



Coda Connections

Columbia Bands, Inc.
Quarterly Newsletter

Fall
2014

In This Issue

Performance Calendar

Summary: CJB Europe Tour

Fun Stuff

Official CB Positions

Quick Links

Columbia Bands Website

Greetings, fans and members of the Columbia Bands!

The jazz band was super busy this summer, preparing for and finally going on their fourth European tour in July. See the summary for details.

The concert band performed two excellent summer shows, as always, with guest director Robert Miller. Unfortunately, the concert band will not be performing the usual Young People's concert this year, but we hope to return to that tradition next Fall.

Flute Cocktail took the summer off, but is gearing up for a brand new season!

Sincerely,

Len Morse
Editor

Performance Calendar

(Local public performances only)



September:

Fri, 9/19, 7:30PM, Jazz Band w/[Gordon Goodwin](#), plus the Wilde Lake High School Jazz Band, at the [Jim Rouse Theater](#), Columbia, MD

November:

Sat, 11/15, 7:30-8:30PM, Jazz Band at [Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church](#), Columbia, MD

Columbia jazz Band European Tour 2014

by Pete BarenBregge (Columbia Jazz Band Director)

The Columbia Jazz Band enjoyed another truly fantastic and successful European tour. As the ensemble celebrates its 25th anniversary, a tour to Europe was the ideal way to mark this milestone in CJB history.

The band traveled to southern France and northern Spain July 12-25. The group departed from Dulles airport with a stop to change planes in Paris, then on to Nice, France. We performed seven times with audiences totaling over 8700 people. Many audiences were standing room only beginning with two concerts at the Jazz a Juan festival at Juan-les-Pins and Antibes, France, on the French Riviera. What a sensational part of the world--the history of the region and the views were amazing.



After the two terrific gigs at the Jazz a Juan festival, we traveled to Arles, France and performed at Etang des Aulnes, a national park for the performing arts hosted by the local choir of Galet-Jade. This event was terrific as the band was really on fire for this very enthusiastic audience. Following the concert, we were honored to partake of a delightful reception and a memorable meal of paella in a 4-foot pan homemade by our hosts. Delicious!

From Arles we moved on to Carcassonne, France. This medieval town is surrounded by powerful fortresses and our hotel was within the medieval walls. Here, as in each location we visited, we had a local tour guide to take us to the highlights of each region with each and every sight creating a fantastic memory.

For our first gig in Barcelona, Spain, we made a short bus ride to the Catalonia region where we were the centerpiece of Fiesta Mayor in La Nou de Gaia (at the foot of their castle); the next night we performed at a benefit concert in the city of Barcelona sponsored by city hall where our performance collected over 100kg of donations for the local food bank. A sensational audience cheered as the band played its heart out. Our Barcelona sightseeing trips included the glorious Sagrada Familia cathedral designed by the brilliant architect, Antonio Gaudi. If you ever have a chance to visit Barcelona, I highly recommend you see the Sagrada Familia, Gaudi's unfinished masterpiece, described as the "most extraordinarily personal interpretation of Gothic architecture since the Middle Ages." I should mention that along the way on this tour, we had the unique opportunity to see spectacular Roman ruins and many art treasures by brilliant artists such as Picasso and Van Gogh, to name only a few.

On to San Sebastian, Spain. For our final two performances, the CJB opened the first two days of the Jazzaldia jazz festival, a world-class international jazz festival on the Frigo stage at Kursaal Terraces. While in this Basque region, located along the Atlantic coast that spans the border between Spain and France, we took a short bus trip to see Bilbao, Spain. In Bilbao, we visited the spectacular Guggenheim Museum designed by the architect Frank Gehry. Interestingly, the band performed a Pat Metheny composition titled "Song for Bilbao" arranged by Alan Baylock. Our stay in beautiful San Sebastian completed our tour in a memorable way.

For our flight back to Columbia we departed from Bordeaux, France, with a plane change in Paris then on to Dulles airport.

