NEW HORIZONS NEWS
A Publication of the New Horizons International Music Association, Inc.

Meet Your Board of Directors
Ron Berry (New York) President, NHIMA Board of Directors

The NHIMA Board consists of nine of your fellow New Horizons musicians. Each January, we have a changing of the guard—three retire after their 3-year term (non-renewable) is up, and three fresh faces join the team. In December, we bid farewell to Board President Lucette Fortier (Florida/Vermont), Membership Coordinator Ardis Phillips (Arizona), and Communications Chair Barbara Belbeck (London, Ontario). And in January, we welcomed Lori Schuett (Peterborough, Ontario), Laura Joss (Ohio), and Nancy Summers (Michigan). Laura and Nancy have been frequent faculty at various New Horizons music camps, and Lori has frequently led the dancing and cheerleading at those camps.

Lori will work on the Planning Members Committee this year with Chair Jon Cryer (Iowa). Laura and Nancy will get their hands dirty as the Communications Committee under the guidance of Chair Frank Needham (New York), who also serves as Vice-President of the Board.

Your other Board Members are Secretary Sally Bowers (Illinois), Membership Coordinator Mary Jean (MJ) Hull (Connecticut), and Development Chair Nancy Trudell (Montana).

Want to know more about us? Please check out our biographies on our website: www.NewHorizonsMusic.org.

Did you know that New Horizons has over 213 groups now totaling over 9,500 people? We want to hear from you! Has your group started a new ensemble, performed at a fundraiser, or played at a special function? Have you joined forces with another NH band for a one or two day music session? Or, perhaps your membership has swelled and you could share growth tips?

We want to include your group’s information in this newsletter. A short article (600 words or less) and/or a photo with a caption are just what we need.

Our next deadline for the Fall issue is October 1, 2014.

As always, we welcome your suggestions for topics on future issues. And, thanks to all our regular contributors!

Soliciting Time Travel Pics and More NH News
Linda Johnson – Editor, New Horizons News

How many of you began your musical endeavors in elementary or secondary school? I would guess a good 60 to 70 percent of all New Horizons groups started early on then laid off playing their instrument for years.

We would like to add some “Time Travel” photos to our newsletter and are looking for photos of our members from their very early days of playing music as well as a current photo.

If you would be willing to share, please send both an early photo (with your instrument) and a current photo with your name, instrument played, NHB music group name, and approximate year of the early photo you submit, to me. (See page 9, Publishing Notes for my contact details on where to send the photos.)

UPCOMING CAMPS
For more details, go to: http://www.newhorizonsmusic.org

May 18 to 22, Kansas City NHB Camp, UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance, Kansas City, Missouri

July 11 to 13, 8th Annual Carolina Band Blast, Greensboro Cultural Center, Greensboro, NC

Registration is open

July 15 to 19, Olympia New Horizons Band Camp, Airstream Park in Olympia, Washington

Registration closes May 27, 2014.

August 24 to 30, New Horizons at New England Music Camp, Sidney, Maine

Registration is now open.

June 1 to 6, New Horizons Music Camp at Augustana College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

No further information at this time.

July 19 to 24, New Horizons Music Camp at Hope College, Holland, Michigan

No further information at this time.

October 4 to 8, New Horizons Music Camp at Chautauqua, New York

No further information at this time.

~~~Non-NH Camps – 2014~~~

June 9 to 13, Asheville Chamber Music Retreat, Asheville, North Carolina

Registration is open.

July 27 to August 2, Maine Oboe Camp, Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, Maine

Registration is open.
Imagine you are in the third grade, you walk into your school auditorium, listening to the “William Tell Overture”, and see before you an array of orchestral instruments...violins, violas, cello, harp, clarinet, flute, trumpet, French horn, trombone, drum, cymbal, bells, and assorted percussion toys. The docents tell you that you are here to “play” everything, and the magic begins!

The Music Van, a project of the Santa Barbara Symphony, has been operating since 1978, and 13 of its 36 docents come from the Prime Time Band, a New Horizons Band in Santa Barbara. Each fall the Music Van visits over 40 schools in the county and more than 2,000 children hear about the orchestra and actually hold and “bow”, “blow” or “strike” every instrument. And the children LOVE it!

The 13 Prime Time Band volunteers bring special skills because they are able to talk about their instrument and to play it for the students. The Music Van is accompanied by a professional musician, who also performs for the children. The instruments are donated and maintained by Nick Rail Music. Nick was a founder of the Prime Time Band and still serves as an ex-officio board member.

The school sessions last for one hour with half the time devoted to a discussion of the orchestra, conductor, and the instruments in the four families (strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion). During the second half hour the children “try out” all the instruments. This is the most fun part for them because many of them have never held a violin, French horn, clarinet, or any instrument. The sounds that they make are quite remarkable.

Many of the thank you notes that are received after the visit tell our volunteers that the Music Van day was “awesome”, “amazing”, and the best day of the year. These docents certainly know what a joy it is to bring this special musical experience to the children!

Did You Know?
The harmonica is the world’s best-selling music instrument.

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Marguerite Amer plays for the students, telling them that rubbing a tuba will bring you good luck all day.

Lynne Halterlein demonstrates all the woodwinds, using props which tell the tale of Prokofiev’s “Peter and the Wolf.” Here Lynne tells them to close their eyes and imagine that the cat frees the duck from the wolf.

Prime Time Band Volunteers - Left to right: Dick Nielsen, Chet Caldeira, Marguerite Amer, Lynne Halterlein, Dee Smith, John Dubois, Carol Anderson, Roger Anderson, Chairman Mary Jane Cooper, Al Beyerle

Not pictured: Merrilyn Damitz, Vicki Kennedy, Lorraine Vander Ark, Bob Weber
Our concert band often performs at elementary schools to introduce them to band music and to hopefully kindle their interest in music, enough to take up an instrument in middle school and continue into adulthood. I’m always amazed at the creativity of children and our most recent school visit re-
confirmed this. Instead of simple “thank you” notes to the band, first graders at Bauder Elementary School in Fort Collins chose to thank us with a large poster collage filled on both sides!

To paraphrase a Sally Fields Oscar quote, “They really like us!”

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Members of the Helena New Horizons Concert Band played a concert of Christmas carols for Intermountain, a children’s residential facility. Following the performance, the children sang a song they had prepared for the band. As an extra treat, band members formed a huge circle and the children went from member to member and tried all of the instruments.

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A Life in Music ~ Variations on a Theme
Lorna & Dick Verhulst – Peterborough NH Bands, Peterborough, ON

According to long time PNHB member, Les Smith, the secret to a long and healthy life is music. Les, who recently celebrated his 92nd birthday, is living proof of these words, a member of the band since 2006.

Les’s passion for music has run like variations on a musical theme throughout his life. He says, “First you listen to music, then you dance, then you sing, then you play an instrument; but the ultimate kick is performing in front of an audience. Music is an all around activity that’s kept me young.”

Variation #1
As a child growing up in England, Les recalls listening to his dad play the popular music of the day on piano. He followed his father’s example and learned to play violin at an early age.

During his adolescent years, he danced to the music of Artie Shaw and Benny Goodman and soon became so enchanted by big band music that he took up the clarinet and later the saxophone.

Variation #2
