

**HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS  
OF  
MEMBERS  
IN THE  
NORTH PENN MARCHING KNIGHTS**



**Prepared By**

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1340 Valley Forge Road  
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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the North Penn Marching Knights! We are sure that you will find the upcoming season to be a rewarding experience. At times you and your student will be weary, at other times you will be exuberant, but never will you be bored. Such is the mark of a successful program.

For many of you this will be the first time that you will have a child at North Penn High School. This will be a period of transition! This handbook is aimed at providing you with as much information as possible about the program, so that you can plan accordingly.

As interested parents, staff members, and community volunteers, we would be glad to assist in any way that we can. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or issues.

Your fellow parents from the North Penn Music Aides, Inc.

### NPMA Executive Board and Officers

Co-Presidents: Alane & Steve Corrado  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Fundraising): Bill Donehower  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Publicity): Sally Gallagher  
Recording Secretary: Carole Stoler  
Corresponding Secretary: Lynda Baer  
Sewing: June Rushmore  
Quartermaster: H. Bruce Gordon  
Refreshments: Becky Hunt  
Student Credit: Paula Mix

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## A. NORTH PENN MARCHING KNIGHTS

### A1. Background

The North Penn Marching Knights (NPMK) has been an integral part of North Penn High School for over 34 years and has had a long-standing tradition of excellence. They have been USSBA Class V and VI Open Champions for the last 9 years (1996-2005) and prior to that they won the Cavalcade of Bands Yankee Conference Championship 13 times. More recently they have competed in numerous Bands of America Regional Championships, placing first in the 2002 Mid-Atlantic Regional at Hofstra University. The Marching Knights are a tremendous source of pride for the North Penn School District and the surrounding community.

Throughout their history the Marching Knights have maintained an active schedule of concert and competitive performances. Audiences at the Orange Bowl, Kentucky Derby, Indianapolis 500, Florida Festival of States (3 times), the Winchester (VA) Apple Blossom Festival (3 times), WGI Friendship Cup in Dallas, Texas, and the 1985, 1989, 1994, 1997 Fiesta Bowls have enjoyed the Marching Knights. Their major motion picture credits include *Blowout* and *Rocky V*.

### A2. Band Staff

It takes a large and talented group of instructors to make a successful program. The following cast deserves a lot of credit. They will work with your children to help them develop to meet their full potential. The 2006 staff members are listed below:

Band Director:	Bryan Clayton
Assistant Band Director:	John Josten
Show Designer and Visual Caption Head:	Eric Kitchenman
Music Caption Head:	Mike Britcher
Music Staff:	Doug Fitzgerald Alexander Higgins Larry Markiewicz Peter Neu
Percussion Caption Head:	Rich Hammond
Percussion Staff:	Jeff Picsitello Nikki Eash
Guard Caption Head:	Brian Stoudt
Guard Staff:	Bill Anders Craig Biesecker Lindsay Brooks Kelly Laessig Kelsey Murphy Lauren Roberts Courtney Terrian
Visual Staff:	Aaron Barnes

Musical Arranger:

Gary Cuzzacrea  
Jerry Plymette  
Chris Thompson  
Jay Bocook

### A3. Band Officers and Student Leaders

Each year the students elect their own band officers and student leaders from among the ranks of juniors and seniors. This also applies to the band front.

### A4. National Organizations

The Marching Knights participate in events sponsored by the following national organizations. These organizations guarantee consistency, fairness, and quality.

#### A4.1. US Scholastic Band Association (USSBA) (<http://www.yea.org/ussba>)

The USSBA is a music support organization that services over 300 participating units. During the 2005 fall season they sponsored over 100 local and regional shows in New England, the Mid-Atlantic States, and Florida. The USSBA was formed to provide educational, exciting, and positive performance opportunities for high school marching band students. The USSBA has been the primary circuit for the Marching Knights for many years, having won this organization's Group V and VI ("the largest bands") championships for the last nine years. This year the Marching Knights will compete in several USSBA events including the All-States and Nationals Championships in Maryland. In addition, our own *Knight of Sound* is held under the auspices of the USSBA.

