

FALL 2024



NEW HORIZONS NEWS

A publication of the New Horizons International Music Association, Inc.

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YOUR BEST IS GOOD ENOUGH

Are you a New Horizons Ambassador?

By Russ Rosen, NHIMA Board of Directors, Chair, Membership Committee

Can you answer that question with a resounding "yes"? How many people have you approached in your adult musical life and asked the question: "Did you ever play a musical instrument as a child?" There must be millions who will answer "yes" in the United States alone, not counting Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Ireland.

Or maybe you were approached by a New Horizons member and have discovered the joy we all have experienced playing music together as adults in our bands, orchestras, choirs, world class music camps and in our NHIMA virtual classes. I would not be writing this article as president of the New Horizons Band of Cincinnati and as the Membership chairman of NHIMA and as Camp Director of the Cincy New Horizons Music Camp if a friend had not asked me those very same questions in 2008. As adults what better gift can we give our friends and acquaintances? The opportunity to strengthen their brains, enhance their social life, provide the opportunity to learn a new instrument and to know that ***your best is good enough.***

I call on everyone to begin or to continue serving as ambassadors. What a wonderful gift to give to the people we know and meet as we move through our adult life.



SEE PAGES 3 & 4 — AND SAVE THEM! — FOR COMPREHENSIVE GUIDELINES TO PROMOTING YOUR NHIMA ENSEMBLE

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NHIMA's Music Exchange List



Tri-County New Horizons Band in Saukville, WI has forty-nine pieces we would like to donate to all the other NHB bands out there! There are a variety of musical styles and difficulty levels, so there is something for every band.

MUSIC EXCHANGE LIST

Click the button to examine NHIMA's Music Exchange List, which currently holds over three hundred and fifty titles.

Pictured below is the twenty-year-old Tri-County band after playing an outdoor concert at a church ice cream social in August, 2024.

**Diana Jonen, Co-Director
Tri-County New Horizons Band**



24 FOR '24

Best practices to promote local NHIMA ensembles

Contributed by NHIMA Membership Committee and other NH members

Faced with challenges recruiting and promoting your New Horizons organization and ensembles? NHIMA has compiled a list of best practices to assist you.

MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION

1. **Members are Your Own Best Ambassadors:** Word of mouth by current members is the best way to recruit new members! Have tri-fold brochures or business cards that members can pick up at rehearsals and hand out to friends, neighbors, and co-workers.
2. **Reduce membership fees or conduct membership drives:** The cost of joining a New Horizons group might keep some persons from joining. Waive or reduce membership fees or consider a membership drive that includes a percentage off if one joins. Or offer a reduced rate on one's next membership for recruiting a new member who joins.
3. **Survey members, former members, and or potential members:** Consider asking former members or those who do not attend regularly why they have not returned or are absent. For example, was day of the week or the time not convenient or are there other responsibilities (ex. caring for grandchildren) or priorities (desire to travel or engage in other activities) that kept them from participation? Carefully consider rehearsal times. Would moving rehearsal time to 5:00 p.m. permit attendance for those who don't drive at night as well as those who work during the day?
4. **Develop various levels of performing ensembles:** Sometimes new players are anxious about playing with more experienced players. Consider adding a first-year ensemble or band. After developing confidence, players could move to intermediate or advanced groups.
5. **Consider small ensembles in addition to large ensembles:** Developing small ensembles and/or increased use of small ensembles (ex. clarinet choir, chamber group) gives more members an opportunity to play and develop confidence. This may also help solve a space problem as less space is needed for smaller ensembles. The smaller groups can be a good advertising vehicle as they can perform at nursing homes, schools, seniors centers, etc.

6. **Hold a formal welcome for new members:** Provide a special event for new members such as coffee with the directors or a Q&A orientation session.
7. **Sponsor an Open House:** Invite community members to visit New Horizons groups to meet the directors and current members, ask questions, and view the facilities after light refreshments.
8. **Create a buddy system for new members:** Experienced players agree to mentor new members so new members feel welcome and are reminded of rehearsal schedule, dress for concerts, etc.

