Having been an instructor at about a dozen New Horizons’ band camps, I’ve found that campers don’t always sign up for the classes that best fit their abilities. This causes a lot of moving from class-to-class and scrambling to rearrange music parts. This reorganizing costs us valuable time and can detract from your enjoyment of the camp.

It all comes down to “having fun” with our music and at the same time advancing your individual journey of musical growth. This requires a realistic assessment of your ability so you don’t overextend yourself too far beyond your present level of playing. Identifying the correct level of playing should begin with your director at home, however, be aware that he/she may not always be able to advise you realistically since the advanced group in one location might not be equivalent to an advanced group somewhere else. Your Instructors do however have a pretty good idea of the level of music that your home group performs. It may, therefore, be helpful to use the traditional grading system for music, which can be related to school groups as follows:

**Grade 1:** Elementary/beginning Bands
**Grade 2-3:** Jr. High Bands
**Grade 3-4:** Good Jr High and High School
**Grade 5-6:** Outstanding High School and University Bands.

At most camps that I have attended, the advanced groups performed music that would be classified at Grade 3-4, Intermediate groups - grade 2-3.

We have the most fun when we are challenged and are successful at meeting the challenge at hand. As a personal example, I was invited to play in a very high level accomplished jazz band, which consisted mostly of music from the Stan Kenton library. After the first night of sight reading a concert, one of the other players asked if I was “having fun”. I replied, “not yet”. This was because I was so busy reading notes and trying to keep up that I wasn’t enjoying the music and didn’t until I had practiced my part enough to be effective and comfortable.

Camp instructors must also be a bit flexible since you may not know the capabilities of a group until after you get together at the first camp rehearsal. Not to say that players shouldn’t be challenged, but sometimes the challenge is unrealistic, leading to stress and less fun that we should be having. I felt I let a group down at one camp because I didn’t bring anything they could play. It was listed as an “Intermediate Group” but, in reality, they were beginners.

Can we challenge ourselves at camp and have fun at the same time? Sure, but we must be realistic up front and choose appropriate challenges. Always remember that in this new environment, we are not being tested, camp is not a contest, so help each other. We’re here to have fun, but the most fun is had when we advance our musical journey together and can confidently say at the end of camp, “I gave it my best.”
The Southeastern Wisconsin New Horizons Band capped off another successful summer of joyful music-making with a picnic at the home of one of our members. During the weekend of September 6-8, many members of the band attended band camp in Door County, Wisconsin.

Some of our members are also looking forward to again being involved with a program sponsored by the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra where they get to sit in, rehearse, and perform with members of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

The band recently performed at Cross of Life Lutheran Church in Brookfield, Wisconsin and will do so again on Friday, November 18th, along with the symphonic band of the University of Wisconsin Waukesha.

The first performance of the new year on January 18th will be at St. John’s on the Lake, one of Milwaukee’s premier retirement locations.

The Salt City New Horizons String Orchestra located in the Fayetteville, NY, was formed last year and began with 9 cellos, 3 basses, 2 violas, 12 violins and 2 guitars. Now with 32 members, the group is rehearsing and plans to perform during the holidays. Pictured here are some of its members.

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Southwestern Wisconsin NHB Highlights
Craig W. Hurst, Associate Director, New Horizons Band of Southeast Wisconsin, Waukesha, WI

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Facebook, really?
Why does anyone want to be on Facebook (FB) or any other social media platform? Simply put, many people started using FB as an easy way to keep up with their family, friends and neighbors, and, in the process of doing so, ended up reconnecting with old classmates, friends, service members, etc.

NHIMA has a page!
NHIMA’s page is there to give you more frequent updates on New Horizons activities, as well as to periodically send interesting articles, cartoons, music links, etc.

This is your opportunity to submit your group’s activities as they happen, rather than waiting until each newsletter is published.

Just send a picture with a caption or a one or two sentence description of your activity to: NHIMANews@gmail.com

To join FB, download the free app on your computer or tablet. Then, search for: New Horizons International Music Association.

Be sure to like us on FB to receive updates as things are posted.

Southwestern Wisconsin New Horizons Band members wishes all the best to their friends in the world of music!
Five years ago, I stumbled across an activity that would truly turn out to be life-changing. I had volunteered at an outdoor festival at Ryerson University in Toronto, when I heard some interesting live music. During my break, I wandered over to the source of the sound and what I saw intrigued me. There were about 30 happy, smiling faces (of the senior variety) playing a range of woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. This was my introduction to the New Horizons Band (NHB) of Toronto, “a band program for mature adults, who wish to play a musical instrument in a friendly group environment.”

The next day I headed to Long & McQuade (our band’s sponsor) and in no time at all, I registered for a beginner class and rented a flute. Three class levels were offered: (1) Absolute beginners and those who want to reconnect with musical skills they haven’t used in years, (2) Those who have been playing for a year or two, and (3) Those with more experience who want to play in a band and meet like-minded people. I had a very rusty knowledge of reading music from piano lessons decades ago, but that was the extent of my experience. So why flute? Truthfully, because I knew it would be easy to carry. Naively, I had no idea how challenging this would become. In all fairness, Toronto NHB does offer an Instrument Exploration Workshop prior to signing up during which a potential band member can try out a range of instruments and get assistance in the selection process. I missed that evening and that’s how I ended up with a flute.

