



Original HOBO BAND INCORPORATED

NEWSLETTER

• MAY 2007 •

Serving the Greater Hobo Population Since 1946

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hobo Minutiae

Here we go again. I normally refrain from responding to the email wars for several reasons:

- Emails, like diamonds and landfills, are forever.
- It is easy to say things when you don't have to face the recipient.
- You can always deny seeing the last email.

For those of you who might have missed the exchange one Thursday night, total elapsed time of about 15 seconds, it went something like this:

The History:

We played the theme song from *Sanford and Son*. At the end of the piece, which had some interesting rhythms in it, a comment was made. It was the standard wise crack. "I hope we didn't pay for this yet".

The director responded that he did not appreciate the comment and just because we found something difficult to play we shouldn't be so quick to dismiss the piece.

The offender apologized even though the comment was made in jest and I am sure the commenter had no problem playing the piece as he is a fine musician.

End of story.

Next thing you know I am getting emails about how members should be allowed to object to the music we are playing, something about "ugly rock" and first amendment freedoms.

The Reality check:

- The Original Hobo Band is incorporated in the state of New Jersey and recognizes each of its voting members as an equal shareholder.
- The music rehearsed and performed by the band is selected by the Musical Director. All complaints should be directed to him.
- The Music Committee consists of the directorial staff, the librarians, and two members at large. If you have objections you can voice them to a committee member or any officer as you have done.
- The directors are advised to use the music committee for these selections or be prepared to take comments from the floor if they act unilaterally on music selection.
- Comments and opinions of the director are not necessarily those of the management.
- If we forbid wisecracks and comments during rehearsal then I will have to find something else to do with my Thursday nights.

—Rich

UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Check the Web site (<http://www.originalhoboband.org>) for the latest engagement updates.

MAY

Saturday 5/12/07, 9 am Step-off
Harrison Twp. Parade, Mullica Hill
 Woodland Ave. & Rt. 45, 1 mi.
 Ends at Ella Harris Park

Saturday, 5/19/07, Pennsville, NJ
10 am Step-off
Fornaro's Shopping Cntr., 175 N. Broadway
 Ends Rt. 49 and Wm. Penn Ave., HS vicinity

Saturday, 5/26/07, 12 Noon Step-off
Marcus Hook, PA Memorial Day Parade
 10th & Walnut to Delaware & Market <1 mi.

Monday, 5/28/07 11 am Step-off
Medford Memorial Day Parade (dress B&W)
 Starts Memorial School, ends War Memorial

JUNE

Friday, 6/1/07, 7 pm
Cumberland County College Band Festival
 Vineland, NJ

Sunday, 6/03/2007 (No Rain Date)
Malvern Memorial Parade, Step-off 1:30 pm
 Starts Malvern Fire Station King St. & Ruthland Ave, Malvern, PA. Ends Memorial Park (Memorial Avenue) approx. 1.5 miles
(Debut appearance—big turnout, please!)

Saturday, 6/9/2007 (no rain date)
Separation Day Parade, New Castle, DE
 10:15 a.m. Lineup, 11 a.m Step-off
 7/10 mi., stop-go. Perform at Reviewing Stand)

Friday, 6/22/2007
Marlton Park Summer Concert Kickoff,
 Woodstown, NJ
 7:00 downbeat

JULY

Tuesday, 7/3/2007
Independence Day Parade,
 Gloucester City, NJ. Step-off 6:30 p.m.
 Broadway at CVS Drug Store

Wednesday, July 4th, 8:45 a.m. Step-off
Wenonah 4th of July Parade (no rain date)
 Mantua & Marion Aves.

Saturday, 7/07/2007
Rain Date: Sunday, 7/08/2007
 Brigantine Parade & Concert
 Parade: Step-Off 4 P.M.
 Concert Downbeat: ± 5:30 P.M.
 Parade Lineup: 14th & Brigantine Avenue
 Concludes: 26th Street Recreation Complex
 Concert at Recreation Complex
 12-block parade, 2 hour Concert

AUGUST

August 25, 2007 (no rain date)
City of Cape May Bandstand Concert
 Downbeat: 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 30, 2007
Rain Date Sunday, October 7, 2007
Bordentown 325th Centennial Parade
 Lineup at 1 p.m.
 Step-off ± 1:30 p.m.
 Finish 3-4 p.m.
 (2 miles plus—wear comfortable shoes)

PITMAN SUMMER CONCERTS

June 21 in the Grove
July 12 at Sunset
July 31 at Sunset—Youth Bands I & II
August 2, Sunset—Youth Band III + Hobos
September 6 at Sunset—Harvest Concert

Remember to check the Web site for changes to any of these events. Click on the [\[MAP\]](#) if you need driving directions.