MARKETING AND MEDIA:

9. **Include advertising in the yearly budget:** If recruitment and marketing are goals for the coming year, the budget should reflect that.
10. **Invite the local media:** Invite a local TV or radio station to attend and broadcast an event or offer to provide a live sample of the concert. Many local TV stations have locally produced programs that highlight area events or organizations and will interview and feature area persons, groups, and events.
11. **Prepare radio announcements:** Many local radio stations have a Community Calendar or will advertise local nonprofit events for free.
12. **Consider social media accounts:** In the past, newspapers were a good way to advertise, but with increased costs, they do not get the needed return for the investment. Don't be afraid to explore social media such as Instagram and Facebook. Use social media accounts to post not only local New Horizons events and concerts, but the events of NHIMA and of other community music groups.
13. **Make use of QR codes:** The use of QR cards and having QR codes on posters, cards, etc. simplifies access to New Horizons information.
14. **Develop a website:** In addition to social media, consider developing a website that provides information about joining, rehearsals, concerts, etc.

15. **Create professional looking documents:** Consider wording so that your message is clear and will help reach different desired ages such as the over-fifty crowd and younger adult musicians. Also take time to proofread and make use of visuals. Include photos on flyers, business cards, brochures, advertisements, etc. Including a photo with any concert or recruitment listings in area papers will increase interest.
16. **Keep a database or file of advertising efforts:** Keeping a file digitally will make it easier to create future ads. The samples could be helpful with visual arrangement, prioritizing information on the page, and wording. Note what has worked well in the past. This information will be helpful if a change in leadership occurs.
17. **Make use of a marketing team:** Some New Horizons groups are housed in space provided by a local arts center or college. If you have access to a marketing team, check to see if they would be willing to assist with social media and getting the word out to local retirement communities, community agencies, etc. about performances.
19. **Develop partnerships with local K–12 school districts:** This might be helpful in terms of space as generally the schools do not charge, or have a lower cost than other venues. Schools can also be helpful resources for borrowing needed equipment (ex. percussion needs).
20. **Network with area businesses:** Distribute posters to music stores, restaurants, etc. Many area businesses have a display area for local events and organizations. Invite area individuals or businesses to sponsor concerts.
21. **Organize joint concerts:** If your ensemble is small or even if it is not, join with other area New Horizons ensembles or community ensembles to present concerts.
22. **Sponsor educational events or master classes:** Consider sponsoring an educational event, master classes or sectionals with clinicians and invite not only New Horizons members but K-12 educators, potential members, and college and/or high school students.
23. **Set up display table at area events, fairs, business expos, markets, etc.:** This is an excellent way to promote New Horizons and NHIMA in the community.
24. **Consider different venues and organizations:** Are there area organizations, churches, or libraries that have halls that could be used? Consider joining with an area organization to provide a fund raiser for a charity. For example, the local New Horizons group could offer a concert while the other nonprofit provides dinner or refreshments

PARTNERSHIP AND NETWORKING

18. **Establish relationships with local colleges and universities:** College music majors might be able to assist with providing lessons. Non-music majors who have not played since high school might be interested in joining a New Horizons ensemble. Promote each other's concerts and master classes.

PASS IT ON

Lest We Forget

Blog post by NHIMA member Natasha Regehr

In July Natasha Regehr, a member of the London, ON New Horizons organization, participated in her band's trip to France and Belgium. Read her reflections on the trip, Remembrance Day, and other weighty thoughts in her blog post by clicking [HERE](#).

SOME IMPORTANT MEMBER BENEFITS

President's message

By Norman Thiel

Greetings to all! Wonderful things are happening in the world of NHIMA. There are two very important items I would like to talk about. First are the discounts offered to NHIMA members. Your membership entitles you to certain discounts from our business members. Alfred Music and MakeMusic both have a 25% discount on printed music for NHIMA members. Yes, your band can get 25% more music with the same budget as last year! MakeMusic offers instructional help for your specific instrument so you can

“We are very excited about these new offerings to you and hope you can take advantage of some, if not all, of them!”

play all that new music even better! These are exceptionally great values for you and your ensembles. Please [click here](#) to check out ALL the discounts.

Grouper

The second item is one that I am sure you have seen; it is Grouper. Here is how Grouper works, for those who are

See MEMBER BENEFITS continued on page 6

Today is on your Health Plan



Grouper works with your health plan to pay you to enjoy Music!



PROUD TO BE INCLUDED IN:

Grouper

OnePass

Renew Active
UnitedHealthcare



By Irene Cohen
Advisor to the NHIMA Board,
Moderator, Virtual Events

Since NHIMA's first virtual class in December 2020 the programming has continued to be an ongoing success.

