

# MUMMERS

M A G A Z I N E

BROAD ST

VISIONS

OMIC

ANCY

G BAND



1959

FIFTY CENTS

TINK AUDET

# PHILCO Scores Again!

*with the World's First...*

## ALL-TRANSISTOR VEST-POCKET RADIO



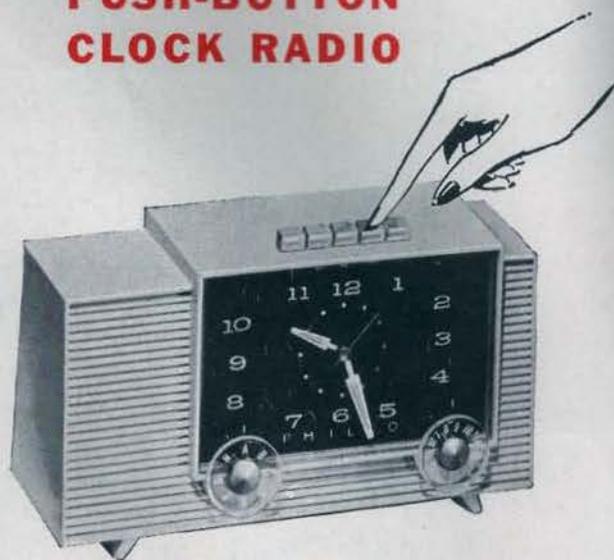
### The *VeeP*

Take it along with you to the big games and listen to the play by play of your game or other league contests with the "Private Listening" Speaker. It's the sensation of the season.

ONLY  
**\$19<sup>95</sup>**



## PUSH-BUTTON CLOCK RADIO



### MOST AUTOMATIC EVER!

New Push-Button Clock Controls put all operations right at your finger-tips. It's the easiest-to-use clock radio ever invented. Choice of Lustre Ivory or Aqua.



PHILCO 16065

## IT TAKES TWO TO STEREO

*You have to hear it  
to believe it!*

**PHILCO STEREOPHONIC SOUND** — Two matched sound systems turn your living room into a concert hall. Combine your 1959 Philco HIGH FIDELITY with a matching external speaker-amplifier for fabulous Stereophonic sound.



PHILCO SA-1000

LOOK AHEAD... *and you'll choose* PHILCO!

# The Mummers Entertain Millions

Millions of Americans watch the fabulous Philadelphia Mummers cavort each year.

Every New Year's Day, some 600,000 people line Broad Street to watch the fancy capes, colorful comics and dazzling string bands perform, strut and stomp all the way from South Philadelphia past City Hall.

In addition, some three million television viewers on the Eastern coast watch the colorful extravaganza sitting right in their living rooms.

The Mummers, of course, no longer limit their appearances to New Year's Day on Broad St.

For the past dozen years, the string bands

have played to sell-out crowds in Convention Hall during their wintertime "Show of Shows" performances.

The bands played before seven "sell-out" crowds in 1958 at the Hall and drew close to 75,000.

Countless people in a host of communities also see individual groups from the Mummers' organizations at benefits, celebrations, parades and similar occurrences throughout the year.

The Mummers are truly Philadelphia's own—but more and more they've become the "nation's finest."



## "A Mummer's Prayer on New Year's Day"

Oh Lord, please help me on this New Year's Day;  
That I may make it straight, all the way;  
When in the wee hours of the dawn  
Our band starts marching on.

Help me Lord when you see me march,  
With my head high and my shoulders arched.  
Help me also to be worthy of my headpiece,  
That I carry and I love.

And Lord when I make my turn at the Hall,  
Make all my aches and pains be very small.

And as the night comes slowly through  
Now's my turn to start thanking You.  
And down Second Street with a yawn.

Thanks again Lord,  
For it was You who kept my dancing feet  
Dancing on.

And when the day is done,  
Can we maybe, be ONE?

By AL WOZNIAK

PICTURES OF UNITS AND INDIVIDUALS ON SUCCEEDING PAGES ARE FROM PAST PERFORMANCES AND DO NOT DEPICT 1959 THEMES.

# Philadelphia's Mayor Greets Mummers



Many people throughout the nation know Philadelphia best through the spectacular New Year's Day parade of the Mummers.

