

The BRASS BAND Bridge



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

ISSUE 16
MAY 1984

Courtesy of YAMAHA Musical Products

GRAMERCY BRASS IS TOPS . . . *Sunshine Wins Honors Section*

The Gramercy British Brass of New York (John Lambert) overcame four other top bands from Canada and the U.S. to be declared the Championship Brass Band of North America. Held on the campus of West Chester University (Penn.), the 1984 Championships were sponsored by the North American Brass Band Association. Built around Vinter's test piece "Entertainments," the Gramercy British Brass presented Bulla's "A Festive Prelude," Leidzen's arrangement of Bach's "Fugue II.5" and the final movement of Heaton's "Contest Music" to earn a total rating of 278 out of a possible 300 points. Their remarkable performance established a "bench mark" for all future brass band Championships.

Close on the heels of Gramercy came the Smoky Mountain British Brass Band (Richard Trevarthen) winning the title as runner-up. This band from North Carolina was awarded a total of 274 points indicating just how well they played and how stiff the competition was! Their program included the test piece plus Gregson's very demanding "Connotations" and Goedicke's "Coincidence Etude," an awesome cornet solo played by Ann Buckner. The audience's reaction to the

SMBBB's performance was quite loud and most approving.

In the Honors Section, petite Karen Kneeburg conducted the Sunshine Brass of Tampa, Fla. to the winning position by earning a total of 251 points from the judges. Her musical conducting of the test piece "A Suite for Switzerland," Langford's "March of the Pacemakers," "The Lark in the Clear Air" (Robert Wells, Horn soloist), and "Gopak" coupled with Bourgeois' "Serenade" proved to be too much for the other three bands. All the more admirable is the fact that this fine group of brass banders was formed in March of 1983!

Coming in as runner-up in the Honors Section was the North Carolina State University British Brass Band (J. Perry Watson). This group, last year's winner was awarded a total of 246 points for playing the test piece plus Bulla's "Blow Away the Morning Dew," Mortimer's arrangement of Mozart's "Alleluia" (Scott Cadmus, cornet soloist), Langford's arrangement of Faure's "Pavane" and Ken Maddison's arrangement of "Bobby Shaftoe."

The premier presentation of the Renold
(continued on page 3)

U. OF I. B.B.B. IS ACTIVE

The University of Illinois British Brass Band (James Curnow) presented a concert on their campus Sunday, March 25, 1984. Included in the concert were the following selections:

Prelude For An Occasion Edward Gregson
The Plantagenets Edward Gregson
Three Hawthorn Impressions . . . Gordon Langford
Eine Kleine Nachtmusik Mozart
Rhapsodic Variations,
My Strength, My Tower Dean Goffin

Jim writes that the U of I British Brass Band cassettes should be available by the time this publication is received by our readers. For information regarding musical content, price, delivery, etc. write Jim at the following address: Harding Band Building, 1103 South Sixth Street, Champaign, Illinois 61820.

R.M.B. REPORTS

Coloradans are finding out about Brass Band Music! The Rocky Mountain Brassworks has been heard by some 2,600 people over the past 4 months. The highlight of that time frame was the 'President's Concert' performance at the Colorado Music Educators Conference, in Colorado Springs. The Friday evening concert, shared with the Mens Glee Club from University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana, was well received by over 600 first time listeners. The program included the following:

Vivat Regina, William Mathias
Never Give Up, Eric Ball
The Last Spring, R. Steadman-Allen
Celebration, Leslie Condon
Irish Tune from County Derry,
Grainger/P. Curnow
Symphony of Thanksgiving, Dean Goffin
(continued on page 4)

SPECIAL NOTE

The Board of Directors of The North American Brass Band Association will meet on Friday, September 7, 1984. Any member of NABBA having any business to be brought before the Association should send this information before August 19, 1984 to:

Sam Rainey, Secretary
North American Brass Band Association
443 South Ashland Avenue
Lexington, KY 40502



For, about and by British-type brass bands throughout North America.

Editor J. Perry Watson

Music Department
NCSU — Box 7311
Raleigh, N. C. 27695

This issue provided through the courtesy of the Yamaha Musical Products in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Please address all correspondence to the Editor.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

July 31, 1984
October 31, 1984
January 31, 1985
April 30, 1985

The North American Brass Band Association proudly recognizes the following for their support:

LEADERSHIP MEMBER:

T.U.B.A.

