



*A Naples Tradition*

September 10, 2021

Dear Band Supporters,

The Naples Concert Band is now planning for the start of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2021-2022 concert season. After the Covid shortened 2020-2021 season, we are moving forward with our plans for a much better new celebratory season with all sorts of special concerts and events. Although we were only able to play the final four concerts, we were greeted by enthusiastic crowds even though we had to observe social distancing and wear masks. It was obvious by your attendance that you just wanted to get out of the house and celebrate with some good music. Yes, our income was considerably reduced, but most of our "Fan of the Band" supporters made sure that their generous donations continued.

It was really a challenge to pull together a smaller Band since many of our musicians were unable to attend rehearsals due to Covid fears and/or rehearsal hall restrictions. We were able to field about 40 musicians for our four concerts and great credit goes to the special efforts of our involved Band members, our Executive Board members and our Conductor/Music Director, Harris Lanzel. At present, we have 73 musicians to start the season and expect a total of 96 in a short time. All our musicians are unpaid volunteers.

This letter is our annual fund- raising appeal. This year, with our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, we will require extra financial support above and beyond a normal concert season. Our annual expenses include brochures, some salaries, insurance, storage facilities for our music library, rental of rehearsal facilities, scholarships and our ongoing publicity costs. As shown in the enclosed brochure, we have some great activities and/or events planned for our season celebration. Please note that we will have a special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary concert at Hayes Hall at Artis- Naples on March 5, 2022.

For those of you who have not joined our "Fan of the Band" program, it costs \$50/person and entitles you to have your name(s) in our concert program for one year from the date of your donation. If you wish, you may donate on our website (see below). If you would like to be removed from our mailing list call me on 239-566-9960 or send me an email on [evhughes@comcast.net](mailto:evhughes@comcast.net). Please keep us up to date on address changes.

We appreciate your support and pledge our best efforts to provide the finest concert music possible.

Sincerely yours,

Everett Hughes, Past President, Naples Concert Band