



# IN CONCERT

Community Music Groups Working Together

*A Newsletter of Southwestern Pennsylvania Band Partners*

## Kiski Valley Community Band

**Provided by Carol Pinto-Smith  
Secretary, Kiski Valley Community Band**



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The Kiski Valley Community Band was established in 1993 because of the desire of our adult musicians to have an outlet for their musical talent.

Our band consists of musicians ranging from high school students to the over-50 crowd. Members come from many communities in the Kiski Valley region including Vandergrift, Apollo, Leechburg, New Kensington, Lower Burrell, Springdale and Freeport.

Patti Marco, our president and conductor, teaches seventh- and eighth-grade band at Kiski Area Intermediate School, Allegheny Township. A graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, she is co-director of the elementary band and on the staff of the Kiski Area High School marching band.

The Kiski Valley Community Band performs at many community functions during the year including benefit concerts at Christmas and local community festivals.

The next performance of the Kiski Valley Community Band is February, 14 at 2pm at the Pittsburgh Mills Mall in Frazer as part of the HomExpo.

For more information about the band, please visit their website at <http://kvcb.net>





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

Below is a 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 25 groups listed in our directory from the Southwestern Pennsylvania region.

*Updates:*

**West Hills Symphonic Band**

<http://www.whsb.org/>  
Clement Rolin, Conductor  
[clementrolin@comcast.net](mailto:clementrolin@comcast.net).  
Alan Skwarla, President  
[algotatino@verizon.net](mailto:algotatino@verizon.net)  
Karen Koszak, Business Secretary  
[potato45@hotmail.com](mailto:potato45@hotmail.com)  
verified: October 27, 2009

**Scottdale Concert Band**

<http://www.scottdaleband.com>  
A. Warren Shirer, Conductor  
Rhonda Allison, Contact person  
[rallisonspl@yahoo.com](mailto:rallisonspl@yahoo.com)  
Jay Copenhaver, Secondary contact person  
[trptman@gmail.com](mailto:trptman@gmail.com)  
724-887-4425  
Verified: October 21, 2009

**Community Band South**

<http://cbs.pghfree.net/>  
Jim Bennett, Co-Director  
[jimbennett007@Verizon.net](mailto:jimbennett007@Verizon.net)  
Dean Streator, Co-Director  
[deanstreator@comcast.net](mailto:deanstreator@comcast.net)  
412.833.6110  
Verified: October 19, 2009

*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.*

*Thanks*

- 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 2010**

- 10 yrs ~ Blairsville Community Concert Band
- 20 yrs ~ Pine Creek Community Band
- 25 yrs ~ Ohio Valley Community Band
- 30 yrs ~ Resurrection Band
- 45 yrs ~ Harrisville Community Band

Happy  
Birthday!!



We now 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>**

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@yahoogroups.com](mailto:swpabandpartners-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) with the subject **subscribe**



# Officer Descriptions and intro to Bylaws

By Sarah McElfresh

In Volume 4 Issue 1 we looked at what it means to be a 501c3 organization and how to get started in the process of getting that designation for a group. One of the requirements of the application process is to submit a copy of the organization's bylaws. Most of our reading audience are members of already existing bands so we will not get into the creation of a band here. If you are looking to create a new ensemble there are resources available and I would strongly recommend joining the Association of Concert Bands (<http://www.acbands.org>) to have access to their many resources including the Band Builders Manual.

Just as there are many different types of community bands, there are many different organizational structures. This is typically formalized with bylaws. Your organizational structure is also something that your group may revisit from time to time as the band evolves.

Many groups have questions of what should and should not be in their bylaws. How specific should we make job descriptions of our officers and conductors? These are good questions and there are multiple approaches to take. The bylaws can be very detailed and very specific which can be helpful in many situations, but you want to be careful that your bylaws do not restrict activities the group may want to take in the future without having to amend the bylaws.

Here we will start with job descriptions of members of the organization and or board. A first question might be, what positions should we have? The titles and positions below do not come from any single group or are not necessarily common for every group. A web search of "community bands and by laws" will bring you many different examples from which you can draw from in determining what is best for your individual group. Most groups have a board of directors which is made up of the officers of the band (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer). There are other positions which may or may not be members of the board. For example not all conductors are members of the board; the librarian is also commonly not a board level position, but it also not a surprise to see it as such.

## Common Positions

The positions listed below are not intended to be a complete list of possible positions but are the most common, and the job description is intentionally vague to give a basic idea of what a position might entail. A more detailed description would need to come from discussions within the current board or organizing committee of your group to have what makes the most sense for you.

- Conductor (Musical Director)
  - Select music for rehearsals and programs; run rehearsals; evaluate musicians, appoint chairs; appoint section leaders.
- Assistant Conductor (Assistant Musical Director)
  - Assist the conductor (Musical Director) with their duties as determined by the Conductor (Musical Director)
- President
  - Schedule and preside over board meetings; be the spokesperson for the general membership of the band; be the spokesperson to the public for the band.



