THE BEGINNING OF A TRADITION

The OSU Marching Band was already 88 years old in 1966, so a reunion of former members was long overdue. Dr. Charles Spohn was the primary catalyst. He initiated an extensive search starting with rosters copied from The Makio and band records. Volunteers were sent to the old Alumni House on 17th Avenue to search for current addresses. A questionnaire was mailed to 1,492 band alumni, and the responses indicated a very strong desire to have a reunion.

Spohn wanted the band alumni to run their own reunion, as much as possible. Meetings were held periodically over a two year period, and intensity grew in the spring and early summer of 1966. On the planning committees were: Ziggy Coyle, Merv Durea, Russ Hill, Chuck Gabelman, Jerry Kaye, Dick Keller, Deve Kesling, Jim McCreary, Bev Moseley, and Les Susi. Paul Droste, who was the new Assistant Director, Band Secretary Linda Mason and Graduate Assistant Koste Belcheff did much of the day-to-day work.

The committee meetings were long and hot in the non-air conditioned Stadium Band Room. Major decisions had to be made, and one of them was that this had to be much more than a “banquet reunion.” When it was finally decided that the band alumni would march and play in both pregame and halftime shows, the enthusiasm overcame the heat of the summer. At the insistence of Merv Durea, “A MARCHING BAND MARCHES!” became the rallying cry. Years of hindsight tells us that this decision was the reason that the first reunion was so successful, and why we are holding annual reunions to this day.

There were a few glitches, however. It was decided that no one over 40 years of age should be allowed to march. It is rumored that several of the alumni past that age conveniently skirted the issue and marched anyway. A doctor and nurse were “on standby.” Jerry Kaye led the music and discovered that everyone was playing the fight songs as they had learned them years ago, and not as the current band was playing them. For instance, Le Regiment was now played in Bb, not Ab, and this required a modulation before the singing of Buckeye Battle Cry at the end of the Script.

Russ Hill and Ziggy Coyle and Les Susi found sousaphones and other instruments for the reunion by sending out trucks to high school football games on Friday night. Jim McCreary and his committee handled the registration. There was no uniform budget, so the band wore dark pants, white shirts, and a paper visor furnished by Gene D’Angelo. The prophetic visor read: 1st ANNUAL OSU MARCHING BAND ALUMNI DAY.

A small crowd of 73,374 was on hand on September 17, 1966 to see OSU open the season against Texas Christian. Out of the tunnel came over two hundred former bandsmen and they set the crowd roaring as they marched down the field - in straight lines. The first double Script Ohio in band history concluded the halftime show, with the regular band allowing the Alumni Band to play to the home (west) side of Ohio Stadium, while they faced east. Larry Cory (drum major, 1957, 1958) led the Alumni Script. Over 500 former band members were in attendance.

Another reunion was held in 1967. This time the Alumni Band formed two Script Ohios while the regular band lined up in the center of the field. After a gap of four years, the annual reunions started in 1971.

With the official chartering of The TBDBITL Alumni Club on May 9, 1972, the structure was in place for future reunions. The rest, as they say, is history.
T.B.D.B.I.T.L.

IT WAS a sight that thrilled every spectator in the Stadium. The 1966 Ohio State Marching Band broke out from the north end of the Stadium, then waited while another group of bandsmen, in white shirts and dark slacks, followed the same routine and marched in precision down the field.

This was the alumni band, formed by 220 of the 500 bandsmen who returned to campus for reunion on Sept. 24. Their lines were as straight as any of the bands that had followed them in the years that passed.

It was the first reunion of former bandsmen and they had decided to create another “first” in the same Stadium where the Script Ohio was born. As this year’s Marching Band formed the revolving “O” and started to write “Ohio” for the fans on the eastern side of the Stadium, the Alumni Band proceeded to do the same for the fans on the west side. As the crowd cheered, the alumni demonstrated they had retained the same dexterity through the years (see pictures at right).

The Band reunion was as successful as the show the alumni put on for the Stadium crowd. Oldest member present was one who dated back before the day when bands marched on the field — back to 1907. He was Ralph Kempton, Columbus architect, now retired.

Among the drum majors returning for the Alumni Band was William E. Knepper, Columbus attorney and First Vice President of the Alumni Association, who served as drum major in ’28, ’29, and ’30.

The bandsmen gathered for an informal evening at the Ohio Staters Inn on Friday night, rehearsed Saturday morning, then held a reception at French Field House after the game. The seven-man committee which handled arrangements — Dr. Jim McCreary, Chuck Gableman, Jerry Kaye, Ziggy Coyle, Deve Kesling, Koste Belcheff and Dick Keller — hope that a permanent alumni organization of T.B.D.B.I.T.L. will develop. What do the initials stand for? Why — The Best Damn Band In The Land — of course.
FORMER BANDSMEN GATHER

CERTAIN alumni will be doubling in brass on Sept. 24 when Ohio State plays Texas Christian University to open the 1966-67 football season.

The alumni will return to campus for the first reunion of the Marching Band, also known as BDBL — Best Damn Band In The Land. The Marching Band Alumni Day on Sept. 24 is the climax of a year's hard work, some of it performed with the cooperation of Alumni Records.

The idea of bringing back members of BDBL had been just a dream because of the problem of contacting former bandmen. Over the years, different band directors, of course, kept different kinds of records on their bandmen.

In late 1965, Dr. Charles Spohn, current band director, enlisted the help of several students and former bandmen to find as many Marching Band alumni as possible.

The search began last December. Linda Martin, a senior in dental hygiene and a self-proclaimed Marching Band fan, took on the task of digging through records, some of which went as far back as 1890.

Her search took her through old issues of the Makan, the roster lists of all the directors, personal data forms turned in by bandmen and even some forgotten grade books. Linda and her helpers turned up 2,979 names.

Alumni Records was able to match addresses to 1,452 names (not all former bandmen are graduates) and letters went out earlier this year. Bandmen living across the country and in several foreign countries received invitations. One letter even went to Vietnam, where a recent graduate is serving in the Army.

