

## Musician Spotlights, Issue 8

### Bruce McKern, Bass

As we all hope for clearer air soon and can feel the anticipation for live symphony performances, let's continue our celebration of our bassists with Bruce McKern!



#### **Could you tell me a little bit about yourself?**

A Medford native, I graduated from North Medford High School, received a B.A. in Music-conducting from SOU, have been with RVS since 1989, and I'm currently employed as a caregiver.

#### **What brought or inspired you to pursue bass? If you'd like to share one of your favorite pieces of music as well, I'd like to know!**

My older brother started playing bass in high school, so it's all his fault! One of my favorite pieces of music is Rachmaninoff's "Vocalise".

#### **What do you enjoy most about being with the Rogue Valley Symphony?**

Since I've been a part of it for so long, it really feels like family; all the wonderful musicians, stage crew, and audience members.

#### **What do you do when you're not playing music i.e. what are your hobbies or interests?**

Right now, napping and beard growing are my only hobbies. Two things that interest me, but I haven't had time to pursue, are bird watching and genealogy.

#### **Finally, one unusual fact, story, or tidbit about you or your instrument?**

I was a member of the inaugural ensemble (Southern Oregon Youth Orchestra) that evolved into the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon.