

MARKING TIME

The official newsletter of SPMBAA 🎵 Summer 2025



A NOTE TO MEMBERS & RECENT GRADUATES

Dear Alumnus/Alumna,

As a valued member of the Southern Pride Marching Band, you are forever part of our legacy. Your dedication and passion have played an integral role in shaping the spirit and success of our band, and we invite you to continue that tradition by joining the Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni Association (SPMBAA).

By becoming a member of the SPMBAA, you will have the opportunity to:

- Support current band members through mentorship, networking, and shared resources.
- Participate in exclusive alumni events, including performances and reunions.
- Stay informed about the latest band

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SUMMER MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni Association is kicking off our Summer Membership Drive! With a \$50 donation, you'll become an official member of SPMBAA, and you will be playing a part in helping Southern Pride grow and thrive. With that donation alone, you are equipping a band member with a T-Shirt, ball cap, and one pair of gloves! Your contributions aren't just limited to your dues, and you now have the chance to directly

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A couple of years ago, my daughter (who attends UGA) was telling me about the Redcoat Alumni Association. After conversations with Leigh Tompros (with the Redcoat Alumni Association and the National Association of Alumni Bands), Michael Thomas (the Director of SPMB), and Ava Edwards (the Director of Alumni

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news and upcoming initiatives.

Special Offer for First-Year Members:

We are pleased to welcome first-year members of the association with no dues required. However, if you are able, we encourage your contribution – no donation is too large or too small. Every gift directly supports the students who continue the proud legacy you helped establish.

Returning Members:

To maintain your active status, we ask for an annual contribution at the following levels:

\$50 - Includes voting rights, a membership card, and a commemorative membership button for first-time donors.

\$100 - Includes everything for \$50 PLUS an exclusive SPMBAA t-shirt.

To join or renew your membership, please visit our website (<https://alumni.georgiasouthern.edu/networks-groups/southern-pride-marching-band/>).

We look forward to welcoming you back into the rhythm and pride of the band that shaped us all. If you have any question or would like more information, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to preserve and grow the Southern Pride Marching Band legacy.

Warm regards,
Sergio G. Arreguin
Young Alumni Chairperson

EVEN MORE BOARD OF DIRECTORS INTROS

PAST PRESIDENT

Hello folks! My name is Adrian McDaniel. I was a member of Southern Pride from 1989 to 1995. During my time with the marching program, I created many lifelong friendships with the folks that I marched with. Words cannot put into meaning the bonds that our fellowship commands. Even after college, the friends I have made along the way, can never compare to my marching brethren. It is with that reason why I am the Past President. It is my passion to make sure people do not forget how it all came about. Motivation is key to the success of everyone. This was ever more apparent to me when my friend Pete Randall was diagnosed with cancer and would succumb to it. Pete made me realize that without the marching band, many people would not have found their own way or voice. I want to make sure that we all carry a sense of belonging. This is through music and marching.

Having said that, the Southern Pride Marching Band needs a strong alumni base. It is our duty to make sure that the band has a foundation and support system to carry on and fulfill the needs of the organization. We are ambassadors for not only the band but for the school and music staff. Please, if the SPMB was important to you, donate and help us by participating in our events. The larger the group, the greater the effect we have on the community and the students. Reach out to other people that you marched with and help to get them involved.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Hey everybody! I am Lindy Sikes, and I serve as the Chair of the Membership Committee. I have been around Southern Pride for a loooooong time! My first year marching was the fall of 1985 on sousaphone.... I know, I know... I'm old! I actually marched with Dr. Fallin!

I left in 1986 to join the Navy and came back in 1992 and graduated with a Music Education degree in 1998. With that being said, I know A LOT of people who have marched over the years, but I don't know everyone. This is where YOU come in! Let everyone you know that marched with us about our SPMB Alumni group. We are just getting this thing off the ground, but we need to get everyone we know involved ASAP. Most of my best friends are from marching band, and this will be a great way for everyone to either connect or reconnect.

If you have any questions about membership, please feel free to contact me! I'll be over here hanging out with Methuselah!

