

I would like to take this opportunity to know a little of my background. I've lived a very full life and have experienced much. What you don't see between the jobs are the things that it takes to raise a boy, now a young man of 23 in the U.S. Air Force stationed in Minot, ND and a daughter (25), living in TN, in a Christian home as a single Dad, in this day and age of techno gizmos!

Being born at an early age, I realized that I was in a part of a musical family when my Dad would sing "TAPS" to us boys in order to get us up for school in the mornings. I come from a home of boys; 4 - Bill, John, Bob and Steve. Dad has his heart set on creating the "Berlyn Family Dixieland band." As a matter of fact, being that we were raised in Rhinelander, he already had a name: "The Rhinelander Dixielanders". He made up a logo and shirts and everything...one day when I was 14, we came to be. He had us play outside the store, my dad owned, (where I began teaching beginners at age 14), The Berlyn Music Center, for calling people in after parades; Labor Day, 4th of July and Memorial Day. So I played trumpet, Dad was a pianist/singer, Bob played clarinet/sax, John tried to play trombone... even though he hated it and Steve played the spoons (he was too young so Dad's friend, Mr. Sweringen played drums).

Today, Black Lake - Medford, WI, the "up-North 200" was our original playground for hunting camps, playground for 4-wheeling, day-hiking, fishing, swimming, get-togethers for family camping and birthdays eventually turning into what is now an annual family reunion over Labor Day. Through the years, this was THE place to take the kids to go see "Gramma and Grampa" in the summers...here is the update.

Bill lives in Richfield, divorced twice, raised 2 awesome kids involved in a relationship with Nancy W., runs his L.L.C. teaching studios in the local area and loves working with the people in several local community bands. Also, continues to play whenever possible in order to propagate the "Big Band Sound"!

John - bought the 200 acres, lives in Medford, works as an Electrical Engineer lead at Marquip Inc., Phillips, WI. In a relationship with a great partner, Mary Jo who run hunting seminars, are building a wine business, make maple syrup, and other northwoods products on their 200-acre farm.

Bob - is the COO, Whitehouse of Music, running the state's largest retail music operation out of corp. HQ in Waukesha. Married for 30+ years to Liz (Flute & reading specialist for Franklin Schools, lives in Muskego, have 3 grown amazing kids (all play a musical instrument) and one of the top tenor sax men around.

Steve - 1/2 owner of a cranberry bog in Wisconsin Rapids, business owner: www.RubiReds.com has a brick and mortar store front on main street in Rapids. His wife Marcy quit her teaching job after both their amazing kids were grown in order to run their fast growing family business. They now employ 15 people and continue to exceed annual revenues. He became and is still a tremendous voice and plays guitar.

Mom and Dad - retired/live in Dunedin, FL where Dad continues to play 1-3 hours a day. He just bought the latest Korg keyboard system (yes...from brother Bob's store!) and plays out 2 to 3 times a month...still gigging! Mom retired from the VA center in St. Petersburg, FL, sews everything, paints with watercolors and they travel during the summers. They set up base camp at John's "up-North 200" with a park model RV where we all try to get together when we can when they're around here for 3 months of the year(summers)...no it isn't during January EVER!

My first experience of anything to do with directing a band goes way back when we grew up, Dad's favorite show was Lawrence Welk of course for obvious reasons. He would make it a special family gathering; so on Saturdays, mom would have dinner prepared ahead of time, Dad would get the TV trays and invite grandma over (she loved the organist) and we would all eat dinner on TV trays in the living room in front of the TV. One time while watching Lawrence was directing the band and the camera zoomed in on him, he wasn't directing the same tempo as the music and he would be smiling at the camera with this "stick that looked to be the size of a yard stick. I turned to my Dad and said, "Dad, shouldn't he be looking at the band and not the camera? (Dad ignored me) so I asked yet another question even louder, "Dad!, shouldn't the guys in the band play to the beat of his waving the "thingy"?...Dad looked sternly at me and said, "be quiet over there and watch the show"! (So it goes for directors!)

After completing My BA in Music Education from UW Stevens Point, while in my first teaching assignment - I not only married the farmer's daughter (my 1st wife) but I managed the operations of a 900-acre dairy farm. We sold the cattle, built new outbuildings, updated equipment and jobbed the hay crop for a \$100,000/yr. profit which was unheard for most farms in the day (most of the money went to pay taxes). On top of that I was a top tier athlete in the 1980s. Competing in regional triathlons, running races, cross-country ski races, and mostly engaged in statewide and regional bicycle races. In 1984, I started/organized and was the race director for a bike race (a 2--Day 3--Stage- Event that lasted until 1990. This competition was called the "Rhineland Classic Bicycle Race") all of this culminated in be invited and competed in the Olympic Trials (Bicycle 112-mile Road Race in 1988). Summers 86-87 went to Vandercook College of Music to complete a MA in Mus. Ed. Ironically while competing late in the summer of 89, a bad crash left me in the hospital with left knee severely damaged and surgery took me out of competitive cycling for good. But the drive and need to succeed never left!