Over the next few months I faced the reality of the flute challenge - coordinating the fingering, the embouchure (position of mouth) and the breathing. I am not exaggerating when I say that any sound I made the first 6 months was random. But because the atmosphere of the band is based on fun and respect, I persevered and now, five years later, I can make deliberate sounds.

My musical journey has been incredible, discouraging, glorious, embarrassing, euphoric, frustrating and everything in between. I have never aspired to be a soloist and yet there have been times when the only note you hear is a wrong one emanating from my flute!

The motto, *Your Best is Good Enough*, has become my musical mantra. My first year as a beginner culminated in a year-end concert at the *Glenn Gould studio*. All levels joined together for the finale and played Ravel’s “Bolero”. The beginner flutists had to count 84 bars before we even entered the piece, and then, from that point to the end, we played a single note for the remainder. The applause was thunderous. I was in a state of shock. I exited the stage and said to one of my band friends, “Did we just play ‘Bolero’ at the Glenn Gould Studio”? The most surreal moment ever!

Karen Ross (right, first row) practices with other band members

**Editor’s Notes:**
* The Glenn Gould Studio is often referred to as the “jewel of the Canadian Broadcasting Centre”. This one-of-a-kind studio is located in the heart of downtown Toronto at 250 Front Street West. It is named after one of the most celebrated classical pianists of the 20th century. The studio honors the legacy of Glenn Gould by operating as a center of excellence for Canadian and international performances, recordings, and events.

** The TVO link may not work in the U.S.
Lifelong Learning – cont’d
Karen Ross – New Horizons Band of Toronto, Ontario, Canada

The New Horizons International Music Association, our umbrella organization, supports more than 200 New Horizons groups throughout the U.S., Canada, and several other countries. A couple of winters ago, I joined the band in St. Petersburg, Florida for their weekly practice. Not surprisingly, I met many Canadian snowbirds who also didn’t want to miss their weekly classes back home.

Our band caught the attention of a filmmaker who followed us for a year and created a documentary called “The Beat Goes On”. **It aired on TVO (http://tvo.org/video/documentaries/the-beat-goes-on) and emphasized to me that, yes, we are lifelong learners and we make music.

I used to suffer from Sunday night syndrome -- that growing anxiety as I headed into another work week. I found, that having something to look forward to is an essential component of happiness. So now, I absolutely welcome my Monday morning rehearsals. It is right up there with the best activities of my week.

Research shows that music-making supports positive mental and physical health. There have been countless moments when the music soars and my heart goes with it. I am so grateful to have discovered an activity at this stage of my life that satisfies my needs creatively, cognitively, socially and often spiritually.

Pay attention to your inner voice that says - I would love to… play golf, do Pilates or yoga, learn to play bridge, join a French conversation club, sign up for a pottery class, start a book club - or learn to play the clarinet. The sense of accomplishment you will feel by learning something new is sublime. Music, sports, academics or art - it’s never too late.

Karen Ross states, “There are currently 7 bands and approximately 200 people in the Toronto NHB. Day and evening beginners, intermediate and advanced, and a Saturday morning Jazz band. Each class meets weekly for two hours.” Band members enjoy friendship and many social activities such as: movie days, themed bowling parties, and an annual “graduation” BBQ. The group performs in multiple locations and travelled to the Ottawa NHB for a weekend of workshops. Their year-end concert is a sell-out at St. Michael’s College auditorium.

Western University NHB Continues to Grow
Deborah Kunder A – Western University New Horizons Adult Band, London, Ontario, Canada

The Western University NHB membership has grown every year since its beginning in 1999. We now number well over 200!

We look forward to our Saturday morning rehearsals to meet old and new friends in the Beginner 1, Beginner 2, Intermediate and two Advanced bands.

Karen Ross – New Horizons Band of Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Western University NHB’s Intermediate Trumpet Section pictured (left) after their summer concert on June 23, 2016--(left to right) Deb Kunder, Denise Deisley, and Garfield Lewis
The Cascade Horizon Band is a vibrant community band in Central Oregon. We are a group of about 70 musicians under the direction of Sue Steiger who perform one concert in the spring and one in the fall. Besides these two regular events, we perform at several other venues and events. Our biggest draw of the year is probably the Sound Fourth! concert on July 4th. We typically perform to an audience of over 1,000 people at this concert in conjunction with the Bend Festival Chorus. We also participate in the Bend Veteran’s Day Parade and Sisters Rodeo Parade, always much appreciated showings. Our Holiday Concert held at the Bend Senior Center, is another highly anticipated event by local fans.

About two years ago, we started a new tradition in the summer performing at the Concert in the Park in the town of Sisters. Through the generous support from local businesses and loyal fans, we take our show on the road to neighboring towns in Central Oregon. We play to benefit the local high school music programs and offer an annual scholarship to graduating high school students with special aptitude and talent in the pursuit of a music career in college. The Cascade Horizon Band is an integral part of the rich and lively local music culture of Central Oregon!
More Music Camp Fun
Linda L. Johnson – Northern Colorado New Horizons Band, Fort Collins, CO

Here is a collage of pictures from our 2nd NHB Music Camp held at the Colorado State University campus in Fort Collins. We had 110 participants making music and having fun over the 4-day camp! Thanks to all who came and made it special!
More Music Camp Fun – cont’d
Linda L. Johnson – Northern Colorado New Horizons Band, Fort Collins, CO

Northern Colorado NHB Camp Director Glenn Shull and camp participant, Tom Laney from the New Horizons Band of Dallas, Texas pose together with their double bell euphoniums

It’s not too often you come across a musician who plays a double bell euphonium, but at our music camp this summer, we were fortunate to have two musicians, Camp Director Glenn Shull and camp participant Tom Laney from the New Horizons Band of Dallas, bring these instruments to camp!

