



# IN CONCERT

Community Music Groups Working Together

*A Newsletter of Southwestern Pennsylvania Band Partners*

## Allegheny Brass Band



Volume 5, Issue 1

Winter 2009

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by Dave Molter

from web site <http://www.alleghenybrassband.com/pages/history.htm>

With permission from Paul Gerlach

some edits/additions by Sarah McElfresh

The Allegheny Brass Band celebrates 25 years in 2008! In April of 1983, about 30 amateur brass players from the Pittsburgh area gathered together to participate in a movement that was quickly sweeping the United States: the Brass Band movement, based on the British-style brass bands. Under the direction of conductor John Culp, the ensemble presented a concert featuring American marches, British folk songs, and everything in between.

From that initial group of players was formed the North Hills Brass Band with John Culp as its newly appointed Music Director. In 1987 the band changed its name to the Allegheny Brass Band to reflect the larger area which the band served. The band has traditionally drawn its members from among the finest brass players in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Professional musicians sit side by side with accountants, teachers, and businesspeople to perform the great works for brass band.

In its 20-plus year history, the Allegheny Brass Band has performed for thousands of fans in the Western Pennsylvania area and throughout the United States. Under the leadership of conductor John Culp, the band won awards in competition and praise from critics and audiences alike.

In 1994, the ABB accepted an invitation from the Royal Bermuda Regiment to present a series of 4 concerts on the island of Bermuda. Under the direction of then-assistant conductor Keith Johnston, the ABB performed for standing-room-only crowds, concluding its tour with a special concert in the capital city of Hamilton for over 5,000 people. At the end of the 1995 season, John Culp announced his intent to step down as Music Director and the board appointed Frank Farina conductor while they began an intensive search which concluded in 1996 with the appointment of Johnston. In 1996, the band also performed in China at the invitation of the Chinese government.

After Johnston accepted a position with the Syracuse (NY) Symphony, the band needed to look no further than its own cornet section for its next -- and current -- Music Director, Paul Gerlach, a lifelong musician who currently also directs the Kiltie Band at Carnegie-Mellon University and is Artist/Lecturer in their Department of Music.



### Southwestern PA Community Bands—updates from last issue

Below are some recent updates to the directory. If you are aware of community bands in the region that are not yet in the online directory please let them know about us. We currently have 23 groups listed in our directory from the Southwestern Pennsylvania region.

Westmoreland Symphonic Winds  
http://www.wswinds.org  
Dr. Jason Worzbyt, Music Director and Conductor  
Michelle Walters, Manager  
724-830-1079  
walters@setonhill.edu  
Concert Band in residence at Seton Hill University.

Blairsville Community Concert Band  
http://www.bccb.com  
Dave Brozeski, Musical Director  
dave@brozeskimusic.com  
724-459-8340  
Joe Profeta, Band President  
111 Wallace Rd Blairsville, PA 15717  
724-459-0108  
joe\_pro@comcast.net

- 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)

### Band Birthdays in 2009

Harmony-Zelienople Community Band ~10  
 Somerset County Community Band ~ 20  
 Allegheny Brass Band ~ 25  
 Armstrong Community Band ~ 25  
 South Hills Community Concert Band ~70  
 TriCounty Band ~ 70



*(Continued from page 1) Allegheny Brass Band*

With a solid core of charter members as well as dedicated new recruits, the Allegheny Brass Band continues to delight audiences of all ages. The band plays a regular concert series in the Greater Pittsburgh area between late fall and early spring of each year and during the summer months plays at community music series, special events, and private affairs.

In the tradition of the British brass bands that inspired it, the ABB performs many styles of music - symphonic to opera, popular music from the Big Band era, selections from the Beatles through Broadway, movie and stage hits, plus the best new works for brass band from contemporary composers such as Philip Sparke, Stephen Bulla and William Himes.

The Allegheny Brass Band also educates viewers of its web site about the differences you will see when watching the British-style Brass Band concert versus a more traditional American Band

*(Continued on page 3) Allegheny Brass Band*



*(Continued from page 2) Allegheny Brass Band*

Concert. Some highlights of that are presented here. Visit their web site at <http://www.alleghenybrassband.com/> for a more detailed explanation.

So what does "British-style" mean?

The first important difference is that the musicians (aside from our percussionists) play brass instruments only. That is, unlike your typical high school or college band and most "community" bands, we have no woodwinds (saxophone, clarinet, bassoon, flute, oboe).

However, there are other American brass-only bands that still are not true, British-style brass bands. Why?

