



IN CONCERT

Community Music Groups Working Together

A Newsletter of Southwestern Pennsylvania Band Partners

The Musicians Concert Band

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By Mr. Blasé S. Scarnatti.
from Website (<http://www.tmcband.com/thoughts.html>)
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Today, community bands in America continue to provide one of the most important on-going sources of musical self-expression for thousands of talented performers, as well as a vital, exciting kind of entertainment for their listeners. This rich tradition of amateur music making is not only maintaining its strength, a force which reached its peak in the 1920's and 1930's, but has grown and is still growing at a phenomenal pace in the years since 1970.

The Musicians' Concert Band began in 1986 with just 35 members. Under the leadership of Blase S. Scarnati and Michael C. Formeck, it grew to its present membership of more than 90 players and has maintained a large symphonic strength ever since. Sponsorship has been shared for the first eight seasons by Slippery Rock University and the American Federation of Musicians Union, Local 188. In 1993 Local 188 was dissolved leaving Slippery Rock University as the sole sponsor. Slippery Rock University, beginning with the 1999 Summer Series, now sponsors in-part.

The Musicians' Concert band performers come from communities within Butler, Beaver, Mercer, Lawrence, Clarion, Washington, Cambria, Armstrong, Allegheny and Westmoreland counties in Pennsylvania. They are adult, trained musicians who are volunteers, giving their time and talents to make music. Music teachers, former college/university musicians and professional musicians make up a roster that also includes many people who pursue an occupation outside music. The group is a unique blend of these outstanding skills and varied backgrounds. Their motto: "A Commitment to Excellent Music."

In 1992, the band was approved and incorporated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a non-profit organization. The band maintains a board of directors, by-laws, officers, and pledges to make the best possible music for itself and for its listeners, reaffirming its pride in the communities it represents and the talent and strength of its people.

The Musicians Concert Band is currently led by Mr. Jeff Kroner as Conductor and Mr. Lew Kroner as Associate Conductor

For more information browse our website: www.musiciansconcertband.com or e-mail us at: TMCBand@zoominternet.net



Southwestern PA Community Bands—updates from last issue

There are no new additions at this time. If you know of any bands in our region that are not in the online directory, please let them know about us.

- 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

Concerts on the Diamond in Ligonier: A Tradition

The Ligonier Valley Chamber of Commerce describes the history of concerts on the Ligonier Diamond in the concert series program and is generalized here. The Ligonier Diamond has been a gathering place of residents and travelers for over a century. In the times of the stage-coach, it was a resting spot along the Philadelphia-Pittsburgh Turnpike. It has been said that John Ramsey who owned the land was influenced by town squares from the east and designed the town with the Diamond.

In 1852, the rail road line was completed which led to a decline in stage coach travel thereby changing the use of the diamond. In 1894 the Ligonier Coronet Band built a bandstand as the diamond became more like a park. This bandstand was renovated in the 1920s. During the 1960s the Diamond underwent a major renovation that was initiated by Richard K. Mellon. A new bandstand modeled after the original was built in 1968.

For the past 57 years the Ligonier Valley chamber of Commerce has coordinated the Sunday Evening Band Concert Series. These concerts are funded by concert goers, organizations, and individuals. They also have received a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Grant Program of the Westmoreland County Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Ligonier of the Diamond venue is one in which many of the community bands in the region are fortunate to perform at. The large audience is always appreciative of a good concert whether the weather is cooperating or not. In cases of poor weather the band and as much of the audience that will fit, moves inside to the Town Hall Auditorium. The music is piped outdoors for those who brave the rain. The 2007 Summer Schedule is listed below. All Concerts are Sunday Evenings at 7pm on the Diamond at Ligonier.

