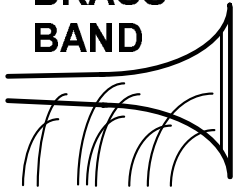


**PRAIRIE  
BRASS  
BAND**



# Prairie Brass Press

Prairie Brass Band of Arlington Heights

P.O. Box 182

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0182

(847) 523-4467 (new phone)

[www.prairiebrass.org](http://www.prairiebrass.org)

Volume 2, Issue 1

Fall 2000

## *December Holiday Concerts*

We are performing our Holiday Concert at three venues this season. Come and see us at any of these locations.

- December 3 –  
Crystal Lake
- December 10 –  
Arlington Heights
- December 14 –  
Chicago

See the back  
page for full  
details!



## **Prairie Brass Band Board of Directors**

Dallas Niermeyer –  
Conductor

Ken Wistrom –  
Assistant Conductor

Roger Menning –  
Founder

Clark Niermeyer –  
Band President

Jim Short – Band  
Manager, Treasurer

Tabatha Pingitore –  
Secretary

Michael Fath – Publicity

## **Welcome to the Prairie Brass Band's 2000-2001 performance season!**

As we prepare for our fourth season we are looking forward to an exciting year. We hope our friends and fans will be able to share with us. We have stocked up our library with new, challenging music we think you'll enjoy listening to. This will prove to be our busiest year yet. As the Prairie Brass continues to spread the British brass band sound and gain a dedicated audience, we have expanded our 2000-2001 concert schedule with performances in our hometown of Arlington Heights and throughout the Chicago area. In December alone, we will perform our holiday concert in Arlington Heights, Crystal Lake, and Chicago. Look for all the details elsewhere in this issue along with informa-

tion on our season ticket offer. Stay tuned to future newsletters and to our web page ([www.prairiebrass.org](http://www.prairiebrass.org)) for performance updates and additional concerts throughout the season.



As a member of the North American Brass Band Association {NABBA}, we are again planning to attend the National Championships, being held this year in Washington D.C. on the weekend of April 20-21. We have already begun our fundraising efforts and are preparing for the event. Last year the contest was held in Columbus, Ohio. The PBB competed in the Honors Section and we finished in third place. This was a marked improvement over the previous year and was the

*(Continued on page 2)*

## **Arlington Heights Subscription Series Tickets Available**

The Prairie Brass Band will again be offering Subscription Series tickets for our three 2000-2001 Arlington Heights Concerts at John Hersey High School. The concerts are:

**Holiday Concert, Sunday, December 10, 2000 at 3 p.m.**

**NABBA Preview Concert, Sunday, March 18, 2001 at 3 p.m.**

**Summer Pops Concert, Sunday, June 10, 2001 at 3 p.m.**

Subscription Series tickets are available for \$18 for adults, \$15 for students/seniors (a \$3 savings). They are available at the December concert or by calling (847) 523-4467.

(Continued from page 1)

result of many hours of hard work at rehearsals. This year, we will again compete in the Honors Section, and our main goal will be to give a competitive performance we can be proud of. This year the test piece for the Honors Section is Philip Sparke's "A London Overture". We are currently considering a few other selections as our chosen piece that will complement both the test piece and our own sound.

Another highlight at the competitive weekend of the NABBA Championships is the solo and ensemble competitions. In previous years, PBB has had one of, if not the highest participation in these events. Last year, several of our members earned awards for their excellence as both soloists and members of ensembles.

The member's participation in the solo/ensemble competitions this year will be no exception. Soon, as the days get shorter and the weather turns foul, many members will start arriving early to rehearsals, staying late or meeting on weekends to whittle away at some ridiculously difficult piece of music with a million too many notes in it.

Every year the band has a goal to expand it's horizons. This year we have plans to record and release our first compact disc! We have compiled an entertaining selec-

**"Look for the release of our first compact disc towards the end of the performance season in the summer of 2001."**

tion of music, which will include some pieces written or arranged specifically for our band by some of our own members. Look for the release of our first of many compact discs towards the end of the performance season in the summer of 2001.

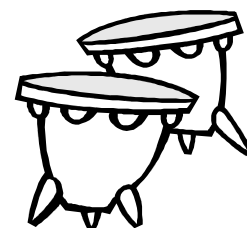
On an organizational note, we have a new addition to the Board this year. Ms. Tabatha Pingitore is a member of the tenor horn section. Tabatha's organizational and people skills make her an excellent addition to the board, and a natural choice for her involvement with the Bookings Committee.

Another change was the passing of the torch for Band President from our Founder, Roger Menning, to myself. Roger served as President and "all round do everything guy" since the beginning. It's truly an honor to be asked by Roger as his successor. Roger continues to provide a valuable resource as a member of the Board as a "all round, do *almost* everything guy"

As President, my goal is to continue the level of excellence that was exemplified by Roger. As a drummer, I will probably do it louder and faster while trying to not get lost during the rests ; )

Dear friends and supporters, this will truly be an exciting season you won't want to miss.

Clark Niermeyer, President



## Member Profile – Eileen Turner, Tenor Horn

In 2000, the Prairie Brass Band has had a special member in the band. Eileen Turner, a Tenor Horn Performance major from New Zealand, has been living in Lake Forest and playing with the Prairie Brass.