Throughout the 14-day tour we all enjoyed great music, great sights, great food, great friendships and camaraderie, great hospitality and a truly wonderful experience in southern France and northern Spain. Our bus driver, Edi was brilliant, maneuvering in the tightest spaces with unmatched skill. Our tour manager, Johan, was also our tour manager on our 2012 tour. Johan is extremely knowledgeable about France and Spain, warm and friendly and he loved our music and perhaps most importantly, kept us all on schedule. The band played great each and every performance. Every member was focused and it was clear we came to play! After all the tour rehearsals, the hard work paid off with superb music!

Unquestionably an amazing trip for all. We had a total of 49 people on the trip, which included our 18 band members. Our tour company was Cultural Tours Consultants. This was our second European tour with this first-rate tour company. Our local (Maryland) tour manager was our bass player, Randy Malm, who handled a myriad of details in a professional manner and our musical director was yours truly, Pete BarenBregge.

Once again, we did Columbia, Maryland proud!

Pete BarenBregge
Director, Columbia Jazz Band

Maryland All-State Community Band

by Jeanette Donald (MASCBC Committee Chair)
and Len Morse (CBI member)



How do you spell success? M-A-S-C-B!

The 2014 Maryland All-State Community Band weekend was August 2-3, 2014. [Dr. Harlan Parker](#) of the Peabody Conservatory led the 80-member group representing 14 different Maryland community bands. The concert on August 3rd featured a tremendous range of music including *Overture from "Candide"* (Leonard Bernstein), *O Magnum Mysterium* (Morten Lauridsen), *Second Suite in F for Military Band* (Gustav Holst), *The Hounds of Spring* (Alfred Reed), and the entire *Symphony No. 1 "The Lord of the Rings"* (Johan de Meij).

This was the second time that Columbia Bands, Inc. has hosted this event and it was nothing short of amazing. The ensemble was larger than last year's band and the concert was very well attended. Both the musicians and the audience gave overwhelmingly positive feedback.

The MASCBC Planning Committee sends a huge "Thank You!" to the amazing community musicians of Maryland! This would not have been possible without their tremendous amount of talent and dedication to community music across the state. The committee is also meeting to review the event and determine when and if we will host in 2015. We will post information as soon as we have it available.

Thanks!

Fun Stuff

Celebrity Birthday: [Gustav Theodore von Holst](#) (September 21, 1874 - 1934); Born in Cheltenham, England, Holst learned piano as a child. Unfortunately, a nerve condition later affected movement in his right hand, so he switched to trombone, which was less painful to play. He studied at the Royal College of Music in London and grew up hearing prominent composers of the time, including Wagner and Tchaikovsky. His most famous piece is [The Planets](#) suite, written in 1915 - it is almost one hour long.



Happiness (Japan)

Quarterly Word: "Ostinato" - Persistently repeated melodic or rhythmic figure. From Italian, meaning "obstinate."

Quarterly Quote: "Music-making as a means of getting money is hell." ~ Gustav Holst

Official CB Positions

Officers

President - John Messinger
Vice President - *Vacant*
Secretary - Kim Drake
Treasurer - Jeanette Donald



Members-at-Large

Jackie Bryant, Nancy Efron, Bob Frantz, Harold West, Jim Wesloh

Ex-Officio Music Directors

CCB Director - [Mike Blackman](#)
CJB Director - [Pete BarenBregge](#)
FC Director - [Len Morse](#)

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Appointees and Volunteers

Accountant - David Weisenfreund, CPA
CBI/CCB Webmaster - Len Morse
CCB Equipment Manager - Len Morse
CCB Librarian - Karissa Strawley
CCB Program Editor - Jeanette Donald
CJB Librarian - Bob Frantz
CJB Manager - Bob Frantz
CJB Tour Manager - Randy Malm
CJB Sound System Managers - Mark Morris, Megan Zontek
CJB Webmaster - Matt Williams
Facebook Fan Page Moderator - Katy Clemens
FC Manager - Jeanette Donald
Fundraising Chair - Harold West
Grant Manager - Jeanette Donald
Graphic Artist - Corey Holland
HCAC Liaison - *Vacant*
Historian - Melinda Frisch
Insurance Liaison - *Vacant*
MASCB Manager - Jeanette Donald
Personnel Manager - *Vacant*
Poster & Flier Manager - Jim Kaiser