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CHESTER BRASS BAND

FIRST: The Sales Pitch!

This is the first bulletin from Chester Brass Band. We're not sure what we will call this quarterly newsletter, and suggestions are welcome. Just send a reply.

What we want to sell you now, however, is on the idea that you are our best ambassadors! Everyone who is receiving this first bulletin already has a commitment or connection to Chester Brass. Most of you are aware of our long history and you already know how important this band is. However, we need to reach a larger, and in fact a **new** audience if we are to remain relevant to those in the Halifax-through-Chester-through-Windsor-through-Lunenburg County area. Oh heck.... let's just say we need to reach anyone in the Atlantic Bubble!

Yes, COVID has taken its toll on our ability to bring first rate, fun music to the Maritimes. It has also meant that our players are missing the music, the practice and the camaraderie of coming to rehearsals. When we do get back to making music and bringing joy to our audiences, we would like the pool of followers to have increased so that we can use music and performance to recover from our wounds (financially and otherwise). It is likely to be good for the audience as well.

So, if you would like to help us grow our audience and at the same time do your friends and family a favour, forward this bulletin to ALL of them and recommend that they sign up for future newsletters -- not to mention to keep watch for our next concert close to them.

If you are one of those to whom this is being forwarded, all you have to do next is click the link to our

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Once Upon A Time....

The Chester Brass Band was founded in 1873 and incorporated in 1906. (The Village of Chester wasn't incorporated until several decades later.) During these early years the band was called the Chester Cornet Band.

Harvey W. Nauss was a member from 1935 to 1986 and was its conductor for 24 of those years – still a record in the history of the band. His uniform, the last known copy of jacket and pants, is shown here and rests in our museum (i.e., one of the band member's closets).

Barbie Nauss, Harvey's daughter-in-law, told us recently that he always carried a prayer in the pocket of his jacket in the event he would be called on to say a few words.

The band was renamed the Chester Brass Band in the late 20th century and follows the British brass band tradition. Our current Music Director, George Morrison, has led the band for 20 years. Watch out Harvey! Records are made to be broken.

In the late 1970s and early 80s, band member Roger Aalders designed and led the drive to have our present building, located in Church Park, off Pig Loop Road, built. We have rehearsed in and sometimes performed from the balcony of the building ever since. It is also used by several local groups as an exercise hall, dance class studio and yoga facility. They pay a nominal rental to help with the upkeep and cleaning.



This is the last known jacket and pants uniform of the Chester Cornet Band from the mid 20th century. It belonged to Harvey W. Nauss, conductor for 24 years.

NEXT TIME: By the time we send you the next Newsletter, the band will have decided if we can plan our usual Christmas Gala 🎅. As you know, it is our major fund raiser of the year, so missing it will hurt on many levels, not the least of which is how it helps all of you kick off the season. If you would like to help the band during this lean time, please click this link to make a tax-deductible donation.

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