
The Westminster Municipal Band

WMB News

December 2002

Happy Holidays!

It is the last month of 2002! We wonder where the time has gone but know that it is also a time to give thanks and to celebrate. I want to thank you all for another wonderful year. Your dedication and hard work has put this band on top once again. You all deserve a great deal of credit for the time that you participate in the band. We are a great group of individuals, and we only seem to get better each year.

We have a couple of jobs coming up that Sandy will be talking about including the tree lighting on Saturday the 7th, with the Holiday House tour immediately following. Also, do not forget the Christmas concert at the Westminster Senior center, on 125 Stoner Avenue in Westminster on Monday the 16th. It has been a very long time since we did a sit down Christmas concert, so please try to come out and give the audience some Holiday joy. We will perform this concert wearing our concert dress uniforms.

Our main topic of discussion is the band Christmas party, which is scheduled for Monday the 9th. It will again be held at the Westminster American Legion on Sycamore Street in Westminster. The celebration will get under way at 7 p.m. with the meal. Fried chicken, barbecue, beer and sodas will be provided. Your job for the evening will be to supply the following dishes. If your last name begins with the letter:

A thru B – supply an appetizer
C thru F – supply a salad dish



Rehearsing Holiday music in our newly renovated band hall.

G thru M – supply a vegetable dish
O thru S – supply a pasta dish
U thru Z – supply a dessert

I hope that this outline will work, since last year we had a very good variety of food. We will plan on eating at about 7:15 p.m. Please don't forget that your Spouse and/or your significant other are also invited.

I want to thank everyone who attended the Memorial service for Scott Shipley. I thought we had a great turnout. Scott joined the band in 1989 and his dad Ray joined in 1962. When a senseless tragedy such as this happens, there are no words we can say for comfort, and it really puts life into perspective. We are reminded to live our lives to the fullest and to enjoy the time we have. I do know that Scott enjoyed himself when he was with the band, and I am sure that he will be looking down on us, and he will be with us in memory. It was a joy and a pleasure to have Scott

as a member, and we can only hope that he is in a much better place. Our thoughts & prayers are with his family, as they try to come to grips with this tragedy and move on with their lives.

I want to thank Karl Alexander for providing a stereo system with a phonograph for our use at the band hall. If you haven't stopped in to see the band hall yet, please do so as a lot of hard work went into making the place look great.

I also want to take this opportunity, to thank all of the officers in the band who did an outstanding job again this year. The band is definitely moving forward. As the approved Bi-Laws now state, the same officers will continue into next year, as the terms are now 2 years.

I hope that you all have a wonderful holiday with your family and friends, and we will begin our rehearsal season for the New Year on Monday January 6th.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Director's Corner

Merry Christmas Everyone! December has arrived and with it the busy holiday season! The band is not really getting a break this December as we have quite a few things to play for!

Here is a quick rundown of our performances:

December 6 - A small group of us will be playing at the conclusion of Channel 19's "Live" Holiday Open House. If you are one of the ones playing for this event, please plan to arrive no later than 5:15 p.m. as we will have to get ready and be on the set ready to play at 5:45 p.m. If you can arrive earlier, please do! The event is at the Community College Annex on South Center Street. Please meet in the gymnasium, inside the front doors. I will bring music stands. Dress in green Band Polo shirts and jeans.

December 7 - "Tree Lighting for the City of Westminster". As in years past, we will play for the Lighting of the City's Christmas Tree and the arrival of Santa Claus. Please arrive at the corner of Liberty and Main Streets in downtown

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Westminster by 4:00 pm. We will play from 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.

December 7 - After the Tree Lighting has concluded, we will then move on to play for the "Holiday House Tour" which will be held on West Green Street. This begins at 5:00 p.m. According to the information that Greg has given me, we will be playing for approximately 1 hour. Make sure you have a spotlight for your music. Everyone who participates will be given a free ticket to visit the decorated homes. Dress for these two events is Green Band Jacket, baseball cap, jeans and other warm clothes.

December 9 - CHRISTMAS PARTY!!!!

December 16 - Holiday Christmas Concert at the Westminster Senior Center located on Stoner Avenue near the Carroll County Farm Museum. This will begin at 7:00 p.m. and last for one hour. We will need some set-up and tear down help. Please arrive by 6:45 p.m. in concert uniform.

I can never thank you all enough for making this a great group to be a part of! More and more people are hearing about us as we are getting calls for information about the band - about how to become a member and to schedule us to perform. But even more important is that we are a family. We support each other in good times and in bad. It was readily apparent as we gathered together to honor the memory of Scott Shipley and to give our support to Ray, Brenda, Steve, Travis and the rest of the Shipley family. Please keep the Shipley's in your prayers as they begin the long journey in bringing those responsible for this tragedy to justice.

And, while we are mourning the loss of Scott, we are rejoicing in the marriage of Bette Shepherd and Dave Dickmyer on November 17th. We also send our congratulations to the Bechtel family on the birth of son Dominic.

In closing, I wish you peace of mind, joy in heart, and hope for the future as we move toward 2003. God bless each one of you . . .

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!