Chatfield Brass Band, Inc. & Chatfield Music Lending Library & Archive

81 Library Lane ▪ P.O. Box 578 ▪ Chatfield, MN 55923 ▪ www.chatfieldband.lib.mn.us ▪ 507-867-3275

E-mails: Info@chatfieldband.lib.mn.us ▪ Musicrequests@chatfieldband.lib.mn.us ▪ **FALL 2025**

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Central Time

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Let us know how you like the music you borrow.

The University of Michigan Band on Tour

February 19, 1961 - June 1, 1961

By Howard P. Toplansky

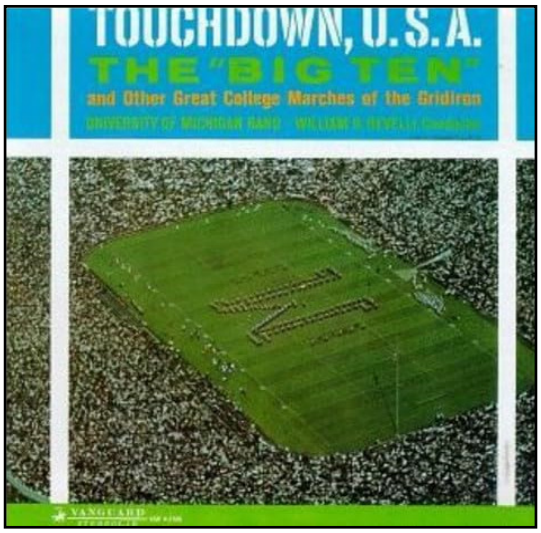
The University of Michigan Band under the direction of Dr. William D. Revelli was selected by the U.S. State Department to be the first university ensemble to tour under President Eisenhower's Cultural Exchange Programs. This U.S.-Soviet Cultural Exchange Program began in 1958. The Band played in the Soviet Union, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Cypress, Turkey, Greece, Rumania and Poland. At the time, the Soviet Union concerts took place in Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia, Abkhazia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan.

Traveling began on February 19, 1961 and concluded in New York on June 1, 1961 followed by a formal concert in Carnegie Hall. In addition, the still available "Touchdown U.S.A." album was recorded at the world renowned Carnegie Hall.

During this extensive concert tour, the University of Michigan Band performed 90 concerts in 100 days to worldwide acclaim.

There are a few particular events which might be of interest to the readers of this newsletter. Keep in mind that there were 94 American students who were experiencing the closed totalitarian societies of communism for the first time. It was more than an eye opening experience and in many cases, this trip was a tremendous learning experience for all the Band members.

The Band arrived in Yerevan, Armenia on April 9, 1961 and performed several concerts in the capital city. On April 11, 1961 we were performing to a very appreciative audience in an extremely elegant concert hall. During intermission, a well-dressed professional–looking gentleman presented himself in the vestibule on the one side of the stage. He was holding an open instrument case with a matched set of new Buffet R-13 clarinets. In Russian, he kept repeating "Boemsky, Boemsky, Boemsky." It took a while, but we finally figured out that he wanted to know how to play these French system clarinets.



His own clarinet was a modified Albert system German clarinet and his hope was that some of our 24 clarinet players with French clarinets could assist him. As the principal clarinetist of the Armenian National Symphony he was eager to learn this system.

These instruments had been gifted to him by the French National Orchestra while they were on tour in Armenia.

What occurred next was absolutely astonishing to us who were 18-20 years old and clearly not prepared for what followed. After less than five minutes, two burly KGB

(continued on page 2)

C, E-flat, and G go into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry, but we don't serve minors." So E-flat leaves, and C and G have an open fifth between them. . . . .

Library News by Jerel Nielsen, Library Manager

Library Manager
Jerel Nielsen

Greetings from the Chatfield Music Lending Library and Archive!

Built in 1981 to preserve our band's musical heritage, the Chatfield Music Lending Library and Archive has collected, catalogued, and added more than 51,280 pieces of music, many of which are no longer in print.

