



Dr. Russell Pesola, Director

PRACB

Chair Endowment Program

Listen to our Dec. 4, 2006

History

Spring/Summer 2007

Rehearsal Schedule

Rehearsals 10:00 am PRAHS Band Room

February 24

March 17

March 31

April 14

April 21

May 5

May 19 At Century Middle School

June 30

2007 Concerts

Sunday May 20 - 3:00 p.

Park Rapids Century Middle School

Park Rapids, Minnesota

Wednesday July 4 - 7:30 p.

Red Bridge Park

Park Rapids, Minnesota

Saturday August 11 - 3:00

Hackensack, Minnesota



Nocturne for Harp...by Grundman
and Wind Ensemble

**THE PARK RAPIDS
AREA COMMUNITY BAND**

Presents



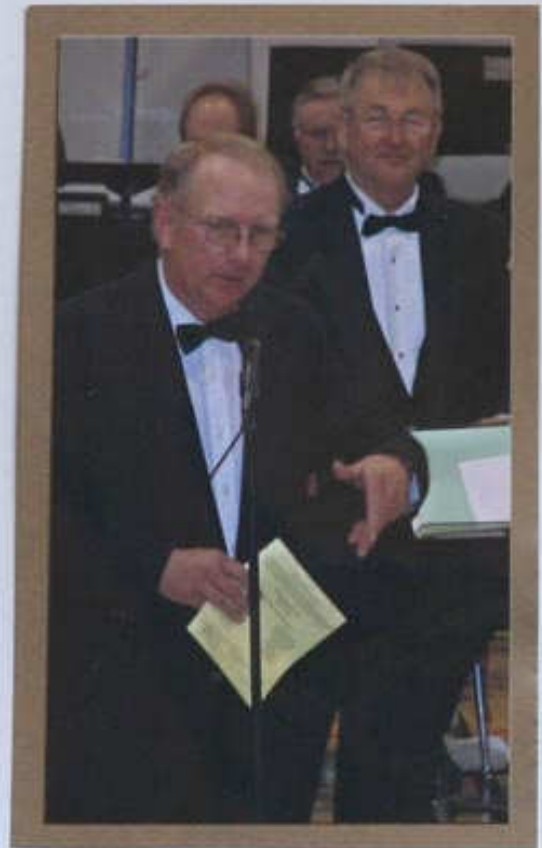
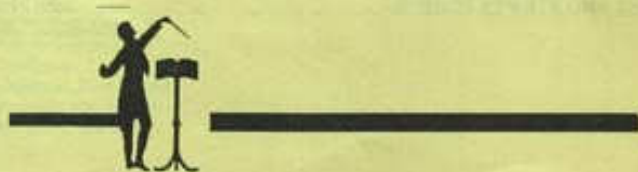
**16TH ANNUAL
SPRING
CONCERT**



Dr. Russell Pesola, Conductor

*Sunday, May 20, 2007
3:00 p.m.*

PARK RAPIDS CENTURY MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETORIUM



Roger Wilson
President of the Band
Thanking the Audience
&
Requesting their Gifts



Serenade by Howard Hanson

ELINOR NIEMISTO

Harpist Elinor Niemisto holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan, where she was solo harpist with the Michigan Symphony Band under William Revelli. She is instructor of harp at Carleton College (since 1980) and St. Olaf College (since 1982). Elinor is principal harpist with the Rochester (MN) Orchestra (since 1979) and the La Crosse (WI) Symphony (since 1990). She has been a featured soloist with both orchestras. She also plays restful harp music for elderly and homebound residents in Northfield. Elinor teaches traditional and Suzuki harp lessons to students from ages 6 to 60. A long time Suzuki harp specialist, she has been an instructor at the Salt Lake City (UT) Suzuki Institute and at the Stevens Point (WI) Suzuki Institute.

KYLIE ANDERSON

Kylie Anderson is originally from Grenora, a small town in northwestern North Dakota. She has a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, and a Master of Music degree in Flute Performance from the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, where she studied with Angeleita Floyd and Torleif Ander. Kylie currently teaches vocal and elementary music at Ulen-Hiltterdal and teaches privately.



*Jeff Johnson
Greg Johnson
Alicia Hagen
Rob Anderson
Darrel Koblitz*

PROGRAM

Dr. Russell Perola, Conductor

| | |
|---|---|
| THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER | Francis Scott Key Arranged by John Higgins |
| AMERICAN OVERTURE FOR BAND | Joseph William Jenkins |
| O MAGNUM MYSTERYM | Martin Lauthorn Transcribed for Band by H. Robert Reynolds |
| NOCTURNE FOR HARP AND WIND ENSEMBLE | Clare Grundman Elinor Niemisto, Harp soloist |
| SUITE FROM THE OPERA MERRY MOUNT | Howard Hanson Wind Orchestration by John Gray |
| I. Overture | |
| II. Children's Dance | |
| PENTLAND HILLS | March Major J. H. Paine |
| Let's O'Goin'! | John Anderson, My Air The Flower Tree |
| INTERMISSION | |
| YANKEE DOODLE | Martin Gault |
| SERENADE FOR SOLO FLUTE, HARP AND WINDS | Howard Hanson Flute Soloist, Kylie Anderson Harp Soloist, Elinor Niemisto |
| MARCH FROM "1941" | John Williams Transcribed by Daniel Kulkarni and Jim Wheeler |
| BELLE OF THE BALL | Larry Anderson |
| THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER | John Philip Sousa |

