American Federation of Musicians Local No. 198-457 Affiliated with the A.F.L. — C.I.O.

# NOVEMBER, 1996

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Once more, our union has presented a very successful Cavalcade of Bands.

It is most gratifying to see hundreds of dancers dancing to such wonderful bands of excellent musicians. I am elated at the response of this Cavalcade due to the short amount of time we had to prepare this event.

Now, to bring up a more exigent and urgent problem of our Local finances.

At our last Membership Meeting, (Sunday, Sept. 29th), a quorum of twentythree (23) members were in attendance.

Two (2) resolutions were introduced, discussed and referred to the appropriate committees. On October 2nd, the Executive Board reviewed the resolutions and approved the action taken by the General Meeting.

The resolutions referred were:

1. An assessment of ten dollars (\$10.00) be placed on all members for the year 1996 and it must be paid by December 3, 1996.

The assessment is due to the result of our current deficit. The increase in operative costs and economical picture with inflationary raises since 1994 was the main reason for this assessment.

A raise in yearly dues was avoided hope-fully, that at least seventy-five (75) per cent of our membership would have paid work dues and/or cap.

Resolution on change of Work Dues Cap Structure.

Only eighteen (18) per cent of our members paid the cap. This is not enough. We need much more to avoid the deficit.

None of our officers have received an increase in pay and we can't cut down the staff anymore than we already have.

(President's Message Continued on Page 2.)

## SECRETARY'S CORNER:

On October 15, 1996, at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Cranston, R.I., from 6:30 - 11:00, our Fund-Raising Event, the CAVALCADE OF BANDS was held!

There were seven bands (four in the foyer and three in the ballroom). All of the musicians gave their time and talents to our local in what was a very successful evening of music!

It was observed that many more of our members came to this exciting event than in the past due to the tickets that were sent to each of you! So, from the standpoint of it being a great social event for our local....that it was! Financially, it was fair! Advertising would have attracted public attention, but broadcast announcements and printed material in the newspapers cost lots of money! We are, however, thankful for all who attended! I'm sure everyone felt they had a good time with great live music!

President Conte always talks about the devotion of our members giving of themselves in donating their services, etc., but, a word must be said in this column about his (Joe's) efforts with regard to this Cavalcade. He was determined in giving direction to influence the successful outcome of this event! Our members should know that! This event requires proper planning and follow-through. Anyone who attended knows that things were thought out and followed through on!

The bands to thank were:

1) The Meadowlarks

2) The John Allmark Big Band

3) Tom Rotondo Orchestra

(Contd on Page 2)

(1)

# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

AMERICAN LEGION POST

LEGION WAY \*\* CRANSTON, R. I.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1996 \*\* 10:30 A.M.

# (President's Message Contd)

Committees have been without compensation. It is time for us to ask the membership of approve the resolutions and not dry out our investment.

Elsewhere in this bulletin is the new revised Wage List. Please read it and be ready to act upon it at the November meet-

The Extends our appreciation to the Wage List Committee Al Conte, Chairman, Executive Board members Tony Polito and Artie

Hope to see you at the November Meeting at 10:30 A.M.

# Secretary's Corner Contd)

4) Ron Rose Music

5) Horace Mann Dixieland Pops

6) John Worsley's Swingtime

7) Drew-Corcoran Orchestra

Please look forward to our next one! Hank Doiron, Secretary

### KEEP THE VOLUME DOWN!

Have you heard about the band that was charged by the Police with violating the town's anti-noise ordinance? This took place in the town of East Greenwich at one of the waterfront restaurants. They were playing ourside on a patio with a nine-piece band and after being measured for decibels by Police, were told to turn down their volume. This they claim they did!

Later in the evening, Police responded to a neighbor's second complaint of noise. This time the Police confronted the band and issued a citation.

The band members claim they did not increase the volume after the first visit by Police. The decibles were at about 71 --- and the ordinance limit is for 60 decibles.

So, band leaders beware! Carry a "noise-meter" with you now on your gigs! Especially if you are engaged to play on the waterfront in East Greenwich!

What's next in our business?! I wonder if Axlerod carries "noisemeters"?! Also, I wonder how this one will work out in court? Anyway, I leave you with one thought....
"Keep it down!"

Hank Doiron, Secretary

## A SOUR NOTE IN MUSIC EDUCATION

Many elementary schools are again eliminating their band programs and lessons to beginning band students! It is really sad that only a handful of school systems in Rhode Island are still offering instrumental instruction to children in the elementary schools.

Across the state (and the country, for that matter) budget cuts have left many schools with bruised music programs. But the cuts come at a time when music education is shedding its image as a frilly aside to serious academics. A growing body of research suggests that early instruction in music can affect everything from IQ to SAT scores.

Researchers at the University of California, Irvine, uncovered a possible connection between music and intelligence.

A group of preschool children were given 10-minute piano lessons twice a week. The children were chosen at random, not for talent or parental interest. After six to eight months, the children showed dramatic improvement in their ability to discern patterns.

"Music Education has been with us for centuries," said Gordon Shaw, a UCI physics professor. "What we're finding for the preschool kids is that it does make a difference in what we call their spatial reasoning abilities, which we think maybe could translate into subjects such as math."

So, fellow musicians, lets do everything we can to encourage our local school systems to include music education, especially at the elementary level where that early exposure to playing music is vital!