Thousands of letters of praise for this colorful pageant pour into City Hall each year. Combining ancient traditions with modern themes, the parade always provides delightful entertainment for persons of every age and from every walk of life.

We in City government are, of course, elated with the reception given the Mummers in all their undertakings, and we are proud to have a part in the presentation of this gala New Year's event.

May I extend greetings to 1959 edition of the Mummers' Parade to all marchers and their families my personal best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

RICHARDSON DILWORTH,  
Mayor

## Statement From City Council President

It is a pleasure for this opportunity to extend a hearty 1959 welcome to the Mummers.

The pageantry of King Momus and with such colorful and spectacular sidelights have become as much a part of Philadelphia's tradition as the Mardi Gras in New Orleans or the Tournament of Roses in Pasadena.

The Mummers parades and concerts have national appeal, for everyone likes to see blazing displays of color and gaily-decorated costumes.

I'm an old Mummers parade follower and I eagerly look forward—as I am sure thousands of other Philadelphians do—to watching the marchers "strut their stuff" along Broad Street.

JAMES H. J. TATE  
President, City Council



## *Recreation Commissioner Greet the Mimmers*

The City of Philadelphia reaps untold benefits from the annual New Year's Shooters and Mimmers' Association Parade.

The parade spreads the city's name 'round the world, for New Year's Day and the Mimmers are synonymous wherever a traveler goes. The event is one eagerly awaited every year not only by residents of our city and its environs but also by visitors from various sectors of the nation. People come from near and far to watch this unique spectacle.

The Association works closely with the Department of Recreation, contributing its time and talents for the enjoyment of the citizens. The summer concerts at Reyburn Plaza bring untold joy from June to September.

The Association and Department of Recreation work closely together in planning the annual parade and the Association's cooperation and enthusiasm has resulted in a splendid relationship.

The parade will be a landmark on the Philadelphia scene for many years ahead and we look forward to making it even more successful on coming New Year's days.

ROBERT W. CRAWFORD,  
Recreation Commissioner



## *Commissioner's Assistant Speaks*

The Mimmers' Parade provides a spectacle that is a source of delight to young and old alike.

This spectacle is responsible for bringing thousands of out-of-town visitors to the city for the year-end holiday and induces local youngsters and adults to line Broad St. to view the proceedings.

It's a pleasure for the Recreation Department to cooperate with the Philadelphia New Year's Shooters Association in preparing for the parade. The pageantry and color make it one of the most thrilling events in the nation, one that will continue to delight onlookers for many years to come.

LUKE E. FOLEY,  
Special Asst. to the Recreation Commissioner

# PHILADELPHIA NEW YEAR SHOOTERS' AND MUMMERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

## *The President Speaks . . .*

New Year's Day, January 1, 1959!

What a long way we have traveled since that memorable day, January 1, 1901, when the first Mummies' Parade began its triumphant march up Broad Street, to the amusement and delight of fellow Philadelphians. Many pageants and parades have, and are now taking place in our country, but nowhere in the world has there occurred such a spectacular show as that for which our City is famous.

For the past few years the Mummies' Association can be justifiably proud of the fact that not only do they furnish eye-filling beauty, gaiety and amusement for those on the sidelines, but also the parade has come into our homes through television, affording great pleasure to those unable to personally witness the spectacle.

Through organization and cooperation our Association has built a fantastic and spectacular parade that could never have been achieved by any spur of the moment celebrations. For close to 250 years it has been a custom in our town.

To put a club on the street involves great cooperation and coordination. Preparation for the march is a 365-day a year job, with no thought of financial gain to the individual "shooter."

Even though most of us may have a secret desire to "dress up and strut our stuff" this sometimes involves a great deal of unselfishness and personal sacrifice on the part of the Mummer, and for this nobility of spirit, among many other reasons, I am honored indeed to serve as their president.

We wish to dedicate this program with our sincere thanks to the city officials for their cooperation; to those firms and individuals who have supported our endeavors; to the public for its enthusiastic reception and to each individual responsible for our combined efforts to please.

It is hoped that our Mummies' Magazine will give you a better insight of our undertaking in the preparation and presentation of our unique Philadelphia "Show of Shows."



