



Soundwaves

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 3

APRIL 2016

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I have never been more pleased and proud to be part of the Atlantic Brass Band than on Saturday night at NABBA where the band played its heart out on a near flawless rendition of *Music of the Spheres*. The crowd erupted in applause and a standing ovation! Sal's goal for the band is that we are always in the running at NABBA and we certainly were again this year bringing home the 3rd place trophy - Jack Deal, President ABB

NABBA 2016 FT. WAYNE, INDIANA

The Band worked very hard this year to try to overcome several cancelled rehearsals due to weather. The worst blizzard hit on one of our Band Camp weekends. All in all we lost at least 6 full rehearsals. Sal and Bryan had to plan rehearsal strategies very careful with limited time until contest. The band stepped up to the plate however and put in the extra time individually and in sectionals.

This year saw the largest band (as far as I can remember) that we ever took to NABBA. We had 31 brass and 5 percussion, the absolute limit. The band did not charter a bus this year so everyone needed to make their own way to Ft. Wayne but with the exception of 1 delayed flight, everyone was able to make our

Thursday night rehearsal at Southside HS. We were also able to rehearse there Friday & Saturday mornings thanks to band director Micah Roddy.

Only one member of ABB competed in the solo competition but we are very proud of Malcolm McDuffee for winning the Senior High Brass Technical Contest.

The band was not too happy about their performance of the set work on Friday night, *From Ancient Times*, but we were very pleased with our choice work on Saturday, *Music of the Spheres*. The band felt and looked relaxed on stage and delivered one of the finest performances ever.

Look out, 2017, we're going to nail Friday night as well!



Malcolm and his award.

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THE CORY BAND TOUR

When the opportunity to have the world famous Cory Band play at the Mid-Atlantic Brass Band Festival arose, Festival Founder Margie Craver jumped at the chance! She networked with other bands and universities up and down the East Coast and coordinated a series of concerts to make it possible for Cory to come to the USA for the first time in 40 years.



Phil Harper and Margie Craver

Immediately following the U of D concert, ABB was able to set up on stage and be worked by Phil Harper on *Music of the Spheres*." After the rehearsal, ABB, Chesapeake and Cory had a Pot-Luck dinner at Cory's hotel where the bands got to really know each other over several drinks! Cory also appreciated all the home cooked food!

The tour started with a sold out concert at James Madison University. MD Phil Harper had put together two programs for the tour. At JMU they presented *Best of Britain* with music from Queen and Paul McCartney, as well as traditional tunes. The next night at University of Delaware, Cory presented their program *Out of This World* featuring movie music from Star Wars, Star Trek & ET, *Mars* from *The Planets*, and much, much more. It also featured and ended with a rousing encore of *Stars and Stripes Forever!* Both programs featured their European Brass Band Championship set *Elements*, based on the 4 Greek elements.



Helen Williams playing *Under the Boardwalk, Water* from *Elements*.



Phil Harper working ABB on *Spheres*



Stephen Kane performing *Carrickfergus*



MD Sal Scarpa and MD Phil Harper



After the U of D performance on Feb. 14th, Cory travelled to Raleigh, NC for a concert on the 16th to another packed house. The next day was travel and a little bit of tourism in Washington DC before heading to Mansfield, PA for a concert on the 18th. The next night found them at Arcadia University outside of Philadelphia before heading to Glassboro on the 20th.



Phil working the Mansfield U. Brass Band



A good number of ABB members were on hand to welcome Cory to Glassboro and greet them with donuts and bottled water as well as souvenir pint glasses and ABB pins.



We're not quite sure about the sheep!



Repiano player Stephanie Wilkins playing the opening of *Elements*

Atlantic was thrilled to be the final concert of Cory's tour thanks to Rowan University sponsoring the show. Cory wowed the crowd with their *Best of British* program and after a standing ovation following the program and another following their encore of *Stars and Stripes Forever* they stunned the audience with a hauntingly beautiful rendition of the Welsh song *Calon Lan*.