PERSONNEL

| | |
|---|---|
| FLUTE James Anderson, Park Rapids Kylie Anderson, Ulen Jan Lundquist, Laurier Darrel Koblitz, Park Rapids Michelle Seltzer, Bemidji | TRUMPET Ced Bragdon, Park Rapids Allen Tarnoff Haffling, New York Mills Melissa Thorne, Hawley Tom Swanson, Cole Lake Roger Wilson, Perseus |
| OBOE Angie Christensen, Park Rapids Heidi Kulkarni, Johnson, New Alicia McCullum, Wood Fergus | BASS TROMBONE Jeff Johnson, Central Lake |
| BASSOON Wally Hagen, Walker Kate McCullum, Wood Fergus David Nordmark, Walker | SUPRACORNETT Mark Kunkin, New York Mills Clare Grundman, Bemidji |
| CLARINET D. Chuck Johnson, Park Rapids Dad Johnson, Central Lake Vicki Magnuson, Bagley Lyndee Perkins, South Center James Simpson, Wood Lake Darrel Swanson, Bemidji D. Mike Strong, Laurier Bert Wilson, Perseus | TUBA David Nordmark, Central Bruce Kulkarni, Pine Wood Paul Peterson, Park Rapids Paul Ramsey, Wood Lake |
| BASS CLARINET Alicia Hagen, East Newton Lake | PERCUSSION Al Anderson, Walker David Murphy, Laurier Kevin Orsted, Park Rapids Clay Stevens, New Tom Wilson, Perseus |
| ALTO SAXOPHONE Dad Johnson, Park Rapids Tiffany Trinkle, New | |
| TENOR SAXOPHONE Dad Johnson, Park Rapids | |
| BARITONE SAXOPHONE Melissa Gustafson, Lake George | |
| DRUMS Angela Martinek, Bemidji Lindsey Peterson, Hawley Darrel Swanson, Cole Lake Matt White, Park Rapids | |
| TRUMPET CORNET Dad Johnson, Ulen Paul Brown, Laurier Greg Johnson, Central Lake John Christensen, Hawley Dad Paine, Park Rapids | |

Park Rapids Area Community Band to perform

PRACB concert set toes tapping

BY RITA DALZELL
FOR THE ENTERPRISE

"Are you back?" the e-mail from LuAnn Hurd-Lof began, "and if you are, would you like to write some reviews for the Enterprise again?"

"Yes, we are here and I would. We arrived home the first part of February. We were afraid we were going to miss the cold snap. But we made it."

And so begins another adventure into the world of the arts in and around Park Rapids as "assigned" by the Enterprise.

First on the docket was the May 20th Park Rapids Area Community Band concert at the Century School gym. On a cold, gloomy spring day this event warmed the audience.

Having recently attended the Park Rapids High School choir concert, which highlighted music of the 1950s, and the opera gala with its "Oklahoma!" theme, I fell under the spell of Joseph Wilcox Jenkins' "American Overture for Band."

The Americana music sent me straight to the third row of the Walla-Walla movie theater in my hometown. It's where I sat every Saturday afternoon from age 8-12 watching Gene Autry, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. I could see them on Champion, Trigger and Buttermilk riding off into the sunset.

The band clearly enjoyed playing the upbeat, forward-moving piece. Surprisingly, the French horns were given many measures of the melody, a delightful change from their usual routine of off beats.

"O Magnum Mysterium" (O Great Mystery) by Morten Lauridsen, transcribed for band by H. Robert Reynolds, was a complete change of pace.

This beautiful piece describes the night of Christ's birth. Its close and sometimes dissonant harmony makes me weep every time I hear or sing it.

The words ran through my mind as I connected with the saxophone section. They played the alto line. Sure enough, the tears began to form as I listened to the accurate dynamics and sweeping measures of the song. I thought of wiping the tears away halfway through the song but then realized there was no point in doing that. The song wasn't over yet.

Dr. Russell Pesola, the conductor, generally spotlights a soloist or two during his concerts. For this one, he invited long-time friend, harpist Elinor Niemisto, and band member flutist (or flautist if you prefer), Kylie Anderson.

Niemisto magically touched her harp on "Nocturne for Harp and Wind Ensemble" by Clare Grundman and sat quite close to the audience so we could watch her hand movements. Later, with Anderson, whose powerful and assured control of her flute belied her tiny persona, "Serenade for Flute, Harp and Strings" by Howard Hanson, transcribed by Dr. Pesola, was mesmerizing and peaceful. Hanson dedicated this composition to his future wife, calling it his proposal of marriage because he could not find the words he wanted to say to her.

Niemisto joined the band on other compositions, as well. An addition to the program was "Song of the Night" played by Niemisto without any band accompaniment. This selection demonstrated even more her finger and hand strength as she plucked, damped and even strummed and knocked on the soundboard.

The overture from "Suite from the Opera Merry Mount" by the aforementioned Howard Hanson, the original director of the Eastman School of Music, and with wind orchestration by John Boyd, was clearly an influence on Maurie Jarre's movie musical themes for "Lawrence of Arabia" and "Dr. Zhivago."

The second movement of this first American opera (1934), a lively Maypole dance, scurried through the notes like children delivering May baskets and hurrying away before being caught in the act.

