

July 26, 2010



RHS Bands July Newsletter

Fourth (Fifth) of July Parade:

**Brought to you by your
2010-2011 Student Band
Council:**

President:

Cynthia Campo

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Historian:

Samantha Fink

Drum Major:

Bennett Hampilos

Field Captain:

Spencer Gellman

Color Guard Co-Captains:

Elise DeLoca and

Maureen Helmstetter

On the fifth of July, in honor of Independence Day, the Ridgewood High School marching band marched down the streets of Ridgewood in the town's annual parade. This year, for the 100th anniversary of this celebration, the band invited all alumni of the RHS marching band to play alongside the current members. Alumni ranged from the class of 1974 to the class of 2010. Together, the alumni and this year's members did a phenomenal job bearing the one hundred degree weather and sharing patriotic



tunes with the crowd. The audience appreciated our performance of the classic Go Get 'Em Ridgewood and a Cohan medley including You're a Grand Ol' Flag, This Land is your Land, and Yankee Doodle Dandy. We wanted to thank all of the students who participated, their families for their ongoing support, and of course, the alumni who were able to relive their memories as members of the RHS marching band.

A Message from Your Marching Band Director:

Greetings all!

As the summer is moving along, I can't tell you how excited I am for this fall's marching band show! With Michael Kamen's music from "Robin Hood Prince of Thieves", and James Horner's music from "The Mask of Zorro", we have some great melodies to drive our show. With wind arrangements by Michael Klesch and percussion arrangements by Gary Fink, you know our band is going to sound fantastic! Jason DeGroff is once again writing our drill, and Meredith is already at work on costumes and equipment, so we should look outstanding.

We have an official title for the show and a phenomenal logo created by Ms. Valenti from the Art Department at RHS. The title is "Avengers" for the nature of the character of both Robin Hood and Zorro.



I felt that we had an excellent read-through session at the beginning of June, so I am looking forward to great things from you all when we get to camp! Musicians, please make sure that you take your music out during the summer and get some practicing in so that you can get off to a quick start at camp. Color Guard, please make sure that you are reviewing the skills you have learned during the summer so that you can get off to a quick start at camp.

I hope that you all enjoy the rest of your summer and have some great and safe experiences. I look forward to seeing you all at our Pre-Camp days on Wednesday, August 25 and Thursday, August 26. Then it's off to camp from Friday, August 27 to Wednesday, September 1!!

-James Garde

Hello Marching Band Parents and Students!

I hope you're enjoying your summer so far.

This is just a quick reminder for you to remember to have your child's medical forms completed and returned. They may be delivered to Maureen Morgan (RHS Nurse), Ridgewood High School, on the following dates: August 3rd and 4th or August 11th and 12th from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm.

If that is not convenient there is a locked mailbox on the counter of the RHS Main Office for Marching Band Medical Forms. COMPLETED forms must be in a SEALED ENVELOPE before being placed in the mailbox. Forms may be placed in the mailbox at anytime when the main office is open (M-F 8:30AM-3PM)

If you need to purchase Marching Band Shoes please know that Harris Uniforms, 259 Main Street, Hackensack, NJ must have orders placed by July 25th in order to receive them for picture day. This information can be found on pg. 13 of your Marching Band Packet, which is posted in the "For students" section of our website www.rhsbands.org. Also, please visit this link to review the packing list for the 2010 Marching Band camp:
<http://www.rhsbands.org/documents/MBPSTPacket2010.pdf>

Here's a reminder from the Band Parents Association:

The band parents association is involved in all aspects of the band program from cheering on our marching band to being present at Jazz at Winberries. Please take the time to volunteer and be a part of this very special group, your talent and hard work will always be appreciated. If you would like to discuss any of our volunteer opportunities, please don't hesitate to contact me at cccap@optonline.net or 201.493.9910

That's all for now. Have a great summer!

Catherine Caputo, President
RHS Band Association

Hello all:

I'm very proud to announce that September's edition of "Bergen Health and Life" magazine will list Ridgewood High School as the winners of the "Readers Choice" Award for Best Marching Band in Bergen County. Congratulations to all the students (past and present), staff, parents, and community members who have made this possible. There are several wonderful, celebrated marching bands in the county. To be considered among them, let alone above them is a tremendous honor. The September issue of "Bergen Health and Life" will be available sometime in August.

Once again, congratulations, keep practicing, and I'll see you all in September!

Jeffrey G. Haas
Director of Bands

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR DRUM MAJOR

HELLO RHS MARCHING BAND!

I hope your summer has been exciting and adventure-filled so far! Hopefully you have gotten a chance to go somewhere fun, or have had some well deserved rest. As our summer vacation continues, it is important to know that the beginning of the marching band season is just around the corner. Preseason training (band camp) is approaching fast, and I hope you are all as excited as I am!

During our preliminary practices in June, I sensed that we were off to a great start. The music is starting to come together, and Maureen and Elise tell me that the color guard is also doing really well. To be totally honest, when I listened to our final run through of the music during our last June rehearsal as a full group, I got goosebumps. Our show is going to be really cool, and if you could imagine James saying, "It's going to be pretty sweet," that just about sums up how pumped I am.

If you are a rookie member of the marching band, I want to thank you for joining our team! Some of my fondest memories during high school have been made in the RHS Marching Band, and I know you will have some great memories as well. I am really excited to be your Drum Major for this upcoming season!

I hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer, and be sure to read Spencer's advice concerning what to pack for band camp! And remember, GET PSYCHED!!!

With Pride,
Bennett Hampilos



A Message from Your Field Captain

Hey Everybody!

As we move into August, its time to start thinking about preseason training for marching band members. While band camp is a great experience and a lot of fun, there are a few items that I would like to highlight – some on the packing list and a few that are not – that should definitely be considered.

First and foremost, it helps to bring a **suitcase or duffel bag with wheels**. Upon arriving at camp, it's a long trek uphill to the cabins, and a rolling bag makes the trip much easier. When practicing at camp, it's very important to have **sunglasses** and a **hat**, as it can get very hot on the field. **Sunscreen** is necessary as well. Each day, free time is granted for relaxation and hanging with friends. **A ball, Frisbee, or tennis racket** is recommended to make the most of this available free time. It is very likely that we will see some rain up at camp, so a **lightweight jacket** is a good idea. Don't forget an **extra pair of sneakers!** Band camp is a fun experience where a lot of memories will be made, so a **camera** should also be considered.

Aside from the items listed here, the packing list in the Marching Band 2010 Packet provides a comprehensive list of other things to be brought.

I am excited to see everybody at preseason training. Happy Packing!

-Spencer Gellman

We want to welcome all of our incoming freshmen and remind them of the fun-filled year that they have ahead of them!



The RHS Student Band Council wishes everyone an awesome
summer!!