Hank Doiron, Secretary
NOTE: (Some material taken from the Orange
County Register-Santa Ana, CA.)



#### TWO RESOLUTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

At the September General Membership Meeting the following two Resolutions were submitted by President Conte (one deals with an assessment and the other with a change in the Work Dues CAP.)

#### RESOLUTION

Submitted at General Meeting on September 29, 1996.

Whereas: Our Local has been experiencing financial problems due to the raise in operative costs and

Whereas: since none of these economical operational costs have been passed on to the members since

1994, and Whereas: the General Fund has been borrowing from our Investment Fund to

make fiscal ends meet, and Whereas: the yearly accountables have never

been met and

Whereas: Article VI, Sections 5 & 6 of our By-Laws state that, in the event

the General Fund is twenty-five hundred (\$2,500.00) or less, and Section 5: In the event that the General Fund is twentyfive hundred dollars (\$2,500.00)

or less, and the current expenses of this Local exceeds its annual income, the deficiency may be made up by an assessment upon the

membership.

Section 6.: The funds of this Local shall be raised by admission fees, dues, fines, assessments, work dues and such other means as the Local shall determine

from time to time.

Whereas: the balance in the General fund has been operating at a level way lower than required by our By-Laws,

Be It Resolved that an assessment of ten dollars (\$10.00) on each member for the year 1996 and

Be It Further Resolved that the assessment be paid by December 31, 1996.

Respectfully submitted, Joseph Conte, President

#### RESOLUTION

Submitted at General Meeting on September 29, 1996.

the work dues and work dues CAP Whereas: has not proven successful in its

present form and

only eighteen (18) per cent of Whereas: our membership paid the cap in

its present structure and caus-

ing a larger deficit and only fifty-four (54) members Whereas: paid the cap in the first quar-

ter, only twenty-two (22) paid in the second quarter and only eighteen (18) paid in the third (Work Dues Resolution Contd)

quarter, bringing a total of ninety-four (94) at the beginning of the fourth quarter ... totaling Two-Thousand Eight-Hundred and Twenty Dollars

(\$2,820.00) and

if at least 75% of the member-Whereas: ship had paid the cap, our Local would have received more than Eleven Thousand Dollars

(\$11,000.00) and

if this income had been receiv-Whereas: ed, it would be well above clearing our yearly deficit and since the deficit will increase as we go, unless the following action is taken, then

Be It Resolved that a new schedule of rules governing Work Dues CAP be adopted

as follows:

January 1 to March 30 (CAP will be \$35.00 for the calendar year.

April 1 to June 30 (CAP will be \$40.00 for the calendar year.

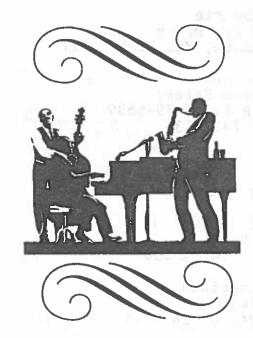
July 1 to December 31 (CAP will be \$45.00 for the calendar year.

Be It Further Resolved that Work Dues on all engagements will still remain at 4% for each engagement.

Respectfully submitted, Joseph Conte, President

Please give these two Resolutions your attention! Come to the November General Membership Meeting and vote in an informed This is your local and we need manner. your input!

Hank Doiron, Secretary



## **NEW MEMBERS:**

Fregory A. Porter 134 Brook Street Providence, R.I. 02906 Tele: (401) 454-7382 Electric Bass

Thomas W. Santagata
109 Sinclair Avenue
Providence, R.I. 02907
Tele: (401) 941-5935
(401) 934-1466
Bus/Tele: (401) 828-1500
Trumpet, Flugel Horn

Kristina S. Ott 14 Sheldon Street Providence, R.I. 02906 Tele: (401) 351-8706 Piano, Keyboards

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Diane Guillemette 46 Fairview Avenue West Warwick, R.I. 02893 Tele: (401) 826-0083

Jane R. Cohen (Changed to Jane Revkin) 385 Moosehorn Road East Greenwich, R.I. 02818 Tele: (401) 884-7546

Orlando P. Duarte 49C Sun and Sea Drive South Dartmouth, MA. 02748-3057

George Coneconto 209 Washington Street Wakefield, R.I. 02879-6639 Tele: (401) 792-3534

Tammy K. Asperheim 62 Greenwood Street, #1 Marlborough, MA. 01752-3221

Albert W. Stanelun 1837 Hoyle Drive Holiday, FL. 34691-5300

Ronald J. Baptista P.O. Box #145 Somerset, MA. 02726-0145

# CHANGE OF ADDRESS: (Contd.)

Seth H. Orgel 5 Warren Square, #1 Jamaica Plain, MA. 02130-2535

# TELEPHONE CHANGE:

Virginia Clark (860) 774-6307

## **RESIGNATIONS:**

Dara Saffer Steve Campbell

## **REINSTATEMENTS:**

Peter L. Kaloostian 68 Redwood Drive Cranston, R.I. 02920 Tele: (401) 942-5923 (401) 421-2543 Alto, Clarinet

## IN MEMORIAM:

Sherylynn Hunt Joined: 8/3/88 Died: 9/15/96

Everett Schiffman Joined: 11/16/55 Died: 10/13/96