May 27th	Ligonier Valley High School Jazz	July 15th	Graham Grubb Band
	/ Laurel Valley Middle / High School Bands	July 22nd	Syria Temple Band
June 3rd	Swing City	July 29th	Allegheny Brass Band
June 10th	Jeannette Community Band	August 5th	East Winds Symphonic Band
June 17th	Blairsville Community Band	August 12th	Community Band South
June 24th	The Moonlighters Band	August 19th	Delmont Area Concert Band
July 1st	Scottdale Area Concert	August 26th	Somerset County Community
July 8th	Kiski Valley Community Band		Band

July 2007	Sun, 1	4pm	East Winds Symphonic Band	CCAC Boyce Auditorium, Monroeville
	Sun, 1	7pm	Kiski Valley Community Band	Kennywood
	Sun, 1	1:30pm	Allegheny Brass Band	Christ Church at Grove Farm, Sewickley, PA
	Sun, 1	10am	Somerset County Concert Band	God & Country Service (Somerset Alliance Church)
	Sun, 1	7:30pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Meyersdale Fourth of July celebration
	Sun, 1	7pm	Scottdale Concert Band	The Diamond at Ligonier
	Wed, 4	7pm	East Winds Symphonic Band	Kennywood
	Wed, 4	6pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Indian Lake Fireworks
	Sat, 7	1pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Acosta Centennial Celebration
	Sun, 8	7pm	Kiski Valley Community Band	The Diamond at Ligonier
	Sun, 8	7pm	Scottdale Concert Band	Scottdale Gazebo
	Tue, 10	7pm	Armstrong Concert Band	West Kittanning Firehall
	Thu, 12	8pm	The Musicians Concert Band	Miller Auditorium, Slippery Rock University
	Fri, 13	7pm	Blairsville Community Concert Band	Marion Center
	Sun, 15		Community Band South	Bethel Park Community Center, Bethel Park
	Sun, 15	3pm	East Winds Symphonic Band	Twin Lakes Park, Westmoreland County
	Sun, 15	7pm	Armstrong Concert Band	Concordia Concert, Cabot PA
	Sun, 15	7pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Hooversville Historical Society concert
	Sun, 22	2pm	Scottdale Concert Band	Beth Ann Nursing Home, Ligonier, PA
	Sun, 22	3:30pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Somerfest (Laurel Arts/Dressler Center)
	Tue, 24	7pm	Armstrong Concert Band	Crooked Creek Lake Park Ford City
	Thu, 26	8pm	The Musicians Concert Band	Miller Auditorium, Slippery Rock University
	Thu, 26		West Hills Symphonic Band	Oakdale
	Sat, 28	7pm	Armstrong Concert Band	Ford Cliff Boro Building
	Sun, 29	7pm	Allegheny Brass Band	The Diamond at Ligonier
	Sun, 29	5pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Roxbury Band Shell (Johnstown)
Sun, 29		Blairsville Community Concert Band	Saints Simon and Jude Church Festival	
Aug. 2007	Fri, 3	8pm	Allegheny Brass Band	St. Alexis Church Festival, Wexford, PA
	Sat, 4	7pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Shanksville Community Picnic
	Sun, 5	7pm	East Winds Symphonic Band	The Diamond at Ligonier
	Sun, 5	3:30pm	Allegheny Brass Band	Bethel Park, PA, Community Center
	Sun, 5	10:30am	Aeolian Winds of Pittsburgh	Bach, Beethoven, & Brunch, Mellon Park, Pittsburgh
	Thu, 9	8pm	The Musicians Concert Band	Miller Auditorium, Slippery Rock University
	Thu, 9	8pm	Allegheny Brass Band	Cranberry Township (PA) Park
	Sun, 12	7pm	Community Band South	The Diamond at Ligonier
	Sun, 12	1pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Central City Heritage Festival
	Sat, 18	8pm	Edgewood Symphony Orchestra	Edgewood Community Days, Koenig Field, Edgewood
	Sat, 18	6pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Hidden Valley Homeowners
	Sat, 18	11:30am	Blairsville Community Concert Band	Diamond Days
	Sat, 18	8pm	Edgewood Symphony Orchestra	Koenig Field, Edgewood
	Sun, 19	10am	Somerset County Concert Band	Trinity Lutheran Church (Somerset)
	Sun, 19	7pm	Scottdale Concert Band	Loucks Park, Scottdale, PA
	Sun, 19	7pm	Delmont Concert Band	The Diamond at Ligonier
	Thu, 23	6:30pm	Blairsville Community Concert Band	Blairsville Community Center Park
	Fri, 24	7:30pm	Allegheny Brass Band	Moon Township (PA) Park
	Sat, 25		Community Band South	John McMillan Presbyterian Church
	Sun, 26	7pm	Somerset County Concert Band	The Diamond at Ligonier



