Origins of Orchestras

Ft. Wayne Philharmonic music director, Andrew Constantine, pretends to be coyly shy about public speaking, claiming instead to be the guy who turns his back on an audience and just waves his arms. However, his program topic – a short history of the orchestra – didn’t require him to do either one.

The etymology of the words orchestra (the stage area occupied by the chorus in Greek drama), and symphony (a harmony of sounds), and philharmonic (a love of music) is clear enough. But how did this now-familiar collection of musicians and their diverse musical instruments evolve historically?

(continued on page 3)
THE DOWNTOWN ROTARY CLUB
Next Meeting: March 26, 2012

"OPENING DOORS THROUGH SERVICE"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Zach Higgins &amp; Tim Schenkel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cashier</td>
<td>Jim Witmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invocation</td>
<td>Jeff Zimmerman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>John Hoffman &amp; Randy Rider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Song Leader</td>
<td>Mark Westerhausen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Randy Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spin Editor</td>
<td>Kelly Updike</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Charles Shepard, Executive Director, FW Museum of Art</td>
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**Upcoming Programs**

**April 2**
Connie Kerrigan, Manager Community Nursing, Parkview Health “Parkview’s Award Winning Community Nursing Program

**April 9**
Presentation of the Paul Harris “2012 Community Service Awards”

**April 16**
Kathleen Randolph and John Sampson “Vision 2020-A New Roadmap to Economic Prosperity”

**April 23**
Rotary Speech Contest Winners

**Proposed New Member**
Please call President Mike with any comments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ian McCormick</th>
<th>Financial Advisor, Raymond James</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsors</td>
<td>Mike Kelly, Hope Sheehan, Jane Wilks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mark Your Calendar**

**April 12, 4:30 pm**
Prospective Member Event
Parkview Regional Medical Center
Tour this beautiful new facility
Rotarians MUST bring a prospective member
Your guest is your ticket to attend this event
No exceptions!
Start making your list of invitees!
RSVP to fwrotarysecretary@gmail.com

**Complete list at www.rotary6540.org**
Andrew pointed to the development of stringed instruments in Italy in the 16th and 17th Centuries, where a consort of viols played for private pleasure or to accompany courtly dances. Later, the growth of Italian opera also required an *ad hoc* group of musicians and also a wider variety of instruments.

And still later, standing (albeit private) orchestras were created by German princes and prelates – most notably, the Esterhazy family which employed Franz Joseph Haydn as their *kapellmeister* for almost 30 years.

Civic orchestras – and new instruments such as the French horn, clarinet, and saxophone – came into vogue during the 19th Century in Europe. And in America, too. Boston’s Handel & Haydn Society was founded in 1815 (only six years after Haydn’s death). The New York Philharmonic Society followed, decades later, in 1842.

But the idea of full-time orchestras didn’t develop in the USA until after WWII, when thousands of them were created in a burst of optimism and civic pride – including our own Ft. Wayne Phil.

How good is our orchestra? “Much better than it ought to be, or than you think it is!” said Andrew.

(Talk about ending on a high note!)

And what would Haydn or Mozart or Beethoven think about modern orchestras and instruments?

Aside from being grateful for not having been forgotten as composers, Andrew suggested that they would be simply astounded! “It would be like Henry Ford with a Ferrari,” he said.
Guess Who Got a Standing “O”?  

This week’s Gold Standard Award winner is Mason Robertson – our long-time, concert-trained piano accompanist – who got a well-deserved standing ovation! Bravo, maestro!

Take a Guided Tour of the New Parkview Regional Medical Center – April 12th

Everyone is invited to take a guided tour of the new Parkview Regional Medical Center on April 12th. See the attached announcement for details.

Idle Gossip?

And finally, the upcoming Sergeant’s Program on March 26th is rumored to be “an historic event.” Of course, only those who attend will know for sure.
Rotary Club of Downtown Fort Wayne  
Parkview Regional Medical Center  
April 12, 2012, 4:30 PM

Come be a part of the Private Membership Tour of Northeast Indiana's newest Regional Medical Center, joining Rotary club members and new member prospects on April 12. You will want to see this fabulous new medical facility.

All club members are invited, with just one requirement; a ticket. 

Rotary member ticket for the tour is **ONE NEW MEMBER PROSPECT.**

This special event is to introduce prospective members to our club and Rotary International. President Mike will make a brief Rotary presentation.

Who do you know who would make a great Rotarian? Invite them now to this event to hear about us and meet current Rotarians.

RSV P's are required. Please complete the information below and forward it to Jane Wilks at fwrotarysecretary@gmail.com or bring this form to the next Rotary meeting.

**Member Name:** ________________________________________________________________

**Prospect's Name:** ___________________________ **Employer** ___________________________

**Phone and email:** _____________________________________________________________