**RAYMOND GURT**  
President

**RAYMOND M. GURT**  
President



**THOMAS A. HOWLEY**  
Vice-President



**ROBERT HALL**  
Recording Secretary



**JOHN HOGG**  
Financial Secretary



**JOHN ARLETH**  
Treasurer



**SOL GINSBURG**  
Publicity Director



**WILLIAM TORELLI**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**FRANK SHAY**  
Fancy Division  
Director



**HARRY W. TYLER**  
Comic Division  
Director



**HARRY STRAUB**  
String Band  
Director



**MATT LEIGHTON**  
Fancy Division  
Director



**JOSEPH PURUL, SR.**  
Comic Division  
Director



**PETE AMODEI**  
String Band  
Director

# PHILADELPHIA MUMMERS' STRING BAND ASSOCIATION



**EDWARD MIDDLETON**  
Recording Secretary



**FRED KESEL**  
President



**RAYMOND ENDRISS**  
Vice-President



**JOHN ARLETH**  
Treasurer



**SOL GINSBURG**  
Publicity Director



**HOWARD PEOPLES**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**JOHN HOGG**  
Financial Secretary



**MAGISTRATE ELIAS MYERS**  
Parade Director



**BOB RODEBAUGH**  
Asst. Parade Director

## *The Director Speaks . . . .*

One of the brightest gems of achievement in Philadelphia history is the annual Mummers Parade up Broad Street.

It has been estimated that with television more than five million people observe this annual pageant.

Every New Year's Day, the Mummers, young and old between the ages of three and who knows what, assemble in South Philadelphia to start the parade. The glittering, colorful Fancy clubs, the hilarious, lively Comic units, and the attractive, gaily-strumming String Bands — all are an integral part of a magnificent "Show of Shows," and without them New Year's Day in Philadelphia would lose its full flavor.

I am extremely proud of the privilege accorded me as Parade Director. It is an honor which can be given to only one man, so you can well understand why I attach so much importance to it.

On behalf of the Mummers and the officials of the parade, let me wish the citizens of Philadelphia and vicinity a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. I hope you're with us when the parade starts up Broad Street.

MAGISTRATE ELIAS MYERS



From the old Philadelphia collection of the Continental Distilling Corporation

In Gerald W. Johnson's *Patterns For Liberty—The Story of Old Philadelphia*—he shows the influence of Europe more startlingly as the forerunner of the Mummer's Parade in discussing "The Butcher's Celebration" which was, in its general tone of revelry, strikingly like the Mummer's parade of the next century. But it was more than that. It was almost the last manifestation of a social order that had once been all-powerful in Europe, the guild system. The guilds were, it is true, something like the labor unions, but that statement should be accepted in the sense that one accepts a statement that the King was something like the President. The differences are more prominent than the similarities.

The guilds themselves were derived from more ancient

organizations reaching so far back into history that they touched the point at which religion, economics, and politics could not be distinguished. The flower-bedecked steer that the Philadelphia butchers drove through the streets was the lineal descendant of the creature pictured on the Grecian urn that sets John Keats to wondering—

To what green altar, O mysterious priest,  
Lead'st thou that heifer lowing at the skies,  
And all her silken flanks with garlands dressed?

The Philadelphia butchers would have laughed uproariously at the idea that they followed a "mysterious priest" to a religious ceremony, but the line of descent is clear.

## ORIGINS of MUMMERY

Mummary goes back into the realms of antiquity and there are many suggestions advanced regarding its origin and purpose.

In trying to analyze the mass of fiction and fact, it is definitely established that back in 400 B.C., the citizens of the Roman Empire honored the great God Saturn in a series of festive events known as the Saturnalia. The purpose of the celebration was for the reaping of the harvest, but today, any terrific party is referred to by the same name and no reason is needed for its start or continuation.

During the Roman period of Saturnalia, everyone tried to dress in the garments of a class different from his own. Slaves would wear the finery of their masters and the latter in turn would don the ragged raiment of the slaves. This change of garb always seemed to exhilarate the individuals concerned, cares and troubles would be forgotten, the music would play, the dancing would start, and everyone would have an extraordinarily good time forgetting to be themselves and indulging in pleasures which would have otherwise been denied.

Through the centuries, nation after nation has seized upon the slightest excuse by which the people could enjoy themselves and engage in celebration. They gave different names to the festivities but they all had the same purpose.