#### A4.2. Bands of America (BOA) (<http://www.bands.org>)

BOA has been in existence for 26 years. Its stated mission is "to support the development of self worth in every participant in the band activity - performers, teachers, parents and community - through a series of internationally acclaimed events. BOA focuses on individual character building, self-discipline, leadership qualities and the fostering of our American value system." Each year more than 70,000 teenagers participate in more than twenty-five BOA events nationwide. This year the Marching Knights will compete at a BOA Regional Championship at Towson University, Maryland on October 21.

#### A4.3. Tournament of Bands (TOB) (<http://www.tob.org>)

The TOB is one of the largest competitive band organizations in the country. Founded in 1972 by the National Judges Association, TOB has grown to over 400 active schools and provides performance opportunities in field band, indoor guard, majorette, percussion and dance team as well as comprehensive festivals

with instrumental and choral events. TOB sanctions approximately 140 field band events, about 100 indoor events and several comprehensive music festivals each year. On any given Saturday night in the fall, the TOB will have from 12 to 18 field band competitions providing the opportunity for hundreds of Marching Bands to participate in its competitive arena. The Marching Knights do not have any TOB events scheduled for 2006.

#### A4.4 Cavalcade of Bands (<http://www.cavalcadeofbands.com>)

The Cavalcade of Bands is a non-profit organization composed of member schools coming together to compete on the interscholastic level. The motto of Cavalcade is "Education through Musical Involvement." It is our firm belief that controlled competition can be a positive educational tool wherein the processes of music education can greatly enhance general education and life skills. The Cavalcade provides competitive opportunities with marching band field competitions in the fall and indoor guard, twirlers, and drum line competitions in the winter months. Non-competitive Jazz Band activities also occur in the winter. Member schools sponsor shows and championship contests are held at the conclusion of the season. Having won the Cavalcade of Bands championship 13 times, the Marching Knights have not competed in a Cavalcade event for several years.

#### A5. Functions

The Marching Knights perform at a variety of functions:

- Band Competitions
- Exhibitions
- Football Games
- Parades
- Community Events
- Special Trips

#### A6. Band Competitions

Each year the director and staff members select a different theme and design a new show. The show is both an auditory and a visual experience. It is intended to entertain the audience while at the same time demonstrating precision, balance, and clarity. Many of the competitions are in southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland while a few are held in other states. The USSBA, BOA, TOB, and Cavalcade each provide qualified judges who evaluate the performances of different bands based on pre-determined scoring systems. Trophies are awarded for a variety of categories.

Bands compete with one another in groups according to their size and talent level. In USSBA they compete in Group VI, and in BOA they compete in Class AAA. This means that we usually compete near the end of most competitions. ***Parents are encouraged***

### ***to attend competitions to support the Marching Knights.***

In October, the band usually travels to the BOA Mid-Atlantic Regional Championships. This year it will be held at Towson University, Towson, MD and is an all-day affair with a preliminary competition during the day and finals in the evening. Souvenirs will be offered for sale, such as patches, pins, tee shirts, etc. You can also purchase professional photographs and videotapes of the actual competition.

In early November, the Knights will travel to Allentown, PA for the USSBA Group VI Championships. This is an annual competition between some of the top bands in the northeast from all classes. This competition usually runs late into the night. Souvenirs will be offered for sale, such as patches, pins, tee shirts, etc. You can also purchase professional photographs and videotapes of the actual competition.

### **A7. Exhibitions**

On certain occasions, the band performs in exhibition rather than competition. This means that even though they may be at a sanctioned venue they perform their normal routine simply for the enjoyment of the audience, without being judged.

