



Soundwaves

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2

JANUARY 2017

In this issue

- *US Premier*
- *Here Comes Santa Claus!*
- *Laurita Winery*
- *And much more!*



Happy New Year to our Family and Friends. One of the things I like most about Brass Band is the amount of new music that we get to play. In just the last 3 months we gave numerous performances comprising an American premier of a monumental work by Edward Gregson, recording a new piece written for the band, a complete religious program, a complete Christmas program, and two other concerts at Rowan featuring almost completely different pieces. It was a lot of work but incredibly rewarding. Here's hoping for even more new things in this New Year. -

Jack Deal, President ABB

Thanks to Jeff Vanaman (Bb bass and charter band member) for purchasing this piece a while back. We finally put together the expanded ensemble necessary to perform Edward Gregson's *An Age of Kings*. The piece calls for 2 Eb soprano cornets, 2 flugelhorns, 2 off-stage trumpets, 5 percussion (including dueling timpanists at times!) harp, piano, mezzo-soprano soloist, and men's chorus; quite an undertaking!



The Rowan Statesmen

Joining ABB in this ambitious project were Olivia Roland - Mezzo-Soprano, Yahan Liu—Piano, Rong Tan—Harp, Brian Jeremiah—Trumpet, Sa'eed Abuwi - Cornet, and The Rowan Statesmen—Art McKenzir, Director. It was a wonderful experience and the Band would love to play the piece again sometime.

Inside this issue:

Premier	1
Busy October	2
Busy November	4
Upcoming Events	5
Shenanigans	5
Milestones & Contact Us	6

OCT 13 ROWAN CONCERT BAND CONCERT



Our first performance of the season was actually not our own concert. Joe Higgins (director of Rowan's Concert Band and very good friend of ABB) asked us if we would play the 2nd half of his fall concert as there had not been enough time yet in the semester to put together an entire program for the Band itself. ABB was happy to oblige and presented an exciting program of *Covenant*, *Share My Yoke*, *Glorious Ventures*, *Raby*, and *Metropolis 1927*. All of which were scheduled for other concerts that fall so this was a great warm-up opportunity.

OCT 16 ANNUAL FALL CONCERT AT ROWAN



Expanded set up and instrumentation for Edward Gregson's *An Age of Kings*

OCT 30 TRINITY UMC MULLICA HILL



The Band had to switch gears quickly in order to put together an entire concert of sacred music. In only 2 weeks Trinity UMC is a new venue for the Band and a great one as Mullica Hill is so close to Rowan. Jack and Ef Deal attended their morning worship service to get a feel of the room and were surprised to hear ABB's CD *Pageantry* being played before the service. The church was packed for the concert and the audience was very enthusiastic. MC and Band President Jack Deal put on his old Pastor Jack hat and was able to bring theology as well as musicology to the narration. Jack has a Master of Divinity degree from Palmer Seminary and pastored the Fairview Village UMC for 10 years.

PIECES PERFORMED OCT THROUGH DEC

Raby
 The Undaunted
 Metropolis 1927
 An Age of Kings
 Milestone
 Just As I Am
 Share My Yoke
 Glorious Ventures
 Amazing Grace
 The Undaunted
 Covenant
 A Simple Song
 Lord of the Dance
 Finale from Mahler's 2nd
 Swedish Folk Song
 Overture to a Fanfare
 Song of the Night Sky
 Napoli
 Song of Hope
 The Spirit of Christmas
 A Baroque Triptych
 Huron Carol
 A Christmas Fantasy
 The Christmas Song
 Ticket to Ride
 White Christmas
 March of the Toys
 A Christmas Festival
 We Wish You a Merry Christmas

NOV 12 SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

And he seems to come earlier every year!! For the 3rd year in a row ABB welcomed Santa to the Deptford Mall. It started with quartets from 8-10 am at Ruby Tuesdays. The work was divided up between Brian A-W, Malcolm McDuffee, Melanie Ball, Jack Deal, Carl Ball, Steve Bockius, Joe Sino, Mike Armstrong, Ernie Lightfoot, Will Whelan, and Amy Bliss. This was followed by Santa's Parade led by the 22-piece *Atlantic Brass Marching Band*, which involved playing while going up the escalator! The Band then finished the morning seated playing from the SA Carolers' Favorites books. Sal's use of maracas on the podium for *Feliz Navidad* should go down in history as one of the Great Moments in Conducting!