I enjoy meeting new challenges. I meet people easy, I find it both enjoyable and interesting to find something positive to speak with people about; anything to do with music and cycling. I've had enough life experiences and gained just enough knowledge to be able to talk a little bit about a lot of subjects - a conversationalist. I want to know more about history; our civil war, WWII Early travels across the new America in the 1800s! With God in your life all things are possible and He'll continue to bless you as long as you give Him credit for leading.

Teaching has always been my primary focus even though my vocation, it remains my passion. The best part about teaching is seeing the students/adults achieve and surpass their goals. Parents involvement with their student's music education is crucial. I keep communications open with emails minimally monthly, but many weekly to update, keep schedules, remind/review lessons materials, etc. My motto learned from riding and racing with a cycling team has affected deeply - especially teaching. I refer to BAND as a T.E.A.M. "Together Everyone Achieves More" makes teaching or playing in a band a "TEAM" "sport" - without the competition. All have a role to play; a vital role.

1. Teacher/Director: instructs, motivates, leads by example assigns next task/goal.
2. Student/Players: takes the instruction applies it daily, achieves goal and builds upon.
3. Parent/Band members and spouses: - They are vital by showing interest, attending concerts and motivate with positive reinforcement.

I happen to share my gift of music -not always making a good living at it, - but nevertheless to show/help/encourage/share/play/direct others with these gifts I've been blessed with. Helping and

being a leader within my community is the business model that makes sense to me. Serving, coaching, encouraging, instructing, laughing and sharing with like-minded music lovers has been my life's passion. To be a conduit for my faith is also on my sleeve -as opposed to "in your face", and to be able to use these God given talents for His purpose is a true blessing.

Organizations

- West Bend Community Band - River City Irregulars- Music Director January 2016 – Present. The band is a non-profit organization of volunteer musicians (founded in 1984), who perform concerts & "march" in parades throughout southeastern Wisconsin. The band is made up of volunteer musicians ages 18-80, with varied backgrounds in music. The "new" current director is William Berlyn. No auditions or mandatory attendance needed and new musicians are always welcome. The West Bend Community Band rehearses Thursdays from 7:15-8:45 PM in the University of Wisconsin Washington County band room. Rehearsals are held February through August. I am looking forward to making & sharing music with this group.
- Milwaukee Letter Carrier's Band - Director March 2010 – Present. This is essentially a community band that has 25-30 members on the roster and typically has an average weekly band size of 20 members that give of their time and talent each Tuesday night. We come out to provide a "LIVE" music concert (1-hour show) to senior living centers (& assisted centers.) all around the Milwaukee area from mid-March through Dec. approximately 40 weeks per year. Generally, we play for groups of 75-250 and play band arrangements of the music that remind our older generation of memorable times gone by. Make sure to thank a veteran especially on Nov. 11th and every chance you get throughout the year! I'm blessed to be a part of such an elite group to go out and give a "thank-you" to those that have given so much to their families, and communities.
- Hartford City Band Co-Director / Trumpet section leader January 1998 – Present. Played in trumpet section since 1998; concerts, marching band and came on full time in 2008 as trumpet section lead. Resurrected the former Dance/Polka Band, now the Hartford City Band - Jazz Ensemble (2009) - Directed by Bill Berlyn. Formed the Hartford City Band – Brass (2012; 5-piece brass choir). Began duties as full-time Co-Conductor with co-director Dave VanderMeuse (Fall 2012). Responsible for 4 of the 8 "Hartford Summer Concert Series". We get volunteer M.C.'s and vocalists as needed. We rehearse weekly at the Schauer Arts & Activities Center large rehearsal room in Hartford every Monday 8-9:30pm.
- Spring Creek Church music ministry (1998-2011). Served for 10+ years playing 1st trumpet weekly participating with the music ministry for leading worship, special Christmas cantatas, Special Easter Music Celebration and the annual patriotic music celebration "AmeriFest" at Spring Creek Church (Pewaukee). Currently on leave from playing with the worship team but continue to be fed from Pastor Chip Bernhard!
- Main Street Big Band (2004-present) Lead trumpet, help lead rehearsals & bookings. www.mainstreetbigband.com
- In The Mood Big Band (2004-present) Lead trumpet, help lead rehearsals & bookings. www.inthemoodbigband.com
- New Berlin Community Band (1998-2004)
- New Berlin Jazz Players Big Band (1998-2008)
- Musica Elegante (Band Mngr. & Lead trpt. share, Dir.: Nick Contorno) (2004-2006), led the recording project
- Waukesha Area Symphonic Band - (1999-2006) Trumpet Section leader, trt, Jazz Band Dir
- Swingin' Company "B" Big Band-Ft. Atkinson (2012-13), formed/directed/played

- Casio Music Big Band (1997-98) Leader, lead trumpet, & rehearsal
- B.B. Swing (1995-1999) Leader, lead trumpet, bookings & rehearsal
- American Legion Band (1990-2010) Lead trumpet, marched, help lead rehearsals, Associate director under Professor Terry Trueden (2004-2007)
- Northwoods Big Band (1980-2010) Rhinelander Leader, lead, bookings & rehearsal
- Rhinelander Community Band (1980-1989) trumpet and section leader, asst. dir.