In 2024 – 2025, we were successful in conducting the following:

- The library system project we developed in 2023 has continued through 2025. This project allows us to use more of the Past Perfect software functionality and provide the end user with valuable information as they search for a piece of music. We continue to scan music cover sheets, program notes, instrumentation sheets and one page of a conductor score as are available. As of the 3rd quarter of 2025, we have 2,336 pieces of music with one or more scanned pages being displayed.
- Over the course of 48 years, the Music Library building and garage need a whole host of improvements. In 2025 we began reviewing deferred maintenance items for our buildings and grounds. With a generous patron donation, we will:
  - Improve water discharge from gutters and downspouts for the band garage by installing leaf filters to stop the gutters from clogging up with leaves and debris.
  - Add an automatic garage door opener for our truck and band wagon garage.
  - Convert the Music Library interior lighting from fluorescent to LED and apply to People's Energy for a rebate on the products bought.
  - Contract with an asphalt paving company to replace our gravel parking lot with a new asphalt parking lot.
  - Provide a positive slope out from the foundation of the library building (the dirt around the library building has settled over the decades and needs to be raised) and seed the ground in areas that require new grass.
  - Install a frost free Sillcock spigot to provide a water source on the exterior of the library building.
  - Replace both entry doors at the music library. The current steel doors have held up very nicely over the last 48 years, but rust is winning the battle!
  - Start a painting project for both the exterior and interior of the library.
- We also received another generous anonymous grant donation in 2025 used to:
  - Fund our two part-time music catalogers in 2025.
  - Continue our scanning project in 2026.

A special thank you to Beth Hennessy for her outstanding work as the CBB, Inc. newsletter editor. Her contribution is deeply appreciated!

I would also like to acknowledge and thank our energized staff. Steve, our Library Clerk, does a terrific job responding to our patrons music needs; Valerie and Denise, our catalogers, are critical in keeping our music on the internet and available; our volunteers, Sarah and Maren, prepare our music for inclusion into our catalog; and last but not least, our scanning project is supported by Yvonne and Aubrey who have done a terrific job in adding an additional 2,336 packages of music sample pages to our catalogue of music in 2025.

(*Band Tour*, cont. from page 1)

policemen walked up behind this fellow, lifted him up by his arms and arrested him on the spot.

We later learned that Soviet subjects, while allowed to attend public performances, were not permitted to talk to foreigners in public.

A similar event occurred in Romania when the people would deliberately and hurriedly cross the street to avoid any contact with Americans and thus put their own lives in jeopardy. This made a lasting impression on all of us. We began to perceive the differences between our own lives and those under communist rule.

Another stunning moment was on April 17, 1961 when we arrived in Cairo, Egypt. This coincided with the Bay of Pigs invasion in Cuba. We were sternly instructed to remain indoors in anticipation of rioting in the streets. Our scheduled concert for April 18, 1961 was cancelled for safety reasons.

That same day Marshal Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia and President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt held a state visit under extreme military security to discuss the ramifications of the Cuban invasion.

The following day, April 19, 1961, the Band played a concert at an international agricultural fair taking place in Cairo. Present for our performance was none other than Aram Khachaturian, the world's foremost Arme-

(continued on page 3)

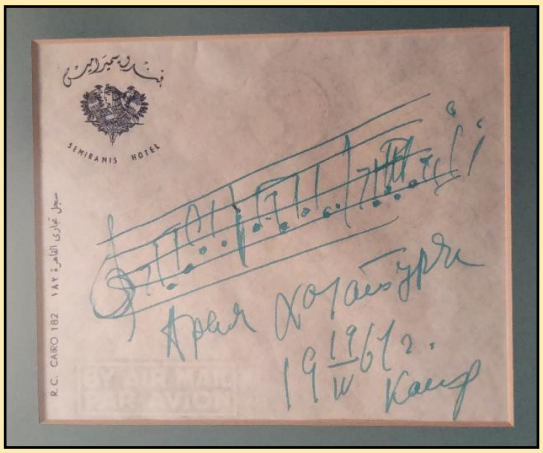
After a few drinks, the fifth is diminished, and G is out flat. F comes in and tries to augment the situation but is not sharp enough. . . . .

