



# IN CONCERT

Community Music Groups Working Together

*A Newsletter of Southwestern Pennsylvania Band Partners*

## What Community Band means to me

Volume 6, Issue 4

Fall 2010

By Sarah McElfresh

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In southwestern Pennsylvania there are over 20 different community bands, all are special in their own way and serve their musicians and community in a variety of ways. I was fortunate to play with two community bands in the Pittsburgh area—The East Winds Symphonic Band and the Delmont Concert Band. I played with EWSB for 9 years and with DCB for about 1 and a half. These two bands are very different, yet both are rewarding and enjoyable. This past summer, my family moved out of the Pittsburgh region and in addition to all those things that accompany moving, finding a community band to play with was high on the priority list. And of course we found some groups through various resources and started playing shortly after arriving. So why was finding a community band in our new home just as important as finding the grocery store or library? My guess is those of you who play in a community band know the answer, but I thought I'd share and it helps explain why Southwestern PA Band Partners and this newsletter have been important to me. Now that I have moved, it is unclear if this newsletter and web site will continue. If there are any of you in the region interested in continuing SWPABP please contact me and we'll see what we can do. As for now, I will continue things as I can and I'll share why community band is an important part of my family's life.

Community Band is a place where not only music is made, but friendships are formed. We come together for the love of music, the desire to keep playing our instruments, to entertain audiences, and to find other people looking for the same thing. Sharing the music with an audience brings the relationship with the music and each other to another level.

I started going to community band rehearsals and concerts with my parents (both trumpet players) before I could walk, so band was always a part of my life. I was the banner carrier for parades for a number of years and when able to play trumpet well enough I joined rehearsals. I had started playing baritone in 7th grade and the summer before high school I did not have a school horn and was not quite able to go back to playing trumpet, so did not go to rehearsals once school got out. When one of the tuba players found out why I wasn't playing that summer, he

*Means to me (Continued on page 2)*



## Southwestern PA Community Bands—Updates to the Band Directory

We currently have 25 groups listed in our directory from the Southwestern Pennsylvania region.

**Update:** Somerset County Community Band has a new web address:  
<http://www.somersetcountyband.com/>

***Please check the listing of your group in the online directory to see if it is correct and let us know so we can put a “Verified” on date.***

- See the complete list of Southwestern PA Community Bands at: <http://swpabandpartners.pghfree.net/bands.html>
- To be added to the online directory, send email to [newsletter@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net](mailto:newsletter@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net)

We have an announcements page for those items that come in between the monthly email postings to the mailing list. Check out it out!

**<http://swpabandpartners.pghfree.net/announcements.html>**

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Don't forget to sign up for the monthly email.

Tell your friends so they don't miss upcoming concerts.

To be on our mailing list send email to [swpabandpartners-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:swpabandpartners-subscribe@yahoo.com) with the subject **subscribe**

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## Congratulations

to the **East Winds Symphonic Band** for being selected to perform at the  
2011 Association of Concert Bands Convention  
in Muskegon, Michigan on May 12th.

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*(Continued from page 1) Means to me*

gave me a euphonium—it is the horn I still play today. He wasn't going to let the fact that I didn't have a horn to play keep me from playing with the group when he had a collection of horns that were collecting dust and tarnishing. That is an example of the bond and friendship that is formed in a community band. Now, playing in band is something my husband and I do together, and our children are involved as well. It was my husband who brought me back to band after we got married. Ten years and now 5 bands later, our 2 children come with us to rehearsals and concerts and enjoy being the band's "biggest fans." They have their favorite pieces and concert venues and their own interpretation of the music. I hope that one day they will find the same joy playing in a community band that I do.

