

Hobart History Advocate

Robert Historical Society

Town Bands

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THE HOBART HIGH SCHOOL BAND

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The Rusty Pipes
by Nancy Norris

The "Crash Course Band" turned out last Friday evening to celebrate Mr. and Mrs. Ed Passow. Passow set a present of \$3,500. The music furnished rounded good and was greatly appreciated by the club members. The hobby class met on April 12, 1960.

In March 1953, The School Musician magazine elected the Cornet Trio of Hobart, Indiana: Everett Pyle, Robert Rhoades and Robert Mayhew to their Hall of Fame for the growing state and record of concert. A photo of the three graced the cover of that issue.

Director Frederick Ebbs organized Hobart's first marching band in 1945. In 1951 and 1952 the Hobart High School Marching Band was named "Best" in a film demonstrating marching and basic formations. Crestwood Golf Course was the movie set.

Richard Worthington, during his tenure as president of the Rusty Pipes band formed in 1981.

The German Band, according to history, was originally formed as a "fun thing" and a fund raiser for the Rusty Pipes. Hunzler had been the leader of a German "Hunzy" band that played at half-time of Hobart High School games. Original band members included: Walter H. Schumacher, who was the president when it formed in 1983. Since then the band has expanded their music library with music and scores printed in Germany. The band also has increased its membership and will perform with as many as 40 members.

Students, Hoberg and the German Band, and many activities. All the original six members are still with the club.

The band releases at Keldin's Flower Shop every Thursday evening. Hoberg says brass blowing, the most important part of music, is the area of the best musicians in the area are members of the

Compass-Pan

The Band behind the band. Nicknamed the "band behind the band," the Hobart Band Mothers, the first organization of its kind, was organized in 1931 to provide support and backing for the band. Funds were needed for instruments, and the lack of a rehearsal space in Astoria, where the band resided, was a hindrance to the band. This led to the idea for a "band behind the band," to raise money for the band. Funds were needed for instruments, and the lack of a rehearsal space in Astoria, where the band resided, was a hindrance to the band. This led to the idea for a "band behind the band," to raise money for the band.

The Band Behind the Band

The Practice Years
Bartram W. Francis, a graduate of Northwestern University, succeeded William D. Howell as board director from 1935 to 1940. Under his leadership the Hobart helped each other with academic subjects.

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concert hours with
Robert High School

Director Frederick Band to provide a challenge for the band after musical contests were discontinued. The years indeed proved a challenge in fund raising, in attendance, and logistics as well as in music and were a unique opportunity for the student body to see the details who the band traveled with.

The band traveled widely, often giving as many as ten or eleven concerts in eight days. The first tour was in 1946 to the Music Educators National Conference in Cleveland, Ohio.

In 1947 the band went out performing at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. Other tours included Indiana (1948), and, later, Michigan (1949).

Richard A. Worthington, an alumnus of the Hoover High School Band, became its director in 1948. Worthington met in marching and in music. He made extensive tours with the band, to Washington, D.C., New York City, Toronto, Portland, and Louisiana, and the states in between, playing at the wedding tour. The band was twice invited to perform at the Midwest Band Clinic, playing concerts and clinics in Chicago and St. Louis, and at the demon-stration band.

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The Worthington Years

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Edwards left in 1948 to become director of bands at Baldwin-Wallace College in Ohio. His later band similar positions at the University of Iowa and Indiana University.

Other tours around Lake

1953 and membership of the Illinois State College, Urbana, Illinois State College, Northern Illinois State College, and Northeastern Illinois University.

1953-1992 the band from 1953-1955, also touring with the band through Illinois, Kansas, Colorado, Missouri, and Canada. He was succeeded by Robert K. Webb (1955-63), formerly assistant manager of the bank, whose requirements limited and hampered the Band's annual tours.

Under the direction of Alvin E. Kogepogoroff (1963-68), the band received an unprecedented financial boost, as the president, Ralph Clark, and the dean, Roger T. McConnell, both of whom were directors in 1964-66, leaving to become Director of Bands at Ball State University.

1959, New Orleans (1959), Washington, DC (1961), Florida (1962), New York (1963), Denver (1964), and Canada (1965). By 1966, increasing costs limited the range of the tours to Indiana and neighboring states, and they were discontinued.

1971, the Robert High School Stage Band resumed the tour, traveling to the Missouri jazz Festival in St. Louis and also giving concerts in Scotland, Germany, Holland, France and England.

The Kuxy Pops, some of whom had toured with the band in their high school days, made a trip to Washington, D.C. in 1986, where they performed in President

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Last Year
Raymond Givens was band director from 1965 through 1982. During his tenure, a large band was formed and many honors. In 1971, the state band performed at the Minnesota state festival in St. Cloud. Givens was also a member of the National Bandmasters Association of America, France and England. Givens introduced the military corps-pom-pom, flares, corps, and flag drill routines. Miscellaneous bands were directed for the 1960s and 1970s. Givens was followed by Art Henderson from 1983 to 1992. Jim Gagliardi, who returned from 1987-89 to 1992, Tom Johnson assumed the position in 1993. The band program has decreased in the last 10 years and is now directed over the years as the community can

included in the

the school have grown and have changed. Although the orchestra in 1937, when the school started, had 15 members, the number has increased to 40. The school's band program is still in its infancy, but it is growing. The school's band program should be:

(Continued to Column 2 - Page 2)