

BLACKSBURG COMMUNITY BAND
23RD ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT
SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2012

DIRECTOR, ED SCHWARTZ
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, STEVEN E. BROWN

GUEST ARTIST, DR. JOSEPH BLAHA, EUPHONIUM



23 YEARS SERVING THE NEW RIVER VALLEY

Visit our web site at: <http://arts.bev.net/BlacksburgCommunityBand/>

ABOUT THE BAND

The Blacksburg Community Band, Inc. is an all volunteer community organization formed in January of 1989 under the auspices of the Town of Blacksburg, Department of Parks and Recreation. The band was incorporated in Virginia as a non-profit corporation in 2007. The ensemble performs in an average of 25 concerts each year reaching over 7,000 people throughout the New River Valley and beyond.

The Blacksburg Community Band has three primary objectives:

1. Provide an opportunity for community members to rekindle their past interest in music. For those who have not played in 5, 10, 20 or more years, the band is a vehicle to enjoy and be involved in music again.
2. Encourage adults to begin a musical experience. For those who have always wanted to play in a band but never quite got around to doing something about it, the band provides the opportunity.
3. Provide live performances for the community, especially audiences who traditionally cannot afford to pay for live groups or who because of age and disability cannot attend performances.

ABOUT THE SOLOIST



Dr. Joseph Blaha is a special friend of the band. The band performed his composition Kiron's Procession in 2005 under his baton. Of special importance at this concert is the fact that he was Seth Williamson's teacher and mentor. Last summer, Seth was scheduled to perform the Canzonetta on this concert, so it is fitting that Dr. Blaha perform this work in his place.

Joseph Blaha received his doctorate in composition from the University of Oklahoma and is currently an associate professor of music and director of bands at Roanoke College. He has studied composition with Michael Hennagin, Richard Hergiv, and Gunther Schuller.

Blaha composes for a wide variety of instruments and a number of his compositions have been commissioned by universities, churches or other organizations. Several of his works have aired on public radio and his music has been performed across the United States and in Europe and South America. Among his award-winning pieces, *The Night Watch* was the grand prize winner of the 2000 Michael Hennagin Prize in Composition. His works have been recorded on Albany and Summit labels.

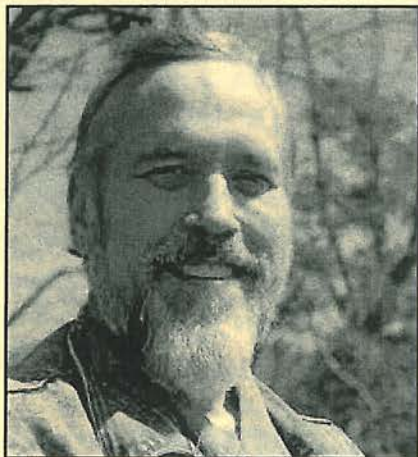
In addition to composing, teaching and directing, Blaha is an accomplished instrumentalist performing regularly on the trombone, bass trombone, euphonium and piano. He studied trombone with John Hill, Irvin Wagner, Leon Brown, Edward Kleinhammer and Ronald Barron. He played euphonium for Karl King for four years and served for five years as a trombonist in The United States Army Band "Pershing's Own." He performs as a jazz pianist in various venues throughout the Roanoke Valley. In 2002, he was inducted into the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association Hall of Fame.

DEDICATION

This concert is dedicated to the memory of our good friend Seth Williamson. It is not often that one individual leaves an indelible impression on an organization as Seth has with this band. Seth spent 19 years with the Blacksburg Community Band starting in the trumpet section before moving to euphonium where he became a driving force of the low brass section.

One of Seth's strengths was his intimate knowledge of music which played a role in new music selections for the band. He had a wide range of musical favorites and could always recommend appropriate works to widen our exposure to great music.

Although Seth was not as outgoing as one would imagine, he is probably best known for being the voice of the band at many of our performances, especially our July 4th concert. He has narrated this concert for many years and was a critical contributor to the narration's content. The entire community will miss his talents at this event.



Seth Williamson (1949-2011)

Most of the band knew him for his deep soothing ever-present voice on the radio each weekday morning on WVTF Morning Classics, and the rich and powerful sound of his horn on Wednesday evenings. He shared with us that he was an avid reader and bird watcher from his radio program, and he often quoted poetry that spoke of nature and the outdoors that he loved. Some of us were very lucky to know him personally and knew him as a complex, thoughtful, and caring human being. He cared about a lot of things and clearly music was on the top of his list. He was always very critical of the musical side of himself and strove for a high level of musicianship when he performed, and he did love to perform. It is hoped that the memory of Seth can inspire all of us to enjoy our musical experiences for the beauty and passion that they offer and celebrate that part of our soul that music touches. We are a better band for having Seth with us, and we will miss him greatly. Not only as a force in the euphonium section, but as a friend. Thank you Seth!