(*Band Tour*, cont. from page 2)

nian composer of the 20th century. During the performance we played Khachaturian's Field March No. 2 (F Minor) for Wind Orchestra – on the program it was called Field Day March.

Khachaturian complimented the Band's playing which was, of course, a very thrilling moment for all of us.

In a most fortuitous moment, while we stayed at the Semiramis Hotel, I noticed Khachaturian in the large day room and asked him if he would give me his autograph. I obtained an envelope from the hotel's front desk and Khachaturian wrote his autograph, the date and actual musical notes from the "Gayne Ballet." This became my favorite souvenir from our tour and it is a treasured item in our home.



Aram Khachaturian autograph, 1961

The Semiramis story has its own interesting background. Semiramis, also known as Semiramide, is an opera by Gioachino Rossini and is based on Voltaire's tragedy Semiramis, which, in turn, is based on the legend of Semiramis of Assyira. It was first performed in Venice in 1823.

And here I was – a young man surrounded by momentous historical events and making an acquaintance of one of the great composers of the time.

It is a vivid experience even after some 60+ years.

Moreover, across the street from our hotel was the "Shepherds Hotel" which was where Field Marshal Erwin Rommel intended to stay if his army reached Cairo.

Most telling of all was the fact that after our time in Cairo, the Band was scheduled to play in Am-

(continued on page 7)

A Note from the Director by Carmen Narveson

Band Director
Carmen Narveson

Summer Concert Series

This year's Chatfield Summer Concert Series was a success, featuring five performances by the Brass Band and three by guest groups. In partnership with the Chatfield Alliance and Chatfield Center for the Arts, Thursdays in the Park continues to thrive — with a Makers & Growers Market, food trucks, early evening music, and concerts at the Band Shell. We're grateful to the Southeast Minnesota Arts Council for their generous grant support.

Looking ahead to 2026

After thoughtful input from audience members, band members, and board discussion, we are excited to announce that next summer's series will feature the Brass Band exclusively. With such strong talent in the group, this will give us an opportunity to play more and showcase our musicians. Stay tuned for programming details!

Honor Flight

We were pleased to be asked to provide music for the return of the Honor Flight at Rochester Airport in late September. Performing patriotic selections as veterans arrived was deeply moving, and we're proud to have played a part in this meaningful event.

Anniversaries

2025 is the 50th Anniversary of our circus-style bandwagon, the 25th Anniversary of our band shell, and the 50th year that we have performed at the Pilot Mound Ice Cream Social. A rich legacy worth celebrating — and we are so proud to carry it forward.

Thank you

I am privileged to direct the wonderful people and musicians that are in the Brass Band. I consider it a gift that we "get" to gather with our friends every week and make music. We also want to thank the City of Chatfield and the City Crew for their ongoing support and the great work they do to keep the band shell and park in tip-top shape. A huge thank-you to all our great supporters — we appreciate you so much!

Christmas Concert

We hope to see you at our Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 14th at 3:00 p.m. at Chatfield Lutheran Church. The High School Art Club will also be having a silent auction and bake sale. A light reception will follow. Please join us!

**D comes in and heads for the bathroom, saying, "Excuse me, I'll just be a second."
Then A comes in, but the bartender is not convinced that this relative of C is not a minor. . . .**

Memberships and Donations since last newsletter

Please contact us if we have made any errors or omissions.