So, what is this crazy looking instrument? The double bell euphonium is an instrument based on the euphonium. The larger bell produces the mellow tone of a standard euphonium; the second smaller bell has a brighter tone, similar to a baritone horn or valve trombone.

The smaller bell can give more appropriate tone in the higher range of the instrument. They were made to give the euphonium more versatility, so you could better match the trombones, horns, etc., or to give a lighter sound when playing with bassoons, etc. The two bells can also be used for special effects, such as echoes, and using the distinctly different tone of the two bells for a single musician to give the effect of call and response.

The last double bell euphoniums were made around 1960. They became extinct because of the extra weight and slightly degraded playing characteristics of the large bell compared to a one bell model. It seems that most of them in use were only used with the large bell anyway, so players didn’t want to bother with the double bell models.

The famous euphonium soloist, Arthur Lehman, was once using a double-bell euphonium while in the Marine Band. He was asked by an onlooker what the small bell was for? Arthur said, "We use it to hold our white gloves when we are not wearing them."

Editor’s Note:
Information for this article was gathered from multiple sources including Wikipedia and a Euphonium-Tuba Forum hosted by Dave Werden.

A Reminder...Fund Raising for New Horizons Groups
It is typical that New Horizons groups have a need for funds at start-up and at various times during the growth of each organization. NHIMA prepared a short summary of how individual groups can develop their own funding strategy. Click here to check out the section on Development at the NHIMA website.
Adult Strings Weekend a Big Success
Dr. Jane Weigel – Director, University of Alabama, Community Music School, Tuscaloosa, AL

Strings weekend attendees, with UA faculty members Dr. Anne Witt, Dr. Blake Richardson, and Prof. Benjamin Crofut. Also, in the photo are three UA School of Music string students who assisted with the ensemble.

The chamber music ensemble with coach Jennifer Trainum

The full String Orchestra rehearses with Dr. Blake Richardson (UA faculty)

North Shore NHB Updates
Sally Bowers – North Shore New Horizons Band, Glencoe, IL

The North Shore New Horizons Band in the Chicago suburb of Glencoe, Illinois started its 16th season under the leadership of Sally W Bowers, its founding director. Brian Weidner, will be the assistant Director and is working on his PhD in music education from Northwestern University’s School of Music. Brian is an accomplished public school music educator and joins a long and distinguished list of Northwestern University PhD candidates referred by Dr. Maud Hickey that have assisted the Band over many years.

Two new members, are Jane and Bob Miller, who joined the band after moving from Traverse City, Michigan. They may look familiar because they have played in several community bands throughout the Midwest. Bob and Jane donated a magnificent, brand-new Pearl concert bass drum and stand to the Band to herald their arrival. Jane is a welcomed new member of our flute section.

Bob and Jane Miller

Brian Weidner
Wanted: More Interaction
Dr. Roy Ernst – Founder, New Horizons Music Program

Our New Horizons music camps are great for people who can afford them, but even though camp managers try their best to minimize expenses and keep camper costs low, the cost to attend one of these great camps may not be affordable to many people. Our New Horizons music camps are usually less expensive than other comparable camps, but even those who go to camps, only do so once or twice a year. As such, we would all benefit from more frequent, and less expensive interaction.

How can we take advantage of learning opportunities from each other and not "break the bank"? I encourage all of us to think of new possibilities. Here are some on my list:

1. Invite a group near you to attend your concert or a dress rehearsal. Have some time for informal snacks and socializing.

2. Check with a group near you to find out when their concerts are and organize some carpools to attend. You will get to know your own fellow musicians better as you travel with them. You could also attend a rehearsal.

Is your band music filing cabinet overflowing? Have you wondered what to do with your accumulation of old sheet music? NHIMA has a program to help you bring those scores back to life by making them available to other New Horizons bands.

NHIMA facilitates a music swap or “garage sale” for their members. The intent is to make gently used, but still loved, band and ensemble music available to all New Horizons groups. Imagine how exciting and helpful it will be to go through the list and find someone else’s treasures at bargain prices!

Here is what to do:

1. Make a list of the music you no longer need, including the following details:
   - Title
   - Composer/arranger
   - Grade level, if available
   - Your email address

2. Email the list to the NHIMA Recycled Music Library Representative listed at:
   http://newhorizonsmusic.org/contact-randy-kligerman/

We will compile the lists and then broadcast it once or twice a year to the general membership via iContact. Interested groups will contact you directly to request the music they would like to receive. We recommend that, at a minimum, the requesting group cover the shipping costs. The rest is up to you.

This may be just the impetus you need to jumpstart your 2017 spring cleaning!

3. Organize a one-day gathering for groups in your area. This has been done successfully in two ways: each group plays a half-hour program and then everyone plays together, or everyone plays together all the time and each director conducts one or two pieces. Break times and a lunch break are important aspects of the brief get-togethers to socialize with the other musicians.

4. Sponsor a short one-day or two-day camp. This already happens with great success in some locations. There are good models for this in Wisconsin and North Carolina. New Horizons International Music Association will help if you contact us.