Several alumni heard about the proposed reunion early and "banded" together to form a reunion committee. They are Dr. James McCravey, of Columbus, drum major in 1932 and 1933; Charles Gobron, BSc, Band Adj't, vice president of the C. G. Coan Band Instrument Co., Elkhart, Ind.; Devon E. "Dave" Kesling, BScEd, 60 and drum major in 1946 and 1947, Richardson, Tex.; Richard Keller, BScEd, 64, Columbus and S. Jerry Kaye, BScEd, 49, MA 51, Columbus, N. Diet Hettinger, a seven-year band member who will graduate in 1967, did much of the spade work and publicity for the reunion committee.

Director Spohn, while not sure of the number who will attend the reunion, said, "There will be room for any former bandman who can find his way to Columbus. Any former bandman who did not receive notice of the reunion should write to Marching Band Alumni Day, 1899 N. College Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43210."

The Marching Band Alumni Day will start with a reunion breakfast in French Field House. After breakfast, the bandmen will gather for a rehearsal. Many of the men will bring their own instruments, rescued from dusty attics or closets, but Dr. Spohn has promised to find instruments for those who cannot supply their own.

After the rehearsal, the alumni band will make its appearance in the Stadium and will then be seated in the section normally reserved for the visiting band. When the game is over, the 1966 edition of the band will join the returning bandmen at a reception.

Ohio State's Marching Band has a history of firsts. In the 20s, it became one of the first bands to perform lettered formations, walking slowly into an O-H-I-O to the beat of drums.

Then came some of the first "floating" formations that simulated movement. Until the mid-20s, the job of the drum major was simply to give signals to his fellow bandmen. But along came O. Edwin "Toby" Ewing, who became the father of Ohio State's high-stepping, swaggering drum majors. Toby strung his snare in a $500, gold-laced outfit.

There have been more than 20 drum majors in the history of the Marching Band, including William E. Kooper, current first vice president of the Alumni Association and "Dave" Kesling, the drum major pictured shouting "Reunion!"

Eugene Weigel transformed the Marching Band into an all-brass band in 1934 — another college first. Weigel also invented the now-famous Script Ohio, still the band's favorite formation.

Manley Whitcomb became director in 1942 and invented the fast reversing marching band. He placed the drums and horns in positions that would enable the band to reverse direction without affecting the quality of the music on either side of the Stadium.

Bandmen work long, hard hours to achieve the perfection shown on Saturday. They customarily return to the campus in the fall a week or two earlier than other students to rehearse. This year is a particularly hardship, because there are two home games before classes begin.

And there are no grants-in-aid for bandmen.

The Marching Band usually appears at one "away" game in a season, and has such a good reputation that the visiting school often fears the invading Marching Band more than the football team.

Once again, on Sept. 24, fans will feel their poles quiver as the Marching Band enters the north gate of the Stadium, marches smartly around the goalposts, awaits the grand entry of its drum major, then blasts down the field at a brisk, 180 steps per minute to "Buckeye Battle Cry."

It's that time of the year again.

The Script Ohio formation, first performed in October of 1926, still is a crowd favorite.
200 Alumni And A Cloud Of Dust--
Drum Majors March Again

By MIKE LORZ
Citizen-Journal Staff Writer

It will be old home week in the Ohio Stadium band room Saturday as more than 200 alumni of the marching band march again in pre-game and half-time entertainment.

Spectators at the season opener against Texas Christian University will get a double dose of band entertainment—a double ramp entrance, the traditional entry from the tunnel in the north end of the stadium, and even a double Script O-H-I-O, one facing each side of the stadium.

BAND DIRECTOR Charles Spohn expects about 500 former marching band members to attend the reunion—first since the band was organized in 1878.

Two-hundred-and-eight of the old-timers will march in the pre-game flag raising, and 120, the same number as now in the 1966 Marching Band, will join in the half-time ceremony.

UNIFORMS for the alumni will be dark trousers, white shirts and paper hats.

Eight Columbus residents, all former drum majors, will be on hand Saturday. Some will get together to lead the alumni musicians.

Perhaps the oldest Columbus drum major to attend Saturday's game will be William E. Knepper, 2633 York rd. He led the band in 1928, '29 and '30. Knepper is an attorney with Knepper, White, Richards and Miller, 150 E. Broad st.


PETTIGREW handed over his baton to Dr. James H. McCreary, now a leading dermatologist and consultant in the College of Medicine and Student Health Service, at OSU.

Charles M. Frank, 1707 Roxbury rd, took over the baton twirling chores in 1934. The next Columbus resident to strut before the band was Gerald M. Johnson of 3840 Mountview rd, in 1942.

JOHNSON later founded the auto parts firm of Peterson-Johnston with five local offices, after serving three years in the Army during World War II as a first lieutenant.

In 1946, Beverley Moseley went to the head of the band. Moseley, of 3415 Jerome Court, Grove City, is art director at the Ohio Historical Society Museum.

YOUNGSTERS among the alumni drum majors at the reunion will be Rick Marsh and Leonard Hart, Marsh, of 2489 Bexford pl, led the band in 1956 and Hart, of 4008 Elm st in 1959 and 1960.

So, with almost a year of work and decades of wishing behind it, the dream of a marching band reunion at OSU is about to become a reality.

SPOHN AND others hope this reunion will be the nucleus of a permanent Band Alumni Organization. A committee of former bandmen has been formed to help with arrangements. They are: McCreary, Charles Gabler, of Elkhart, Ind.; Dave Keeling, Richardson, Tex.; Richard Keller, 2886 Valleyview-dr, and Jerry Kayo, 6126 Applegate Lane.
Dear Alumni Members of T.B.D.B.I.T.L.:

Here is the final information about the first O.S.U. Marching Band Alumni Day, to be held on Saturday, September 24, 1966. Enclosed with this letter are the parking permit(s) (if you ordered one), your membership card to the O.S.U. Marching Band Alumni (if you paid your dues), the time schedule, and a card indicating what you have ordered and how you indicated you would participate in the Alumni Band Day festivities. Game tickets, meal tickets, music, marching position and number, identification badges, etc., will be picked up when you register.

1. REGISTRATION. Registration will take place inside the French Field House (next to St. John Arena) between 7:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon. If you plan to play or march and play, please register between 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

2. PARKING. The Tuttle Avenue parking lot -- just east of St. John Arena -- is reserved for us. However, they will open the lot to the public at 11:00 a.m., so you should arrive before then in order to assure a parking space. A uniformed handsman will be at the lot to help you.

