
The Westminster Municipal Band

WMB News

October 2002

Fall Rehearsals Begin

The month of September is now behind us and I am not sure where it went. I want to thank everyone who participated in a great month of events. We started out in Thurmont on the 7th with a fabulous performance. I heard many great compliments, some by two of our honorary members who were attending, saying that it was the best they have ever heard us. I too believe that it sounded great, I don't know if it was because we were on stage in an auditorium or what, but it was great! We had about 40 members in attendance and a thanks goes out to our Color guard for being there to post the colors. Just to let you know, the organizer told us that we would probably get a call for next year. On Sunday the 8th, we went to Timber Ridge for a concert, which was also well attended. I appreciate all who sacrificed the entire weekend for the band. That was a busy weekend anyway; with the Steam show going on at the farm Museum with a lot of the members who attended also participating at that event. On Wednesday the 11th, we attended the ceremony at the Westminster fire hall honoring our fallen heroes who sacrificed their lives a year ago. We had a great turnout with about 45 including the Color guard. The Fire Company sent us a thank you note, saying that we added a great deal to the ceremony. They thanked us for being a part of the event. On Saturday the 21st, we went to Laurel to participate in their Prince Georges County Fireman's convention parade. Laurel Fire Co. was also celebrating their 100th anniversary. We had 38 total and I can tell you it sounded like 58. We really had good balance and it



~~The Westminster Municipal Band was a Fall Festival with the town that they want us back for their Independence Day~~

celebration on Saturday July 5th. Unfortunately, it is the same day as Havre De Grace, so I told them we were already committed but told them to keep us informed for future events. Then on Wednesday the 25th, we attended the annual Westminster Fall fest parade. I can tell you that, besides the Catonsville parade, this is my favorite parade because there are hundreds of people lining the streets to watch and also because the City does a great job of getting the High School bands out to participate. Man, what a great band we had. We had about 51 total and it sounded fabulous. A couple of members in the Color Guard said that it was the best that we ever sounded. On Sunday the 29th, we performed a concert at the Fall Fest activities, with 22 in attendance.

Some reminders for the upcoming month: Rehearsal season gets under way on Monday the 14th

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at 7:30 p.m. On Monday the 7th however, we will be having an all-out work night at the band hall. We will start at 6:00 p.m. doing jobs such as painting, hanging pictures, and just overall cleaning up. The refreshment committee will be providing pizza for all of those who show up to help. At the end of the month on Saturday the 26th, we will head to Millersville for their parade. The bus will be leaving at 6:45 a.m. You say that it is early, but that is the price we pay for being tremendously great I guess. The parade starts at 9:00 a.m., so we need to get an early start. We should be back by no later than noon. Also the Westminster Halloween parade will probably be held on Tuesday the 29th. I am not yet sure of the date, but it is usually on the last Tuesday before Halloween, however the date could change. I will keep you posted at rehearsal regarding the event.

In other news, if you haven't received your flag pin as of yet, please get to rehearsal to get one. The pins will be located on your uniform coat directly above the city pin on the left lapel. Keep the pins about two finger widths apart with the city pin directly across from the coat pocket. Make sure that you all receive one.

As the 2002 parade season comes to a close, I want to thank every one of you who participated. We made lasting impressions and we sounded great all year long. It was a hot summer with a lot of activities, and you all deserve a great deal of credit for representing the City the way you did. I still say that this is one of the finest organizations in the business, and we only seem to get better year after year. Great job everyone.

That's about it for now, see you at rehearsal. Greg

Director's Corner

Happy Autumn everyone! We say this a lot but it is really hard to believe that another summer season has come and gone. As always, we have done a spectacular job in representing the city of Westminster and Carroll County. In this day and age, with so many other activities vying for everyone's attention, we are definitely a strong and dedicated organization.

With the autumn season, we return to rehearsal season. We meet on Monday nights

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starting October 14, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. We'll see what we can do to get out more new music to prepare for 2003.

Also it's never too early to think about next year's street marches. If you have any suggestions, let me know.

There really isn't much else to report from this end - just another thanks to all of you for your support. See you either at the work night on Monday 10/7 or definitely Monday, October 14 for rehearsal.

Sandy

Editor's Note

Just a quick note to remind you to check out our improved website at www.westminsterband.com. The site looks great and contains our schedule of events for the year, pictures from Ocean City, and newsletters going all the way back to January 2001. There are lots of other features, which really look impressive. Thanks goes out to Richard Koons for doing such a fantastic job to keep our website looking so good.

I hope I haven't been too much of a pest with my new camera. I think most everyone enjoys the videos of the photos during the bus trips and I plan to show the Ocean City pictures at our Christmas Party again this year. I may have some other photo surprises in store for the party as well. Many people have told me that they appreciate the photo updates, especially people who are no longer able to march with the band, but like to keep in touch. Anyway, I like to share the pictures cause we look so darn good!

Mayor Dayhoff is an avid fan of the band, and I regularly email him photos of band events. I've been working on him to pick up his trumpet again and join us for a song or two at one of our concerts. Who knows, maybe he'll become a regular member.

Below is a photo from our recent 9-11 ceremony. JM

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