Les joined the R.A.F. in 1941 and served overseas for several years. When the war ended, he was stationed in Naples and he recalled that the Allied Troops found themselves with little to do. That’s when he was introduced to Italian opera. “Traviata” was his particular delight.

While in Italy, he performed as an extra in productions at the San Carlo Theatre. He fondly remembers, “It was a thrill to be on stage, but the most fun was being part of the chaos backstage.”

Variation #3
After the war, Les returned to London where he found work in the insurance field. “It was rather dull after five years in the armed forces,” he admits, “but it brightened up considerably when I met this young lady named Edna, who had joined the Stenographic Dept.

Edna’s friends told her that ‘Smitty’ was just her type. So after introducing her to the joys of opera, they dated and recently celebrated their 63rd anniversary!

Variation #4
In 1953, Les and Edna moved to Canada and were very busy working and raising a family. “My violin and clarinet sat idle for a long time,” he admits. But they soon found others who shared their passion for music in the Couple’s Club at their church.

A few years later, taking his inspiration from the music of Gilbert and Sullivan, Les collaborated with another member of the club to write their own musical. Les wrote 12 original songs with lyrics for the show.

Variation #5
Les retired from his insurance job in 1982 and for eight years played the violin in the Scarborough Philharmonic and later in the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra. He also played alto saxophone and clarinet in the Sunnybrook Big Band. Two years before moving to Peterborough, he played flute in the East York Concert Band.

Variation #6
When they moved to Peterborough, Les joined the Peterborough Concert Band, and also formed a 5-piece group, The Victones. He left the local concert band in 2002 and with the desire to sing, joined the Swinglft Choral Jazz Ensemble. This lasted three years and then the Peterborough New Horizons Bands attracted him and he has been a member ever since.

In 2009 Les became a local celebrity by winning the Senior Star competition, the retired persons’ version of the Canadian Idol. His winning performance was one of the songs he had written for his musical, “The Captain of the Ship.”
Sioux City Sends Meals to the Philippines
Marv Crim – New Horizons Band, Sioux City, IA

In a humanitarian gesture, the NH Band of Sioux City volunteered their time packaging "Mercy Meals" to be shipped to the Philippines to feed the people ravaged by the typhoon. Each meal consisted of a cup of soy, rice, teaspoons of a flavor base and vegetable flakes. On a Saturday in February the Band members and their families packaged 26,126 meals! If you are interested in doing a project like this in your area, contact Larry Joines (712) 258-0808 Mercy Meals of Siouxland for more details.

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Rediscovering a Long-Lost Interest
Mary Canrobert – Reprinted (abridged) from the Charlotte Observer, Feb 22, 2014

As this month of love closes, a final Valentine story about a man who put aside his affection for playing the French horn when his heart wanted only one thing: the hand of a pretty girl.

Decades later, his lovely lady is gone, but his interest in playing in a band has returned, having patiently waited in the wings for more than a half-century. The urge to renew his acquaintance with his brass friend offers the man a new challenge and a means to help fill the void in his life. After 62 years of marriage, Wade “Hamp” Shuford of Hickory lost his beloved Joanne White Shuford in May. In the fall, with the help of Western Piedmont Symphony (WPS) Conductor John Gordon Ross, who allowed Shuford to borrow a WPS French horn, Shuford began playing with the Catawba Valley New Horizons Band.

Shuford hadn’t played since his days as a student at Catawba College. The reason? He sold his French horn in 1951 to buy Joanne an engagement ring.

Shuford said he and Joanne met at Hickory High School, but they didn’t date until College. Love bloomed, and Shuford was ready to pop the question. He didn’t have the cash for a ring, but he did have a valuable French horn. “At the time, it was not hard to part with the horn,” Shuford recalled.

The couple wed in 1951, and following a 4 year tour in the Air Force Shuford conducted psychological testing of pilots.

Shuford inherited his passions from his mother Nora who studied music and French in college and later became a piano teacher. Nora insisted that Shuford study piano and voice, and she bought him a mellophone.

Also influencing Shuford’s future interests were the friendships he developed with older neighbors. As a teen, Shuford visited an elderly woman who maintained a still in her basement. “She gave me a taste more than once,” Shuford admitted. The clandestine activity ended when the distillery exploded and the woman’s house burned down.

Since 1983, Shuford has been an Adult Life Programs volunteer. “One of my missions is to help older folks adjust to the vicissitudes of life’s changing values and that dirty word, ‘technology,’” Shuford said.