IN MEMORIAM

We would also like to remember those members of the Blacksburg Community Band who are no longer with us. They were our friends and the band is grateful for the time that they spent with us and we shared their love of music.

Charles Johnson 1991 ● Norman Brown 1996 ● Ed Stoddard 1997
Kazys Keciorius 2006 ● Judy Keffer 2007 ● Seth Williamson 2011

PROGRAM

23RD ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT - SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2012

THE MELODY SHOP - Karl King, arr. Andrew Glover
Featuring Dr. Joseph Blaha, Euphonium

CANZONETTA FOR EUPHONIUM AND BAND - Raphael Fortza
Dr. Joseph Blaha, Euphonium Solo

FOLK SUITE FOR BAND - William Grant Still
Steven E. Brown, Associate Conductor

1. Get On Board, Little Children
2. Deep River
3. Medley

VARIATIONS ON A HYMN TUNE - John Raymond Howell
John Raymond Howell, Guest Conductor

BERCEUSE AND FINALE FROM THE FIREBIRD - Igor Stravinsky,
arr. Richard Franko Goldman

INTERMISSION

ALTE KAMERADEN (Old Comrades) - Carl Teike,
arr. Siegfried Rundel

THE KING IN YELLOW, OVERTURE - Steven E. Brown
Steven E. Brown, Associate Conductor

EASTER MONDAY ON THE WHITE HOUSE LAWN -
John Philip Sousa, arr. Mark Rodgers
Jay Durner, Guest Conductor

FANFARE AND ALLEGRO - Jeremy Irish

PETER PAN SELECTIONS - John Raymond Howell
John Raymond Howell, Guest Conductor

BLACKSBURG COMMUNITY BAND

ED SCHWARTZ (23) MUSIC DIRECTOR

STEVEN E. BROWN (17) ASSOCIATE MUSIC DIRECTOR

JOHN HOWELL (21) & JAY DURNER (3) GUEST CONDUCTORS

DR. JOSEPH BLAHA, EUPHONIUM SOLOIST

FLUTE

Susan Brooker-Gross (4)
Thomas James Godfrey (16)
Dana Hawley (1)
Erin Herring (1)
Vicki Scarratt (11)
Leda Stubbs (22)
Carey Vice (1)
Mary Walters (11)
Gretchen Whitlock (3)

CLARINET

Carl Derfler (11)
Terri Fisher (12)
Debby Good (6)
Karen Haga (23)
Diane Holden (1)
Alane Homer (20)
Renee Jacobsen (22)
Mary Keffer (23)
Kendra Kohl (23)
Kristen Lingwood (1)

ALTO CLARINET

Carol Baker (8)
Barbara Self (23)

BASS CLARINET

Dana Reynolds (4)

CONTRABASS CLARINET

Dixon Smiley (6)

OBOE

David Wells (2)

BASSOON

Jonathan Rapp (1)

MARY Rhoades (23)

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Jacob Mertz (1)
Karl Sanzenbach (18)
Mandy Thompson (1)
Rachel Tracy (5)

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Eric Chang (2)
Casey Dillon (1)
Steve Hulburt (17)

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Jim Mitchell (18)

TRUMPET

Matthew Clabaugh (5)
Dave Fried (4)
Dick Kazee (22)
Daniel McPherson (16)
Joe Osburn (1)
Nolan Wages (1)

FRENCH HORN

Jennifer Hundley (4)
Carol Johnson (4)
Terry Nicholson (11)
Steve Rekant (2)

TROMBONE

Sara Blaha
Dean Chiapetto (17)
Alice Cox (2)
Jay Durner (3)
Bill Finley (13)
Katie Lucot (1)
Jefferson Ritchie (4)
David Roper (23)
Corinne Shand (1)

EUPHONIUM

Joseph Blaha
Kathy Duncan (23)
David Kibler (13)
Gary McDaniel (4)

TUBA

Carl Epley (23)
John Howell (21)
Yoshinori Tsuruma (1)

PERCUSSION

Steve Brown (17)
Harriett Cooper (14)
Alan McDaniel (13)
Leslie Palacios (9)
Susan Sanders (3)
Bob Schoner (4)



Number in parenthesis is number of years with the band.
23 years designates founding members (in Bold).

CONDUCTORS



Ed Schwartz is the founding director of the Blacksburg Community Band. A native of the Chicago area, Ed is a graduate of the University of Illinois School of Music with degrees in music education. Currently working at Virginia Tech, Ed works with the Faculty Development Institute and is Co-Editor for the Virginia Tech Multimedia Music Dictionary online.

