NHIMA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, SPECIAL PROJECTS

An Idea for the Musician on Your Christmas List

By Judy Rose, NHIMA Board of Directors, Membership Committee

This is the time of the year when New Horizons musicians resume rehearsals, read new music, begin performing gigs and reunite with friends. As you think about what New Horizons has done to enhance your life, please consider supporting the volunteer run organization, New Horizons International Music Association (NHIMA). Membership advantages include this semi-annual very informative newsletter, the comprehensive website, interesting music related emails, a shared music library, early notification of camp registration and a discount for first time campers.

You may support NHIMA by joining with a $15.00 annual or a discounted three or five year or a lifetime membership. Visit the NHIMA website at www.newhorizonsmusic.org and click on the membership tab. If your family members struggle with gift ideas for you, add NHIMA membership to your "wish list".

For a list of musicians who have joined or upgraded their NHIMA membership since January 2018, see page 2.
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### New Horizons New or Upgraded Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill Adams</td>
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<td>Jennifer Armstrong</td>
<td>Winston Salem, NC</td>
<td>Joseph Galeaz</td>
<td>St. Jacob, IL</td>
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<td>Elaine Atkin</td>
<td>Provo, UT</td>
<td>Craig George</td>
<td>Canaduigau, NY</td>
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<td>Kayoka Glueck</td>
<td>Toronto, ON*</td>
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<td>Lester Katzel</td>
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<td>Helen Keefe</td>
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*Canada*
EASTMAN ROCHESTER NEW HORIZONS BAND, ROCHESTER, NY

Five Original Members of the Very First NH Band

Compiled by Barry Rabson

BARRY RABSON  When in 1991, I first saw the Eastman School of Music’s ad in the Rochester newspaper, it literally changed my life. It asked people who might be interested in joining a band to attend a meeting at the Eastman school. My recollection is that 35 or 40 people attended. Some of them had played band instruments in their youth. Others, like me, had never. Now over 27 years later, of those who joined the original Rochester band, only four or five are left. Unfortunately, some of the original members have passed away. Some have just left Rochester for warmer climes. This picture is of the remaining crew.

At our first meeting in 1991, Roy Ernst asked me what instrument I would like to play. Having only studied piano as a child, and remembering my love of Benny Goodman, I asked if he could teach me how to play the clarinet. Of course, he said yes, and assigned me to an Eastman School graduate student. Three weeks later, Roy said that he thought I was ready to play in the band. My response was that I could only play one note, and that was a “C”. He said fine, and that whenever “C” came up in the music, I could then play it. Twenty-six years later, I can play all the notes.

HARVEY STERON  During one of our first few rehearsals, when we weren’t responding very well to Dr. Ernst’s directions, he told us to play whatever we wanted for a few minutes. After those very cacophonic moments someone (me) yelled out to Dr. Ernst, “Is this your first time conducting?”

At one of our first Spring concerts in the Eastman Theater, we had just finished playing The Canadian Brass version of “Just a Closer Walk With Thee,” when from the lower mezzanine level we all heard “Yea, Grandpa,” from my 5-year-old granddaughter. This was also picked up on recordings of this concert.

ALAN NEWMAN  It is difficult for me to keep this note short. I was literally flooded with memories. I played with the Rochester NHB from 1991 to 2001 and then with the Desert Foothills NHB (Phoenix, AZ) from 2001 to 2015. I attended many NHB Band camps, and served on the National Board (NHIMA) from 2001 to 2004. In between times I practiced law. I stopped playing recently due to physical reasons. Prior to 1991, I had never played a musical instrument. I loved the music and all of the people that I met along the way.

HOWARD HOLMES  I joined late in the first year on a horn loaned to me by El Mayer (WWII bomber pilot and Distinguished Medal recipient), also a member of New Horizons. He passed away several years ago. This was 47 years after I played in high school but, remarkably, I remembered the fingering, sometimes accurate, sometimes not. We were asked to leave the Memorial Art Gallery as our playing (?) disturbed the working personnel—we couldn’t understand why we moved to several other locations in the first couple of years. I was fortunate to be a member of the first NHIMA board of directors and to have been to many music camps, meeting fellow musicians who are now friends.

See THE VERY FIRST NH BAND continued on page 5
The Lowly Onion
(By Richard Bruns 01/17)

Think of the onion as representing the total sum of knowledge when it comes to playing any instrument or in my case, the trumpet.

How do we hold it, how do we finger it, or clean it, or blow in it? Precisely how should our lips be formed and do we need lots of air... how much? How should we stand or sit and do we need strength?

Questions and more questions abound. One could fill a book, in fact, many have.

To many people, the word ‘practice’ has an onerous connotation. It means they will be obliged to stretch themselves. In truth it means to repeat an exercise in or performance of, an activity to acquire proficiency.

Learning to play any instrument, means peeling the onion of knowledge, layer by layer. Each skin removed is a coating of knowledge acquired and a victory, however small, for the pupil.

Like our acquired knowledge, the onion is an acquired taste. The sphere called Allium Cepa represents our musical goal. Put an onion in your exercise space and peel a layer every day. It’s a healthy practice!

A NOTE OF THANKS
It has been an honor
by Dr. Ken Carper, outgoing president

It has been an honor serving as President of the New Horizons Board of Directors the past year and a half. The New Horizons International Music Association (NHIMA) purposely keeps “new blood” circulating by having term limits for its Board members. Each of the nine members on the Board is elected to a single 3-year term. In my three years I was warmly greeted as I attended rehearsals of many New Horizons groups. And I look forward to meeting many more groups and players over the coming years.

