Written by Betsy Blevins
Thursday, 02 June 2011 09:35 -

May 26, 2011 - The Leonard Tiger Band Boosters and Band Directors organized the annual Band Banquet this past Monday evening. Attendees enjoyed a barbecue dinner, the recognition of several groups for their successes throughout the year, the presentation of awards in both the high school and junior high, the announcement of next year's leadership team (see pictures at left) and a slideshow highlighting the year's activities.

In addition to the students receiving awards, Band Director Jennifer Stidham presented Booster Club President Kyle Brown with a Booster Member of the Year award for his work during the year. A trio of students also presented Jennifer and Matt Stidham with a "night out" basket, complete with movie tickets, restaurant gift card, popcorn, coffee, etc.

"They talk about how we work hard, but they spend a bazillion hours up here, and have no life outside," said Junior April Jones.

"So this is to give them a night out away from the kids," said Senior Jordan Jones, with a giggle.

Stidham concluded the evening with an announcement that the students had all been waiting for - what is on the agenda for next year's marching show. The crowd was pleased to learn that after months of being tugged in several directions, the Stidhams are working with a third party - their neighbor - and having the music written original for the band to coordinate with the theme "This Land". This will be yet another history-making event for the band under the Stidhams direction. "This Land' will feature music of various styles from U.S. locations that are generally traveled to on family vacations, including The Grand Canyon, St. Louis, Mo., New York City, N.Y., and Washington, D.C.

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