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strong, (bass drum), Charles Mader (Courtesy Lloyd C. Savage)

Statehood Day to feature Ohio music, musicians

By BARBARA B. KALFS
Gazette Staff Writer

Ohio music and musicians are to be featured during the two-day Statehood Day observance, Sunday and Monday.

A gospel sing of Ohio-authored songs will be held during the regular 7 p.m. Sunday service at the First United Methodist Church.

At 8 p.m. Monday in the Chillicothe High School auditorium, instrumental and choral music will be performed. Both concerts are open and free to the public.

Rating special recognition in the Monday program will be the 20th Century Band, recalled by older residents. It later merged into the Odd Fellows Band, which in turn composed the nucleus of the Civil Defense Band of World War II days.

The outstanding military band appeared at the turn of the century. Impressive Prussian type uniforms and glistening instruments added luster to the martial melodies as the band performed with the esteemed Charles Davenport wielding the baton.

It has been difficult to trace the history of the band and information as to its original composition and longevity would be welcomed. One thing is certain, a talented Columbus composer-director, J. H. Gill, traveled to Chillicothe regularly to lead the band.

His "20th Century Band March" will be performed during the Monday concert, as will other numbers of the era. The late Will Huff was a Chillicothe march composer of note, and his tunes have been preserved in the 100F-20th Century Band repertoire, given to Lloyd C. Savage for safekeeping at Chillicothe High School several years ago.

Since the age of prehistoric man, music played a significant part of Scioto Valley life. Ohio's many Indian tribes were noted for drums, grass, wood and bone flutes and whistles, pebble and shell rattles and other instruments. These Indians intoned lullabies, folk-tunes, war and hero story songs, ritual melodies for healing, the dead, the Great Spirit, war and burial.

A number of frontiersmen were noted for their musical, as well as woodsiore gifts.

The Welsh of Jackson County introduced the Eisteddfod (competition) and Gymanfa Ganu (hymn festival) to the early settlements. The hills echoed with native airs from Germany, France, England, Ireland and Scotland.

When Chillicothe was founded 175 years ago, the settlers cleared the land and built their cabins in time to early folksongs. Some of the Virginia pioneers introduced works of Mozart, and other classics. The Old Dominion culture prevailed in early Chillicothe, where many early residents had the personal recommendation of George Washington.

The year Washington died (1799), a singing school was instituted at Buff Abrams' "Big House" in which the initial drafts of Ohio's first constitution were penned.

During the War of 1812, the area boasted a local musician in the ranks — drum major John Ortman. By 1824, music was on the curriculum of a very popular boarding school for young ladies.

When the Ohio - Erie Canal was officially opened to Chillicothe on Oct. 22, 1831, the Chillicothe Band Provided music for the 500 boat travelers. The thunder of artillery and 8,000 cheering residents along the banks added to the occasion.

Savage, Chillicothe Schools music supervisor, wrote in "The Musical Heritage of Ohio" that clarinet bands were most common in the early 1800s before the brass bands were developed.

William R. Bayley played in Bailey's Circus and Menagerie Band in 1833 and noted that the following year his father, William Wood Bayley, organized a band in Chillicothe where he also taught music.

Among the nation's first buglers were the elder Bayley and Mr. Willis.

By 1854, instrumental music was coming into its own locally as evidenced in a July 20 Scioto Gazette advertisement: "The Subscriber respectfully informs the public generally, that he has purchased the jewelry store of I.N. Powell, and in addition to former stock, he has just received from New York, a fine assortment of . . . musical instruments — such as Musical boxes, common and fine violins, clarionettes, flagolettes, flutes, fifes, french horns, trumpets, Kent bugle, violoncellos, English and Spanish guitars, violincello and piano forte strings, bassoon, haurboy, and clearionette reeds."

By 1850, Germans comprised the largest nationality group in Chillicothe. The Eintracht Singing Society organized in 1852, continued until 1931.

Before the Civil War, Chillicothe German male choruses won prizes galore and took first in an 1860 Wheeling, W. Va., competition. During the war, many area lads were musicians, chief musicians, principal musicians, fifers, drummers and buglers.

One such, Col. Richard Ebstein, received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic—non - musical — efforts at Gettysburg.

During this time "concerts in the park" started and many a lovers sparked his best girl in the shadow of the bandstand.

By the 1890's, Chillicothans were hearing the finest musical touring groups, some associated with the New York Operatic Company.

High School bands now perform at most civic and patriotic functions — often playing compositions by Huff and Gill.

Concerts are an integral part of area schools' special events. Operettas were popular at Chillicothe High in the 1900's and in recent years, CHS instrumentalists and singers have staged hit Broadway musicals. Other schools also have been noted for their entrance into the musical play field.

Following World War IIa Little Symphony flourished, and there have been other orchestras and choruses, including those organized specifically for an annual rendition of "The Messiah" and bands on the local scene.

Local school musicians and gifted soloists have brought honors to Chillicothe, Ross County and its environs in the way of contest medals, prestigious concerts in metropolitan areas, television and club appearances.

Last but far from least in any history of local music is the Adelphi Band founded in 1888 and thereby the oldest musical unit in the county.

The bandsmen play an important role in the annual Ross County Fair, Bainbridge Fall Festival of Leaves and traditionally hold the lead position in the Halloween Parade. They appear at many other events throughout the area and have revived the time-honored custom of concerts in the park.

Music holds a firm place in the heritage of the area and Ohio.

Waverly man

(Continued from page 1)

Bunstine noted that Martin is 63 years old, and said he felt Martin was appointed so that the change to a Democratic deputy director could be made.

Bunstine said he had heard prior to the Friday meeting that Martin might be proposed for the appointment, and told McHenry he would go along with the appointment if Martin was willing to take it on a temporary basis.

"The meeting was rather heated in several areas," Bunstine said. He said Richley had proposed naming a second man to assist Martin, then moving him to the deputy director's job when Martin retires. The proposal was deferred, Bunstine added.

Bunstine said he has recommended to McHenry that he file application with the highway department for the assistant division engineer job or another engineering position in Division 9, since Richley had said he would be willing to consider any application either McHenry or Barklow might file.

Martin said he had learned about a week ago that he was being considered for the deputy director's job.

Martin, a 35-year resident of the Waverly area, has been a civil engineer for division 9 for 33 years, working in construction, design and planning activities of the department.

Martin has been active in civic activities in the Waverly area. He is past master of the Masonic Lodge, and past president of Waverly Service Club, high school boosters and the Fish and Game Society. He is presently serving on the Pike County Airport Authority.

Martin and his wife reside at Lake White. They have two married children and four grandchildren.

The bald eagle is protected by law in the United States and its possessions.

DIVORCE NOTICE
Case No. 10041

Velma E. Morton
Vs.
Larry D. Morton

Larry D. Morton, whose place of residence is unknown will take notice that on December 1st, 1970, the plaintiff had her complaint

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