Eileen started playing Tenor Horn at the age of 9 in her home town of Hastings, New Zealand as a member of the Hastings Citizens Brass Band. She really didn't do a lot with her playing until 1996 when she moved to study at the Wanganui Polytechnics' School of Music. There she studied various aspects of music, from general theory, composition/arranging, small business and recording to the main focus of performance. Eileen studied for three years to earn the Advanced Diploma. In her final year, she also took on the extra challenge of sitting an exam outside of school, and that was the ATCL (Associate of Trinity College London).

performers' diploma. Eileen has also been selected twice to play in the National Youth Band of New Zealand where she played a variety of top class test piece music as well as the more popular light tunes.

While in Wanganui, Eileen played an active role in two brass bands. She was a member of the Wanganui City Brass, where played and also helped with the youth learning program by giving weekly lessons and directing the wee band, and she also performed with the Royal New Zealand Air Force Brass Band.

Eileen, thanks for a joining us for a great year! You are welcome back any time!

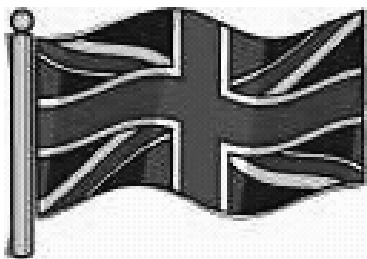


# Prairie Brass Members Join Illinois Brass Band for their UK Tour

Written by David Guion

As Colin Holman and the Illinois Brass Band were preparing to tour Europe, not everyone in the band was able to go. Prairie Brass Band generously supplied three of the necessary subs: Christine Moore (cornet), David Guion (tenor trombone), and Steve Larkin (Eb Bass). A former member of Prairie Brass Band, Vyvian Lawrence (percussion) also made the trip.

The tour began on June 16, 2000, when the band competed in the Saddleworth Whitfriday marching competitions. Eleven villages near Manchester hosted separate competitions on that day. IBB was one of 138 bands! British-born Christine, a veteran of Saddleworth having participated on two previous occasions, performed a valuable service by registering IBB in the five events that we entered.



Over the next two weeks, we performed twelve concerts in the towns of Basingstoke, Newbury, Chester, Wigan, Leeds, Wakefield, and Norwich, as well as one in rural Norfolk. These concerts were evenly divided between formal concerts and concerts in schools. The band played forty different pieces, including David Guion's arrangement of "Chicago, That Toddlin' Town".

The tour was not all musical labor. We all did a lot of touristy things and spent lots of money on souvenirs. Steve found a bass trombone in G, which, used to be the standard British bass trombone but is now rarely heard.

Overall, it was an memorable experience for everyone involved!



## Sponsors and Contributors

As a not-for-profit organization, the Prairie Brass Band relies on the support of our members, audiences, and local businesses. All contributions made to the Prairie Brass Band are tax deductible. There are many ways to help the Prairie Brass Band.

First, come to our concerts! We love a big audience and hope to see you at every performance.

Second, if you have a local business of any kind, sponsor an ad in our concert programs. Ad space is very affordable, and the ad will be included in all remaining concerts for the season. We will also put sponsor information on our Web site if requested.

Third, participate in our Jewel and Dominick's "Shop and Save" program. See the next newsletter for details.

Fourth, make a donation. Donations are acknowledged in our program and go to support the arts in Chicago.

Please call Roger Menning at (847) 523-4467 or (815) 477-9034 if you would like more information.

Thanks to all our supporters, especially to Motorola and to the Illinois Arts Council, for your generous support.

## A Little Musical Humor

How do you get a cornet player to play *ff*?

*Write mp on the part.*

How do you know when a percussionist is knocking at your door?

*The knock always slows down.*

What's the difference between a tenor horn player and a conductor?

*Two measures.*

Why are trombones the best lovers?

*Cornets do it with three fingers, euphoniums do it with four, but trombones do it in seven positions!*

What's the range of a tuba?

*Twelve yards if you've got a good arm.*

Smile! It's all in good fun (and your section may be next!)



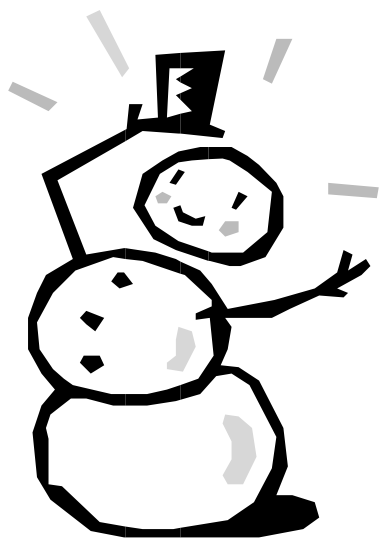


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**WWW.PRAIRIEBRASS.ORG**

## **PRAIRIE BRASS HOLIDAY CONCERTS**



We are excited to be performing our Holiday Concert to three Chicago area locations in December.

**Sunday, December 3 - Crystal Lake, IL - 3:00 pm**

First United Methodist Church  
236 W. Crystal Lake Ave.  
Reception will follow

**Sunday, December 10, - Arlington Heights, IL - 3:00 pm**

John Hersey HS Auditorium  
1900 E. Thomas St. (between Rand Rd. & N. Elmhurst Rd.)  
Reception will follow

**Thursday, December 14 - Chicago, IL - 8:00 pm**

Rudolph Ganz Memorial Hall  
Roosevelt University  
430 S. Michigan Ave. 7th Floor

At this concert, admission is free for Roosevelt students and faculty with a valid ID

Tickets are \$7.00 for adults, \$6.00 for students and seniors. Admission is free for children under age 8. Go to [www.prairiebrass.org](http://www.prairiebrass.org) or call (847) 523-4467 for directions and additional information.