One of the earliest merry-makings was the "Masque" celebrated in Florence, Italy. It was also known as the Florentine Carnival and was usually held prior to the start of Lent. The monks of the Middle Ages, powerless to prevent these affairs, acquiesced to the same and designated the merry-making period as a time given over to the "Lords of Misrule and the Abbots of Unreason." Each particular neighborhood would provide floats and the most popular was the one depicting a graveyard. At a given signal, the graves would open and celebrants dressed as skeletons would appear singing:

*Dead we are as ye may see;  
Dead like us ye soon shall be.  
Once ourselves were just like ye;  
Soon yourselves shall be like we.*

Another song of the time was one that sets forth the tempo of the whole affair:

*We dance and sing and prance and fling,  
'Tis grace that makes us glad,  
No greater bliss can be than he  
Who piously goes mad.  
Then let us all go mad, go mad,  
Then let us all go mad.*

The "Lord of Misrule" was another very famous carnival personage and in European countries would begin his reign at Hallowe'en and extend it until Candlemas Day.

In England and in France, Shrove Tuesday and the Eve of Ash Wednesday were days of celebration and mummary during which time people would get on stilts or place contraptions on their shoulders in order to give them height and start what was popularly known as the "Procession of Giants."

Another origin of the present Mummer's celebrations was the "Feast of Fools" which is celebrated at Christmastime in England. This usually begins the day after Christmas and extends from December 26 to January 6, which is called "Twelfth-night." It was during this period of time that the Three Kings set forth to bring their gifts to the Infant, and this fact called for the celebrators to dress in their conception of Eastern garb and go from house to house to either collect or give presents.

A very important post in England during these Twelfth-night festivities was the "Master of Revels." It was he who had the right to designate what games would be played and to levy the forfeit for failure to perform satisfactorily and to reward those who excelled in various lines of endeavor.

Another claim is that Mummary started in Holland and comes from the Dutch word, "Momme," meaning mask. There is no doubt that the Dutch and the Germans engaged in this type of entertainment and one of their famous songs sung while in mask was:

*"To shorten winter sadness  
See where the folks with gladness  
Disguised all are coming  
Right wantonly a-mumming."*

At the present time it is generally conceded that the origin of Mummary is seated in the person of King Momus, the Lord of Carnival gaiety and the spirit of devil-may-care. Originally, Momus was the ancient Greek god of censure and misrule. He delighted in ridiculing and making sport of everyone, much in the manner of the present-day Mummer. However, and beware, he fell in love with the beautiful Aphrodite but because of his reputation for gab-abouting and lack of decorum, she would have none of his wooing. The story goes that Momus died of a broken heart but the other gods were merciful and permitted him to come back to earth at certain times to preside over periods of joyous celebration, many of which have been described in this article.

When emigrants left the old world for the new, they brought with them their many customs of celebration and gaiety, and the Mardi Gras in New Orleans and the Mummer's Parade in Philadelphia are but two outstanding examples of this old-world influence.

# Philip J. Hammond New Year Association Comic Club

(1918 S. 2nd St.)

Philip J. Hammond, Jr. . . . . *President*  
 Joseph Iacuzio . . . . . *Vice-President*  
 Philip J. Hammond, Sr. . . . . *Treasurer*  
 Frank Iacuzio . . . . . *Captain*  
 Joseph P. Hammond . . . . . *Secretary*  
 John J. Woyner . . . . . *Financial Secretary*  
 Edward Eldridge, Jr. . . . . *Sergeant-at-Arms*  
 Jerry Kelly . . . . . *Chairman of Trustees*

Noted for the size of its parading contingent, the Hammond Association is in its 13th year as an organized Mummers group. The unit was established February 9, 1946, by the man whose name the club bears. His son, now president, will not be parading in 1959 as he is on his second expedition to the South Pole.

## 1959 THEME — "VOLARE"

Captain . . . cape of two sections, 40 feet long and carried by 24 page boys . . . first section has a fountain four feet high surrounded by pink and white doves and a painter's easel on green grass with trees and a white picket fence . . . second section consists of a girl riding a large dove . . . captain's suit is red and yellow satin, with a yellow tam . . . page boys will have sky blue satin and red tam complete with artist bows.