(Continued from page 3) Job Descriptions

- Vice President
  - Able to step in for the president; assist the president and other officers of the board with their duties
- Treasurer
  - Maintain financial records for the organization; collect dues; prepare financial reports; file appropriate IRS paperwork; pay bills as they are presented.
- Secretary
  - Maintain the record of minutes for board meetings; conduct any necessary correspondence that does not fall under the prevue of another officer; maintain the records of membership
- At Large
  - An elected member of the board that does not hold a particular office who assists in various aspects of the boards duties.
- Stage Manager
  - responsible for storage and transport of all property of the Band to performances
- Concert Manager
  - Responsible for booking concerts for the band; working with concert promoters; arranging all details of concerts run by the band
- Personnel Manager
  - Responsible for the membership of the organization—this has many different possibilities ranging from chair placement to maintaining a roster information; ensuring the membership is aware of rehearsal and concert schedule among others
- Business Manager
  - May be the same as concert manager or may include other financial duties not covered by the treasurer
- Public Relations Manager
  - Responsible for the publicity of the ban through various media outlets and other items which will provide publicity for the band
- Librarian
  - Maintains the records of the music library
- Historian
  - Maintains the historical records of the band, this may include things such as a scrap book.
- Webmaster
  - Maintains the web site for the band; responsible for keeping the web site current.

There are probably many more positions that some groups have as part of their governing or leadership structure. Certain responsibilities may be better suited for a different position depending on the group. As an example, there are some groups where the board selects the music and the conductor has little to no input in that process. As noted above, some duties were listed under multiple positions. There is no single way to run a band, each group is unique; however there are some common things that all groups will need so looking to others for guidance is very helpful.





## Combined Calendar of Events for Winter 2009

As of December 30, 2009

<b>January 2010:</b>	Sat, 30	7:30pm	Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra	Upper St. Clair High School Theatre
<b>February 2010:</b>	Sat, 13	7:30pm	Butler County Symphony Orchestra	Butler Area Intermediate High School Auditorium
	Sat, 13	8pm	Washington Symphony Orchestra	Trinity High School, Washington
	Sun, 14	2pm	Kiski Valley Community Band	Pittsburgh Mills Mall, Frazer
	Sun, 28	3pm	North Suburban Symphonic Band	The Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center
<b>March 2010:</b>	Sat, 13	7:30pm	Edgewood Symphony Orchestra	Agnes and Joseph Katz Performing Arts Center Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh
	Fri, 19	8pm	The Pittsburgh Philharmonic	Butler County Community College Succop Theater
	Sat, 20	7pm	The Pittsburgh Philharmonic	North Hills Junior High School
	Sat, 27	7:30pm	Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra	Upper St. Clair High School Theatre
	Sat, 27	8pm	Westmoreland Symphonic Winds	Seton Hill University's new Performing Arts Center

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



**Three Rivers Community Band Festival**  
**Festival Band Registration open for 2010 Festival**

The 7th Three Rivers Community Band Festival will be held on Saturday May 1, 2010 at Upper St. Clair High School Theatre

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, Denis Colwell and then perform selected pieces during the afternoon concert. Applications should be received by February 15, 2010.

For more information and application materials, please visit: <http://www.ews.org/festival> and click on "Festival Band"



# MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS



## 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—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 or contact Sarah McElfresh, Regional Membership Coordinator for Pennsylvania at [sarahmcfresh@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahmcfresh@yahoo.com).

## Are you interested in an Unwanted Music Swap??



The idea has been presented by the president of one of the bands that we have a music swap. A place to trade original full scores of music that are just taking up space in your music library. Swap those pieces you will never play for one reason or another for something else. Perhaps it is too easy or hard for your group—might be just right for another. Perhaps it is a piece that your band has overplayed—it may be brand new to another. Perhaps you just need to thin out your library. There are many more reasons why you may no longer need or want that piece of music, and it may be a gem for some other group. If you are interested in participating in such an event, please contact Sarah McElfresh at [sarahmcfresh@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahmcfresh@yahoo.com)

Date and location will be set and announced after the schedules of those most interested have been worked out.

## Sousa National Community Band July 9-11, 2010, Las Vegas NV

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.net](mailto:windband@gmail.net)



## 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.

### American Barndance

Composer: Richard L. Saucedo

Published: 2009

Grade: 4

Performance time: 3:35 min

Publisher: Hal Leonard (HL 04002794 )

Hal Leonard web site: <http://www.halleonard.com/product/viewproduct.do?itemid=4002794>

By Sarah McElfresh

The Hal Leonard website describes this piece as "rhythmic and energetic" and I must agree. This work contains contrasts of tempo and style with some familiar music interwoven throughout the piece. As the name suggests it has the feeling of a barn dance while incorporating themes from classical and Broadway music. It starts off quick with the barn dance feel, and then has a humors slant before going into a gentle melodic passage. The second half of the piece gradually picks up the tempo as it races to the end. The entire ensemble is well represented throughout the piece.

The mp3 file is available to listen to at the Hal Leonard site. It is definitely worth a listen. This piece seems suited for any concert venue and audience.

One piece of criteria I have for evaluating music is "Do I like to play it?" I am not a musical director, I sit in the back of the band in the low brass section and play. As such I often have parts that are not terribly exciting, that was true for this piece. However, it was a fun piece to listen to during rehearsal and look for all the hidden themes and therefore I enjoyed playing it. It did take a few rehearsals to get to that point where the piece takes shape and you can understand how things fit together. If your group is one that likes to read through a piece and then vote on whether to keep working on it, you might let this piece go as all the components are not evident at first. In my opinion, It is deserving of that second look.

This piece is a definite audience pleaser.

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## 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://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.kvcb.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.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

- A further look at bylaws
- 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, Delmont Concert Band

Scott McElfresh, East Winds Symphonic Band

Kathy Wikowski, Allegheny Brass Band, North Suburban Symphonic Band