NHIMA is an organization that connects its members using cutting-edge technology providing music education at a very low cost. Our New Horizons philosophy of offering on-line music programming at all levels, and connecting people who want to make music, is available to everyone.

Our volunteer moderators are Irene Cohen (Western University NHB), David Morse (Monadnock NHB), Linda Murdock (Sudbury Valley NHB) and Diane Muffitt (Sudbury Valley NHB). Please give them a huge THANKS!

If you are interested in assisting in organizing virtual programming, we would love to hear from you! Email nhimaoffice@gmail.com.

Conductors, directors and leaders of New Horizons groups can continue to enjoy professional development sessions three to four times yearly, under the leadership of Russ Grazier (Portsmouth NHB) and Donna Morse (Monadnock NHB).

All conductors and directors of NHIMA groups with an active Group Membership can enjoy a complimentary NHIMA membership, renewable annually.

Please, contact nhimaoffice@gmail.com if you would like to take advantage of this excellent offer.

Click [HERE](#) to see our up to date 2024–2025 fall and winter programming.

For programming that has been offered since 2020 please go [HERE](#).

If you would like to be a speaker for our virtual programming or you know someone who would be interested, please, contact us at nhimaoffice@gmail.com.

I would like to thank all current and previous presenters for bringing so much education right to our screens, at home and away. They educate us, connect us and share their rich musical knowledge with us.

Looking forward to seeing you all online!

News from the NHIMA Events Committee

By Donna Morse, Board of Directors, Events Committee Chair

The NHIMA Events Committee is very busy preparing for 2025, which looks to be filled with lots of opportunities to learn new things, meet new people, and create music with friends.

Music Forever, A NHIMA Podcast launched in December 2023. There are currently sixteen interviews released and another seven or so in the editing process. Each podcast is an exclusive interview with a New Horizons musician, conductor, or even the spouse of a New Horizons musician and is a glimpse at how music has shaped their lives. Find each of these podcasts on Apple podcasts, Spotify, YouTube, the NHIMA website, or wherever you get your podcasts. Check back frequently as we are always adding more content.

Our virtual classes are going strong. We keep it light in the summertime but once September arrives we are back in full swing with classes about the Beatles, Louis Armstrong, how to play the ukulele, how to listen inside the music, and much more. Classes are always being added so check your email and the website for upcoming classes.

The Events Committee also schedules professional development sessions four times a year so that our conductors can get together and share ideas. In September, Mark Enns and Mary Gillard spoke to the group about how to travel overseas with your musical group. These events are so helpful for getting ideas on running New Horizons music programs. Encourage your conductor to attend one!

A NHIMA music camp is an unforgettable experience. Our 2024 camps in Cincinnati and Lakeside Chautauqua

were huge successes and we are in the planning stages for our 2025 camps. In 2025, there will be a music camp in Mont Tremblant, October 19–24. We are putting together a couple of other camps that you will hear about very soon. Stay tuned — there will be something for everyone!

We are a very busy committee because we are full of ideas about how to enrich our members' musical journeys. Let us know if you have any ideas for camps or classes or want to help us out by being on the committee. Email Donna Morse at donna@newhorizonsmusic.org.

SCENES FROM LAKESIDE
CHATAUQUA BAND CAMP
2024, PROVIDED BY
MARCY EINHORN



MEMBER BENEFITS continued from page 5

wondering. In the United States many people who are over the age of 65 have some type of health insurance. In the past few years these insurance groups have recognized the health benefit of social interaction, even to the point of supplementing memberships in organizations. This is where Grouper comes in. They work with the insurance company and then offer to you a payment of \$110 per year. (The initial payment is \$50, followed by three quarterly payments of \$20 for the remainder of the year, and then it starts over the next year.) At the time of my writing of this article, over \$4,700 is going out to NHIMA members to help pay for reeds, music, valve oil, instrument repair, or dues to a local ensemble.

We are very excited about these new offerings to you and hope you can take advantage of some, if not all, of them!

In other news, we have completed two very energetic

camps this summer. Both were filled to capacity plus. The excitement in each camp was very intoxicating, and all campers had an enjoyable time. Cincinnati camp was held in a DoubleTree resort, where we did not have to go out in the rain or 95° humid weather, plus the parking was across the street and free! At this camp we had a full orchestra, which rounded out the musical experiences nicely.

