will also have a rehearsal on Saturday, prior to the football game. After the rehearsal, the Alumni Band will be invited to march into the stadium with the Horned Frog Marching Band. Please make sure you have tickets to the game! Registration: Please reply to Mark Sakovich at 817.428.0837 or LCCC18@aol.com

And yes, this is VERY generic... EVERYTHING will be determined by the game time, so we are all waiting for the announcement.

**Seating at the Game:**

Although we can march into the game with the Band, we cannot sit with the Band. Therefore, we are encouraging EVERYONE that plans on going to the game to purchase a ticket. If you do not have Season Tickets, see the next message...
**Tickets? Need to purchase tickets to the Homecoming game?**

We have heard through the ticket office that there will be Standing Room Only tickets sold the week of Homecoming. There is no information as to how much those tickets will cost OR how to get them. Once we get this information from the Ticket Office we will send it out to you ASAP and also on our web-site (www.exbandsmen.tcu.edu).

**Legacy Bricks:**

For those of you that don’t know what these are, TCU Alums were given the opportunity to purchase a brick that will be installed in the east stadium concourse. The bricks could contain personal information and will be in the stadium forever (or until a new one needs to be built). A center-piece brick was purchased for the Ex-Bandsmen Association and Ex-Bandsmen could have their bricks placed around it. Our Ex-Bandsmen brick is located in Section 8, the Davey O’Brien section. Several of the alums helped us to get a brick in memory of Jim “Prof” Jacobsen and Wyn Jacobsen “Mrs J”. There are others as well... Go check it out when you are at the stadium!

![Legacy Bricks Image]

**Photos:**

If you have photos of Homecoming 2011 or would like to take photos of our 2012 activities, please let Mark Sakovich or Kathy Smith (k.smith@tcu.edu) know so we can post them to our website!

**Band of Fame:**

The Inductees for the Band of Fame this year are:

Homer Erekson (1974)
Dave Daniel (1987)
Toni Parker

**Jim and Wyn Jacobsen Fund Update:**

Currently the Fund is at $175,974. The disbursement for 2012 was $8,867. For more information on how you can help, please contact Chandler Smith, Assistant Dean for Advancement, College of Fine Arts TCU, P.O. Box 297044, Ft. Worth, TX 76129. Chandler’s phone number is 817-257-5039. You may also go to our web-site at: 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 even with the current economic times!!!
What to wear to the Events?

The attire for Saturday’s Homecoming events is purple and white as always! (We always get asked this...)

Notes from Bobby Francis (Director of Bands at TCU):

EXCITING TIMES FOR THE TCU BANDS!

The TCU Horned Frog Band is very excited about our entrance into the Big XII! This has already been an amazing year so far. We have performed for the Dedication Ceremony for the new stadium and played at the very first game in this spectacular new venue. And what a game it was! 56-0 against Grambling State University with a 70 yard return for a touchdown on the first TCU possession of the game. The Band continues to proudly wear the uniforms that were designed and manufactured just weeks before the Rose Bowl in 2010. Last year saw many important performances for the bands at TCU including concert by the TCU Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Band and Jazz Ensembles. We have an incredible bunch of talented young musicians who perform beautifully. Due to Mr. Francis taking a sabbatical during the fall semester, the Wind Symphony had the privilege of working with guest conductors James Stephenson – Composer/Conductor, John Whitwell – Director of Bands, Emeritus, Michigan State University and James Keene, Director of Bands Emeritus, University of Illinois. When Mr. Francis returned in the spring, the group performed two concerts and also provided music for the 2012 Commencement Ceremonies. In April, the group’s concert performance included Frank Ticheli’s Symphony No. 1 - transcribed for band by Professor Gary Green, Director of Bands, University of Miami. We were able to fly Mr. Green in to Fort Worth to work with the ensemble on the piece and to be present for the concert.

This year brings much new music and opportunities to perform. Our students will have the opportunity to perform with the Jazz Band at the TCU Fine Arts Gala, the Symphony Orchestra at Bass Hall for the TCU Gala Concert and with the TCU Wind Symphony Brass at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, as well as concerts in Ed Landreth Hall. Opportunities for our students are tremendous with recent performance opportunities at Carnegie Hall, TMEA Conferences, Havana Jazz Festival in Cuba and more. In the near future, the TCU Wind Symphony will be performing again at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention in San Antonio as well as the Midwest Band and Orchestra Convention in Chicago.

