
The Westminster Municipal Band

WMB News

October 2003

Rehearsal Begins!

The rehearsal season has officially begun as October “snuck” up on us. First, I want to thank everyone who attended our jobs last month. We performed a concert at the Cotactin High school on the 6th, in front of a very good crowd. On Sunday the 21st, the Fallfest parade kicked off and we had about 32 in attendance. We ended the month with the much talked about trip to Dover Delaware, where we had 42 on the street. We captured first place in the category of out of state band, which gave us a check for \$150.00 and a trophy. I want to thank everyone who attended, and congratulate them on an outstanding job. We arrived around 12 noon in Dover, and about 10 minutes later, it poured as we were getting off the bus. The weather cleared for our part of the parade, as we were in the first division. After we finished, it poured again. The Five Points Fire Company went on to win a total of 7 trophies, but the top honor, the Governor’s Cup, went to Smyrna again for the ninth straight time. Keith Bowman, the rep. from Five Points that contracted us, said that the Fire Company was very pleased with our performance. He went on to say that he was extremely impressed with our professional appearance and that our music was great to march to. He indicated that it is a very good possibility that they may want us to participate again next year on September 18th, 2004. I heard many compliments from the musicians in the front of



Marching to the Westminster FallFest Parade

the band that it was possibly the best that we sounded all year. It was a fun trip, and again thanks to everyone for giving their time.

We will not be attending the parade that was scheduled for Millersville on Saturday the 18th. It was brought to my attention from some of the section leaders that we would have an extremely light attendance for that day and several of our regular attendees said that they would be absent. I hate to turn down a well paying job, but cannot see going with less than 20, so take it off your schedule. Hopefully we can get the word out for next year, as they will be having a special parade scheduled for their anniversary. Finally, the Westminster Halloween parade will be held on Tuesday the 28th. We will meet at the band hall at 6:30 p.m. and the parade will start at 7 p.m.

I want to give you an update on our building progress. As it stands now, we will be

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starting the project this month, since the Fire Company has presented a lease for us to sign. The conditions are as follows: our rent will be \$200.00 per month plus utilities for 10 years; the back part of the building will be demolished, but a garage will be constructed on the city parking lot side of the building, to house our truck. There will be some minor changes to the bathroom facilities to relocate them next to the uniform room. The City of Westminster has agreed to give us \$30,000 for the renovation of the building which will hopefully cover all repairs. I am going to be asking for some help from you, as we will need to supply some labor when the time comes to finish the back wall and the rear portion of the building. Any help will be appreciated, whatever you can contribute. I think that this will be an excellent facility when it is complete and it will meet our needs for the future. The assistance we have received from the Westminster Fire Company and the City of Westminster is a great example of the way organizations can come together to help one another. A huge thank you goes out to George West for all the time and effort that he has given to this project and also to my Dad, Jim Wantz. I will keep you posted on the progress of the project.

We need to keep Bud Freyman in our thoughts and prayers, as he is recuperating from recent surgery. Also, our sympathy is expressed to Jamie Wehler for the loss of her husband.

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

Greg

Director's Corner

Hey gang! Our first rehearsal of the new season got off to a wonderful start on Monday, October 6. We had a great sounding group but it would be nice to see many more faces on Monday nights. If you know any trumpet players, bring them along.

Westminster Municipal Band

Some preliminary plans right now are to see about scheduling a November concert at Carroll Lutheran Village and to schedule a Christmas concert at the mall one Monday in December. Sue Mora and Jim Mayola are working on the scheduling of these events. The thoughts behind these concerts are to give some of the folks at the Village who are unable to get out to enjoy an evening of music and to play at the mall to get us more exposure to the community and increase the possibility of recruiting new members.

Speaking of recruitment, we've had some new faces in our ranks this summer. Jacqueline Dustin (percussion/mallets) and Sherry May (clarinet) joined us in late July and early August. And more of the Mora family is with us. Sue Mora is back with us in the piccolo section after a long hiatus. Mike & Danielle Mora are playing in the percussion and horn sections respectively. Welcome to all!

As always, I am looking for thoughts and suggestions on the types of music we will begin to prepare for the 2004 playing season. Shoot me an e-mail or drop me a line.

See ya on Monday night!

Sandy