$500 +

Anderson, Steve
Barrett, Jerry
Becker, Linda
City of Chatfield
McMullin, James and Kathy
Morsman Family Foundation
Morsman, Jr, Edgar
Peterson, Barbara
Ryan, James
Strange, Steve
Van Dyke, Karleen

$100 - $499

Ames, Barbara
Anderson, William
Beach, Dr. Richard
Behr, Carl
Benjamin, David
Blake, Diana
Brigham Young University - Idaho Bands
Brown, Robert A.
Brugman, James
C.L. Barnhouse Company
Cable, Ed
Canton American Legion Band
Capital City Band
Carlo, Maurice
Comstock, Paul
Contra Costa Wind Symphony
Davidson, Nathan
Davis, Kathy and Gary
Denny, Victoria
DiMartino, Vincent
Erickson, Roger A.
F&M Community Bank
First John Phillip Sousa Memorial Band
Fiske, Mike
Fleming, Charles
Fostoria Community Band
Glover, Andrew
Gore, Gordon
Gregory, Sheffey
Hilsman, Shelley
Hopkins, John D.
Hudson Valley Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Inc.
Johnson, Susan
Karver, Pat
Keane, Richard D.
Krieger, Toni
Latimer, Jim
Lewis, Cody
Mayer, John
McDermott, Lyall
Metzler, Mark
Meyer, Jon
Miyata, Vernon
Molzer, Ken
Montana Community Foundation
O'Connor, Sharyol
Ohio Military Band
Palan, Peter
Peters, Loren
Peterson, Jeri
Pierson, Elizabeth
Pleasanton Community Band
Quilliams, Robert
Raytheon Technology
Rogers, Mark
Root River State Bank
Rudy, Barbara
Santoro, Barbara
Schaffer, Mike
Schmehl, Wendy
Schwartz, Richard R.
Shlosberg, Jeffrey
Sliter, Timothy
Smith, Barbara
Snow, Howard
Soper, Ken
T. Rowe Price Program
Tallman, Larry
Tosoc, Hernani
Troxler, Rocky
Van Norman, Willis
Vandewalker, Sharon
Volkman, Dawn
Wayne, James D.
Zagorsky, Albert

Up to $99

ACCA Temple Sauerkrauts
Allen, Chris
Allen, Paul W.
All-Ohio State Fair Band
American Legion Auxiliary
American Legion Band
Anderson, Steve
Aronson, Linda
Ashmore, Richard
Backhaus, Patricia
Bauer, Laura
Blutman, Michael
Band of Infidels
Bork, Ronald
Bowling Green Area Community Bands
Breeskin, Davyd
Brown, Daniel
Bush, Betsey
Butler, Gregory
Buyze, Becky
BYU-Idaho Music Department
Cerling, Teresa
Clark, Darlene
Collins, K. Lee
Cordeiro, Paul
Courtney, Ann
Cramer, Mike
Cvetan, Terri
Davis, Keith
Davis, Victoria
Denslow, Jonathan
Eagle Community Bands
Elgin Bands
Fecker, John
Gerber, Bob
Gluckman, Howard
Goodman, Edward
Goutcher, John
Graham, Gregory
Great Falls Municipal Band
Griffith, William
Grogg, Ron
Hadfield, Jeffrey
Harriman, Jeffrey
Hascall, Brenda
Hassel, Sharon
Hay, Craig
Hayman, Travis
Heartland Winds Community Band
Henderson, William
Hendrix, Jill
Heter, Mark
Hoge, Hendley
Hollermann, Dan
Hollermann, Sue
Horstmann, Courtney

In-Kind Donations

Bihler, Oskar
Gore, Gordon
Grauer, Mark
Gregory, Sheffey
Luedeman, Carla
Mitchell, Dan
Malan, Faan
Meyer, Jon
Swenson, Kristi

Then the bartender notices B-flat hiding at the end of the bar and says, "Get out! You're the seventh minor I've found in this bar tonight." . . .

