

[Pioneer Band of Allentown - Conductor Position Opening](#) After 30 years of dedicated service to the Pioneer Band of Allentown, Conductor Jay A. Durner has opted for early retirement from the Band. The job description and other pertinent information is on the Band's website: [www.pioneerband.com](http://www.pioneerband.com). Congratulations, Jay and the best of luck on your future endeavors.

[Marine Band of Allentown Presents Memorial Day Concert](#) The original Memorial Day is 30 May and the Marine Band of Allentown, under the direction of Conductor Tom Heinick, presented a wonderful patriotic program at Allentown's West Park as close to that date as possible, 31 May. Highlighting selections such as "American Overture for Band," "Victorious America," "Victory at Sea" and "Hail to the Spirit of Liberty (with a very distinct and expertly performed triangle solo)," the band also featured trombone soloist Russ Braun in a beautiful patriotic medley entitled "The Volunteer" and a Dixieland ensemble in "Dixieland Clambake." A very interesting, technically challenging and thoroughly entertaining piece was a new one – well, actually quite an old selection (1878), but one not recently heard – "Yankee Doodle Fantasy Humoresque." Several children in the audience certainly recognized the number...lots of murmuring amongst one group as they tried to sing along. Congratulations on a very enjoyable concert.

[Macungie Band Plays Memorial Day Tribute](#) Memorial Day, originally called Remembrance Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. Our musicians pay tribute in numerous ways, performing for veterans events, graveside prayers, and more. The Macungie Band, under the direction of Assistant Conductor George Fennell, traveled to central Pennsylvania to honor special heroes. A field in Shanksville, PA is the site of the Flight 93 Memorial which recognizes the crew and passengers who gave their lives to thwart an attack on Washington, DC on September 11, 2001. A lone American flag in the field marks the spot where the plane hit ground; a small fenced area serves as the memorial marker. Several local residents serve as "ambassadors" and relate the events as they occurred that day – phone calls from the plane to family members, conversation retrieved from the plane's black box, as well eye witness accounts of the plane on impact and the aftermath that followed. Quite appropriately, amongst a host of patriotic and religious selections, the Macungie Band performed "Flight of Valor" specifically composed for the people on that fateful flight and "DHS March" (dedicated to the establishment of the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security). From Shanksville the Band continued to Johnstown, PA the site of two of the most disastrous floods in history. On May 31, 1889 a neglected dam and raging storm resulted in the devastation and destruction of Johnstown. That tragic scene reoccurred in 1977 when several dams failed in

conjunction with heavy rainfall. The Macungie Band chose Johnstown for additional Memorial Day weekend concerts primarily due to a historical connection. (In 1861 the members of the Band joined the 54th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment; that Regiment included men from Johnstown.) On Sunday May 24, 2009 the Band performed for services at the First Lutheran Church in downtown Johnstown and later a concert at the newly restored Roxbury Band Shell. To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Band Shell, in addition to the patriotic fare of the day, the Macungie Band performed selections from the original opening concert (1939). For additional information on the Macungie Band visit [www.macungieband.com](http://www.macungieband.com).

### [Pioneer Band Opens Allentown Concert Season](#)

On a cool blustery Mother's Day, an audience undeterred by the weather brought sweaters and blankets and settled in at West Park for the opening concert of the Allentown summer concert season. The Pioneer Band of Allentown (Jay Durner, Conductor) entertained young and old with traditional concert band fare and songs from the "Sound of Music," "Cats," and, given the weather, very appropriately "Mary Poppins." When the band performed the "Music of Chicago" (the rock group), the sun just had to come out. With such songs as "Make Me Smile" and "Saturday in the Park" it became a warm and sunny day, and, certainly brought smiles to both audience and musicians alike.

### [Municipal Band of Allentown Variety Concert](#)

Remember the movie "Ben Hur" with Charlton Heston? What do you remember most of that movie? Probably the chariot race. Well, that vision certainly came to mind during the Municipal Band of Allentown's performance of "Parade of the Charioteers" on a cool, but comfortable May Sunday afternoon. Things got a little warmer when the band played "Sweet Georgia Brown" and the vision turned to the antics of the Harlem Globetrotters. Another highlight, vocalist Sue McDermott related a cute story on an Irish folk tune entitled "Jug of Punch." Think Irish; think happy-go-lucky; and you have the likely meaning behind the tune (of course, if you heard the words there would be no doubt). Band conductor Richard Steltz certainly programmed something for everyone – a medley of selections by the group the Association, Broadway selections, marches and some great swing tunes. Of course, the cool weather notwithstanding, the beauty of Allentown's West Park certainly made the concert just that much more enjoyable.