In Lakeside Chautauqua camp we all made new friends and solidified old friendships. Even though it was just a three-day camp with one large ensemble, we accomplished learning nine selections and putting on a concert for the Lakeside community. We all enjoyed the putt putt golf, smoothies, and ice cream in this quaint community on Lake Erie.

Thank you so much for supporting NHIMA in all the in-person events and the virtual programming.

News from the NHIMA Development Committee

By committee members Jon Hawes, Steve Garone, and Julie Kling

Need a great idea for holiday gifts?

Are you struggling to decide how to honor/reward/recognize/thank or remember someone who has had a positive impact on your musical life during the holiday season? We have a great solution and it helps support NHIMA, too!

Please consider making a gift to New Horizons International Music Association in Honor of, or in Memory of that person who made a positive impact on you musically. Perhaps it was your first music teacher, your high school band director, your current New Horizons conductor, your favorite musician, a fellow New Horizons musician, etc. Anyone you would like to acknowledge can be recognized publicly by making a gift to NHIMA and indicating the person who positively impacted your musical journey.

It's easy and will provide long lasting recognition to those people who deserve thanks and recognition from us. Just go to [this page](#) of the NHIMA website, where you will see how others have recognized people who were important in their musical lives. On that page, click on the blue Donations link and provide the information requested to acknowledge the person (or organization) you would like to honor or remember.

Thank you for your support!



NHIMA Members Only:

Big Discounts from Our Business Members and Professional Associations!

NHIMA members have exclusive access to substantial discounts offered by our business members when buying music, instruments, music accessories, services, and other items. Not only do you benefit from these discounts, but you also support our business members who help make NHIMA successful.

To take advantage of these discounts, you need to [sign in as a NHIMA member here](#), where you can find the necessary codes and instructions on how to easily receive the following discounts from our Business Members.

- ✓ **Alfred Music:** 25%
- ✓ **Capital Music Gear:** 10% or 15% if you complete a survey (and NHIMA gets 1% of all sales revenue if you remember to mention us when you order)
- ✓ **Clarinet Playground:** 15% off digital or print books
- ✓ **Hal Leonard:** 25% off orders of \$25 or more
- ✓ **Leonards Music:** 10% off repairs of \$100 or more
- ✓ **MakeMusic:** 25% off a one-year subscription
- ✓ **N-Tune Music and Sound:** 15% off some qualifying purchases

Thanks in advance for your support of our Business Members!

In addition to these discounts from our Business Members, NHIMA members can also find discounts at two nonprofit professional associations at that same web address.

- ✓ **International Clarinet Association:** \$50 off a regular membership and other discounts
- ✓ **Snow Pond New England Adult Music Camp:** \$50 off program registration.

It pays to belong to New Horizons International Music Association! Become a Life Member today.

Great News — NHIMA Receives Grant from DW Music Foundation!

Since our last Newsletter, the NHIMA Development Committee submitted a grant proposal to the DW Music Foundation. We are pleased to announce that they generously funded the proposal and provided a grant of \$500 to New Horizons International Music Association. These funds will be used to support our general operations.

The DW Music Foundation and NHIMA have much in common. People involved with both organizations strive to support music-making as an essential part of life. [Here's an excerpt from their webpage:](#)

DW Music Foundation "envision[s] a world where music and the arts are available to everyone. We believe that everyone should have the tools and resources to enjoy and learn music at every stage of life. Supporting music education is a central to our mission, bringing experiential, hands-on music education to those that do not have access."

Since 1972, Drum Workshop has designed and produced the world's most innovative drum products for musicians and has a long history of giving back to the music community. In 2020, they created the DW Music Foundation as a 501(c)(3) organization to continue that tradition of supporting the music community.

Thank you, DW Music Foundation, for selecting the New Horizons International Music Association for funding in 2024!

thank you

NEW HORIZONS BANDS OF NORTHERN NEW YORK

Playin' with Mom

By Kathy Calcagno

Diane Mathie, Music Director at New Horizons Bands of Northern New York, can't remember a time when there wasn't music at home. Her father, the late John Schorge, was a respected trumpet professor at Crane School of Music in Potsdam, NY. Her mother, Ann, taught orchestra and strings at Potsdam Central Schools. Growing up, Diane began trumpet lessons while her sister, Lori Cyr, focused on clarinet. As the years passed, Diane earned music degrees from Ithaca College (where her parents had attended and met) and the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY and began a teaching career. Diane taught in five states, the last (twenty-one years) in Boise, ID. Her parents retired and moved to Tampa where they spent many happy years playing with the Tampa Symphony.