At its September meeting at the Chautauqua Band Camp, the Board accepted the nomination of three people to replace the three members whose three-year term ends December 31st. After reading short bios of each, a vote was taken and I am pleased to announce that all three nominees received unanimous support. I welcome, as 2019-2022 Board members, Kate Levy, Dan Kapp, Edie Shillatoe. In addition, Ron Berry is joining the Board of Directors to fill the remaining term left open due an early resignation.

Welcome Kate, Dan, Edie, and Ron! I will be cheering you on from the Membership ranks and hope I can continue to be of some assistance.

Thank you, NHIMA members, for being such a welcoming group of musicians!

NON-MUSICAL GOALS for musical ensembles

1. Developing patience and courtesy
2. Developing the ability to take constructive criticism
3. Developing teamwork and the feeling of each individual’s importance to the ensemble
4. Developing a feeling of self-worth
5. Building pride in the ensemble and sponsoring organization
6. Developing personal security, relieving anxiety
7. Encouraging experimentation and creativity
8. Building pride in physical appearance/dress code/posture
9. Developing punctuality and dependability
10. Developing friendship and understanding

Source unknown
At the beginning, Roy ruled that there would be no auditions required to play in the band, and that for those people who did not already play an instrument, they could take up any instrument they wanted to. The result was that the initial band had lots of clarinets, flutes, saxes, and trumpets, but no low instruments. In any case, our first public concert was on December 10, 1991 at the Rochester Memorial Art Gallery’s Cutler Union. There were about 30-35 musicians (?) in the band, and an audience made up entirely of family members. Afterwards, when we got a little better, we started playing concerts in nursing homes and schools. I remember that after these concerts, Roy would say “That was great, so let’s go out for coffee and dessert.”

Coffee breaks were always an important part of practice sessions, and Roy would have to shoo everyone back after the break to start practicing again. Socializing at these breaks resulted in many long-time friendships.

COMMENTS FROM OUR FOUNDER, ROY ERNST

All the years of New Horizons Music have been a joy to me. I am amazed at how advanced and wonderful some New Horizons groups are now, but the very first years were the most fun. The expectations couldn’t have been lower. At that time, it was widely believed that retired people would not be able to learn to read music and play an instrument. Every step of progress was celebrated. When we could play a tune that was recognizable it was cause for celebration. Our first public performance lasted about twenty minutes. That was all we could play, but we couldn’t wait any longer to share this with friends and family. Around the end of the second year we played a concert that lasted almost an hour. I told the audience, “Remember, we’re the band that knows when to stop.” Since some devoted followers heard the music at more than one performance, I said “Don’t worry, it will be different. We have never played anything the same way twice.” Our adventure carried some celebrity. We had large articles in *The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, *The New York Times*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Atlanta Journal* and many other publications. After the *New York Times* article appeared, the NBC *Today Show* made two visits to produce a story that ran internationally. Since those early days, about 250 New Horizons groups have started in the United States and several other countries.

ADDITIONAL from the editor: News was received on November 14 that Harvey Steron passed away since this edition was released. He had been at a band rehearsal just three days prior to his death. His memorial service will be held on November 15, 2018. I extend sincere sympathy to his family, friends and colleagues.
A rare concert teaming the Cincinnati New Horizons Band and New Horizons Orchestra – characterized as "magical" – could lead to annual joint performances.

An audience estimated at 160 turned out in May to hear the combined music of almost 80 musicians playing for the New Horizons Orchestra and the New Horizons Band of Cincinnati.

"I believe our first concert with the New Horizons Orchestra was an absolute success," said Russ Rosen, president of the Cincinnati NHB. "All of the musicians enjoyed a new experience and the outcome was magical.

“We are so pleased,” he vowed, “that we will make the concert an annual event."

The concert, open to the public, was staged at the Congregation etz Chaim Synagogue. It featured a diverse program ranging from classics to songs from America’s proud musical heritage. The musical aggregations played individually, then joined for a grand finale.

The New Horizons Orchestra was launched in January 2014 for music lovers over 50 seeking fellowship and instruction in violin, viola, cello and string bass. It is directed by BettyAnne Gottlieb, assistant professor of music education at the University of Cincinnati – College Conservatory of Music and director of CCM Preparatory’s New Horizons program.

The longer-established Cincinnati NHB is looking forward to celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2019. But experience hasn’t cooled its enthusiasm for innovation, as the joint concert indicates.

The Cincinnati band opted last year to replace its retiring director, Pete Metzger with not one but a trio of highly experienced directors: Susan Schirmer, Jack Conway and Bruce Knapp. Each took a turn at the podium during the joint concert.

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String Players: Check This Out!
by Roy Ernst, Founder, New Horizons Music

I usually don’t make recommendations, but I want to be sure that you know about this. Using an app called Sit-ins, you can play your part with a professional string quartet.

If you’re a violist, for example, you can turn off the viola part and play with the rest of the quartet. Or, you can play along with the pro violist to be sure you have it right.

Right now this is only available for strings, but I hope that they will be adding wind groups. In order to enjoy this, it should sound like the quartet is right in the room with you, so get a good speaker or use good headphones. The website is www.Sit-ins.com. According to the website, repertoire includes over 100 classical string quartet and duet movements, from beginner to expert.
In February 1998, Pat Dempsey started a New Horizons Band in Port Huron, MI. There were just eight people at the first meeting. By spring, there were a few more members so the band played at the intermission of the college band’s concert. Tunes included “Twinkle, Twinkle” and others from the beginner book. Over the years, the band has played at Art on the River, Art in the Park, Festival of Trees since 1999, Cool Cities presentation attended by Michigan’s governor, many local senior centers, the American Heart Association, Mercy Hospital, and Tourist in Your Own Town. Ten Halloween concerts, in full costume, were enjoyed by young and old alike. In 2014 we hosted a band camp.