Vocalist Sue McDermott

[Life Members Recognized](#) Can you imagine being with an organization for 65 years? And the best part...enjoying every minute of it? Today, that's a hard stretch. Corporate loyalty to its employees, although it exists, is difficult to find. On the other hand, people with exemplary skills find it almost imperative to switch jobs and companies in order to get ahead. However, several musicians found that

their love of music and the joy it brings others have kept them involved with the AFM and Local 45. Many of us have performed with these wonderful musicians or were/are lucky enough to have them as teachers. Congratulations to: Milton H. Focht, Jr. (bassoon) – 65 years with the AFM Virgil “Skip” Baker (drums) – 64 years Dorothy L. Huston (sax, clarinet) – 63 years Stanley J. Moyer (trumpet) – 58 years Dale L. Sine (accordion, keyboard) – 54 years To be a life member, you need be at least 65 years of age and have been a member of the AFM for 35 consecutive years. If you believe you are eligible, please contact the Local office at 610-791-2921 or e-mail [Local45@afm.org](mailto:Local45@afm.org). The benefits? Reduced membership dues...

**Pioneer Band Concert for Charity** In light of the current economic environment, the musicians of the Pioneer Band of Allentown found charitable purpose in their annual spring concert. “A Theatrical Spectacular!” spanned music from Broadway shows as “Wicked” and “Miss Saigon and” the audience hummed along on favorites from “Mary Poppins” and “Jesus Christ Superstar.” For the more traditional-minded, Conductor Jay Durner turned to the 19th century for favorites by Offenbach and Franz Lehar. However, it was during the free will offering that one discovered the true purpose of such grand entertainment. All proceeds from the concert were donated to the Lehigh County Council of Churches to help feed the needy. The Rev. Debra Hepburn, Ecumenical Director of the LCC, was guest soloist and graced the stage with her vibrant and moving vocals on several selections. Thank-you to everyone for giving of your time and talents for such a noble cause.

**57th Annual Festival of Bands Rocks!** On a dull and dreary rainy Sunday in May, people braved the elements for a little “indoor sunshine.” The four Allentown civic concert bands came together and entertained an audience of all ages...to raise public awareness to the needs of persons with developmental disabilities. In its 57th year, the concert had something for everyone. Entitled “Pop Music – from the 50’s, 60’s & 70’s” the audience “rocked” to Marvin Hamlisch favorites and the Beatles, for the youngsters and young at heart - highlights from “Pirates of the Caribbean” and for those children of the 60s – a little “Godspell.” A good time was had by all... The Festival of Bands participants were musicians of the Allentown Band, Marine Band of Allentown, Municipal Band of Allentown and the Pioneer Band of Allentown.

## Booking Service

The Lehigh Valley Musicians' Association is committed to furthering live music in our area. We are actively seeking partnerships with corporate citizens, local and

state governments, non-profit organizations, schools, churches and other unions/associations to ensure that live music remains a vital part of our community.

If your organization wishes to partner with Local 45 please contact us at [local45@afm.org](mailto:local45@afm.org).

Need musicians for your special event? A wedding, reception, concert in the park...we have what you're looking for!

[Click here](#) to download the inquiry form. Complete the form and either e-mail to: [ammarsteller@gmail.com](mailto:ammarsteller@gmail.com) or mail to: Lehigh Valley Musicians' Association, 519 E. Paoli St., Allentown, PA 18103

[Instruments for Sale](#) TUBA - \$800 Conn BBb; Serial number: 750626; includes excellent PROTECH case Great for student/beginner Silver (Bell 16" Length 36") Valves – good; overall condition – good considering instrument age [Call Harry @ 610-434-3307](tel:610-434-3307)

FLUTE - \$600 Armstrong Silver Open Hole; only used for about six months [Call Tina @ 610-863-4656](tel:610-863-4656)