This summer, Mr. Francis traveled to Europe where he conducted at the Royal College of Music in London and on Normandy Beach in France on the Fourth of July. This was a group that consisted of students and adult musicians from across the state. Additionally, we were joined by the Curt Wilson Alumni Jazz Band and members of the West Percussion Group – led By TCU Professor of Percussion Dr. Brian West. For the Normandy Concert, we coordinated with the Choir members from The Whites Chapel United Methodist Church in Southlake, Texas for a patriotic concert at the American Cemetery. This coming summer a similar group of musicians from across the state will be performing concerts in Spain – Madrid, Barcelona, and Valencia.

ANNOUNCING THE RELEASE OF A NEW CD OF THE TCU WIND SYMPHONY:

The TCU Wind Symphony is proud to announce the release of a new compact disk entitled “Regenesis – Music of Renewal”. It features the premiere recording of a new work by Anthony Plog featuring the renowned performing artists “The American Brass Quintet”. Also included is David Maslanka’s Symphony No. 8 and Alfred Reed’s Variations on the “Porazzi” Theme of Richard Wagner. The CD is the Albany Records label and is available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble and all other commercially available music vendors.

Bobby R. Francis  
Professor of Music  
Director of Bands, Texas Christian University  
Past President, College Band Directors National Association-Southwest Region
Notes from Joe Eckert (Director of Jazz Studies at TCU):

The 2011-2012 school year was a busy one for the Department of Jazz Studies and its new director. Both ensembles (“Jazz I” and “Jazz II”) got off to a quick start in the fall with rehearsals beginning the first day of classes and commenced working on a wide variety of big band repertoire for the coming year. Jazz I presented an outdoor concert at the Brown-Lupton University Union (BLUU) in September for the annual “Parents Weekend” celebration for an enthusiastic audience of students, faculty and visitors to the TCU campus. For the first time, the ensemble was invited to perform for the TMEA Region 24 Jazz Festival for an audience of high school “all-stars” and their directors. Joey Carter of the TCU Jazz Faculty contributed his talents to the event and was featured as guest soloist on vibraphone. The annual fall concert included both ensembles and featured the music of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, Thad Jones, Bob Mintzer, Bob Brookmeyer and many other notable jazz composers.

Spring semester included a performance with the Galen Jeter Jazz Orchestra at the Village Country Club in Dallas and several informal on-campus performances by both ensembles for the popular “brown bag” series of noon concerts at the BLUU.
The annual jazz combo concert was presented in April and is always a popular event among the music students. A unique aspect of this event is that it is totally student produced, from the personnel in the combos to the programming. All of the groups go through a screening process with the Director of Jazz Studies, but are totally responsible for rehearsing and organizing the event. It’s always a treat to hear the results of their creative collaboration. Two such events are planned for the coming school year.

In March of 2012, the TCU Department of Jazz Studies hosted its 35th Annual Jazz Festival, attracting 28 bands featuring over 600 aspiring middle school and high school jazz musicians to perform for a distinguished panel of adjudicators on the TCU campus. The festival has become one of the largest in the southwest since its inception in 1978 and is a sought-after venue for many music programs in the region as evidenced by the “waiting list” necessary to accommodate all of the groups interested in participating. An added component of the festival this year gave each band the opportunity to perform a second time for a member of the TCU Jazz Faculty in a “clinic” setting. This was a very popular addition to the festival among the school directors who appreciated the opportunity for their students to interact directly and get immediate feedback from the TCU faculty.

The guest artist for the festival was woodwind artist Chris Vadala, who performed with the Jazz Faculty at the Friday evening concert and with Jazz I on Saturday evening’s festival finale. Mr. Vadala is a distinguished performer and educator who is perhaps best known for his 12-year stint with the Chuck Mangione Quintet, having performed hundreds of concerts on stages around the world. He is currently Professor of Saxophone and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Maryland and continues to be in demand as a clinician and guest artist around the world. Mr. Vadala also presented an improvisation clinic for the middle school and high school participants on Saturday afternoon and was warmly received by the standing-room only crown in PepsiCo Recital Hall. Plans are already underway for the 36th Annual Jazz Festival (March 22-23, 2013), featuring guest artist trumpeter Randy Brecker and local jazz pianist Johnny Case.

April brought the opportunity to perform for the TCU Trombone Summit, organized by trombone professor David Begnoche. The featured performer for the evening’s performance, retired USAF Airmen of Note lead trombonist David Steinmeyer, was unable to make the performance due to some medical issues, so Professor Begnoche’s old friend Dr. Sim Flora from Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas ably filled in as guest soloist for the occasion.

