

2012 Annual Report of the St. Johnsbury Band

The St. Johnsbury Band was founded in 1830 and is the third oldest continuing performing band in the United States. Membership in the band is free and open to people of all ages who can read music and have a concert band instrument. The band is a non-profit educational organization and donations help fund the purchase of new music.

Our summer concert series in 2012 opened with special guest conductor Gov. Jim Douglas conducting. Gov. Douglas played trumpet in the Middlebury Town Band and has been a guest conductor of the 40th Army Band and other ensembles. Representatives Robert South and Gary Reise were the “Celebrity Scoopers” for the free ice cream social at this event.

For the first time local businesses and organizations sponsored free ice cream socials for every summer concert in the series. The sponsors were Armstrong’s Better Hearing Service, Begin Realty Associates, The Community National Bank, New England List Services, Passumpsic Savings Bank and South Congregational Church. We are very grateful for this sponsor support.

In addition to the summer concert series funded by the Town of St. Johnsbury, the band performed two paid concerts for the Vermont Historical Society this year: a June Civil War music concert at the Vermont History Expo in Tunbridge and another “historic concert” in Barre celebrating the 100th anniversary of Teddy Roosevelt’s tour through Vermont in August of 1912. It should be noted that the St. Johnsbury Band also played for Pres. Roosevelt when he was in St. Johnsbury in 1912.

The band also played at the St. Johnsbury Memorial Day observance, the Burke Fall Foliage Festival, the Stars and Stripes Festival in Lyndonville, a holiday concert with the Lyndon State College Community Chorus and a July 4th concert North Woodstock, New Hampshire. The band performed in the St. Johnsbury School Music Festival playing with the St. Johnsbury School Bands and the St. Johnsbury Academy. Lastly, the band performed a free concert to support the Alzheimer’s Walk for a Cure which took place this summer at St. Johnsbury Health and Rehabilitation Center. We are now planning a spring 2013 concert as a fundraiser to benefit St. Johnsbury’s History and Heritage Center.

If you would like to join the band, sponsor an ice cream social or hire the band for a concert, please e-mail or write to us. Our mission statement, band history and schedule are on our web site: www.stjohnsburyband.org

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