The band members are high caliber musicians and probably demonstrated their abilities and talents the most in "Yankee Doodle" by Morton Gould. This normally simple song was filled with accidentals and jagged rhythm changes. The band handled them all with ease. This was no song for sissies and the audience's explosive applause proved they knew it.

The second to the last song was the one I was most eager to hear and I was not disappointed. I have liked Leroy Anderson's "Belle of the Ball" for a long time. This American composer is best known for his "Sleigh Ride," "Syncopated Clock" and "Blue Tango."

Because of the ample space in the gym, I was thinking how much fun it would have been if everyone had risen from their seats and waltzed around the gymnasium. I think the composer would have approved.

In memory of my dad, who loved marches more than any other kind of band music, I have saved the three marches for the last.

"Pentland Hills" by Major J. H. Howe, March from "1941" by John

Williams and transcribed by Daniel Kallman and Park Rapids' own Jim Wheeler, and "The Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa were crisp, clean and bracing.

If the audience can't tap their feet in a steady beat while listening to a march, the band has not interpreted the march correctly. We tapped our feet!

The only sour note of the whole afternoon was finding out after the concert was over the Twins had lost to the Brewers 6-5. Minnesota was leading 5-2 when we entered Century School. I'm glad I wasn't home to witness the dismal ending to the game.

How lucky we are to have the Park Rapids Area Community Band in concert twice a year (December and May) and for a Fourth of July performance. I am so grateful for the dedication and commitment of these gifted musicians and their skillful conductor, Dr. Pesola.

If you have not had the privilege of watching and listening to this masterful group of musicians, I would suggest you start by being on hand for their July 4th performance at 7:30 p.m. at Red Bridge Park and/or their performance at 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11 in Hackensack.

(Rita Dalzell is a retired English and vocal music teacher, who also played the saxophone, enjoys being at the keyboard to accompany musicians and has directed musicals and school orchestra rehearsals.)



Elinor Niemisto

Dr. Russell Pesola will conduct the Park Rapids Area Community Band in concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 20 at the Park Rapids Century Middle School cafeteria.

The 16th annual spring concert will feature harpist Elinor Niemisto, who holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan, where she was solo harpist with the Michigan Symphony Band under William Revelli.

She is instructor of harp

at Carleton College (since 1980) and St. Olaf College (since 1982).

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lessons to students from ages 6 to 60. She has been an instructor at the Salt Lake City Suzuki Institute and at the Suzuki Institute in Stevens Point, WI.

Sunday's program includes American Overture for Band, O Magnum Mysterium, Pentland Hills, Nocturne for Harp, Suite from the Opera "Merry Mount," Yankee Doodle, Serenade for Flute and Harp, March from "1941," Belle of the Ball and Stars and Stripes Forever.

Park Rapids Area Community Band 4th of July Concert 2007



The Star Spangled Banner arr. John Higgins

Block M concert march Jerry H. Bilik

American Overture for Band Joseph Wilcox Jenkins

Aguero Paso-Doble Jose Franco edited by Robert E. Foster

Selections from **The Lion King** Elton John arr. Paul Lavender

Fandango Frank Perkins arr. Floyd R. Warle

Pentland Hills Major J. W. Howe

Lady of Spain Tolchard Evans arr. Donald Hunsberger

Yankee Doodle Morton Gould

Armed Forces Salute arr. Bob Lowden

America the Beautiful Samuel Augustus Ward arr. Carmen I

Pre-fireworks concert

Celebrate your patriotism and love of music all at once as the Park Rapids Area Community Band performs a pre-fireworks concert, starting at 7:30 p.m. in Red Bridge Park.

The band has a portable band shell so the audience should be able to hear more clearly than in the past, said manager Paul Peterson.

You won't want to miss a note from the piccolo to the big bass drum. Dr. Russell Pesola conducts the 55-piece band. The patriotic music will include marches and set the stage for the Independence Day celebration's grand finale.