GOT A GOOD HOBO STORY?

Send it via email to the
 Corresponding Secretary/
 Newsletter Editor.

[<nagable@comcast.net>](mailto:nagable@comcast.net)

Hobo Signs

One of the effects of the Civil War was the creation of the Hobo. Thousands of men who had left their homes for the battlefield had become restless after four years of the excitement of war. They became drifters and used railroads as their primary means of transportation. They could ride for free, hanging onto or riding in any part of the train.

The busiest hobo junction in the United States was Mattoon, Illinois, where the north-south and east-west tracks of the Illinois Central Railroad crossed.

The hobos were very resourceful in choosing where to hide when hitching a ride. Some rode on the rods used to support the cars, some in battery boxes under the passenger coaches and freight cars. This was illegal, of course, and they had a method of calculating the odds of being arrested (the railroads had their own policing agents). For example: on the Illinois Central, between Chicago and Cairo, Illinois, the odds were 254 to 1 in favor of evading capture. The mileage between the two cities (363) is multiplied by the number of tracks (2), multiplied by the average number of runs (35) divided by the number of miles guarded by one agent of the railroad (100). The result is 254 to 1 (you do the math).

The hobos had their own way of communicating with their fellow travellers. They would need to know where it was OK to stop and rest, sleep, eat, and where to find food and fresh water. They would use hand-drawn chalk figures placed at locations where they could be easily seen by someone who knew where to look—sidewalks, fence posts, tree trunks, anywhere they could be recognized.

The picture on the following page shows 20 such hobo signs. See if you can match the number of the sign number with the letter of the identifying phrase. Answers will appear in next month's newsletter.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

The radio show "From the Top" which is broadcast locally Saturday afternoons on WRTI, 90.1 FM has recorded a show at Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia on Tuesday evening, April 10th. It features upcoming young musicians from the area and around the nation.

Phil Blackman and Doug Cotter are playing in the pit for Orff's "Carmina Burana" on Friday, April 27 at Sterling HS.

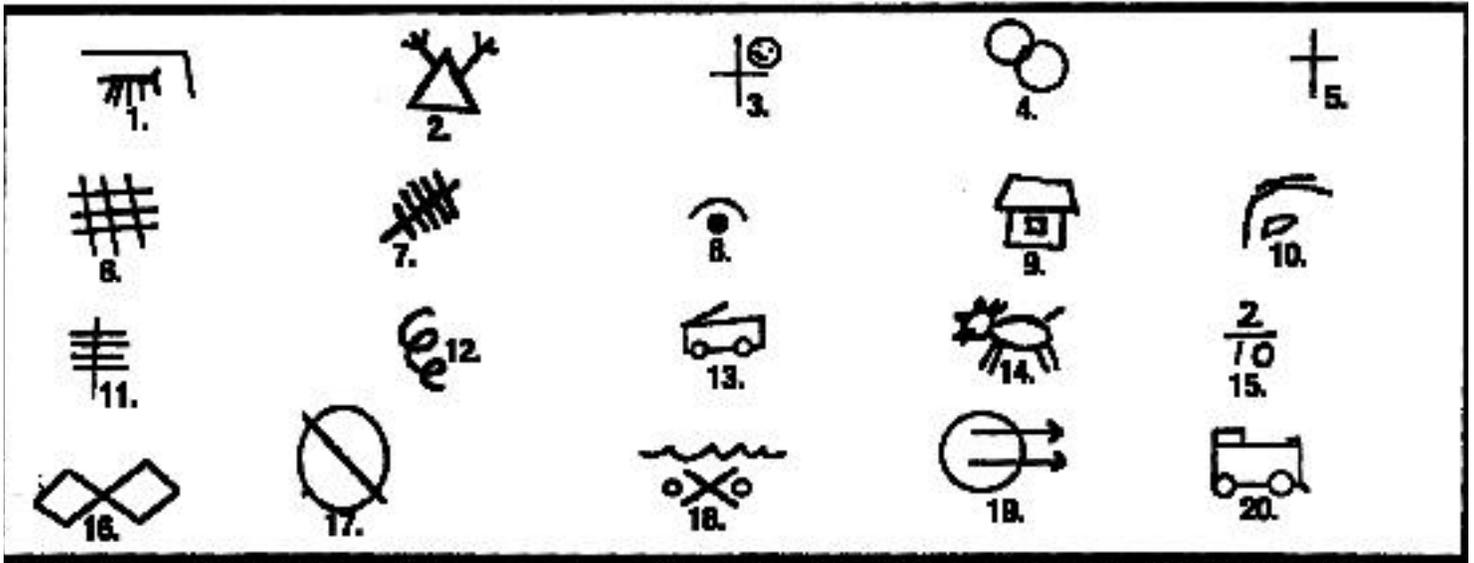
At 7 pm Saturday, April 28th the Salem County Brass Society will perform at a scholarship concert along with the A Cappella Pops at the Union Presbyterian Church in Carneys Point, NJ. Admission is free. Members from the Hobo Band are Phil Blackman, Doug Cotter, and Bob Hitman.