One of our basic needs is to have special events to anticipate. Our local activities satisfy this to some extent, but when we go beyond our own groups it adds another layer. Please send me a note if you have other ideas on new ways to interact affordably with each other: royernst@aol.com.
At its meeting in Chautauqua last fall, your Board of Directors approved a 2016 membership drive goal of increasing individual membership by fifty percent. Vice President Buddy Givens and the membership committee began the drive with four “pilot groups” to “test” the approach to increasing membership. The pilot groups and their increases (actual numbers and percentage of increase) in membership were as follows:

- Eastman Rochester NH Ensembles – 69 (135%)
- West Michigan NH Ensembles – 38 (271%)
- Denton NHB – 18 (300%)
- Dallas NHB – 16 (200%)

In May, all regular groups received materials to recruit new members, and as of September 26th, 285 new individuals and couple members have been added to our membership rolls! In addition, efforts were made to reinstate several groups that had fallen behind in their group membership fees. To date, 35 such groups have been reinstated. We also added 14 new planning groups and 11 new regular groups during 2016.

In addition to the groups already listed, the following groups have increases of 5 or more new members:

- CASI NHB – 23
- Sudbury Valley NH – 17
- Northern Colorado NHB – 12
- NHB of Northern New York – 10
- Indianapolis NHB – 9
- Cascade Horizon Band – 8
- Baldwin-Wallace NH Program – 7
- NHB of Austin – 6
- Peninsula NHB – 5

Members were added from 36 other groups along with 7 new members who do not belong to a local New Horizons group. There’s still plenty of time left this year to add new members. Forms are available from your local group or via the NHIMA website. At only $10.00 a year for individual members (that’s only 3 cents per day) and $15.00 for couples, it’s a real bargain, and new members will help promulgate the New Horizons vision of Dr. Roy Ernst by giving aid to new groups, helping defray camp costs to both hosting organization and first-time campers, and accomplish other essential tasks.

Please help us by encouraging your group members to join today!

New “Bandmobile” and Chairs for NoCo NHB!
Linda L. Johnson – Northern Colorado New Horizons Band, Fort Collins, CO

Mark Johnson helps unload new band chairs from the new “bandmobile” which was needed to move equipment more easily. Mark also designed the band’s logo which was added to the trailer. Band members appreciated the new chairs which promote better posture during rehearsals!

Did You Know…

This classic US Army recruiting poster was drawn by artist James Montgomery Flagg. James was born in New York in 1877. As a child, he began to draw and sold his first drawing at the age of 12. Two years later he was contributing to Life Magazine and at fifteen was on the staff of The Judge.

Flagg studied at the Arts Students League in New York. When he was twenty, he spent a year working in London before moving on to France.

Flagg was one of America’s leading illustrators. His illustrations were in Photoplay, McClure’s Magazine, Collier’s Weekly, Ladies’ Home Journal, Cosmopolitan, Saturday Evening Post and Harper’s Weekly.

During the First World War Flagg designed 46 posters for the government. His most famous work is the Uncle Sam poster with the caption “I Want You for the U.S. Army.” An adapted version of this poster was also used during the Second World War. James Montgomery Flagg died in 1960.

--From the Smithsonian Institutions’ Americans At War exhibit--
Kenneth Sandberg, 91 years old, has played tuba in NHB Austin since its inception in 1998. Ken had known NHB Austin founder and conductor, Glenn Richter, for many years as Ken’s son had played in the Longhorn Band (LHB) with Glenn in college, and Ken and Glenn had served as officers in the Longhorn Alumni Band shortly thereafter. So, when Glenn was beginning the NHB group, he gave Ken a call and asked him to come and help get the group started. Although concerned about keeping up in the band after so many years without playing, Ken decided to give it a try.

Ken began playing the tuba in seventh grade, drawn partially, he admits, to the idea of wearing a uniform, marching and playing in parades, and attending football and basketball games for free. The only instruments the school provided were the bass drum and the bass horn. He couldn’t afford to buy an instrument, so he asked if he could play the bass horn, and the director produced an E flat tuba. The director, Mr. Weldon Covington, would sit beside Ken, sing the notes, count, and instruct Ken on the fingering, while Ken tried to play the notes. After about two weeks, Mr. Covington decided that Ken was up to the job and presented him with a double B flat sousaphone that was taller than Ken! By around 1939, Ken, still in junior high school, was invited to play in the Austin High School Band, an experience he recalls as special.

In the summer of 1940, Lyndon Baines Johnson was running for US Senator. A local musician recruited high school students from the area to play in a summer band to electioneer for LBJ. The band, about twenty boys, toured East Texas for a couple of weeks by bus. They would perform a couple of marches, such as “Washington Post,” in the town square to draw a crowd. Then a spokesman would campaign for LBJ, and the group would pack up and head for the next town.

After high school, Ken served two years in the U.S. Air Force as a pilot in WW II, then attended the University of Texas and auditioned for the LHB under Colonel George Hurt. He was accepted into the all-male band that practiced on the stage in the gym. As most of the band members were servicemen returning from the war, the existing uniforms were too small for these men. Someone managed to strike a deal with J. C. Penney’s to buy white coveralls for $5 a pair, and that became the band uniform for 1946.

