Blacksburg Community Band On The Web

The Blacksburg Community Band now sports a detailed Home Page on the World Wide Web (WWW) on the internet. For those of you behind the times, the WWW is a network (like a spider web) of information on just about anything. The Home Page is located on the Blacksburg Electronic Village (BEV) and is accessible to anyone in the world with a connection to the internet and a Web Browser (a computer program to see web pages).

Currently, the New River Arts Council is maintaining the local arts information on the WWW, but Don Hall (Trombone) is quickly learning to take over the helm of the Community Band's page.

Currently, the page consists of pictures of the band throughout the past six years including formal shots and not-so-formal shots of the band on the 4th of July trailer. The text describes the band, who we are, what our mission is, what we play, where we play, and how to join. All suggestions to improve the Home Page will be acted upon with great swiftness.

To view the BEV Home Page go to the following Uniform Resource Locator (URL) <http://www.bev.net/>. The New River Arts Council Home Page is located at <http://www.bev.net/community/NRAC/index.html>. The Blacksburg Community Band Home Page is located at <http://www.bev.net/community/NRAC/perform/bbcband.html>. So, next time you get out and surf the net, take a quick look at your band. Also, if you have friends around the country or around the world, pass along the URL's and let them see your band in action.

From the President

by Keith Fitzgerald

Spring is finally here. With it comes lush green grass, beautiful blossoms, and the Blacksburg Community Band's spring concert. This fact led me to the conclusion that the band is very much like a flowering plant. In each season we act as a plant would in that same season.

In the winter the band germinates in the band room. Like a seed waiting for the thaw to break out and rise victoriously from the once frozen ground, we spend our time in the band room at the high school preparing for the coming spring. This winter, mother nature conspired against us, freezing us out of four rehearsals. However, we rose above this and worked up some very challenging music. We have a wealth of great music ready for the coming season.

The onset of spring brings the first flower on the Blacksburg Community Band tree, our 
(continued in page 2, President)

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spring concert. The seeds we planted last fall are now in full bloom. I have no doubts that the concert will be a wonderful explosion of sound. However, this is also our coming out party since there are many other concerts to follow in the coming months. All these will be more flowers on our tree. Part of this season is also spent in preparation for the next season, summer.

In summer, we bear the fruit of our labors. We play lots of outdoor concerts and many people get to feast their ears on our sweet music. We will again do the Fourth Of July concert as well as many others. This is our time to enjoy both performing and the great weather. Personally, I am looking forward to summer because I want as many people as possible to be able to enjoy our music.

The final season is fall. This is when we plant the seeds of next year's concerts. However, the band has one last blooming season left. In the fall, we are like the Christmas cactus, waiting patiently to brighten everyone's holidays with our music. After these last concerts winter will once again freeze us back to the band room. This starts the cycle once again. Perhaps all the calendars will one day use our concerts to mark the seasons.

BLACKSBURG COMMUNITY BAND
6th ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT

Friday, March 31, 1995, 8:00 P.M.
Blacksburg High School Auditorium

PROGRAM

Ampartio Roca - Jaime Teixidor, arr. Aubrey Winter
English Folk Song Suite - Ralph Vaughn Williams
I. March - “Seventeen Come Sunday”
II. Intermezzo - “My Bonnie Boy”
III. March - “Songs from Somerset”
Mary Keffer - Guest Conductor
Funiculi Funicula - Luigi Denza, arr. Philip J. Lang
Sound of Music Selection for Concert Band - Richard Rodgers, arr. Robert Russell Bennett
Light Cavalry Overture - Franz von Suppé, arr. Henry Fillmore
Lassus Trombone - Henry Fillmore
Colonel Bogey March - Kenneth J. Alford, edited by Frederick Fennell
Dixieland Jam! - arr. Bob Lowden

Band Membership
New Members

TRUMPET  OBOE  Blake Woolard
Laura Collee
FLUTE  BASSOON  Vincent Crespel
Joanna Neumann
Michelle Romanoski  PERCUSSION  Doug Cloud
SAXOPHONE  
Peter Mullen
Karl Sanzenbach
Sixteen Going on Seventeen
from *The Sound of Music*
Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

*Rolf sings to Liesl:*
You are sixteen going on seventeen,
Baby, it's time to think.
Better beware, Be canny and careful,
Baby, you're on the brink.
You are sixteen going on seventeen,
Pellows will fall in line.
Eager young lads and * rouses and cads*
Will offer you food and wine.
Totally unprepared are you
To face a world of men.
Timid and shy and scared are you
Of things beyond your ken.
You need someone older and wiser
Telling you what to do.
I am seventeen going on eighteen,
I'll take care of you.

*Liesl replies to Rolf:*
I am sixteen going on seventeen,
I know that I'm naive.
Fellows I meet may tell me I'm sweet
And willingly I believe.
I am sixteen going on seventeen,
Innocent as a rose.
Bachelor, dandies, drinkers of brandies,
What do I know of those?
Totally unprepared am I
To face a world of men.
Timid and shy and scared am I
Of things beyond my ken.
I need someone older and wiser
Telling me what to do.
You are seventeen going on eighteen,
I'll depend on you.

