CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The Blacksburg Community Band has again kept busy this holiday season with five concerts scheduled during the month of December. Following the Blacksburg Christmas Parade on the 1st, the band played a concert in the parking lot for the downtown Post Office. There, Santa met the children with our music setting the spirit of the day.

The band’s annual Christmas concert at the Salem VA Hospital was held December 2nd at 2:00 p.m. in the VA Hospital Auditorium. The band has always been well received at the VA Hospital, and this year proved to be no exception.

The Brookmead Retirement Center requested the band again. The band played December 5th at 7:00 p.m. in Shawsville. A word of warning was offered to the new band members about the refreshments. Any liquid in paper cups that looks like a harmless beverage should be carefully examined. Last year, several of those cups were found to contain prune juice (which can be quite a shock if unexpected).

The Department of Engineering at Tech (with the help of trumpeter Jim Marchman) is sponsoring the band to play a concert at Virginia Tech on the reading day (the day before final exams). December 12th, come to McBryde Auditorium, Room 100 at 7:30 p.m. to enjoy this concert. There will be a reception after the concert at Jim Marchman’s house. A big thanks to Jim on both counts!

The last concert of the holiday season will be held at Warm Hearth Retirement Village on December 19th at 7:00 p.m. Their Kitchen Band will be in the audience to assist us if necessary. This will be a great ending concert for the year.

BLACKSBURG COMMUNITY BAND SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-1-90</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Blacksburg Christmas Parade, Blacksburg Downtown Post Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-1-90</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Band Dinner at Ed Schwartz's Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-2-90</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Salem VA Hospital, VA Hospital Auditorium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-5-90</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Brookmead Retirement Center, Route 460 in Shawsville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-12-90</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Virginia Tech, McBryde Auditorium, Room 100. After concert party at Jim Marchman's house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-19-90</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Warm Hearth Retirement Village, Blacksburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-26-90</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday, No Rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2-91</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Happy New Year Music Sorting Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(No Rehearsal) Ed Schwartz's Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>850 Church Street, Christiansburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-9-90</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>First rehearsal of the New Year &amp; Nominations of Band Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-16-90</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Second rehearsal of the New Year &amp; Band Elections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A MESSAGE FROM THE PODIUM

This outgoing year has been a great year for the band. We have had a record number of concerts, a record number of people in our audiences and a record number of new members. Of course this is not too hard to do in the second year, but there has been more than just the growth of numbers and measurable milestones. The band has come together as a group of concerned individuals with a common goal. A group of deeply caring and sensitive people has been growing closer as a musical organization, as friends, and to some of us, as a family. The music that this group plays in public will always be affected by the attitude of each member of the group. With the wonderful attitudes of the current members of the band, I will never worry about playing a bad concert, because the spirit of the band will always transcend any bad tone, bad notes, or missed entrances that the audience will experience! This is indeed a fortunate community. Thank you all for a wonderful year!

The New Year will bring many new areas of growth to the Blacksburg Community Band. The largest area of growth will be an increased sense of purpose within the organization. This will be accomplished with the band’s first elections of officers in the new year, within two days of our second anniversary. There are many reasons why we need band officers; probably the most important reason is that the band needs to become more efficient in operating. One person cannot do all that needs to be done. In fact, several people have been providing wonderful assistance in many areas. This process needs to be formalized and be more focused for the entire group. A good solution, that has stood the test of time in many bands, is giving responsibility to capable members of the band. I do hope that you all realize that there will be some growing pains with this process and there will be mistakes! I hope that you will all do your part to support these changes and provide input and support to the individuals who will be accepting the burden of responsibility for the band’s affairs. The needs of the band and of the Blacksburg Community will be better served with an efficient and productive Community Band.

All of my best wishes go out to you and your families in this holiday season and the new year and I look forward to my third year (Yes Third Year!) with the band. I also would like to ask that those of you who have not been around in a while to stop in to a rehearsal or a concert and say hello to the band, and you will always be welcome to return at your convenience. This is YOUR band and I feel very privileged to be a part of it!