There are three generations of tuba players in Ken’s family: himself, his son and his grandson! His daughter, Karol Boes, plays flute and joined NHB Austin seven years ago, when she turned 50. They are the first, and only, parent-child duo in the band. Although Ken notes that his hearing and eyesight give him problems, and his reaction time is slower, he has greatly enjoyed the experience of playing again. He says that musicians are disciplined and dedicated individuals, and he is proud to be associated with them.

Ken attends practices with clock-like regularity and is a pillar of the NHB Austin Band. As described by Glenn Richter, NHB Austin director,

“Ken, at 91, is a rock star on tuba and tempo leadership for the band. He understands style!”
On Sept 28th, the New Horizons Band of Northern New York gathered in Ron Berry’s garage for an hour of small ensemble music sharing. Groups ranged from eight clarinets, five horns, mixed instrument duets (two by spouse teams), a whole lot of sax and a quintet of four sisters and a flute.

We later closed with a 60’s folk song sing-a-long, followed by a wonderful potluck meal. It was a full house at the Berry Patch.

The West Michigan New Horizons Music Ensembles (WMNHME) started its 18th season with the addition of a new ensemble, perhaps the first and only New Horizons Handbell Ensemble! Through the generous donation of long time WMNHME member, Della Landheer, we now have a beautiful, three octave set of Malmark Handbells, table covers, gloves, mallets, special risers for the music, folders, technique books and a modest library.

We are spending the first part of this season learning the basics of ringing, and exploring the multitude of techniques available on bells. Our members are a combination of experienced ringers and some who are holding bells for the first time! We laugh a lot, work hard, and will be making our debut performance at the December concert.

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The Berry Patch’s Annual Garage Gig
Ron Berry - Director, New Horizons Band of Northern New York, Potsdam, NY

First rehearsal

Musicians perform at Ron Berry’s annual Garage Gig
The New Horizons Jazz Band of Rockledge was recently formed as an offshoot of the New Horizons Band of Melbourne, FL. It originally consisted of a percussionist, keyboard, alto sax, tenor sax, baritone sax, flute, clarinet, three trumpets and a trombone.

The group petitioned NHIMA and was enrolled and later issued a stipend to purchase amplifiers, microphones and a keyboard. With this assistance and a rehearsal location arranged, the group was on its way.

Membership continued to grow with the addition of an amplified guitar, an amplified bass, a soprano sax and another tenor sax. Some local jazz musicians’ agreed to instruct this group and soon produced a program that was presentable to the public.

Several concerts were arranged at locations such as the Brevard Alzheimer’s Daycare Center. At this special day care venue, every selection played by the group was greatly appreciated by the enthusiastic audience.

Encouraged by the success of the group, our founder, Dorothy Holley, approached the Space Coast Jazz Society and the Foosaner Art Museum of Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) University and initiated a free student jazz workshop. A group of very talented youth were enlisted, and percussionist Fred Goodnight, along with other local jazz musicians, volunteered their time and expertise to tutor these young people every Saturday afternoon.

After several months of workshop participation during the summer, a student jazz band was formed. They teamed up with the adult members of New Horizons Jazz Band and an event entitled, “An Afternoon of Jazz,” was scheduled. The public performance was held at the Harris Auditorium of the FIT/Foosaner Art Museum in Melbourne. With background rhythm supplied by the adult jazz members, many of the youth performed improvisational solos with a few jazz standards like, “Blue Monk”, “Memphis Underground”, “Bag’s Groove C-Jam Blues”, “Gospel,” and “Jo-Jo Calypso”. The performance was very well received by the audience!

Word of the Jazz Ensemble’s “Afternoon of Jazz” quickly spread, and the group has been requested to perform at various local area events. The group anticipates a few more opportunities to perform in the fall in the Melbourne area. Contact Dorothy at: dbholley29@yahoo.com if you live near Brevard County and are interested in joining us.

25th Anniversary of New Horizons Music Celebrated

A national symposium on Music and Life Long Learning at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY in October was titled, “Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of New Horizons Music and Honoring Dr. Roy Ernst.”

The focus of the symposium was on the importance of providing music education for every phase of life. Six of the speakers were directors of New Horizons groups. Several of the speakers were Roy’s former students, now college professors. The Rochester New Horizons Jazz ensemble played for a reception.

Happy 25th NHIMA!
Dupage NHB’s 2016 – 2017 Season Highlights
Betty Jensen - New Horizons Band of DuPage – Naperville, IL

Director Maryann Flock has kept the New Horizons Band of DuPage quite busy this past season. Here are some memorable moments as well as a preview of what’s to come!

**May 14, 2016** – The band performed a Spring Concert at the Benet Academy (St. Daniel Hall) in Lisle, IL. They will return to this venue on December 10, 2016 for a Holiday Concert, and again on May 13, 2017 for their Spring Fling. These annual free concerts at Benet are well-attended and well-received by the community; they also happen to enjoy the varied assortment of delicious appetizers, desserts and refreshments provided by the band for everyone to enjoy after these performances!

**June 09, 2016** – Instead of having fun performing, the band had enjoyed working the dessert kiosk at the Naperville Municipal Band’s first concert. NHB members prepared home-baked goods and refreshments which quickly sold out. The funds raised were donated to a scholarship foundation sponsored by New Horizons.

