



## MARCHING ALUMNI OF BETHUNE-COOKMAN UNIVERSITY

### Vision:

*To be a positive support to Bethune-Cookman University, its band students, and its band alumni.*

### News and Updates

**Dr. Wells and The Marching Wildcats finish the 2022-2023 season and prepare for Summer Band Camp.**



Congratulations to Dr. Wells and The Marching Wildcats as another phenomenal season comes to an end. The Marching Wildcats had plenty of bragging rights this season. It started with the Battle of The Bands in Houston, Texas. The Marching Wildcats were also voted into the Honda Battle of The Bands. The Marching Wildcats outstanding performance, in both events, captured the audience's attention and represented Bethune-Cookman University with high levels of excellency. The Marching Wildcats did not have many home games this year but as usual, The Marching Wildcats presented the homecoming halftime show as the highlight of the year and then ended the marching season, against our Florida rivals, Florida A&M University, at the Annual Florida Classic. Dr. Wells and The Marching Wildcats are now gearing up for the annual high school summer band camp and recruitment for the 2023-2024 Marching Season. Again, congratulations to Dr. Wells, the band staff, and The Marching Wildcats on another successful year. Job well done!

### **2023-2024 MABC Newly Elected Officers will be Charged to their Respective Duties on June 1, 2023**

The Marching Alumni of Bethune-Cookman (MABC) held elections in April of 2023 for the upcoming 2023-2024 fiscal year. The voting process begins with the nomination committee early in January. Any financial member wanting to run for a position can enter their name for elections during the month of April. The actual voting process begins in the month of May and newly and appointed officers take their offices on June 1. We would like to thank all our outgoing board members and executive leadership team for their service in the previous year. The upcoming Board Members are as follows: Hollie K. Henry (Sitting Chair), Terry Hawkins, Mimi Njoroge, Leslie Dennis, Joshua Wiggins, and Oscar Wright. Our Executive Leadership Team is as follows: Dexter Bailey (President), Dennis Murphy (VP), Open (Treasurer), Open (Vice Treasurer), Alonzo Linnen (Corresponding Secretary), and Open (Recording Secretary). There are several chair positions available for the upcoming fiscal year. We are always accepting members to serve on committees as well. Please feel free to sign up for any committee at the following email address [mabcpride@gmail.com](mailto:mabcpride@gmail.com) or on the website page at [www.mabcpride.org](http://www.mabcpride.org). The MABC looks forward to working with you!



**Hollie K. Henry**  
MABC Board Chair

Hello Marching Alumni. I would like to welcome you to our first MABC newsletter. My hope is to give you pertinent information pertaining to our current marching wildcat band and our Marching Alumni. I believe that together, through means of various and mixed communications, we can grow our support efforts for the current band program and our Marching Alumni Band Events. Keep an eye out for our next newsletter for upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you in our next MABC General Body meeting.

Let's Go Wildcats!



**Dexter Bailey**  
MABC President

Greetings from the Executive Committee of the MABC. I find it a great joy to serve as your President. I look forward to the upcoming year. We have a lot of activities forthcoming. I am working closely with Dr. Wells, the band staff, and administration, to keep you informed of the latest events, information, and updates on our current band. This is going to be an exciting season, starting with our B-CU summer band camp.. We will be sharing summer band camp results in our next newsletter and...I hope to see you in our next Monthly Meeting.

Wildcats in the House!



**June 2023**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Start BCU H.S. Summer Band Camp ..... Happy Father's Day!	19	20	21	22	23 End BCU H.S. Summer Band Camp	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

What would Bethune-Cookman football be without the band?

The university's namesake not only saw the importance of athletics as part the institution she founded, but played a major role in the genesis of the band program that has evolved into the "The Marching Wildcats".

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune knew that her college needed a marching band during the early days. And she got some help to get it started from a source that seems a tad far-fetched given the rivalry: the Florida A&M band. You can get back in your chairs, now.

When the first Bethune-Cookman band formed in 1930, it had 30 members. The instruments came from our sister school in Tallahassee. It was a simple continuation of helping each other out: FAMU donated uniforms to help the baseball team get started in 1924 and helped out with football equipment as well.

The Florida A&M-Bethune-Cookman connection has a couple of other bright notes: Congresswoman Carrie Pittman Meek, a former FAMU graduate, the "Kittens" [the Lady Wildcats of that era] to a conference championship before embarking on her political career. And there is the legendary Samuel Berry, a former Marching "100" member who came to B-CC and laid the foundation for today's Marching Wildcats.

Even back in the day, Dr. Bethune appreciated one simple truth...except for one Saturday afternoon in the fall, Rattlers and Wildcats have each other's back.

**Band Alumni**



**Membership Update**

Current Membership — 121

Membership Goal — 300

**Please visit website and register with the MABC to receive the most current information and updates for the Marching Alumni**

After more than 18 years managing Bethune-Cookman University's WRWS-LPFM/WBCC-AM radio stations and serving as the announcer for The Marching Wildcats, adjunct professor Glenn Walker (Left side of Picture) was recently selected as a 2023 Radio and Records "Lifetime Achievement Award" winner in Atlanta GA. The recognition honors radio and music professionals who have dedicated their time to service in the industry and community.

**Each One Reach One**

**Membership Drive Campaign**

The MABC membership goal is to obtain a minimum of 300 financial members. We currently have 121 financial members. If each of these current financial members reach out to one band alumni to register, we will have 242 financial members in which we will be more than halfway to our goal. Each member or individual that register will receive a welcome package. The individual that recruits the most members under his or her name will win a cash prize of \$100. Please don't forget to select the person, during your registration, who reached out to you, so he or she may receive a referral credit. The "Each One Reach One" Campaign will run from June 1, 2023, to August 1, 2023. Please register to begin your race to win the grand Prize!

**Prayer and Memoriam / Wildcat Keeper**

**In Memoriam**

- Chris Smith - Corey J. Bartley
- Dr. Keevin Gillard – Monique Samples -Thompson
- Torris Pollock – Charles E. Todd II
- Rosel Latanyahia Singleton - Austin Torey
- Cameron D. King

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Marching Alumni of Bethune-Cookman University, Inc. is to be a community for former band members of Bethune-Cookman University (Bethune-Cookman College), while supporting the current Bethune-Cookman University band program and its students through service, networking, and giving.

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**We are on the Web [mabcpride.org](http://mabcpride.org)**

*Marching Alumni of Bethune-Cookman* 2 of 2