Ed Schwartz

BLACKSBURG COMMUNITY BAND ELECTIONS

The Blacksburg Community Band will hold its first election of officers on January 16th 1991 at the band’s normal rehearsal. Nominations for these positions will be held on January 9th 1991 at rehearsal. Below is a list of the organizational positions that will be up for election:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Member-at-Large (3 positions)

The specific tasks and duties of each position will be determined by the first elected board, (a draft version of the organization structure is on the following page). These positions will be up for election yearly. All of the committees heads and section leaders will be volunteers who are appointed by the band officers. All of the people who are currently serving in one capacity or another will be asked to continue to do so, except now there will be a band officer responsible for helping each committee reach its goals.

Concert update: Put this on your calendar! This next year the fourth of July celebration will be on July 4, 1991.
CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INCOME TAX FORMS

The Blacksburg Community Band, formed under the auspices of the Town of Blacksburg, is considered a tax-exempt organization. All donations to the band can be taken as a charitable contribution on your yearly tax return. The law also permits you to deduct your mileage to and from rehearsals and concerts.

Worksheets will be available after the first of the year to help you determine your allowable amounts. The worksheet will contain the dates of this year's rehearsals and performances and tips on how to use this information for your taxes. In the past, charitable contributions have been deductible with both short and long forms.

Allowable deductions will include; mileage to and from rehearsals, mileage to and from concerts, and direct costs (ie. any clothing that you must purchase for use in concerts). It is allowable to claim your time or expertise.

If it would help your taxes to donate to a charitable organization, please feel free to contact our treasurer, Mary Greenawalt (clarinet), to make a contribution. Worksheets will be available at rehearsals in January or call Ed Schwartz at 231-5879 (W) or 382-3707 (H) for a copy.

HAVE FUN 91

LOOKING TO THE NEW YEAR

A few concerts have already been planned for 1991. We hope to book many of the annual concerts well in advance, but many times this is not possible. In any case, we will try to make each commitment far enough in advance so you can offer input or at least be informed of the date and time. Listed below are the definite concerts dates and the that have been planned and a general timeframe for the tentative concerts. Please contact Ed Schwartz if you have any suggestions for next year's concerts.

Firm Commitments

April 12, 1991
Friday 8:00 pm Blacksburg Community Band Spring Concert, Blacksburg High School Auditorium

May 16th, 1991
Thurs. 8:00 pm U.S. Senior Olympics Ice Cream Social Virginia Tech Campus (expecting 800 people)

July 4th, 1991
Thurs. 8:30 pm Independence Day Concert with Celebration Chorus, next to Tech Stadium

Probable/Possible Commitments

SPRING
May (mid to late) Sun pm Mountain Lake Bike Race
May (late) Sat pm Blacksburg Sidewalk Art Show
May Sat pm New River Valley Mall

SUMMER
June (late) Sat pm Blacksburg Town Picnic
June (late) Sat pm Cambria Whistlestop Arts Festival
Summer Wed pm Hearth Retirement Village
Summer Wed pm Pulaski, Jackson Park
Summer Wed pm Radford, Bisset Park
Summer Wed pm Heritage Hall Nursing Home
Summer Wed pm Brookmead Retirement Center
Summer Wed pm Salem VA Hospital

CHRISTMAS
December Sat pm Blacksburg Christmas Parade
December Wed pm Hearth Retirement Village
December Wed pm Salem VA Hospital
December Wed pm Heritage Hall Nursing Home
December Wed pm Brookmead Retirement Center
Roger's Goddess

At the band dinner party, the Green Goddess dressing was a big hit. A number of people asked for the recipe, so here it is!