Tubists Universal Brotherhood Association

PATRON MEMBER:

Yamaha Musical Products, Inc.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

CORPORATE MEMBERS:

Boosey & Hawkes Band Festivals, Ltd.
London, England

DEG Music Products, Inc.
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

The Selmer Company
Elkhart, Indiana

OSHAWA PLANS BUSY SUMMER

Officially opening the summer series (Concerts in the Park) will be the Oshawa Civic Band (Barry Hodgins) on June 13. Guests for the evening will be the Oshawa Temple Salvation Army Choir (Robert Young). The band and choir will combine talents in some numbers. The opening concert will highlight the Salvation Army's active participation in our community for the past one hundred years. On June 27, the band will combine forces with the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Trumpet Band from Whitby, Ontario, to provide the audience with strains of Mr. Sousa's Trumpet and Drum Marches. July 11th and 25th, as well as August 8th, 22nd will round out the summer series. The shell season will end September 9 with a special concert, celebrating the birthday of the late Col. R. S. McLaughlin. This concert will feature the combined bands of the Oshawa Temple Salvation Army (Norm Ritson) and the Oshawa Civic Band. August also has three free Wednesday evenings at which time the Oshawa Band hopes to host concerts by Weston Silver (Doug Field), Whitby Brass (Roland Hill), and the Cobourg, Ontario Concert Band.

Featured on June 6, will be the Canadian Staff Band, of the Salvation Army (Toronto). This aggregation conducted by Major Robert Redhead is undoubtedly one of the world's finest brass bands.

The Oshawa Civic Band have a number of other "irons in the fire". We had a

"MINI" concert called "Meet the Band" in our Bandroom on April 30. March 26 found the band performing with the Henry Street High School Band in the neighbouring town of Whitby. Both bands combined their efforts to musically celebrate the 200th birthday of the Province of Ontario. Two numbers featuring the massed bands were the march "Canada on the March", written by the late Lt. Col. Jaeger, the Director of Music of the Irish Guards Band, and "Tall Ships" by John Casavant.

May will see the Band performing at the Whitby Cullen Gardens and in August we appear at the Bandshell in the town of Orillia, Ontario.

All in all we are rather proud of the fact that for 41 years we have appeared at "the same old stand", presenting varied programs of band music for the listening public of Oshawa and area. Unfortunately, we do have our problems in the summer months with people on holidays, but nonetheless we carry on, and if all goes well the O. C. Band will celebrate 115 years of continuous banding in this community during 1985.

Should any of the readers be in Oshawa or vicinity during the summer months, they are to feel free to attend our rehearsals, (every Monday at 8:00 P.M.) or our concerts in the park.

W. J. "Bill" Askew
President

METROPOLITAN MARKS 50

The Metropolitan Silver Band under the direction of Alan Moody presented their 50th Anniversary Celebration Concert on Saturday, May 5th at 8 p.m. in the Metropolitan United Church, Church and Queen Streets, Toronto.

The renowned sixty voice barber shop chorus "The Markham Men of Harmony" were guest artists and the program included requested items selected to reflect some of the music played by the band in previous years as well as contemporary selections from their current repertoire.

Former band members and their families who did not receive the mailed invitations regarding the Celebration 50 weekend are asked to contact Bill Wolno at 449-1532 or write to:

24 Ashgrove Place,
Don Mills, Ontario,
M3B 2Z1

—Jim Bunting
Celebration 50 Committee

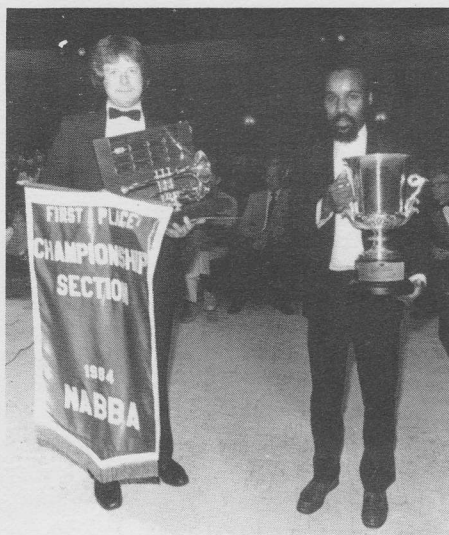
NABBA OFFERS HELP

In response to the ever increasing popularity of British-type brass bands in this country and Canada, the North American Brass Band Association, Inc. is making the following resources available to anyone who might desire this information:

STARTING A BRITISH BRASS BAND, a booklet published by the Yamaha Musical Products of Grand Rapids, Michigan, contains a brief history of brass bands, information about the unique instrumentation, and how to organize a non-profit, tax exempt corporation. It also includes a listing of brass band publications and periodicals.