Deane Johnson



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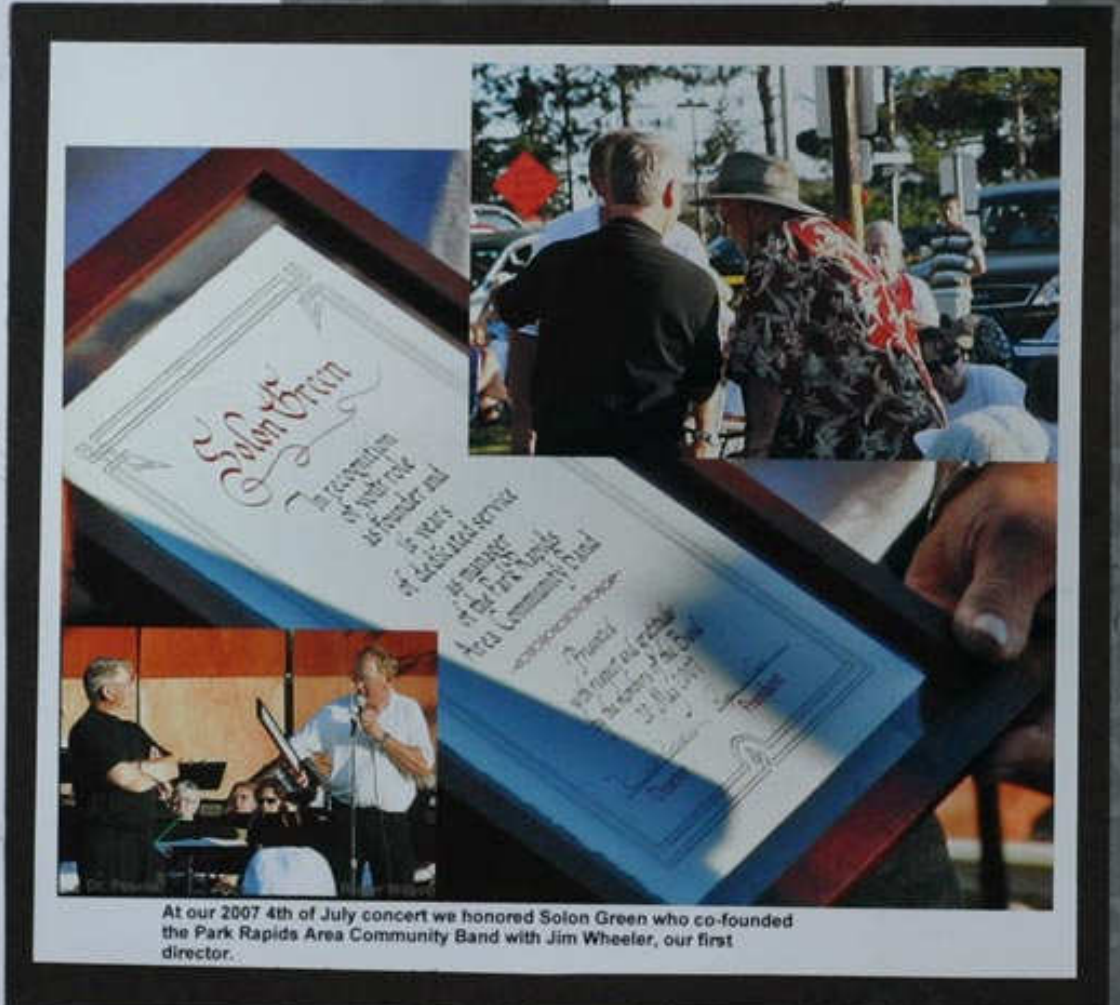
Paul Ramsey



Solon



4th of July Concert



At our 2007 4th of July concert we honored Solon Green who co-founded the Park Rapids Area Community Band with Jim Wheeler, our first director.



Park Rapids Area Community Band
15923 Freedom Drive - Park Rapids, MN 56470

August, 2007

Dear PRACB Friend,

Our 2007-2008 Endowment campaign is under way. The Park Rapids Area Community Band (PRACB) is entering its seventeenth year of providing music in Park Rapids and the surrounding area. Our success is due to friends like you who support the arts, the talented and dedicated musicians who make up our membership, and the support of the communities in the Park Rapids area. The endowment program is important to the continued financial health of the PRACB. Individuals, couples, business and corporate sponsors are welcome to endow a chair in the PRACB for a minimum contribution of \$100. All chair endowment contributors will be listed in our concert program for 2007-2008. The contribution is tax deductible as the PRACB is a 501 c-3 non-profit corporation.

We hope you had a chance to attend our July 4th concert at the Red Bridge Park. It was the first use of our portable band shell. (The new band shell is pictured at the top of this letter.) We also took the shell with us to the Hackensack concert on August 11. We plan to do more outdoor concerts in Park Rapids in the summer of 2008 and will be using the shell for these concerts.

Our concerts this season are scheduled for December 2nd, 2007 and May 4th, 2008. Both of these concerts will be in the Park Rapids Area High School Auditorium. We hope you will be able to attend! We will have cd's of the July 4th concert available from the ushers at the concerts. If your name is printed on the program as a contributor, the cd will be our gift to you.

The band now has a web site that includes our schedules, history and other information about the band. You can listen to our 4th of July concert as well in case you missed it. The web site is www.pracb.com

Your support for our Community Band is critical to the continued success of the organization. We have enclosed, for your convenience, a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Please make your check out today to PRACB. We thank you in advance for your continued support.

Your PRACB Board of Directors

Solon Green, Treasurer
Vicki Magnuson
Karen Onstad

Dr. Russell Pesola, Conductor
Roger Wilson, President

Paul Peterson, Manager
Paul Ramsay
Terri Walen

Park Rapids Area Community Band concert

Dr. Russell Pesola will conduct the Park Rapids Area Community Band in concert at 3 p.m. Sunday Dec. 2 at the Park Rapids Area High School auditorium.

The 17th annual Winter Concert will feature trumpet soloist John Koopman.

Born and raised in Detroit Lakes, Koopman began studying the piano at age 5, and trumpet in the



Russell Pesola All-State Orchestra and a featured soloist at the MMEA All-State Recital.

He attended St. Olaf

fifth grade. In high school, he became principal trumpet of the Minnesota Music

Association

Orchestra and

featured

Colleges, Northfield and Concordia College, Moorhead and pursued graduate studies at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Currently, he is principal trumpet of the Minnesota Opera Orchestra, a position he has held since the opera's 1998 season. He has also performed with the Minnesota Orchestra,

North Star Opera, Vocal

Essence Music Series, Metropolitan Symphony, Bloomington Symphony, Fargo-Moorhead Symphony and the rock group, Kansas.

He has appeared on stage with notable performers such as Nigel Kennedy, Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo, Sherrill Milnes and James Earl Jones.

Sunday's program includes "Anchors Aweigh," "Music for a Festival,"

"Danny Boy," "La Virgen de la Macarena," "Beguine for Band," "Los Valientes," "Blue Tango," "Concert Scherzo," "Farandole" and

"The Stars and Stripes Forever."