**July 03, 2016** - It is a tradition in the village of Warrenville, IL (a neighboring suburb of Naperville) to host a *Friends of the Fourth Parade*. For the past 17 years, about 30 - 40 band members participate in this 1.5 hours parade. No marching for the seniors, but the luxury of riding on a band provided and decorated float! And, in true dedication, the band plays continuously, no matter how hot the day is. If a mishap occurs, such as the year when a bench started to tip backwards, no one missed a beat, including those sitting on that bench! The streets and lawns are filled with the local residents who break out in applause and cheers when the band passes by with its patriotic music.

**October 17, 2016** - The band was back at one of its most cherished events, the annual Halloween-themed concert at the *Misericordia Home in Chicago and played for one of the largest audiences of the year as the crowd danced in the aisles enjoying the music! The band met at a pre-designated location, boarded a charter bus and enjoyed the ride to the north side of Chicago, taking in the sights along the way. (One year, the band enjoyed carpooling with each other because the bus didn’t show up at the designated time!)

In addition to the above events, Band members always enjoy playing at retirement homes and schools. Once a month after rehearsal, they join each other in a Social Hour at a local restaurant which is just a few steps away from the Concert Center where they practice.

A good time is always had by all – whether it be parade or concert participation or merely joining each other weekly for the pleasure, challenge and camaraderie of making music together. As the band says...

“*It’s Never Too Late to Toot Your Own Horn!*”

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*Editor’s Note:*
*The Misericordia Home in Chicago offers a community of care that maximizes potential for persons with mild to profound developmental disabilities, many of whom are also physically challenged.*

Betty Jensen relayed that the band, comprised of approximately 50 members, participates in: Concert Band, Me Too (Beginners Band), Intermediate Band and various ensembles (Brass Choir, German Band and Woodwind Consort). Many are in multiple groups and several are competent on a secondary instrument.
Northern Colorado NHB Kicks Off Busy 20th Anniversary Season
Linda L. Johnson – Northern Colorado New Horizons Band, Fort Collins, CO

The band’s busy schedule began after the regular season ended in May with the band hosting another successful New Horizons Music Camp at Colorado State University in Fort Collins (more on the camp later).

In July, our Swing Band played an outdoor concert at the Greeley Family Funplex as part of their Summer Concert Series. And in August, the band’s new Board of Directors laid out plans for the year to include a celebration to commemorate our 20th anniversary.

The annual “Welcome Back Picnic” hosted by Glenn and Barbara Shull ushered in the official start of the 2016 – 2017 season with twice-a-week rehearsals kicking off. In late September, the Swing Band played for residents and guests of the Rigden Farm Senior Living.

Then, in early October, the Woodwind Ensemble, Swing Band, and Dixieland Band took part in a Colorado State University Osher Lifelong Learning Institute “Perk Series” class, “Music of the Ages: The New Horizons Band.” Director Glenn Shull explained what New Horizons is all about, how it got started, etc. Each group performed several selections and in between groups, questions were addressed.

Concert Band is preparing for the Fall Concert which will be held in early November. And, rounding out the year is the Annual Christmas Party and our regular Christmas performance for Foothills Gateway in Fort Collins, an agency that supports people with cognitive disabilities.
The Concert Band had a surprise visit in October from Director Glenn Shull's Physical Therapist, Dr. Katie Larson. She attended the rehearsal to discuss and demonstrate how we can help avoid injury by warming up properly prior to playing an instrument.

One of our band members recently watched one of the local high school band practices and they did the exact same warm-up exercises that Dr. Larson showed us. She relayed that the high school band does them prior to every practice.

To help promote good posture when playing our instruments, our band recently purchased better chairs (non-folding) for our twice-a-week rehearsals. These chairs are sturdier, have some padding, and have backs that are more upright which promotes better playing posture.

It’s wonderful that we’ve found this love of making music in New Horizons, but now we need to do all we can to ensure we can enjoy playing for many years to come.
First New Horizons Group in West Virginia!
Lindsey R. Williams – Director, MonRiver New Horizons Band, Morgantown, WV

We are happy to announce that West Virginia has its first New Horizons Band…the MonRiver New Horizons Band!

WVU Visiting Associate Professor of Music Education Lindsey Williams is the director of this new band which is part of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at West Virginia University (WVU).

There were several information sessions held during the summer and on September 13, 2016, the band began with just 9 members and are now up to 14 members, adding one member each time they’ve met! One of the members also includes the Director of OLLI at WVU!

Active NHB in Sioux City
Marv Crim – New Horizons Band, Sioux City, Iowa

The NHB of Sioux City’s busy summer schedule was highlighted by a well-attended Lewis and Clark Americana Concert in July.

Director Dr. Lou Rossman continues to give us many playing opportunities and our current schedule includes two performances a month. Each performance is unique with different types of music played. For instance, in October we rehearsed many polkas that we will perform at a German Dinner. We are slated to play various college fight songs for the Lion’s Club Pancake Breakfast. And, looking ahead to November and December, the Band will play holiday music for six different Siouxland organizations.

It is always a joy for us to play for senior citizens and observe the spark it creates in them from songs that were popular when they were in school! During this Presidential election period, whether it be blue or red, or one leans conservative or liberal, music brings us to the center. A huge thank you to all New Horizons groups who bring joy and comfort to their audience.

Join or Renew
Why should YOU join NHIMA?

For just 3 cents a day, you will:
- earn discounts for music camp
- support our informative website;
- receive spring and fall newsletters online
- receive a membership directory;
- help maintain a centralized listing for existing and new groups
- enable scholarships for first-time campers;
- enable assistance to new New Horizons 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, click here to email Buddy Givens (Chair of Membership Committee).

