

# The BRASS BAND Bridge



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

ISSUE 20  
MAY 1985

Courtesy of YAMAHA Musical Products

## Gala Concert Features Philip Smith

To "cap-off" a full day of brass band activity, the musical perfection of Philip Smith, co-principal trumpet of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, was presented in tandem with the Earls court Citadel Band of Toronto.

Phil delighted the full house with his impeccable playing on the piccolo trumpet, the Bb cornet and the Bb trumpet. His beautiful tone on all three instruments, his complete command of the three instruments, and his musical phrasing touched the musical center of his appreciative listeners. He received a standing ovation for his contribution.

Ron Clayson conducted the Earls court Band in a very demanding program of Salvation Army band music. Their playing was a joy to hear. The playing at the close of the two-hour concert was as fresh and attractive as it was on the opening selection. Their blend, balance and ensemble were of the first order. They played for their audience of brass band fans and the crowd was responsive to their fine musical offerings. This is one of the Salvation Army's outstanding Corps bands.

The "Gala Concert" was a perfect ending to a beautiful brass band day.

## Brass Band Trivia

The question in the last issue was . . . "What British brass band provided the music for the sound track of Walt Disney's 'The Littlest Horse Thieves'?" The answer . . . The Grimethorpe Colliery Band. It is a fine movie and the sound track is simply great!!

## Top Band: Gramercy Once More — Sunshine keep their title

The Gramercy British Brass of New York (John Lambert) presented a remarkable brass band performance at Championships III to again walk away with the title of Championship Brass Band of North America. The contest was sponsored by the North American Brass Band Association, Inc. and was held at the Weston Collegiate Institute in Toronto, Canada. Built around Gilbert Vinter's test piece "Vizcaya," this outstanding brass band presented a program which included Bulla's "Blow Away The Morning Dew" and Gregson's "Dances and Arias." The "champs" compiled a total of 283 points out of a possible score of 300. The large audience gave these Brass Band Fans a loud round of applause to show their enthusiastic approval.

Close on the heels of the winners was the Bloomington Brass Band (David Pickett) from Indiana. As runner-up this fine group demonstrated its command of the brass band medium by presenting the test piece, Sparke's "Jubilee Overture," the Colman arrangement of "The Londonderry Air," Denham's arrangement of "Knightsbridge March," and Sparke's "Capriccio" featuring Kris Dahlin as Eb Cornet Soloist. Kris won the Renold O. Schilke Memorial Trophy as the "Outstanding Soloist of the Day." His playing was perfection. In third place came the Smoky Mountain British Brass Band (Richard Trevarthen) from North Carolina who presented a beautiful program including the test piece, Gordon Langford's arrangement of "La Danza," "I Bring You A Branch Of May" by Madeline May, the fourth movement of Bill Himes' "Aspects Of Praise," and featured a Bass Trombone solo by Harry

Overby in a selection entitled "Die Moritat Von Macki Messer" from Kurt Weill's "Three Penny Opera."

The Sunshine Brass (Karen Kneeburg) again captured the First Place Banner in the Honors Section. This outstanding band from Tampa, Florida presented Peter Yorke's test piece "The Shipbuilders," Hume's march "Brilliant," the Stanley Boddington arrangement of "Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms" featuring Euphonium Soloist Marc Gordon, and Jim Curnow's "The New Covenant." Their beautiful playing earned them a total of 265 points out of a possible 300. They justly deserved to take home the title of First Place Winner; Honors Section.

Coming in Second Place was the Chester Brass Band (Gordon McGowan) from Nova Scotia. Their fine performance of the test piece, John Carr's "Four Little Maids," and Langford's "Leviathan" earned them the position as runner-up in the Honors Section. This group earned the second spot by presenting a most musical performance. Right behind the Chester group (literally as only one point separated the Second and the Third Place positions) were the folks from Whitby. The Whitby Brass Band (Roland Hill) presented the test piece, Seymour's march "Summit" and the Eric Ball selection "Rhapsody On Negro Spirituals." The fact that only one point made the difference between two two bands indicated how well the Whitby Band played.