There is no admission charge for the concert and everyone is welcome.

BIOGRAPHY

JOHN KOOPMAN

John was born and raised in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. He began studying the piano at the age of five and trumpet in the fifth grade. In high school he became principal trumpet of the MMEA All-State Orchestra and featured soloist at the MMEA All-State Recital. He attended St. Olaf College, Northfield and Concordia College, Moorhead and pursued graduate studies at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. While in college he became principal trumpet of the Concordia College Band and Orchestra and was selected as a first cornet in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Honor Band. His teachers have included Tom Roifs (assistance principal trumpet, Boston Symphony), David Baldwin (University of Minnesota), Ron Hasselmann (assistant principal trumpet, Minnesota Orchestra), J. Robert Hanson (Concordia College) and Russell Pesola (Concordia College).

Currently he is principal trumpet of the Minnesota Opera Orchestra, a position he has held since the opera's 1998 season. He has also performed with the Minnesota Orchestra, North Star Opera, Vocal Essence Music Series, the Metropolitan Symphony (Minneapolis), the Bloomington (Minnesota) Symphony, the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony and the rock group Kansas. He has appeared on stage with notable performers such as Nigel Kennedy, Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo, Sherrill Milnes, and James Earl Jones.

He has also been active as an educator throughout his career. Currently he is Director of the orchestra and beginning band program in the Staples Motley public schools. Prior to this he was trumpet instructor at Concordia College, Moorhead and an elementary through junior high band instructor in the Shakopee, Minnesota public schools. He has also taught private brass lessons in several school districts and served as a church music director in Shakopee.

He now makes his home in Motley, Minnesota with his wife, Cynthia and two daughters, Sara and Anna. He continues to do freelance work around the state and is in the process of developing a private lesson studio in the Motley-Staples area. He can be reached at 218-352-6899 or jkoopmann@brainerd.net.

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**THE PARK RAPIDS
AREA COMMUNITY BAND**

Presents

**17TH ANNUAL
WINTER
CONCERT**

*Dr. Russell Pesola, Conductor
John Koopman, Trumpet Soloist*

*Sunday, December 2, 2007
3:00 p.m.*

PARK RAPIDS AREA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



**Fall 2007
Rehearsal Schedule**

Rehearsals 10:00 am
PRAHS Band Room
September 15
September 29
October 13
November 3
November 10
November 17
December 1

**Spring 2008
Rehearsal
Schedule**

Rehearsals 10:00 am
PRAHS Band Room
February 23
March 1
March 15
March 29
April 5
April 26
May 3

JAZZ



Community Band to perform concert

Dr. Russell Pesola will conduct the Park Rapids Area Community Band in concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 4 at the Park Rapids Area High School auditorium.

The 17th annual spring concert will feature saxophone and bassoon soloist Russell Peterson.

An accomplished classical/jazz saxophonist, bassoonist and composer, Peterson holds degrees from Youngstown (Ohio) State University, Le Conservatoire de Bordeaux (France) and Bowling Green State University (Ohio).

Winner of numerous prizes, including the top prize at the International Geneva Saxophone Concours (Switzerland), and first place winner of the Music Teachers National Association National Music Competition, Peterson has soloed with or-



Russell Peterson

chestras in the United States as well as in Europe.

His appearances have included the Dana Chamber Orchestra (USA), Concordia Orchestra (USA), Bowling Green Philharmonic (USA), L'Orchestra de la Suisse Romande (Switzerland), Collegium Musicum, Basel

(Switzerland), The Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra, The Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra (USA), The Orchestra Conservatorio Superior De MÀssica (Spain), The Western New York Chamber Orchestra (USA), and The St. Petersburg Philharmonic (Russia).

Peterson is an active chamber musician, performing extensively throughout Europe and the United States with The Transcontinental Saxophone Quartet. He is also currently performing with the Hard-Bop Jazz Saxophone Quartet in Fargo-Moorhead.

As an orchestral player, Peterson has served as bassoonist with several symphony orchestras, and is currently principal bassoonist with the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony, as well as bassoonist with the Fargo-Moor-

head Symphony Wind Quintet.

Peterson has served on the faculty at Youngstown State University (Ohio), The University of Toledo (Ohio), Minnesota State University Moorhead, The Interlochen Summer Arts Camp (Michigan) and The International Music Camp. Currently, he is instructor of saxophone, bassoon and jazz studies at Concordia College in Moorhead.

Sunday's program includes "Concerto in B Flat Major" for solo bassoon and concert band, "Georgia on My Mind" for solo alto saxophone and band, "Pavanne," "Prelude and Fugue in G Minor," "The Melody Shop" (march), "Songs of Old Kentucky," "Procession of the Sardar," "Encornium for the Courageous" (conducted by Jim Wheeler), "Horse and Buggy" and more.



BAND



BY RITA DALZELL
FOR THE ENTERPRISE

The audience in the Park Rapids Area High School auditorium Sunday afternoon was treated to a concert of extraordinary levels. Most of them were musical, of course, but some of them were displays of human nature at its finest.

The program chosen by Dr. Russell Pesola, conductor of the Park Rapids Area Community Band (PRACB), was as interesting and varied as it usually is. What was really captivating about the music for this concert, though, was the underlying "notion" of every song.