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF A COMMUNITY BRITISH BRASS BAND, published by Boosey & Hawkes of Farmingdale, New York, enlarges on and develops the organizational structure of this type of band, tells how to motivate, how to create visibility and accessibility, and how to finance a brass band. Also included is an annotated listing of selec-

(continued on page 3)



The Championship Band of North America! Conductor John Lambert and Manager Michael Davis are pleased to show the Yamaha Perpetual Trophy, the Boosey & Hawkes Traveling Trophy and the NABBA Banner which all proclaim their newly won title.



Karen Kneeburg, Conductor of the Sunshine Brass proudly displays the Selmer Permanent Trophy and the NABBA Banner awarded for winning the Honors Section of the 1984 Championships.

YOUNG AMBASSADORS BRASS BAND TO TOUR

A brass band comprised of selected young virtuoso players from across Great Britain is coming to our shores this Summer. Conducted by Frank Wolff, The Young Ambassadors Brass Band of Great Britain was formed in 1978. Since that time they have presented concerts during ten European tours. Programs in their country have brought acclaim for their high musical abilities.

Details about their schedule were not complete at press time. However, the following information was available and is printed for our readers:

- July 13 Concert at 12:00 noon - Tourist Center, Warren-Brookfield, Mass.
- July 14 Evening concert - Glenn Falls, N.Y.
- July 16 Evening concert - Oswego High School - Oswego, N.Y.
- July 17 Concert at the Bandstand - Burlington, Ontario
- July 19 Evening concert with Weston Silver Band - Mississauga, Ontario
- July 20 Bandshell concert - National Canadian Exhibition
- July 21 Evening program - Wheatland High School - Sanborn, N.Y.
- July 22 Evening concert - Wendell Harrison Music Co. - Rochester, N.Y.
- July 23 Evening concert - local high school - Gettysburg, Penn.
- July 25 Concert at 12:00 - New York

(continued on page 4)

NABBA Offers Help—(cont. from page 2)

ted brass band music, a selected list of recordings, publishers and suppliers of brass band music, and fund raising ideas and suggestions.

STRIKE UP THE BRITISH BRASS BAND, is a thirteen minute slide demonstration suitable for introducing the concept of British brass bands to a community, recruiting members, and raising funds for a local brass band. It may also be used as a program for a local service or music club to show college music education classes and to serve the goals of a community brass band.

These publications and an information sheet about the audio visual show are available in a packet of information. The cost is \$1.00 per packet to cover the expense of mailing. This packet of information may be ordered from:

The North American Brass Band Association, Inc.
c/o Music Department
NCSU Box 7311
Raleigh, North Carolina 27695-7311



Gramercy Brass—(continued from page 1)

O. Schilke Memorial Trophy for the Outstanding Soloist of the Day went to euphonium soloist Ron Williams of the Weston Silver Band from Ontario. Ron's unmatched performance of Ray Woodfield's "Varied Mood" captured the judges' vote and the audience's imagination.

The other bands in the Championship Section and the points earned were as follows:

Weston Silver Band of Ontario, Canada (Douglas Field), 265
Whitby Brass of Ontario, Canada (Roland Hill), 251
Buffalo Silver Band of New York (James F. Mabry, III), 236

Bands making up the rest of the Honors Section and the points they earned were:

Chester Brass Band of Nova Scotia (Gordon McGowan), 242
Rockville Brass Band of Maryland (Ernest E. Wolfe, Jr.), 226

As with the British contests, the adjudicating was closed. Each judge sat behind a separate blind, judging only on the sound he heard. The judges were Roy Newsome, Conductor of Besses o' th' Barn Band from England; William Himes, Conductor of the Chicago Staff Salvation Army Band, composer and arranger; Charles Baker, Bandmaster of the Montclair, New Jersey Salvation Army Band, professional trombonist of the New Jersey Symphony and past solo trombone of the New York Salvation Army Staff Band.