As the anniversary approached, plans were made for the 20th Anniversary year. A concert was held April 29 at First Church of the Nazarene. Co-directors Pat Dempsey and Jim Chubb conducted the program. Mike Schwalm, a retired high school teacher and former NH director, was guest conductor. His selection was “On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss.” Band Selections included “Brighton Beach,” “Carrickfergus,” “The Blue and The Grey,” and “Host of Freedom.” The concert was followed by a catered dinner at a local steakhouse. After dinner entertainment was provided by the New Horizon swing band, Sentimental Journey.

Another part of the celebration was to do a series of summer Sunday concerts at our lighthouse. Fort Gratiot lighthouse sits at the base of Lake Huron. It is a lovely park setting. It was a little chilly for the June concert. The August concert fell on a lovely blue sky day. The final concert in September was cancelled due to inclement weather. The concerts were well attended.

The summer schedule was a very busy one. The band played for volunteer appreciation at Lakeshore Presbyterian Church; for National Night Out at Griswold St Baptist Church and a corn roast at St Paul’s Lutheran Church. The band was invited back to both Richmond and Yale Michigan for outdoor park concerts.

Since April, Port Huron New Horizons Band has become part of Blue Water New Horizons Music. We have a board of directors and have attained 501(c)(3) status.

Since April, Port Huron New Horizons Band has become part of Blue Water New Horizons Music. We have a board of directors and have attained 501(c)(3) status. The board is busy working on by-laws. This organization will cover the band and all the sub-groups that have formed including the strings, jazz band and brass choir. Plans to form other quartets or octets are in the formative stages.

A Christmas concert will be held in December to finish the year. Pat and Jim thank Port Huron Music Center, Dave Teeple (former owner) and Pete Kruz (current owner) for their support for 20 years.
The Sabian Company, one of the world’s leading cymbal-makers, situated in New Brunswick, Canada and a business member of NHIMA, offered a pair of handheld 18” AA Viennese cymbals to NHIMA bands and ensembles. A lottery was held and 32 bands/ensembles from the US and Canada entered the lottery. Bob Hughes, a retired percussion professor at Western University in London, ON and a friend of the late Robert Zildjian, founder of the Sabian Company, did the official draw.

The winning band was the Michigan State University Community Music School NHB. Members of the band were delighted to receive these beautiful cymbals. A great gift of sound for many years, and many ears!

Members of the MSU NHB percussion section display the winnings
The Gate City and Winston Salem New Horizons bands, in conjunction with the Eastern Music Festival (EMF), hosted the 12th annual Carolina Band Blast from July 12 through July 14. The three-day event focused on seven concert band pieces and four jazz band pieces that were all performed at the closing concert on Saturday afternoon.

Our three outstanding guest conductors included Peter Perret, Sumner Spradling, and Dan Hitchcock.

Peter Perret is the conductor of the Danville Symphony Orchestra, the Greensboro Philharmonia, and the Salem Community Orchestra. He is also the conductor emeritus of the Winston Salem Symphony after conducting that orchestra for 25 years.

Sumner Spradling holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the University of Mississippi and a Master's degree in Music Education from the University of South Carolina where he served as graduate assistant for the USC Bands.

He served as band director for middle and high school grades, and at Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, MO, where he was also trumpet professor. He has performed and soloed with many professional bands of all types as well as symphonies, including the Greensboro Philharmonia.

Sumner has also written and arranged extensively for swing band, marching band, concert band, choir, and orchestra.

Dan Hitchcock is an outstanding young saxophonist and woodwind artist and a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) Jazz Performance program. He currently plays with the Camel City Jazz orchestra, Souljam, and his own jazz quartet. He teaches saxophone privately and in the UNC School of the Arts Community Music School. He is also the conductor of the Gate City Horizons Jazz Band.

Peter and Sumner shared the conducting duties for the Carolina Band Blast concert band and Dan conducted the jazz band ensemble. The repertoire for each ensemble is listed in the box at above.

During the jazz band performance, Dan played the lead tenor sax part on “Skylark,” which was a real treat for...
the musicians as well as the audience.

EASTERN MUSIC FESTIVAL  The EMF provided tickets for Carolina Band Blast participants to attend the Friday night Young Artists Orchestra Series concert. This was an opportunity to hear some of the best orchestral students in the US and the world perform.

The EMF, established in 1962, is one of the most acclaimed music educational camps and festivals in the United States. The camp was conceived as a place where talented students could receive professional musical instruction and where students of similar ability and training could perform together.

From the first class of 75 students, the EMF has grown to a student enrollment of approximately 200 each year. World-class master teachers and trained musician-teachers provide intensive one-on-one and small group sessions for six weeks from late June until early August each year.

Alumni of the EMF have been coming back as performers, teachers, and special guest artists for years. They include classical and jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, concert pianists Randall Hodgkinson and Gustavo Romero; composer/conductor Carl Roskott; and classical quartet violist Chauncey Patterson.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CAROLINA BAND BLAST 2018  This year we had 56 participants representing six states and ten New Horizons bands. In addition to the jazz ensemble, which we have each year, we had a few small ensembles that rehearsed together but did not perform in the concert.

The three fine conductors did an outstanding job of working with the musicians to master the details of the music in order to produce a solid concert performance. There were many teaching moments that were of benefit to the musicians.

As usual, the catered lunches were outstanding, but the most important improvement for 2018 was that we had a much better venue at which to hold our event. The administrator of the Friendly Avenue Baptist Church graciously allowed us to use their facilities, which included the multi-purpose room, the connected kitchen, and other nearby rooms to store instrument cases and to hold ensemble rehearsals. The multi-purpose room is a very large and comfortable room that was used for rehearsals and our closing concert. There was plenty of room for audience during the concert.

