



There's work to be done

Strike up the NUMBALUMS

By Pete Friedmann
President



Welcome to the first official NUMBALUMS Newsletter.

Our new NUMBALUM organization is off to a great start, although we still have a lot of work ahead of us.

On May 4, many NUMBALUMS gathered for our second annual spring event—a repeat of last year's successful get-together on campus, followed by a dress rehearsal of the WAA-MU Show. This year, it was our first official event since formally establishing the NUMBALUM organization. And this is just a start.

As president, I am focusing on three initial goals for the NUMBALUMS:

1. To become self-sustaining;
2. To offer real value to our members; and
3. To be all-inclusive, regardless of the NUMBALUM's age, major, location or the ensemble(s) in which he/she was a member.

We are well on our way to achieving our first goal for this year. There are 434 members of the NUMBALUMS representing all age groups (see chart on Page 3).

We have members in 43 states and two foreign countries! But this is only a fraction of all the NU Band alums—we need your help in persuading them to join us.

A key to our success, as with any voluntary organization, will be the involvement of members. Many of our fellow NUMBALUMS are already working on committees that are developing programs, planning events and facilitating communication. This newsletter is a good start, and continued communication—including an upgraded Web site and other Internet capabilities now under development—will go a long way toward delivering value in membership.

Just as I set three goals for this year, I would like to make three requests of you.

First, I ask for your commitment to become involved, to the best of your ability. Try to attend events, volunteer to serve on committees and encourage fellow NU band alums to join us.

Second, I ask for your ideas. As we select our activities from among the many options, we want to make sure we've heard all your suggestions.

Among the ideas already submitted:

- Create opportunities for alums to get together and play good music;

- Organize pep bands for "away" football and basketball games;
- Establish regional NUMBALUM chapters;
- Make audio and video tapes available of performances from our days on campus; and
- Develop activities at Homecoming for all members of the family.

Any ideas you submit will be shared with your officers and the NUMBALUM Board for their consideration.

Finally, and perhaps most important, we need you to stay in touch. Your fellow NUMBALUMS would like to hear what you've been up to, professionally and personally.

Send your suggestions or personal updates to me in care of the NU Alumni Association at the address below.

That's the update for now. Start making plans to join us for our annual meeting and other NUMBALUM events that will take place during Homecoming weekend, October 13-15, 2000. I hope to see you then!

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See Page 2 for news about the NU Symphonic Wind Ensemble.