

Michael Muller, Lafayette Band 2007 “Volunteer of the Year”

Shown receiving his “Volunteer of the Year Award” from the No. Kingstown Chamber of Commerce is Lafayette Band President Michael Muller. Also shown, l. to r., are Chamber Exec. Dir. Karla Driscoll and Board Chairperson Joe Lomastro

Band President Michael Muller was recently recognized as a “Volunteer of the Year” by the North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Muller was chosen by the Lafayette Band’s Board of Directors for his hard work and leadership in the Band’s successful response to dire financial challenges and reorganizing of its governance and administrative operation.

Faced in 2006 with the threatened loss of Town support, which comprised more than half the Band’s operating funds, and mandated increases in expenses, Dr. Muller initiated an extensive, successful fund raising campaign, as well as the effort to convince the Town to restore half its funding.

To put the Band on a firmer footing for the long range, Dr. Muller researched the field of nonprofit administration and governance. With this he produced a Mission Statement, Performance Contract, and Bylaws; secured incorporation status, and is moving the organization towards its goal of recognition by the IRS as a nonprofit entity. Together with the Board and Music Director Joe Pelosi, Dr. Muller is working to attract new Band members and make participation in the Band more satisfying and enjoyable.

The North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce sponsored the awards to recognize the contributions of dedicated volunteers, such as Dr. Muller, to the area’s nonprofit and civic groups and to the community. Written by John Smith, Band Secretary