#### **A 7.1. Knight of Sound**

On September 16, the North Penn Marching Knights will host a USSBA competition at our own Crawford Stadium. This is a major fundraising event for the Music Aides. Tickets will be sold to the general public. As hosts, we will be performing in exhibition only. This is a great chance to see many of the better local and regional bands. A special program book will be prepared that makes a great keepsake! You are invited to purchase parent advertisements that support your NPMK for inclusion in the program book.

#### **A 7.2. Community Night with the Knights**

Community Night, held each year at Crawford Stadium, is a free exhibition that the middle school bands and the NPMKs put on for the North Penn community in late October in order to show appreciation for their support, and to allow community members to reciprocate. The Marching Knights will introduce the staff and demonstrate how the show was designed and rehearsed. It is a great time for all concerned to celebrate the marching season just past. Family, friends and neighbors are invited to attend.

#### **A7.3. May Fair**

The May Fair is an event that the Music Aides sponsor on the first Saturday of each May at NPHS. It is conducted to raise money and to showcase many of the student musical groups from the entire North Penn School District. There are refreshments, games, and a plant sale. There is also a silent auction of NPMK

memorabilia and items donated by local businesses. During the day, various groups (Marching Knights, Lab Band, Jazz Band, and sometimes Middle and Elementary School Bands) perform.

#### A8. Football Games

Barring unusual circumstances, the band will perform at all North Penn Knights football games. They usually take the field before the start of the game for home contests and they normally perform during half time for away games. For the duration of the game, the Marching Knights will sit in a designated area of the bleachers to cheer and play "rah-rah" music.

Note: The students will probably want to bring a cushion or blanket to sit upon. Besides adding comfort and warmth, these items protect the uniforms from rough bleacher surfaces.

#### A9. Parades

The band and color guard normally march in several parades each year. These include two parades in Lansdale: The Mardi Gras Parade in November and the Memorial Day Parade in May. The Marching Knights have also been regular participants in the New Holland (PA) parade in September.

#### A10. Community Events

Occasionally the North Penn Marching Knights are requested to play patriotic music at local events. These are called "standstill performances". Recent examples have been the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the North Penn School District and the dedication of a new school building.

#### A11. Special Trips

The Marching Knights usually take a major trip every third year. In past years these trips have been to Florida to compete in BOA regional championships (2000 & 2003) and Arizona to compete at the Fiesta Bowl championship (1997). This gives each student a chance to travel at least once during his or her tenure with the Marching Knights. Trip expenses are the responsibility of each individual student, although they will have numerous opportunities to engage in fundraising for their trip. Families are also welcome to go along at their own expense. The next trip is planned to the BOA Super Regional in Atlanta, GA on October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### A12. General Calendar

Preliminary band practices start in the spring and end in July. There is usually a mini-camp in June. Attendance at these early sessions is strongly encouraged so that the students can get a head start on their routines. The main marching season extends

from mid-August until about the end of November (unless the football team goes deep into the playoffs, or unless a special trip is planned). Traditionally, there is a football game between North Penn and Lansdale Catholic on the morning of Thanksgiving Day unless one of the teams is in the playoffs. There will be other events for the marching band throughout the school year, including a couple of exhibitions in May. The final event is usually the Lansdale Memorial Day Parade.

#### A13. Schedules

Calendars are issued at the beginning of each month. These are subject to change, as more information becomes known. A bulletin with a detailed schedule is issued at the beginning of each week during school. Supplemental notices are given to the students as necessary. Many of the schedules are also distributed via e-mail to the parent and student addresses on file.

#### A14. Meet the Director Night/NPMK Parent Forum

One night in the summer Band Director Bryan Clayton will conduct a meeting at the North Penn High School in order to answer questions and prepare everyone for the upcoming season. **It is important that at least one parent/guardian attend this event. This year the meeting is scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup> in the NPHS Auditorium. During this meeting, NPMA representatives review the organization and ask for parents to get involved in the various activities that support our band. Fundraising is an important part of this organization. Funds help support our excellent staff and pay all competition entrance fees.**

#### A15. Band Camp

During the last two full weeks of summer vacation (i.e., the two weeks before Labor Day weekend) there will be an extended practice camp. Attendance at band camp is absolutely essential. These sessions will be used to teach the students the basics of marching. They will also learn the drill sets to follow for that year's performance.