3. MEALS. Your meal tickets will be picked up when you register. The $1.50 includes both breakfast and lunch, and you will have two tickets per person -- one for breakfast and one for lunch. Refer to the schedule for meal times.

4. INSTRUMENTS. Those of you who are borrowing an O.S.U. instrument may pick them up after you register. (Please check the card included herewith to see if the instrument information is correct.) PLEASE, DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR OWN LYRES. If at all possible, try to bring your own lyer even if you are using an O.S.U. instrument, as our supply is very limited. Instruments should be checked in after the game at the French Field House.

5. INFORMAL GET-TOGETHER. Friday night, September 23rd, at the Ohio Staters Inn.
6. WHAT TO WEAR. In order that our Alumni Band can look uniformly dressed, we are asking you to wear dark trousers, white shirts, with **no ties**. We will furnish a visor-type hat to all alumni bandsmen.

7. **GAME TICKETS.** All alumni bandsmen will be sitting together during the game and are admitted to the game without charge. (Your identification badge must be worn.) Family and friends of the band alumni must have tickets and will sit together in the stands. Game tickets will be picked up when you register.

8. **AFTER GAME.** After the football game, everyone is invited back to the French Field House for a reception sponsored by the 1966 O.S.U. Marching Band. Refreshments will be served.

9. **OTHER INFORMATION.** You may want to refer to the information included in the second letter we sent you, if there are any further questions.

The Alumni Band will play music throughout the football game. (The instrumentation, by the way, is well balanced.) Those of you who are marching will participate in the pre-game show by performing a ramp entrance, marching down the field, and raising the flag. During half-time, will join the 1966 O.S.U. Marching Band in a fitting climax to their show.

After the game, everyone who has an instrument will join the Marching Band on the field for a mass post-game concert (just a few tunes).

Please be at the rehearsals on time so that we can organize our efforts in the true spirit of T.B.D.B.I.T.L. We promise not to tire you out too much. We are looking forward to seeing you and making this Alumni Band Day a great event in the lives of all O.S.U. Marching Band Alumni.

YEA OHIO!

Sincerely,

THE COMMITTEE
TIME SCHEDULE
OSU MARCHING BAND ALUMNI DAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 1966

7:30 - 12:00  Registration

7:30 - 8:30  Continental breakfast; pick up instruments

8:30 - 9:30  Music rehearsal and organization

10:00 - 11:00  Marching rehearsal

11:00 - 12:00  Lunch

12:00 - 12:30  Visit OSU Marching Band "Skull Session"

12:35  Form in French Field House for pre-game show

AFTER GAME  Reception and instrument check in at French Field House
## Alumni Band Personnel

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SEPT. 24, 1966
OSU - TCU
OSU MARCHING BAND ALUMNI DAY
PRE GAME CHART #2
RAMP ENTRANCE LINE UP
president, kept Buckeye fans alive with rousing cheers of her own during an otherwise gloomy game.

peacefully,” the sergeant laughed, as he watched the two racing teams briefly collide and then blend together.

LADY OF LOVE—Pamela Olivia Webb, 19, an OSU freshman from Wooster, didn’t want a broken leg to keep her from Saturday’s Washington-Ohio State game. So, with the help of a gentleman friend, Frank Hallfort, 19, of Russell, she saw the game. At top, Frank carries her up the stairs of the Deck to her seat. At bottom the pair sit happily in their seats and watch the game.

SAD DAY—Even spirited Sue Davis, 20, a cheerleader from Kettering, couldn’t keep smiling throughout Saturday’s game as the Buckeyes lost to Washington.

HIGH RISE HELLO—One of two new high rise dormitories along the Oldenhit River opened to students a few days before Saturday’s football game. By the day of the game, the students were ready—displaying a four-story-high “Go Bucks” pennant.

ELECTRONIC AGE—The Washington football staff introduced a first at Saturday’s game when they ordered installed their “Electrowriter,” an electronic device that duplicated handwritten notes from Washington coaches up in the press box to the Huddle bench.

EXTRA LOAD—A wise businessman is always ready to answer his customer’s demands by having plenty of merchandise on hand. Dispatch newspaperboy Gary Crowe, 12, of 428 E. 17th Ave., hitched a wagon to his bike in order to bring an extra load of newspapers to the Buckeye game. A friend, Linda Powell, 11, also of 428 E. 17th Ave., lends a hand.
Factory Tours
Can Provide
New Diversions

By ROBERT PETTERSON

Yorks who have retired often write to this column describing automobile trips they are planning. They say they've seen the sights at the famous tourist attractions, such as Niagara Falls, Grand Canyon, and the Statue of Liberty, and wonder for new diversions. It's my suggestion that they get wise to industrial tours which are sometimes more fascinating than natural wonders. In every state there are dozens of factories and plants equipped to give visitors a free tour of the plant.

THE BEST PLAN is to make a list of the larger cities you plan to visit on your automobile trip. Then write to the Chamber of Commerce in each of these cities asking which companies offer free tours to the public.

Have you ever wondered how the mine copper cabinets are made at the Kennewick Copper Corp. at Kalamazoo, Mich.? There are some of largest open pit copper mines in the world. They're also welcome at the Anaconda copper plant at Great Falls, Mont.

You'll be welcome at the Coca-Cola bottling plant in Atlanta, Ga.; the Del Monte pineapple cannery in Honolulu, Hawaii; the potato processing plants at Bremerton, Idaho; the union stockyards in Chicago, Ill.; and the plant of U.S. Steel at South Bend, Ind.

IN IOWA YOU CAN VISIT the world's largest meat ball at Cedar Rapids, in Kansas the great wheat storage elevators at Hutchinson. In Missouri you can visit the big naval stores in St. Louis, and in California you can visit the beet juice plant.

In Pennsylvania, you can visit the major steel plants, and in Hipster, Wis., you can visit the iron mine.

No one should pass through life without seeing an automobile assembly line. These assembly lines are open to the public at the Ford Rouge plant at Dearborn, Mich. There's also a fine tour you can take of the plant of General Motors assembly plant at Kansas City, Kan.

A quick look at the assembly line is only a tiny fraction of the total tours available—there are literally hundreds of different possibilities. These four opportunities can prove fascinating and educational, and can give the visitor a great new view of the United States which mark America's industrial might.

YOUR HEALTH

Dolphins Contain C.O. With Malta

LIFE BEGINS AT 40

Daily Feature Page

NOW LET ME TELL YOU

Buckeye Bandsmen Will Reunite

By JOHNNY JOHNSON

From the north end of Ohio Stadium where the Ohio State Marching Band has emerged with that first strong year will emerge a different sight Saturday.

These actual will be hundreds of former bandstand who have received invitations to the first marching band reunion, a fitting start to the Golden Year celebration of Ohio State's first football championship.

THE ALUMNI will be playing, as season opens, Saturday, a tune makes premier debut.

The history of the band goes back to 1897, when the first band was organized. When they were organized. Then Major Murry of the ROTC set up the first "Ohio" organization. I will always remember the figure of the incomparable Swadler (Fred) Edgell, drum major. They took up a collection for him to raise uniform.

The modern history of the band begins in 1929, when Prof. Eugene Weigel became its director. Weigel, now professor emeritus, brought about all brass band. Charles L. Spohn is the director now. Jack Evans preceded him.

The drum major today is Mitchell C. Breese.

OUT OF A LIST of 1979 names of alumni bandstands, more than 100 letters were sent for the reunion, some even to Viet Nam. The big gang will have a rehearsal in 5 days.
Buckeye Band Helped
Three Yards' Author

Tom Keys

Ohio State's official marching band has provided endless hours of entertainment for thousands upon thousands in recent years.

The story of admittance will grow again Saturday when OSU opens its 77th football season here against Texas Christian.

You think of the band and you think of football and one big horsetail.

Perhaps then he prompted Bill Keys to turn his musical brain to a new book.

'Buckeye Band: Three Yards A Clove O' Dust.'

It was unveiled Wednesday and will be on sale at last weekend Thursday with marginal cover at 25 cents.

In the book depl the author, also Linoleum, to talk about how the city and the state form the theme for the latest journalistic contribution by the red-line newspaper men who now serve as public relations managers of the Goodpse.

THE BOOK HAS A MODERN title inspired by OSU's present coach. Keys is or rather, he is probably between the band, the band of Woody Hayes' coached such. He is modern in another, respect, "Some of the old timers will feel slightly warm for the book with the Ohio State band for a reason, of course, supplying the background music."

But what about the book? "Ohio State had been playing football for more than a quarter of a century, but the real Ohio State story hadn't begun in three seasons. John Winkler had shown great deal of promise as a college football coach, but for two years of a dark-haired younger from Columbus (Ohio) to establish himself as one of football's great masters and to put Ohio State on the national map for the first time."

Naturally, the dark-haired younger was Hayes. He ignited the spark that would make Columbus the capital of college football.

LEYVE'S "THREE YARDS" is, for all practical purposes, a history of Ohio State football from 1916 right up to yesterday's kickoff. It is even though the finished copy on the book last March.

He interviewed hundreds of people and reconstruced by the hour, Keys talked with Hayes and former coaches Paul Brown, Carroll Widdowson, Paul Master and Wixy Page.

Alumni-Buyer Jack Fuller, Head's Brandian, as Hayes' No. 4 player, "was extremely helpful to me. Ad as was Woody's wife, Mrs. Brown, on the other hand, was difficult."

Keys' biggest victories, the disappointments, the 'Bring Back Brown' movement generated and lost by the Dispatch and the old Journal, the Frontlist, the heat played on Page, a bitter writer who said he objected to mediocrity, but Page was Keys' starring all the bases.

HE STEPS ON A TREADMILL which must be among them... something I'll learn as I read 'Three Yards' instead of leafing through the book.

Keys looks for Columbus to be his book of mark, but it should not. "There's not an interest in college football, but especially Ohio State football."

Next week by Keys, "The Buckeyes of the Red 'Kentucky' Derby'' to be published in March by The World Publishing Co. (the firm that handled 'Three Yards A Clove O' Dust'..."
As OSU Clips the Frogs' Horn

While Batman, Superman and The Green Hornet cavorted, Eastmoor High School sophomore Shirley Davis, 15, did a gridiron-a-go-go.

Two Script Ohios Mark Opener Win For Small School
FAMILY AFFAIR—The Ohio State University Marching Band is a family affair for these members of the Burton clan, all natives of Marion, Ohio. From left are Marion Burton, Jr., a member of the band in 1941-42 and now a Marion advertising executive; Donald Burton, 22, a fifth-year music major who plays trumpet in this year’s band; and William Burton, ‘36, a tuba player in the 1947-48 marching band who is now superintendent of schools in New London, Ohio. In addition, the late G. L. Burton, father of Marion and William, was Dad of band at the OSU Dad’s Day game in 1943. Still another brother, Dr. Glen Burton Jr., was a member of the OSU military band in 1943. Donald is a son of R. G. Burton, a former OSU student. Donald is a nephew of Marion and William.

Photographs on these pages were taken by James Richards, John Huddy and members of the Dispatch photographic staff.

THE SEASON’S FIRST—Forty-four years ago Mrs. Benton S. Kirk watched the dedication of the Ohio Stadium as an OSU student at the Oct. 21, 1912, Michigan game. Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Kirk, of New Philadelphia, arrived at the stadium before noon to become the first of the half million fans expected to watch Buckeye home games. The Kirk’s son, Brenton Jr., was an OSU football tackle in 1912. (Dispatch Photo)

FALL FASHIONS—Buckeye fans will have little trouble identifying their favorites this year—OSU gridironers now wear uniforms with their names on the back.
Band Grads Get to March, Too,
THE BEGINNING OF THE TRADITION

The Story of The First OSU Marching Band Alumni Reunion

September 24, 1966

All traditions have a story behind them. And our tradition is no different. The first OSU Marching Band Reunion took place on September 24, 1966 (OSU vs TCU) in Ohio Stadium. Unlike the more recent reunions, this one was done on an "ad hoc" basis by an "ad hoc" committee. Nobody just starts a tradition, but obviously something was done right in 1966. The basic structure of this first reunion has remained relatively intact for 27 years.

