the



Brass Band

BRIDGE

bridge: a link, a tie, a connection, an alliance, to band together, to unify, a bond

THIS FIRST ATTEMPT AT DEVELOPING COMMUNICATIONS among American brass bands and our enthusiasts is something this writer has felt was needed for a good while. It is hoped that there will be enough interest on the part of all the readers to agree with this need, and to be willing to send items of interest for future issues. Knowing there is activity "out there" is one thing, but finding out what is going on in several parts of our country can be not only stimulating, but most helpful. So with your kind indulgence, this first Newsletter is sent out. We hope you find it informative and useful.

PERMIT US THIS PERSONAL COMMENT regarding our memorandum of February 4, 1980, which invited brass bands, conductors of brass bands, etc. to register their group. The most important item of business as far as getting started with some kind of brass band registry is to compile a list of names of those interested in brass bands whether they actually are active in a brass band at present or not. Several phone calls and letters concerning this fact were received and made us realize that we had made an error in not including those kinds of brass band enthusiasts in the initial registry. So, ... by all means, send us your name and address if you have interests in brass bands and in seeing if it is possible to have some kind of an organization formed "on this side of the Atlantic". For the immediate future, no dues will be required as our activities will be limited by design. The first goal will be to develop a registry, ... then we'll set other goals as needed. It is not certain how much interest will be stimulated by this suggested start, however, it was felt that the time was appropriate to attempt just such a union or association. From your comments, we would gather there is agreement. ALSO, ... the February 4 memorandum was sent to several people in England and this has brought forth proposed help. For instance, Mr. Terry Moss, Director of Boosey & Hawkes Music PUblishers in London, has written to offer a select series of brass band music in manuscript available only from his London office. He indicates, ... "I should be happy to let you have photocopies at 5 pounds per set". The list includes: "Heritage" by Alan Langford, "Honesty" and "The Beast of Black Mountain" by A. P. Jackman, "Happy Ending" by C. Watters, "Journey's End" by J. Shakespeare, "Nights of Gladness" by C. Ancliffe, "The Old Haunted Colliery" by John Scott, "Jubilee Hoe Down" by Don Lusher, "Haford Heights" by R. Davies, "Free As Air" by B. Kelly, "Music For a Pageant" by S. Fonteyn and "Barwick Green" by A. Wood. All of these selections were written as "music for film, radio and television".

ROBERT BERNAT OF PITTSBURGH WRITES that he has completed the first step in organizing the River City Brass Band, a British-type brass band. The RCBB is now incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the laws of Pennsylvania and Bob is taking the next steps in furthering his goal of establishing this professional brass band. One of the goals of this band will be to encourage and foster the development of other brass bands, both professional and amateur, in the region. Other purposes as spelled out in the bylaws would be to: present brass band concerts in Southwestern Pennsylvania and the tri-state area of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia; to preserve and nurture the brass band heritage; and to create a greater public awareness of the musical heritage of that part of Pennsylvania. Bob indicates there are several other aims of this brass band which are not specifically spelled out in the bylaws but would include such goals as increasing public and private support for community-based arts groups and other charitable undertakings through presenting benefit concerts for those purposes. Bob is to be applauded for his very fine start. We look forward to hearing more from him and the RCBB and will certainly pass on any and all information received. MARK ELROD FROM OXON HILL, MARYLAND REPORTS about his work with the "Heritage Americana". This is "a Mid 19th Century Cornet/Saxhorn Brass Band" conducted by Dr. Robert Garofalo. This band is associated with Catholic University School of Music in Washington, D. C. It is, in his words, "an American-type brass band of the Civil War era and uses authentic instruments of the period. These instruments come from my own personal collection and none of them post date 1867". Mark states that the band has recently made a record of military band music of the Confederacy and indicates these are for sale for \$6.00 including postage. He also informs us that the band accepts engagements similar to their appearances before the Eastern Division of the College Band Directors National Association, the Associated Concert Bands of America convention in Burlington, Vermont (this coming May 4-7) and others. Anyone interested in the records or performances should contact Mark at: 1301 Potomac Heights Drive, Oxon Hill, Maryland 20022.