Now, after a long separation from band membership, Shuford is becoming reacquainted with the French horn. “I had to relearn the fingering,” he said. Depending on his progress, Shuford may decide to buy a horn. In the meantime, he’ll keep practicing on his WPS loaner.

The Catawba Valley New Horizons Band “is a great group for folks over 55,” said Shuford, who’s 85. “You don’t have to know how to play an instrument. They will teach you.”

Thanks to New Horizons Band, Shuford’s enjoying something few people experience: a return to one of the joys of youth.

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Mary Canrobert is a freelance writer.

“\[I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy; but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning.\]

~ PLATO

Hamp and Joanne Shuford

Joanne and Hamp Shuford in 1951, about the time he sold his French horn to pay for an engagement ring.
Don’t Stop Playing – Helpful Tips for Beginners
Annick Deakin – Univ. of Western Ontario NHB and Roy Ernst – Founder, New Horizons Music

Sight Reading
You can only sight read well when the difficulty level is within your comfort range. Let’s say that your playing level is at 3. If the band is working on a level 4 piece, you won’t be great at sight reading it, but you will learn it with practice. You will be able to sight read level 2 music quite well.

Rhythm
Being able to count rhythms is helpful in learning them, but eventually you will play familiar patterns without counting. Start taking note of the patterns you are very familiar with. When you get a new piece, look it over and learn the new patterns by counting them. Say them first and get the sound in your mind. They will then be added to your vocabulary. If you have a vocabulary of about 40 patterns, you will be able to read most music.

When you read, it’s like your mind is taking many still photos. Try to see a larger section of the music all the time. Don’t focus on a note or two; try to see the whole measure or even more. For me, it helps to get away from the music a little—I like to sit back a bit.

Practice reading without playing (while the band) is playing to separate your reading from your technique.

Learn to feel comfortable about leaving things out and skipping over things. If you are too concerned about getting it all, your mind will be behind where the music is. “Whatever you do, please don’t stop!”

Annick says, “It seems to me that starting reading basic rhythm patterns before touching the instrument would have helped me.”

Alfred Music Composer O’Reilly Visits NY Band
Ron Berry - President, NHIMA & Director NHB of Northern NY, Potsdam

On February 17, composer John O’Reilly of Hannawa Falls, NY and the greater Los Angeles area, visited the New Horizons Band of Northern New York (Potsdam) to conduct a few of his compositions.

John, with co-author Mark Williams, wrote the Accent on Achievement band methods books, along with many compositions and arrangements correlated with the lessons in the method books. Alfred Music recently published all of those compositions in a 5-volume series of books, Accent on Performance, aimed at beginning and intermediate-level musicians. John has long been a friend of the local New Horizons Band, frequenting their concerts and joining them in the band room to work on some music.

To honor John and to thank him for his recent donation of some of his music, the band presented him with a music-themed quilt crafted by one of our band’s flute players, local quilter Jill Josephs, and signed by the band members.

Editor’s Note
As a new oboe player 3 years ago, Annick wrote to Roy for some advice on breathing, reading rhythms, fingering techniques and other general tips. She was ready to give up band but was stopped in her tracks when Roy said, “WHATEVER YOU DO, PLEASE DON’T STOP!” Annick applied Roy’s suggestions and she states that she owes her continuous enjoyment of band now mostly to his very helpful message. Read about his tips in their joint article. These tips should be quite helpful to other beginners.

Editor’s Note: John O’Reilly (born November 25, 1940) is a modern-day composer and author of several successful concert band theory books. He has received many ASCAP* awards, studied composition with Robert Washburn, Arthur Frackenpohl, Charles Walton, and Donald Hunsberger. *American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers
NHIMA Pleased Again to Offer Melinda Jacob First-Time Camperships

Melinda Jacob, a flute player with the University of Dayton New Horizons Band, believed in the positive effects of attending a music camp. Through Melinda’s generous bequest, the New Horizons International Music Association (NHIMA) Board of Directors is once again able to offer 15 first time campers a one-time stipend of $250. From the applications received, fifteen winners will be drawn in lottery fashion.

Important Dates:
- Application postmarked by April 1, 2014 (Applications should already be submitted by newsletter publication date.)
- April 15 - Lottery draw by a neutral third party
- April 20 - Winners notified