Quartets and colorful characters playing for Breakfast with Santa

Rudolph leading the parade through the Mall.



NOV 13 YOUTH BAND KICKOFF



One day after welcoming Santa, we welcomed the newest batch of young players to the Atlantic/Rowan Prep Brass Band. The youth rehearsed with their director (Dr. Bryan Appleby-Wineberg) at noon and were then joined by the members of ABB at 4:00. After a short break for pizza the 2 bands presented a side-by-side for all the parents. The youth this year are both talented and enthusiastic. And we look forward to a very good season.

Upper photo: MD Sal Scarpa leading the combined bands.

Lower photo: Dr. Amy Bliss with the Euphonium/Baritone row of the Youth Band.

NOV 27 GONZO'S RECITAL

One of the best things about ABB is that we are always there for each other. We are always happy to play at a member's wedding or even their recitals. Andrew Garonzik (AKA Gonzo) asked if we would play the 2nd half of his recital this fall. Not only were we happy to do it, but it gave the band an opportunity to play some more new music. The pieces he chose were *Song of the Night Sky*—a recent work by Christopher Bond, the classic *Napoli*, and *Song of Hope* by Peter Meechan.



Napoli



Song of Hope with help from Zane Brown & Will Gregory

DEC 11 9TH ANNUAL LAURITA WINERY CONCERT

It's always great to finish up the fall season with our favorite concert of all. This was the 9th year in a row for ABB at Laurita and we brought some new ideas to the show. As well as doing the very popular sing-along portions of the show we introduced a contest called "Who Sang That?" Everyone got an entry slip in their program and the Band played 3 classic Christmas Songs; the audience had to identify the artist who made the song famous! The choices were *Have Yourself a Very Merry Little Christmas* (Judy Garland), *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year* (Andy Williams), and *We Wish You the Merriest* (Frank Sinatra). We found that these were pretty hard for the audience so next year we'll make it easier. Speaking of next year, it will be our 10th year in a row and we're planning some very special extras. Make your plans now for Dec 10th, as this concert always sells out!



MC Jack Deal leading the audience in a sing-along

The view from the audience.



The view from the Band.



Atlantic Brass Band

The last performance of the year was on December 18 by the ABB Small Ensemble at St. Peter's RC Church in Merchantville.



To close out the year, Jeff Vanaman hosted a glass-blowing party at his shop The New Fislerville Glass-works. Here, MD Sal Scarpa gives it a blow.



The 5th Annual Mid-Atlantic Brass Band Festival will take place February 18 & 19 at Rowan University. We will again be featuring area brass bands, top clinicians and adjudicators, and solo competitions. Information and registration materials will soon be available at the MABBF website.

www.midatlanticbrassbandfestival.com

Upcoming Events

- Feb 18 & 19**— Mid-Atlantic Brass Band Festival—Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ
- March 10 & 11** — North American Brass Band Championship—Ft. Wayne IN
- April 5** — NAFME Conference—Atlantic City, NJ 5:00
- May 13**—Grace Episcopal Church—Haddonfield, NJ 7:00 pm
- May 27**—North School—Brigantine, NJ 7:00 pm
- May 28**—Rotary Bandstand—Cape May, NJ 8:00 pm
- June 10**—Gettysburg Brass Band Festival—Gettysburg, PA 6:00 pm



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Find us on the Web at www.atlanticbrassband.org



On October , Amy Bliss (Solo Euph) gave birth to her first child, Simon Henry Bliss. Congratulations to Amy and husband Adam.



The results of the annual Michigan St. vs. Ohio St. challenge: Michigan lost (again!) and so Joe Sino and Bryan A-W had to don Buckeye attire and play the Buckeye Fight Song for the Band.



On December 22 Jeremy Gaddy (solo trombone) and Will Gregory (sop) flew to China for an orchestra tour of the country. Here, Will is taming some of the indigenous wild-life. Look for more pictures in our next newsletter!

MILESTONES

**Got a milestone to share with us?
You can toot your own horn here!**

Jeff Vanaman (BBb Bass & only charter member of ABB) turned 70. Here's to many more years of playing!