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## Combined Calendar of Events for Fall 2010

*As of October 2 , 2010*

<b>October 2010</b>	Sat, 9	7:30pm	Butler County Symphony Orchestra	Butler Area Intermediate High School Auditorium
	Sat, 9	7:30pm	Edgewood Symphony Orchestra	Agnes and Joseph Katz Performing Arts Center Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh
	Sat, 9	8pm	Washington Symphony Orchestra	Trinity High School, Washington
	Sat, 16	7:30pm	Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra	Upper St. Clair High School Theater
	Sun, 24	3pm	North Suburban Symphonic Band	Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Hall
	Sun, 31	2:30pm	East Winds Symphonic Band	Rodef Shalom, Shadyside
<b>November 2010</b>	Sat, 6	7:30pm	Butler County Symphony Orchestra	Butler Area Intermediate High School Auditorium
	Thu, 11	7pm	Blairsville Community Concert Band	Blairsville High School Auditorium
	Fri, 12	8pm	The Pittsburgh Philharmonic	Butler County Community College Succop Theater
	Sat, 13	7pm	The Pittsburgh Philharmonic	North Hills Jr. High School
	Sun, 14	7pm	Jeannette Community Band	Jeannette American Legion
	Sat, 20	8pm	Westmoreland Symphonic Winds	Reichgut Concert Hall, Seton Hill University, Greensburg
<b>December 2010</b>	Fri, 3	7pm	Delmont Concert Band	Redstone Highlands, North Huntingdon
	Sat, 4	7:30pm	Butler County Symphony Orchestra	Butler Area Intermediate High School Auditorium
	Sat, 4	7:30pm	Edgewood Symphony Orchestra	First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood
	Sat, 4	8pm	Washington Symphony Orchestra	Trinity High School, Washington
	Sun, 5	3pm	East Winds Symphonic Band	Franklin Regional Middle School, Murrysville
	Sun, 5	6pm	Delmont Concert Band	Faith United Methodist Church, Delmont
	Mon, 6	7:30pm	East Winds Symphonic Band	Friendship Village, Upper St. Clair
	Fri, 10	8pm	The Pittsburgh Philharmonic	Butler County Community College Succop Theater
	Sat, 11	7pm	The Pittsburgh Philharmonic	North Hills Jr. High School
	Sun, 12	6pm	Delmont Concert Band	Faith United Methodist Church, Delmont
	Sun, 12	3pm	North Suburban Symphonic Band	Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Hall
	Sat, 18	7:30pm	Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra	Upper St. Clair High School Theater
	Sun, 19	7pm	Jeannette Community Band	Jeannette American Legion

Please visit <http://swpabandpartners.pghfree.net/calendar.html> for updates  
 Email [calendar@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net](mailto:calendar@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net) to have concerts added



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Northeast Music Festival

Lake Placid NY ~ November 19-21, 2010

Join the 25th annual Great American Concert Band under the baton of Col. Arnald D. Gabriel, USAF Band (Ret.). Rehearsals begin at 7:00 p.m. on Friday night. All Friday and Saturday rehearsals are held within the Festival headquarters (Lake Placid's High Peaks Resort). The dress rehearsal and afternoon concert on Sunday will be held at the Lake Placid Center for the Arts. Participation in the Great American Community Band is determined by application. For more information: <http://www.northeastmusicfestival.org/> or call 802-657-4063



## Association of Concert Bands

<http://www.acbands.org>

The Association of Concert Bands (ACB) is a national organization dedicated to encouraging and fostering adult community, municipal and civic bands and musicians. Membership has its privileges, with different levels of membership— student (\$15/yr), individual (\$30/yr), family (\$45/yr), life (\$1000), organizational (\$50/yr or \$275/yr), and corporate (\$150/yr). The more expensive type of organizational memberships comes with the BMI/ASCAP Blanket licensing agreement that keeps community bands legal with performance fees. All types of memberships come with a subscription to the Journal, voting privileges, and participation in the annual convention and convention band. The Journal is published three times a year, and includes articles about community bands from across the country; festivals, concerts, band camps, reviews of music and CDs and other topics that would be of interest to a community band musician. For more information, visit the web site .

**Note:** there is a new student membership level—perhaps you know a student you'd want to give a gift membership . Gift memberships are available at all levels.

## Sousa National Community Band

July 8-10, 2011

Naperville, Illinois

Organized by the John Philip Sousa Foundation, the Sousa National Community Band is comprised of individual musicians from around the country who travel to a given location to play a concert in the style of Sousa under the baton of Col. John R. Bourgeois.