As the OSU Marching Band was already 88 years old in 1966 (using the beginning date of the fife and drum corps of 1878), a reunion was long overdue. Where did the idea originate? Jack Evans remembers that Columbus Dispatch columnist Johnny Jones made the suggestion several years prior to 1966. In the Spring of 1966, a very successful OSU Concert Band Reunion was organized by Dr. Donald McGinnis. Bev Mosely was already working on a film that would document the OSU Drum Major tradition.

Dr. Charles Spohn, the Marching Band Director from 1964 through 1969, can take the credit for being the primary catalyst, however. Late in 1965, Spohn brought together a committee of Leonard Hart (Drum Major in 1959-60), Koste Balcheff, and Dan Heinlen from the Alumni Association. Copies were made of OSU Marching Band rosters from The Makio and other sources. Then volunteers were sent to the Old Alumni House on 17th Avenue to search for current addresses. According to the September, 1966, issue of The Alumni Monthly, 2979 names were identified. Questionnaires were sent to 1452 of those for whom current addresses were available. The responses indicated a very strong desire to have a reunion.
The next step was organizing a committee of OSU Marching Band alums to do the actual planning for this first reunion. At the risk of leaving out some who were actively involved during the Spring and Summer of 1966, here are the names that have surfaced some 27 years later: Ziggy Coyle, Merv Durea, Russ Hill, Chuck Gableman, Jerry Kaye, Dick Keller, Deve Kealing, Jim McCreary, Bev Mosely, and Les Susi. Paul Drote was new to the OSU Marching Band Staff in 1966 and sat in on most of the summer meetings. Koste Belcheff, OSUMB Graduate Assistant in 1966 was actively involved in the planning. Linda Mason, the band secretary, did much of the work of gathering the addresses and making the mailings. And, of course, coordinating all of this was Charlie Spohn who wanted the band alumni to run their own reunion as much as possible.

The weather was hot that Summer of 1966 and the Stadium Band Room, site of the meetings, was not (and still is not) air conditioned. Merv Durea remembers the long and hot meetings, but he also remembers how the band staff and the alums worked together. The discussions were hot, as well. There was some thought given to making this reunion into a social event, focusing primarily on an informal get-together and banquet. A lack of enthusiasm for this idea led the discussion to another level - the possibility of attending an OSU home football game (as the guests of the OSU Athletic Department, of course). If this happened, perhaps the alums could bring their instruments and play during the game.

It really got hot when the discussion centered around a marching and playing reunion. The enthusiasm that was lacking until then finally came to the surface. A genuine excitement about doing one more Ramp Entrance, and one more Script Ohio swept through the committee. THE OSU MARCHING BAND MARCHES!!! (Quoth Merv). Twenty-seven years of hindsight tells us that this decision was the reason that the first reunion was so successful, and why we are still holding reunions on an annual basis. Oh, to be 18 years old again, at least for one day!!
There were a few glitches and rough spots. First of all, it was decided that no one over 40 years of age should be allowed to march because of possible medical problems. It is rumored that several of the alums past that cut-off point conveniently changed their ages and marched anyway. Dan Heinlen remembers that a doctor and nurse were "on standby." Then there was the music. Jerry Kaye assumed the musical leadership of the band and promptly discovered that everyone was playing the fight songs as he had learned them years before, not as the songs were then being played. He immediately passed out the official printed versions and the band was now "on the same page," so to speak.

Where did the instruments come from? Don't ask Russ Hill unless you have an hour to hear the whole story. Russ and Ziggy Coyle and Les Susi coordinated the sending of cars, trucks and vans to several high school football games on the Friday night to collect sousaphones, drums and other instruments for the reunion band. This thankless task was crucial to the success of the reunion and the alums were all in debt to the local high school bands and their directors. Russ reports that most instruments were returned late Saturday night or Sunday morning, another task of his committee. Clarence Williams of the OSU School of Music also helped locate and distribute the instruments.

Jim McCreary and his committee handled the registration. The low budget uniform consisted of black pants, socks, shoes and white shirts. Gene D'Angelo furnished white visors for the reunion band, and some of them were left scattered on the field, along with pieces of unmemorized music. The visors had this omen printed on them: 1st ANNUAL OSU MARCHING BAND ALUMNI DAY. How prophetic! Jack Evans attended as a guest of the alums and later became the music director of the reunions, along with starting The Active Band - yet another spin-off of the reunions.

There was a social get-together on the Friday night at the Ohio Staters Inn, followed by the one and only rehearsal on Saturday morning. A picture of the first Double Script Ohio was on the cover of the October, 1966, issue of The Alumni Monthly. It was reported that 500 band alumni were in attendance with 220 of them marching in the Ramp Entrance and 120 in the Script Ohio.
A film of that first reunion is still in existence. The Reunion Band performed The Ramp Entrance and Star-Spangled Banner at pregame, and one half of the Double Script Ohio at Halftime. The regular band chose the theme of "Signs of the Times" for its Halftime Show. Featured were formations of stick figures and a rabbit, plus Batman, three Go-Go girls, and other assorted characters. Charlie Spohn directed The Star-Spangled Banner, and he and Paul Droste were on the ladders for the first Double Script. The reunion band formed its Script to the west (home) side of Ohio Stadium, while the 1966 Marching Band covered the east side. After exhaustive research, the identities of the alumni drum major and i-dotter are still unknown.

Prior to this first reunion, it was felt that most alums would not be willing to attend reunions on an annual basis. However, enough alums who missed the first one, (plus those who did attend in 1966,) petitioned Dr. Spohn and the committee requesting that another one be held in 1967. It was, and after a gap of four years, the annual reunions began in 1971. With the official chartering of the TBDBITL Alumni Club in 1972, the structure was in place for future reunions.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Paul Droste

May, 1993
SCRIPT OHIO AWARD

Established by the Board of Governors - August 17, 1972

1972

Professor Eugene J. Weigel, OSUMB Director 1929-1938
Created the Script Ohio Formation
Former Director OSU School of Music (deceased 1973)
(presented by Dr. James McCreary)

1973

Dr. Elvin Donaldson, Assistant Director under Gustav Bruder
1923-1929, served as interim Director, and under Weigel
Voted prior to his death in 1973, awarded posthumously
to his widow
(presented by William Knepper)

1974

Richard Heine, Arranger for OSUMB under four directors
Responsible for the "Sound of the OSUMB"
(presented by Jack O. Evans)