New Music Corner

This section is intended to be a place for conductors and musicians to share information on new music they are playing. If you have something to contribute please email us the information at newsletter@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net. Please include the title, composer/arranger, publisher and a brief description of the piece. Your description might include things like difficulty, instrumentation strengths requirements, style, etc.

Noisy Wheels of Joy

Eric Whitacre

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Provided by Susan Sands, East Winds Symphonic Band

"Noisy Wheels of Joy" provides the opportunity for individual players and sections to shine as motives and themes are tossed playfully throughout sections of the band. The use of different instrument timbres, including an assortment of percussion instruments, soprano sax and celeste, adds to the non-stop zany excitement. "Noisy Wheels of Joy" is written in a conventional form with a comic opera overture style that employs three main themes: love, adventure, and buffo. Commissioned by The Band Composers Masterworks Consortium, "Noisy Wheels of Joy" was premiered by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Wind Symphony with Mr. Tad Suzuki conducting on March 8th, 2001 at the American Bandmasters Association National Convention. Although there are many challenges to the ensemble playing, "Noisy Wheels of Joy" is worth the effort in the rewarding responses from the players and the audience.

Combined Calendar of Events

Continued from page 3 ~ As of June 26, 2007

Sept. 2007	Sat, 8	7:30pm	Allegheny Brass Band	McCandless Township Community Day
	Sun, 9	3pm	Allegheny Brass Band	Saxonburg (PA) Arts Festival
	Sun, 9	1pm 2:30pm	Edgewood Symphony Orchestra	A Fair in the Park, Mellon Park, Pittsburgh
	Tue, 11		Somerset County Concert Band	Flight 93 Memorial Service
	Sat, 15	3pm	Scottsdale Concert Band	Geyer Theater, Scottsdale, PA
	Sun, 16	1pm	Kiski Valley Community Band	Freeport Gazebo
	Thu, 27		Aeolian Winds of Pittsburgh	HEARTH benefit, National Aviary, Pittsburgh
	Sat, 29		Scottsdale Concert Band	Dunbar, PA Community Festival
	Sun, 30	2:30pm	Somerset County Concert Band	Whiskey Rebellion (Berlin)

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



IN CONCERT:

Community Music Groups working together

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 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://www.geocities.com/armconband>

Blairsville Community Concert Band

<http://www.bccb.com>

Butler County Symphony

<http://www.butlerarts.org/symphony/>

Community Band South

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

East Winds Symphonic Band

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

Edgewood Symphony

<http://www.edgewoodssymphony.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.kvcb.net>

Kittanning Firemen's Band

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

Musicians Concert Band

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

North Pittsburgh Philharmonic

<http://www.northpghphilharmonic.org>

North Suburban Symphonic Band

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

Pine Creek Community Band

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

Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra

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

Resurrection Band

<http://www.boro.zelienople.pa.us/band.htm>

Scottdale Concert Band

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

Somerset County Community Band

<http://www.somersetcounty.com/band>

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

For additions to the web site email:

info@swpabandpartners.pghfree.net

In the next newsletter

- Profile of the Blairsville Community Concert Band
- Please send us information on new music for the new music corner.

Editors

Sarah McElfresh, East Winds Symphonic Band

Scott McElfresh, East Winds Symphonic Band

Kathy Wikowski, Allegheny Brass Band, North Suburban Symphonic Band