The camp will be held at the North Penn High School grounds. Practice sessions will generally last the full day. Lunch or dinner for the band members will be served by the Music Aides on most of the days for a small fee. Students should bring additional snacks and plenty of water. It will be hot, so they should dress appropriately and will want to bring sunscreen and a towel. Students must bring a large mouth water bottle which will be refreshed during the lunch break. On one day during band camp, group and individual photographs will be taken in uniform for purchase. A flyer with additional details will be distributed to NPMK members.

#### A16. Typical School Week Routine

For most weeks during the autumn the approximate schedule will look like the following:

Monday:	Practice 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Tuesday:	Practice 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Wednesday:	No Practice
Thursday:	Practice 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Friday:	Football Game 4:30 - 10:30 PM
Saturday:	Practice 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM & Band Competition 6:30 - 11:30 PM
Sunday:	No Practice

#### Notes:

- Different sections may practice at different times.
- Practices and performances may be scheduled on non-school days.
- All practice times are at the discretion of the Band Director.

#### A17. Attendance

Being a Marching Knight requires a high level of commitment and dedication. As you can imagine, once the marching routine is established, it is very difficult to perform well if there are blank spaces. Athletic coaches are able to substitute for injured or missing players---the Marching Knights do not have this option since all members play at every performance! Attendance is expected at all practices and performances unless there is a valid personal reason, such as illness or family emergency. If you are aware in advance of a potential problem, please speak with the Band Director.

#### A18. Non-Band Related Activities

The staff recognizes that there is life outside of marching band. However, new band members should remember that being a Marching Knight will require the same type of effort as is expected by the sports teams, drama groups, cheerleading squads, etc.

##### A18.1. Academic Matters

The band staff understands that academic matters take precedence. They encourage students to stay current with their homework. Students will need to further develop their organizational skills in order to avoid missing practice sessions. The Director will try to make allowances for students who have to take the PSAT and SAT. If possible, please try to avoid signing up for SATs on the days of regional championships.

##### A18.2. Other Extracurricular Activities

Many students still manage to find time to participate in certain other extracurricular activities. Some even have part-time employment. However, regarding his or her overall load, your student will probably want to be selective during the active marching season.

#### A19. Arrivals and Departures

Safety and security are of utmost importance. Almost all events begin and end at North Penn High School. Please be prompt and avoid entering or parking in the lot adjacent to the band room entrance as it becomes quite congested. Many parents form car pools in order to share the drop-off and pick-up responsibilities. If you have to make arrangements to drop off or pick up your student directly at a given event rather than at the High School, you must obtain prior approval from the band director.

**Note: It is illegal to park in the fire lanes on either side of the bus circle. Towamencin Township Police will ticket illegally parked cars. Please do not park in this area. For those students who have driver's licenses, it will be up to you to make sure that they are complying with all Pennsylvania rules and regulations.**

#### A19.1. Drop-Off

The students will be told exactly when and where to report for each activity. They are expected to arrive on time and be ready to go. They should be wearing the proper attire (which often means uniform) and carrying their instruments or other necessary equipment.

#### A19.2. Pick-Up

Please make arrangements to have your student picked up promptly upon the conclusion of each practice and or event. The weekly bulletin will specify the estimated time of arrival (ETA) back at the school after an away event. You should be present at the school before the buses arrive (see Section B6). After a competition, it is customary to turn on your flashers as a sign to welcome back the Marching Knights.

### A20. School Facilities

The Band Room is located in Pod F near the rear of the Auditorium. There is a separate entrance into Pod F off of the small parking lot at the side of the High School. Also in the same area are a locker room where students may store their instruments and two dressing rooms where they can change clothes. A hallway joins all these. Get used to this hallway; you will see plenty of it over the next three years. Most times it will be strewn with book bags and crowded with clamoring teenagers!

