

QUARTER NOTES

MRP

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MUSIC REVITALIZATION PROJECT, INC. JAN/FEB/MAR 2000 VOL 1-ISSUE 1

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Five years ago, a small group of local musicians gathered at our house to talk about what we could do to raise the awareness and appreciation of concert band music in our schools and community. From this gathering of music enthusiasts sprang the Music Revitalization Project, Inc.

We have come a long way from our humble beginnings, where like all fledgling organizations, spent a great deal of time planning our goals and objectives and getting our financial footing. Through the tireless efforts of our initial membership, we launched new projects, secured grants from public and private sources, and established a presence in the area. We have worked hard, but it has been especially rewarding.

As we enter the new year, the MRP is looking to expand its reach. This newsletter is one of several initiatives we will launch in 2000 to meet this goal. We will accomplish this through a combination of self-promotion, public appearances, and word-of-mouth. The MRP has a lot to offer, but we need to more effectively spread the word.

This is an exciting time for the MRP, and I welcome you to be a part of it. I hope this newsletter will help keep you informed about the MRP and its activities. I also hope that supporters like yourselves will help us spread the word that the MRP is ready to serve the musical aspirations of amateur musicians, young and old, in our community.



Dave Rolince, President
Music Revitalization Project

1999 LIVE MUSICAL CARDS HOLIDAY WRAP-UP.

The Holiday Musical Card fundraiser was another great success this year!

We raised over \$750 for the MRP to help continue our goals. We especially want to thank those who scheduled a holiday performance. We hope you enjoyed it as much as the musicians did.

A BIG THANKS TO THE MUSICIANS:

Carol Allen, James Bond, Peter Brooks, John Sheppard, Dave Tagliamonte, Dave Rolince, Terry White, Doreen Velmer, John Zawislak and of course Barbara Kuzdzol and her now famous band van!

Again, a big "THANKS" to all the players, we couldn't have done this without you!

-John Zawislak

COMMUNITY CALENDAR: MARCH IS MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH

Help support your local music organizations by attending these live concerts performed by the youth in our community. For more information contact the music departments of the following schools:

- 2/10 Attleboro HS - Solo/Ens. 7pm
- 3/09 All City Music Festival-Attleboro, North Attleboro & Bishop Feehan Attleboro HS -7pm
- 3/10-12 "Camelot," \$10/\$8 Dighton-Rehoboth HS- 7:30pm
- 3/28 City Wide Band Festival Taunton HS - 7pm

MUSICIANS THROUGH THE CENTURIES:

A GLANCE AT JOHN PHILIP SOUSA, THE MARCH KING, (1854-1932)



Child of a Portuguese father and Bavarian mother, he showed musical aptitude at an early age. At 10, he was studying violin and harmony, soon learning to play several wind instruments as well. At 13, his father caught wind of his secret plans to join a circus band in town, and immediately marched Sousa down to the Marines recruitment office and signed him up as an apprentice musician on trombone. He played with the Marine Band, and later, at age 25, was appointed leader of the same band, a position he held for a dozen years before setting out to organize his own band. The Sousa Band became famous throughout America and Europe. He was the first to bring the classics--Verdi, Wagner, Puccini--to a burgeoning American middle class.

Along with his ability to organize and conduct superb musicians, Sousa developed a distinct flair for writing marches. He instinctively knew how to compose for band instruments, and his style, full of bouncing rhythms, brilliant instrumentation, and catchy tunes, earned for him the name of "The March King." His output was extraordinary, with hundreds of compositions, including some comic operas as well as orchestral works. A man of tremen-

dous energy, he continued his extensive tours almost to the time of his death. His passing ended an era of military and marching band music which had become a positive force in American music at the turn of the century.

SUGGESTED WEBSITES:

- <http://www.dws.org/sousa>
- http://www.marine_band.org

SUGGESTED READING:

- John Philip Sousa - American Phenomenon by Paul E. Bierley.
- Perspectives on John Philip Sousa Edited by Jon Newsom.
- Marching Along: Recollections of Men, Women and Music by John Philip Sousa.
- John Philip Sousa by Ann M. Lingg.
- Marching Boy by Ann Weil.

SUGGESTED VIDEO:

- If You Knew Sousa/WGBH/Am Exp/90 min
- Stars & Stripes Forever/20th C. Fox /89 min
- Sousa to Satchmo/Marsalis Jazz/Sony/55 min

SUGGESTED MUSIC:

- Music of J. P. Sousa/US Marine Band/1987
- Marches Forever/Composo/1988
- Presidents Own Marine Band/Vantage/1996
- Sound Off!/US Marine Band- 1992
- Foster & Sousa: Stories & Music/Allegro/1959
- Sousa & Pryor Bands Orig Recordings 1901-1926/New World/1976

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Applications for the year 2000 MRP College Scholarship for graduating high school seniors majoring in music are now being accepted until May 15, 2000. If you have any questions about the scholarship or need an application form and guidelines, contact Carol Lou at 508-222-3804.

MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY LIST AVAILABLE

Write to the MRP to obtain a copy of current band music for loan. This service is free for any music organization.

HIGHLIGHTS 1999 RECAP:

The MRP Goes to Market !!!

The MRP set up a display table at the Attleboro Wednesday Nite Market on Aug. 11th. We had information about the MRP, and a poster board with pictures of musical instrument for passersby to test their knowledge in naming the instruments in a concert band (correct answers received a prize). In addition, we had an instrument petting zoo, consisting of trumpet, clarinet, trombone, sax, flute and french horn for young and old to have a chance to hold and play. We were very pleased at the number of children that stopped by our table with their parents to try the various instruments. An added treat that night was the Attleboro Concert Band performing, so the kids could see the instruments they tried out in action!

We all felt that this was a very beneficial evening because it brought a "hands-on" awareness of music and of our organization to the community. We decided to try to repeat this event this summer. Many thanks to Dave, Doreen, Carol Lou, John Z and Natalee who helped at the table, and to Glenn Smith and the Music Machine in Easton for loan of a sax!

-Carol Lou Allen

UPCOMING EVENTS: AN AFTERNOON WITH THE EPIC BRASS QUINTET SAT., FEB. 12, 1:00pm. & 2:15 pm.

Forget about shining up the silver, come hear the polished brass and enjoy an afternoon of delectable sounds from Earl Raney's Epic Brass Quintet. This fun and educational FREE concert is sponsored by the MRP, Friends of the Attleboro Public Library and made possible by a grant from the Attleboro Cultural Council. The event is filling up fast and there is limited seating. Call the library at 222-0157 for ticket availability. Only ticket holders will be admitted. Information and performance schedule for Epic Brass can be obtained at: www.epicbrass.com



MRP WISH LIST:

- Resources for Website Creation
- Donations of Band Music for the Music Lending Library
- Woodwind, Brass or Percussion Instruments
- Volunteers

If you would like to serve on the Board or volunteer for a committee, meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of every month. Call President Dave Rolince at 508-226-6897.

The MRP QUARTER NOTES Newsletter is a quarterly publication. Contributions are welcome by writing to the Music Revitalization Project, Inc. P.O. Box 709, Norton, MA. 02766. All articles included are at the discretion of the editor as space allows.

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