

# Past band director returns for concert

Clifford L. Kerns, retired Circleville Junior High School band director after 22 years, recently returned as guest conductor at the Circleville High School spring concert.



**CLIFFORD L. KERNS**

Kerns said he was "pleased and honored" upon his invitation to conduct at CHS. The approximately 95 member concert band includes the 1984 graduating class which was the seventh grade class at the time of Kerns' retirement.

Kerns said that he first played the piano. While in high school he was a baritone horn player and in college he also added trombone to the list.

He received his BA from Otterbein and completed work for his master's at Boston University. During World War I, he studied composing and conducting at Biarritz American University in France.

Since his retirement Kerns says he keeps busy on his 200 acre farm where he lives with his wife Marjorie. The Circle "K" Ranch is a vacation farm on Gay Dreisbach Road which will be featured in the May issue of "Ohio Magazine." Kerns also has four children, three daughters and one son, who all play musical instruments.

Kerns is a member of Ohio Retired Teachers Association and currently plays with the Adelphi Band. He also teaches private lessons at his home.

While talking about his years in the Circleville City School system he said, "The students were very well behaved...I understand that isn't so true today."

Senior band member Mike Starkey remembers Kerns as a person who "treated students like they were somebody."

"I thought a lot of him. He seemed to be well liked by most of the students," said Starkey.

According to his former students, Kerns' teaching tactics earned him the respect of those who were acquainted with him through the years.