### A21. Clothing and Gear

#### A21.1. Practice Gear

It is up to the students to wear appropriate clothing to practice. They should be mindful of the weather, hot or cold. Sneakers are required and they will get well used. It is also a very good idea to bring a large mouth water bottle and towel. Other suggestions include a hat and sunglasses. In order to learn their routines,

students will need a lanyard, folder, binder rings, pencils, and highlighters.

### A21.2. Instruments and Equipment

Certain instruments are provided by the North Penn School District. These include tubas, baritones, bass clarinets, tenor saxophones, baritone saxophones, mellophones, and many percussion and pit instruments. For other types, students are required to use their own instruments. The school district also supplies rifles, sabers, flags, and props for the color guard.

### A21.3. Uniforms

School provides for musicians:	Uniform and helmet
Student provides:	Shirt, socks, shoes (“dinkles”), gloves

School provides for color guard:	Costume
Student provides:	Socks, shoes (“dinkles”), gloves

Note: Dinkles are special shoes for marching and performing. They come in various colors. The band usually wears white, and the color guard usually wears black. These will be ordered as a group before the start of school. Dinkies will need to be cleaned and polished regularly. Students will be measured for uniforms and costumes during the summer. Once a uniform or costume is issued, it is the student's responsibility to care for it for the duration of the year. Instructions for care and cleaning will be issued with the uniforms. The band uniform consists of one coat and two pairs of pants. The pants have different color combinations. Students will be instructed as to which pair of pants to wear to each event. This will dictate the color of their socks. NPMKs must wear a collar-less white shirt with sleeves (long or short) under the jacket. Students are instructed as to how to keep their uniforms and accessories neat and clean right up until the time of a performance.

### A21.4. Inclement Weather Clothing

In case of rain, practices will be held indoors. Actual outdoor events will only be canceled in the case of severe weather (such as hard rain or extreme wind or cold). Otherwise, the show must go on! In the event of light rain or other weather conditions which might harm the uniforms (but not the students), band members are instructed to bring the following items with them: a dark blue water-resistant jacket, long-sleeved white tee or pullover shirt, blue jeans, white socks, and sneakers.

**Note: Special Marching Knights band jackets will be offered for sale before the season starts. Purchase of these is optional, but encouraged.**

### A21.5. Additional Clothing

For comfort on trips, students often like to travel in casual clothing such as shorts, tee shirts, sweat suits, pajamas, etc. It is up to each individual to decide whether they then want to change on the bus. Sometimes they will leave the casual clothing on under their uniforms for warmth. (Note: any undergarments must be such that they do not show through the uniform).

#### A21.6. Garment Bags

Uniforms must be preserved in good condition right up to the time of the performance. Therefore, they must be transported in durable garment bags with hangers. NPMK garment bags will be available for purchase prior to the beginning of the season. A flyer will be distributed with the details. The students may also want to bring a satchel or backpack to carry gloves, money, snacks, water bottles, etc., especially for trips.

### A22. Student Transportation

#### A22.1. Buses

The students are expected to travel on the band buses for out of town events. Yellow buses are provided by the North Penn School District for local and regional events. These are provided at no cost to the student. Charter coaches are used for longer trips. These provide more room and comfort (not to mention rest room facilities). The costs for these buses are divided among the band members. Parent chaperones are present on all buses.

#### A22.2. Cars

Students are not allowed to drive their own cars to events away from the North Penn High School (NPHS), other than possibly to local community performances. Prior permission from the band director is required.

