

Marking Time

The official newsletter of Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni ■ January 2025 / Issue #1



Southern Pride alumni gather for a photo prior to pregame on Sept. 2.

Meet your Executive Board members & committee chairs

Vice President

My name is Jason Hall. I marched Alto/Tenor Saxophone from 1997-2002. I got to march during some of the greatest times in Georgia Southern history. I am currently Vice President and love trying to build the Southern Pride Alumni into one of the biggest alumni groups for the university. My main job is to support the president in any way that is needed as well as helping program development. I will also be supporting other committees along the way and helping with any communications that are needed.

Executive Administrator

Hey y'all! My name is Kat Snelson,

and I serve as your Executive Administrator for the SPMB Alumni Association. I marched piccolo at GSU for four years from Fall 1998 to Fall 2001. I graduated with my B.S.Ed. in 2002 and my M.Ed. in 2023 becoming a Double Eagle. I teach Family and Consumer Sciences at Bradwell Institute in Hinesville, GA. I am excited for this opportunity to support the current members of Southern Pride Marching Band and to make new memories as an alumni in the new SPMB Alumni Association.

Treasurer

Hi! My name is Alicia Utley and

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Hoop Troop event coming February 15!

We are gathering for a reunion, and hope to also make this an annual event.

Come for one or both games, but our main focus will be the men's game at 3 p.m. The women's game is at 1 p.m.

You do not have to have been in Hoop Troop during your collegiate years to attend.

We won't be passing out music or lending instruments for this year's event, but feel free to dust off your own horns and play the fight song along with "the most dangerous band in the 'Boro!"

President's corner

Welcome to the inaugural season of the Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni Association! It was my pleasure to meet and visit with many of you at our inaugural SPMB Alumni Reunion Weekend earlier this football season. Many of us enjoyed congregating at the tailgate, visiting with friends old and new, and making music together again!

We are very excited to invite you to join us in actively

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Current and alumni members of Southern Pride gather for a photo during Georgia Southern's spring game at the team's indoor practice facility in April. Plans are in the works for another gathering in 2025 so keep your eyes peeled for details in your email and online.



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I am the acting treasurer for the Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni Association. I marched colorguard for the 1999-2002 marching band seasons. My goals as treasurer are to safeguard the funds that are brought in for the SPMBAA that will help provide the necessary resources for our program and the current SPMB members.

Secretary

Hi, everyone! I'm Emily Boorstein -- better known as EVK, thanks to Dr. Fallin never remembering how to pronounce my maiden name. I marched mellophone and graduated in the spring of 2004 with a B.S. in broadcasting. I'm also a proud alumna of both Tau Beta Sigma and Sigma Alpha Iota! As secretary I hope to take careful and accurate minutes during meetings, and to provide fun and informative newsletters like this one so everyone knows what we have in the works for future gatherings, fundraising efforts and the like.

Hail Southern and no place else!

Pep Band Committee

My name is Joe Dodson. I marched from 99-04! I am the chair of the Pep Band Committee.

Did you love playing/marching in Southern Pride? This committee coordinates with the Athletic Bands Director Mike Thomas to ensure that all alumni that want to participate in a football reunion band day has an instrument. We also help promote our reunion days where we get to relive our favorite memories of playing in Paulson with the hardest working band in show business. If the answer to this question is yes, and you enjoy the logistics of getting people together to play, then email me and join this AWESOME committee!

Young Alumni Committee

My name is Sergio Arreguin. I marched with SPMB from 2010-2013 on Cymbals and Snare Drum. During my time with SPMB, GSU "Drained the Swamp," as we beat the Florida

Gators and I traveled with three other drumline members to New York City to perform on The Late Show with David Letterman. I cherish my memories of being a member of SPMB. I am fortunate enough to continue working with SPMB as the Drumline Coordinator. I've been in this position since 2015.

With the Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni Association, I aim to connect recent graduates to SPMBAA and help establish a strong foundation to support SPMB. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions about SPMBAA. I look forward to reconnecting with members of "The Hardest Working Band in Show Business." Hail Southern!

Events Committee

My name is Zaria Farrow, and I was on the guard from 2015-2020. Southern Pride has been a big part of my life ever since! I am head of the Events Committee, and would love speak with others who would love to help with future activities and events!

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supporting Southern Pride Marching Band. There are several ways in which you can accomplish this:

PAY DUES! Every individual who has ever marched with Southern Pride Marching Band for at least one season is automatically a member of the Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni Association and is invited to participate in any and all activities and meetings. Those who pay dues of \$50 through our website will receive a button acknowledging their membership in SPMBAA. Double your dues for a t-shirt with our new logo! Every dues-paying member is a True Blue Member with additional perks, including voting on matters pertaining to SPMBAA.

More information will be coming soon to our website.

GET ACTIVE! We are looking for alumni who would like to serve on the various committees we have established: Membership, Young Alumni, Fundraising, Events, and Pep Band. To get involved, please reach out to the designated Chairperson for the committee that interests you the most.

GET GIVING! You can make additional donations to Southern Pride Marching Band any day of the year by clicking the donation link on our website. Some businesses match contributions, so be sure to check with your employer.

ASK QUESTIONS! Reach out to anyone on the Board of Directors with any questions you may have, or to let us know how you would like to get involved:

- **Denise Devereaux, President** -
presidentspmbaa@gmail.com
- **Jason Hall, Vice President** -
vicepresidentspmbaa@gmail.com
- **Adrian McDaniel, Past President** -
pastpresidentspmbaa@gmail.com
- **Alicia Utley, Treasurer** -
treasurerspmbaa@gmail.com
- **Emily Boorstein, Secretary** -
secretaryspmbaa@gmail.com
- **Joe Hotchkiss, Historian** -
historianspmbaa@gmail.com

For those who attended our reunion, please send photos to Joe!

- **Kathryn Snelson, Executive Administrator** -
executivespmbaa@gmail.com
- **Zaria Farrow, Events Committee Chairperson** -
eventsspmbaa@gmail.com

For those who attended our reunion, please provide feedback to Zaria!

- **Ed (Lalo) Sanchez, Fundraising Committee Chairperson** -
fundraisingspmbaa@gmail.com
- **Lindy Sikes, Membership Committee Chairperson** -
membershipsmbaa@gmail.com
- **Sergio Arreguin, Young Alumni Committee Chairperson** -
youngalumnispmbaa@gmail.com
- **Joe Dodson, Pep Band Committee Chairperson** -
pepbandspmbaa@gmail.com

REACH OUT TO OTHER ALUMNI! Inevitably, several of our alumni have lost touch over the years, but we do not want anyone excluded! Reach out to everyone you knew in Southern Pride, and let them know about our organization.

Keep information up-to-date with Georgia Southern so as to ensure that you receive all communications from SPMBAA. Follow us on Facebook (Southern Pride Alumni) and on Instagram (@spmbalumni).

As we have stated in our bylaws, the purpose of this organization shall be to actively assist, enthusiastically support, and aggressively promote Southern Pride Marching Band through the donation of financial resources, time and talent. Further, this organization will communicate regularly with Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni and facilitate events that allow Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni to stay connected. I look forward to achieving this alongside each of you!

Hail Southern! One more time!

Denise A. Devereaux
President, SPMBAA
presidentspmbaa@gmail.com