After Diane's retirement, powered by the desire to be closer to family and a love for northern New York, she and husband (a trombonist) returned to the Potsdam, NY area. Diane had heard about New Horizons after striking up a conversation with Ron Berry during jury duty in Canton. She joined the group in 2015 first as a substitute conductor and later as an assistant director for the group's "clinic" or band fundamentals group. Ann also returned to the Potsdam area and two years ago announced to Diane that "I think I'm going to join your band." After further discussion about what instrument she wanted to play, Ann settled on joining the percussion section. After twenty-five years of teaching instrumental music Ann feels "right at home" playing with the band. As Diane conducts, band members are no longer surprised to hear, "Mom, at measure fifty-six we are going



Diane Mathie and her mother, Ann Schorge, relaxing during a rehearsal break

to pick up the tempo." They know mom is Ann, keeping the beat. And Diane's sister, Lori, is also part of the New Horizons family, helping to direct the clarinet choir at the Eastman – Rochester New Horizons. Making music the New Horizons way is "all in the family."



NEW HORIZONS MUSIC FOX VALLEY, APPLETON, WI

NE Wisconsin New Horizons Celebrates

Submitted by Doug Marsh

In addition to their concert band celebrating its Twentieth Anniversary in 2024 and their string orchestra in 2025, the New Horizons Music Fox Valley (NHMFV) program is celebrating two decades of getting it right. Whether it's training first-time musicians, welcoming those who played in their youth and are returning to their instrument after a ten- to forty-year hiatus, or coaching adult musicians who'd like to give a different instrument a try, the Fox Valley program has continued to thrive, grow, and establish itself as a positive and engaged part of the community.

Based in Appleton, WI, NHMFV consists of a concert band (the Band), string orchestra (the Orchestra) and smaller band ensemble (the Ensemble). Of the five existing New Horizons programs in Wisconsin, NHMFV is the only New Horizons program with a string orchestra. Both the Band and Orchestra have highly qualified and experienced paid directors and instructors. Their geographic marketplace stretches south to Oshkosh, WI, and north to Green Bay, WI. Since 2004, the music program has instructed hundreds of adults — many of whom now perform with local community bands.

The Fox Valley is rich with musical opportunities given its numerous community bands within a small geographic area. But the NHMFV groups are unique. Community band musicians are expected to know how to read music proficiently, play skillfully, practice on their own and be well prepared for rehearsal without instruction. In contrast, the NHMFV program teaches adults at any level of musical ability without judgement, and provides them with weekly group instruction and full band or orchestra rehearsal, along with the opportunity to perform in seasonal concerts and be part of a band or orchestra community — in lieu of only taking private lessons and practicing alone at home.

Similar to many other New Horizons programs, some of the benefits enjoyed by NHMFV Band and Orchestra musicians include:

- ◆ Friendly, non-threatening, weekly group instruction and rehearsals
- ◆ Performing in the joint Spring and Fall seasonal concerts and Appleton Flag Day Parade

- ◆ Making new friends and having fun playing music together
- ◆ Being part of a fantastic music community.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

While NHMFV offers its musicians many benefits, the organization also strives to positively engage and enrich the larger community. To support this goal, the Band and Orchestra perform free spring and fall joint concerts, and the Band performs in the annual Appleton Flag Day Parade — one of the oldest and largest Flag Day Parades in the country. But an even deeper level of community outreach is achieved via multiple performances by

the New Horizons Band Fox Valley Ensemble.

The Ensemble is a smaller group of New Horizons musicians who meet independently, rehearse, and perform twenty-plus times per year throughout the community at numerous nursing homes, assisted living centers, retirement living communities, farm markets and special community events. The seeds for this entity were planted over ten years ago by a few band musicians. Ensemble repertoire is broad, toe-tapping fun, including movie, film, Broadway, patriotic and polka favorites, along with selected pop music from the likes of Herb Alpert, Neil Diamond and The Beatles for spring, summer and early fall gigs — and holiday music during December. As a tribute to its Wisconsin roots, the Ensemble closes each gig with the ever-popular 'Beer Barrel Polka' and 'On Wisconsin' fight song.

As another form of community outreach, NHMFV designated its May 2022 Spring Concert as a fundraising concert, where post-concert free-will donations raised \$1,200 on behalf of the Fox Valley's local Habit for Humanity chapter.