PLANS FOR CAROLINA BAND BLAST 2019  We are already beginning our planning for next year, which we hope will make 2019 the best event ever. NHIMA founder Dr. Roy Ernst will be our special guest conductor. In addition to other ideas we are considering, we hope to expand the small ensembles and make them a larger part of the event.

Since the 2018 event ended, Sumner Spradling has written a new march dedicated to New Horizons and we are looking forward to playing it very soon. The “East Coast March” will be one of the selections for next year, and will be conducted by Dr. Ernst. We are very excited about that. Additionally, Sumner would like to make this arrangement available to other New Horizons bands that might be interested. If you would like a copy of the arrangement, please contact Sumner at sumnerspradling@icloud.com.

Sumner Spradling, composer of “East Coast March,” written in dedication to New Horizons, is making this arrangement available to other New Horizons bands. If you would like a copy of the arrangement, please contact Sumner at sumnerspradling@icloud.com.
BOOK REPORT

Making Time for Making Music: How to Bring Music into your Busy Life by Amy Nathan (Oxford University Press, 2018)

I enjoyed reading Making Time for Making Music by Amy Nathan. I don't know of any other book that gives such a comprehensive picture of adult music making activities.

Everything from rock bands to bands and orchestras is included. She also tells the stories of all kinds of adults who choose to make music, including many New Horizons musicians.

Amy (last names seem too academic and unfriendly to me now) formed an "Advice Panel" of 441 musicians, music teachers, scientists, health care professionals and others. She corresponded with them often to gather the information for her book.

The stories of others who have solved the same problems you solved are told.

What kind of music should I do? Where do I get instruction? Where and when should I practice? How should I practice? You may very well pick up some new ideas.

Continually learning to do new things supports good brain health. Since I've been playing the flute for 62 years (I'm 80), it definitely is not new and doesn't do much for my brain health. I'm learning how to play the bass and I'm taking bodhran (Irish drum) lessons from people all over the world (on YouTube). None of them would be proud to claim me as a student. I'm also going to join a ukulele group this year.

One very good outcome of reading this book is that it might encourage you to take on a new musical activity—learn a new instrument or play with a new kind of group. I know one New Horizons musician who plays with four different groups—and she plays a different instrument in each one!

I recommend "making time" to read Making Time for Making Music.

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON NEW HORIZONS CONCERT BAND, DAYTON, OH

Music is My First Love

By Rachel Chadwick

Ever since I can remember, music has been my love. The same 3-year-old who entertained, singing Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, proudly walked across town by herself at eight years old to her piano teacher's home. I skipped along the red brick sidewalk with my three quarters tied firmly in a hanky in my pocket.

Miss Eleanor Grunditsch announced, "We will now play BAAHHCKK!" I fell in love with Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven as she taught me the classics. In high school, I was always the accompanist for the choir and for the school musicales. I was never on stage as an actress until I turned 50. I was simply "the piano player." I loved doing it.

I had great fun all those years playing trombone in the school band, following in big brother Paul's footsteps. Little brother Joe would follow in my path, also playing "bone." When the University of Dayton began its New Horizons Band for adults in 2000, I was there with bells on (and with my bone).

I believe that music has not only added joy and happiness to my life, it has also brought peace and healing for my bruises and sorrows.

I am grateful for all the blessings music has brought me. It's a very special part of me.

Yes, music is my first love.
A Thriving Chamber Group in North Central Florida

Submitted by Michael Plaut

When we last reported on our activities (Spring 2015), we were two years old and numbered ten musicians. We are now almost 20 and both our confidence and repertoire have grown with us.

The Oak Hammock Chamber Players are based at Oak Hammock, FL, a continuing care retirement community affiliated with the University of Florida (oakhammock.org). We operate under the auspices of the Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR), a broad educational program that includes the Gainesville community at large. At present, about two-thirds of our chamber group members are not residents of Oak Hammock. We are a diverse group. Ages range from a grad student to octogenarians. Our professional backgrounds include a horticulture professor, physicians, a psychologist, a nurse, a college counselor, music teachers, and others.

We are fortunate in having as our conductor Professor Gary Langford, retired band director from the University of Florida. In addition to working with our group, he conducts the Gainesville Community Band (of which five of us are also members), the Gainesville Pops Band, the Alachua County Youth Orchestra, and his own jazz ensemble. Gary’s teaching, encouragement, humor and patience have been invaluable resources for our group.

Our instrumentation currently includes three violins, two cellos, string bass, five flutes, oboe, three clarinets, bass clarinet, euphonium, and piano. To accommodate our flexible and somewhat unpredictable instrumentation, we have mostly used four-part music published in different keys by Last Resort Music (lastresortmusic.com). This unique source has provided us with a broad selection of classical, traditional, popular and holiday music from which to choose.

We perform at least two concerts a year, usually including a solo, duet or trio in addition to pieces played by the entire group. At our May 2018 concert, we played Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony, as well as selections from Stravinsky’s Pulcinella and pieces by Hayden, Mozart, and Brahms. Two of our clarinetists played the beautiful duet from Bizet’s The Pearl Fishers. A month after that concert, ten of us went over to our health pavilion and performed early 20th-century pop tunes for some of our residents in assisted living.

Last spring, we were pleased to participate in NHIMA’s first Florida Open House, hosting guest musicians from Florida, Iowa and Canada. It was fun not only playing together (not to mention adding both a trumpet and bassoon to our instrumentation for the day), but also having lunch together and getting to know each other a bit. New Horizons founder Roy Ernst has also visited us on two occasions.

It has been refreshing to experience the enthusiasm and closeness of our group. We often share information about other musical events going on around town or have coffee together after our sessions. Gary is not with us during the summer, but the enthusiasm of the group is high enough that more than half of us continue to meet on a weekly basis throughout the year with only short breaks.