- April 20 - Camp selected by applicant will be notified of camper’s intentions

Criteria for Lottery Participation:
- Individual has never attended a New Horizons music camp
- It is the individual’s responsibility to apply and be accepted to his/her chosen 2014 New Horizons music camp
- If selected, the award of $250 will be sent directly to the New Horizons music camp chosen by the individual. The $250 is intended to largely offset the instructional costs of the camp.
- Travel and accommodation costs associated with attendance at the music camp are individual’s personal responsibility.
- Financial award is not transferable to a New Horizons music camp in 2015.
- If selected, individual gives permission to the NHIMA Board to release individual’s name in the NHIMA newsletter and press releases.

Application Form is Available (on the first page at the top) at: http://www.newhorizonsmusic.org/

Mail completed application by April 1 to:
Nancy Summers
1869 Greenleaf Ct.
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
njsummers2@gmail.com;

DID YOU KNOW?
Your heartbeat changes to mimic the music you listen to.

Delaware NHB Supported by Osher Institute
Dick Haden – The Lifelong Learning Institute Concert Band, Wilmington, DE

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Wilmington, Delaware, embraces over 2100 members in a 30-year old academic cooperative for adults age 50 and over. Performing music of many types is a key interest for many of them. Our band program began over 15 years ago and now includes Beginning, Intermediate, and Concert Bands. The Concert Band has over 70 members, some of whom first learned to play instruments in our classes. Others returned to playing their instruments after many years of inactivity, and several members are life-long musicians and music educators.

We enjoy rehearsal space and funding from our Osher lifelong learning program for music and equipment. The program currently includes some 39 classes for sectional practice, music theory, and performance, which help build the bands and improve members’ music skills. We always have room for new musicians, and are proud to have many members of long-standing. Our organization is a member of the New Horizons Association and band members have attended several New Horizon band camps in past years.

edurers from various schools, universities and the surrounding area.

Editor’s Note: To learn more about the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware, go to: www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu
Liability Insurance for Your Music Group  
Ron Berry - President, NHIMA Board of Directors

INSURANCE...that which we all love to hate! More and more, our venues for rehearsals and concerts require some amount of liability protection from us. And my personal experience has been that it is hard to find—the first several agents I visited went pale and showed me the door when I asked about insurance for a ‘band’. They clearly had visions of electric guitars and pyrotechnics! I have since learned that some companies prefer to think of us as a ‘musicians club’.

Do you have a policy for your group? Do you need a policy? We at NHIMA would like to develop a database of companies throughout our New Horizons dominion which will write policies for us. As insurance companies have to be registered in any state where they write policies, it is not automatic that an underwriter in Texas can write for a group in Wisconsin. Presumably, there are similar rules/restrictions in Canada and other countries where New Horizons has a presence.

This is where you can help others who are shopping for insurance. Please contact me at berryrg@northnet.org, or 315-265-2883, and tell me the name of your insurance underwriter (not your local agent), your state/province, your policy limits, and your annual premium. For example: Dryden Mutual Insurance Co., New York, $1M/$2M, $200/yr. We will assemble the data and publish it on our website. This may help new groups to find the insurance they need, and already-insured groups may find a company with a much lower premium.

Thank you for your assistance!
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New Concert Format = Bigger Audience
Linda Johnson – Editor, New Horizons News

Northern Colorado is well known for its mountain views, breweries, numerous restaurants, bicycle friendly community, hiking trails and a fantastic music scene. While this sounds wonderful, the latter trait makes it challenging for music groups to “fill seats” during performances.

With so many musical choices, audiences are split between many different venues. Even scheduling performances and various musical gigs pose challenges for groups wanting to perform due to the abundance of musicians and musical groups here.

So, how do you increase your audience size? Our group may have stumbled on the answer...offer more for their buck! (Okay, we do have free performances, but giving audiences a combination of musical choices in one performance, now that may be the answer!)

Our winter concert featured not only our Concert Band but also three ensembles: Woodwind Quintet, Dixieland Band, and the Swing Band.