*debauchee, rake

We Will Never Forget

I marched in Harry Truman's inaugural parade in March 1949 and looked over to see Harry as we marched by. I got 20 demerits as I was in a military band and we had been told not to look. They wore those tall formal black dress hats like you see in movies made in the '30s. We almost froze as it was in the 20's that day and we stood in formation for 2 hours waiting to start. We won 3rd place, which was a disgrace for us as our band had won 1st place many times in the past. (The inauguration used to be held in March and was moved to January when Truman left office in '52.)

Carl Epley - Tubist

The most memorable time I've played was at Montreux Jazz Festival in 1989 with an all-star type big band made up of students from Southeastern universities. (I'm now an alumna of the University of South Carolina.) We played outside on one of the waterfront stages in perfect, not-a-cloud-in-the-sky, 75 degree weather with a backdrop of mountains so high they were capped with snow. The spectators, armed with beach chairs and daiquiris, were jazz fanatics, and they were very vocal about it. They were particularly reverent of us Americans, crediting us with starting the whole jazz movement and praising us youngsters for carrying it on. After we played, we got to hang out in the artist lounge with Miles Davis, Chick Corea, Dizzy Gillespie, Art Blakey, and all the other jazz legends. Needless to say, we felt a little intimidated by the company, but all of us agreed it was a gig of a lifetime.

Jennifer Jablonski -
Community Band absentee saxophonist. I'll be back this summer. Promise.

(Continued, page 4, Memories)
(Memories, continued from page 3)

There are different kinds of memorable! One experience that was strange at the time, but funny to look back on, happened in Istanbul, Turkey. My quartet, The Four Saints, had just gotten started entertaining professionally on the west coast when we ran up against Universal Military Training, and went into the U.S. Air Force Band to serve our hitch. The Air Force paired us with a really excellent young jazz quartet, and sent the 8 of us all over the world for troop entertainment, VIP entertainment, and public relations.

We were a show group, started out singing barbershop harmony and moved on to what was happening in the late 50s (and much later got labeled "vocal jazz"), but we all played brass instruments, one guy played piano, and I played woodwinds and fiddle as well. And from the time we were in high school one of our best numbers was "Buglers' Holiday," which we did very flashy and up-beat.

Well, the tour that took us to Istanbul was in 1958, and all over Europe people were curious and excited about that new American thing, "Rock and Roll." So here were the 8 of us, set up in one corner of a HUMONGOUS sports center in Istanbul, doing our jazz and MORE stuff, and the promoter who announced each number (in Turkish) announced every song as "that new American Rock and Roll hit." Including our big finish, "Buglers' Holiday"!! Probably the first (and last) time it's ever been done as Rock and Roll. (If Leroy Anderson had been dead, he'd have been rolling over in his grave!)

Afterword: They enjoyed our show so much that we were all made honorary members of the Istanbul Police Force, entitling us to retire on a full Turkish policeman's pension—8 cents a month!

John Howell - Horn, etc.

E-Mail From Texas

I just wanted to say hello and let you know that I just saw the web page. I guess the first picture isn't showing up but we did get to see the parade picture. Dirk has a suggestion and that is, to have some music from the band playing. I guess he says that would take up a lot of room.

I miss not being able to play in a group still. I'm very seriously considering taking clarinet lessons from someone at Texas Tech. This would mean that I would HAVE to practice. Right now, practicing would be the last thing I could do with everything else that has to be done. But if you pay for lessons.....

I sure miss everyone and not being able to play. Take care

Grace Baldwin - Founding member

FUNKY WINKERBEAN

NOW THAT I'VE GOTTEN ON THE INTERNET ... I CAN POST MESSAGES AND COMMUNICATE WITH MUSIC EDUCATORS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY!

BY TOM BATIUK

HOW MANY TROMBONISTS DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIGHT BULB?
The Blacksburg Community Band Newsletter

Stork Report

LOOK OUT FOR MR. STORK, HE'S GOT YOU ON HIS LIST. MAYBE HE'S GOT HIS EYE ON YOU!


Mr. Stork has also visited the tuba section. On March 18, Dan and Martha Conway became the proud parents of a son. They named him Paul.

This makes 9 babies from the clarinet section alone and 15 overall from the band.

Stork Score By Year
02-90 Stephanie Thomas (coordinator) Samantha
04-90 Grace Baldwin (clarinet) Gisela-Ann
07-90 Mary Keffer (clarinet) Andrew
07-90 Neal Bataller (clarinet) Henry
12-90 Beth Hulet (alto clarinet) Randall Anders
01-91 Leslie Gregg (trumpet spouse) Evan
04-91 Barbara Self (alto clarinet) Tracy Ann
04-91 Liz Roop (clarinet) Keith
10-91 Neal Bataller (clarinet) William
11-92 Joe Woodward (trumpet) Luke
06-93 Kitty Doss (flute) Kerlin
06-93 Graciela Baldwin (clarinet) Peter
06-93 Jean Shock (trumpet spouse) Robert
12-94 Melanie Rader (clarinet) Hannah
03-95 Martha Conway (tuba spouse) Paul

A Word to the Wise

When Pasquali was a playing in the band, He forgot that he was told to watch the leader's hand. When the band began, Pasquali ran. For he had played his piece without the band. Tweedle Dee Dee Dee

Now he's careful when he's playing in the band. Now he always waits until the leader lifts his hand. When the band begins, Pasquali grins. For now he plays his pieces with the band. Tweedle Dee Dee Dee!