### A23. Indoor Season

For many of the students there is still the possibility of band life after the marching season! Auditions are conducted in November for several winter groups, including:

- Jazz Band
- Lab Band
- Indoor Percussion Ensemble
- Visual Ensemble (Indoor color guard)

## B. NORTH PENN MUSIC AIDES, INC.

### B1. Background

The North Penn Music Aides (NPMA) is a booster organization established in 1973 that has helped the Marching Knights to attain their level of success. The NPMA performs many services such as making props, sewing flags, providing lunches during band camp, and transporting equipment to and from events. They raise funds to hire additional music staff, and to purchase and repair equipment. And, of course, NPMA provides moral support by conducting pep rallies and chartering parent buses to out-of-state competitions. This organization demonstrates the true spirit of "it takes a village to raise a child".

### B2. Membership

All families, friends, alumni, and community residents are welcome to join the NPMA. Dues for 2006-07 are as follows:

Family	\$12
Single	\$ 6
Alumni	\$ 6

### B3. Current Officers and Committee Chairpersons

Please see the list at the front of this guide to see who makes the Music Aides tick.

### B4. Meetings

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the regular general membership meetings. They are *usually* held at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of every month at NPHS (although the schedule can vary!). Check your copy of the official North Penn School District Calendar. Your active participation is greatly appreciated.

### B5. E-mail Newsletter and Web Page

NPMA does its best to keep you informed. They have several mechanisms for supplementing the information that is disseminated by the band staff. The main method is by means of an e-mail newsletter. Individual flyers are also passed out when a special message needs to be publicized. Feel free to get on the list by sending your e-mail address to the current officers.

The official web site of the Marching Knights and Music Aides is:  
<http://www.marchingknights.com>

## B6. Fundraising

Fundraising is an important part of the North Penn Music Aides. Funds pay for quite a few services necessary to support a championship band (i.e. staff, competition fees, insurance, music arrangements, and show props). It is extremely imperative that all students participate in the fundraising activities. We will sell hoagies, candles, pizza kits, cookie dough, entertainment books and host events like the Knight of Sound, May Fair and NPMA Beef and Beverage. We also offer Kohl's cards, e-script with Genuardis, and script with Clemens, Giant and Acme Markets. Please encourage your students to participate when the Fundraising Flyers come home. Every little bit helps the organization. A NPMA representative will be selling Kohl's cards, script and WaWa hoagie coupons during Monday practices and Hospitality Nights.

Our organization also accepts tax-deductible donations and can be matched by certain local employers. Please consider a monetary donation with your company match.

Finally, some companies provide reimbursement to charitable organizations for volunteer hours. Companies like Aetna, Verizon and Rohm and Haas offer dollars for doers which help our organization.

## B7. "The Blue Box "

Notes, forms, checks, envelopes, etc. regarding NPMA business can be deposited in the secure "blue box" located on a table just inside the door of the band room. Officers and chairpersons check this box regularly. **Payments for fundraisers and other items should be made by only by check or money order made payable to "NPMA." The Music Aides will not be responsible for payments made by cash.**

## B8. Band Roster

A directory of the students and their parents is distributed each September. This roster is for internal use only (i.e., for band related business). It should not be distributed to the general public and is not to be used for commercial or advertising purposes.

## B9. Family Picnic

A picnic is usually held on one evening during band camp. This will be another opportunity to meet other parents and get your questions answered before the actual season starts.

## B10. Fundries

This is the cute and clever name given to all the Marching Knight merchandise that will be offered for sale such as mugs, scrunches, pom-poms, and pencils. You will also find tee shirts and sweatshirts. Each year a special "Show Shirt" is offered for sale to NPMKs and their families. The purpose of these Fundries is threefold: they promote

band spirit, they make nice gifts, and they raise money for the organization! The students will be required to purchase and wear a "Practice Shirt" for various band activities.

#### B11. Hospitality Nights

Most Thursday evenings beginning at around 8:00 PM are jumping at the NPHS band parking lot as families and friends of the Marching Knights come out to observe the final practice of the week. Besides observing the band's progress, this is a good chance to meet other parents, buy tickets to competitions or purchase Fundries. It is also a great place to pick up the latest news or get directions to the next event. Donuts and coffee are provided for a small donation. Please plan on joining other parents on Hospitality Nights.