Memberships and Donations since last newsletter

Huckstadt, Karen
Jefferson City Community Band
Jensen, Frank
Jensen, Roxann
Jones, Ronda
Kahn, Jay
Kasper, Kevin
Ken County Community Marching Band
Kerr, Basil
Knowlton Harmony Band - QC Canada
Krag, Peter
Krob, Larry
Kuehl, John T.
Kuncho, Laura
La Cost, Trevor
Landree, Jill
Lawston, Harriet
Lewis, Cody
Little, Logan
Luedeman, Carla
MacLagan, Richard
March, George
McKee, Kevin
Milford, Gene
Moon, Chuck
Moskop, Richard
Moulton, Jack
Narveson, Carmen
Nashoba Stmphonic Band
Natelli, John
Nelson, Allison
Nelson, Allison
Nettestad, Michael
New Horizons Band
Newmont Military Band Northern Kentucky Symphony, Inc.
Nobisch, Kelly
North, Bob
Omodt, Norm
Orcas Island Community Band
Palmyra-Eagle Community Band
Pearce, Mike
Pekol, Jim
Perkins, Alan
Perkins, Margaret
Peterson, Barbara
Peterson, Jeff
Pilot Mound Luther League
Poshak, Tom
Puyallup Music Association
Quick, Edward
Quilliams, Robert
Rawls, Malinda
Ray, Deborah
Rosas, Rene
Rosenkilde, Carl
San Luis Obispo Wind Orchestra
Schaffer, Mike
Speck, Karen Key
Steele, Beth
Stenstrom, John
Strain, Timothy
Strickler, Steve
Tanabe, David
Thompson, Heather
Thurston, Robert (Bob)
Tiedemann, JoAnn
Tipton, Gary
University of Akron
Veteran of Foreign Wars
Wegenka, Bonnie
Weisman, Russ
Wellington Winds
Wendt, Elaine
Wernick, Warren
Wilbur, VaLois
Wilder, Michael and Clarian
Winther, Betty
Wiseman, Mark
Wood, Dee
Wood, Douglas
Woods, Ivan
Wyatt, Sandra
Zabel, Brianna
Zavadil, Martin
Zabel, Brianna
Southern Illinois Concert Band

Please contact us if we have made any errors or omissions.

Memorials

In Memory of Eleanor Davidson
Nathan Davidson
Richard D. Keane
Carmen Narveson
Michael and Clarian Wilder
Margaret Perkins
Barb Peterson
Karleen VanDyke

In Memory of William J. Kaiser
Liechtenstein Minnesota Band of Maplewood

In Memory of Joanne Lovejoy
Pat Karver

In Memory of Margaret Perkins
Victoria Denny
Susan Johnson
Richard D. Keane

In Memory of Curt Peterson
Barbara Peterson
Karleen VanDyke

In Memory of Charlotte Ryan
James Ryan

In Memory of Mike Tuohy
Pat Karver

In Memory of Brianna Zabel
Chatfield Brass Band, Inc.

Celebrating Milestones: Important Band Anniversaries

50th Anniversary – The Brass Band Circus-style Bandwagon: A true community collaboration, the iconic bandwagon was designed by clarinetist and IBM employee John Willaman. Construction was made possible thanks to free labor provided by Building Trade students from Southeastern Vocational Center, representing Chatfield, Preston, and Harmony. The wagon features extendable sides and a built-in storage area for chairs, offering both functionality and comfort. Thanks to regular maintenance by the band, it remains a safe and reliable mobile stage for parades and performances.

25th Anniversary – The Chatfield City Park Band Shell: The vision for the band shell began with Willie Eppen and was supported by the Chatfield City Council, which funded the design and planning. Built entirely through individual donations, the $83,000 structure was completed and officially dedicated in June 2000 during the band's 30th Anniversary concert and celebration. Today, it stands as a proud symbol of community spirit and musical tradition.

E-flat comes back the next night in a three-piece suit with nicely shined shoes. The bartender says, "You're looking sharp tonight. Come on in, this could be a major development." . . .

Arranged for Military Band by Sheffey Gregory

I recently had the opportunity to volunteer at the Chatfield Music Lending Library. As I was working on a concert band selection, Jerel Nielsen (Library Manager) looked over at the arrangement cover and asked, "Why is it arranged for Military Band?" The cover had instrumentation for Concert Band and below that for Symphonic Band, but in the upper left corner was "Arranged for Military Band."