We enjoy just playing music together, reading new pieces, working on improvements to our musicality, learning more about our music and composers, and just sharing all of this with each other. With Gary’s help and support, the chamber group has become an important part of our lives.
A Second Successful Orchestra Camp

Submitted by Paul Ness

A year following its successful first camp at Chautauqua, Eastman Rochester New Horizons celebrated a second orchestra camp, this time for four days in early June, 2018 at Keuka College on the shores of Keuka Lake in upstate New York’s delightful Finger Lakes region. Nearly sixty participants, representing all sections of a symphony orchestra, gathered to rehearse and perform music of Brahms, Mendelssohn, Rossini, Gershwin and Horner. Orchestra leaders Alexander Pena and Michael Wheatley of Rochester were joined by Edie Shillitoe of Syracuse New Horizons. Rochester Philharmonic trumpeter Herb Smith provided brass coaching and exciting jazz improv direction while Kurt Fedde worked with the percussion. Several other breakout groups, including Irish fiddling, ukulele, and chamber music, formed smaller ensembles that entertained participants and guests the night before the final sharing event on June 6.

Our next camp is booked for Chautauqua June 13-16, 2019. We look forward to welcoming new orchestral players to this exciting experience.

West Michigan New Horizons Music Ensembles, Grand Rapids, MI

WMNHME Forms Partnership with Michigan AARP

Submitted by Lynn Roberts

West Michigan New Horizons is pleased to announce that, as part of its 20th anniversary celebration, they have forged a partnership with AARP of Michigan. Partnership talks began in the fall of 2017. In March of 2018, one ensemble, Ransom Street Big Band, performed for the first in a series of “AARP on Tap” events, held monthly at area brewing companies. It was a “Standing Room Only” success for both organizations! Our second event with AARP, at the end of September 2018, is also part of this “On Tap” series, but rather than a performance in the Grand Rapids Brewery, “Petting Zoo Turned Upside Down” is being offered. Local music retail shop and sponsor Meyer Music has offered the use of instruments, mouthpieces and sterilizing tools. Additionally, we will be making music with Boom Whackers, a variety of percussion instruments and some other fun, non-traditional instruments.

See AARP PARTNERSHIP continued on page 20
The New Horizons Band of the Alton-Godfrey area was founded in 1998 on an impulse of the Lewis and Clark Community College Music Director, Harlan Hock.

From its inception, the band has been under the direction of Stanley Chytil, a native of Czech Republic. He graduated from Conservatory of Music in Ostrava in 1979 in performance and came to the United States in 1989. He is an outstanding conductor, which is evident in his stage presence that exhibits his talent, humor and highly energetic personality. As a result, the band has improved under his direction for twenty years, 1998-2018. Hopefully, we will survive and prosper another 20 years!

Unfortunately, over the years we have lost many of our dear members; many ask for the band to play at their funerals, and have requested memorials to the band. As a result, the band decided to use the memorials to pay for memberships for all our members to New Horizons International Music Association (NHIMA). We now have another goal, to travel to other states and have the opportunity to meet and play with other New Horizons bands.

One of the most memorable events during these years is the band’s trip to the Czech Republic in 2006 when the band traveled to our director, Stanley Chytil’s, hometown, Krnov. While there, we played with the excellent Krnov band in the town square. Although we didn’t share a common language, we communicated well through music. A few years later, our band hosted the Krnov band members when they visited us in Illinois and we were privileged to play with them again. We made life-long friends through music.

Our dynamic repertoire is an eclectic blend of popular songs from the past, such as the Glenn Miller swing era, hit tunes from musicals, marches, polkas and other concert band repertoire. We play at many community events, such as park concerts, charity fundraisers, nursing homes, private parties, VFW halls, dances, and municipal parades. The New Horizons Band’s most acclaimed works, to date, are annual USO type shows, which honor veterans and pay tribute to famous celebrity entertainers. A highlight and joy for our group is playing for the veterans who return from their St. Louis Honor Flights to Washington, DC.

Some of our people stay after practice and share food and a drink or two along with a great many laughs. The flute section meets monthly for supper and fellowship and probably discusses how loud the brass sections play! Our band is more than a group of members loving and playing music, we are family.
CASCADe HORIZON BAND, BEND, OREGON

Music on the Deschutes Band Camp

Submitted by Helen L. Keefe

I t's so beautiful!!” Over and over those words graced the mountain air of Bend, OR, where the Cascade Horizon Band (CHB) hosted the 2018 “Music on the Deschutes Band Camp”. Band members came from across the country: brass, woodwinds, percussion—and more bassoons than we had ever seen in one place.

The most stunning views were through the massive floor-to-ceiling windows of Wille Hall on the campus of Central Oregon Community College (COCC). Musicians could easily lose their place in the music due to the Cascade Mountain range tugging at their eyes.

Three conductors led us through another range—music of all types were practiced and honed through the guidance of CHB’s own hosting band director Sue Steiger, Michael Gesme, Professor of Music and Chair of the Department of Fine Arts of COCC and conductor of the Central Oregon Symphony, and Lew Sbrana, director of the New Horizon Band of Sonoma County, CA.

Many campers returned to their college days by staying

See DESCHUTES BAND CAMP continued on page 16

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT — a new orchestra!
The Newbie Adult Chamber Orchestra (also known as NACHO), A New Horizons Orchestra, held its first rehearsal meeting on September 10, 2018 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. After a gestation period of more than 18 months, NACHO has arrived with 41 registered members and our Music Director, Dr. Janelle Ragno, who together bring our chamber orchestra to life!