Everyone there agreed that the playing was significantly better than last year's performances. There were many fine moments of brass band sounds from each band as they presented their

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

**Editor . . . . . J. Perry Watson**

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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, 1985  
October 31, 1985  
January 31, 1986  
April 30, 1986

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

#### LEADERSHIP MEMBERS:

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Elkhart, Indiana

## SCENES F



**Gramercy British Brass of New York (John Lambert), Championship Section.**



**Sunshine Brass (Karen Kneeburg) from Tampa, Florida, Honors Section.**



**Phil Smith receives the warm appreciation of the large audience and the Earls Court Citadel Band.**

### British Brass Band Workshop Scheduled

The eleventh annual British Brass Band Workshop is scheduled for July 15 through July 18 at Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado. Information is available from Mr. John Kincaid, Associate Professor of Music. He may be contacted at the Music Department. The zip is 81230.



# FROM CHAMPIONSHIPS III



**Mike Swaffar presents the Yamaha Perpetual Trophy to the Gramercy representative as Wilf Dean waits to award the First Place NABBA Banner.**



**Adjudicators (from l to r) J. Paul Green, Ronald Waiksnoris, and Morley Calvert are introduced to the expectant audience.**



**Karen Kneeburg makes final touches to the Sunshine Brass just before they enter the contest stage to walk off with the Selmer Permanent Trophy.**



**George Ullman of Boosey & Hawkes (Canada) Ltd. presents John Lambert with the B & H Traveling Trophy and the winner's check.**



**Kris Dahlin receives the Renold O. Schilke Memorial Trophy for the Outstanding Soloist of the Day from Chairman, J. Perry Watson.**

## New York Salvation Army Staff Band Bound For Great Britain

Billed as the "Return To England" Tour, Bandmaster Derek Smith and the New York Staff Band and Male Chorus will soon depart for an exciting trip. Departing from the JFK Airport on May 16, the band will

spend several weeks touring. Before they return on June 5, audiences in Ipswich, Cambridge, Derby, Darlington, Gloucester, Hereford, and London and many other locations will be privileged to hear these

premiere musical organizations. They will bring to their listeners the best in Salvation Army music prepared to their usual high standards.

*(continued on page 6)*

JOIN



## APPLICATION FORM

(please print or type)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of a brass band? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what band \_\_\_\_\_

What instrument do you play? \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I/We wish to join NABBA as

☐ Associate/Student — \$10.00

☐ Individual Regular — \$20.00

☐ Member band — \$50.00

☐ Corporate/Institutional — \$100.00

☐ Sustaining — \$250.00

☐ Patron — \$500.00

☐ Leadership — \$1,000.00

Make check payable to:

**North American Brass Band Association, Inc.**

Mail to:

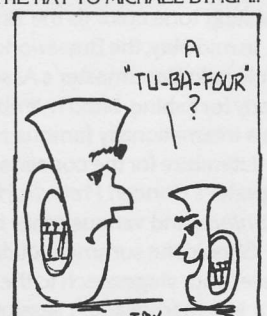
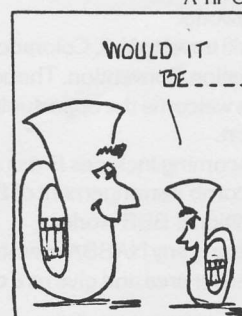
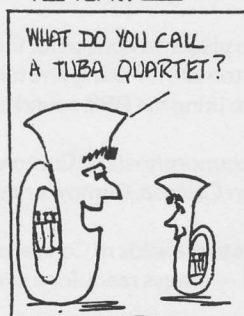
Mike Swaffar, Treasurer NABBA, 225 W. Maple Ave., Lancaster, KY 40444 USA

### Top Band—(continued from page 1)

individual programs. Brass bands have made great musical strides in a relatively short time and NABBA's Board is pleased with the results of the first three Championships.

TUBA BARI \_\_\_\_\_

A TIP OF THE HAT TO MICHAEL BYNUM!!



J.P.W.

## Brass Banding Evolves in Iowa

Iowans got their first sampling of the brass band sound last February at Lisbon High School in a combined concert with the Central (Iowa) College Symphonic Winds. A full house accorded two standing ovations; one for the brass band, another for the college group. Both units combined for a concert finale, Henry Filmore's "Lassus Trombone."

The Iowa brass band has evolved directly from the ages-old Mount Vernon (Iowa) Municipal Band. This group, most usually, has been a traditional wind band. This fall, as a variation, brass choir literature was introduced. This variation culminated in a series of seven concerts prior to last Christmas.

