

Press Release for WCCB

The Washington City Community Band was founded by Washington City resident John Anderson. Upon moving there three years ago, he noticed there was no local community band and endeavored to start one. During the summer of 2014, Anderson placed fliers around the community asking for members to join the to-be-formed Washington City Community Band. Their first meeting was on October 11, 2014 and had eleven attendees, four of whom were flutes. One of those flutes, Ruth Batt, asked Anderson, "Who is going to be the director of the band?" to which, he replied, "You, if you will." The band now has approximately thirty members comprising individuals from high school and college students, working parents, parents with young children, teachers, empty-nesters and retirees. To see the Washington City Community Band's current recruitment needs click here ([link to a post with recruitment info](#)).

Current Recruitment Needs:

The Washington City Community Band needs players of the following instruments in order of highest need:

Trombone x 3

F Horn x 3

Clarinet

Bassoon x 2

Bass Clarinet x 2

Bari Sax x 1

Euphonium/Baritone

Percussion x 1

All other instruments currently closed for recruitment.

Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings from 7-9 pm in Washington. Sponsored by Washington City, we play music such as Jazz, Marches, show tunes, movie soundtracks, classical and contemporary compositions. Must be able to play at the high school level or better. We suggest dues to fund new music. All new players are welcome to try us out before paying dues. We play for city events as well as formal concerts.

To join or for more information, e-mail Ruth at heckofanote@gmail.com.



Ruth Batt bio:

Ruth Batt is director and founding member of the Washington City Community Band, formed in October 2014. Ms. Batt began studying the flute at age twelve in Orem, Utah where she grew up. During “instrument evaluation,” Ruth was told by her 7th grade band teacher that she couldn’t play flute due to her cupid’s bow-shaped upper lip. Her mother recalls that as the two of them walked out of the band room, Ruth said with heated fervor: “I’m going to *play* the flute, I’ll show her.” She attended Utah Valley University where she obtained her Associate in Arts degree with emphasis in Music. She studied briefly at Southern Utah University where she met her husband Cale before transferring to University of Utah. She studied conducting under Scott Hagen, Director of Bands at the University of Utah. There she earned her Bachelor of Music degree graduating Magna Cum Laude. During these years she studied flute with Carol Wight, Elaine Jorgensen, Launa Whitehead and Susan Goodfellow.

During her time at the University of Utah, she was a member of the Marching Utes on piccolo, played in the university orchestra on piccolo, and was a member of the audition-only Wind Ensemble on flute. She was a guest conductor for the Runnin’ FIUtes flute choir and also started an after-school band program for Grant Elementary school. Ruth was a member of the Wasatch Community Symphony Orchestra in Salt Lake City (flute) while studying at the University of Utah. In her final season with the WCSO, she was a featured concerto soloist.

Ms. Batt founded and directed the Moapa Valley Community Orchestra for a season before moving to St. George in 2007. One of her favorite things is teaching private flute lessons. She was a radio announcer for the former Classical 91.3 KDXU for a year and a half. She was a member of the Southwest Symphony Orchestra on piccolo (and occasionally percussion) for three years before the creation of the Washington City Community Band. Ruth responded to a notice posted at the Washington City Community Center advertising for the need of musicians to form a community band. At the first meeting, Ruth asked the founder, John Anderson, who was going to lead the band, to which he replied “You, if you will.” The initial meeting had ten members, four of whom were flutes. The band now comprises thirty members with flutes, clarinets, saxophones, trumpets, trombones, horn, baritone, tuba, and percussion.

In her spare time Ruth enjoys gardening, drawing, reading, teaching flute, and playing with her three children. Ruth resides in Washington city with her husband and three children.