Green Goddess Dressing

3/4 cup packed parsley leaves
1/3 cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
1/3 cup dairy sour cream or plain yogurt
1 green onion, cut up
1 tablespoon vinegar
1 teaspoon anchovy paste or 1 anchovy fillet, cut up
1/4 teaspoon dried basil, crushed
1/8 teaspoon garlic powder
1/8 teaspoon dried tarragon, crushed
1 to 2 tablespoons milk

In a blender container or food processor bowl, combine parsley, mayonnaise, sour cream, onion, vinegar, anchovy paste, basil, garlic powder, and tarragon. Cover and blend or process until smooth. Cover and store in the refrigerator up to 2 weeks. Before serving, stir in milk to desired consistency. Makes about 1 cup.

Hint: To make a refreshing vegetable dip, just omit the milk!

Overall Roger's dinner party: excellent food, good company, great wine, fun games and amazing tree decorating skill. Late night thrills, kazoo!s, and even later night thrills, steady hands from everyone but Ed.

And by the way, Ed, is the floor still sticky?

Timely Tips for Tooters and Tappers

// aka G.P. Grand Pause, railroad tracks: stop and wait for the director to continue.

Brass players and percussionists have some interesting symbols that just don't add up -- PLUS and MINUS signs. No, it's not some type of new grading system or if you look at it lopsided, it doesn't mean you get to smother your neighbor with hugs and kisses!! These signs usually appear in jazz, dixieland, swing, boogie, and other similar types of music. For brass players, it means either muted or open (du-wah). An assortment of factory-made mutes, toilet plungers (minus the handle, of course) and hand sizes is always available. In relation to percussion, these signs usually refer to cymbal music, in particular the suspended cymbal and hi-hats. Simply stated, strike the cymbal with a drum stick and quickly "pinch" off the sound by stopping the vibrations with your fingers. Or you can reverse the procedure if you wish. OR you can do it all at once and save some time. Woodwind players, don't feel left out. After all, how many times do the brass players see those trill marks?

Toodles til' next time.

HEY, YOU GUYS!!

Section Leaders are needed for each section. The section leader will not necessarily be the "best Musician" or "best Player" but must be someone who is consistently present at rehearsals and concerts and who can keep everyone in the section supplied with the music. The section leader is also responsible for communicating to Ed who will be present at each performance, so that appropriate music can be chosen.
PROPOSED BLACKSBURG
COMMUNITY BAND
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE
DRAFT VERSION  DECEMBER 1990

(The duties listed are the responsibility of the designated officer, but can be delegated to any willing person appointed by the officer)

PRESIDENT
Act as Town Liaison; preside over the board; prepare annual report; oversee other officers.

VICE PRESIDENT
Oversee band daily operations; oversee following committees;
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: attend to details of concerts; maintain dialogue with concert contacts; arrange summer and winter schedules.
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Attendance; New Member Packets; Phone Tree; Membership Drives; Band Roster.
SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Arrange band social functions; advise board of special occasions to celebrate; assist membership committee with husband/wife/child listing.
SPECIAL CONCERT COMMITTEE: Spring Concert; 4th of July Concert.

SECRETARY
Attend to all official correspondence; oversee the following committees;
PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: Maintain current list of media contacts; submit regular press releases; develop and distribute posters for local music stores; maintain and distribute brochures; arrange for yearly formal picture.
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: Collect information for newsletter; edit and distribute a regular newsletter.
HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Develop and maintain a running history; maintain visual chronology of the band.
LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Maintain current concert folders; catalog and maintain band-owned music.

TREASURER
Fiscal responsibility for the treasury; oversee the following committees;
FUND RAISING COMMITTEE: Develop fund raising strategies and programs; oversee the implementation of approved programs.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Develop a spending plan for the band; rank the importance of music and equipment expenditures; develop a long-term financial goal for the band.

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE
Generate ideas, suggestions, and complaints to & from the band; present new ideas to the board; end and participate in board meetings.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT MUSIC LIST

You should notice is a considerable amount of new music in the folders. In fact, all of the Christmas music this year belongs to the band. These purchases were made possible by a donation from the Town of Blacksburg and several personal donations including a very generous donation by Jim Marchman (cornet). If you would like to see the band play specific music, talk to either Linda Vance (flute) or Ed Schwartz.