I often close my eyes for a bit while listening to songs. It takes away the visual effect that can sometimes cloud the true perception of the music. While my eyes were closed for part of each song, I could hear how each one could be used as part of the music score for a movie. Not just one or two of the pieces, but every one of them...fascinating.

"The Melody Shop," written by Karl King and dedicated to his friends at the Powell Music Co., was a lovely march with a strain here and there of a counter melody. It's a quick moving composition, which the band set right out there as though it was an effortless endeavor...something only really good musicians can do.

The second piece was J. S. Bach's "Prelude And Fugue In G Minor," which brought back a long ago memory. One of my cousins had asked me to be the pianist/organist for her wedding and had sent me a huge envelope of music she wanted included in the prelude. There were two Bach compositions: "Sheep May Safely Graze," and a piano rendition of the above mentioned P and F. I worked on it, truly I did, but all those arpeggios drove me crazy. The PRACB had no trouble with them at all.

Here's a tribute to talent: while my eyes were closed, the saxophone section sounded like cellos.

Guest soloist for the afternoon was Russell Peterson, an instructor of saxophone, bassoon and jazz studies at Concordia College in Moorhead. He also has a list of credits too numerous to mention here.

Before the concert was finished, the audience would become his next

group of solid fans. He played his bassoon as though it were an extension of his body. He chose "Concerto For Bassoon, K. 191," by Mozart. He reached for high notes and then dropped an octave or more and back up again with great ease and dexterity, considering all the notes he was reading.

I was reminded of the scene from the movie, "Amadeus," when Emperor Joseph II rose out of his theater seat after listening to a Mozart composition and stated, "Too many notes." "Concerto For Bassoon" is certainly in that category and the guest soloist would have made Mozart smile.

The band ended the first half of the concert with "Pentland Hills March," always a crowd pleaser. It is snappy, familiar and rousing.

The second half of the concert began with "Beguine For Band," written by Gilen Osner, who was an arranger for the Paul Whiteman orchestra and an arranger/conductor for Mercury Records and then Columbia Records. The band moved right into the rhythm necessary for the slow rumba beat of a beguine.

"Songs of Old Kentucky" was written by Brant Kerrick and based on the old Appalachian tunes which have become favorite songs of Americana. I have forgotten a lot of those songs but I think I heard "John Biley," "Sourwood Mountain" and "Frog Went-a Courtin'."

"Private" is a favorite movie and cartoon song. We all have heard it numerous times but probably never know the name of it. Morton Gould, who wrote it in the early 1930s, was a part of the NBC Radio scene for many years. This song embeds itself into your brain. "door door doo-dleedoodoot..."

Dr. Pesola likes the works of Leroy Anderson and I am happy he does because I like everything he wrote. My favorite is "Blue Tango," but right up there near the top are "Sleigh Ride," "Bugler's Holiday" and "The Syncopated Clock." The May 4th concert, however, included a song of Anderson's I have never heard. "Horse and Buggy" was delightful and had some of the same sounds as "Sleigh Ride."

Jim Wheeler, one of the PRACB founders, along

with Solon Green, stepped back onto the podium as a guest conductor. In his snappy white jacket and black pants with red stripes, he led the band through Nolan Schmitz's "Encomium for the Courageous." This piece was written in honor of the victims of the Columbia space shuttle disaster. It was a most patriotic piece, which started with a touching rendition of "Taps," which brought tears to my eyes.

Russell Peterson returned to the stage, but with a saxophone in hand and no music. The band once again accompanied him (and so well) as he played his arrangement of "Georgia On My Mind." Oh, sure, that lazy, laid back song. Are you kidding? Peterson made that saxophone soar to such high notes, the audience gasped. He took the melody and turned it into a jazz improvisation of the finest type.

PRACB concert stirred images from great movies



He was definitely enjoying himself and when a jazz musician is feeling comfortable, the back up musicians never know when the soloist is going to "let them in," so to speak. But Peterson is a generous musician and if you watched closely, you saw him cue both the band and Dr. Pesola.

And right there in front of our eyes was one of the extraordinary levels of human nature we witnessed at the concert. It was a lovely gesture and Peterson is to be commended for being a "regular guy."

The audience also was privy to another extraordinary level of human nature and maybe didn't even know it. The PRACB has been a victim of the April snowstorms, both of them falling on weekends the band was scheduled to rehearse. That meant by the time they gathered Saturday, May 3, an entire month had gone by since the last

practice. Did Dr. Pesola whine about that to the audience? He said not one word about it. He took his band through many difficult compositions, probably wishing he'd had more time with them. But he made no pre-show "feel sorry for us" statements, stepped up to the plate and gave the audience a mighty fine performance.

Likewise, all the band members, who had to have been wishing for more time to prepare, also called on their excellent musician-

ship, the discipline musicians develop and did themselves proud. Here's a little inside information about musicians: when they know their music well, their minds can wander during a performance and "things" untoward can happen.

I think I can safely say no minds were wandering in the May 4th PRACB spring concert. So we were the recipients of a wonderful hour and a half of music.

During many of the above songs, various band members were featured as soloists. I know many of them and could name them here. But I don't know all of them and I don't want to leave any of them out. But I will say they were all magnificent and well prepared.

I also want to acknowledge the percussion section. My goodness, did they ever have a lot of extra duties Sunday afternoon. It was so much fun to see them bounce from the bass drum, to a snare drum, to a xylophone, to a triangle, to, to, to... what a busy section.