Instrumentation:

cornets (rather than trumpets); Eb "tenor" horns (rather than French horns); "British baritones" (which look like a larger tenor horn); one Eb cornet; one flugelhorn; trombones; Eb and BBb basses; and percussion.

Visit their web site at <http://www.alleghenybrassband.com/> for more information, music clips, and join their mailing list.

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## **YouTube and Community Bands: Part 1**

By Sarah McElfresh

A recent *Making Music* magazine article about learning to play guitar using YouTube clips got me to thinking about how I use YouTube as a community band musician. I mainly use YouTube to go listen to some other group performing a piece that my band is currently working on. This then got me wondering about how community bands are using YouTube. Back in September 2008, a quick search on YouTube with the search phrases "Community Band" "Civic Band" "County Band" and "Municipal Band" yielded over 900 videos. This does not include all the videos that are entered by the name of the piece being played or all the other common ending of names for community bands. So there are lots of videos posted, but what if any is the intent behind them?

Curious to know the answer to this question, I posted it to the Community-Music Group. I asked the following of the CM readers: 1) Who are posting these videos? Is it the "band"? Members of the band? Audience members? 2) Are these video clips being used for promotion of the group for new venues? for sponsors? for recruitment? for new audience members? 3) What are the concerns over the mechanical rights of these video clips? 4) Are bands linking to these videos from their web sites? or using them in other ways?

*To see the full thread, start at <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/c-m/message/15819> you need to be a subscriber to the Community Music yahoo group.*

I received a handful of responses regarding an individuals band's video online, as well as other who were concerned (or not) about the mechanical rights, and what are some of the distinctions that need to (or might) be made regarding broadcasting online and selling a CD. One of the main things of interest from

*(Continued on page 4) YouTube*



# Combined Calendar of Events for Winter 2008

As of December 29, 2008

<b>Jan '09</b>	Sat, 31	7:30pm	Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra	Upper St. Clair High School Theatre
<b>February 2009</b>	Sat, 14	10:30am	Aeolian Winds of Pittsburgh	Giant Eagle Market District, Shadyside
	Sat, 14	2pm	Aeolian Winds of Pittsburgh	Giant Eagle Market District, South Hills
	Sat, 14	7:30pm	Butler County Symphony Orchestra	Butler Area Intermediate High School Auditorium
	Sat, 14		Washington Symphony Orchestra	Trinity High School, Washington
<b>March 2009</b>	Sat, 7	8pm	Westmoreland Symphonic Winds	Cecilan Hall, Seton Hill University
	Sat, 14	7:30pm	Butler County Symphony Orchestra	Butler Area Intermediate High School Auditorium
	Sat, 14	7:30pm	Edgewood Symphony Orchestra	Katz Performing Arts Center Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh
	Fri, 20	7pm	The Pittsburgh Philharmonic	Chartiers Valley High School
	Sat, 21	7pm	The Pittsburgh Philharmonic	North Hills. Jr. High Auditorium
	Sun, 22		Washington Symphony Orchestra	Trinity High School, Washington
	Sat, 28	7:30pm	Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra	Upper St. Clair High School Theatre
Sun, 29		Harmony-Zelienople Comm. Band	Seneca Valley Intermediate School, Harmony	

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

(Continued from page 3) YouTube

the responses I received about individual bands, is that none of the video's were posted with permission of the band. One music director noted that "the performance *wasn't* too awful, AND the piece was public domain." The fact that the piece was in the public domain eliminated one concern that all of the other bands had about mechanical rights. These bands all have their ASCAP/BMI licenses so they were legally allowed to perform the piece, but none of them had acquired the recording rights. So what are the ramifications of their music being on YouTube? The answer is unclear in many ways.

One of the responders on CM who is more versed in legal and historical issues answered my question with respect to those concerns. He noted that the mechanical rights versus broadcast rights is still under debate in the courts and depending on the eventual rulings all who post copyrighted material are in danger of paying fines. He also mentioned an issue that did not occur to me, permission of the individual musician to have their image broadcast for profit. If one person does not sign a waiver allowing their image to be used; the video has to be shot without their image, or not used at all. As he pointed out, while the individual poster may not be posting it for profit, YouTube makes a profit from every video posted and viewed. His final commentary was clear – check with an attorney regarding all releases.