A Christmas Festival - Leroy Anderson
Greensleves - Alfred Reed
A Canadian Brass Christmas - Luther Henderson and Howard Cable

A Christmas Ballet - Eric Osterling
Sleigh Ride - Leroy Anderson
Santa Does Dixie - Jerry Nowak
The Christmas Song - Mel Torme, Robert Wells
A Holiday Celebration - Jack Bullock

BCB SPRING CONCERT

Now beginning into its third year of existence, the Blacksburg Community Band will celebrate the anniversary with a Second Annual Spring Concert. The concert date is Friday, April 12, 1991, at 8:00 p.m. in the Blacksburg High School Auditorium. Donations of $1.00 will be graciously accepted at the door. Immediately after the concert, there will be an open reception for the band. Families, friends of the band, and any member of the community are invited. The location will be announced at a later date.
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4TH OF JULY CONCERT

Our past 4th of July concert was a real challenge for the band and chorus. The coming year will add to that challenge. Several new arrangements will be purchased for the next concert. If last year's response was any indication of the community's enthusiasm for this event, we should have over 70 voices in the chorus! The theme for this year's program is American music in the history of our country. The program is being planned to begin with concerts at 6:00 p.m. and having the finale with band and chorus starting around 8:15 p.m.

If you have any ideas for the program, or would like to assist in writing the script for the program, please see Ed Schwartz.

THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT!

The financial and logistical support needed to operate a community band is normally quite substantial. Fortunately, we have received operating funds from the Town of Blacksburg this year through the Department of Parks and Recreation under Dr. William Winfrey. This financial support helped us repair a bass drum on loan to us from Blacksburg High School, purchase a snare drum, and purchase our music for the 4th of July concert last summer.

Funding to the band will continue if the band continues to perform quality music in a professional manner throughout the area. Funding may not be at the same level each year, but if we can continue to submit a realistic request for funds on a yearly basis, we should be able to receive a good portion of the requested funds. Please remember that we have been noticed and appreciated by the community. We can leave an indelible mark on this community...a building block for the economic and cultural well-being of this community...a legacy for future generations. With the continuing support of the Town of Blacksburg, the Town of Blacksburg Department of Parks and Recreation under Dr. William Winfrey, and Diana Love with the Blacksburg High School Band, we can and will become an integral part of the quality of life in the community, the New River Valley and Southwest Virginia. Thanks for the support!

NEW RIVER ARTS COUNCIL

It is time again to mention the New River Arts Council. This organization works to make the New River Valley a better environment for all of the arts, including music. The Council needs your help in a wide variety of ways. Currently, the Council is beginning its Winter Membership Drive. This is a good time to join the organization, because it will be your last chance to join at the current $15.00 yearly fee. Dues will probably be raised in July.

Membership in the New River Arts Council includes a quarterly Calendar of Events for the entire New River Valley. The calendar highlights all of the artistic events from music to theatre to art. A quarterly Newsletter will bring news about many performing groups to your attention. Finally, a Directory of the Arts contains listings of the performing groups and visual artists in the Valley, comprehensive listings of businesses related to the arts and public galleries throughout the Commonwealth.

If you have an interest in joining the New River Arts Council or possibly doing some work with the Council, please contact Ed Schwartz for more information.
Season's Greetings from all of us at BCB

We Wish You All A Happy, Safe, and Peaceful Holiday.

Blacksburg Community Band
Town of Blacksburg
Dept. of Parks & Recreation
725 Patrick Henry Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060

To subscribe to BCB newsletter, put all your money in a box and ship it freight prepaid to the editor or the director and we will add your name to our mailing list. If you send no money, we'll still send you our newsletter just so you have our address (in case you decide to send money later).