Many thanks to Roy Ernst for his valuable advice along our winding path and the generous support of NHIMA and a number of our local agencies and businesses who helped make NACHO possible. Everyone is looking forward to the musical adventure that lies ahead. Check out NACHO at nachobeginners.wordpress.com

Gary MacIsaac
NACHO Organizer and Wanna-be Percussionist
Vancouver, BC, Canada
in the campus residence halls—deemed not for the faint of heart due to record-breaking heat during our camp week.

Meals were conveniently held in the same building as the performance hall and seemed to come around too frequently each day.

There was ample free time for participants to form friendships and play in their sections or to pursue extracurricular activities. For some that meant exploring activities for which Bend is world-renowned: hiking and sampling craft beer. Home to 20+ breweries as well as award-winning restaurants and a growing selection of distilleries and wineries, Bend has something for every taste. And everyone made it back for practice each day...

We were privileged to have with us Roy Ernst, PhD, founder of the New Horizons movement and a participant in the band for the week. Dr. Ernst presented an excellent overview of the history of New Horizons, its growth through the years, and the importance of learning and playing an instrument in a group of lively and like-minded folks of 50+ years.

Through it all, the music kept us energized, engaged, and so glad to be sharing such a rich experience with old and new friends. Family members and other guests were treated to a concert performance on Friday evening.

Some of the notable pieces were the haunting “Nimrod” from Elgar’s Enigma Variations. Lew recommended listening to it played by the Massed bands of the Guards on Remembrance Sunday in London England: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlkpqjopFKQ

Other meditative pieces included “Flight of Valor” (Swearington), “Rain” (Balmages), “Where Valor Proudly Sleeps” (Longfield) and “…At Twilight” (Grant).

We played “Danzon,” a tribute to the centenary of the master composer/conductor Leonard Bernstein, as well as the rousing strains of “Glorious Victory” (Kendall). On a more whimsical note, we were “At the Movies—the Musicals” (arr. William). And we got our energy level ramped up with “Platte River Hoedown” (Strommen) and “A Broadway Tribute” (arr. Del Borgo).

In the post-camp evaluation, there were high points given for “the wonderful hospitality” (and we give high points to our wonderful guests). Also appreciated were friends, music, being stretched by some of the music, and shared meals.

Some noted the informal, yet well-organized event (thanks to CHB members too numerous to name here), and, over and over, expressed praise for the conductors. Sue’s energy and humor, Michael’s aerobic, muscular musicality, and Lew’s historical and reflective commentaries were much-appreciated and definite high points.

Just as the mountain range in the distance lifted our vision, the camp inspired and lifted us to be the musicians we aspire to be.

Who knew that being a trombonist involved having so much fun? From left to right, Mary Ostrander, Pat Thompson, Becky Liebman, Molly McNamara, Sue Hinrichsen, Karen Larson
ONHB — Celebrating 10 Years!

Submitted by Catherine Wilcox

We have so much to celebrate in our 10th year! Our new Fall Session 2018 includes five concert bands, three jazz bands, and a Theory Workshop for our intermediate musicians. Close to 200 of our members are returning musicians and we have many new friends who are joining in the fun! We have a dynamic team of band leaders and clinicians who will lead the music-making and learning. New this fall is a concert band on Wednesday evenings called Riverside Rondos, led by Laurel Ralston. This is the place to be to enjoy getting back to playing your instrument after a break, or as a stepping stone to our more senior bands. Laurie Hamilton and Rocco Romeo are two new band leaders who bring a wealth of experience to ONHB. Returning to the podium this year are Adrian Cosstick, Jean-Francois Fauteux, Felicia Persaud, Sheila White and Cathy Wilcox. Welcome to all, whether you are new or returning musicians!

Our tenth year started in January 2018. It was marked by the inaugural rehearsal of the Jumpin' Jazz Band. Close to 30 musicians came together to form an awesome first year jazz ensemble. They made quite a sound, and learned “It Don’t Mean a Thing If It Ain’t Got That Swing!”

On Sunday, April 15 we held our 10th Anniversary Celebration at Woodroffe United Church, amidst whirling ice and snow! The mood was celebratory and the music was great! Special refreshments were served, and we posed for an all-members photo of the whole gang! Congratulations to the planning team and our talented members. See photos (photo of all musicians, courtesy of Harry Turner)

Throughout April, May and June, several community outreach concerts were held, including a fund-raiser dance for Guide Dogs for the Blind, a concert at Woodroffe United Church, and concerts at several local seniors’ residences, one public school, and local park bandstands.

On June 18, 35 ONHB musicians representing all bands, along with nine spouses who are loyal fans and roadies, departed for Dublin, Ireland and a 13-day tour that included four concerts in Belfast, Ballinasloe, Killarney and Dublin. Three of these concerts were joint concerts, and ONHB were the treated royally as featured guests. Money was raised at some of these events towards worthy local charities, and friendships formed with local musicians. Great fun was had by all on this amazing musical journey organized by Steve Snell and Cathy Wilcox, with Ellison Travels.

In this very successful first year as a non-profit organization, we thank our board members, Steve Snell (Chair), Dave Chaplin (Vice Chair), Brian Carr (Secretary), Leslie Scott (Treasurer), and Cathy Wilcox (Band Leader Rep). These people have met on a monthly basis as they make plans for current and upcoming sessions as well as next steps in Ottawa New Horizons Band.

See IRELAND TOUR continued on page 18
Special thanks to Jody Gomber, our official communications officer, for keeping us up-to-date through our wonderful website, which includes a calendar of events and serves to keep band leaders and musicians in touch through weekly band notes.

We can be very proud of our ONHB community! Enjoy the coming session!