As has been the custom in recent years, archival recordings are made of all of the TCU Jazz Ensemble concerts over the course of the school year. We are proud to announce the release of Midnight Voyage, the first CD released by the Department of Jazz Studies since 2010. This a live recording and features highlights of the 2011-2012 school year, to include the Jazz Festival with Chris Vadala. It is our hope to release a new CD project each year. Please contact the Department of Jazz Studies to reserve your copy and follow the direction of our program. We hope to see you all in the coming school year!

**Notes from Curt Wilson (Emeritus Professor of Music at TCU):**

Professor of Music (Emeritus) Curt Wilson conducted concerts at the Royal College of Music and Old Spitalfields Market in London, England (July 1-2) and a concert on Omaha Beach at Normandy, France on July 4 with the Curt Wilson Alumni Jazz Ensemble. The nineteen piece big band featured former students from Curt’s first year at TCU (1976) and included two 2012 grads. The group also spent two days in Paris. The Alumni Jazz Ensemble was a component of the International Festival of Winds and Percussion led by TCU Director of Bands Bobby Francis.

Recent publications of original compositions include Walrus Blues for jazz ensemble published by Walrus Music; Up Jumped Spring (Freddie Hubbard) arranged for trumpet quintet and rhythm section by Triplio Press. Last spring, Wilson was commissioned to arranged TCU Jazz Waltz Medley (Three To Get Ready - Dave Brubeck; Carnival - Bill Evans; Up Jumped Spring - Freddie Hubbard) for trombone ensemble and soloist for the annual TCU Trombone Summit. Los Angeles trombone artist Andy Martin performed Wilson’s arrangement of Antonio Carlos Jobim’s Triste with the US Army Symphony Orchestra at the Eastern Trombone Workshop in Washington, DC (March).
TCU ALUMNI JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Concert Tour of London, Paris, and Normandy Beach (June 29-July 7, 2012)


SAXOPHONES
Alan Burton (TCU-1990/MM –UNT 1997) - IT specialist; Microsoft/ Alsbridge, Inc. – Dallas
(Professional Metroplex musician including the Dallas Jazz Orchestra, Pete Peterson and the Collection Jazz Orchestra, et al)


Eric Hockel (TCU-2012) – BME music education

Rene Ozuna (TCU-1987) – Director of Performing Arts at Fort Worth Academy
(Professional Metroplex musician including Metro Praise Orchestra, PardiGras, leader of Tropix, et al)

Tanner Reddoch (Richland High School – All Region Jazz Ensemble)

GUITAR
Dr. David Williams (TCU-1992) – Associate Professor of Political Science at DePaul University in Chicago since 2011. Ten years teaching at the University of Wisconsin at Stephens Point.
(River Cities Jazz Band)

TROMBONES
Todd Burrell (TCU-1988) – President, Lone Star Thermal Imaging – Cypress, TX

Kevin Chapman (TCU-1999/2004 MM) – Band Director at Forte Junior High in Azle, TX
(Member of the Hi-Rollers)
plus wife Amber (Jones) Chapman (TCU-2004)

Chuck Compher Jr. (TCU-1993) – Environmental Science teacher/football and basketball coach at Northwest High School
(Jazz Monsters Big Band)
plus wife Jill Compher

Dr. Skipper Dolt (TCU-1989) – Dentist in Atlanta, GA
(Atlanta Swing Orchestra)

TRUMPETS
(Disneyland All-American Collegiate Band, John Williams, et al)


Josh Garza ( UNT 2011) – IT Specialist at Fort Worth Academy
(Lara Latin, Orquesta Clave y Sabor, et al)

Dr. John McDonald (TCU-1978) – Pathologist at North Hills Hospital
(Various Arlington Community Bands – Unofficial and illegal trumpet soloist at many TCU football games- His trumpet was denied entry at 2011 TCU vs. Air Force game at the Air Force Academy)
plus wife Dr.Joan Bergstrom (University of Nebraska)

Tony Yarbrough (TCU-1992) – Junior High Band Director in Klein ISD
(Lead trumpet in the Houston Texans Bull Pen Pep Band – Houston area professional musician)
plus wife Ashley (Lewis) Yarbrough (TCU-1992)

PIANO
Tom Laney (TCU-1990) – Financial Analyst at Southwest Airlines
(Piano accompanist for ballet classes at Brookhaven Community College)
plus wife Dennie Laney

BASS
Chike Okaro (TCU-2012 MM) – BM in Double Bass Performance at Baylor – 2010
(Metroplex free-lance musician and private teacher)

DRUMS
Drew Ruiz (TCU-1986) – Sr Mgr of Aircraft Sustainment/Procurement – Lockheed Martin Corp.
(TROPIX, member of SEARCH band at University Christian Church, et al)
**Vice-President’s Comments:**

This time of year, especially at Homecoming, I always think back to the years I was in the TCU Band and TCU Jazz Ensemble. Those were some of the best years and memories of my life. I know many of you feel the same way. Remember the first band camp, learning all the routines and basic moves...the hot summers, the cold winters, all the hard work that paid off on Saturday when we marched into the stadium, loud and proud!!! Prof and Mrs. “J” at every game, always there for us... Remember the trips to all the “far away” places...Arkansas, Texas, and Tech....WHAT A BAND!!!!