So I did a shallow dive into that question. IMSLP.org had a variety of material, and I looked at a couple of books or papers from there. It quickly became apparent that woodwind instruments (oboe, bassoon, clarinet, etc.) were in military wind bands from early on, later joined by brass instruments. And that the majority of military bands from the beginning, regardless of country, have always been made up of woodwind, brass and percussion. In the states there was a time period, particularly around the Civil War, when there were brass and percussion military bands (no woodwinds).

In the past I have primarily seen "Arranged for Military Band" on arrangements from Boosey & Hawkes, and Chappell, which are British publishers. And sometimes on older American publishers, like Fischer. So, I think the quick answer is that "Military Band" is a quick way to say "arranged for woodwind, brass and percussion." And that this differentiates those bands from Brass Bands. Particularly in the British Isles, where Brass Bands are extremely common. The traditional British Brass Band is made up of all conical brass instruments (except two baritones and the trombones) pitched in E♭ and B♭ and 2 to 4 percussionists. They are town or company bands and there are hundreds of them today. It is also a growing movement in the states.

This is just my personal observation. I would love to hear from one of the readers who has done more in-depth research on bands in general. Is this a reasonable explanation?

Members of the Chatfield Brass Band

The Abbreviated Financial Statements

First, a **big THANK YOU! to all who helped the Chatfield Brass Band and Music Lending Library (CBB)** have a very successful fiscal year just completed on September 30, 2025. We greatly appreciate the time and talents of every person involved. And we also rely heavily on library patronage, memberships, and contributions to keep the Band and Library going strong financially!

We have been very fortunate in past years to have received financial gifts from people who remembered us in their estate planning, as well as memorial gifts from families, given to honor people who were formerly associated with the band and library. These gifts have been tremendously helpful to stabilize our finances, and we encourage people to continue to remember the organization in these ways. This year was no exception, as we received a **very significant donation from the estate of one of our Library patrons, Byron MacDonald**, which has enabled us to make **some much-needed improvements, especially to the Library grounds and building.** I am also happy to report that the **CBB can again accept donations of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and ETFs**. Donations of highly appreciated assets can help save tax dollars. Please contact me for details on how to donate this way.

At its recent board meeting on September 24th, 2025, the preliminary budget for the new fiscal year was reviewed. The new budget includes the **purchase of a tuba for the Band**; making efforts to better **reward Library employees and volunteers for their work**; and investing in **additional marketing** to raise the visibility of the Band and Library.

Last of all, I want to remind people of the opportunity to **contribute directly from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA)**. The charitable IRA distribution, or Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), allows donors aged 70½ and older to exclude from taxable income (and count toward their Required Minimum Distribution if age 73 or older), certain transfers of IRA assets made directly to public charities including the CBB. You can contact your IRA administrator and ask them to send your donation distribution to the CBB. For tax information, please consult your tax advisor.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the financials of the Chatfield Brass Band and Music Lending Library. Thank you for all your support, as we look forward an even better fiscal year ahead!

Susan Johnson, Treasurer

Chatfield Brass Band, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
As of September 30, 2025
(unaudited)

Net Assets	
Cash	$ 120,522
Investments	$ 303,789
Sheet Music Inventory	$ 438,414
Fixed Assets	$ 64,193
Less Liabilities	$ (25)
Total Net Assets	$ 926,893

Sure enough, E-flat soon takes off his suit and everything else, and is au natural.
Eventually C sobers up and realizes in horror that he's under a rest. . . .

We thank you in advance for your generous tax deductible donation! As a non-profit entity we couldn't continue to provide our current services without your highly valued financial support.

1. Annual Library Membership:

☐ ***Encore*** $250

☐ ***Finale*** $100

☐ ***Intermezzo*** $75

☐ ***Overture*** $50

Name_____

E-mail _____

Address_____

City_____

State_____ Zip_____ Country_____

2. General Library Donation $_____

3. General Band Donation $_____

4. James Perkins Endowment Fund $_____

Named after our founder, this fund is administered by the Rochester Area Foundation.
It was established to provide long term financial stability for the library.

Please make checks payable to Chatfield Brass Band, Inc.
Your name or e-mail address will not be shared with or sold to any organization.
Your gift is tax deductible under current tax laws.