See CELEBRATION continued on page 10

CELEBRATION continued from page 9

THE BAND'S 20 YEARS OF LEADERS

After launching and directing the Band from September 2004 through May of 2015, the Band said farewell to its founding director, Jon Meyer, at the conclusion of its Spring 2015 concert and welcomed its second director, Bob Kramer, at the start of the Fall 2015 session. At the conclusion of its Spring 2022 concert, the Band bid farewell to Bob Kramer and welcomed its third and current director, Jenny Leist, at the start of the Fall 2022 session. The Band has been very fortunate to have wonderful directors and sectional instructors who have each helped the Band grow and improve musically during their respective tenures with the Band.

While not formally “leaders” of the Band, four of the current Band musicians embody the success and perseverance of NHMFV, having performed in the Band’s very first concert back in June 2005. Additionally, two of these musicians, along with the percussion section instructor, have played in the Band continuously since its launch in 2004.

PERSEVERANCE, EVEN THROUGH A PANDEMIC

Pre-COVID, the New Horizons Music Fox Valley program included over one hundred and ten participants — with the Band at fifty musicians and Orchestra at sixty musicians. As the pandemic emerged in March of 2020, Band and Orchestra spring sessions were canceled. In the fall of 2020 (with twenty-four musicians) and again late spring/early summer of 2021 (with twenty-nine musicians), the Band rehearsed outdoors at a local park pavilion with a highly modified rehearsal following CDC guidelines, State of Wisconsin Health Department guidelines, Wisconsin State laws and guidelines, and the findings and recommendations of the National Performing Arts Aerosol Study in determining protocols for rehearsals. These protocols included employing the four pillars of COVID-related screening questions and temperature checks, social distancing, face coverings and hand hygiene, along with instrument-related hygiene precautions (such as bell covers and puppy pads on the floor).

The Ensemble also rehearsed weekly outdoors throughout the summers of 2020 and 2021 at a local park, and the Orchestra ultimately resumed its rehearsals outdoors at a local park pavilion the summer of 2021 with thirty-six vaccinated musicians. In the fall of 2021, the Band, Orchestra and Ensemble were able to safely resume indoor rehearsals. As of March 2022, the NHMFV program welcomed back approximately ninety-five Band and Orchestra participants.



the Fox Valley program has continued to thrive, grow, and establish itself as a positive and engaged part of the community.

NHMFV'S ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

The New Horizons Band and Orchestra programs were originally launched at the Lawrence University (LU) Academy of Music in 2004 and 2005, respectively. In early 2012, the Band left the LU Music Academy and formed an independent non-profit organization. The New Horizons Orchestra left the LU Academy in 2014 and joined the Band. Together, the two musical entities formally created New Horizons Music Fox Valley in 2015.

The non-profit parent organization, New Horizons Music Fox Valley, is governed by a strategic Board of Directors, while the New Horizons Band Fox Valley and New Horizons Orchestra Fox Valley have their own leadership teams managing the day-to-day affairs of each musical entity.

MOVING FORWARD IN FRIENDSHIP AND FUN

Both the Band and Orchestra are thriving as they continue to welcome beginners along with new and returning musicians. As of spring 2024, the Orchestra enrolled sixty-three musicians, and the Band enrolled a record seventy musicians. This fall, NHBFV has over one hundred and twenty enrolled musicians.

As of April 2024, NHBFV resumed its New Horizons Eats monthly lunch for its musicians, who gather at a local restaurant on the Fox River to share a meal and time together. In September 2024, the organization held its eighth annual New Horizons Music Fox Valley Picnic with participants sharing potluck food, live music and friendship.

With a great future in mind, the NHMFV Band and Orchestra look forward to continued celebrations of their respective twenty-year anniversaries in 2024 and 2025.

New Horizons Music Fox Valley (NHMFV) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides affordable music education, training and performance opportunities for adults at any level of musical experience, who desire to play in a community band or orchestra. Adults who wish to play again or learn to play for the first time are invited. All beginners are welcome and no auditions are required.

NEW HORIZONS BAND DUPAGE, NAPERVILLE, IL

Back in their seats again!