Through advertising this diverse music event, we saw a big increase in audience numbers. We may be onto something. We’ll see if this theory pans out in May when we perform our final concert of the season.
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In October 2013, the Rochester (NY) New Horizons Band participated in a two-day exchange hosted by the New Horizons Band of Western New York, in Fredonia. The NHB of Western New York is part of the Musical Journeys Program, a community outreach project offered through the Fredonia School of Music. The Rochester band had hosted an exchange with Fredonia the year before.

The program started out with a warm welcome by the Fredonia group, from the shuttle buses that greeted us on arrival, to the gifts of pendants with sea glass from nearby Lake Erie. On the first day, members of the two bands joined together in sectionals for practice sessions. A number of the sectionals reflected the customary New Horizons light-heartedness: Horns A-Plenty, Exclusively Big Bores, Brass Schleptet, and Saxtette. Playing beside the Fredonia band members was exciting. They’re wonderful musicians, so it was fun to work our way together through new music.

After a picnic lunch on the grounds of the campus, we reconvened for the afternoon to make more music and to attend workshops on a variety of subjects. It was a special treat to have one on African drumming led by Fredonia Professor Kay Stonefelt, Percussion Area Head and recipient of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence. Professor Stonefelt also gave a presentation on her fieldwork in West Africa.

The evening featured a gourmet dinner, complete with enthusiastic greetings from SUNY Fredonia President Ginny Horvath and Fredonia Mayor Steve Keith. Two Fredonia ensembles, the Brass Schleptet and the Saxtette provided live music—an excellent performance, with the good-natured humor that the names reflect. An evening concert by the SUNY Fredonia Wind Symphony brought the first day of the exchange to a close.

The second day of the program began with breakfast at the First Presbyterian Church, an example of the engagement of the general Fredonia community in the activities of the College. We then re-joined our sectional groups for the in-house concert performance of the music we had been working on. We had a wonderful musical adventure under the batons of the conductors, Kate Levy of Fredonia, and Bruce Burritt and Alan Woy of Rochester.

When the program ended, the Rochester group headed back up the road home with box lunches put together for us by the Fredonia group.

The exchange was a delightful, classy event!

Rochester NHB and NHB of Western New York combine for joint sessions

Join or Renew
Why join NHIMA?

Because you will:
* earn discounts for music camp enrollments
* support our informative Web site;
* receive spring and fall newsletters and a membership directory;
* help maintain a centralized organization for existing and new groups; and most importantly,
* keep the New Horizons vision alive for future generations.

For information about becoming a new member or to renew your current membership, contact Mary Jean “MJ” Hull, Membership Coordinator, mjhull@snet.net

Please note that while NHIMA welcomes group membership, which has its own set of benefits, only individual membership in NHIMA qualifies one for a discount in the registration fee for a band camp.
A mighty wind is blowin’ down Houston way this spring. The musical vortex was set in motion by the Energy City New Horizons orchestras and bands under Artistic Director Terry Tullos.

The Symphonic Band will perform “Fabulous Scores from the Films” for the April 13th Spring Concert. These include arrangements from “Man of La Mancha” (Justin Williams), “Les Miserables” (Jay Bocook) and “Titanic” (John Moss). The String Orchestra will open the program with selections from “Born Free” (Bruce Chase), “The Lion King” (Bob Cerulli) and “Shrek” (Robert Longfield).

For its second year, the Energy City Jazz Band drew a crowd to the dance floor with its Valentine’s evening program. The program featured cool listening favorites, including “My Funny Valentine” and “I’ll Get Along.”

In its fifth year, the Energy City Symphonic Band numbers about 40 members, and the String Orchestra, 12 members. A Dixieland group now has eight players and a clarinet choir, seven. The Big Band has 19 members.

The current performance venue for our group’s orchestras and bands is located at The Well, an activities center maintained by the Memorial Drive United Methodist Church. This fall a new Music and Arts Center opens at The Well. The new Center will provide opportunities for small group performances, workshops, summer band camps, and other arts-centered activities.

Director Terry Tullos continues to lead the groups along a path of musical exploration that often involves the audience. A slam bang ending for Bilk’s “American Civil War Fantasy” brought the audience into the musical action at the fall concert, popping bags and plastic bubble strips in the haze generated by a fog machine.