FREE CONCERT

The U.S. Army Brass Band will play a concert at Roanoke College in Salem, VA on Monday, April 3, 1995 at 8:00 p.m.

The Blacksburg Community Band Newsletter Staff

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Distribution - 300
Another Great Band
by Dana Spencer

Walter Howard Loving was born to ex-slave parents in Lovington, VA, in 1872. As a young child, he was interested in music, and sang in a local choir group. Because he was an accomplished cornetist, this helped him join the Army band. At 21 years of age, he was stationed with the 24th Regiment Band in New Mexico. By the time of his discharge, Loving had studied violin, saxophone and other woodwinds. When the Spanish-American War started, Loving reenlisted in 1898. This time he was with the 8th Regiment Band which was stationed at Fort Thomas in Kentucky. After this discharge, he enrolled in the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts to study harmony, conducting, and cornet. On his third enlistment, Loving served with the 48th Regiment which was being sent to the Philippines to put down guerilla warfare.

Loving was promoted to chief musician of the band, and by 1903, he had recruited talented Filipino musicians, some which were left over from the previous Spanish rule. The group was trained for the St. Louis Exhibition in 1904. This band competed successfully against John Philip Sousa’s Band, The Royal Italian Band, and the famous Le Garde Republicaine Band of France. This Philippine Band went on to be called the Constabulary Band and by 1908, Loving was promoted to captain. Loving was given the responsibility of leading his band at the Inaugural Parade of President Taft. This was really a first, to have an outside band take over this responsibility. Normally this honor was given to the U.S. Marine Corp. Band, but this Philippine group became known as "Taft’s Own".

Loving’s 86-piece band boasted they had no fewer than 22 soloist, had a repertoire of approximately 1,000 pieces of music, with several hundred being played by memory. Loving even took a 1 1/2 year leave to study band music in Italy and Germany.

In 1915, Loving was diagnosed with TB so he retired in 1916. They passed the position of conductor along to one of his assistants, Sgt Pedro V. Navarro. They had promoted Loving to major during this time. During WWI, the Office of Intelligence called him back into service. His main job and function was to investigate conditions among Afro-American soldiers. By 1919, they called him back a second time to conduct the Philippine Constabulary Band. He held this position until his retirement in 1923. He then returned to the States and lived in California.

The Philippines called on him one more time in 1937, to lead an army band. He returned and was promoted to lieutenant colonel.

The sad conclusion of Loving's life occurred when the Japanese Army advanced on the Philippines in 1941. Loving and his wife were interned at the University of Santo Thomas with Americans, Canadians and British. Finally the demands of the local Filipino public allowed Loving and his wife to live in a town apartment. As the Allies advanced and reached Santa Tomas, the Japanese forced Loving to join in their retreat. Loving was bayonetted and became very weak due to the blood he lost. When 900 men were separated out for a long forced march, Loving refused to go. For doing this he was beheaded.

After the war, they regrouped the Philippine Army Band into three bands, and continued to have outstanding talent among the contemporary musicians.

Ref: The Disabled Veterans Magazine
Collier’s Encyclopedia
Musical Quiz
by Renee Jacobsen

A BASKET OF MUSIC

Find the words listed above in the basket. They will go up, down, forward, backward, diagonally. Prizes go to the band members who find their full names in the puzzle.
Upcoming Schedule At-A-Glance

1. March 31, Friday 8:00 pm - Spring Concert, Blacksburg High School
2. April 9, Sunday 2:00 pm - Brush Mountain Craft Fair, Rector Field House
3. April 13, Thursday, 7:00 pm - Warm Hearth Retirement Village
4. May 20, Saturday, 6:00 ????? pm - VA Tech Intramural Field, Cancer Society "1995 Relay for Life"
5. May 21, Sunday, 2:30 pm - Mountain Lake, NRAC Wine Tasting
6. May 27, Saturday, 2:00 pm - Festival in the Park, Downtown Roanoke
7. July 4, Tuesday, 1:00 pm - Blacksburg Parade
8. July 4, Tuesday, 8:30 pm - Blacksburg 4th Concert

Disclaimer

The Blacksburg Community Band Newsletter is an occasional communication organ of the Blacksburg Community Band (sort of).

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily anyone’s in particular, so they are not necessarily the views of the Blacksburg Community Band, the Town of Blacksburg, the Commonwealth of Virginia or the United States of America! Believe what you wish to believe, forget the rest.

If you have a problem with anything in this rag, contact our lawyers in Boston, the law firm of Dewey, Cheatham & Howe (firm on retainer by Click & Clack).

If you decide to litigate one of our writers, let us know so we can run the slanderous louse out of town.

The Blacksburg Community Band
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