I remember when Curt Wilson was hired, and we began the tradition of the Jazz Ensemble and the TCU Jazz Festival. Many hours and hours of practice, again, and many performances... I was fortunate to be in the band that went to the Wichita Jazz Festival, and won first place! Mario Cruz wrote one of the songs that won it for us. Another memory that will always be with me...

All these memories are mine and many others too. The reason I bring this up is because we all have our own memories of TCU and the band, and the excellent programs at TCU. We all have that one common bond--- WE WERE IN THE BAND!!!! Whatever that memory holds for you, good or bad, it is a bond linking all of us. Whether you were in Kappa Kappa Psi or Tau Beta Sigma or not, whether you were a music major or not, we all experienced something tremendous.

So, when you think back at your history and memories, I hope you have the same feeling I do ... that I was part of something very special. Please remember the Jim and Wyn Jacobsen Fund, as that is one way to look back and say “Thanks for the memories!”

Peter Sakovich  MD

**President’s Final Comments:**

Wow! What a difference a year makes... The Horned Frogs are now part of the Big 12 (where they should have been all along) and we have a GREAT new Amon Carter Stadium to watch games in!!! You can bet that more games will now be on TV (and you won’t have to have some funny station to watch the game). Of course this means more exposure for the TCU Band!

When you visit the stadium, go by the area where the Legacy Bricks are located. The TCU Ex-Bandsmen Association section is in (are you ready for this...) Section 8 on the west side of the stadium. This is also called the Davey O’Brien section. (I guess it’s appropriate that we’re in Section 8...) So when you are at the stadium, look for our bricks!

We **WILL** have access to tickets even though all of the reserved seats are sold out. However these will be Standing Room Only tickets and will only be available the week of the game. We will provide everyone with the information on how to get these tickets as soon as it is provided to us by the ticket office.

We also need to recognize that our organization is **50 years old**! Yes, we go all the way back to 1962 when the first meeting was held. We can all thank “Prof” Jacobsen for having the foresight to establish an organization for “anyone” that was ever in the TCU Band.

During the 50 years of the TCU Ex-Bandsmen Association, I have had the honor to be the President for 14 of those years and have also served in other various positions for another 5 years. For you non-math majors, this means that I’ve been an Officer for over 19 years... Since this is an election year and if elected, I would like to state that this will be my last term in office. (Don’t you wish that you were hearing this from most of our politicians?) It is time for new blood to come in and guide our organization. I don’t know about the other Officers, but we have all served together for most of the 14 years that I have been the President and done quite well. But there comes a time when younger people or more recent grads need to be involved and now is that time... So this is it!
On a personal note, there has been a lot of change in my life as well... Oldest daughter Meredith got married in the beginning of August but will be deployed soon. As an LT in the USMC, she will be 2nd in command of a Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) leaving San Diego for “parts unknown” (although we strongly suspect that she is headed to the South Pacific and possibly the Arabian Sea). Daughter Stephanie has moved out on her own (whooh!) and son Adam will be a senior at TCU this fall (although like a lot of music majors, he will probably not graduate until next fall). Youngest daughter Helene is now in High School and in the Color Guard (so we’re excited about that!). For the 2nd time in the past 9 years I am once again looking for a job. It happens...

For those of you that didn’t catch Curt’s comments about the TCU Alumni Jazz Ensemble above, go back and check out the comments for Dr. John McDonald. I’ve known John since he came to TCU and played trumpet with him on many an occasion and never have I ever heard of him referred to as an “illegal” soloist…!

Regardless, there are REALLY GREAT things happening at TCU, so come on out and see them! Come on by for some 50th Anniversary cake at Homecoming!

My info is below, so let me hear from you (and soon) for the brunch/lunch! Just let me know if you are coming!

Mark Sakovich
6849 Moss Lane
North Richland Hills, TX 76182
Ph: 817-269-2054 (cell)  817-428-0837 (home)
E-Mail: LCCC18@aol.com

Don’t forget to RSVP for the Homecoming Brunch/Lunch!!!
Send us your e-mail address!!!
Remember to buy a ticket ASAP!!!