



B.T.T.B. ALUMNI

Burlington Teen Tour Band Alumni Association Newsletter

February 2006

Volume 1, Issue 2

Newby print to support Rose Bowl tour

To celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the BTTB and the B&G Band, the Band Boosters, along with the BTTB Alumni, have commissioned John Newby <http://john-newby.com>, renowned Canadian Artist and an alumnus of the Boys & Girls Band, to create an original work of art commemorating the history of the band.

Sales of these limited edition signed and numbered prints are being sold as a fundraiser for the Band's upcoming trip to the Rose Bowl on Jan 1, 2008.

Unframed prints are available from the Band Boosters for \$125 (taxes included). The print run is limited to 450 prints and once they're gone they're gone. The size of the

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Band brunch



In preparation for the big Homecoming Reunion in June a small group from the 67-76 years got together for a brunch in Ingersol. Pictured are (back row, from left) Lee-Anne Richardson, Anne-Marie (Phalen) MacDonald, Faye (Martin) Bennard, and Sandi (Asling) Carr; (second row, from left) Lori (Walmsley) Sharpe, Sue (McNabb) Marranca, and Phyllis (Gordon) McGuff; (front row, from left) Leslie (Stewart) Showers, and Pat (Millward) Plummer. If you are planning a get together of former Band members that you'd like to have featured on the Web site or the newsletter please e-mail it along with the details to newsletter@bttbalumni.ca.

Alumni membership grows toward 400

As of the date of publication we have a total of 384 former members of both the Boys and Girls Band and the Burlington Teen Tour Band registered on our Web site www.bttbalumni.ca.

This is a great start but we all know that there are more of us out there so if you know someone who is not on the list encourage them to sign up, even if they are unable to attend the 60th

Anniversary Homecoming Reunion as we plan to make the Alumni Association a permanent organization and want to contact as many former members as possible.

Wallace B. Wallace – An award that will live in infamy

Did you ever trip in the judging area of a big parade? Did you accidentally expose yourself to a group of passers by while changing on the bus? Did you get closelined by the head chap during a game of capture the flag? Did you line the band up in reverse for a field show performance? If you did, or know someone who did, it's likely that you were the recipient of the prestigious Wallace B. Wallace Award. While we are celebrating all the wonderful things the Band has done over the years, it's also important to remember some of the silly and goofy stuff we did too.

If you have any information on former Wallace B. Wallace "winners" please send it to us at wallacebwallace@bttbalumni.ca.



Does this look familiar? If you've ever "won" a Wallace B. Wallace Award we'd love to hear about it so we can share it with the other Alumni. Please tell us your story at wallacebwallace@bttbalumni.ca.

Include the name of the recipient, the year received (guess if you don't know exactly), and the particular reason they won the award. With any luck we'll be able to fill in the entire list and you'll see how some things transcend generations.

Prices set for Homecoming

Ticket prices for the Homecoming Reunion have been set and are available now.

Alumni will be able to purchase a pass to all the weekend's events including Friday's Meet and Greet, Saturday's Celebration Evening and Sunday's Barbecue Lunch for \$120. This complete package price includes a special 60th Anniversary hat and alumni golf shirt, which are also the uniform for the Alumni Band in the Sound of Music Parade. Tickets can also be purchased for individual events and for prices please consult our Web site at www.bttbalumni.ca. Those who buy their complete packages before April 1, will save \$10.

Former Boosters, supporters and band parents are also welcome to attend events during the weekend and can purchase event tickets for \$20 for Friday's Meet and Greet and \$40 for Saturday's Homecoming celebration (\$35 if purchased before April 1).

Time to choose your music

For all those Alumni members who will be playing in the Sound of Music Parade we need you to sign up for what part you'll be playing on on the street. No auditions or section leader testing required, just select the instrument you will be playing and whether you plan to play 1st, 2nd or 3rd. Sign up is

available on our Web site at <http://www.bttbalumni.ca/#parade>.

If you'll be needing an instrument (drum, sousaphone, etc.) please let us know ASAP so we can try to find something. Instruments are also available for rent from Long and McQuade in Burlington.

Keep your browsers on www.bttbalumni.ca

For those of you who haven't been to our Web site www.bttbalumni.ca in a while you should check it out. The Memories section includes photos of the Band throughout our history and sound clips from some of the many albums recorded over the years. If you have photographs or music files of the Band please send them to info@bttbalumni.ca for use on the Web site, in the newsletter

or as part of one of the ongoing projects for the reunion. The Web site is also an excellent destination for anyone seeking information about the

Alumni, the Homecoming Reunion and former Band members. The site is constantly being updated so make sure you check back often.

Alumni on Facebook

For those of you on the social networking site Facebook, alumna Lisa Page (Colour Guard 1996-2001) has created a group for Band Alumni to share news and swap memories. It is available at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2218469082>. If you are not currently a member of Facebook you can sign up at www.facebook.com to access this and thousands of other interest based groups.

Grace notes - Homecoming news in brief

Looking for a few good volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help on the Homecoming weekend doing things like tending bar and assisting with the registration process. If you could give an hour of this weekend it will help ensure that everyone has a great time!

If so please contact the steering committee at info@bttbalumni.ca. Your hard work will help make this event a great success.