#### B12. Chartered Buses

For the more distant events, NPMA endeavors to charter group buses for band families and other supporters. If enough persons sign up, the buses will be ordered and the cost will be divided between the riders. Payment is required at sign-up. This is also a great way to promote band spirit and meet new friends.

#### B13. Parents' Night

On the last Hospitality Night before the championship competition, parents and siblings take the field at the end of practice to give our version of the show. As the "Marching Knightmares," parents and siblings put on homemade uniforms and play mock instruments. Parents of guard members make flags or sabers out of broomsticks. The goal is to imitate the role of your own child in the show. Since we are already accomplished marchers and musicians, we usually only need about one hour of practice before we are ready to show the students how it should be done! This is goofy, but it is all in good fun---and the students love it! Besides it's a great way to use up those scraps of fabric and pieces of junk hardware lying around your house. Note: We try to keep this a secret from the students, especially the sophomores.

#### B14. Championship Dinner

Each year the Music Aides alumni serve a delicious catered dinner to our Marching Knights to send them off in style to the championship competition. Parents are asked to donate baked goods for dessert. The dinner is held late in the afternoon before the buses depart.

Parents are welcome to observe and extend best wishes as the Marching Knights gobble down their food after a long day of practicing. Earlier in the day, families of the Marching Knights are urged to decorate the inside of the school with special mementos, flowers, balloons, posters, scrapbooks, stuffed animals, and all forms of encouragement. Decorations for the Championship Dinner are a sight to behold! Note:

Again, we try to keep the hoopla as a surprise for sophomores. More information is provided at the NPMA general meeting prior to championships.

#### B15. Band Banquet

This is a really nice family affair usually held on Memorial Day weekend in May, after all seasons are over. Dinner and dancing will be featured. Student awards are also given out. There will be awards and prizes. And it's really neat to see your son or daughter all dressed up!

#### B16. Student Credit

Student credit is the money accumulated by a Marching Knight from participation in selected fund raisers, or by direct cash deposits made to their account. These funds are intended to pay for their expenses incurred during band trips or other band related activities. Three student credit reports will be issued during the year. Any excess funds, up to the amount of cash deposited into an account, may be refunded to the student upon graduation or transferred to a younger sibling in the band.

#### B17. Scholarships

The Music Aides offers the following scholarships to graduating seniors. The Band Director and his staff make award selections.

- Karl A. Thompson Scholarship \$200
- Robin Madtes Memorial Award \$200
- James Morrison Memorial Award \$200
- Stephen E. Frederick Music Award \$200
- Paul Weber Memorial Scholarship \$200

#### B18. Volunteer Opportunities

**In order to keep up the same level of support, new parent volunteers are necessary and welcome. There are many types of tasks available such as helping to sew uniforms, build props, and sell refreshments during football games and serving as a chaperone. Some only involve a few hours of time whereas others involve taking charge of a major activity. Some can be done from home. If you are interested, feel free to attend a meeting or contact an officer. This is a great way to become friends with other Marching Knight parents and make a meaningful contribution to the marching Knights!**

### C. CONCLUSION

Participating in the North Penn Marching Knights program can be challenging, but it is also rewarding. This is one of those cases where dedication and hard work will definitely

pay off. It is an instant opportunity for sophomore students to make close friends, including upperclassmen. Students in the Marching Knights also develop a strong sense of maturity and responsibility and they gain the respect of their peers and teachers. As they progress, many become student leaders. We are sure that you and your student will agree that it is more than a worthwhile experience. Sometimes, it's downright thrilling!

#### D. DISCLAIMER

This handbook does not intend to address any issues involving sign-up requirements, musical skills, course selection, school policy, etc. The Band Director or appropriate school district officials should answer any questions of this type.

We have tried to make the information contained in this handbook is accurate as possible; realizing that changes and new information are always superseding what is contained herein.