Following Christmas of 1984, Municipal Band and brass choir members Don Stine (Municipal and Mount Vernon High School Band Director) and Mike Goater (electronic engineer), attended a British Brass Band Workshop and performance held at Quincy College in Quincy, Illinois. Organized by Jim and Anne Buckner (former members of the Smoky Mountain British Brass Band), the three day event was directed by J. Perry Watson of North Carolina State University.

An exhilarating performance by the Quincy group inspired a further transferral of emphasis to Mount Vernon. Abandoning, at least temporarily, brass choir literature, the yet unnamed band is now drawing brass and percussion players from a seventy mile radius. Currently composed of teachers, dentists, housewives, merchants, sales people, college students, a factory foreman, lab technicians, socialworkers, computer experts, electrical engineers, and school administrators, the Mount Vernon-based group represents the communities of Mount Vernon, Solon, Lisbon, Iowa City, Coralville, Williamsburg, Central City, Anamosa, Dysart, Cedar Rapids, Ely, Marion, and Martelle.

Selections performed by this newly formed brass band were:

THE IMPRESSARIO . . . . . Cimarosa/D. Wright

SEND IN THE CLOWNS . . . . . Sondheim/F. Bryce

Steve Stickney, Eb Cornet Soloist

LOCH LOMOND/COMIN' THRO' THE RYE . . . . . (arr.) Langford

AIR FROM THE SUITE IN D . . . . . Bach/D. Wright

FAMOUS BRITISH MARCHES . . . . . (arr.) Langford

Practices for the group are held in the Mount Vernon High School band room at 7:30 P.M. on Thursdays. Conductors have been Kurt Clausson and Steve Wright both from the Iowa City — Coraville area.

—Don Stine

## Mile High Brass Report —

The Rocky Mountain Brassworks began the busy 1985 concert season with the first of two performances at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities in celebration of the festive holiday season in December of 1984. The next Arvada Center program will be May 19, 1985. Both Center concerts are under the gracious sponsorship of the Tri-State Bank, Mr. Richard Tucker, President. If the holiday concert is a true indication, the spring concert will be very well attended by a most enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

The Brassworks are sporting twelve new instruments (1 Eb soprano cornet, 5 Bb cornets, 4 Eb alto horns and 2 Bb small bore baritones), obtained through a grant from the RDH Foundation, and 1 Eb tuba purchased through concert donations. These new silver instruments will have their premiere outing at the RMB concert for the Salvation Army Annual Civic Dinner on April 26, and should bring a new and exciting tone color to the Brassworks.

In mid-May, the Brassworks will travel to Vail, Colorado, to present a concert for the Colorado Bandmaster's Association Convention. Though too late for skiing and too early for fishing, band members welcome the opportunity to bring the BBB sound to this internationally famous resort.

Literature for the concerts upcoming includes *Brass Metamorphosis* by Curnow, Sparke's *Concert Prelude*, Holcomb's arrangement of *Bryn Calfaría*, Curnow's new *Fanfare*, and various other traditional BBB works.

Should the summer holiday bring any NABBA members to the wilds of Colorado, steer your stagecoach to the Denver area and give us a call — always ready for a jam (or is it marmalade?) session.

—Roy Hess



## High School Band Gettysburgh

Pictured is part of the Gettysburg High School Ceremonial Brass Band waiting to parade with "Honest Abe" in a Lincoln Day celebration in historic Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. This band was formed in 1982 specifically to provide music for the dedication of the Tennessee State Monument, the last of 11 Confederate state monuments dedicated on the battlefield at Gettysburgh. Since that time the group has performed both in concert and in parade for historic and patriotic celebrations. Instrumentation includes 9 trumpets, 3 alto horns, 3 trombones, 3 baritones, 3 tubas and percussion plus 1 piccolo. The repertoire includes arrangements of Civil War songs played by brass bands during that period in our history. The band dresses in a uniform representative of the Civil War musician. Last year the band played host to the Young Ambassadors Brass Band from England. We look forward to welcoming other brass bands to our town.

—Ben Jones, Director



### New York Salvation Army/Band—

(continued from page 3)

These two fine groups presented the Gala Concert at the First North American Brass Band Championships.

Information about appearances in this country, recordings which they make available and other such information may be obtained by writing to them at 120 West 14th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

### Special Note

The Board of Directors of The North American Brass Band Association will meet on Saturday, September 14, 1985. Any member of NABBA having any business to be brought before the Association should send this information before August 18, 1985 to:

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

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