Can't volunteer? Then donate

We are currently looking for corporate and other sponsors

for the Homecoming Reunion. If you or your company would be interested in supporting this event in any way please contact us at info@bttbalumni.ca for more information on sponsorship opportunities.

Thanks to the 50th Anniversary Committee

Back in the mid 90s a group of former Band members organized the first BTTB Alumni Association, which culminated in the 50th Anniversary Reunion. The 1997 executive consisted of: Rob Bennett, Ashley Benton, Jeff Thomblison, Brent Paszt, Cathy (Carr) Paszt, John Holman, Sandra Holman, Roy Wilson, Trevor King and Brad

Hall. We appreciate all their hard work and efforts both in organizing that wonderful event and laying the ground work for the current Alumni Association.

A special thank you to the Boosters

The Burlington Teen Tour Band Alumni would like to thank the Burlington Teen Tour Band Boosters for providing the financial and logistical support to make both the Homecoming Reunion and the Alumni Association a reality. Their continued and generous support is a major reason that the Band was a success over the past 60 years and into the future

Memory of the month - Parade of Champions Field Show

Each month the BTTB Alumni Newsletter will feature a memory or two from those submitted by members to our Web site www.bttbalumni.ca. If you haven't submitted your favourite story or memory be sure to do so at info@bttbalumni.ca.

My most vivid memory with the band was when we competed for the first time in the Philadelphia Parade of Champions Field Show Competition. It was the first time the band had ever done a field show competition, and we were very much the underdogs going into it. Having woodwinds, we were the only mixed band performing, and were completely unlike the standard brass bands that were there. The rehearsals with Vince Bruni were always a lot of fun and he choreographed a fabulously unique routine for us.

The night of the show, I remember so clearly being lined up, shoulder to shoulder in this narrow hall, in very dim lighting. We could see the bright spotlights far ahead and as our name was announced the roaring of the crowd (especially our chaperones) was huge. We could barely hear Neil Armstrong as he gave the command for the drums to "count off" and when they started the fantastic drum solo that Mr. Ford had written, the sound of the

drums reverberated off the walls and we could feel it go right through our bodies, becoming our



Doug Wright

heartbeat. It gave us such an adrenaline rush and as we started to march in, the roaring of the crowd grew louder and louder. I remember feeling so powerful as we went through the routine - we were "on" and nothing could stop us! When we went into the scatter part of the show, and glided randomly around the arena, each time I went by someone, I could see the same incredible feelings in their eyes as I was feeling. When we were in our final position and the last note ended, my eyes were filled with tears of pride as the cheering from the audience exploded in the hall. It felt as if the roof would lift off

from the sheer volume of it.

Way up in the rafters, I could see our chaperones waving Canadian Flags - my parents were there - my Dad being the Band Booster Treasurer (our "money man" for meal allowances), and my Mum - who was my group's chaperone on the tour. I knew we had made them and all the other chaperones proud and we could feel their love flowing down to us.

We knew we had done the very best we could and even if we didn't win the competition, we had given it our all, and represented Burlington proudly and with honour. When we left the field and got through the doors into the waiting area and came to a stop, the entire band just exploded with cheers and hugs of happiness and victory. It was agony waiting till the final results, and as we stood on the field with our fellow competitors I thought my heart would jump right out of my chest from beating so fast. When I heard the words "Outstanding Performance Award and First Place to The Burlington Teen Tour Band", the tears started again and it was so hard to keep our "band face" on - we all had the biggest smiles just aching to come out. It was a remarkable experience.

Carol (Plows) Barone, 1970-1977.

Test your memory



How well do you know the people you were in Band with? Each month in the newsletter we'll be featuring a photograph from a different era with the goal of being able to identify as many people as possible. This month's photo was taken on the Band's 1995 trip to Holland and is of the third of the Band that stayed at the PVI. When identifying people please tell us where they are in the photo (i.e. second row from the back, third from the left) and what section they were in. Send your answers to newsletter@bttbalumni.ca. Names will be published in the March edition of the newsletter. Good luck.

Newby print to be unveiled at Hamilton Place

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unframed print will be 16" x 24" (40 cm x 60 cm). In addition 15 Artist's Giclee Proofs are available for \$250 and five larger Giclee prints for \$350.

The official unveiling of the commissioned art will be during the Hamilton Place concert on April 1 and prints will be available for dis-

tribution for the anniversary weekend.

For those who wish to request a specific number, such as your "band number", they will be available on a first come first serve basis. There will also be a draw for those interested in numbers one through 10.

Order forms will be on our Web site <http://www.bttbalumni.ca/#JohnNewby>.

Homecoming reunion and Alumni organizing committee members

Steering	Committee:	Hughes, Don Allan, Gary Bourke,	Kevin Picott (Webmaster), Ken
Organizing Committee Co-		Rob Garnier and Bob Webb.	Wright (Events), Sandi Remedios
Chairs – Lana Schroeder-Wilk	Organizing Committee Chairs:	Susan Dittmer (Parade), Doug	(Finance) and Gordon Cameron
and Ron Wilk.		McLean (History of the Band),	(Media, Publicity and Newsletter
Members – Rob Bennett, Bill			Editor).