Submitted by Betty Jensen — Publicity

After a too-short summer, New Horizons Band DuPage members, under the baton of director Maryann Flock, are back in their seats and on Zoom again as of September 9. The concert season ended with our Spring Concert on May 11 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Naperville, followed by several retirement home performances in June and then officially concluded with the band's annual participation for about one and a half hours (riding on a float) in the "Friends of the Fourth" parade in Warrenville on July 3. Next on

the sadness. The rehearsal ended with a band get-together at the Naperville home of Eric and Carol Pfeiffer — Eric is a tuba player and Carol plays flute with the band. Great food, drinks and camaraderie were on-hand which was a most pleasant way to end the first practice after the sad news shared at rehearsal.

NHB DuPage continues to welcome new members and the current band is forty-plus strong. Rehearsals for the Concert Band are held Monday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to

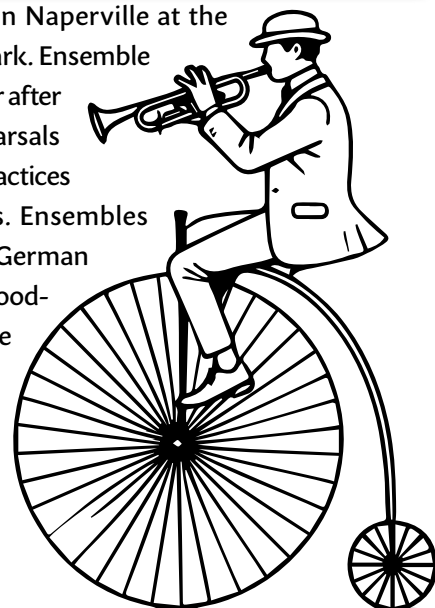


the "horizon" is the annual performance in Chicago at the Misericordia home for children and adults with disabilities on Monday, October 14 — one of the band's most favorite events. This will be followed on Saturday, December 14 by the annual Christmas performance at the same Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as well as December performances at local retirement communities.

Unfortunately, just a few days before convening for the fall session, Maryann announced the passing of long-time NHB musician, Clyde Uebele (trombone and former French horn player). Clyde was a quintessential New Horizons musician — always eager to learn new things, and always with a smile on his face. Clyde was also the "go to" person if you needed history about the city of Naperville. He was a fixture in the band and will be missed by all. At our first session, several folks shared "Clyde" stories — bringing smiles to

7:00 p.m. in downtown Naperville at the band shell in Central Park. Ensemble practices occur before or after the Concert Band rehearsals along with additional practices on Thursday evenings. Ensembles consist of Brass Choir, German Band, Jazz Band and Woodwind Consort. There are also sessions for NHB Beginners and NHB Too (Intermediates).

As we always say, *"It's never too late to toot your own horn".*



CROSBY COMMUNITY BAND, DEXTER, ME

A weekend of Maine music

From the members of the Crosby Community Band

Instrumentalists from all over the northeast, Midwest, and Canada came to Dexter, ME, with traveling campers, as guests of local hosts, and patronizing local B&Bs for a weekend of music by Maine composers and arrangers. The thirty-plus members, under the direction of NHIMA founder Dr. Roy Ernst and local host Dr. Earl R. Lord, played music written by Harold J. Crosby in the early twentieth century and others.

From Friday's initial rehearsal until the Sunday afternoon concert, the instrumentalists worked to bring together marches, waltzes, original works by H.J. Crosby, Leland Whipple, Frank Churchill, and Heywood Jones, all Maine natives.

Regimental marches with patriotic fervor by Crosby took the audience and players *On to France*, seeking *Peace with Honor*, visiting *In A Rose Garden* before a *Return From France* and *The Hero's Return*.

Heywood Jones's arrangement of *Czardas* was enthusiastically admired by the audience. *At The Minstrel Show* and his *Four Rhythmic Dances* featured dance styles of the era. Jones was a Maine composer, arranger and conductor of Maine bands before and after WWII. *Yankee Doodle Through the Ages* by Leland Whipple, a versatile photographer, musician, and music teacher, had a unique perspective of two thousand years of modal music history of the familiar tune.

The annual event is all free and includes a pizza party, continental breakfasts, lunch, pasta supper, potluck Sunday dinner provided by local players, snacks and fruits to ensure that people can come and Have Fun Playing Music. Generous free-will donations make the event possible.