While NHIMA welcomes group membership, which has its own set of benefits, only individual membership in NHIMA qualifies one for a discount registration fee to a music camp.

Marv Crim also reports that their band’s drummer, Brent Hoefer, was recently honored at the Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame at the Iowa Great Lakes of Okoboji. He has played with the Rock and Roll band, "Drive Time," for the past five years.

Brent (left) is pictured playing drums for his rock and roll band.
“Dynamics,” hissed Lew Sbrana, conductor and founder of the New Horizons Band of Sonoma County (CA). He raised his arms to give a downbeat, and more than seventy musicians played the first note of Rossini’s “Semiramide Overture” again, this time pianissimo instead of forte.

Hard at work, the band was rehearsing for their June 12 performance in Golden Gate Park. The group was invited by the Golden Gate Park Band to participate in the tenth annual Golden Gate Park Band Festival, to play in the Park’s glorious and historic band shell. The Golden Gate Park Band has been in continuous existence since 1882, and it was quite an honor for the Sonoma County group to be invited to perform at the annual festival.

Sonoma County’s New Horizons Band was founded in 1999 with twelve members, coincidentally the same number who started the Golden Gate Park Band more than a century earlier. The following year, the Sonoma County band had doubled in size, and it has been growing ever since. This year, there are eighty musicians on the roster; typically, about 70 play in concerts. At some rehearsals, there are as many as 6 tubas, 9 flutes, and 13 trumpets!

The band plays two or three free concerts each Fall and then again each Spring. The group has also performed at the Sonoma County Fair, and has shared concerts with Santa Rosa Junior College Symphonic Band and Sonoma Country Day School. Typical repertoire includes: Broadway show tunes, jazz medleys, classical transcriptions, original band works, and, of course, Sousa marches.

Initially formed to encourage seniors (ages 50 and older) to take up musical instruments during retirement, or to start again on instruments neglected during busy professional and childrearing years, the band has evolved into an assembly of proficient musicians, including a few who have played professionally in the past. But all are welcome, and the range of abilities varies, with more experienced members helping those still struggling to learn or re-learn their chosen instruments. The repertoire has become steadily more challenging as the group has gained musical skill. Average age of the current group is 73, with a range of 57 to 93 years.

Tuba and string bass player Tom Clark remarked, “At my first rehearsal I looked at this group and said to myself, I want to grow old like these people: they’re involved, they’re happy, they have a lot to look forward to every day, and they’re all friends.”

Another musician, French horn player Helen Campbell said, “The band let me start over again doing something I loved—after 54 years!

Many dedicated volunteers help the band operate. Founding conductor Lew Sbrana had retired from Healdsburg High School after many years, and was still directing the Healdsburg Community Band when he started the New Horizons group. Sbrana has since been joined by Sid Gordon, Ray Walker, and Lew Bishop (fondly known as Lew Two). Most of the conductors, like Sbrana, are retired from music education/conducting jobs at high schools or middle schools. With four conductors sharing the workload, allowance can be made for a conductor’s absence due to travel or illness without having to cancel practice.

Other assistants include several dedicated spouses who serve as band librarians, volunteers who help Sbrana set up the practice hall for twice weekly rehearsals, and others who haul bulky percussion instruments to concert performances. One member regularly
creates “Get Well” cards for members absent due to illness, hospitalization, or, sadly, occasionally provides a condolence card for a member’s or spouse’s death. Perhaps most appreciated are volunteers who dependably bring jugs of coffee and bake cookies for rehearsal coffee breaks.

Some serious practice takes place during rehearsals, especially when preparing for an upcoming performance such as that at Golden Gate Park, but many light-hearted moments occur as well. The band serves as much as a social group and extended family for its many members as it does a musical outlet. Both aspects are important functions of the group, helping its members stay cognitively sharp and socially connected as they age.

Every month, there is a spirited rendition of “Happy Birthday” played for all those celebrating birthdays that month. Coffee breaks tend to run over their allotted time as members chat over coffee and cookies; usually they must be summoned back to their seats by a bugle call.

At one recent concert, where the trombones were playing “Lassus Trombone,” when that section stood up for their solo, the row of clarinets sitting in front of their slides slapped hard hats on their heads before they started to play. Perhaps due to their maturity, band members tend to be less competitive than performers in other musical groups. As many as six different trumpet players have performed solo passages during concert performances.

Clarinetist Mary Tuscher explained, “New Horizons Band was a life saver. My husband had just passed away. For me, it was therapy. The music was so uplifting.”

Perhaps Linda Phillips, alto clarinet, summed it up most succinctly, “It makes my day!”

Besides the concert band with its regular performances, there have been several musical offshoots over the years. Ray Walker started a Swing Band, which also performs regularly. Another group formed the New Horizons Brass Quintet. And, at the end of every spring season, the group holds a Talent Show, where small groups of members and soloists perform for the entire group, followed by a potluck lunch. Talent show acts vary widely, from a singer to a flute-tuba duet, and just about anything in between…woodwind quintets, brass trios, even comedy skits such as that performed by the Oakmont (local retirement community) Philharmonics. And, unfortunately, given the age range of its members, New Horizons Band has performed for more than one funeral of a beloved participant.

The Golden Gate Park concert required significant preparations. We rented two buses to haul members and some of their spouses along with the instruments. Extra rehearsals took place after the end of the usual spring season. Conductors met to choose and time selections for the concert.

