



Pioneer Legends of South Texas

CLINICIANS:

Art Guajardo, Fred Junkin, Bryce Taylor

SPONSOR: TEXAS BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION

Texas Bandmasters Association 2011 Convention/Clinic

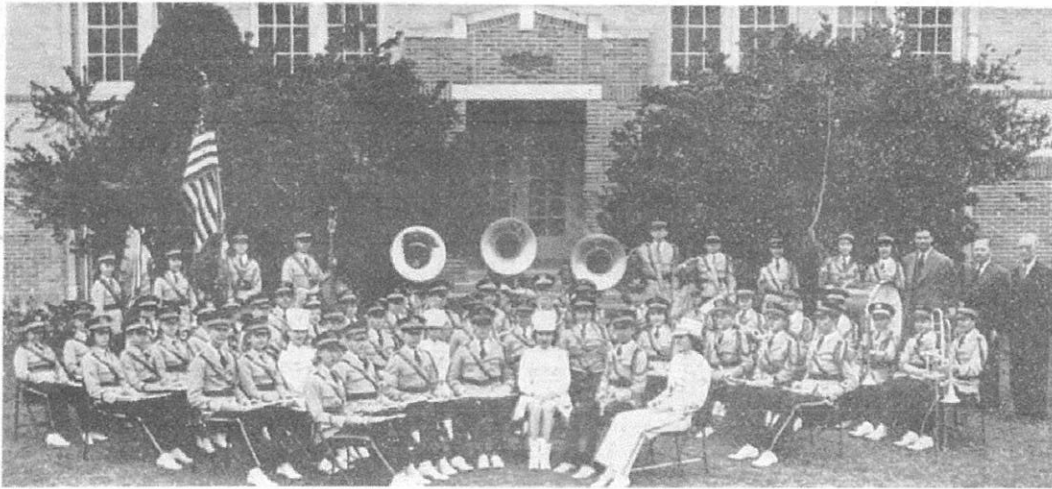


**JULY 24-27, 2011
HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

TEXAS BAND MASTERS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

PIONEER LEGENDS OF SOUTH TEXAS

DONNA



DONNA REDSKIN BAND

1941

**PRESENTERS:
ARCADIO "ART" GUAJARDO, FRED JUNKIN, BRYCE TAYLOR**

**HOST:
RUBEN ADAME**

JULY 26, 2011

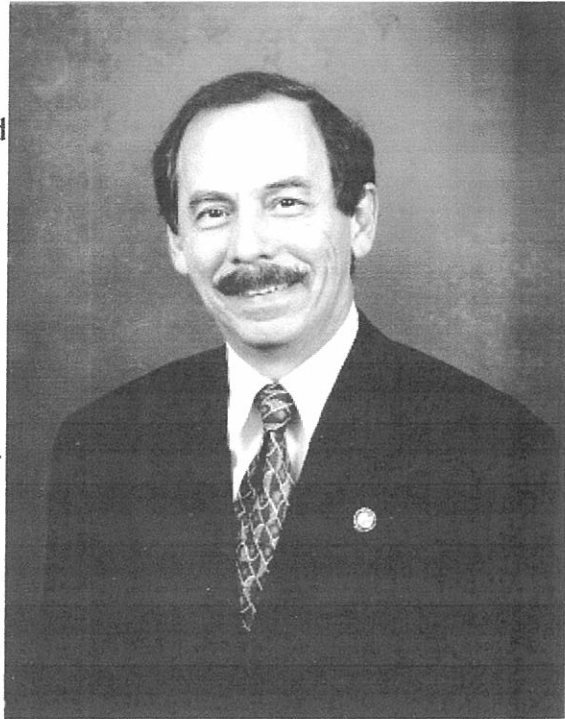
CC ROOM 214CD

4:00PM – 5:00PM

ARCADIO “ART” GUAJARDO

Arcadio “Art” Guajardo, Jr., was born in Pharr, Texas, on March 10, 1934. He attended Buell Elementary School in Pharr and joined the band program in the sixth grade. His first instrument was a one-piece metal clarinet, which had a tendency to turn green if it wasn’t cleaned periodically. In junior high, the 7th and 8th grades were housed in the same building as the high school. So, the band director, Mr. Edwin Holt, would use the 7th and 8th grades in the high school band for added numbers. The band hall was an old wooden barracks.

Art graduated from Pharr-San Juan-Alamo High School in 1954. His band director Mr. Walter Whitlow, and the assistant Mr. David Gamboa, encouraged him to attend VanderCook College of Music in Chicago.



So, Art packed all his worldly possessions in an old cardboard suitcase 7 inches by 15 by 26 (which he still has stored in the garage). He hitched a ride with a migrant family who was going to Indiana to work in the fields during the summer. This family of five and Art piled into an old beat-up, two-door 1936 Chevrolet, which would barely make it over the hills. From Indianapolis he took a Greyhound bus into Chicago. This was the first time Art had ever been out of the state of Texas.

When Art arrived at the Randolph Street Station, he caught a cab and the driver gruffly asked “Where to, Mack?” Art said “3219 South Michigan, ...Mack!” He looked at Art kind of puzzled and asked, “Are you sure?” Art told him that was where he wanted to go. Art wasn’t quite sure why the driver had asked, but he began to get a better picture when the cab stopped in a very rough neighborhood. When Art paid him his fare, he remembered that in the big cities you tip the driver. So, he fished in his pocket and took out a fifty-cent piece. The driver looked at it and rudely hollered “What! Is this all I get?” Art yelled back “Well, that’s all I can afford. If you don’t want it I’ll take it back.” The driver kept it!

Four years later in 1958, Art graduated from VanderCook and was hired by the Brownsville ISD to be a junior high school band director. Art was also Bob Vezzetti’s assistant at the high school, instructing all the woodwinds. He was very instrumental in the high school band’s three performances at the Mid-West Convention in Chicago, Illinois, under the leadership of Bob Vezzetti. The level of excellence of the Brownsville High School bands, of that early era, was directly attributed to Art’s great teaching of the woodwind sections.

In 1974, Bob Vezzetti became Supervisor of Music, and Art was promoted to head director at the old Brownsville High School, which was re-named Hanna High School, continuing the tradition of excellence at this school.

Under his leadership of forty years, the Hanna High School “Golden Eagle Band” was a

consistent Sweepstakes winner, produced many All-State students, and numerous winners of the Outstanding Musicians at the Texas State Solo and Ensemble competitions. The Hanna "Golden Eagle Band" won competitions in Texas, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Chicago, and Florida. For several years, Art wrote his own drills and arranged the performance music for the marching band. His arrangements and outstanding drill concepts and execution were cutting edge in their day.

Art's band represented Region XV in the honor band process numerous times, and was a tremendous example for others to follow. Whenever the band performed at concerts and UIL performances, many directors would attend to experience the beauty and mastery of the performance. Many directors still remember the great performances at Buccaneer Days Music Festival in Corpus Christi, and the Six Flags competitions in Dallas.

