



# Lakeshore New Horizons Newsletter

Volume 8

March 2014

## Special Events in our Band

### Concerts

#### Lakeshore Winds

Friday March 21st  
7:00, Durham Christian  
Homes, Whitby

Sunday, March 30th, 3:00  
Wilmot Creek Auditorium

Sunday April 6th  
Peterborough, with  
Peterborough Band

#### Harmony Lakeshore

Wednesday March 26th, 1:30  
at Hillsdale Manor



## From Our Music Director - Lynda Shewchuk

### HERE ARE SOME TIPS FOR PRACTICING OUR INSTRUMENTS

1. Have a quiet space for practicing. Keep your instrument, stand, music, metronome, tuner, pencil and eraser handy.
2. Practice regularly. A short focused practice may be more effective than a long, disorganized one.
3. Begin with a warm up of long tones and scales covering your whole range.
4. Target the pieces that need work the most to do first. Work on the difficult passages by slowing them down and repeating until it is perfect. Then speed up gradually until the correct tempo is reached. Break technical bits into small groups of notes. Figure out which note changes are the biggest problem. Then repeat and expand into longer groups. Use the metronome to help you keep steady. Don't always start at the beginning. After working on the difficult bits, you may wish to play through from the beginning.
5. Practice your tuning especially in phrases that are in the extremely high or low parts of your range. Practice these parts slowly with the tuner checking each note. Get to know sharp or flat tendencies for your instrument.
6. Make sure that you practice key changes, tempo changes and dynamics. (especially soft!) Mark them carefully in your music. You may need to practice the more complicated repeats and ensure that they are clearly marked in your music.
7. Be aware of all musical markings. Look up any musical terms that you don't know.  
  
See me for a copy of Frank's Book of Musical Terms.
8. If you have serious difficulties with your instrument, consider taking some private lessons. We can all benefit from some sessions with an expert. Ask me for a referral if you are interested.
9. Consider purchasing some solo music for your instrument. It's fun playing solo pieces for challenge and inspiration.
10. Make use of recordings of our pieces to learn how your part fits in with the piece as a whole. Most of our band pieces are on YouTube. Have your music in front of you and follow along.





## *News from LNHB Executive Committee – Ron Christianson*

Great practice notes from Lynda, we should all use these ideas to make our music better.

I want to congratulate both of our bands. We had many positive comments regarding our concerts at Hillsdale, Durham Christian Homes and Wilmot Creek. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed our music. Thank you Frank Corcoran for acting as M/C at the Lakeshore Winds concerts, audience and bandsmen alike really enjoy your research and presentation. Many thanks go to Pat Wallis (wife of percussionist Don) for the lovely quilt. Thank you also to Pam Perry and friend for selling the raffle tickets. Thank you Bob Richardson for counting the money and paying the bills, your work keeps the band running smoothly.

I am looking forward to Bach to Basics joining us in a concert at the end of this session.

The new Dixie band has begun rehearsals on Thursday mornings. Thank you Elliott for leading this group.

This session the Lakeshore Winds will be practicing hard for our concert in Rotary Park on June 5th.

Continued thanks to Sue and Joan for the home baked treats each week, and to Margaret Zwicker and Loraine for providing cookies this session. Keep up the good work everyone.

## *Meet Your Fellow Band Members Representing our Percussion and Clarinet Sections*

### *John Missons*



My musical career started shortly after my 5th birthday when my dad took me to a friend of his that was a drummer. We started with the long roll (mama-dadas) and for the next 7 years I pounded a table or practice pad to learn and perfect the 26 rudiments of drumming. I never played a drum till I was 12. My parents were with the Salvation Army so at 12 I joined their junior band and worked my way up to the senior band within a couple of years. In my early teens I attended the Salvation Army music camp at Jackson point for 3 summers and got my first drum set at 14. At 16 I joined the musicians Union and started working professionally around the city. My first paid gig was a clown band job. I had calls from drum and bugle corps and the Scarborough Youth Orchestra to join them. I joined one of the reserve military bands in Toronto and things took off. I used to leave school at noon and go down to the Royal Winter Fair Horse show to do a matinee and then stay to do the night show.

In 1967 I played a traveling military road show that toured Northern Ontario for a month. I was part of Scottish World Festival down at the old CNE grand stand. I attended the Canadian forces school of Music for 2 weeks out in Esquimalt B.C. My music took me to military tattoos in Toronto, Rochester, N.Y. Fort Drum N.Y. the Stone Mountain tattoo in Atlanta, Georgia and even to the Beaches of Normandy. My Military career allowed me to meet several people of Royalty including Queen Victoria's granddaughter and Prince Phillip. Royal Canadian Military Institute started a Musical Military extravaganza at Roy Thompson Hall which I did for the first 10 years. In 2008 I was hired by the Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra to play a pops concert under Howard Cable and did the Benny Goodman number SING, SING, SING. In my early 20's I realized that a career in music was not happening.

In Oct 1973 a school friend of mine told me that the North York fire Dept. was hiring so I put an application in. Low and behold I was one of 27 that got hired.

I was assigned to hall #4 on Jane St. and my career started off there with a bang, as I was still on probation when we responded to a call that the whole crew was used as a witness. We spent a lot of time with the police and lawyers and even went to court on this one.

