

*The Original  
Elbe Musikanten  
German Band*

**Authentic Oktoberfest and Gemütlichkeit Music**

**Contact: Doug Hurt**

**(804) 307-3286**

**(804) 379-5779**

**[www.elbe-musikanten.com](http://www.elbe-musikanten.com)**

**[doughurt@aol.com](mailto:doughurt@aol.com)**

**1406 Cedar Crossing Trail, Midlothian, VA 23114**

**The Band**

The **Original Elbe Musikanten German Band** takes its name from the Elbe River, Germany's second largest river. The river itself originates in the Czech Republic. "Elbe-Musikanten" literally means "Elbe (River) musicians." The band is a group of thirteen musicians who enjoy playing the traditional style mainly of German, Austrian, Czech and Slovak music such as polkas, waltzes, marches, Ländler and other dances, favorite songs, and 1930's, 40's, and 50's German Big Band and German pop oldies. The music is typical of the kind you would hear at a German village event where the community gathers to celebrate and socialize. This, of course, includes also music for **Oktoberfest and Gemütlichkeit**. The band itself is configured, in true German village style, to include flugelhorns and tenor horn, along with clarinets, trumpet, trombones, tuba, and percussion and featuring a German-singing vocalist. We have over 400 pieces in our repertoire. Except for three pieces, all of our music is composed/arranged and published in Germany or countries near Germany.

**Elbe Musikanten** was founded by musicologist Herr Andreas Marx in December, 1994, soon after his arrival in Richmond from Hamburg, Germany. In the beginning, the band provided Central Virginia with traditional *blasmusik* from the Czech and German Elbe river regions, hence the band's name. Soon, however, requests were made to perform at local Oktoberfest parties and the

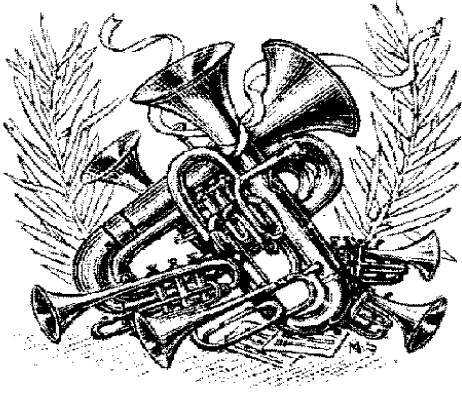
band expanded its repertoire to include Bavarian music, even though the Elbe River does not flow through Bavaria.

The band usually plays fifteen to twenty Oktoberfest events during September and October. Hence, the band has played at over 250 events mainly during the Oktoberfest season since the band's inception.

While the band performs mainly in the greater Richmond, Northern Virginia and Tidewater areas, the band has traveled to West Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland and Minnesota to participate in German-American culture festivals.

Unfortunately, in 2007 Herr Marx returned to Germany. The band was taken over by Doug Hurt, who has played clarinet/saxophone in Elbe-Musikanten since its inception.

Although, **The Original Elbe Musikanten German Band** specializes in Oktoberfest music, we also have music appropriate for Fasching, wineries and breweries and marinas and other water-sport facilities. The band it is available for any event. The band has played for numerous other German festivals, birthday parties, retirement parties, corporate events, government events, church events, block parties, and private parties. For further details, please contact Doug at [doughurt@aol.com](mailto:doughurt@aol.com) or **(804) 307-3286** or **(804) 379-5779**.



# *The Original Elbe Musikanten German Band*

## **Authentic Oktoberfest and Gemütlichkeit Music**

Contact: Doug Hurt

(804) 307-3286

(804) 379-5779

[www.elbe-musikanten.com](http://www.elbe-musikanten.com)

[doughurt@aol.com](mailto:doughurt@aol.com)

1406 Cedar Crossing Trail, Midlothian, VA 23114

## **Band Performance**

Listed below are some performance requirements of the band. This list is intended to help event organizers decide if the Original Elbe-Musikanten German Band is "right" for their event.

The Original Elbe-Musikanten German Band is a fourteen piece horn band (no guitars, no keyboards). The band is configured as a true German village band with flugelhorns and tenor horn carrying the melody, counter-melody and harmony, clarinets providing the obbligato accompaniment, trumpet playing fanfares and high harmony, and trombones, tuba and percussion providing the rhythm. The band features a German-singing vocalist. The band plays traditional, authentic German Bavarian, Austrian, Czech, Moravian, Slovenian and Slovak village music, including music for **Oktoberfest and Gemütlichkeit**, and 1930's, 40's and 50's German Big Band and German pop oldies. We have a library of over 500 pieces of music, including polkas, waltzes, ländler, songs and folksongs, two-steps, marches and medleys. Virtually all of our music is written, arranged and published in Germany and the countries near Germany. The music is danceable and singable.

The band will play indoors or outdoors. Please note that at outdoor performances, the Band will need sufficient shelter, such as a tent, if necessary, to protect the Band and its instruments from inclement weather (rain) and/or excessive heat (shine).

Usually, a wind band consisting of trumpets, flugelhorns, tenor horns, trombones, tuba and percussion, plus woodwinds, does not need amplification. If, however, the Band performs in an environment where non-amplified live music is not sufficient, it is the organizer's decision and at the organizer's discretion to provide a suitable P/A system. A minimum of four (4) or a maximum of six (6) microphones are recommended.

A traditional Oktoberfest band usually plays while seated. The band will need chairs, without armrests, sufficient to seat the band (usually about 13 chairs).

The band requires an area approximately 18 feet wide by 12 feet deep. Please remember that music carries farther if the band is placed on a stage. For better sound projection, the band should be placed in front of a backdrop, such as a wall.

The band needs access to electrical power when we perform. The vocalist is amplified to balance her against the band. At evening performances or performances in poorly lighted performance spaces, the musicians use stand lights to better see the music.

Band vehicles need to have access to performance location for unloading and loading equipment. Vehicles arrive at least one-half hour prior to performance.

When the Band is required to play for long periods of time, the band will take a ten minute break after the first hour of performance and a ten minute break every hour thereafter. During breaks, the band provides recordings to the event organizer to use if Organizer wishes.

The Band requires a written contract between the event organizer and the band before the band will perform. Payment in full is due by the end of the performance. A deposit is required to hold a date.

Thank you very much for considering **The Original Elbe Musikanten German Band** for your event. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to playing at your event!