Art was always very methodical and insistent that his band was consistent in all facets of his program. Many of his students have followed in his footsteps as band directors, and many more continue to be supporters of band and music in Brownsville, because of their experiences in this organization. Art Guajardo has been instrumental in the development of the band programs in the Rio Grande Valley, and continues to be a strong influence as he travels across the Valley as an adjudicator, clinician, arranger of band music and orchestral transcriptions, and as a friend. His bands and community bands have performed his arrangements, and the Texas A & M University Band performed one of his arrangements at their TMEA concert.

Art retired in July of 1998. He and Mary, his wife of twenty-six years, enjoy gardening and traveling. One of their favorite places is still the city of Chicago where Mary attended high school, although, she is originally from the Rio Grande Valley. Mary still enjoys teaching business courses at Hanna High School, and Art still enjoys doing clinics, judging, arranging, and helping students with their region and area materials.

FRED JUNKIN

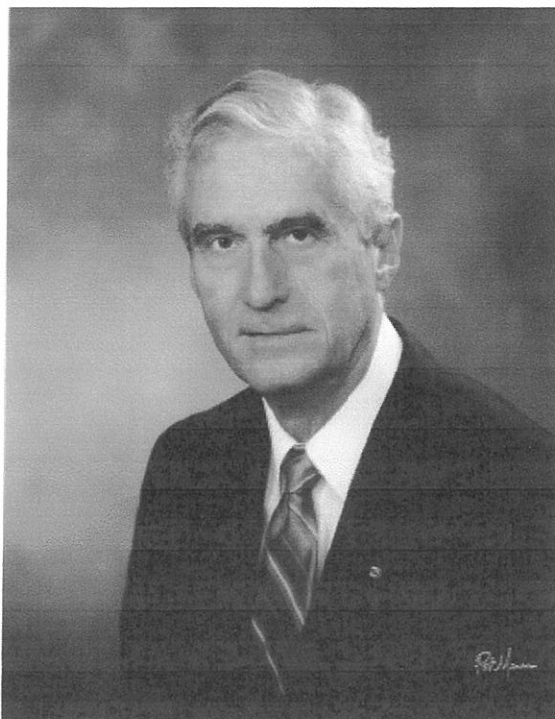
Think of Victoria, you think of Fred Junkin. Think of Fred Junkin, and you think of Victoria. That is what 30 years at one school can bring. Mix that tenure with performance time as a clarinetist, arranger, orchestra conductor and TMEA officer. The old adage is true, if you want something done, ask someone who is busy and they will do the job well.

Fred Hastings Junkin was born on July 9, 1927 in Corpus Christi. He attended public schools in Kerrville from grades 1 to 7, and then graduated from Schreiner Institute High School in 1944. He served in the Asiatic theatre with a Navy band in Japan until discharged in 1946. He attended the University of Texas, graduating with honors in 1950. During the 1951 school year he was band director at Teague, while finishing his master's degree. From 1951 to 1954 he was a junior high director in Tyler. On June 4, 1963, Fred received his most advanced degree, husband. He married Don Beth and in 1954, they moved to Victoria where Fred became Supervisor of Music and band director.

Several pages would be used to list the honors and recognition which have been afforded the Victoria bands. 93 First Divisions, 24 Sweepstakes, performance at Midwest in Chicago in 1977, concert for the American and Japanese bandmasters in Tempe in 1980, Outstanding at Six Flags in 1983.

During his 30 years at Victoria and since his retirement in 1985, Fred has served as an adjudicator throughout the state. He received the Mac Award in 1974. He was selected for membership in the American Bandmasters Association in 1979. In 1984, TBA named Fred Bandmaster of the Year.

Fred served on the TMEA board from 1960 to 1968, serving as president in 1965 and 1966. Son Jerry follows in the music profession as conductor of the University of Texas Wind Ensemble. Granddaughter Allison has received consecutive first divisions from both grandfather and grandmother. Fred retired from pep rallies, drills, and contests in 1985, but continues to be connected with the Victoria Symphony. Fred Junkin and Victoria are still synonymous!



BRYCE TAYLOR

Bryce Taylor is a native Texan who continues to leave his mark on the band movement throughout the United States. A printed resume of his work would read like a schematic design for success, and his repertoire of jokes would rival any professional comedian. He continues to be a source of knowledge for all band directors around him.

Bryce was born February 12, 1925 in Edinburg, Texas and attended school there, graduating from high school in 1942. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1943 to 1946, and attended the U.S. Marine Corps School of Music in San Diego. He received his college training at North Texas, Pan American, and Texas A & I, where he graduated summa cum laude, first in his class.



In 1951, Bryce was hired as band director at Three Rivers where he produced the Class A Honor Band in 1960. In 1961, he moved to Alice, Texas where he built a premier band program. The Alice Band was selected as one of the five finalist 12 times in 5-A Honor Band competition. Bryce's bands have been named "Best in Class" or "Outstanding" 36 times in concert competition in Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, and Texas. His 1983 band was one of the first recipients of the prestigious Sudler Flag of Honor award presented by the National Sousa Foundation.

Bryce has served TMEA in district, region and area offices. He was State Band Chairman in 1957-59, and President in 1961 and 1962. TBA selected him Bandmaster of the Year in 1983. He was the Tea runner-up, "Texas Teacher of the Year", in 1982. He has served as President, Past President and Chairman of the Band division of TMAA. He is a past member and state membership chairman of ASBDA. He has also served the UIL as district and region chairman several terms. He was recognized by "The School Musician" magazine as recipient of "They Are Making America Musical Award". Bryce is a current member of TBA, TMEA, ABA, Phi Beta Mu, TSTA, and ATPE. He continues to clinic, conduct, and adjudicate throughout Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Mississippi. More than 30 of Bryce's students have become music teachers, and approximately 200 of his students were selected as all-state band and orchestra members.

Bryce Taylor is a family man. He married his wife, Diana, in Edinburg in 1946. She was a high school counselor for 20 years. They have four children: Scott, a band director at Richardson High School in Richardson, Texas, and also a TMEA Past President; David, who is in real estate management in Austin; Cindy Lynn, a doctor in San Antonio; and Kerry, a band director at Westlake High School in Austin, Texas.

Bryce Taylor is still a visionary, steady thinker and doer, persuader, leader, and friend to every music teacher in Texas

TEXAS BANDMASTERS' ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

San Antonio, Texas

July 2011

PANEL DISCUSSION TOPICS

By: Art Guajardo

- I. Brownsville ISD School Band's History:
 - A. Up until 1937 Brownsville H.S had only a Drum and Bugle Corps with a few valve-less bugles and a few field drums and a bass drum..
 - B. In 1937 some standard band instruments were added to make it into a typical band..
 - C. The band did not have uniforms until 1940 when they participated in the first "PIGSKIN JUBILEE" Marching Contest in those days sponsored by Texas Music Educators' Association.

