

NOTES



No. 16

January 14, 2010

"Perfection in music is elusive, but excellence is attainable and sustainable."

WELCOME!

Welcome to returning clarinet player Marla Braciszewski. Marla played with YCB between 1987-88 and 1994-95. It's good to have her back!

BOARD MEETING

Official minutes of Board meetings are found on the YCB web site (<ypsicommband.org>) on the "About Us" page. Here are some informal notes taken during the January 11 Board meeting.

All voting members of the Board were present, except for Eric Walters, plus several band member guests and the conductor (*ex officio*). The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

In the process of a budget review, the treasurer made a very positive report. For the general fund, in the first 58% of the fiscal year, we have raised 61% of our projected income. However, for the same period of time, expenditures have been only 21% of what is projected for the year. We currently have a general fund balance of approximately \$12,000. The Board approved several moves of money from one budget line to another.

The Board unanimously approved the wording for a partnership agreement with Washtenaw Community College. This document has been sent to WCC for their review and approval as well.

The Board approved a motion to apply to perform at Ann Arbor's "Top of the Park" summer series. The Board asked for more information about applying to perform at the 2011 ACB convention in Muskegon. (That information has subsequently been received electronically.)

There was a brief discussion related to the December 2010 concert and the Conductor was asked to consult with YCC on a matter before any further action was taken. There was discussion of an announcer for the February 18 concert. One person was suggested.

Band president Joe Burke announced the creation of a special publicity task force to address, in the absence of a Publicity Committee Chair, matters related to publicity for the February 18 concert. That group will meet on Saturday, January 16. In the meantime, numerous additional individuals and organizations have been identified to be notified of this event.

Reports were received from many, but not all, of the Board's committees, officers, and staff. Those that were submitted in writing will appear with the minutes of the meeting.

CLARINET SECTION LEADER

Jamie North, clarinet section leader, has work commitments that will take her away from Band through at least the February 18 concert. Jim McGraw has been appointed as the acting section leader until Jamie can return.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

We're in the time of year when snow, ice, low temperatures, and other weather conditions could cause last minute changes in rehearsal or performance schedules. A link to the Band's "inclement weather policy" may be found on the band's web site (<ypsicommband.org>) on the "Rehearsals" page.

You should assume that the rehearsal or the concert is on unless you get an email saying otherwise from a senior band official and/or your section leader, or a telephone call from your section leader.

CORRECTION

YCB Notes¹⁴ contained the following statement: "1. Ensembles must be composed primarily (or entirely) of concert band instruments. Sorry, but your bluegrass band and your string quartet are not eligible for this event." This statement is not correct and it is withdrawn. YCB Notes regrets the error.

ENSEMBLE CONCERT

It is not too late to "register" an ensemble with Eric Walters (string bass) for the Sunday, March 21, fifth annual YCB Ensemble Concert, to be held in the Morris

Lawrence Building at WCC. Eric can be reached at <eric@ypsiwalt.com>.

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS

Several Band members have solicited themselves and others have solicited percussion funds from family and friends. Overall, we're approximately half where we need to be--and we need to raise another approximately \$2500 in the next 4 1/2 months! Get completed forms and checks to Walt Hancock (trumpet) as soon as possible.

BAND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Many Band members, especially relatively new members, do not understand the rather unusual organizational structure that the Band created for itself with the adoption, in 2006, of the current "Bylaws." It is a model that places extensive authority and responsibility in the Band's president and his/her appointees.

An organization chart is attached to the same email that brought this issue of Notes. The Band elects the board and the president, although mid-term vacancies may be filled by board action. The president then appoints two officers (secretary, treasurer) and five standing committee chairs. The board appoints the conductor, assistant conductors, business manager, and assistant business managers. The conductor appoints the section leaders.

Joe Burke, president; Trinka Benedict (acting) secretary; Alan Aldworth, treasurer; Chairs Walt Hancock (Fund Raising), Erika Levitt (Library), Shirley Charbonneau (Personnel), Aaron Taratsas (Property), and (Vacant) (Publicity).