

The Westminster Municipal Band

WMB News

May 2004

Our Season Begins!

I rehearsal season has come to a close and it is now time to put all of our practice to use. This month is the start of our marching and concert season and I want to thank everyone who attended the Carroll Lutheran Village concert. We sounded great, as we performed in front of an appreciative crowd. The next day, a gentleman who attended the concert, left a message on my answering machine, expressing his gratitude to us, and relaying how great he thought we sounded. That made me feel great, as I know those folks really love to see us, since they often cannot come to our performances. GREAT JOB!

Our first job of the month will be at the Pleasant Valley Fire Company, for their Strawberry Social on Saturday the 22nd. We will be playing from 4 to 7 p.m. We will be setting up in the corner of the Social hall, as we were last year. The following day, we will be attending the Memorial Day parade in Columbia Pa. The bus will leave the band hall at 11:30 a.m. The parade starts at 2p.m. The next performance of the month will be in Westminster on Saturday the 29th, for the Fire Muster parade. Please meet at the band hall at 9:00 a.m. The parade will move up Main Street starting at 9:30 a.m. Then it's Memorial Day gang, so please mark your calendars. On Monday the 31st, we will meet at the band hall at 9:00 a.m. to get lined up for the annual parade in Westminster.



Performing at Carroll Lutheran Village

The parade will step off at 10:00 a.m., if anyone wants to meet us at the beginning of Pennsylvania Ave. & Monroe Streets. Following the parade, we will be attending the ceremony at the cemetery to play the National Anthem. We will then march back to the hall. If inclement weather persists for that day, we will be at the Army National Guard hall on Hahn Road.

Following this event, we will travel to Taneytown, to perform in their parade, which is scheduled to start at 1:00 p.m. Of course, following that parade, we will be attending the service at the Legion, where we will play some selections. If you are wondering, Union Bridge is NOT having a parade this year, due to the street conditions.

An early June job will be the parade in Lancaster Pa. on Saturday the 5th. The bus will be leaving at 11:30 a.m. The parade starts at 2:00 p.m. I know that Saturday jobs can be hard for

some members, so please make every effort to attend, as we are getting a good payout for this job. The following day, Sunday the 6th, we will be performing a concert at Wakefield Valley. I will get you the directions to the location in next month's news.

An update on our building project, the rough in inspections were done and everything passed. Mr. Cooney, our HVAC man, completed his work and the heat and air conditioning are working properly. The last of the rear portion of the building is being cleared away at this time. My Dad (Jim Wantz) and I staked off the location of the footings and the Westminster City crews came and dug them for us on the 4th. The following day, the footings were poured and are now ready for block. Another neat twist of this project came to the surface on Tuesday, as our Secretary, Mike Buffington approached the folks at Thomas Bennett Hunter (TBH), about helping us out on the concrete. They said that they would help us, and our contact at TBH is Karl Alexander's son, John, who is a Vice President of the company. He explained that they would not only help us, but would provide the total amount of concrete that we need to do the footings and the garage floor. What a deal! The Mayor is working on getting the block for us, and as soon as he gets the materials, the City has small crew who will lay them. I will let you know the time, if anyone is available to help with mixing mud, etc. We are moving along and hopefully we will get this accomplished within the next week or so.

I would like to welcome Blaine Flickinger back in the band. He was once a member, and has joined again. It is great to have him back.

That's about it for now; thanks again to for attending rehearsals this past winter. I look forward to seeing you all on the 22nd. Greg
PS. Don't forget that payment for Ocean City is due to me by the end of May. G.W.

Westminster Municipal Band

Director's Corner

Hello! Well, believe it or not, another month has come and gone, and May brings the official start to our performing season. We began tonight (May 3rd) at Carroll Lutheran Village, playing a concert for a standing room only crowd. Our performance was very well received, as we were asked to return again in November. Thanks to all who came out and gave the folks at CLV a most enjoyable night of music. And special thanks to Sue Mora for being our contact there.

Greg has gone over our May job schedule. I just want to remind you all to arrive at the Pleasant Valley Fire Hall at 3:45 on May 22nd. We will do our usual "dinner music" concert for all the Chicken and Strawberry diners. We will play approx. 75 minutes then take a break to eat our dinner. We will then finish up by 7:00 p.m. with a second set.

I am still waiting for a response from the gentleman with the Maryland State Fireman's Association concerning our participation for the Monday opening ceremonies in Ocean City. When I know, I'll let you know, but it may be June 'til we find out!

Thanks again for a wonderful rehearsal season. It means a great deal to have had so many people make it out to rehearsals this winter. I am really looking forward to a great summer.

SIX weeks until OC! See ya in PV, **Sandy**

Editor's Message

The CLV concert was recorded for a potential CD of the Westminster Municipal Band. I am currently working on securing the "rights" to the music before it can legally be distributed, but can tell you that the sound is wonderful! I will keep you posted on the status of the CD. Jim Mayola