- II. The band program struggled during these first primitive years and in the school year of 1944-45 a potentially scandalous situation developed which lead to the dismissal of its acting band director—(a taped interview with Bob Vezzetti, former band director of the Brownsville H.S.Band will follow which describes it in more detail).

- III. At mid-term in 1945 James R. Murphy, fresh out of military service took over the Brownsville band program (--and again a taped interview with Bob Vezzetti to share an incident about Jim Murphy's white, linen conductor's uniform).

- IV. In the early years of 1937 through the mid 1950's Rio Grande Valley Bands were taught and developed by one-lone band director. Brownsville was one of the first districts in our region that had an assistant band director, perhaps as early as 1948. The rest of the schools did not have Jr. High directors nor much less assistant directors until about the mid 1950's or afterwards.

- V. Physical facilities for our band programs in the early years were very limited. For most schools the band hall consisted of a one-room, gutted-out, wooden Army surplus barrack. The acoustical material in some was the use of empty, grayish colored cardboard egg cartons which were tacked to the walls. Ours at PSJA High School had some chunks of cardboard boxes with holes on the surface that had been punctured with a dinner fork!

- VI. Community/town bands in our area were non-existent. The only adult-membership type band was a U.S. Army Band in Fort Brown Army Base, Brownsville, Texas. One of its musician members stationed at Fort Brown during World War II went on to become a very successful and prominent band director both at the High School level at Cass Tech in Detroit, Michigan, and later at the University of Illinois. His name is DR. HARRY BEGIAN. While stationed in Fort Brown he also married a local school teacher. The wedding was at the Brownsville Episcopalian Church located on W. Elizabeth Street, adjacent to the prior Brownsville High School campus. The church is still there and still conducting services.
- VII. Because we were so isolated from the rest of the state, with very few or no towns south of either San Antonio or Corpus Christi, we developed a tremendous camaraderie among Valley band directors who were willing to share all kinds of teaching techniques, "how-to" ideas, as well as organizational and administrative suggestions, without any pretense that that was the only way to do anything. The assistant band directors were treated and considered associates of the entire program who also shared some ownership in the high school product.
- VIII. Female band directors in the earlier years of our region were also almost non-existent. The earliest one on record was a lady by the name of GLADYS MITCHELL, who was the lone-band director for the Donna ISD in 1948. Later in 1954 through 1955 Gloria Barrera was hired as an assistant band director at Mission ISD, which was indeed very rare due both to her gender and her Hispanic last name. As late as 1996 Melba Alejos became the next female director for the Rio Grande City High School Band; in 2004 Carolyn Donaldson became director for the Weslaco High School Band; around 2005 or 2006 Kerri Adame was director at Rowe High School in McAllen; Victoria de Leon in 2009 for Lyford High School; Dena Laurel, Roma H.S. in 2009; and in 2010 Elizabeth Stone at Veterans' Memorial High School in Brownsville.
- IX. There are some contributions to our profession that historically originated in the Rio Grande Valley region that have been little known or totally unknown to many band directors in the state: A.) As early as 1960 the Valley region had adapted a more advanced set of method books with more advanced and challenging material for Region Band auditions, while the rest of the state was still using the limited, less advanced or challenging material from the thin Klose-Prescott books.
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(IX. con't.) B.) When Joe Frank, who had been director at Harlingen High School for several years, decided to take a band director position in Richardson, Texas ISD in the mid-1960's, and subsequently also became Chairman of that region, he introduced the method books and material which had been in use in the Valley for some five years before, and from there the idea spread in all directions of the State of Texas. T.M.E.A. adapted that idea soon after also. C.) The Idea for converting what used to be the TMEA reading band, which was made up of those students who had not made it into the top All-State Band, started when Lee Boyd Montgomery, director of Edinburg High School, and the rest of us in the Edinburg Band staff attended the February 1967 TMEA Convention. After observing one of the so-called reading sessions, we discussed the possibility of the reading band, with all their talent and ability, becoming a performing organization. Lee Boyd urged all of us to talk it up with as many other directors we knew. When we got home he was on the phone constantly talking to as many directors that he knew, including some that were in the hierarchy of TMEA and had some clout. The "Reading Band" became what we now know as the TMEA All-State Concert Band, and the rest is history!

- X. The Rio Grande Valley region school band programs have also had their fair share of TMEA Honor Band representatives through the years since the Honor Band system was implemented:

The following school districts that have had their school band or bands represent the Valley Region as TMEA Honor Band are: Edinburg H.S.-Ralph Burford, director; La Feria H.S.-Don Fleuriet, director; Weslaco H.S.-Marion Busby, director; Rio Hondo H.S.-John Myers, director; Edcouch/Elsa H.S.-Perry Suggs, director; Brownsville H.S.-Bob Vezzetti, director; McAllen H.S.-L.M. Snavelly, director; Port Isabel H.S.-Meme Mireles, director; Lopez H.S. Brownsville ISD-George Trevino, director; and in Middle School Division the Oliveira M.S. Brownsville ISD-Paul Flinchbaugh, director; Coakely M.S. Harlingen ISD-Joseph Figarelli, director.

MARION BUSBY

Marion Busby was born in Spur, Texas in 1919. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from Baylor University, and his Master of Music degree from Texas A & I University.

His teaching career started at Lockhart, Texas in 1940. He then moved to San Benito where he directed the high school band for three years. While there he founded and organized the Pigskin Jubilee Marching Contest for the Valley bands.

He served in the United States Navy from 1944-1945.

He spent one year with Southern Music Co. of San Antonio, and then returned to teaching.

In 1946 he became Director of Bands at Taft High School in Taft, Texas and remained

there for 10 years. During his tenure, his bands received consistent First Divisions in every category. It has been said that when the Taft High School band traveled, schools had to be closed, because virtually every person in school was in the band.

In 1956 he moved to Weslaco, Texas. His Weslaco High School bands were twice named Honor Band by TMEA, and on four different occasions at the Buccaneer Days Music Festival they were named Outstanding 3A Band.

Marion Busby, was Director of Bands at Del Mar College from 1963 to 1967.

In 1967, he became the Supervisor of Music for the Corpus Christi schools until his death in 1970.

Marion Busby was President of TBA in 1953-54. He was posthumously awarded Bandmaster of the Year in 1977. His picture with his baritone appeared in the original Victor Band Method Book as an example for correct posture



JOSEPH HARRY CASTELLANO

My full name is Joseph Harry Castellano, (also known as J. H., Joe, Harry, Harry Joe) born in Laredo, TX on March 13, 1938, the fourth of six (three brothers, two sisters). I grew up in Laredo at a time where you could play ball on the streets and roam around the neighborhood without any problems.

I started band when I reached the seventh grade under Chuck Hayes, who had just graduated from VanderCook School of Music in Chicago. I started on a used satin silver Conn Alto sax, which was also used by my sister when she started band years later.

Moving on to high school, I started to play the baritone sax. I was on the small side and the bari appeared to overwhelm me. My director, Mr. Ed Holt, used to kid me about putting a roller skate under the bari to lessen

the burden when I marched. Mr. Holt left the summer before my senior year and Mr. Elmo Lopez, who was the director at one of the junior highs, took over. As I was one of the leaders in the band, he invited me to ride with him to San Antonio to interview a new Junior High Director at the 1955 TBA Convention. So I can say I attended my first TBA Convention in 1955 at the Gunter Hotel where all the activities were located then. In 1956, the band hall at Martin High burned down about a month before UIL. We worked really hard and rallied to earn the school its first Sweepstakes Award. I received the John Phillip Sousa Award upon graduation and followed fellow directors-to-be Robert Botello, Victor Lozano, and Elpidio Lizcano to the University of Texas at Austin. After three years, I joined the Army Reserve and had to go to basic training. When I returned, the opportunity to perform professionally with the Luis Arcaraz Orchestra presented itself. I toured for two years and returned to school after his tragic death in an automobile accident.

I graduated in 1965 and began my teaching career at Hallettsville ISD as the sole director for a 2A school. During my second year the district integrated all campuses. This was history in the making for me.

After three years at Hallettsville, the position at Industrial High School opened and I was invited to interview. I was hired in the morning of the first day of August band practice, but as I was sporting the hair style of the times (which did not sit well with the Superintendent), I had to get a haircut before the evening rehearsal. Back then, barber shops did not open on Mondays. I finally found one in the seedy part of the next town and got butchered. Anyway, that's how I started my 22 years at Industrial ISD. During those twenty-two years, I had Otto McGuffee, John Walton, David Currey, Mike Cole, and Steven Weber as my assistants. I am especially proud of two 2nd divisions, one from Mark Hinsley and one from William Revelli. Besides having some of the best assistants and the directors already mentioned, I owe much to the many mentors I have had over the



years. To name a few: Bill Skelton, Nat Alewine, Fred Junkin, Bryce Taylor, Eddie Galvan, Eddie Zamora, Pat Norton, Billy Harrell, Mike and Fred Fassino, Joe Wassel, Dr. Joe Bellamah, Larry Lindsley, Harry and Jan Schmidt, and the Toms – Tom Rhodes, Tommy Williamson and Tom Lee. This is a short list, but I know there are many others. My move to San Antonio brought me back to one of my loves, directing and playing in a jazz band. Since my retirement, I started to play tenor sax for the River City Big Band here in San Antonio.

I want to thank my family here with me, for the love and support over the years: my oldest brother, Dave; brother, Jesse, his wife, Edna; brother, Bene, his wife, Marta; sisters Jane, and Josie with her husband, Eddie, and all the nieces and nephews. I also want to thank my many friends and colleagues who supported me throughout my career. But the journey would not be complete without mentioning the family that made this honor possible, my kids from Hallettsville, Industrial, and Highlands. I know there are some here, so from me to you, my continued love and affection for making this possible for me. Phi Beta Mu, thank you for naming me to this prestigious award. I will cherish it forever.

A. J. "TONY" FASSINO

Anton Joseph Fassino was born on July 29, 1915, in Ladd, Illinois, the son of Italian born Matt Anton Fassino and his American bride, Rose. A. J. graduated from De Pue Illinois High School in 1934 where he became proficient on trumpet and was selected as a member of the All-State Orchestra.

He chose De Paul University in Chicago and completed work on a Bachelor of Music Education degree in three years while playing in dance bands to pay his way through school. He married Eleanora Marietta and moved to Syracuse, Kansas, to begin his teaching career. After one year he and his wife returned to Illinois and A. J. taught concurrently in several private and parochial schools. Two sons, Michael and Fred, were born in 1939 and 1941.

World War II began and A. J. volunteered for the Air Force but was turned down, only later to be drafted by the Army in 1944. He was assigned to Special Services and stationed in Texas. The Army would not accept Anton as his first name, and enlisted him as Anthony instead. A. J. began using the name, Tony, a nickname his mother had called him.

When he was discharged from the service, Tony decided to relocate in Texas. He returned to Illinois and loaded his family and their belongings in a panel truck which his father gave him from the family grocery business. The family came south to Luling where Tony quickly built the band into a top-flight organization.

His bands won the Brady and Brownsville festivals as well as UIL events, and in 1955, he was enticed to Industrial High School in Vanderbilt. Not knowing that superintendent Charles Holmes had been instructed to pay whatever was necessary to get him, Tony told Holmes that Vanderbilt probably could not pay what he would need to move. He named a figure and Holmes asked him if he could move tomorrow.

In 1962, Industrial became one of the two first Class A (now AA) Honor bands in Texas. The band also represented Texas at the Lions International Convention in Chicago. Consecutive Sweepstakes and three Outstanding Band Awards at the Buccaneer Festival set the band apart from others. After ten years, Tony moved to the South Park ISD in Beaumont to begin another rebuilding job but a serious illness took his life on April 15, 1966.

Both sons, Michael and Fred, became successful Texas band directors. Michael recently retired from an educational software company, and Fred is Music Supervisor for the Katy ISD.

Mrs. Fassino was very popular with parents and students of the band programs. She attended many rehearsals and every performance. Tony said she was very active in helping him with the responsibilities of his profession.

During those Industrial ISD years, Tony served as a clinician for the college student division in TMEA. He was named to the State Curriculum Guide Committee; was clinician, adjudicator and a friend for bands throughout the state. While the Texas Honor Band, three consecutive Buccaneer Outstanding Awards, and the many sweepstakes are a legacy, his statement on the application form in Beaumont in 1965 reveals the real Tony Fassino.

"My wife and I have been happy in helping young people during their formative years to mold a better life for themselves. We feel that music plays a big part in a well-rounded person."

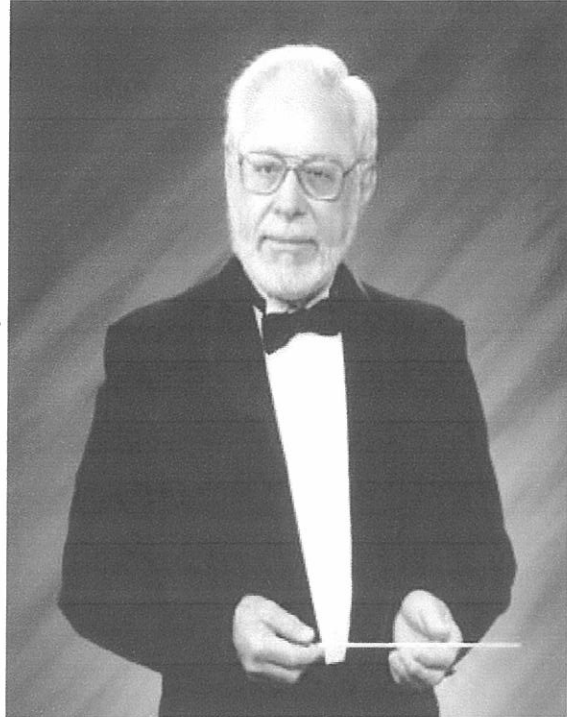


JOE FRANK, SR.