BUTLER NEW HORIZONS FOLK AND GOSPEL BAND, BUTLER, PA

Pennsylvania String Group Strums a Different Tune

By Mary Kitchen, Co-Director

The Butler New Horizons Folk and Gospel Band, in Butler, PA, is a bit different from most New Horizons groups. We don't have trumpets, tubas or trombones. We just have strings! Specifically, we have guitars, mandolins, violins, violas, cellos, ukuleles, baritone ukes, and banjos. We also have percussion players and one clarinetist who doesn't mind transposing to play along.

We started several years ago, when I learned about New Horizons during a music therapy class at Slippery Rock University. The more I learned, the more excited I got. "We can do this!" I said to my husband Allen. But we needed to teach what we knew how to play, which is strings. We had quite a variety of stringed instruments at our home that we've collected over the years. A church donated space, and our first meeting brought nineteen people. Now we have

about twenty-five folks who gather weekly to enjoy folk and gospel tunes. We also play frequently at local nursing homes and churches.

Our greatest joy is welcoming folks who have never touched an instrument before. With encouragement of the group, they are soon learning a few chords or notes and singing along. The sense of community and mutual support is a vital part of our group. Most of all, we have a lot of fun.

We are lucky to have several talented volunteers who help at our weekly rehearsals. Jim McQuiston, a retired music therapist, teaches our guitar group. Kathy Bazzano helps to coordinate our strings, and my husband Allen (who plays lots of instruments) jumps in wherever needed, and often works with our new folks.

We are grateful to be part of the New Horizons team!



New Horizons News is the newsletter of the New Horizons International Music Association (NHIMA), Inc., Nikki Attwell, editor. Find NHIMA on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), by [e-mail](#), or phone at 540.358.5780.

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Submissions — updates, reports, stories, photos, articles from other sources (with permission to reprint if applicable) — are welcome and encouraged. Please send MS Word or Text Edit files (rather than PDFs, Pages or Publisher files), and be sure to include your location and state. Limit stories to 600 words,

and provide a caption for photos, identifying the subject or activity. Send pictures or images (high-resolution photos if possible) as separate graphic files rather than inserted into a Word document.

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To contact the editor or to forward material:

nhimanews@gmail.com

Ralph Zimmer

1926 – 2024



Ralph M. Zimmer of the Eastman New Horizons Program, Rochester, NY, passed away October 3, 2024, at the age of 98. He is predeceased by his wife and fellow bandmate of sixty-nine years, Joan W. Zimmer. Ralph graduated from Irondequoit High School in 1942. In December of 1943, he enlisted in the US Navy, earning the American

Theatre Medal, Asiatic Pacific Theatre and Victory medals. Ralph then started his forty-year career at Kodak as a lens grinder, and retired as Department Head Tactical Systems, Government Systems Division. Ralph was an avid sports fan as he played basketball, football and baseball in high school. He continued to play baseball for Kodak, and softball for

various Webster recreational teams and numerous church teams. He loved to watch his children and grandchildren in sports and musical activities. He loved the New York Yankees, the Cleveland Browns, the Buffalo Bills, Penn State football and the Syracuse Orange.

While raising his family and working, Ralph completed his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Rochester in 1967. He had a lifelong love of playing the trumpet. He was a charter member of the Webster Village Band, played in the West Webster Fire Department Marching band and spent his later years playing in the New Horizons Dance Band. He attended multiple New Horizons band camps in Chautauqua, NY. Ralph married the love of his life, Joanne Williams, on August 8, 1948. Together they raised six kids during their sixty-nine year marriage. He is survived by his six children, sixteen grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren.



Music Forever

A NHIMA PODCAST



Enjoy twenty to twenty-five minute interviews of New Horizons players and conductors who share their musical journeys, passion and love for music. Hosted by Irene Cohen, Past President NHIMA 2020 and 2021.

Click [HERE](#) to find an alphabetical list (by last name) of interviewees, to assist you in finding a podcast that you would like to listen to.

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If you would like to be interviewed for the podcast, please email nhimapodcast@gmail.com.

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Since the founding of the first New Horizons Band in 1991, we have attracted the interest of businesses in the music field. Our board of directors seeks to cultivate business memberships alongside the individuals who support the organization. Business memberships in NHIMA enrich the environment for New Horizons players by bringing us tried and true instrument techniques, useful products, study methods, printed music, and all sorts of ancillary support goods and services. All the companies below are listed on NHIMA's web site. NHIMA would like to thank these business members for their participation. To take advantage of any of the discounts listed, log in to your member account at newhorizonsmusic.org and view the NHIMA Member Discounts and Specials.

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