

SAPA NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SAPA CIRCUIT SCHOOL

(tentative date)

December 11, 2010

SAPA Circuit School will offer Educational Opportunities for Students, Color Guard & Percussion Directors, and the Judging Community. We will have classes that will appeal to new instructors as well as the most "seasoned" of instructors. Plan to join us for an awesome day of instruction.

More information coming soon!

AUDITIONS FOR INDEPENDENT UNITS

Independent Directors:

Please send us your audition information and we will post it on the SAPA NEWS page of the website.

2010-2011 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Cyndi Church

VP Color Guard – Brian Giddens

VP Percussion – Time Church

CFO – Russell Bertles

Secretary – Catreece Fritts

Color Guard At-Large – Adam Sage

Color Guard At-Large – Nick Garofalo

POLICY MANUAL COMMITTEE

We have several volunteers who have shown interest in serving on the Policy Manual Committee. These volunteers will be going through the policy manual, page by page, to make sure the manual is correctly updated with the new policies that were voted on at the SAPA Annual Meeting held in June. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Cyndi Church at cyndichurch@sapaonline.net.

NEW MENTORING PROGRAM

Are you interested in participating in a mentoring program? What we'd like to do is create partnerships between our "more seasoned" directors and "newer/young" directors for the purpose of generating educational development in our beginner and scholastic classes.

The "mentor" would be available for questions, or offer suggestions, to a younger director who might be new to the circuit, or has been around for a few years, but still needs a little guidance. Many new directors have requested help on where to locate answers to questions regarding show design, training, judges' sheets, and basic information regarding the circuit. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, or if you would like to be connected with a mentor for help, please contact the SAPA Executive Board at eboard@sapaonline.net.

SAPA SPOTLIGHT

SAPA Welcomes Russell Bertles as our New CFO

Russell Bertles has taught band and color guard for the past 29 years in Alabama, Florida, & Georgia. He is currently the band director at Dutchtown Middle School in Hampton, GA.

In 2006, Mr. Bertles completed his masters degree in conducting at the American Band College in Ashland, Oregon. In December, of that same year, he received the Legion of Honor Award at the Mid-West International Band & Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, Illinois, given by the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

The marching band color guards that he has instructed have consistently received superior ratings in all festivals and contests, as well as winning numerous champion and grand championship titles. Winter guards under his direction have received numerous recognitions including:

- WGI Regional Scholastic A Finalists
- WGI Scholastic World Finalist
- GCCG, SCGC, & SAPA Class Championships earning several silver and bronze medals

Currently, Mr. Bertles is the guard instructor for Rockdale County High School. The RCHS winter guard won the SAPA Scholastic AAA Gold Medal in 2009 and are the current (2010) bronze medalists in the AA Scholastic Class.

Mr. Bertles has volunteered at the WGI World Championships on numerous occasions and regularly volunteers at Centennial Olympic Park at the information desk. He has previously served as Treasurer for SAPA, as well as for the Gulf Coast Color Guard Circuit, for several years. He is truly excited about his new position with SAPA.