Joseph Frank, son of Frank Frank, a career bandmaster in the United States Army, was born November 11, 1924 in Burlington, Vermont. He started his teaching career as a junior high school band director in Harlingen, Texas in the fall of 1949. He has served music education in Texas and the southwest for over forty-one years as a teacher, conductor, and music administrator. Joe's instrumental teaching experience encompasses instruction on all instruments with students starting from elementary through university levels. His high school bands at Harlingen and later at Richardson, Texas never received less than a First Division rating in UIL concert performance.

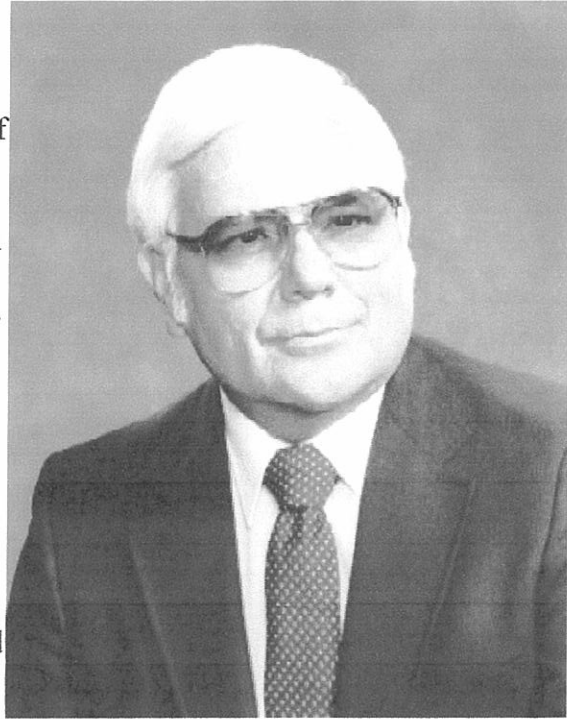
While at Harlingen, his band received "the Outstanding Band Award" on three occasions at the Buccaneer Days Music Festival in Corpus Christi. The Richardson High School Band gained a national reputation for excellence under the direction of Mr. Frank. They were selected by tape auditions to perform at the prestigious Mid-West National Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago.

As a music administrator for the Richardson ISD, Joe developed an organizational format, including teaching methods, which enabled the many fine directors associated with that school system to build their organizations to superb levels of performance. While serving the Texas Music Educators Association as State Band Chairman, Mr. Frank inaugurated both the state honor band program (which remains essentially in its original format to this date), and the area tryout system for all-state band students. Since retiring from the public schools, Joe has enjoyed a busy schedule as consultant, clinician, adjudicator, and guest conductor.



EDDIE GALVAN

Eddie Galvan was born August 19, 1927 in Corpus Christi, Texas. He has an Associate of Arts degree from Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, and he received his Bachelor of Music degree from Texas A & I University in Kingsville, Texas in 1952. His Master of Science degree in Music Education in 1953 is also from Texas A & I. He has done post graduate work at the University of Houston. Eddie's first teaching job was as an Assistant Band Director at Premont High School, Premont, Texas in 1953. He moved to Refugio High School as Assistant Band and Choral Director in 1954. He was the Band Director at Driscoll Junior High School in Corpus Christi for 6 years, and then he moved to Roy Miller High School in 1962 where he directed the band for 10 years. Eddie served in different administrative capacities in the Corpus Christi ISD from 1972-1985. In 1985, he became Assistant Professor of Music at Corpus Christi State University where he still remains.



Eddie's bands were consistent UIL Sweepstakes winners. They received Outstanding Band awards at Six Flags Over Texas, and the Buccaneer Days Festival. They also made a 1968 guest appearance at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

Eddie is a member of Phi Beta Mu, TMEA, TBA, and TMAA. He has been guest clinician and performer at many jazz festivals as well as an adjudicator throughout the state of Texas.

Jim Murphy



Jim Murphy's influence transcended the city limits of Brownsville, then a sleepy border town, the Rio Grande Valley, and even the state of Texas. He had the ability to take the children of "common folk" and make great music which placed him in the position of musical and teaching leadership.

James Murphy was born on February 16, 1918 in Logansport, Indiana. He was a graduate of Central Methodist College in Fayette, Missouri, the U.S. Army School of Music, and Vandercook College of Music in Chicago. From 1946 to 1957, he was director of the famed Brownsville Golden Eagle Band, winner of 11 Sweepstakes, two appearances at the Midwest Band Clinic, and three times winning every award in sight at the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Oklahoma. For 12 years, Jim served as a guest clinician and adjudicator, throughout the state of Texas. He was elected and officiated as Band Chairman for TMEA. In 1958, he accepted a position at the Duluth campus of the University of Minnesota where he remained until 1980. He then became an instrumental consultant in the Edgewood ISD, until he retired in 1982.

Jim's dedication to music as a profound art exacted every ounce of his energies, and he demanded one's all regardless of whether one was having a studio lesson, learning to conduct, preparing to teach, or playing in one of his ensembles.

Jim was a member of the American Bandmasters Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Texas Bandmasters Association, Phi Beta Mu, Music Educators National Conference, and Texas Music Educator's Association .

Jim passed away on June 17, 1983 in San Antonio.

Murphy may not be in heaven yet, he may be doing penance. Oh, he arrived at the pearly gates all right, but just as St. Peter was greeting him, Gabriel started playing his trumpet. And we can all Murphy as he said, "Gabriel, with all that practice you have had, you still can't play worth a damn!"

LUTHER M. SNAVELY, JR.

Luther M. Snavely, Jr. was born on May 29, 1931, in Harlingen, Texas. His parents were Luke and Ruby Snavely. He attended high school in Brownsville where he played in the band all four years. He earned superior awards in all music events entered and was selected as first horn in the 1948 All-State Band.

Upon graduating from high school, he accepted a music scholarship to attend Baylor University. At Baylor he performed with the band, orchestra, and opera orchestra. He graduated as the top male student in the music school and second in his class.

Snavely and several of his friends auditioned and were accepted for membership in the Fourth Army Band which he joined after sixteen weeks of basic training. The Fourth Army Band played a weekly radio show and toured throughout the Southwest. The band also served as the reading band for new music at the TBA conventions every summer. Luther was honorably discharged from the army three months early in order to attend summer school at the University of Texas. In 1955 he accepted a position as assistant band director under Joe Frank in Harlingen. He taught one year as the assistant high school director and two years as the junior high director. His junior high band won seven consecutive superior ratings and won the Outstanding Concert Band ward at the Buccaneer Music Festival in competition with thirty-two high school bands.

In 1958 Luther accepted the position as high school band director in McAllen. His first year band earned second division awards in marching, concert, and sight-reading. The following fall the band began a ten year string of consecutive first divisions. The band also began a ten year concert series with known guest artists including Karl King, Meredith Willson, Doc Severinsen, William Revelli, Alfred Reed, Bobby Herriot, Paul Yoder, Harold Walters, and Eugene Rousseau.