When something new came along the fire dept. thought it was a good idea and so CPR became a reality. During training I was asked to be a CPR instructor for my shift due to being able to keep a steady rhythm and pace. After years of studying, in May of 94 I was promoted to Capt. and placed in charge of a HAZ-MAT truck in the Don Mills Rd area which required me to take additional training to become a HAZ-MAT officer (guys in blue moon suits). Later I transferred to an aerial truck (quieter) up by Seneca college and was part of a 6 alarm fire in the Lawrence Ave. and Dufferin St. area that burnt 182 townhouses in various stages of construction. I spent 12 hrs. on a deck gun that used 417 gallons of water per minute for 12 hrs. (you do the math) while another crew used a smaller line to play water on us to keep us cool, protected, and WET. We had a fire in a plaza on Don Mills Rd and we were tasked with checking the stores on either side of the fire store, there we found 3 dogs in a vets office and we pulled them out which Toronto Humane Society gave each of my crew members a recognition plaque. I was promoted to District Chief in 2004 and in conjunction with TTC ran a hands on course training crews with artificial smoke to work safely and confidently in the TTC tunnels. Then finally to Platoon chief in charge of North Command with 20 Halls, 40 trucks and 200 men. After 36 and a 1/2 years I retired in Feb. 2010 to park my butt at the cottage and go fishing in the summer time. I now play in 5 bands (3 locally and 2 in Toronto) to keep myself busy during the winter months. Just recently my brother passed away and now I am the full time caregiver for my mother during the day.



## Sue Wanley



I was born in a small town in West Yorkshire, England a long, long time ago. I was the sixth of seven children, my mother came from a family of thirteen children but my father was an only child, so he wanted to have lots of kids and a busy household (as they say, be careful what you wish for).

During the war (no I wasn't around then) my father was in the army and played in an army dance band, and after the war continued playing in a dance band for a few years, so when we were kids there were always lots of musical instruments around the house, mostly woodwinds and brass, but we also had a piano which my father had played since being a child, so our entertainment was always home-made. This was also when I developed a love for music, especially the big band sound. But sadly the musical genes were not passed down to me or my siblings so I never took up a musical instrument.

My husband, daughter and myself, came to Canada in August 1975 (best decision of our lives) and the following year I went to work at the Board of Education in Scarborough. We lived in Scarborough for about 22 years and then moved out to the wilds of Pickering and lived there for another 12 years.

I accepted a retirement package from the TDSB when it was offered in 2004, and worked at a couple of different jobs for the next 3 years in Markham and then called it quits for good.

We had heard about Wilmot Creek and thought it might be a little more peaceful than Pickering so we sold our house and moved to "the Creek" (another very good decision).

Shortly after we moved in I was talking to someone about New Horizons and mentioned how much I always wanted to play a musical instrument, especially the clarinet. Well someone called me a few days later and persuaded me to give it a try, and, as they say, the rest is history. I just love playing with the great people in the New Horizons Band and while I am still convinced that the musical talent missed me, I am having a wonderful time playing on Wednesday with the Harmony Lakeshore Band.

## Music-

The other  
non-addictive,  
mood-altering  
non-substance.

Ask your Doctor  
if music is right for you.

Common side effects include but are not limited to uncontrolled head bobbing, toe tapping, finger snapping, selective hearing impairment and persistent melody flashbacks.



## BEFORE AND AFTER

Guess Who?

On March 26<sup>th</sup> I participated in my first band performance with the Harmony Lakeshore Band and this picture was a first also in 1960. (The last century)

And no that is not me with big hair! Second one in.....c'est moi.

Clue: Be here on Wednesday and look to the back row!

Answer on Page 4

New Horizons International Music Association

**2014 Spring Session**

**Lakeshore Winds**

Mon March 31st -  
Mon. June 16th

**Lakeshore Harmony**

Wed. April 2<sup>nd</sup> -  
Wed. June 11th

**Bach To Basics**

Wed. April 2<sup>nd</sup> -  
Wed. June 11th

There is a new feature on the New Horizons International Web Page. Just click on the NH logo (top left) and you will be able to watch a great video showing how New Horizons began and performances from New Horizons groups.

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

**Easter Trivia**

The Easter egg toss dates back to the medieval church where a hard-boiled egg was thrown from one choir boy to the next. When the priest called "time up" whoever held it got to keep the egg.

Coloring eggs was brought to a high art when medieval English kings dispersed hundreds of decorated, gold-leafed eggs throughout the royal household at Easter.

Another royal, Russian Czar Alexander, was later responsible in 1883 for commissioning the famous Faberge eggs - from goldsmith Peter Carl Faberge - as an Easter gift for his wife, the Empress Marie.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records the largest Easter egg ever made was unveiled in Cortenuova, Italy in 2011 weighing in at 8,968 lbs. of dark chocolate and marshmallow.

The largest decorated Easter egg was made in Alcochete, Portugal in 2008 measuring more than 48 ft. long and a little over 27 feet in diameter.

True or false? Eggs contain nearly every nutrient known to be essential to humans. (True.)

The Easter Bunny as a holiday deliverer of candy and eggs is thought to have started in Germany during the Middle Ages.

Each year, candy manufacturers produce more than 90 million chocolate Easter bunnies for Easter. Meanwhile, research shows that solid chocolate bunnies are the most popular -- followed by hollow chocolate bunnies, and marshmallow chocolate bunnies.

Studies also prove that 76% of people will eat the ears on chocolate bunnies first.



**Contact Information**

Lynda Shewchuk  
905-623-5927

[kokopelli\\_123@hotmail.com](mailto:kokopelli_123@hotmail.com)

Ron Christianson  
905-623-8778

[christianson00000@rogers.com](mailto:christianson00000@rogers.com)

General Band e mail  
[lakeshorenhband@gmail.com](mailto:lakeshorenhband@gmail.com)

We're on the Web  
Visit us at:  
[www.lakeshorenhbands.org](http://www.lakeshorenhbands.org)

And on facebook  
Lakeshore New Horizons Bands

Newsletter by  
Loraine Christianson

**BEFORE AND AFTER**

**Answer:**

**Dianne McFeeter**

**Congratulations on your  
first LNHB Concert**