Twenty years ago, Maryann Flock assumed the leadership and direction of New Horizons Band DuPage. With the arrival of 2018, the band is still “tooting its own horns” with approximately 50 members, nine of whom have been active since its inception. Twenty years have brought many experiences and fond memories for the band. 2018 was no exception; here are a few highlights from the season:

- April 21, 2018. The Concert Band and its chamber ensembles (Brass Choir, Woodwind Consort, German Band, and Jazz Ensemble) performed and celebrated its 20th Anniversary at its Spring Concert venue—Benet Academy (St. Daniel Hall) in Lisle, IL. These free concerts have been an annual “happening” for twenty years and are well attended and well received by the community. This concert had one of the largest audiences ever. Various music was performed representing the band’s 20 year history. Post concert, the band members along with their families and friends enjoyed a catered dinner. At the dinner, there was a “surprise” selection played by the Woodwind Consort ensemble with Maryann’s operatic voice accompanying, “Mein Herr Marquis” (i.e., Adele’s “The Laughing Song”) from Johann Strauss’ Die Fledermaus, with improvised verses that had the attendees continually laughing. Many memories were shared during the program and a video streamed throughout the evening highlighting prior band events.

- May 16, 2018. On this evening, NHB DuPage was on the road to join the North Shore New Horizons Band at New Trier West High School in Wilmette, IL for their Annual Spring Concert. The bands played several pieces together—all of which were only rehearsed jointly a short time before the performance began. Each band also played a few selections of their own. Pieces were under the direction of North Shore’s Sally Bowers, director; Brian Weidner, assistant director and our director, Maryann Flock. The concert went exceptionally well and was met with enthusiasm by the audience.
NHB DuPage looks forward to joint performances with North Shore in the future.

▶ July 03, 2018. It is a tradition in the Village of Warrenville, IL (a neighboring suburb of the band’s home base in Naperville) to host a Friends of the Fourth Parade on July 3. The band has the luxury of riding on a float provided by a band member and decorated by the members. Playing is continuous no matter how hot the day. For the 2018 parade, approximately 30 members climbed aboard to enjoy making music during the approximate 1.5 hour parade route which meanders through the residential areas of Warrenville. The streets and lawns are filled with local residents and visitors who break out in applause and cheer when the band passes by with its patriotic music.

▶ October 22, 2018: The band is back at its most cherished events— their annual (Halloween themed) concert at the Misericordia Home in Chicago. You won't want to miss this concert if you are in the Chicago area. The band meets and enjoys a charter bus ride to the north side of Chicago, enjoying the sights along the way.

NHB DuPage still offers beginner (Me Too) and intermediate (NHB Too) classes. Numbers are growing in these Park District classes. Many individuals participate in multiple groups. A good time is had by all—whether it be a parade, concert, or merely meeting 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”.

Adult Strings Weekend at the University of Alabama, August 24-26, 2018 in Tuscaloosa, AL

Photo credit: Gary Silber, one of the cellists who attended ASW.
In the late spring of 2018, a third entity joined our partnership, the Alzheimer’s Association of Michigan. The three organizations hosted an event on October 19 called “Mind, Music, Magic.” The evening will be filled with swing band music provided by our Ransom Street Big Band, an announcement about a $60 MILLION donation for dementia research, silent auction and lots of gourmet treats before and after the concert. Approximately 800 people will attend this event, which is being held at the organization’s rehearsal and performance base in Grand Rapids. It has been a wonderful experience getting to know the leadership of ARRP of Michigan and Alzheimer’s Association of Michigan and the ideas have poured forth!

Having received grants for two consecutive years from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts in the total amount of $30,000 has allowed us to expand our programs including such partnerships, to enrich the lives of many more community members, to commission a piece of music for our 20th Anniversary celebration and to make a “cultural video.” We invite you to see that video on our website at www.westmichigannewhorizons.org.

CATAWBA VALLEY NHB, HICKORY, NC

Still Alive and Kicking

By Len Allman

Seems like only a year ago Catawba Valley New Horizons Band had its first performance for the Silver Arts competition of the Senior Games with eight members, half of whom had never before played onstage in a band concert. Now, with a band of 42+ active members and a string orchestra of 12, we’re approaching the start of our tenth season!

It’s been a great ride and we’re still “Alive & Kickin."

Speaking of “Alive and Kickin,” click on the image to see a report shared by Len Allman on a group of 65 to 94 year old singers who smashing every stereotype of what it means to be aging.
A grant to New Horizons Music from the Association of Chamber Music Players made it possible for twenty-one musicians to enjoy a chamber music workshop in June. The Dean of the Eastman Community Music School, Dr. Petar Kodzas, had wanted to have more summer offerings for adult students, and welcomed the opportunity to host the class.

Four different ensembles were offered, which included trumpet, mixed brass, clarinet and a trio. Participants were fortunate to have accomplished graduate students from the Eastman School of Music as our mentors. The groups included a range of instrumental experience, and the repertoire chosen matched some skill levels awhile challenging the abilities of others. Many had never had the opportunity to play chamber music and look forward to it being offered again in the future.

Some of the comments were . . .

“I always played in a large group and enjoyed the interpersonal relationship of chamber music.”

“The music was quite challenging and I spent many hours practicing so as not to let the other members down.”

“Our having an impartial coach to point out balance and tempo issues was a plus.”

“This experience has given me more confidence to play difficult music in the future.”

“I never realized how taking a breath, sniffing (strings) and other body language was used to indicate entrances and tempo while playing chamber music”

“It was a wonderful experience and I hope to form a small group with friends and share what I’ve learned.”

“After playing in a large section of a band, I was initially apprehensive being the only person on a part and eventually found it a positive experience.”