FUNDRAISING CHAIR

Hello! My name is Eduardo Sanchez, but many people know me by

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my nickname Lalo. I marched trumpet from 2018 until 2022 and got to experience many great memories in Southern Pride. From marching at Clemson and LSU during their National Championship runs to having to practice and perform six feet apart during COVID, my journey through Southern Pride was life-changing and unforgettable. I am in charge of brainstorming ideas on how we can support SPMB through fundraising! We have big plans for the alumni, and we are always thinking about how we can support the band that gave us all so many great memories. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or suggestions that you may have! Hail Southern!!!

HISTORIAN

My name is Joe Hotchkiss. Exiled from my native Krypton, my family moved to Statesboro, Ga., where I graduated from Statesboro High School. At Georgia Southern (College) from 1986 to 1989, I played first

trumpet, second trumpet, baritone and tuba in 23 home games, three away games and three exhibitions at high school marching band festivals. I might be the only alum to have marched three different instruments in four years, but that's strictly a guess. As a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, I served as warden and historian. All of this prepared me for a rewarding, lucrative professional career. Instead, I chose journalism, where I've spent the past 37 years writing and editing newspapers in Statesboro, Covington and Augusta. I'm married to the former Ellen Loraditch (marched piccolo; lifetime Tau Beta Sigma member), and we reared now-former Southern Pride marchers Daniel (baritone) and Tess (clarinet).

TREASURER

Hello everyone! My name is Hiram Luciano-Olivencia, and I am the new Treasurer for the Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni Association! I marched trumpet in the band for my first season in 2022, and then I served

as a drum major for my final two seasons from 2023-2025. I also graduated with a B.S. in Public Relations in 2025. As Treasurer, I will continue the work of managing the organization's finances and assisting with the process of obtaining necessary resources for the band. I am so grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve the band that gave so much to me, and I can't wait to see how we grow!

PRESIDENT

My name is Denise Devereaux, and I marched cymbals from 1995 until 1998. I graduated in 2000 after spending the fall of 1999 overseas working an internship and student teaching in the spring. I no longer use my French Education degree, but am now a Medical Massage Practitioner with my own practice in Evans, GA.

Southern Pride and those who marched with me have meant so much to me over the years. I am so excited about what our group has done in the short time the SPMBAA has been in existence, and I am looking forward to seeing where we go from here!

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Relations), a Steering Committee was created which led to the creation of the Southern Pride Marching Band Alumni Association. I am extremely proud of each and every person who has committed the time, effort and energy into making this organization what it is today!

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support the marching band that you called home. Our time on the field may be over, but we can still ensure that the Southern Pride of today is just as big as it was when we were in their shoes. Here are some examples of how your contributions will *directly* impact the band:

\$5: One (1) pair of gloves

\$25: One band T-shirt **OR** One ball cap

\$50: One pair of shoes **OR** One backpack

\$100: One set of rain gear

\$250: Stock music for one halftime

show

\$500: Ten (10) Sousaphone covers

\$1000: Gloves for the ENTIRE band +

These are just a few ways of many that your contribution will impact the band. Even donating one pair of gloves ensures that the band will have more funds to do things that matter, but most importantly, supporting our Georgia Southern Eagles wherever they go!

For every \$50 donated through August 31, 2025, your name will be added to a drawing to win sideline passes for pregame and halftime at a home football game this year! See link on p. 4!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Membership Drive**
For every \$50 donated, your name will be added to a drawing to win sideline passes for pregame and halftime at a home football game this year!
Through August 31, 2025
- **High School Band Day at Paulson Stadium**
Show up and show out!
September 13, 2025
- **Marching Band Showcase at Paulson Stadium**
Provide assistance!
November 3, 2025 (tentative)
- **Fall SPMBAA Reunion at Paulson Stadium**
Details to come soon!
November 22, 2025
- **Hoop Troop Reunion at Jack & Ruth Ann Hill Convocation Ctr.**
Details to come...
Mid-February
- **Spring Game Reunion and Tailgate at Paulson Stadium**
Details to come...
April, 2026

PAY YOUR DUES

[Click here to pay your dues!](#)

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

[Click here to update your information!](#)

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