For information see: <http://www.sousafoundation.org/> under Projects or send an email to [windband@gmail.com](mailto:windband@gmail.com)



## Music Corner

This section is intended to be a place for conductors and musicians to share information on music new and old that they are playing. If you have something to contribute please email us the information at [newsletter@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net](mailto:newsletter@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net) with "New Music Corner" in the subject line. Please include the title, composer/arranger, publisher and a brief description of the piece.

### James Bond Suite

**Arranger:** Frank Erickson

**Grade:** 4 /Medium

**Publisher:** Alfred Music

Source: <http://www.alfred.com/Products/James-Bond-Suite-Medley--00-BD00777.aspx>

by Sarah McElfresh

This is a piece I recently played for a concert that was movie themed. The James Bond Suite has 4 movements that can be played together or separately. The movements are the James Bond Theme, Live and Let Die, For Your Eyes Only, and Goldfinger.

The attention to dynamics and style are what makes this piece and audience pleaser. The tunes are recognizable those 007 fans and it is an enjoyable piece to play. You have the excitement of the James Bond Theme and Goldfinger offset by the ballad feel of Live and Let Die and For your Eyes only. A Great addition to almost any concert.





## IN CONCERT:

Community Music Groups working together  
*A Newsletters of Southwestern Pennsylvania Band Partners*

Southwestern Pennsylvania Band Partners is dedicated to helping community music groups in the southwestern Pennsylvania Region.

Please visit us online at the address below to learn more or become involved.

<http://swpabandpartners.pghfree.net>

To be on our mailing list send email to [swpabandpartners-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:swpabandpartners-subscribe@yahoo.com) with the subject subscribe

### **Regional Band Web sites**

#### **Aeolian Winds**

<http://www.aeolianwinds.com/>

#### **Allegheny Brass Band**

<http://www.alleghenybrassband.com/>

#### **Armstrong Concert Band**

<http://sites.google.com/site/armconband/>

#### **Blairsville Community Concert Band**

<http://www.bccb.com>

#### **Butler County Symphony**

<http://www.butlersymphony.org/>

#### **Community Band South**

<http://cbs.pghfree.net/>

#### **East Winds Symphonic Band**

<http://www.ewsb.org/>

#### **Edgewood Symphony**

<http://www.edgewoodsymphony.org>

#### **Harmony-Zelienople Community Band**

<http://www.hzcb.org>

#### **Harrisville Community Band**

<http://www.harrisvilleband.com/>

#### **Jeannette Community Band**

<http://www.jcbweb.com/>

#### **Kiski Valley Community Band**

<http://www.kvcband.net>

#### **Kittanning Firemen's Band**

<http://www.kfband.com/>

#### **Lawrence County Community Band**

<http://sites.google.com/site/lccbandsite/>

#### **Metropolitan Symphonic Band**

<http://metrosb.org/>

#### **Musicians Concert Band**

<http://www.musiciansconcertband.com/>

#### **North Suburban Symphonic Band**

<http://www.nssband.org/>

#### **Penn Trafford Community Band**

<http://www.ptcommunityband.org/>

#### **Pine Creek Community Band**

<http://www.pinecreekband.com/>

#### **Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra**

<http://www.artsnet.org/pco/>

#### **Pittsburgh Philharmonic**

<http://pghphil.org/>

#### **Scottdale Concert Band**

<http://www.scottdaleband.com/>

#### **Somerset County Community Band**

<http://www.somersetcountyband.com/index.html>

#### **West Hills Symphonic Band**

<http://www.whsb.org/>

#### **Westmoreland Symphonic Winds**

<http://www.wswinds.org/>

## Contributing to the newsletter

Everyone is welcome to contribute an article to the newsletter. The topic is up to you—something you think your fellow musicians would be interested in.

Just email your article to:

[newsletter@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net](mailto:newsletter@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net)

For additions to the web site email:

[info@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net](mailto:info@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net)

## In the next newsletter

- This might be the last SWPABP Newsletter. The future is uncertain at this time.
- Please send us information on new music for the new music corner.
- Please let us know the interesting things your group is doing

### Editor

Sarah McElfresh