1975

Professor Jack O. Evans, Director, OSUMB 1952-1963
Developed the "Campus Chimes" used later with Carmen Ohio
Began the recordings for general distribution
(presented by Dr. Janet Ebart)

1976

Dr. Manley R. Whitoomb, Director, OSUMB 1939-1942, 1946-1951
Eight to Five, floating Formations, Popular Tunes
(presented by Professor Jack O. Evans)

1977

Dr. Charles L. Spohn, Director OSUMB 1964-1969
"Hang On Sloopy", Script Ohio Yearbook,
Alumni Reunions
(presented by Dr. Paul E. Droste)

1978

Dr. William B. McBride, Director OSUMB 1943-1945
Kept a band on the field throughout World War II
Insisted on keeping traditions already established
(presented by Dr. John Ramey)

1979

William Knepper, Drum Major 1928, 1929, 1930
Initiated many of the modern drum major concepts
Was recognized in Eastern newspapers as "Redpants" -
Made quite a hit with fans and press on the East Coast
President of TBDBITL when the club was officially
chartered by the Alumni Association
(presented by Patrick Campbell)

1980

Dr. James H. McCreary, Drum Major OSUMB 1932, 1933
Four year member of the band, originated Goal Post Toss
as Drum Major, Oldest drum major performing with the Alumni
Band, Band Doctor on Bowl trips since 1958
(presented by Dr. Paul E. Droste)
1981 Edwin (Tubby) Essington, OSUMB Drum Major, 1920, 1921, 1922
Famous OSU Drum Major, pictured many times,
Fascinated the press, changed the uniform style, and dazzled
with his showmanship (presented posthumously to his
widow)
(presented by Beverly H. Moseley)

1982 Dr. Paul E. Droste, Director OSUMB 1970-1983
OSUMB made a bowl trip each year, continued the tradition
of excellence, made the transition to female members and
trombones, enlarged the band
(presented by Dr. David Meeker)

1983 John Tatgenhorst, Band Arranger 1960's, 70's, and 80's
made the "Hang On Sloopy" arrangement, and contributed
greatly to the popular sound of the band, former bandsman
(presented by Ziggy Coyle)

1984 Beverley Moseley, Drum Major OSUMB 1946
assisted in many ways designing props, etc. as a student
as a graduate has assisted OSUMB Directors in every way with
the undergraduate drum majors, and has contributed his drum
major and artistic skills to the TBDBITL Alumni Club and
Bands (also - he made his own award!)
(presented by Ziggy Coyle)

1985 Dr. Jenie Lee Burke, Bass Drum 1920-1923
Founder of Gray Baton, which became Kappa Kappa Psi, donated
display cabinet, continuing funding to OSUMB
(presented by Droste/Woods)

1986 Jan Ebert, Secretary TBDBITL
(Presented by Moseley)

1987 Ziggy Coyle, Past TBDBITL President (Ebert)

1988 Jules Duga, Past Pres.,
Endowment Chr.
(Coyle)

1989 Bob Gates, Past Pres
Active Band Chr/News/Arch (Durea)

1990 David Meeker, Director Active Band (Gates)

1991 Jon Woods, Director OSUMB (Droste)

1992 Gustav Bruder, First OSUMB Faculty
Director (posthumously) (Castle)
(Accepted by his bandsmen)

1992 Donn Younger
TBDBITL Active Band Ch. (Meeker)
### Past Presidents Plaque

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past Presidents</th>
<th>Stadium Band Room</th>
<th>Alumni House</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. James McCreary</td>
<td>1970-1971 (James H.)</td>
<td>1971</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frederick Williams</td>
<td>1973-1974 (Fred T.)</td>
<td>1974</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merv Durea</td>
<td>1973-1975</td>
<td>1975</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Slyh</td>
<td>1975-1976 (David D.)</td>
<td>1976</td>
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<td>Patrick Campbell</td>
<td>1978-1979</td>
<td>1979</td>
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<td>Kirk Cross</td>
<td>1984-1985</td>
<td>1985</td>
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<tr>
<td>John DeRing</td>
<td>1985-1986</td>
<td>1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walt Neff</td>
<td>1988-1989</td>
<td>1989</td>
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</tbody>
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### Conductors/National Anthem

1966 Spohn?
1967
1971 Manley Whitcomb
1972 Paul Droste
1973 Jack Evans
1974 Paul Droste
1975 Donald E. McGinnis
1976 Manley Whitcomb
1977 Charles spohn
1978 William McBride
1979 David Meeker
1980 Richard Heine
1981 Craig Kirchhoff
1982 Raymond Castle
1983 Janet Ebert
1984 Jon Woods
1985 Ziggy Coyle
1986 Eugene D'Angelo
1987 Robert Gates
1988 Prof. Jack O. Evans
1989 Dr. Jon Woods
1990 Dr. David Meeker
1991 Dr. Donald E. McGinnis
1992 Craig Kirchhoff

(William B. McBride directed at half)

**WBNS President**
- TBDBITL Former Pres., etc.
- Former OSUMB Director
- OSUMB Director
- OSU/TBDBITL Active Band Dir.
- Former OSUCB Dir/MB Asst.
- Former OSU Director of Bands
1971 Pres-James McCreary  
  V Pres-William Coyle  
  Sec-Merv Durea  
  Tres-Don Hower  
  Board-McCreary, Coyle, Durea, Hower, Bonner, Droste, Heine, Kaye, Moseley

1972 Pres-William Knepper  
  V Pres-Beverley Moseley  
  Sec-Jan Ebert  
  Tres-Brian Bonner  
  Board-McCreary, Coyle, Durea, Hower, Bonner, Droste, Heine, Kaye, Moseley, Trinter, Ebert, Knepper, Susi, Thompson, Kline, Long, Evans

1973 Pres-Ziggy Coyle  
  V Pres-Tom Trinter  
  Sec-Jan Ebert  
  Tres-Brian Bonner  
  Board-Droste, Durea, Evans, Heine, Kaye, Kline, Knepper, Long, McCreary, Moseley, Susi, Thompson, Van Cleve, D'Angelo