In 1964 the band initiated a yearly spring concert tour of Mexico. The McAllen High School band was eligible to enter the Honor Band competition three times finishing second, fourth, and first. The band also led the region and the state several times in the number of All-Region and All-State members selected. The 1968 band had 59 all-region and 16 all-state members. The McAllen High School band was selected by the John Phillip Sousa Foundation as one of the eight outstanding Texas concert bands for the period of 1960-1980.

The Vandercook College of Music awarded Luther Snavely a Master of Music degree in



1959. He started work on a doctorate at the University of Texas in the summer of 1960 and continued his studies for the next several years while still teaching in McAllen.

In 1969 Snavelly enrolled at the University of Texas as a full-time student. He also served as the Associate Director of Music for the University Interscholastic League. He was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree in May of 1971 and accepted the position as Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at the University of Mississippi.

During his sixteen years at Ole Miss, Snavelly more than doubled the size of the band and turned it into one of the top university band programs in the South. He is very proud of the fact that at one time there were more than 150 of his former students teaching band in all parts of the country and many of them are still teaching in Texas. He was awarded the Outstanding Teacher Award in 1976.

In 1987 Dr. Snavelly accepted the position of Director of Bands and Professor of Music at the University of Notre Dame. The NBC television contract and major bowl appearances gave the Notre Dame band more television exposure than any other band in the country. The band performed at the Cotton Bowl three times, Orange Bowl three times, Fiesta Bowl twice, and the Sugar Bowl, Gator Bowl, and Independence Bowls. The Notre Dame band took an extended concert tour each spring and returned to a home concert audience of at least two thousand each year.

Dr. Snavelly has been a member of numerous professional organizations including the ABA. He is the only member from the music department at Notre Dame to be awarded the prestigious Special Presidential Award for contributions to the university. Dr. Snavelly served in many offices during his tenure in Texas, including State Band Chairman and head of the Music Selection Committee and vice president of TMEA. Dr. Snavelly has served as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout the United States.

Luther married Rebecca Rodriguez in 1964. She also enjoyed a successful career as a band director. Luther and Rebecca have two children. Luther III is a Notre Dame Law School graduate and a practicing attorney in Las Vegas, and Kelly Jean who is also a Notre Dame graduate and a teacher trainer for the University of Phoenix in Atlanta. Luther and Rebecca are enjoying retirement at their home in The Villages, Florida

ROBERT B. VEZZETTI

Robert Vezzetti was born on March 25, 1933 in Chicago, Illinois, the oldest son of Joseph and Catherine Vezzetti. He attended schools in Chicago and graduated from Fenger High School in 1950. He was attracted into the music field and started school at the famed VanderCook College of Music. It is reported that Bob was something of an accordion whiz; he did perform on that instrument to help defray expenses of education. He received a B.M.E. from VanderCook in 1954 and accepted a job in the Brownsville ISD as band director at Cummings Junior High School until Uncle Sam accepted his services as a tuba player in the 384th Army Band. He graduated from the U. S. Army Band School in 1956. Following that musical experience, Bob returned to Brownsville as the assistant high school director, working with Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame member, Jim Murphy, until he succeeded him as Director of Bands in 1958.



Bob held that position for sixteen years, and his bands were awarded the UIL sweepstakes each year as well as appearing twice at the Midwest National Band Clinic in Chicago and twice at the Mideast National Band Clinic in Pittsburgh. His band was twice named the Outstanding Band at the Buccaneer Festival and the 1965 band was selected as the Honor Band of TMEA. The band performed a brilliant concert in Dallas at the TMEA Clinic-Convention.

During his tenure, the Brownsville High School Band had 43 members selected as All-State members, over 200 as All-Region bandsmen, and they compiled an impressive record of over 1,000 medals in UIL Solo and Ensemble competition. The Brownsville Golden Eagle Band made numerous concert tours in Mexico as well as presenting radio and TV programs in our neighbor to the south. A highlight of those sixteen years was a concert tour in Europe. Bob also found time to serve as a clinician in Texas, Mississippi and Illinois.

Bob married Isabel Garcia, daughter of a longtime Brownsville family, and they have three sons, Robertino, Michael and Joseph. Following being named as Teacher of the Year in 1969, Bob was selected for the Brownsville and Texas Knights of Columbus Outstanding Educator award in 1972. He served on many TMEA and UIL committees, and in 1974, Bob became the Director of Music Activities for the Brownsville ISD. His administrative skills were like his podium skills and in 1978, he was named Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, a position he held until his retirement in 1990.

His civic contributions to Brownsville are many. He served twice as President of Charro Days International Festival, he held a position on the City Planning and Zoning Commission, and was two times President of the Historical Society. He published a book on local history that is now in its third printing and continues to write articles on local history. Bob currently manages his ranch in Kenedy County, fishes in his spare time and travels for business and pleasure. With his typical humor, he says that with the current drought, he may sell the cattle and buy camels. Brownsville, Texas and the band world are proud that Bob Vezzetti came our way.

Honor Band Winners - South Texas Region - (5A began after 1965)

- 1959 Edinburg - 4A - Ralph Burford La Feria - 2A - Don Fleuriet
- 1960 Weslaco - 3A - Marion Busby Three Rivers - 1A - Bryce Taylor
- 1961 La Feria - 2A -- Don Fleuriet
- 1962 Weslaco - 3A - Marion Busby Industrial - 1A - Tony Fassino
- 1963 Edcouch /Elsa - 2A - Perry Suggs
- 1965 Brownsville - 4A - Bob Vezzetti La Feria - 2A - Don Fleuriet
- 1969 McAllen - 4A - L.M.Snavely
- 1973 Hebbronville - 2A - Eddie Zamora
- 1974 Banquete - 1A / B - David Smith
- 1977 Port Isabel - 2A - Meme Mireles
- 1980 Industrial - 1A - J.H. Castellano
- 1987 Oliviera Brownsville - 2C - Paul Flinchbaugh
- 1988 Industrial - 2A - J.H. Castellano
- 1998 Industrial - 2A - Jeff Dubose
- 2004 Lopez Brownsville - 4A - George Trevino
- 2005 Coakely Harlingen -2C - Joseph Figarelli
- 2009 Coakely Harlingen - 2C - Joseph Figarelli

SOUTH TEXAS MEMBERS OF TEXAS BANDMASTERS HALL OF FAME

Gerald Babbitt

Patrick McNallen

Joseph Bellamah

Lee Boyd Montgomery

Ralph Burford

James R. Murphy

Marion Busby

Pat Norton

Joseph Castellano

Roy E. Norton

Pedro "Pete" Cisneros

Mike Olson

Al Cortinas

Nelson Patrick

Joe Rogers

A.J. "Tony" Fassino

Adan Salazar

Don Fleuriet

Henry Schraub

Estill Foster

Luther M. Snavely

Joseph "Joe" Frank Sr.