The duties of Compere for the day were competently handled by the personable Bert Wiley. Contest Controller was Mike Swaffar and Kenneth Lauderemilch served as Host.

**N.A.B.B.A. WAS FORMED
TO HELP YOU!
JOIN TODAY.**



CRITIC'S REVIEWS

The following reviews were recently printed in THE BRITISH BANDSMAN, Peter Wilson, Editor. We wish to thank Peter and the reviewer, Michael Kenyon, for the opportunity to bring this information to our readers.

MUSIC

AMAZING GRACE Arranged by William Himes (ROSEHILL)

Although all kinds of arrangements of this tune have been made (some of which detract from its intrinsic appeal) there will surely be a place for this version which does not rely on extraneous effects and gimmickry.

In a playing time of under three minutes there are three varied presentations of the hymn, each effectively and sensitively scored. The final verse builds up to an impressive climax; this in turn leads to a relaxation of tension and brings about a quiet coda.

Well within the ability of any competent band, one can foresee that this short, tasteful arrangement will prove popular. Accompanying clearly-produced instrumental parts is a three-stave conductor copy, pitched in B flat.

RECORDS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BBC TELEVISION BRASS BAND CONTEST 1983 (POLYPHONIC) PRL 022

Featuring the Champions: Carlton Main Frickley Colliery (Denzil Stephens); Runners-up: Sun Life (Barry Pope); Winning soloist: Stephen Mead (Sun Life); plus North Skelton (Rob Wiffin); Jones & Crossland (Stephen Roberts); Halls Oxford Concert Brass (Michael Brand); Tredegar Town (Steve Walkley); Murray International Whitburn (Peter Parkes); and Foden O.T.S. Band (Howard Snell).

With no less than eight bands taking part (all the bands in the competition) the contributions to this production are varied and variable. Because these items are extracts from short programmes produced for the series there is inevitably no room for complete works of any stature. However, the Bliss and Fletcher numbers played by Carlton Main Frickley Colliery are notable inclusions and the Tchaikovsky March is an exciting offering from Foden O.T.S.

Stephen Mead (euphonium), the winning soloist, is represented by his commendable interpretation of the Gordon Langford arrangement.

There may be others who share the view that applause (and the occasional sports stadium-type whistle) constitute

an irritant in compilations taken from concert performances, but if one can ignore this then there is much to entertain in this souvenir issue.

RMB Reports—(continued from page 1)

The Executive Committee of The Brassworks has identified over 30 foundations, which will be contacted for support once our IRS letter comes through. We then hope to purchase or lease a matched set of instruments, purchase more music, and begin to establish our own percussion equipment. Interest is high, and performance standard is even higher than before. The membership now stands at 41.

We appreciate the Bridge as it lets us know we're not alone in this world of Brass Banding.

Thanks for all your work!

Paul R. Curnow/Conductor

Young Ambassadors—(continued from page 2)

- City - Gramercy British Brass to host
- July 26 Evening program - Central Citadel Hall - Manhattan
- July 28 Evening concert - Symphony Hall - Springfield, Mass.

We welcome this outstanding British brass band to North America. We encourage everyone to hear them if at all possible. Their musical presentations should not be missed!

ORDER YOUR N.A.B.B.A. T-SHIRT TODAY!

Gold design on a royal blue shirt made of 50% cotton, 50% polyester. Price \$7.50, postage included. Special price to all NABBA members: \$6.00 including postage.

BRASS BAND FAN



N.A.B.B.A.

QUANTITY	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE	EXTRA LARGE
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$				

From: (please print or type)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

SEND TO: North American Brass Band Association, Inc., c/o Sam Rainey, Secretary, 443 South Ashland Avenue, Lexington, Kentucky 40444

WELCOME ABOARD!

We have received word that the following brass bands have been formed or are in the stages of being organized:

North Hills Brass Band
c/o Dr. S. Hartley Johnston
1519 Ingomar Heights Road
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15237

Wallingford British Brass Band
c/o Jack Scogna
371 Margate Road
Upper Darby, Pa. 19082

Golden Horseshoe Brass Band
c/o Sam Rainey
443 South Ashland Avenue
Lexington, Ky. 40502

West Winds Brass Band
c/o Dean Killion
3433-54th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79413

English Oak Band of Nagaunee
c/o John Violetta
1305 North Baldwin
Nagaunee, Michigan 49866