Condolences
Our heartfelt condolences to Bill Lamb, Original Hobo Band Webmaster, on the passing of his father in Myers Beach, Florida.

MAY birthdays

Miles, Jr., Ernie	May 2
Avril, Ed	May 6
Kille, Ed	May 13
Smick, Bryan	May 14
Edwards, Bruce	May 16
Flowers, Bill	May 24
Nicastro, Louis	May 25
Sheppard, Mert	May 27
Coles, Ed	May 30

Hobo Signs



Match the number of the sign to the meaning below. Answers in next month's issue.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. Policeman's house_____ | K. You'll get cursed out_____ |
| B. Man with gun_____ | L. You can sleep in loft_____ |
| C. Thieves in vicinity_____ | M. Jail_____ |
| D. Religious talk gets free meal_____ | N. Police_____ |
| E. Good place to catch a train_____ | O. Fresh water, safe camps_____ |
| F. Good road to follow_____ | P. Trolley stop_____ |
| G. Beware of dog_____ | Q. Hit the road quick_____ |
| H. Kind lady_____ | R. Judge lives here_____ |
| I. Authorities on alert_____ | S. Well-guarded house_____ |
| J. Doctor_____ | T. Keep quiet_____ |

—Thanks to Rich Bimmer

DOO-DAH PARADE

OCEAN CITY, NJ, APRIL 21, 2007



Are ya gonna talk to me or blow yer nose?



Them basses.



Father and son 'bones



Where's the parade?



Bill and his buddy



"Don't come any closer..."



Hey! It's a family affair!



Big horn, little horn

Original
HOBObAND
INCORPORATED

SINCE 1946
CONCERTS • DEDICATIONS • PARADES
P.O. BOX 31, PITMAN, NJ 08071
(856-589-0506)

<http://www.originalhoboband.org>

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OFFICERS FOR 2007

PRESIDENT: Rich McKee

VICE PRESIDENT: Jill Wiese

RECORDING SECRETARY: Bob Schultz

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Nate Gable

TREASURER: Henry Ryder

DIRECTOR: Siegfried ("Sig") Johnson

FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Phil ("Brother Phil") Blackman

SECOND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Steve ("Super Steve")
Wagner

BUSINESS MANAGER: Alan Weinstein

ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER: Bev Williams

LIBRARIAN: Leah Cole

FIRST ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN: Frank Cole, Sr.

SECOND ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN: Bob Hitman

TRUSTEES: Walt McCleary, Larry Moore, Pete White, Matthew
Murray, Bill Lamb

***YOUR ASSISTANCE
REQUESTED***

Brother Phil and Alan Weinstein need your help with the Hobo promotional video. We are looking for creative ideas to show our group or some of them in a manner that will be remembered and associated with our theme of "Hoboism!"

FOR YOUR INFO:

The newsletter can now be downloaded from our "Hot News" page on the website:
<<http://originalhoboband.org>>