

## LIVING MUSIC: A Glimpse into the Professional Lives of the Musicians of the KSCC

By Monica Buffington

It's 10 minutes before the start of the KSCC concert. You settle into your seat and hear the sounds of musicians warming up on stage. You watch final preparations, conversations between colleagues, oboists working on their reeds. The lights dim, the music begins, and you enjoy the art of the orchestra. Ever wonder about the people behind those glorious sounds? Join us this season as we peek inside the professional lives of the musicians of the Kennett Symphony of Chester County.

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**KSCC principal trombonist, Tim Soberick's** professional future all started with a chance meeting at a soda fountain in Berwick, PA – and Tim wasn't even there.

Berwick, Tim's hometown in upstate Pennsylvania, is the kind of small town where neighbors truly have a close connection with each other; a sort of Kevin Bacon-esque six degrees of separation thing, but usually in three degrees or less. The story goes that while Tim was in high school, his father, who had also played trombone when he was in high school, happened to run into the town's retired band director, affectionately known as "Prof". Prof was legendary in musical circles of the region, and had taught not only Tim's father and, later, Tim, but had also taught the then principal trombonist of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Glenn Dodson. Prof suggested to Tim's father that they look into Tim studying with the famed one-time Berwick resident. And the rest is history...

After high school, Tim continued his studies with Dodson at the Curtis Institute of Music. After graduation, Dodson contacted Tim with the break all young musicians look forward to: a principal position in an orchestra. Tim became principal trombonist of L'Orchestra del Maggio Musicale of Florence, Italy, and subsequently enjoyed two years of intense musical performance that took him not only to Florence, but to performances in Salzburg, Helsinki and London. Upon returning to the United States, Tim began a busy freelance career and has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Pennsylvania Ballet Orchestra, Delaware Symphony, Harrisburg Symphony and Lancaster Symphony. A former member of the Philadelphia Brass, Tim has taught trombone at Moravian College and Lehigh University.

In addition to his busy musical life, Tim and his wife, Heidi, a violinist, own and operate Candlelight Inn Bed & Breakfast, in Amish Country. The Inn, a beautiful Georgian-style retreat, is known for its elegant and relaxing atmosphere. Be sure to visit their website at [www.candleinn.com](http://www.candleinn.com) for more information.

While free time is hard to come by at times, Tim's favorite activities include fishing at his family's vacation spot in Canada, and visiting wineries (70 so far, and counting) in Heidi's native California. His future goals include arranging repertoire for trombone octet and learning winemaking.

**Especially for you: Here's what Tim would like KSCC audiences to know about Living**

**Music:** “I think that making music is really the closest thing one can get to heaven on this earth...actually creating something wonderful from nothing. Even as musicians, we sometimes get cynical about life, but then, all of a sudden, you're playing a Mahler Symphony and everything is right with the world again.”