Okay, here are the movies I was thinking about Sunday afternoon: "Meet Me in St. Louis," "Tender Is the Night," "Rear Window," "El Cid," "Bridge on the River Kwai," "Lawrence of Arabia," "It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World," "Deliverance," "A Time To Kill," "2001: A Space Odyssey" and "You've Got Mail."

Rita Dalzell is a retired English and vocal music teacher, who also played the saxophone, enjoys being at the keyboard to accompany musicians and has directed musicals and school orchestra rehearsals.



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Russell Peterson, Saxophone and Bassoon Soloist

Sunday, May 4, 2008
3:00 p.m.

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Community Band

The Park Rapids Area Community Band (PRACB) enters its 17th season of providing music to audiences throughout the Park Rapids area, now under the direction of Dr. Russell Pesola. The PRACB maintains an average of 50 outstanding wind and percussion musicians.

Regular performances include a traditional winter Christmas concert, a spring concert featuring guest performers and a pre-fireworks Patriotic 4th of July concert at Red Bridge Park in Park Rapids, drawing thousands of appreciative listeners.

This year, the band will help celebrate a Great Minnesota Picnic and music event at Itasca State Park June 1, and will play in Detroit Lakes June 10 and in Hackensack Aug. 9.



Itasca State Park



Mark Egge Alto Sax Solo



Galen Serbel - Euphonium Solo
"Beautiful Colorado"

2008 Summer Concerts

Sunday June 1, 2008 2:00 pm
Itasca State Park
[click here for map and directions](#)
Rehearsal Sat. May 31-10:00 am

Tuesday June 10, 2008 7:00 pm
Band Shell in the Park
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
[click here for map](#)

Friday July 4, 2008 7:30 pm
Red Bridge Park
[click here for map](#)
Park Rapids, Minnesota
Rehearsal 11:00 am

Wednesday August 6, 2008 6:00 pm
Concordia College Cobber Corn Feed
Heartland Park
Park Rapids, Minnesota
[click here for map](#)

Saturday August 9, 2008 3:00 pm
Hackensack, Minnesota

Summer 2008 Program List

- The Star Spangled Banner
- Pentland Hills
- Songs of Old Kentucky
- Danny Boy
- Beautiful Colorado
- Los Valientes
- Blue Tango
- The Melody Shop
- Pavanne
- Horse and Buggy
- The Stars and Stripes Forever



Heartland Park



Red Bridge Park





Park Rapids Area Community Band

15923 Freedom Drive - Park Rapids, MN 56470

September 2008

Dear PRACB Friend,

Our 2008-2009 Endowment campaign is under way. The Park Rapids Area Community Band (PRACB) is entering its eighteenth year of providing music in Park Rapids and the surrounding area. Our success is due to friends like you who support the arts, the talented and dedicated musicians who make up our membership, and the support of the communities in the Park Rapids area. The endowment program is important to the continued financial health of the PRACB. Individuals, couples, business and corporate sponsors are welcome to endow a chair in the PRACB for a minimum contribution of \$100. All chair endowment contributors will be listed in our concert program for 2008-2009.

This year in addition to our fall and spring concerts we played several summer concerts. We played for the Sesquicentennial celebration at Itasca Park on June 1st, a concert in the park in Detroit Lakes on June 10th and a concert in the Park Rapids Red Bridge Park on the 4th of July. Our next appearance was in the Heartland Park in Park Rapids for the Concordia College Cobber Corn Feed August 6th. We then traveled to Hackensack on August 9th for our final concert of the summer.

Our concerts this season are scheduled for Sunday November 2, 2008 and Sunday May 3, 2009. Both of these concerts are at 3:00 pm in the Park Rapids Area High School Auditorium. We hope you will be able to attend.

Our band website is www.pracb.com. It includes our rehearsal schedules, concert schedules, history and other information about the band.

Your support for our Community Band is critical to the continued success of the organization. We have enclosed, for your convenience a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Please make your check out today to PRACB. We thank you in advance for your continued support.

Your PRACB Board of Directors

Board of Directors

Solon Green, Treasurer
Vicki Magnuson
Karen Onstad

Dr. Russell Pesola, Conductor

Roger Wilson, President

Paul Peterson, Manager
Paul Ramsay, Librarian
Terri Walen



**Fall 2008
Rehearsals 10 am**

1. September 6
2. September 27
3. October 4
4. October 11
5. October 25
6. November 1

**Concert
November 2 3:00
pm**



**Spring 2009
Rehearsals 10 am**

1. February 28
2. March 7
3. March 21
4. April 4
5. April 18
6. May 2

**Concert
May 3 3:00 pm**



**THE PARK RAPIDS
AREA COMMUNITY BAND**

Presents

**18TH ANNUAL
FALL
CONCERT**

*Dr. Russell Pesola, Conductor
Jennifer Swanson, Soprano Soloist*

*Sunday,
Sunday, November 2, 2008
3:00 p.m.*

PARK RAPIDS AREA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Swanson to perform at high school

SUNDAY, NOV. 2: The Park Rapids Area Community Band will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2 at the Park Rapids Area High School auditorium. The featured soloist will be Jennifer Swanson, who has performed in opera and solo recitals throughout the United States and in Italy. A member of the Bemidji State University music department since 1999, she teaches applied voice, vocal techniques and opera workshop.

The Park Rapids Area Community Band will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2 at the Park Rapids Area High School auditorium. The featured soloist will be Jennifer Swanson who has performed in opera and solo recitals throughout the United States and in Italy.

