

NOTES



No. 25

February 26, 2010

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Even if you aren't playing in an ensemble, you should be present to cheer on your YCB colleagues at the Fifth Annual YCB Ensemble Concert, Sunday, March 21, 2:00 p.m., in the lobby of the Morris Lawrence Building at WCC. The event is free and open to the public.

The "Town Band" performance scheduled as part of the Ypsilanti "Talk of the Neighborhood" cultural series on March 24 has been cancelled. (In fact, the entire series has been canceled due to difficulties with facilities.) The "Town Band" will perform at the Manchester Chicken Broil.

We will perform a joint concert with the Whitmore Lake High School Band on Tuesday, April 27 in lieu of our rehearsal that night. The concert will be free and open to the public and held in the Whitmore Lake High School Auditorium.

YCB will perform a joint concert with the Novi Concert Band at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 2, in the Novi Civic Center in Novi. (The Civic Center is on 10 Mile, between Taft and Novi Roads.) We will assist in arranging car pools for travel to this event. Additional details will be announced later.

BAND MEETINGS

The Library Committee will have a work session at WLHS (filing music, for the most part) on Saturday, February 27, starting at noon.

The Band's Board will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 1 in the Community Conference Room (just off the lobby) in the Morris Lawrence building at WCC. Band members and the public are invited.

The Fund Raising Committee's recently scheduled meeting was canceled because of weather. Chair Walt Hancock is currently polling members about a mutually-agreeable make-up meeting date.

No other meetings are known to be scheduled.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 5--Erica Levitt
March 10--Jon Kennedy
March 14--John Nikolich
March 18--Shirley Charbonneau

NEW MEMBERS

At last Tuesday's rehearsal, we welcomed as new members Mary Hartman in the trombone section and Allegra Lanni in the horn section.

WCC/YCB ANNOUNCEMENT

Early this coming week, an announcement of the new WCC/YCB partnership to form the Washtenaw Community Concert Band will be announced to the WCC community. "This new agreement revives a relationship WCC and YCB have had in the past," said Bill Abernethy, dean of Humanities and Social Sciences. "The band currently performs three or four community concerts a year on campus. The college also is developing a two-credit course to introduce student musicians to the large concert band format. WCC students don't have to take the course to participate in the band, but I'm sure they will find it helpful."

MUSIC FOR COMING PERFORMANCES

William Tell. We will perform the complete "William Tell" overture several times in the next few months. The overture to this opera by Rossini, first produced in Paris in 1829, has four distinct sections: the serene prelude, depicting a peaceful mountain scene; the tempestuous episode, foreshadowing the storm scene in the opera; the pastorale with suggestions of herdsmen singing bits of song as they assemble grazing cattle; and the brilliant finale with its military march and spirited melodies. A portion of our arrangement may be heard at

http://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/mp3player.jsp?song_url=243360.mp3&song_title=WILLIAM_TELL_OVER-TURE&filename=/dbload/B/B_243360.xml

Warsaw Concerto. Another major piece coming up is George Appel's arrangement for band and piano (Jim Wagner, soloist) of the Richard Addinsell "Warsaw Concerto." The "Warsaw Concerto" is a single-movement piano concerto written for

the 1941 film, "Dangerous Moonlight" (also known under the later title "Suicide Squadron").

The film-makers wanted something in the style of Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini" or the Second and Third piano concertos, but were unable to persuade Rachmaninoff himself to write a new piece or to afford to obtain the rights for any of these existing pieces. The music was later used in another film, "The Sea Wolves" (1980).

There is no known (previous) arrangement of this piece for band and piano, but you may listen to an orchestral version at the URL below. (There are others and perhaps better ones, but it's so much fun to watch the conductor on this one.)

http://www.youtube.com/watch#playnext=1&playnext_from=TL&videos=R6BT2hSUvYY&v=7DaZemfnxSE

Federal March. Just before embarking on his world tour of 1910-11, Sousa composed "The Federal March" in honor of the people of Australia and New Zealand, including both in his dedication, "to the Australasians". The title was to have been "The Land of the Golden Fleece," but "The Federal" was suggested to Sousa by Sir George Reid, the High Commissioner for Australia, who heard it in London at the beginning of the tour. It is one of the least performed of all Sousa marches. You can hear a portion of a recording of the Sousa Band playing this march by going to

<http://www.cduniverse.com/search/xx/music/pid/1135651/a/Sousa+Marches+Played+By+The+Sousa+Band.htm>

Then scroll down to and click on "Federal March."