With regards to some of the other questions asked no one was using the video to seek sponsors or for recruitment. Some thought these videos could be used effectively for this purpose if all rights were properly acquired. Another mentioned that they feared the videos could be detrimental for recruitment and potential venues as their band has drastically changed musically since the video was shot. Another person noted that promotion is precisely the reason young bands are using YouTube, commenting that these bands have done quite well using YouTube and MP3 sites for original music and rising to world wide fame. So, if a community band wished to use YouTube for promotion and recruitment, there is precedent, although as noted above you will want to make sure you have permission of all musicians and have the rights to post

(Continued on page 5) YouTube



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the video.

In the coming newsletters, we will delve into the legal issues. As none of us our lawyers, we will be summarizing some of the references to give raise some of the issues for you to consider. We will also look at podcasting.

Sources:

Discussion from Community Music list: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/c-m/message/15819>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Three Rivers Community Band Festival Festival Band Registration open for 2009 Festival

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Three Rivers Community Band Festival will be held May 2, 2009, at Upper St. Clair High School There will again be a "Festival Band" which will allow a larger number of area musicians to participate in the festival. The band will rehearse on the morning of the festival with guest conductor, Elisabeth Heath-Charles and then perform selected pieces during the afternoon concert. For more information and application materials, please visit: <http://www.ewsb.org/festival>



## The 2009 Sousa National Community Band - July 10-12, 2009 New Orleans, Louisiana

Join us in "The Big Easy" for the inaugural Sousa National Community Band. New Orleans is making remarkable progress in re-building and you can do your part by bringing your talent and your tourist dollars to one of the great historic cities of the United States. Come join a world-class conductor and talented musicians from around the country for a great weekend of music making. The band will be conducted by Colonel John R. Bourgeois, USMC (Ret.), former director of the United States Marine Band, "The President's Own."

The Sousa National Community Band registration fee is \$60.00.

**More information:** <http://www.sousafoundation.org/Sousa-National-Community-Band.htm>

**Further inquiries may be directed to:** Gerald Guilbeaux [windband@bellsouth.net](mailto:windband@bellsouth.net)



## 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](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.

For the end of 2008, we will present a list of some relatively new music by previously featured composers.

### **Sounds of the Saint Lawrence - A Quebec**

#### **Folk Song Suite**

*Composer:* Philip Sparke

*Published:* 2008

*Grade:* 4

*Performance time:* 12:00

*Publisher:* Anglo Music Press

*Philip Sparke's web site:*

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

*Publisher's web site:*

[http://www.philipsparke.com/anglo\\_music1.htm](http://www.philipsparke.com/anglo_music1.htm)

### **Into The Joy Of Spring**

*Composer:* James Swearingen

*Published:* 2001

*Grade:* 4

*Performance Time:* 6:13

*Publisher:* C L Barnhouse

*James Swearingen's web site:*

<http://www.jamesswearingen.com>

*Publisher's web site:*

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

### **Rush**

*Composer:* Samuel R. Hazo

*Published:* 2006

*Grade:* 5

*Performance Time:* 3:35

*Publisher:* Hal Leonard

*Samuel Hazo's web site:*

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

*Publisher's web site:*

<http://www.halleonard.com>

### **Wild Nights**

*Composer:* Frank Ticheli

*Published:* 2007

*Grade:* 4

*Performance Time:* 6:40

*Frank Tichelli's web site:*

<http://www.FrankTicheli.com>

*Publishers web site:*

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

### **Lux Aurumque (Light of Gold)**

*Composer:* Eric Whitacre

*Published:* 2005

*Grade:* 4

*Performance Time:* 5:30

*Publisher:* BCM International.

*Publisher's web site:*

<http://bcminternational.com/>

### **First Light**

*Composer:* Steven Bryant

*Published:* 2007

*Grade:* 5

*Performance time:* 8:30

*Publisher:* BCM International

*Steven Bryant's web site:*

<http://www.stevenbryant.com>

*Publisher's web site:*

<http://bcminternational.com/>



## IN CONCERT:

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*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://www.geocities.com/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/>

#### **Musicians Concert Band**

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

#### **North Pittsburgh Philharmonic**

<http://www.northpghphilharmonic.org>

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

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

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

<http://www.penntownship.biz/PTband>

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

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

#### **Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra**

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

#### **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](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

- Continuing the series on YouTube.
- Please send us information on new music for the new music corner.
- Please let us know the interesting things your group is doing

### Editors

Sarah McElfresh, East Winds Symphonic Band

Scott McElfresh, East Winds Symphonic Band

Kathy Wikowski, Allegheny Brass Band, North Suburban Symphonic Band