

**Crestwood Scarlet Guard
Band Patrons Meeting
Minutes
August 10, 2009**

In attendance: Mrs. Ferguson (Band Director), Sue Hurd (Band Patrons President), Chris Nero (Co Vice-President), Don Gregoire (Co Vice-President), Tammy Meyer (Treasurer), Cathy Spencer (Co-Secretary), Marge Franks (Co-Secretary), Mr. Becker (School Board Member), and twenty-four Band Patrons members.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Sue Hurd.

No minutes from last year were read.

The meeting started off with all in attendance introducing themselves and who they have in the band.

Mrs. Ferguson's Report

Mrs. Ferguson reported that the marching band is off to a great start. She stated that band camp went very well, a great deal was accomplished, and the weather was very cooperative. There are only three weeks before the first performance. During this time, the band will practice Monday through Thursday evenings from 5:00-9:00 PM. The Cedar Point (trip on August 14th) fact sheet will be going home on Tuesday. Mrs. Ferguson expressed her excitement about this upcoming season. There are two BOA (Bands of America) regional events this year. Also, the wind ensemble and concert bands are already in place. She stated that things are on track for a potentially outstanding year. Mrs. Ferguson extended an invitation to all band parents to come to the practices over the next several weeks to watch the children practice. She also wants all band parents to feel that they can contact her with any questions or concerns. She can be reached at CHS via phone, or school e-mail: ferguson@crestwood.sparcc.org. The question arose about the Fall Classic and why we were not holding it at our school this year. Mrs. Ferguson explained that the event is rotated from school to school in an effort to allow all interested schools a chance to host the event. She explained that she will apply for the event every year and hopes it will be awarded to Crestwood again soon.

Treasurer's Report

Tammy Meyer reported that the Scarlet Guard is starting off the new season very under-funded. Losing the Fall Classic (a competitive event held at CHS) will cost the band a potential \$4500.00. Last year, Middle School dance profits dropped from \$1500.00 in previous years to around \$500.00 per dance last year. The current balance is \$5533.00, of which \$5000.00 is ear-marked for bills to be paid. This leaves a balance of \$500.00. There are many things yet to fund, including buying Guard uniforms (\$3000.00), paying the drill writer, props to build for the show, and electronic materials required, just to name a few. Also, the concert band needs to have tux coats purchased for the boys before the trip to Washington. In addition, we need to build a surplus of both boys and girls wind ensemble and concert band uniforms to have a few extras for size issues and possible growth in the band. A detailed financial report was handed out to all in attendance.

Crestwood Alumni Band

Bailey Meyer was invited to speak to the group about the plans to start up a Crestwood Alumni Band. Anyone who once played in the Crestwood band is invited to join. If anyone is interested, or knows of a past band member who might be interested, please contact Bailey at crestwoodbandalumni@gmail.com. The possibility of having the alumni band perform at Crestwood events was discussed, as well as having the alumni members help with fund raising.

Fund Raising Report

Sue Hurd opened the discussion by expressing the urgency of our fund raising efforts this year. There was a lengthy list of possible fund raising opportunities handed out to all in attendance. We need a minimum of \$30,000.00 to fund this season. \$60,000.00 would be best to allow for a smooth transition into next season. Several events were discussed at length including a sponsorship program in which families are called upon to assist the band in soliciting sponsors. For each sponsor they get for the band this season, 25% of the donation will go into the student's band account. There is a detailed packet which families can present to potential donors. It was suggested that we generate a list of local larger businesses to assist families who are willing to help.

Other events discussed were:

Indians game tickets (August 23rd game) for \$16.00 each. See Mrs. Ferguson for tickets.

Cookie dough sale coming up. First \$20.00 sold goes to the band, and anything above that goes into the student band account.

Spirit Wear (Crestwood clothing and other items) will be sold in the Spirit Wear booth at football games. Mrs. Gregoire would welcome helpers.

Show clothing called "Balance Wear" will be sold soon. Many families like to purchase the items and wear them at the competitions, as well as buying extra items for their band member. This is more a service than a money maker.

The "Band-Tastic" cookbook is coming along. We still need at least 100 (preferably 150) more recipes.

Mrs. Thut currently has eighty-eight recipes turned in. Recipes can be entered right on the web site, available through our Crestwood bands web site. This could potentially bring in a large profit. Tammy Meyer suggested that \$2.00 (of the \$10.00 price tag) go into each student's account for every cookbook that they sell. This was voted on and passed. Recipes are needed by Friday, August 14th.

Coupon books are being put together by Meg Chism. Mrs. Chism suggested selling advertising (coupon) spots to local business for \$20.00 or \$25.00. The books would then be sold at the spirit wear booth, and by band members. There could potentially be more than one run of the books if interest is high. Potential profit of \$800.00-\$1000.00 with selling the coupon books for \$5.00 a piece.

Golf Classic date has been changed to September 27, 2009. The event will be a two-person scramble format with a shotgun start at 1:00, check in time of 12:30. All golfers must preregister and prepay. The event will cost \$55.00 which includes 18 holes of golf, cart, and dinner at 5:30. There will be door prizes, a hole-in-one prize, and many other prizes. Dinner only is offered for all non-golfers at 5:30 at a cost of \$15.00 per person. Marge Franks is looking for helpers to get door prizes, sponsors, golfers, and workers the day of the event.

Beef jerky sale.

Yankee Candle fund raiser (very successful last year).

Recycling of aluminum cans can bring in funds this year. Theresa Zimmerman and her husband will champion this fund raiser. Additional information to follow.

"Q" concessions. Sue Hurd explained that we are a candidate for working the concessions at Cavs games (and possible other "Q" events). We would profit 8% of all food sold during our games, and 10% of all alcohol (at our booth). There would be training involved, and a commitment of seven to eight workers for

each of the fifteen games we would be assigned. This would be an adults only event. We are looking for a volunteer to champion this fund raiser.

Middle School Friday night dances start in November. There will be one or two Saturday dances this year due to sporting events on Fridays. Cathy Spencer offered to help Tammy Meyer co-chair this year.

SCRIP is a program in which we sell gift cards. It can be very profitable. Cathy Spencer offered to champion this fund raiser.

OMEA concessions, fruit sale, mulch sale, quilt raffle, and a gift card tree raffle were all fund raising events from last year that will be pursued again this season.

Chris Nero is looking into having a Potato Festival booth this year. Mr. Cyphert suggested getting the Lions Club's "putting green" to use at the booth and also help advertize the Golf Classic. Debbie Burkett asked for bakers to start thinking about baking for a bake sale at the booth.

Volunteer Opportunities

Chris Nero shared with the group the opportunities for all band parents to get involved in the band. There is always something that each of us can do to help. Mr. Cyphert suggested that each of us in attendance call three parents not involved and invite them to the next meeting. Mrs. Harbaugh suggested that the veteran parents/chaperones not be afraid to step up and help the "newbies" when at events and on trips. She also suggested getting out a video from last year to pass around to new freshman families so they can see what the competition shows are like. Finally, for anyone who would like to help out and volunteer for OUR children's band, contact Debbie Burkett.

New Business

The meeting closed with Sue Hurd handing out a "Wish List" compiled of items, very small to very large, that the band needs. If anyone is willing and able to donate any items, contact Mrs. Ferguson.

If anyone ever has a change of address, phone number, or e-mail address, please contact Sue Hurd or Mrs. Ferguson.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM.

The next meeting will take place on September 14, 2009 at 7:00 PM.