THE NATIONAL BRASS BAND OF NEW ZEALAND 1980 TOUR CONCERTS are as follows:

September 29 - October 4 Los Angeles County Fair October 9 Omaha, Nebraska October 10 Iowa State University October 11 Illinois State University at Norman October 12 Andrews University, Michigan October 13 Elkhart Concert Club October 14 Flint, Michigan October 15 Crews Auditorium, Indianapolis October 16 Performing Arts Hall, Marion, Ohio October 17 Ohio State University October 18 Mt. Lebanon Concert Association, Pittsburgh October 20 Stambaugh Auditorium, Youngstown, Ohio

October 22 Erie Civic Music Association October 24 Michigan State University October 27 University of Illinois at Urbana October 28 Ferris State University October 29 Western Kentucky October 31 - November 1 N. C. State University, Raleigh November 2 Kennedy Center, Washington, D. C. November 3 Radford College November 7 & 8 Bayfront Center, St. Petersburg November 9 Saratoga, Florida November 11 Greenwood, S. C. November 13 Monroe, La.

This list is not complete as we understand a few more concerts will be included. For additional information, contact:

Elwood Emerick Management 596 Crystal Lake Road Akron, Ohio 44313

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY BRASS BAND was started in 1965 to accommodate more students in the marching band and at the same time to help this writer realize a longtime goal of working with a British-type brass band. This semester, the band has performed with the NCSU Women's Chorale, with the NCSU Pipes & Drums, and will host the Third Annual Massed Brass Band Festival. With the Chorale, Malcolm Arnold's SONG OF FREEDOM Op. 109, published by Henrees Music Limited of 64 Dear Street, London WIV 6AU, was performed along with several patriotic selections especially arranged for the two groups combined. The Arnold selection is about 25 minutes in length, for treble voices and brass band, rather nice, easy to perform, and utilizes an unusual text. It is recorded on the Sounds of Brass Series, Volume 13 issued by Decca (No. SB313). The band presented "a musical salute to Gordon Langford" during the Eleventh Annual Concert of Music From the British Isles. This concert also featured the NCSU Pipes & Drums. Among the Langford arrangements the band performed were "The Irish Washerwoman" featuring a trombone quartet, "Marching with Sousa", "The Girl I Left Behind", and "Men of Harlech". Also, the Geoffrey Brand arrangement of "Napoli" and "Rondo from Concerto No. 3", arranged by Endrich Siebert were performed. The Massed Brass Band Festival brings the Salvation Army's North and South Carolina Divisional Band and the North and South Carolina Youth Band to the State campus for an entire day. Together with the NCSU Brass Band, a 100 plus brass band is formed and rehearses for the day (the music is sent out to the various bands in advance) and concludes with a concert that evening.

AND SPEAKING OF THE SALVATION ARMY word has reached us regarding the International Staff Band's 1980 Tour. The tentative schedule is as follows:

October 3-4 Detroit, Michigan October 5 Royal Oak, Michigan - morning Rockford, Illinois - evening October 6 Chicago, Illinois October 7 Minneapolis, Minnesota October 8 St. Louis, Missouri October 9 Omaha, Nebraska October 11-12 Seattle, Washington October 13 San Francisco, California October 14-15 Los Angeles, California October 16 Phoenix, Arizona October 17 Tulsa, Oklahoma October 19 Atlanta, Georgia

October 20 Jackson, Mississippi October 21 Tampa, Florida October 22 Charlotte, N. C. October 23 Washington, D. C. October 24 New York, N. Y. October 26 Hempstead, N. Y. October 27 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania October 28 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania October 29 Buffalo, N. Y. October 30 Albany, N. Y. October 31 Boston, Mass.

AND FROM CHARLES LIETWILER OF ROCKVILLE, MD. WE HEAR that the Rockville Brass Band, a British-type brass band was formed in 1976 and has been able to present 22 concerts in such a short time with another one coming up on April 27. A sampling of past concerts shows that some of the selections played were: "Light Cavalry Overture", "Slavonic Rhapsody No. 2" (Friedemann), Vaughan-Williams' "Folk Song Suite", "Una Voce Poco Fa" from "The Barber of Seville", the Salvation Army's Christmas Carol Book, and many marches. On the up-coming April presentation they will play Holst's "First Suite", Vaughan-Williams' "Variations for Brass Band", "Ballet Music from William Tell", "Rondo from Horn Concerto No. 4" (Mozart), "Hungarian March", "L'Arlesiene Suite" (Bizet), and selections of lighter music. The concerts and programs presented include Smithsonian Concerts, Library concerts, programs at shopping malls, nursing homes, public schools, radio programs on both FM and AM, and a Radiothon for the National Symphony Orchestra. Charles indicates the RBB practices each Wednesday evening (providing it isn't a holiday) for about 50 weeks a year. Their conductor is Richard Fazio. This band may be reached through Charles at 11123 Schuylkill Road, Rockville, Maryland 20852. JOHN VIZANSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE BUFFALO SILVER BAND wrote to say that band is interested in promoting the British-type brass band in this country. He also stated that the Buffalo Silver Band " is celebrating its 65th Anniversary in 1980". John indicated that "our library consists of over two thousand pieces". They have captured the First Place at the International Brass Band Championship four times at the C.N.E. in Toronto, Canada and Second at the Kiwanas Festival in Niagara Falls, Canada. According to John, this band is not sponsored. Theirs is a subscription band as all support comes from the donations the members give each week. The band presently numbers 34 members. This band may be reached through John at 36 Lamson Road, Kenmore, N. Y. 14223.