“All I ever knew about Chamber Music was that it was a small group of players. The clarinet group has already scheduled a September date and will be meeting in their homes to continue sharing the Chamber Music experience.”
The Pensacola Bay Concert Band (PBCB) was established in December 2014 to fulfill a missing link in the rich culture of downtown Pensacola, FL. We believe that music belongs to everyone and should be shared without regard to skill level. The PBCB is a non-profit 501(c)(3) adult band that offers a place to play and perform in a traditional concert band setting without the rigors and pressure of professional groups. There are no auditions to join the band, and our members enjoy a relaxed setting to share an experience with others who have a similar passion for music.

A major goal of the PBCB is to give back to the community in which many have spent their entire lives. Over 900 families in the Pensacola area need assistance buying food, and the Manna Food Pantry has spearheaded local efforts to distribute meals free of charge. Each of the three yearly PBCB concerts are free, but we request that guests donate a non-perishable food item to help feed local families in need.

In 2016, a small group of highly dedicated volunteers found a new way to contribute to the community. The Pensacola Bay Wind Ensemble travels to nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, and retirement centers to perform mini-concerts for those who deserve the gift of music but cannot attend our concerts. To date, the ensemble has performed 136 concerts at 29 local facilities. As the number of familiar faces in the audience grows, we find performing for the elderly community to be a true privilege. A touch of holiday cheer or a patriotic reverie offers a comforting moment to many who need it the most.

Currently, the band is preparing for their November 5 concert, “PBCB Across America.” We will present music from the far corners of the USA and take our audience on a musical journey. They’ll hear familiar songs while viewing images of our country in a beautiful multi-media presentation projected on a large screen. This concert is fully funded by the 2018 Foo Foo Festival, which hosts an annual two-week celebration of the arts in northwest Florida. Soon after, the PBCB will participate in the “Northwest Florida Joint Community Band Christmas Concert” on December 3. Every year, local bands participate in a combined concert in the spirit of community. The 2018 concert will be hosted by the North Okaloosa Community Band of Crestview and include the Walton County Community Band of DeFuniak Springs, the Emerald Coast Community Band of Ft. Walton Beach, and the PBCB. Each band will perform their own mini-concert, and the Grand Finale will combine all four bands in a mass performance of Christmas spirit!

As a proud member of the New Horizons International Music Association, the Pensacola Bay Concert Band welcomes any who may be interested in joining—even for a short period of time. More information about upcoming concerts and our community engagements can be found at PBCBand.org. We eagerly look forward to the future and hope for many more successful years to come.
The Northern Colorado New Horizons Band finished the last season running, and with the start of this new season, we haven’t slowed down yet! In March, we were proclaimed “the Mayor’s Honorary Band” by the Mayor of Fort Collins, Mayor Wade Troxell. The Proclamation was read in council chambers and was broadcast locally on TV! Director Glenn Shull, thanked Mayor Pro Tem Gary Horek, for the group’s recognition.

Finishing out last season, we saw the last rehearsal in a location we had used for over 12 years! The space was slated to be partially demolished and made significantly smaller. Board members and band members spent several months researching other rehearsal venues and we finally secured a new location in April.

We began this season by purchasing a larger equipment trailer to accommodate our growing class offerings and to help make our load-in and load-out easier and safer in our new rehearsal location. We’ve also added two new classes this semester... a brass ensemble and a true beginning band to tailor instruction more appropriately for the more than a dozen newcomers who joined us this semester! And, Director Glenn and Barbara Shull, once again, hosted the annual “Welcome Back Picnic” for band members and their families.

We’re currently working on another challenge... finding a new performance venue. We learned at the start of the fall season, that the church where we normally performed no longer has any time slots available when we need them. So, once again, our Board and band members are stepping up efforts by contacting numerous facilities.

Despite the facility challenges, we look forward to a great New Horizons future in Northern Colorado as we welcome all the new members into our group this fall.
Ten years of New Horizons in Fresno

Submitted by Archie Rader

New Horizons Band, Fresno, was born in January 2008. Our sponsor was the Department of Continuing and Global Education on the campus of Fresno State University. The participation was $150 per semester.

The band had two levels, beginning and advanced. There were two conductors and a student aid. The rehearsals were held in the FSU education building, on Wednesdays from 6:30 PM – 8:30 p.m. Our first concert was in May in the Recital Hall in the FSU music building.

At the suggestion of the FSU administrator, we added orchestra (beginning and advanced). We also added two more conductors and rehearsal sites.

Band rehearsals continued on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. while the Orchestra rehearsed from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. We are now the New Horizons Band and Orchestra, Fresno.

Our enrollment grew to 70 musicians. Because of the size of the organizations, we moved our performances to the FSU Music Building Concert Hall. We continued with this process from 2009 to the spring of 2011.

In the fall of 2011 we moved to the brand new University High School music building on the Fresno State University campus. With this move, we gained the use of large string instruments, large brass instruments, percussion instruments, two large rehearsal rooms, a library, recording studio, and three practice rooms. The two rehearsal rooms were equipped with the latest electronic teaching aids available.

In the fall of 2014 we terminated our association with Fresno State University And University High School and moved to Bullard High School where we had access to everything except the electronic teaching aids.

In the spring of 2015 we became a part of Fresno Unified School District Adult School.

Our 2018 enrollment for band and orchestra is 65 musicians and three conductors.

Our offerings include beginning band, string orchestra, Mariachi, band, and symphony orchestra. On each concert we combine the band and strings and perform one symphonic selection.

Our Spinoff ensemble is Canta Mundi (Music of the World): accordion, two clarinets, violin, and double bass.

We enjoy social activities including Cayucos, California Seagrass Festival, Murphy’s California Christmas parade, and receptions after each concert.
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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To contact the editor or to forward material: nhimanews@gmail.com

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