Meet the Band

Meet Fred Hodges who has been playing tenor sax with us since January 2003 and was recently elected Band President (he’s astonished, yet grateful). His real job is dad to 2 dogs, a hamster and fish, and 3 sons - ages 12 (Nathaniel – sax), 8, and 7. He has been married for 17 years and graduated from VT in 1987. He is glad to be back home. He also is pastor at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Christiansburg. He likes to read and do minor home repair and is a long-suffering Redskins fan.

Meet Terry Nicholsen. He has been playing in the band for 2 years. He has 2 grown daughters and a 4-year-old granddaughter. He is director of Smithfield Plantation and likes to restore old homes (like the home he and Terri (clarinet) are restoring in Narrows.)

Happy New Year

Welcome to a new year with the Blacksburg Community Band. While this is only the second time I've been through this wintry cycle preparing for the Spring Concert, I realize others have done it for many seasons. I look forward to clear Wednesdays (and I'm always disappointed when the weather knocks out our rehearsals) so we can play together and share our friendships through music. Please support your officers as we work to support Ed and the Band. Let's work hard and practice hard to make this 15th Anniversary year the best. See you in Band. - Fred

Tax Form

If you itemize your deductions and would like to take advantage of your charitable contributions to the band through your mileage, uniform, and other expenses, watch for an email from Ed in the new few weeks. The form will also be posted under Member Info on the website:

http://arts.bev.net/blacksburgcommunityband
Band Activity Day

Mark your calendar for **Sunday February 15** from 1:00 – 5:00pm for the first band activity day! It will be held at the Blacksburg Recreation Center (Patrick Henry Drive.) **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!** All are welcome (friends, family, or someone off the street). If you haven’t come before, make this your first time to come, share some food and laughs, and help us sort music and prepare for upcoming band events. Please bring a Cajun dish (or just drop by to eat what others have brought!) to share with 10-12 others. Thank You!

Officer Elections

Elections were held in November. Congratulations to the new officers for 2004.

**President:** Fred Hodges (Tenor Sax.)
**Vice President:** Kendra Kohl (Clarinet)
**Secretary:** Kellie Keeling (Oboe)
**Treasurer:** Bill Murphy (Trumpet)
**Members At-Large:**
- Amy Hall (Trombone)
- Alane Homer (Clarinet)
- Mary Walters (Flute)

Announcements

Our 15th Annual Spring Concert will take place on **Saturday, March 27 at 7:00 pm** in the Blacksburg High School Auditorium. Dress for the concert is black pants and a white top. A reception will follow in the cafeteria. Please bring finger foods for the reception. Here is a very tentative program so you can focus your practice on these tunes:

- The Library of Congress March
- Poet and Peasant Overture
- Suite of Old American Dances
- Napoli
- Finale, Symphony No. 2

INTERMISSION

- Tritch Tratch Polka
- Kellie's Song
- Overture in Bb
- My Fair Lady

There are **sectionals scheduled from 7:00-7:30** before band rehearsal in preparation for the spring concert. Please watch for email information or listen for announcements in band about the instruments needed for sectionals each week. Sectionals give Ed a chance to work with sections individually on problem areas in our music and can really help the entire band to sound better, so please try to make your sectionals!

There are **CDs for sale** – only $5!! And – it is us playing! You can’t beat that deal. We have CDs from spring concert 2003, the joint concert with the Watagua County Community Band in August and in November. See Bill Murphy (trumpet) to get your copies today!!

If you are interested in **helping the officers** with **getting ready for the spring concert (or other upcoming concerts)** please see one of the officers. We welcome any and all offers of time!
Music Library
Do you know how much it would cost to replace your band folder? Besides the time involved having to do figure out what was lost, each piece of music costs $1-$3 to replace. So if a folder disappears, it will cost the band about $100!! Please take good care of your folder, sign it out if you take it home, and bring it back each week!

Band Website
If you haven’t yet visited the band website, today is the day you should! There is lots of information about the history of the band, pictures from past performances, and current member information. The schedule of performances is posted as well as driving directions to concerts. So – check it out! http://arts.bev.net/blacksburgcommunityband

Upcoming Events
The Virginia Tech Early Music Ensemble directed by our own John Howell (tuba) will be presenting the Play of Herod on February 22nd at the Blacksburg Presbyterian Church at 3:00. Come and see the choir of angels and the slaughter of the innocents. If you haven’t yet seen a crumhorn, rebec, vielle, or psaltery this year – now is your chance!

SCHEDULE
The Blacksburg Community Band holds rehearsals every Wednesday evening, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. (except for the months of July and August) in the Blacksburg High School band room on Patrick Henry Drive. Note in preparation for the spring concert, there are sectionals from 7:00-7:30. If Montgomery County schools are closed due to weather, then we will not be able to rehearse.

Upcoming Concerts:
Saturday, March 27, 7:00 pm - 15th Annual Spring Concert – BHS Auditorium
Sunday, May 16, 2:30 pm - Mt. Lake Wine Tasting - Mountain Lake
Saturday, May 23, time TBA - Band Community Day Picnic - Nellie’s Cave Park
Monday, May 31, time TBA - Memorial Day Ceremony – Blacksburg
Saturday, July 3, 8:00-9:30pm - Radford Independence Day Celebration
Sunday, July 4, 4:00pm (step-off) - Blacksburg Independence Day Parade
Sunday, July 4, 8:00-9:30pm - Blacksburg Independence Day Celebration
Saturday, August 7, Noon - Steppin’ Out - Blacksburg