Bryce Taylor

Eddie Galvan

Robert Vezzetti

Arcadio "Art" Guajardo

Joseph Wassel

Roque Guerra Jr.

Douglas Wiehe

Fred Junkin

Tommy Williamson

Richard Kole

Edward Zamora

Elmo Lopez

Gary Zook

SOUVENIR
PROGRAM

FIRST
ANNUAL
ALL-VALLEY



PIGSKIN
MUSIC
JUBILEE



CARDINAL FIELD
DECEMBER 3, 1940
HARLINGEN

EDINBURG

Edinburg 'Bobcat' Band

LEE M. KOHLENBERG, Director

Drum Major: Helen Draper

Sgt. of Brasses: Fred Fosmire

Technical Sgt: Tompson

Master Sgt: Bryce Taylor

Sgt. of Reeds: Jean Billings

Staff Sgt: Jimmy Walker

SNARE DRUMS	Raul Flores	CLARINETS	BARITONES
Lee Pat Johnson	Robt. Frazier	Arthur Trolinger	Preston Grissom
PINKY WILLIAMS	CORNETS	Carl Van Way	James Eaves
Ned Stephens	Brice Taylor	Harold Manning	C. W. Bowers
Arnolfo DeLeon	Ray White	Salome Salazar	Billy Lee
Juan Villarreal	Billy Shrum	Clay Edmiston	Bob Wicks
BASS DRUMS	Joe Shindler	Chas. Wilson	(C. D. Whitson)
Colleen Foster	Bonnie Gonzales	Clarice Bailey	MELLOPHONES
Jimmy Walker	Tommy Thompson	Bertha Ramirez	Phillis Falk
CYMBALS	Ernest Smith	Dick Carey	Mike Alvarado
Stubb Davis	Wesley Cairns	Chas. Flach	Clara Bell Davis
HIGH GUERRA	Kurt Elach	Eb CLARINET	Edna Jean Campb
GLOCKENSPIEL	Joe Wells	Robt. Rutledge	W: Thompson
Pearl Smith	SAXES	FLUTES	BASSES
Jane Ann Cannon	Gretrude Billings	Jo Ann Eagan	John Stuntz
TROBONES	Al Dibrell	Luella Purdue	Jack Kyle
Fred Fosmire	Stella Alamia	Shirley Ann Pray	Perry Lankford
Markley Grissom	Ramon Cantu	PICCOLO	Alf. Garza
Billy MacMillan	Richard Liljestrin	Bill Hauser	Olis Robinson

Special Twirling and Acrobatics Nina Jean Cox

Twirlers Willie Fay Johnson, Marjorie Ann Raders, Marilyn Potter

First National Bank

Edinburg

Member F. D. I. C.

Edinburg Coffee Shop

"You can't beat Good Food"

Edinburg Band Boosters

BOBCAT FANS

A. G. McHENRY

L. S. GARZA

F. W. WOOLWORTH CO.

B. F. KELLEY

BLUE BONNET COFFEE SHOP

HAMILTON'S

Cage Implement Co.

International Harvester Co., Lines

TRUCKS — FARMALL TRACTORS

"Don't Cuss—Phone Us"

Fitzpatrick's

Phone 151

We give S & N Green Stamps

GOLDEN JERSEY

the sign of

Quality

in Dairy Products

Golden Jersey Creamery

Program
 SECOND ANNUAL ALL-VALLEY
Pigskin Music Jubilee

GRAND ENTRY

Directed by Marion Busby, San Benito

INDIVIDUAL STUNTS

SCHOOLS	DIRECTED BY
Donna	N. G. Patrick
McAllen	Hermann Wren
Raymondville	E. V. Rinner
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo	Clyde Rowe
LaFeria	Clyde Hand
Harlingen	Joe Cooper
Los Fresnos	J. H. Gabbert
Mercedes	Wm. O'Hair
Weslaco	Wm. Krauledat
Rio Grande City	Roque Guerra
Lyford	Grady Whittle
Santa Rosa	F. A. Smith
Brownsville	J. R. Walker
Mission	Phil Shrader
San Benito	Marion Busby
Elsa-Edcouch	M. D. Shepherd
Rio Hondo	G. W. Bodenmiller



COL. EARL D. IRONS
 Col. Irons, head of instrumental music and N.T.A.C., is a nationally known composer and teacher; a member of American Land Masters Association and a certified national adjudicator.

COMMITTEES IN CHARGE OF JUBILEE

N. G. Patrick	General Chairman	Marion Busby	Grand Entry Chairman
A. B. Sanders	Local Chairman	S. V. Neely	Coordinator
J. R. Walker	Program Chairman Publicity Chairman	Hermann Wren	Massed band Chairman
J. C. Brandt	Advance ticket sale Chairman	Col. Earl D. Irons	Massed band Conductor
L. F. Boling	Grounds and crowd Chairman		

PROGRAM

Pigskin - Music Jubilee

Roland Schweer - MC

I. Grand Entry

II. Marching Contest

a. Class AA Schools

Harlingen
Brownsville
McAllen

b. Class A Schools

Mercedes
Edinburg
Donna
Mission
La Feria
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo
Raymondville
Rio Grande City
San Benito
Weslaco

c. Class B Schools

Edcouch-Elsa

III. Presentation of the First and Second All-District Football Teams

IV. Massed Band Concert Dr. Earl D. Irons, Conducting

a. March Yam Irons
b. Mandalay Buchtel
c. Chapel Shrine Leoni
d. The Argonaut Frangkiser
e. His Honor Fillmore
f. Star Spangled Banner Key

Judges For The Fifth Annual Pigskin Music Jubilee

Senior Judge Dr. Earl D. Irons, N. T. A. C.

Inspection J. E. Stuchbery,
(Pasadena High School)

Music and General Effect Weldon Covington,
(Austin High School)

Officers of the Texas University Interscholastic League

Region IX

Band Chairman Joe Bellamah
Choral Chairman W. E. Hatchett
Secretary Gladys Mitchell

Committees In Charge Of Pigskin Music Jubilee

General Chairman E. H. Potect
Assistant Chairman Joe Bellamah
Finance Chairman J. B. Smith
Program Committee Joe Wilson