Thank You!

Chatfield Brass Band, Inc.
Statement of Financial Income and Expense
October 2024 through September 2025 (unaudited)

Revenues and Gains	
Grants	6,200
Program Service Revenue	17,897
Memberships	12,415
Contributions	122,903
Investment Revenue	19,132
Total Revenue and Gains	**$ 178,547**
Expenses	
Salary and Benefits	35,395
Administrative	25,422
Occupancy	8,541
Artist and Contractor Fees	6,785
Total Expenses	**$ 76,143**
Net Operating Income	102,404
Unrealized Investment Income (Loss)	(9,474)
Net Income	**$ 92,930**

(*Band Tour*, cont. from page 3)

man, Jordan. Although the original travel agreement stated that the University Band would travel on a group visa, the Jordanians insisted that each Band member have an individual visa and, furthermore, no Jewish students could enter Jordan! Instead, the Jewish members would remain in Cairo and then eventually meet up with the rest of the group in Lebanon.

Dr. Revelli adamantly insisted that the entire Band would go or no one would go at all. After nearly a week of negotiations, the State Department restored the original travel agreement and the entire Band performed in Amman, Jordan as planned.

To be faced with such flagrant antisemitism was a shock for both Jewish and non-Jewish band members. It was definitely a watershed moment.

There are pivotal moments in everyone's life and the Michigan Band tour of 1961 remains an exciting and significant life experience of mine.

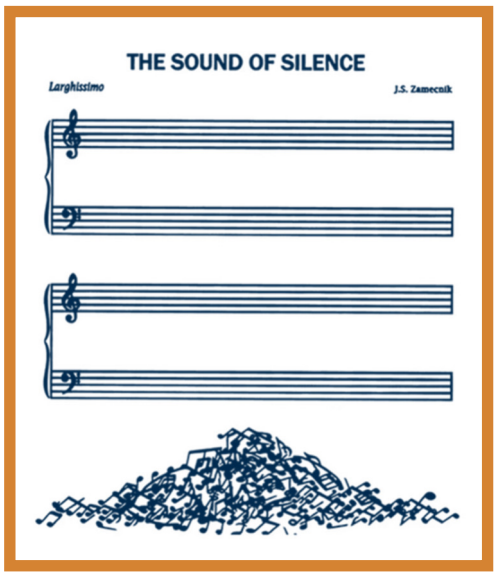
Howard P. Toplansky is the author of "Essentials of Bassoon Technique (1968-2025), He is also the Director of the Township of Union Municipal Band in New Jersey and the Principal Clarinet of the Imperial Band of South River in New Jersey.

C is brought to trial, found guilty of contributing to the diminution of a minor, and is sentenced to 10 years of D.S. without Coda at an upscale correctional facility.

CHATFIELD BRASS BAND & CHATFIELD MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY & ARCHIVE

81 Library Lane SW
PO Box 578
Chatfield, MN 55923

www.chatfieldband.lib.mn.us



About Us

Our mission is to preserve band music and continue the legacy of its performance.

Phone: 507-867-3275
Emails: Info@chatfieldband.lib.mn.us
Musicrequests@chatfieldband.lib.mn.us
Hours: M & T: 9am—Noon; 1–3pm
W: 9am—Noon Central Time

The Chatfield Music Lending Library exists to collect, repair, catalog, store and make available — on a loan-basis — all types of band music, especially music no longer being published.

The Chatfield Brass Band provides an opportunity for amateur instrumentalists of all ages and abilities to play in a first rate performing group. The band strives to give our members the experience of playing many types of music, with special attention to playing traditional band music. We serve our community and neighbors by performing for celebrations and parades, and we take pride in continuing the tradition of Chatfield as "Bandtown U.S.A."

Library Memberships are critical in helping support operations. Please fill out the attached form and mail in your membership or go to our website—

chatfieldband.lib.mn.us

—and join, using the "Library Membership" tab.

Membership Levels:

Encore	$250
Finale	$100
Intermezzo	$75
Overture	$50