Conductor Sbrana even visited the Golden Gate Park band shell to measure the stage, anticipating the logistical challenge of getting the whole band (including some mobility-impaired players) onto the stage. He wanted to ensure that all could fit within the shell.

All their hard work culminated in the performance at Golden Gate Park on June 12th. And, as the final notes drifted away into the redwood and eucalyptus trees, the musicians got to their feet while the audience applauded, acknowledging the accomplishment of Sonoma County’s New Horizons Band.

New Horizons Band performs at Spreckels Temple of Music. The original band shell dates to 1894, but significant repair and reconstruction took place after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.
As more Door County adults retire and find time on their hands, they are frequently rediscovering old hobbies and pastimes. The Peninsula New Horizons Band (PNHB) program was developed for adults who wish to learn to play a band instrument, or re-learn an instrument they used to play. Classes are fun and informal, and provide a nice opportunity to mix with like-minded adults who love band music and instruments.

The fall semester kickoff was held in late September and this was an opportunity for new students to learn about and try a variety of different instruments. The PNHB's Fall 2016 semester is 8 weeks long. Lessons and classes are $10/week or $80 for the full semester, and held every Thursday from October 6th through December 1st, 6:30-8:30 pm, at Bay View Lutheran in Sturgeon Bay. There are no classes on Thanksgiving.

Founding member Paula Eggert--music instructor for brass instruments and director of the Peninsula Symphonic Community Band--serves as the PNHB’s conductor. Co-founding member, Kathy Krauss, is the instructor for woodwind instruments.

For more information or background details, contact PNHB board member Frank Christensen at 920-559-7844. Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/PeninsulaNewHorizonsBand

Website: www.NewHorizonsBandDoorCo.com

New Band Starts Up in Ontario
Raymond Lacroix – Director, Cornwall New Horizons Band, Cornwall, Ontario, Canada

A new NHB group began rehearsals this past April in Cornwall Ontario. They have a class on Monday for beginners and a Thursday class for the rest of the band. The group has grown to about 40 members in just one year and plans to have their first concert this Christmas.

The band is in the process of incorporating as a not-for-profit organization and will get their rehearsal space at a local High School rent free when this is complete.

“Coach” Raymond Lacroix reports that things are going really well and he expects them to be a full concert band performing on a regular basis in about 2 years.

More information is available on their website at: www.cornwallnewhorizonsband.org

NHB Member Writes Band Mystery Novelette
Margaret (Noble) Hockett – New Horizons Band of Northern NY, Pottsdam, NY

Margaret (Noble) Hockett has played trumpet, percussion, saxophone, and keyboard in the Northern NY chapter of New Horizons.

Changing instruments several times as I played in the band spurred my imagination... what if a member kept having to change sections because someone was out to get her? (Before joining the band, I wrote and edited for educational publishers, but I always dreamed of writing mysteries.) The result was the novelette, “Murder in 3/4 Time,” which other New Horizons members may find entertaining.

It is currently available on Amazon in paperback only, but a Kindle version is planned for the near future.
Our chamber group gave its spring concert last May. This photo shows 11 of the 13 musicians in the group; we have 15 in the group now. One cellist was not able to join us for the concert and a new flutist begins in June.

In June, I gave a one-hour invited presentation to the annual convention of the Florida Federation of Music Clubs meeting here in Gainesville. I serve on the board of our local chapter, the Foundation for Promotion of Music and one of our chamber group flutists, Linda Blessing, is chapter president.

At the presentation, I showed the first 30 minutes of the New Horizons documentary, Music for Life, and then gave a short slide presentation, followed by discussion.

Contact Michael at: smplaut@gmail.com to request a copy of his presentation.
We know that New Horizons was established to increase music-making opportunities for adults. But the New Horizons Symphony in Las Cruces, NM believes that making music with younger people is a “win-win” situation for everyone. This 13-year old symphony orchestra includes a few talented high school and college students in its 60-person membership. The group rehearses and performs at New Mexico State University (NMSU).

The symphony has found an innovative way to expand the horizons of young and old musicians and audiences alike. Now in her fifth year as music director and conductor of the New Horizons Symphony, Dr. Marianna Gabbi had a brainstorm a few years ago. She had experience running concerto competitions for young musicians when she conducted the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra (1975-1999). She saw firsthand how the faces of young players lit up when they were performing with the symphony.

Gabbi saw no reason why the New Horizons Symphony could not take on this kind of adventure and thus was born the New Horizons Symphony Young Artist Competition.

The competition is open to students enrolled in instrumental studio lessons at NMSU and is judged by a panel of professional musicians. The program is enthusiastically supported by the NMSU music department staff and the professors who prepare their students for the competition.

Orchestra members have lots of fun working with the students and audiences love the programs. The winners have the joy of playing solo with an orchestra.

The first competition was held in 2015 and 18 students competed. The winner was pianist Joseph Seth Zamora. The second competition in 2016 had 10 entries. Winners were Nathan Tanner Dossey, xylophonist, and Domnic Lowhar, flutist.

The third competition is scheduled for January 2017 with a performance of the winners in May 2017. It is too early to tell, but perhaps one of these winners will be playing on a stage in your town some day!
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. Our board of directors seeks to cultivate business memberships alongside the individuals who support the organization. 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. All the companies below are listed on NHIMA’s Web site. NHIMA would like to thank these business members for their participation.

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