THE TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY BRASS BAND'S CONDUCTOR Professor Richard Tolley sent copies of some recent concerts which included the following selections: "Alleluia" by J. Gallus, transcribed by Carl Kindel; "The March of the Herald" by H. Nichols, arranged by Gordon MacKenzie; "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" by Bach, arranged by Eric Ball; "Fingal's Cave" by Mendelssohn, arranged by Scholes Dale; "Kiwi on Parade" by L. Francis; "The Londonderry Air" arranged by Gordon Colman; "The Girl in Satin" by L. Anderson, arranged by Robert Barsetti; "Mars" from "The Planets" by Holst, arranged by Norman Richardson. According to the programs mailed, Dick has a very large program in operation with over 60 participants in his program. DICK TREVARTHEN FROM WAYNESVILLE, N. C. CALLED the other day. Dick is heading up one of the two brass band pilot projects which are being attempted in North Carolina. He was delighted to tell us that Dayco, Inc., makers of foam rubber products, will sponsor that brass band. These two brass band projects are possible because of the assistance given early in the planning stages by the Yamaha International Corp. to the formation of these activities. These programs are moving along due to the close association of two local Yamaha dealers, Duncan Music Company of Winston-Salem, N. C. and Burrage Music Company of Raleigh, N. C. Dick anticipates that the Dayco Brass Band will be able to function in short order and plans to give their first concert sometime around the first of June.

JACK WYNN, CONDUCTOR OF THE CAPITOL ENGLISH BRASS BAND, WROTE ABOUT that British-type brass band located in Salt Lake City, Utah. It has been in operation since 1972 and they have booked eight performances so far this year. This band is sponsored by the Capitol Glass and Aluminum Corp. of Salt Lake City. In fact, that band was started by Douglas Brown, President of Capitol Glass. Doug regularly attends the Royal Albert Hall contests and each time brings back music and some instruments for the band. Jack informs us that they have "a fine library". He sent along a beautiful color photograph of the band. Due to the meager funds available for this Newsletter, it will be impossible to share it with the readers.

BRASS BAND MUSIC IS AVAILABLE on this side of the Atlantic. In addition to the fine help offered by Geoffrey Brand and the R. Smith & Company's 10% discount, Bill Himes has several selections which have been arranged for the Salvation Army instrumentation and they are available directly from him. His address is: C/O the Salvation Army Music Bureau, 860 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610. Bill also informs us that Studio P/R, 224 South Lebanon Street, Lebanon, Illinois 46052 is soon to publish a brass band series which will include his music, as well as music by Jim Curnow and Bruce Broughton. The music from these three outstanding composers written specifically for brass bands is a fine addition to the literature.

INTERESTED IN STUDYING BRASS BANDS UNDER ROY NEWSOME and other British experts?? Then you will be interested to learn that plans are under way to offer a three-week brass band program for American participants at the University of Lancaster from July 25 through August 15, 1981 (please note that is the summer of 1981). Roy and this writer have been working out the details of such an offering over the past year and we both are excited about the potential a course such as this holds. North Carolina State University will sponsor this and will be sending out information in the Fall. If you received this Newsletter, then you will receive the printed brochure. Anyone else wanting information may inquire in care of our return address, ... those requesting multiple copies for distribution will be supplied. We are pleased that this is being arranged and hope that everyone will share in our pleasure. It promises to be rewarding. Be on the lookout for the brochure around October 1, 1980. PLEASE NOTE: Up to three hours of undergraduate credit may be earned by those who participate in this summer offering.

UNTIL NEXT TIME that's fine for now. Let's hear from you!

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