



### Revival of a tradition

# Park band concert Sunday

**By BOB DREITZLER**  
Gazette Staff Writer

A tradition will be revived in Chillicothe.

At 7 p.m. Sunday, the Adelphi Band will present what will hopefully be the first of a series of outdoor concerts on the bandstand in city park.

The concert will last until 9 p.m.

The idea of reviving the band concerts was brought up at the City Council meeting Monday by acting Mayor Moecker Metzger Jr., who suggested that the Adelphi Band, "practically an institution in itself," be invited to give the first concert.

Metzger said he would pay the \$75 required by the band, in hopes of encouraging local merchants and community leaders to sponsor future concerts.

Band concerts in the park actually pre-date the bandstand which was constructed and presented to the city by Chillicothe's Aerie No. 600, Fraternal Order of Eagles, in 1906.

The bandstand, constructed during the summer of 1905 at a cost of more than \$700, was dedicated and first used Oct. 4, 1905, "the final concert of the season."

"The beautiful and graceful structure is a reminder of the generosity of the public toward this, the city's garden spot, and is one of which not only the Eagles should be proud, but the city as well," the Scio Gazette wrote of the occasion.

The Scio Gazette reported "The exercises opened with the gathering of the Eagles at their Aerie on East Second, and marching with the Twentieth Century Band to city park, where the bandstand was located, the high officers and distinguished visitors being conveyed in carriages to the scene of the ceremony.

"The entire section of the park between the two roads and the old deer pen was crowded by the vast concourse of people, mostly ladies, who were out to listen to the dedication exercises and the last band concert for the present season.

"The stand looked beautiful indeed, being freshly painted and roofed, the dome being surmounted by a large eagle on a ball. The interior of the stand was decorated with flags and a profusion of palms, while the speaker's stand was ornamented by a large bouquet of cut flowers."

Mayer Wallace D. Yaple accepted the bandstand for the city, citing the time a few years earlier when people laughed because someone had suggested the "malaria-ridden swamp" be made into a park, and noting that the city acquired the property for a park in 1872.

The Twentieth Century Band was joined by the Elmrich Singing Society in providing entertainment for the dedication.

Concerts were held yearly in the park bandstand, until it was nearly destroyed by the 1913 flood.

The Eagles restored the bandstand on its foundation following the flood, and there followed intermittent periods of use and disuse, with the bandstand gradually falling into disrepair.

In 1960, the Eagles again restored the bandstand, and it has been the scene of occasional concerts and ceremonies during the last decade.

Monday night, when Metzger suggested resurrecting the summer concerts, he noted that the stand again needs some repair work, and asked that it be cleaned up by Services Department workers.

**YOCTANGEE PARK BANDSTAND**  
Original purpose to be demonstrated Sunday

Gazette Photo

Clipped By:



mathew5554  
Fri, Mar 22, 2019