



# NEWS RELEASE

## CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 13, 2022

CCHS CONTACT: Mary Sorensen, CCHS Executive Director

PH: (814) 234-4779

WEBSITE: [CentreHistory.org](http://CentreHistory.org)

Email: [msorensen@centrefurnace.org](mailto:msorensen@centrefurnace.org)

PRESENTER CONTACT: Tom Range, [trange2@comcast.net](mailto:trange2@comcast.net)

### **“Penn State Blue Band”**

Talk and Book Signing by Thomas E. Range II and Lewis Lazarow

**Sunday, October 23, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.**

**At Centre LifeLink EMS, 125 Puddintown Road, State College, PA**

**RSVP Required**

**[CentreHistory.org/research-explore/henszey-pyle-author-series/](http://CentreHistory.org/research-explore/henszey-pyle-author-series/)**

**Or call 814-234-4779.**

Thomas E. Range II and Lewis Lazarow, will present an illustrated talk: *Penn State Blue Band*. The Penn State Blue Band has been performing for over enthusiastic fans for over 120 years. According to the book by the same name, “*Since its founding in 1899, the Blue Band has become a beloved part of the history and tradition of Pennsylvania State University. Respected by students and alumni, faculty and administrators, the Blue Band is one of the most visible representations of the dedication, pride, and honor in the hearts of all who are associated with “Dear Old State.” From its humble beginnings as a six-member all-male drum and bugle corps to its current membership of over 300 instrumentalists, silks, and majorettes, the Blue Band has provided the soundtrack to the Penn State experience.*”

Thomas E. Range II (Penn State Class of 1989) majored in mathematics and was in the Blue Band for the 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1988 seasons. During his four years, Range served as assistant manager, manager, head manager and then president of the Blue Band his senior year. He was selected to be on the Alumni Band Steering Committee to help the Alumni Band become an official Affiliate Program Group (APG) of the Penn State Alumni Association. He served on the Blue Band Board of Directors and was chair of the Newsletter Committee and the Pep Band committees and helped with the creation of the constitution for the new Alumni Blue Band APG.

Tom coauthored the first Blue Band history book in 1999 with high school friend and fellow Blue Band Alumnus Sean Smith. Ten years later he would coauthor *Penn State Blue Band* with new found friend and Blue Band Alumnus Lew Lazarow. In 2018, Lazarow and Range would complete a pictorial history book about the Blue Band. Range would also write a pictorial history book about Penn State University using postcards, for which historian Roger Williams wrote the introduction.

Range also served nine years on the Penn State Alumni Association’s Alumni Council, eight on its Program and Development Committee and one its Awards Committee.

**Copies of *Penn State Blue Band*, published by Arcadia Publishing in 2021 as part of the Images of America Series, are available on the Centre County Historical Society website at [CentreHistory.org](http://CentreHistory.org) and click on the Museum Store link or available for purchase at the program.**

CENTRE FURNACE MANSION

1001 East College Avenue • State College, Pennsylvania 16801 • 814-234-4779 • [centrehistory.org](http://centrehistory.org)

*This program is a part of the distinguished author series underwritten by the Anne Hamilton Henszey Pyle and Kenneth B. Pyle Educational Fund for Regional Heritage Preservation (Henszey-Pyle Fund.)*

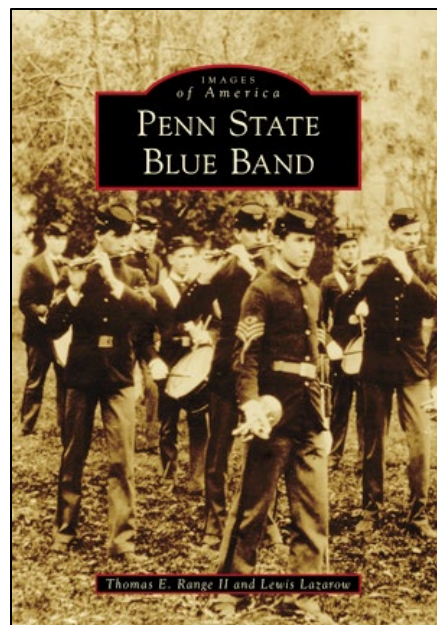
*The Henszey-Pyle Distinguished Author Series is coordinated by Dr. Ford Risley, on the CCHS Board of Governors and is associate dean of undergraduate and graduate education at the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications.*

The program is free and open to the public. Donations are graciously accepted. For general information and program updates, visit [www.CentreHistory.org](http://www.CentreHistory.org).

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*If you should need high resolution images, please email Mary Sorensen at [msorensen@centrefurnace.org](mailto:msorensen@centrefurnace.org)*



*Penn State Blue Band  
by Thomas E. Range II and Lewis Lazarow*