Weldon Phillips
Joe Bellamah
Nelson Patrick
J. B. Smith

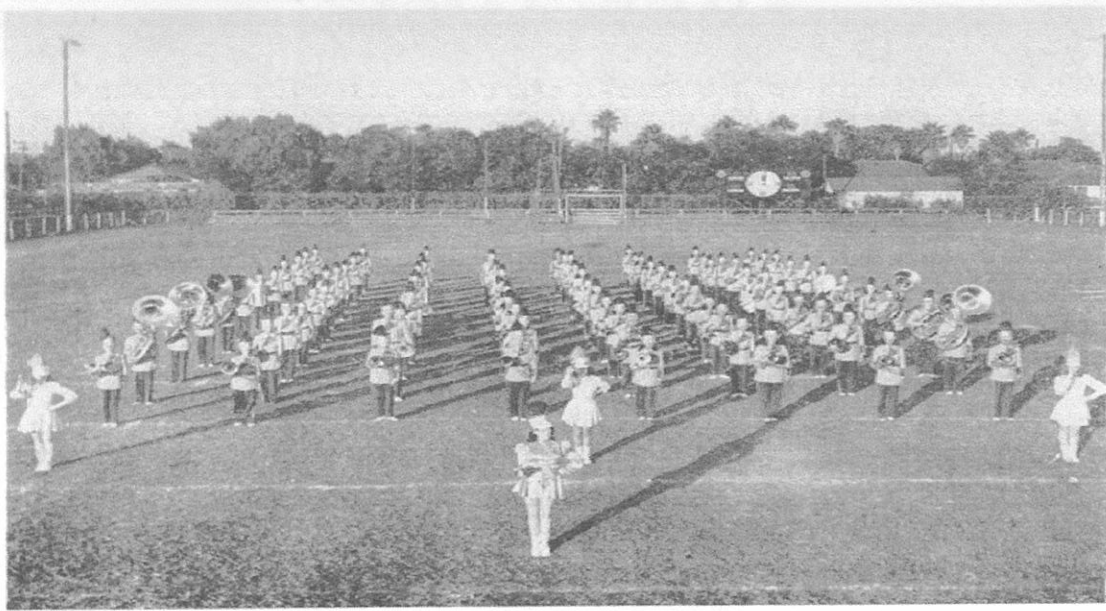
Souvenir Program J. B. Smith

Publicity Committee S. V. Neely
E. H. Potect
D. U. Buckner
M. W. Russell

Grand Entry Milton Witt
Massed Band James Murphy
Marching Contest Cecil Rusk

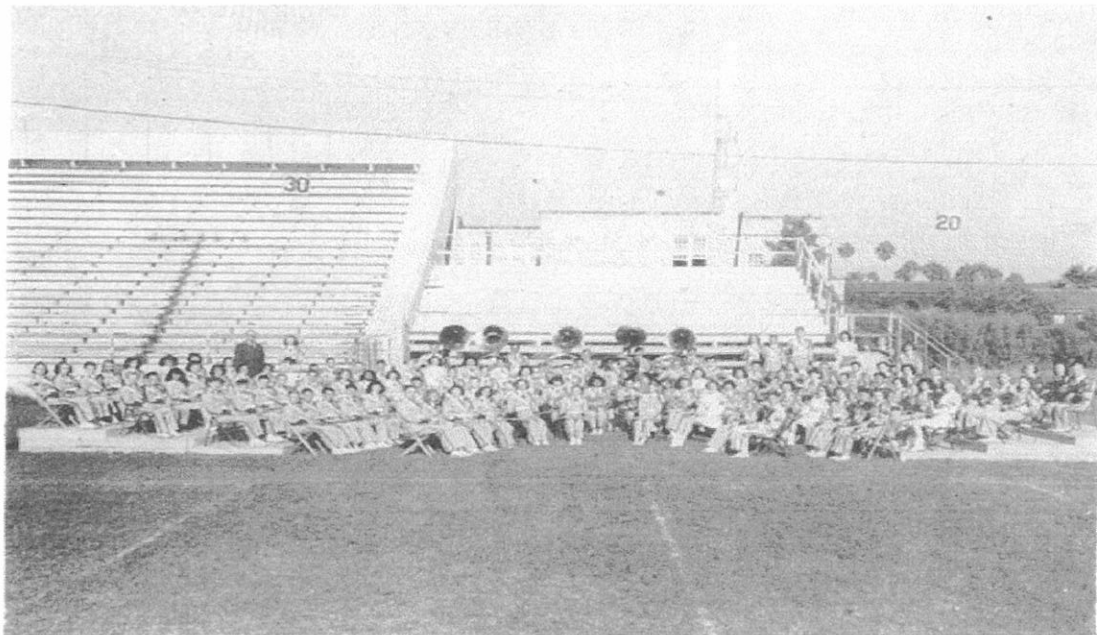
Active Members Of Texas University Interscholastic League Band Division

Brownsville J. R. Murphy
Donna Gladys Mitchell
Edinburg Max Murphy
Harlingen M. W. Russell
La Feria Lloyd Kindel
McAllen Clifford Horn
Mercedes Arnold Holmes
Mission Cecil Rusk
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Ed Holt
Raymondville Milton Witt
Rio Grande City Roque Guerra, Jr.
San Benito Nelson G. Patrick
Weslaco Joe L. Bellamah
Edcouch-Elsa Clyde Hand



Brownsville Band
1948 – JIM MURPHY, DIRECTOR

SAN BENITO HIGH SCHOOL BAND



Band Director — NELSON PATRICK
1948

HISTORY OF THE ANNUAL PIGSKIN MUSIC JUBILEE

The idea was first conceived by Mr. Hugh Proctor, former superintendent of schools at Mission with the general objective of presenting an inter-school event to foster a more cooperative attitude between the students and coaches of football teams and students and teachers of music. The first JUBILEE was held December 9th, 1940 at Harlingen with Mr. Ernest Poteel, General Chairman. Over eleven hundred students from nineteen Valley schools participated.

The second Jubilee was held at Donna in 1941, with Mr. A. B. Sanders, Donna Schools Superintendent, General Chairman. The war postponed Jubilees in 1942, 1943 and 1944 and they were resumed in 1945 at Harlingen with Mr. Gene Braught of McAllen, chairman.

In marching and presenting their students the bands are judged on the basis of standards of the Music Educators Association and not in competition with each other.

Here's To The Finest

Teams and Bands

In The Land

YOUR FRIENDLY

Terry Farris

DEPARTMENT
STORE

There's a Terry Farris Store within a few minutes from any point in the Valley . . . Featuring the nation's most famous brands.

- Program -

PIGSKIN MUSIC JUBILEE

1949

Cover by Ken Snyder
Roland Schweer, MC

1. Grand Entry (Mass Formation of All Bands)
2. Mass Maneuver
3. Marching Contest (Bands to appear in each group in the order of farthest distance from home)

Class B

Edcouch-Elsa (Black and Gold) ✓
La Feria (Maroon and Gold) ✓
Rio Hondo (Blue and Gold) ✓

Class A

Rio Grande City (Red and White) ✓
Mission (Maroon and White) ✓
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo (Maroon and White) ✓
Donna (Maroon and Gold) ✓
Raymondville (Blue and Gold) ✓
Weslaco (Green and Gold) ✓
Mercedes ✓

Class AA

Edinburg (Red, White and Blue) ✓
McAllen (Purple and Gold) ✓
Harlingen (Red and White) ✓
San Benito (Purple and Gold) ✓

Class AA-1

Brownsville (Green and Gold) ✓

Judges: Jean Sarli, Edison High School, San Antonio
J. E. Stuchberry, Pasadena High School
Dick Hardin, Harlandale Hi, San Antonio