Norma Burrows, still conducting in her nineties, took the stand for Leroy Andersons’ “Bugler’s Holiday” while director Tullos joined Vince Marquart and Stewart Olsen for some trumpet virtuosity. Her husband, Clyde Burrows, also ninety-years young, writes arrangements for the band and keeps the beat moving on the tuba. The String Orchestra opened the program with Michael Story’s “Blazing Bows of the West,” Calvin Custer’s “Ashokan Farewell,” and Jerry Gray’s “Pennsylvania 6-5000.”

Presentations on two large media screens at The Well accompany the performances with video clips and background notes on the music. Band member Dusty Dickerson has posted individual numbers over the last five years on www.YouTube.com. You can find them by searching “Energy City New Horizons Symphonic Band” and “Energy City New Horizons String Orchestra.”

An invitation is always extended at performances to those individuals who want to learn or resume playing an instrument. Opportunities are provided for instruction and performance with ensembles led by band members throughout the week, including brass, string, and wind instruments.

Rehearsals are held at Memorial Drive United Methodist Church, 12955 Memorial Drive, Houston. For more information, contact Terry Tullos, terrytullos@mdumc.org.
Memorial Gifts

Make a difference in the New Horizons musicians’ lives and honor the memory of a family member, a friend or a fellow New Horizons participant with a memorial gift. To talk directly with someone about making a gift, contact Nancy Trudell, NHIMA Board member (Development)

You may also find the donation information online at: http://www.newhorizonsmusic.org/ and click on Donations/Donations.

Harmonie Nouveaux Horizons de Montréal

Audrey-Kristel Barbeau, Director of the newest New Horizons Band in Montreal is happy to report 38 members have joined since January, more than double the initial estimates!

Busy Snake River NHB Grows and Assesses

John Meiners– Snake River NHB, Pocatello, ID

Snake River New Horizons Band began in the fall of 2011 as part of the Continuing Education program at Idaho State University. At the time, the band had nowhere to practice, no music and no idea what we were doing. We were lucky to find two middle school directors who helped us get started. Our positive relationship with the Idaho State University Performing Arts Department has been critical to our success.

SRNHB performed its first concert during the 2011 Christmas season with 25 players. From that modest beginning, the band has played in parades, assisted living centers and retirement centers, senior centers, outdoor picnics, the Christmas Festival of Trees, the Women’s Correctional Facility, and neighborhood parties. The most exciting performances have been in the Jensen Hall at the Stevens Performing Arts Center on the campus at Idaho State University.

As the band chugs along this musical railroad track, questions seem to pop up repeatedly.
1) How do we know if a song is performance ready? You never know; all we can do is remember that your best is good enough.
2) Are we in tune? We’re trying to get better. At our age, memorizing and playing all twelve scales is a challenge.
3) Does the sound blend like it should? Not if you compare us to the same songs played by the local high school bands. If there is a question about our balance, just look at the face of the director. There are no secrets.
4) Are the pieces difficult enough? That depends on whether someone picked up an instrument after a 50 year hiatus compared to someone who has played all of their lives.

By the end of this spring, the plan is to add several new pieces to some of our older songs for next fall. If we get invited to the Stevens Center again, we will be performance ready. We continually add and lose players for various reasons so finding the right level of difficulty for the entire group is a challenge.

Finally, the answer to the question are we performance ready might best be answered by a local University band director. At a recent luncheon, he said after a long pause, “…The best way to judge a piece might be to look at the response of the audience after you play the piece.” From the looks on the faces of the audiences at our recent performances, we were performance ready that day.

Watch a few performances: http://www.youtube.com/SnakeRiverNewHorizons

And check out our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/SnakeRiverNewHorizonsMusic
Support Our Business Members

Since the founding of the first New Horizons Band in 1991, Dr. Ernst’s continuous organizing efforts have attracted the interest of businesses in the music field. Business memberships in NHIMA enrich the environment for New Horizons players by bringing us tried and true instrument techniques, useful products, study methods, printed music, and all sorts of ancillary support goods and services. More details on all of the companies below are available on the Business Members tab on NHIMA’s Website. NHIMA would like to thank these business members for their participation.