SOPRANO DR. JENNIFER SWANSON

Soprano Dr. Jennifer Swanson has performed in opera and solo recital throughout the United States and in Italy. A member of the BSU music department since 1999, she teaches Applied Voice, Diction for Singers, Vocal Techniques, Survey of Solo Song Literature, and Opera Workshop. Her students have gone on to successful careers in both music education and performance. An active performer herself, Dr. Swanson sings regularly in recitals and concerts.

In 2008, Dr. Swanson finished her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Vocal Performance at the University of Minnesota where she was a recipient of the Schrammer Vocal Fellowship and a student of Joan del Santis. Dr. Swanson earned her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Illinois and a Master of Music degree from New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. Following her Masters degree, she studied for several years with Helen Hodson in Boston. Additional studies include three summers at the International Institute of Vocal Arts working with leading conductors, directors, and singers from opera companies throughout the world.

A frequent prizewinner, Dr. Swanson has participated in numerous national and international competitions including the Washington International Vocal Competition, NATS-Dixon Art Song Auditions, and the Connecticut Opera Guild Competition. She was twice a New England Regional Finalist in the prestigious Metropolitan Opera Auditions. For three seasons, Dr. Swanson was engaged by the Florida Grand Opera in the Young Artist Program and as a featured artist.

In addition to her duties at Bemidji State University, Dr. Swanson maintains a private studio of high school and adult recreational singers. Her students are active performers in vocal ensembles and on the musical theater stage throughout northern Minnesota. Summer teaching activities have included the Bemidji Music Camp and the International Music Camp. Professional affiliations include Minnesota Music Educators Association, Music Educators National Conference, and National Association of Teachers of Singing.



**THE PARK RAPIDS
AREA COMMUNITY BAND**

Presents

**18TH ANNUAL
SPRING
CONCERT**



Dr. Russell Pesola, Conductor
Mari Willie, Horn Soloist

Sunday, May 3, 2009
3:00 p.m.

PARK RAPIDS AREA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



Community band to perform Sunday: The Park Rapids Area Community Band will present its 18th annual spring concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 3 at the Park Rapids Area High School Auditorium. The concert will feature soloist Mari Willie playing a horn solo "Concerto for Horn" by Ralph Hermann. There is no admission charge, but a free will offering will be collected. For more information on the band, visit www.pracb.com.





Vicki & Ron Brown

BAND
COUPLES



Rob & Kylie Anderson



Dave & Lynette Murphy



Dr. Russell & Denise Pesola



Tom & Bonnie Swanson



Barb & Roger Wilson



Joyce & Paul Ramsey



Glenn & Michelle Seibel

PRACB Summer Schedule

- Sat June 6 rehearsal
- Sun June 7 3:00 concert in Itasca Park
- Tue June 9 7:00 pm Concert in Detroit Lakes
- Sat July 4 1:00 pm rehearsal
- Sat July 4 7:30 Evening concert
- Tue July 28 Cobber Corn Feed
- Sat Aug 1 3:00 pm Concert in Hackensack

A musical salute



The Park Rapids Area Community Band will perform pre-fireworks patriotic concert starting at 7:30 p.m. in Red Bridge Park. The concert will set the stage for Independence Day celebration's grand finale.



Concert at Itasca Park & D.L.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The Star Spangled Banner | |
| Pentland Hills | ----- Major J W Howe |
| Dance of the Tumblers | ----- Rimsky-Korsakov |
| Coat of Arms | ----- George Kenny |
| Fandango | ----- Frank Perkins |
| The Blue and the Gray | ----- Clare Grundman |
| Amazing Grace | ----- Percy Faith/Glen Austin |
| Suite of Old American Dances | --- Robert Russel Bennett |
| Greensleeves | ----- Alfred Reed |
| The Minstrel Boy | ----- Leroy Anderson |
| The Nutmeggers | ----- Eric Osterling |
| The Stars & Stripes Forever | --- John Phillip Sousa |

July 4th Summer Concert

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| The Star Spangled Banner | |
| Pentland Hills | ----- Major J W Howe |
| The Blue and The Gray | ----- Clare Grundman |
| Coat of Arms | ----- George Kenny |
| Greensleeves | ----- Alfred Reed |
| The Nutmeggers | ----- Eric Osterling |
| The Minstrel Boy | ----- Leroy Anderson |
| Semper Fidelis | ----- John Phillip Sousa |
| Fandango | ----- Frank Perkins |
| Chimes of Liberty | ----- E F Goldman |
| The Armed Forces Salute | ----- Bob Lowden |
| America The Beautiful | ----- Arr. Carmen Dragon |
| The Stars & Stripes Forever | --- John Phillip Sousa |



Park Rapids Area Community Band

25497 Park Trail, Osage, MN 56570

September 2009

Dear PRACB Friend,

Our 2009-2010 Endowment campaign is underway. The Park Rapids Area Community Band (PRACB) is entering its nineteenth year of providing music in Park Rapids and the surrounding area. Our success is due to friends like you who support the arts, the talented and dedicated musicians who make up our membership, and the support of the communities in the Park Rapids area. The endowment program is important to the continued financial health of the PRACB. Individuals, couples, business and corporate sponsors are welcome to endow a chair in the PRACB for a minimum contribution of \$100. All chair endowment contributors will be listed in our concert programs for 2009-2010.

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