1974 Pres-Fred Williams  
  V Pres-Merv Durea  
  Sec-Jan Ebert  
  Tres-Tom Trinter  
  Board-(74)Kline, Long, McCreary, Morrison, Susi, Thompson  
  (75)D'Angelo, Ellenwood, Knepper, Murray, Oakley, Van Cleve  
  (76)Allen, Battles, Hansberger, Moseley, Slyh, Spain

1975 Pres-Merv Durea  
  V Pres-Dave Slyh  
  Sec-Jan Ebert  
  Tres-Tom Trinter  
  Board-(77)Alden, Coyle, Gray, McCreary, Susi, Thompson, Warman

1976 Pres-Dave Slyh  
  V Pres-John Gray  
  Sec-Jan Ebert  
  Tres-Tom Trinter  
  Board-(78)Burke, Clifford, Kopetz, Oakley, Riley, Warman

1977 Pres-John Gray (also served second party of Slyh's term)  
  V Pres-Erick Alden  
  Sec-Jan Ebert  
  Tres-Greg Stemen  
  Board-(79) Battles, Durea, Gates, Moseley, Tatgenhorst, Trinter

1978 Pres-Erick Alden  
  V Pres-Pat Campbell  
  Sec-Jan Ebert  
  Tres-Greg Stemen  
  Board-(80) Copp, Hill, Frische, McConaughy, R. Ramey, D. Schwertfager  
  Also added all former presidents: McCreary, Knepper, Coyle, Williams, Durea, Slyh, Gray, Franke (78) and Ruggles (79) to replace them on board
1979  Pres-Patrick Campbell  
       V Pres-Russell Hill  
       Sec-Jan Ebert  
       Treas-Greg Stemen/Steve McConaughy  
       Board-(81) Duffy, Franke, Kesling, Neff, Ostrander, Scharenberg  
           (Stemen replaces McConaughy-80)  

1980  Pres-Russ Hill  
       V Pres-Tom Trinter  
       Sec-Jan Ebert  
       Treas-Walt Neff  
       Board-(82) Battles, Jules Duga, Jim Esswein, Gates, Moseley, Ruggles  

1981  Pres-Tom Trinter  
       V Pres-David Schwertfager  
       Sec-Jan Ebert  
       Treas-Walt Neff  
       Board-(83) Ted Boehm (dec.), Kirk Cross, Dianne Harding, Tom Hathhorn,  
           Steve McConaughy, Ralph Ramey, Al Schafer  
           Willis Burt replaces Battles (82)  
           Ex-officio-Droste, Evans, Meeker, Hill, Cobb, Lust  

1982  Pres-David Schwertfager  
       V Pres-Jules Duga  
       Sec-Jan Ebert  
       Treas-Walt Neff  
       Board-(84) Dick Campbell, Greg Daniel, Dave Kesling, John Madison,  
           Tom Ostrander, Bill Scharenberg  
           Carl Giles replaces Duga (82)  
           Ex-officio-Droste, Evans, Meeker, Trinter, Cobb, Essman, DeRing  

1983  Pres-Jules Duga  
       V Pres-James Esswein  
       Sec-Jan Ebert  
       Treas-Walt Neff  
       Board-(85) Rachel Berry, Ray Castle, John DeRing, Jim Essman, Jan Lust,  
           Bev Moseley  
           Ex-officio-Droste, Evans, Meeker, Schwertfager, Cobb, Taylor, Gates  

1984  Pres-James Esswein  
       V Pres-Kirk Cross  
       Sec-Jan Ebert  
       Treas-Walt Neff  
       Board- (86) John Gabriel, Tom Hathhorn, Jim McDonald, Dick Ricketts,  
           Bob Roth, Judy Schwertfager  
           Ex-officio-Droste, Evans, Meeker, Duga, Cobb, Taylor, Gates, Burt  

1985  Pres-Kirk Cross  
       V Pres-John DeRing  
       Sec-Jan Ebert  
       Treas-Walt Neff  
       Board-(87) James Berry, Willis Burt, Wilbur Cline, Paul Droste,  
           Ed Franks, Bill Scharenberg  
           Dick Campbell replaces Jan Lust (85)  
           Ben Lindsley replaces John DeRing (85)  
           Ex-officio-Woods, Evans, Meeker, Esswein, Cobb (Miller), Gates, Roth
1986 Pres-John Dering
V Pres-Beverly Moseley
Sec-Jan Ebert
Treas-Walt Neff
Board-(88) Dan Baker, Dave Carwile, Ray Castle, Jim Essman, Robert Dean Hildreth, Ben Lindsley
Ex-officio: Woods, Evans, Meeken, Esswein, Miller, Gates

1987 Pres-Bev Moseley
V Pres-Bob Gates
Sec-Jan Ebert
Treas-Walt Neff
Board-(89) John Gabriel, Roger Gallaagher, Tom Hatthorn, Jim McDonald, Doug Petty, Judy Schwertfager
Ex-officio: Woods, Evans, Meeker, DeRing, Jim Miller, Gates, Franks, Past Presidents

1988 Pres-Bob Gates
V Pres-Walt Neff
Sec-Jan Ebert
Treas-Jim Allen
Board-(90) Jim Finan, Bill Gandert, Bob Glessner, Tom Overly, Al Trizzino, Donn Younger
Ex-officio: Woods, Droste, Evans, Meeker, Moseley, Jim Miller, Gates, Franks, Gallagher, Past Presidents

1989 Pres-Walt Neff
V Pres-Jim Essman
Sec-Jan Ebert
Treas-Jim Allen
Board-(91) Willis Burt, Don Curl, Ed Franks, Susan Franks, William Scharenberg, Arden Tewksbury
Ex-officio: Woods, Droste, Evans, Meeker, Gates, Carwile, Younger, Franks, Notestine, Past Presidents

1990 Pres-Jim Essman
V Pres-Ray Castle
Sec-Jan Ebert
Treas-Jim Allen
Board-(92) Jack Bernstein, Steve McConaughy, John Ramey, Lisa Smith, Glenn Warren, John Watkins

