

VOLUNTEERS

More than 80 dedicated and talented volunteers participate in the 1st Brigade Band and HMMF activities. Members earn Service medallions for each year of service to the Band. Upon completion of the first year of service, members receive a Circle of Players pin to wear on their uniform. For each 5 years of service, members receive a medallion bar to attach to the pin. In 2010, our venerable piccolo player, Ruth Polka, earned a 45 year award - her ninth medallion bar. In addition to performing as an invaluable member of the band, Ruth has served as Music Librarian, Product Sales Manager and is currently Secretary of the Heritage Military Music Foundation Board. Ruth's long-term commitment to the Band continues to set the standard for all members.



FINANCIAL

2010 Expenses

• Performance expenses	\$13,030
• Heritage Hall	\$ 9,464
• Depreciation	\$ 7,623
• Administrative/Other	\$ <u>6,161</u>
	\$37,029

2010 Income

• Performance income	\$20,600
• Harvest Ball	\$ 3,245
• Donations	\$15,858
• Product Sales	\$ 2,659
• Misc.	\$ <u>1,595</u>
	\$43,957

SPECIAL NEWS

Heritage Military Music Foundation is engaged in two significant capital projects.

- 1) The roof on Heritage Hall, our rehearsal facility in Watertown, Wisconsin requires replacement. Heritage Hall was originally a church and the age of the current roof is unknown. Replacing the roof is critical to protect the invaluable instrument collection and to continue to provide a safe, secure location for rehearsals and other band activities. Heritage Hall also houses the research collection of the Dodge-Jefferson Geneological Society. The Foundation has been fortunate to obtain about half the cost of the \$60,000 roof replacement through Foundation grants. We are grateful to the Quirk and Darcey Foundations of Watertown for their support. The Foundation has obtained a bank loan to fund the remaining cost of the roof.
- 2) The Band has long used wireless microphones for our narrators and vocalists. Recent action by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires us to replace our current wireless microphones as the frequency in which the microphones operate is no longer available. Each new microphone costs about \$500 and we need to replace twelve.

HMMF is continuing to seek donor support for these important projects.

1stbrigadeband.org

We are dedicated to Make History Live for audiences across America by performing music of America's Civil War era on antique brass band instruments, and to preserve the musical heritage of that period by collecting and restoring those instruments.

Heritage Military Music Foundation

Annual Report 2010

Board of Directors

President - DeWayne Roberson

Vice President - Jim Hoyt

Secretary - Ruth Polka

Treasurer - Vicki Volp

Member - Sue Condon

Member - Ernst Duesterhoeft

Member - Ward Wheat



PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

The 2010 performance schedule included performances throughout southeastern Wisconsin and Southern Minnesota.

The band participated in not one, but two Battle of the Bands performances. The first battle of the bands took place as part of the Vintage Band Festival in Northfield, Minnesota. Opening on Saturday we “battled” with Newberry’s Victorian Cornet Band across the banks of the Cannon River. We met afterwards on the bridge for some photos and to compare our respective Schreiber horns.



The second “Battle” took place at Old World Wisconsin. The band participated in a recreation of an 1860 County Fair that included a band competition. For this competition, we split the 1st Brigade Band in half and competed as the local Palmyra Town Band and the visiting Brodhead Brass Band. To distinguish the two different bands, the Palmyra Band was clothed in Town Band costumes, while the visiting Brodhead Brass Band wore the military uniforms.

MUSIC/PROGRAM UPDATES

While the most familiar presentation of the 1st Brigade Band is the dark blue uniform of the military brigade band, we are also able to portray a town band persona for pre-Civil War events. Like most 19th century bands, the 1st Brigade Band was initially the Brodhead Brass Band, starting in 1857. The band did rather well, winning a contest in Janesville and in 1858 traveling to Freeport, Illinois to provide entertainment for the crowd of 15,000 that had gathered for the Lincoln-Douglas debate on the hot issue that was threatening to divide the country: Slavery. In 1861 the band joined the Union Army as the 3rd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Band. When regimental bands were mustered out in 1862, the members returned to Brodhead and resumed town band activities. In 1864, when bounty money became available, the members enlisted as the 1st Brigade Band.



INSTRUMENT COLLECTION

Heritage Military Music Foundation (HMMF) is an active collector and conservator of antique wind and percussion instruments, especially those common to the Military and Civilian Bands of the mid-nineteenth century. The collection now includes 225 brass woodwind and percussion instruments, nearly all in playing condition. Instrument descriptions and photographs are included in the Band’s website: 1stbrigadeband.org.

HMMF purchased two additional period brass instruments for the collection in 2010. Funding for the purchase of these instruments was supported by an instrument reserve fund from the Quirk Foundation in Watertown.

The first addition to the collection is a Bell-front Cornet in Bb. Manufactured by Gilmore Graves & Co., Boston, MA circa 1864-1865, it is German Silver with side mounted, string-action, American rotary valves. The instrument was offered for sale to the Foundation by a private individual in Hattiesburg, Mississippi who located the band via the 1st Brigade Band website. The instrument had been purchased at a yard sale. The instrument required minimal restoration to become part of the playing collection.



The second instrument added to the collection was an Over-the-shoulder Alto horn in Eb. It was probably manufactured in Europe then imported and distributed by J. Bauer & Co., New York, Chicago circa 1860 – 1865. This horn is also German Silver with string action, side mounted American rotary valves. This instrument was purchased from a private individual from Iowa who traveled to the Vintage Band Festival to offer the horn for sale. The instrument required no restoration and was, in fact, used for a concert in Northfield. Over the shoulder horns are especially important to the collection as they are most symbolic of the military bands of the Civil War Era. This configuration allowed the band to march at the head of a column of troops and direct the music back to the soldiers. We were one of several bands bidding for the instrument.

