

New England Brass Band



Fall 2007 Newsletter

1988 ~ 2008
Celebrating 20 Years of
Brass Band Excellence

From the Music Director

By Douglas Yeo

The beginning of a new season brings with it excitement and anticipation. The New England Brass Band finished its 2006-07 season on several high notes, details of which you will read about in these pages. Working with this group of talented, dedicated musicians is a distinct pleasure and we are grateful for how you, our audiences, have appreciated the band's concerts. This season will continue with the NEBB's extensive schedule of concerts (including concerts in Worcester – a first for the band – and Maine), the release of a new compact disc recording, and a return to the North American Brass Band Association Championships in Louisville, Kentucky. We hope you will be joining us for some of our concerts and we will be heard on the CD player in your living room or car.

With a new season comes change as well. We recently said goodbye to several band members who have moved on to other pursuits and geographic locations, and have welcomed new members to the band. And at this season's first meeting of the NEBB's board of directors, I announced that the 2007-08 season will be my last as music director of the New England Brass Band.

I came to the NEBB in 1998, following the band's first music director, William Rollins who had served the band faithfully for nearly 10 years. While I didn't know how long I would be with the band, I could not have imagined that my tenure would also last 10 years. In that time, the band has enjoyed unparalleled success and

an expansion of its activities that most of us could not even have imagined many years ago. Ten recording sessions in Symphony Hall, five compact disc recordings, four concerts in Symphony Hall, winning two North American Brass Band Championships, concerts around New England, to New York City, and so much more. That I have shared these years in the NEBB with my wife, Pat (who plays second baritone) and our youngest daughter, Robin (who played cornet in my first seasons with the band before she went to college) has only added to my sense of enjoyment and satisfaction.

Yet, nothing can last forever. While these 10 years have been ones of great joy as I have collaborated with the talented, dedicated, hard working and nice group of people we know as the NEBB, I am in a season of life where I feel God calling me to other things, including



Douglas and Patricia Yeo at a NEBB Concert (Free Christian Church, Andover, Massachusetts, 2001)

marking out greater margins around my life so my plate is not so full. My decision to leave the NEBB is one of several things I am doing to re-order my life in positive ways. At the same time, the band's principal cornet player and associate conductor, Terry Everson, has announced that this will also be his last season with the NEBB. Terry has been with the band for seven years, lending his expert playing and modeling to the whole band. While he will be missed, we all understand his desire to spend more time with his family and honor God's call in the allocation of his time.

The NEBB board of directors, in conjunction with the band, will be working this season to plan for the band's future. I want to express my thanks to the band and to you, our audiences, for your support over these 10 years. I will leave the NEBB with many fond memories of our shared time together and, while I will be putting down my baton, my love for brass banding will continue. You should not be surprised if you see Pat and me at a future NEBB concert, sitting in the audience, applauding the band along with you.

Farewell and Welcome

At the end of the 2006-2007 season, the NEBB said farewell and thanks to several NEBB members who left the band due to various life changes. Kevin Maloney



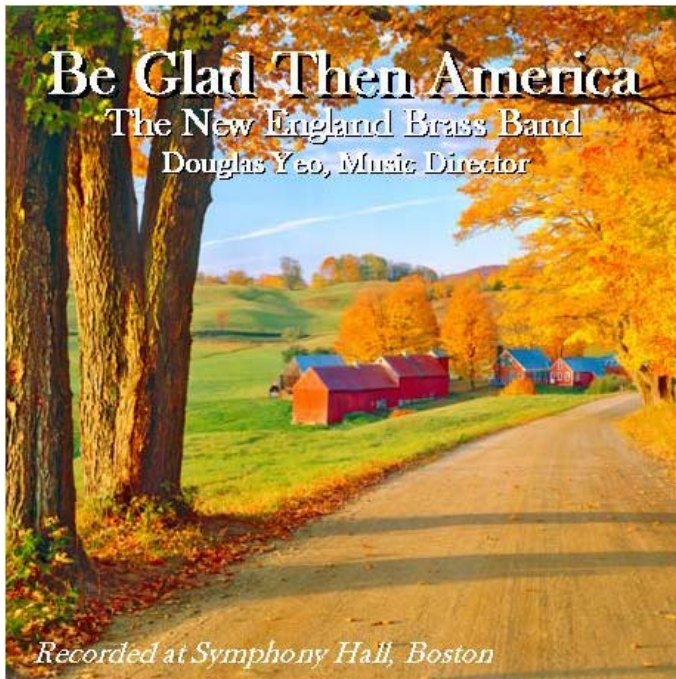
New NEBB Members, Fall 2007 - Spencer Aston, Lee Jacobs and Rachel Hockenberry.

(flugelhorn), Armen Dohanian (BB flat bass) and Mark Mashburn (solo cornet) all have left the Boston area to explore new job opportunities elsewhere. Rob Hardy, long time band secretary and second cornet, is now working to establish a new business here in New England. We extend our thanks to Kevin, Armen, Mark and Rob for their many years of service to the NEBB and wish them well in their new endeavors.

We have been fortunate to add several new members to the NEBB this fall. Through auditions, the NEBB has continued to strengthen over the years. This season we welcome David Hall (solo cornet, a student at New England Conservatory of Music), Spencer Aston (flugelhorn, a student at Boston University), Rachel Hockenberry (tenor horn, a student at Boston Conservatory of Music) and Lee Jacobs (BB flat bass, a student at Boston University) to the NEBB. All are fine players who will add measurably to the band's activities. Also, Peter Wiberg, one of the band's longest serving members (and also the band's personnel manager) has moved from tenor horn to cornet. Please join me in welcoming these new members to the NEBB when you see them at our concerts.

