

# MRP QUARTER NOTES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MUSIC REVITALIZATION PROJECT, INC. APR/MAY/JUN 2003 VOL 4-ISSUE 2

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

With the news media constantly reminding us lately of the war in Iraq, it's not surprising that we often pause to wonder how we should behave under the circumstances. Should we focus our thoughts on the situation over there, feeling somewhat guilty that we are free to enjoy daily life while others are dodging enemy fire. Or should we celebrate in our freedom that many of us and our fathers fought so hard to preserve.

I am in the latter camp. The best way to show our appreciation and support for the sacrifice our service men and women are giving in Iraq is to exercise our freedom and openly participate actively in our daily routines. This shows the world the blessings of a democratic society where we are free to live and express. Springtime is student concert time all over the country. These kids are working hard to prepare and perform. Get out this spring to a local school concert and show these kids the value of our freedoms, and stand proud when they play the "Star Spangled Banner".



*Dave Rolince*

*Dave Rolince, Pres. MRP*

## IT'S \$SCHOLAR\$HIP TIME!

The Music Revitalization Project is once again awarding a \$200 scholarship to a graduating high school senior that will be pursuing a degree in music. Be on the lookout for applications at your guidance or music department. If you can not locate one at your school, call 508-222-3804 and we will mail you an application directly. Committee members Carol and Nancy Allen are looking forward to choosing this years winner.

Remember applications must be post-marked by **May 31, 2003.**

*-Carol Lou Allen*

## MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY

The MRP Music Lending Library now has several titles on its shelves for borrowing. Many area organizations such as the East Bay Wind Ensemble, Metropolitan Wind Symphony, S.E. Massachusetts Wind Symphony, Boston City Band and the Attleboro Youth Summer Band have taken advantage of this unique lending system.

Music often becomes permanently out of print after the first run. It is the MRP's goal to preserve some of that music by purchasing a piece of music and loaning it to organizations interested in playing it well after it becomes obsolete. The library is free for any music organization to borrow.

On another note, if you have band music that is not being used, why donate it to the MRP. It can have missing parts or scores - that's OK - our objective is to get enough donations of a part here and there to make a complete piece. To obtain a list of current band music for loan, request music, make a donation, or to purchase music for your group, call Carol Lou Allen at 508-222-3804.

## WEBSITE IN THE WORKS

Finally, the MRP is preparing to go online. We are in the very early stages of cracking the egg and giving the MRP a wider exposure in this internet crazy world. Our website



is being created and there will be some wonderful features on the site to continue the MRP's goals. We'll keep you posted on its progress throughout the year. We are very excited about this and find it musically enchanting.

## MUSIC SOOTHES THE SAVAGE BEAST

This article appeared and in Boston Globe on Sept. 15, 2002. We thought it would be of interest to reprint it here as "music for thought" during this time of war.

### Music to Repulse Loitering Teenagers By by Shari Rudavsky, Globe Correspondent

The MBTA has armed the cops at Forest Hills Station with a tool to strike a new note in the battle against youth crime: Boston Pops-style light classical music.

When students congregate each afternoon at the end of the Orange Line, often a time for teen tensions to flare, they're now greeted not just with the shouts of their peers but tunes played by the Pops floating from newly installed speakers.

"We tried arresting the kids last year. That didn't work at all. We just wanted to try something different," said William Fleming, acting chief of the MBTA Police.

"If this works, Keith Lockhart has a future in the crime-fighting business."

Forest Hills, through which hundreds of teens stream each day on their way to and from school, sees between two to three fights a day, Fleming said. Two years ago this month, one teen shot another during the morning commute.

Malls and other transit systems, such as Toronto's, have employed similar tactics to dissuade teens



**MUSIC REVITALIZATION PROJECT, INC.**

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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.

Support your local music programs:  
4/16 Attleboro HS Band Concert - 7pm  
4/29 Attleboro Lions Club Jazz Fest - 7pm  
5/8,21 Robert Bray Auditorium  
5/8,21 Attleboro HS Band Concerts - 7pm  
5/3 Metropolitan Wind Symphony - 3pm  
5/3 Sorenson Center, Babson College  
6/7 Boston Festival of Bands - 11am-6pm  
6/7 Faneuil Hall, Boston, FREE Admission

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR:

founded the Boston Festival of Bands, will host the 15th Annual, at historic Faneuil Hall in Boston on **Sat, June 7, 2003.** The bands will play selections ranging from Broadway show music to Sousa marches to classical music. There will be music to please all tastes! Come hear a different concert band play each hour. And best of all it's FREE!

The talented bands performing:  
11am, the Middlesex Concert Band, from Wakefield, MA, Dr. Mark Aldrich, Director;  
12nn, Casco Bay Concert Band, from South Portland, ME, Dr. Peter Martin, Director;  
1 pm, the Metropolitan Wind Symphony from Boston, MA, Dr. Rob Franzblau, Director;  
2 pm, the Stafford County Wind Symphony, from Rochester, NH, Matthew Dotson, Director;  
3 pm, the American Band from Providence, RI, Dr. Gene Pollart, Director;  
4 pm, the Concord Band, from Concord, MA, Dr. William G. McMannus, Director;  
5 pm, the Air Force Band of Liberty, from Hanscom AFB, MA, Capt. Scott Guldry, Director;  
Peter Ross, announcer for the MWS, will introduce the groups and provide background information for the various musical selections being performed. Connect to more MWS info at <http://www.mws-boston.org>.

If you're wondering what a Festival of Bands is - here's your chance to find out. It is a celebration of some of the best concert bands music played by New England's best adult bands, all in one day, under one roof.

## 2003 FESTIVAL OF BANDS

On a recent afternoon, as the delicate strains of Gershwin's "An American in Paris" drifted from the speakers, commuters, police, and teens milled about, their movements taking on an almost choreographed quality. Just a few days into the experiment, it appears to be working, despite the fact, said MBTA officials, that several teens have issued critiques of the music in terms that can not be reprinted.

The teens have apparently noticed a difference in what at least used to be one of Boston's more popular adolescent spots to hang out and flirt the afternoon away. "Ever since this music's been playing, people are leaving earlier," said Devante Jones, a senior at West Roxbury High.

His friend Michael Johnson opined that the music, for which he had few kind words, might fuel passions among the teens of teens who commute through Forest Hills.

"Personally I think it's annoying and it could get people hyped," said Johnson, a Burke junior, as a Sousa march blared out of the speakers. "Now when people fight, they can fight to the beat."

But a clerk at a Forest Hills variety story said he had no complaints about the afternoon concerts. "Music soothes the savage beast,"

said the clerk, who refused to give his name. "They're leaving, and I ain't seen no fights." officials say they will extend it to other stations from outstaying their welcome in a public space. If the tactic works at Forest Hills, MBTA said the clerk, who refused to give his name. Some of the youths conceded that they liked the music. "It's peaceful and it's putting me at ease. It's taking my mind off a rough day at school," said Miriam Navarro, a 4th of July concert. The Pops-style music, they reasoned, might keep youths from hussling, and hasten them toward their destinations. "That's what we're looking for - for people to get along and get along," said Detective Peter Pasciucco. "You don't want to drive them out, but if it's not music they like, they may go somewhere they can listen to music they do like."

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