Glynn hamming it up for the crowd





Although the Cory Band concert was definitely the high point of this year's festival, there were plenty of other exciting events that took place.

The festival started bright and early on Saturday at 8:00am with the Adult Artist Competition, which were won by Laura Grass (high brass), Jeremy Gaddy (low brass), and Caleb Degroote (percussion). This was followed up by coaching sessions by Phil Harper with Penn View and Princeton Brass Bands.

During which time ABB was able to take advantage of Cory's talent with some scheduled sectionals.



High Brass Winner Laura Grass



Phil Harper with Princeton Brass Band

At 11:00 all of Cory's principal players gave Master Classes on their instruments. Steve Stewart on Sop, Tom Hutchinson on Cornet, Helen Williams on Flugel, Ailsa Russell on Horn, Glyn Williams on Baritone & Euphonium, Chris Thomas on Trombone, Simon Howell on Bass and James Andrews on Percussion. What a great opportunity for all the players at the festival.



Glyn with Baritones and Euphoniums



Chris Thomas working the ABB Trombones



Ailsa Russell and the ABB Horn Section



Helen with the flugels

After the Master Classes all the participants had an opportunity to hang out with Cory and each other at lunch.



Ailsa with the horns



Atlantic Brass Band



Tom with the cornets

The festival resumed Sunday morning Youth and College Soloist Competition. The College Competition was won by Lucas Schurman (high brass) and Carolyn Tillstrom (low brass). The Youth Competition was won by Julia Terry (high brass) and Sam Minker (low brass). Special thanks go out to Amy Bliss and Jeremy Gaddy for organizing all of the solo competitions.



Lucas Schurman



Julia Terry & adjudicators



Several soloists with accompanist Dr. Gloria Kim



Phil & Tom at the Q&A

Although Cory Band had flown home to Wales on Saturday night, Phil Harper and Tom Hutchinson stayed on. On Sunday morning Tom gave a clinic on "How to Personally Improve Your Playing." This was followed by a Q&A session with Tom and Phil.



Dr. Russell Murray with Chesapeake

At 1:00 there was the Gala Concert featuring Rockville Brass Band, Penn View Brass Band, Chesapeake Silver Cornet Brass Band, and the host, Atlantic Brass Band. This gave those bands competing at NABBA an opportunity to perform their test works before an audience and for all the bands to get critiques from Phil Harper, Tom Hutchinson and others. Also across the day Phil was able to coach Rockville and Atlantic on their test pieces. It was a very exciting and rewarding weekend.



Upcoming Events

May 25 — North School, Brigantine, NJ 7:00 pm

May 26—Convention Hall, Cape May NJ 8:00 pm

June 11—Gettysburg Brass Band Festival, Gettysburg, PA

July 2—Mike Armstrong's Wedding, Trinity Presbyterian, Cherry Hill, NJ 3:00

July 17—Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ 7:30



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On Monday, Feb 22,
Tom Hutchinson,
Principle Cornet of
Cory Band, gave a
free recital at Rowan.
What outstanding
playing! Buy his CD!!



Don't forget to



Find us on the Web at www.atlanticbrassband.org

ABB was again featured on the radio! This time it was our recording of *Fanfare from La Peri* that kicked off the Valentines Day broadcast of *Wind and Rhythm*. We weren't able to hear it live as we had a special rehearsal that night with Phil Harper of the Cory Band.



In March, a number of ABB members travelled to NYC to hear not only the NY Staff Band but also Black Dyke. What a year for Banding, Cory followed by Dyke!



MILESTONES

Amy Bliss (Euphonium) and her husband Adam are expecting their first child. Here is Amy's unique way of announcing it!



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

Recent Alumna Margie Craver (Tenor Horn) and her husband Neil have bought a house in the Villages in Florida. Neil has already retired and Margie's very close. We wish them all the best in their new life. Fortunately for them both there are a few brass bands near them!

