

Kalls

Adelphi Band a fixture in local history

Editor's note: Barbara Kalls, a Gazette staff writer for more than 40 years, wrote a series of articles called Scoot Sign. This excerpt is taken from one dated Saturday, May 26, 1972.

In 1880, some fellows out Halle-Adelphi way decided to put together a musical aggregation. Little did they envision the modern day impact their action was to have.

The Adelphi Community Band was formally organized in 1880. Mont Long of Circleville, the first conductor, also directed several bands in neighboring communities. John Wineser, Bill Patterson, Otis Larch, Vic Swinbert and Sid Right were just a few of the earliest music makers.

In April, 1924, the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Adelphi organized a band under the leadership of another Circlevillian, Fred Powell. Since then, Adelphi has had a shared in the band's heritage.

R.W. Connett of Pikeston has been maestro the last six years. He chuckles about one of the most frequently put questions, "What's the age of the band?" to which he usually replies, "From eight to 80," indicating age span of band members.

During the years Frank Hickman, Charles Proxmire and Roderick Shaw have served as directors. Drum major for the present 32 bandees is George W. Rhl of Route 1, Laureville. The volunteer tuners are in great demand and their fees are added to the band "kitny."

Performers with the 1924 "reorganized" band who still are active participants include David Pontious of Kingston, tuba; Herman Hinton of Route 2, Kingston, trombone; Curtis Hinton, Route 2, Laureville, bass drum; Arthur L. Hines, Route 2, Laureville, baritone.

There's no generation gap in the band and never has been. F.M. Bowsher started playing at festivals and parades with the Adelphi musicians when a mere 14 and his two brothers, Arno and Hayes, also joined in.

There's a strong familial strain which keeps up the beat for the Adelphi music makers. Arthur Hinton's son-in-law, Raymond Maxson, plays snare drum and his grandson, Eric Maxson, trumpet. Curtis Hinton's son-in-law, Roger Egan, snare drummer, and grandson Steve Egan, cymbalist, are faithful members. Herman Hinton's son Glen and grandson Casey roll along on the snare. Hugh Clark Jr. of Halle and his son are side trombonists, grandson Charles is a trumpeter.

Men drive from near and far to rehearse concert programs and prepare for the fall season: Tom Fardson of Waverly, baritone; Ned Tomlinson and John Brown, both of near Lancaster, trumpet; James R. Tootle Jr. of Route 4, Chillicothe, trumpet; Gary Thomas of Circleville, trumpet, retired teacher E.J. Fredehich of London, French horn; Gilbert Wansley of Circleville, clarinet; Paul Davis of Zane Trace, clarinet; Eugene Gilderbeve of Route 4, Circleville, snare drum; Ed Bennett of Kingston, sousaphone; Raymond Hedges of Laureville, trumpet; John Mathew, trombone, and Jeff Mathew, trumpet; Richard Cryder, trumpet, and Mike Cryder, trombone, grandsons of Mrs. Ada Cryder, lifetime Adelphi-Halle-Adelphi area resident.

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Sat, Mar 23, 2019