1991 Pres-Ray Castle
V Pres-Ed Franks
Sec-Jan Ebert
Treas-Jim Allen
Board-(93) Tim Boone, Dick Daulbaugh, Bill Gandert, Shelley Graf, Lisa Haynes, Bob Johnson
Ex-officio: Woods, Droste, Evans, Meeker, Essman, Ralph Amos, Franks, Carwile, Younger, Gates, Mullins, Dana Smith, Past Presidents
1992 Pres-Ed Franks
  V Pres-Bill Scharenberg
  Sec-Jan Ebert
  Treas-Jim Allen
  Board-(94) Doug Aschenbach, Jim Frazier, Jim Patterson, Mel Ponzi,
  Arden Tewksbury, Paul Walsh
  (Barnhart replaces Bernstein)
  Ex-officio-Woods, Droste, Evans, Meeker, Castle, Ralph Amos, Franks,
  Carwile, Younger, Gates, Dana Smith, Aschenbach, Mullins,
  Haynes, Ed Berry, Tracy Keller, Dave Mailer, Past Presidents

1993 Pres-Bill Scharenberg
  V Pres-Bill Gandert
  Sec-Jan Ebert
  Treas-Jim Allen
  Asst Treas-Kirk Cross
  Board-(95) Dan Baker, Glenn Barnhart, Pete Boriin, Don Curl, Lisa Smith,
  Glenn Warren
  (Jeff Heck replaces Bill Gandert, Terry Kelly replaces Doug Aschenbach)
  Ex-officio-Woods, Droste, Evans, Meeker, Castle, Ralph Amos, Franks,
  Carwile, Younger, Gates, Dana Smith, Aschenbach,
  (Haynes-Henry), Russ Hill, J. R. Blackburn, Javan Dotson,
  Stacy Stalter, Past Presidents

MOST INSPIRATIONAL ALUMNI BANDSMAN AWARD

Established by the Board of Governors - March 22, 1974

(The first award in 1974 was made by the President of the Club, Fred Williams,
with Mrs. Donaldson present.)

1974 Jimmie Thompson
1975 David Slyh
1976 Merv Durea
1977 Bev Moseley *
1978 Tom Trinter
1979 Carl Frische
1980 Dave Kesling
1981 Ziggy Coyle
1982 Kirk Cross
1983 Greg Daniel
1984 Bob Gates *
1985 Austin Lloyd
1986 Bill Scharenberg    presented by (Coyle for Lloyd)
1987 Ray Castle        presented by (Scharenberg)
1988 Glenn Warren     presented by (Castle)
1989 Donn Younger     presented by (Warren)
1990 Ed Franks       presented by (Ebert for Younger)
1991 Don Curl         presented by (Franks)
1992 Dave Meeker       presented by (Curl)

* Bev Moseley designed the award and won it in 1977.
Bob Gates made the bases for the awards and made his own in 1984.
HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS - TBDBITL ALUMNI CLUB

1972 Dr. and Mrs. Novice G. Fawcett, former President OSU, Dotted I in 1971

Dr. Elvin Donaldson, Assistant Director OSU Marching Band
1923-1919 (deceased 1973)

Professor Eugene J. Weigel, Director OSU Marching Band
1929-1938 (deceased 1973)

Dr. Manley Whitcomb, Director OSU Marching Band 1939-1942, 1946-1951

Dr. William B. McBride, Director OSU Marching Band 1943-1945

Professor Jack O. Evans, Director OSU Marching Band 1952-1963

Dr. Charles L. Spohn, Director OSU Marching Band 1964-1969

Dr. Paul E. Droste, Director, OSU Marching Band 1970-1984
(presented by Knepper)

1974 Dick Otte, Dispatch writer, marched alumni pre-game 1974 approved by Board Action November 20, 1974
(presented by Slyh)

1975 Dr. Lee Rigsby, Dean, College of the Arts, OSU

William Dougherty, writer of "Across the Field"(deceased 1976)
(presented by Durea)

1976 J. Edward Weaver, Director of Athletics, OSU
(presented by Droste)

1977 Dr. Donald E. McGinnis, Director OSU Concert Band, Asst. Dir. OSUMB

Austin Lloyd, oldest reunion bandsman 1907-1909
(presented by Gray)

1978 Tom Johnson, OSUMB former announcer
(mailed)

1979 Dan Heinlen, Director OSU Alumni Association
(presented by Ebert)

Ken Feasel, OSUMB Bus Driver

1980 Dr. Harold Enarson, President OSU
(presented by Meeker)

ALL TBDBITL OSUMB Alumni Over Age 65
(presented by Hill)

1981 Woody and Anne Hayes, former OSU Football Coach
(presented by Droste/Ebert)
1982 Dr. and Mrs. David Meeker, Director OSU School of Music
   Director TBDBITL Alumni Bands (active and reunion)
   Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Broekema, Dean, College of the Arts OSU
   Dr. and Mrs. John Mount, Vice President OSU
      (presented by Schwertfager)

1983 Dr. Jon Woods, Associate Director OSUMB 1974-1983, Director OSUMB 1984-
   Dr. Willie Sullivan, Assistant Director OSUMB 1974-
      (presented by Duga)

1984 Dr. and Mrs. Edward Jennings, President OSU
   Robert Ries, Ticket Director OSU
      (presented by Meeker)
      (presented by Coyle)

1985 Dr. Craig Kirchhoff, Director of Bands, OSU
   Dr. James Moore, Dir. of Percussion OSUMB, OSU

1986 Gov. Richard Celeste (recognition from State)
      (presented by DeRing)
   Hugh Hindman, former Director of Athletics
      (presented by Drost)

1987 Robert Wagner, former Director of Photography
      (presented by Evans)

1988 Robert T. LeBlanc, Chairman of Perf. Div. OSU, School of Music, Tuba
   Instr.
      (presented by Gates)

1989 Jim Jones, Director of Athletics
      (presented by Neff)
   David Leppla, graduate assistant
      (presented by Neff)

1990 Barbara Baum, coordinator of banquet
      (presented by Essman)
   Len and Charlotte Immke, donated uniforms
      (presented 1991 by Woods)

1991 E. Gordon and Elizabeth Gee, University President and Band cheerleader
      (presented by Meeker)
   Wives of OSU Band Directors:
   Leah Whitcomb, Carol J. Evans, Dorothy Spohn, Anne Drost, Donna Woods, Michele Meeker
      (presented by Ebert)

1992 Dick and Kay Heine, Band Arranger and Band Legend
   Mark Hosler, Director of Clemson Tiger Band
      (presented by Ebert)