NEBB Releases Fifth Compact Disc

One of the band's most satisfying activities has been the series of compact disc recordings we have released in recent years. Beginning with **Christmas Joy!**, released during my first season with the band in 1998-99, the band has recorded five albums in 10 recording sessions over the years. Our fifth and newest CD has just been released. **Be Glad Then America** features American music on American themes by American composers. Included is a wide selection of music from a broad slice of American life. There are many pieces that are familiar to our audiences, favorites like *Amazing Grace* and *Simple Gifts* and the inspiring *Armed Forces Salute* by Stephen Bulla. Also included are several solos including *Bess*, *You Is My Woman Now* (Terry Everson, cornet solo), *Jeanie With The Light Brown Hair* (Leif Reslow, euphonium solo), *My Shepherd* (featuring the trombone section of Don Lucas, Al Stickland, Ken Griffin and Don Kittle) and *My Lord, What a Morning* (Douglas



Yeo, bass trombone solo). A centerpiece of the album is the first recording of a new arrangement for brass band of one of the most important works for wind band, William Schuman's *New England Triptych*. Music from the film **Gettysburg** is enhanced by a powerful narration of the *Gettysburg Address* by Charles Osgood, well known as the voice of Westwood One's "The Osgood File." We hope you will want to add **Be Glad Then America** to your CD collection. Be sure to pick one up at any NEBB concert or order by mail using the form in this newsletter. We hope you will celebrate along with us our great American heritage as expressed in the medium of the British brass band.

Band Charity Work

Last season the NEBB entered into a partnership with Brass Band Aid, a charity in Britain that worked with World Vision to build and equip a new school in Adet, Ethiopia. Through the efforts of brass bands and their audiences throughout the world, the school has been completed. The NEBB collected \$4,500 last season on behalf of Brass Band Aid thanks to donations from our band members and audiences. The NEBB also gave Brass Band Aid 10% of money raised from 2006-07 CD sales. In January, NEBB music director Douglas Yeo traveled to Skegness, England, where he participated in a Brass Band Aid Celebrity Band and

the Guinness Book of World Records attempt to put together the world's largest brass band, both of which raised more funds for Brass Band Aid. Doug also presented Brass Band Aid with a check for £1,500, the first installment of the NEBB's donation. We want to thank all of those who contributed to this worthy project.

For our 2007-08 season, the NEBB has partnered with another charity, this time one that is closer to home. In celebration of the release of our new CD of American music, **Be Glad Then America**, the band will donate 10% of sales of that disc to the Taunton based organization, Homes for Our Troops. Homes for Our Troops raises money to build and adapt homes for severely wounded veterans. We invite you to visit Home for Our Troops' website at homesforourtroops.org and lend your support by purchasing a copy of **Be Glad Then America**. It makes a great Christmas gift!



NEBB Music Director Douglas Yeo presents a check for £1500 to Briony Thompson of Brass Band Aid in Skegness, England.

NEBB Featured at International Trumpet Guild Conference

The NEBB was a featured ensemble at the International Trumpet Guild Conference, held on June 1, 2007 at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Soloists included Philip Cobb of the Salvation Army's Inter-

national Staff Band in London and the NEBB's own Terry Everson (cornet and piccolo trumpet) and Kevin Maloney (flugelhorn). The band was joined for a finale that included Cobb, Everson and former NEBB principal cornetist René Hernandez (now with the Baltimore Symphony) in Philip Catelinet's trio *The Herald's*. Neville Young concluded his review of the concert for the ITG by saying, "A thrilling concert with stunning soloists and an excellent band."

Upcoming Concerts

December 9, 2007 - Wilmington Congregational Church, Wilmington, Massachusetts.

December 16, 2007 - South Congregational Church, Kennebunkport, Maine.

December 22, 2007 - Free Christian Church, Andover, Massachusetts.

February 10, 2008 - Gordon College, Wenham, Massachusetts.

March 2, 2008 - The Community Church of Medway, Medway, Massachusetts.

March 28 & 29, 2008 - NABBA Championships, Louisville, Kentucky.

April 25, 2008 - Wesley United Methodist Church, Worcester, Massachusetts.

June 1, 2008 - Hope Church, Lenox, Massachusetts.

Complete information for each concert including location, time and directions may be found on the NEBB website at www.newenglandbrassband.org



New England Brass Band at the International Trumpet Guild Conference 2007 (Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Above - Soloist Philip Cobb with the NEBB
Below - Soloist Terry Everson with the NEBB



New England Brass Band ~ *In The British Tradition*

PO Box 541462 ~ Waltham, Massachusetts 02454-1462

Board of Directors: Kenneth Griffin (President), Isabel Tappan-deFrees (Treasurer), John Bassett (Secretary), Stephen Lee, Charlene Piercey, John Procter, Peter Wiberg, Douglas Yeo (Music Director), Terry Everson (Associate Conductor)

www.newenglandbrassband.org ~ info@newenglandbrassband.org

Order New England Brass Band Recordings

Print out and mail this form. Orders must be paid in \$ USA; enclose check or money order ONLY. Orders shipped to countries other than USA require a bank check ONLY drawn on a USA Bank. Checks must be made payable to New England Brass Band.

Mail this form with payment to:

New England Brass Band
PO Box 54162
Waltham, MA 02454-1462 USA
Questions? Email the NEBB at info@newenglandbrassband.org
Allow up to three weeks for delivery

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Quantity	Description
_____	Cost \$15.00 - CD - Be Glad Then America
_____	Cost \$15.00 - CD - This Is Christmas
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