Ed has played trombone for numerous bands and orchestras and spent several years in the 84th Army Band in Stuttgart, West Germany. Before coming to Blacksburg, Ed was the founder and director of the Newark Community Band in Newark, Delaware.

Locally, Ed performs in The Sauerkraut Band (German music); The Riverboat Ramblers (Dixieland music); Big Dog and the Fat Cats (Swing Music); The Bedford Community Orchestra; and volunteers with The New River Valley Summer Musical Enterprise with the production of *Peter Pan* this summer.

John Raymond Howell is an Associate Professor of Music at Virginia Tech with a B.A. in Music from the University of Puget Sound, and a M.M. in Choral Conducting from Indiana University School of Music. His doctoral studies were in Musicology, with minors in Choral Conducting and Viola Performance. He has extensive professional experience in classical, commercial, and early music.

As a professional entertainer, John was the musical arranger with The Four Saints, performing on five continents and in all 50 states, and appearing on the major TV variety shows of the 1960s. He has 23 albums, 9 singles, and many commercial jingles to his credit. He also worked as show director at Disneyland and Walt Disney World. John has performed with the Roanoke Symphony, Lynchburg Symphony, Southwest Virginia Chamber Orchestra, Blacksburg Community Strings & Chamber Orchestra, Blacksburg Community Band and was a driving force in the creation of the Summer Musical Enterprise having performed in the pit orchestra for all of the shows and has been the orchestra manager for numerous shows. He will be managing the orchestra and performing in the pit for this summer's production of *Peter Pan*.



CONDUCTORS

Steve Brown is The Blacksburg Community Band's Associate Director. He is a Seattle, Washington Native who grew up on the West Coast. He spent 21 years in the Navy, retiring as Chief Petty Officer. He is mostly self-taught as composer and conductor, but he did study composition with Roger Nixon at San Francisco State College.

He has written music for band, orchestra, Broadway-style shows, chorus (two cantatas and a Requiem), and many other ensembles. His composition, "Oh, Wonder!" was performed by the Roanoke Symphony in 2008. He has also written the book, music, lyrics and orchestrations for two musicals ("The Prisoner Of Zenda" and "Road To Paradise"). His compositions have been played by college, high school, military, and community bands around the country and the world.

Theatergoers from the New River Valley and Roanoke may have seen Steve in many community theater productions and he is currently the Music Director for the local NPR station, WVTF.



Jay Durner has been a regular guest conductor since coming to the band three years ago. He received his B.A. in Music Education from Moravian College, an M.A. in Music from The College of New Jersey and an M.Ed. in Education Administration from East Stroudsburg University. He studied conducting with Donald Spieth, Dr. Ed Eicher, Frederick Fennell, John Paynter, H. Robert Reynolds and Anthony Maiello.

Jay is retired after 30 years of teaching music, with the last 23 years at Delaware Valley High School in New Jersey. In addition to teaching, Jay was active as clinician, adjudicator and guest conductor throughout the area. A long-time member of the Pioneer Band in

his hometown, Allentown, Pennsylvania, he spent his last 30 years in the band as their music director. While directing this professional community band, he was responsible for producing five recordings, a European tour, and performances from the Lehigh Valley Area of Pennsylvania to Baltimore's Inner Harbor and The Ellipse in Washington, D.C.

Jay has served as guest conductor for The Winds of the Blue Ridge and was the Music Director for the last two seasons of Blacksburg's Summer Music Enterprise Theater Company and will be music director for *Peter Pan* this summer.

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BAND OFFICERS

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Vice President - Rene Jacobsen
Secretary - Susan Brooker-Gross
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Members at Large - Thomas Godfrey
Alan McDaniel, Rachel Tracy

Past President - Dixon Smiley
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Fund Raising - Harriett Cooper
Historian - Mary Walters
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Rehearsal Manager - Karl Sanzenbach

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Blacksburg Community Band would like to thank the following:

- Darrell Pearman for his wonderful support of the community band program.
- Blacksburg High School for the use of the rehearsal space for the past 23 years and their wonderful custodians.
- The Town of Blacksburg for the critical support that they offer, especially Dean Crane and the Town of Blacksburg Department of Parks and Recreation.
- The Virginia Tech Department of Music and Jay Crone for continuing support with equipment and facilities throughout the year.
- A special thanks also goes out to Richard Cole for donating his time to record our concerts.
- Our special friends at Warm Hearth Retirement Village for their continued support and use of their facilities.
- Cover photo by Leslie Palacios