# "MIRACLE MILD" PHILLIES

*Now—The Best Selling Blunts in the U.S.A.*



Cigar and cigarette smokers alike are now enjoying "MIRACLE MILD" Phillies Blunts—the first cigar mild enough for *all* smokers. Never before has smoking offered so much pleasure for so little cost. Pick up a fresh pack today. "Miracle Mild" Phillies ... *now—the best selling Blunts in the U.S.A.*

**NEW LOW PRICE !**

**5 for 39¢**

Other Phillies sizes . . . IMPERIALS—DOUBLE PERFECTOS—KING SIZE—2 for 25c • PERFECTOS—10c • PANATELLAS—5 for 39c • JUNIOR PHILLIES—5c

# Murray Comic Club

(124 Jackson St.)

Harry Tyler ..... *President*  
Jack Carlo ..... *Vice-President*  
Joseph Keenan ..... *Secretary*  
R. Ramsey ..... *Financial Secretary*  
Joseph Tyler ..... *Treasurer*  
John Hodgetts ..... *Sergeant-at-Arms*  
Henny Hoochuk ..... *Publicity Director*  
Joseph Keenan, Jr. .... *Captain*

Re-organized in 1935 from the disbanding Oswald Club, the Murray Comics have entertained millions with their multi-color costumes.

Four generations of Tylers have marched with the Murrays and this year there may even be a fifth-generation marcher.

## 1959 THEME— “GOLDEN AGE OF COMEDY”

Such comical episodes as the “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof,” “Beast from Forty Fathoms,” “Public Vampire No. 1,” “Future Mummies Out of Space,” “Three-Headed Clown” and “The Greatest Thing on TV” will be depicted.

Evry color in the rainbow has gone into making up these fascinating costumes.



# Liberty Clowns Comic Association

(1528 Wolf Street)

Billy Torelli ..... *President*  
 Mickey Jackson ..... *Vice-President*  
 Mike Terry ..... *Treasurer*  
 Joseph Schultz ..... *Captain*  
 John Toomey Lees ..... *Asst. Captain*

Organized in 1936 and parading in Mummies competition since 1939, Liberty now boasts 2700 members.

Liberty has won more than 32 prizes in the past 21 years and captain Joe Schultz holds the record for captain's first prizes with four in a row from 1951 through 1954. He was second in 1955 and '56 and returned to the top last year.

Domenic Torelli took an award 16 consecutive years—from the time he started parading in 1941 at the age of four—through 1956. Nick Terry also has won consistently over a long period.



## 1959 THEME—"A STAR IS BORN"

Captain . . . dressed as Uncle Sam carrying a baby representing Alaska as a new state. Cape is 125 feet long. Dog teams, snow huts also in line along with 40 pages dressed as Eskimos.

Floats: Dommie Torelli, "A Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" (dressed as girl, roof will be smoking); "Roland and His Monsters"; "The Haunted House"; "The 3 Stooges"; "The Moon saying "U. S. Hurry, We Need A Loan Up Here"; "Capturing King Kong" (11-foot gorilla); Float: "The Mad Medic"; Float: "Cape Canaveral Goofing Grounds" (rocket 20 feet long shot up, breaks and smokes); "Arthur Murray's Dancing School"; "Rock 'N' Roll from Outer Space"; "Mummies from Alaska"; "The Roaring 20's". Brigades: "Clowns of Fortune," Captain Mike Petrone (58 clowns); "Mickey Mouse Clowns," Captain Bill Moscatelli (72); "Checker Clowns," Captain Bill Dumont (81); "Joyful Clowns," Captain Lou Jaffe (60); "Hollywood Clowns," Captain Ray Kelly (76); "Charleston Strutters," Captain Frank Aloï (40 girls dressed as in the 20's dancing the Charleston); "People from the Moon," Captain Howard Smith; "The Hat Parade," Captain Bob Wilson (64 girls); "Cops Cleaning Up Juvenile Crimes," Captain Eddie Zipton (50 men); "The American Indians," Captain Billy Conley (38); "Mickey Mouse Takes A Trip to the Farm," Captain Emil Dudley (66).

Special Characters: "King-Size Juvenile" (6 ft., 7 in. feller) James Bellings; "Teddy Boy," Jimmy McGrath; "Indian Girl," Tom Torelli.



# Joseph A. Purul Comic Club

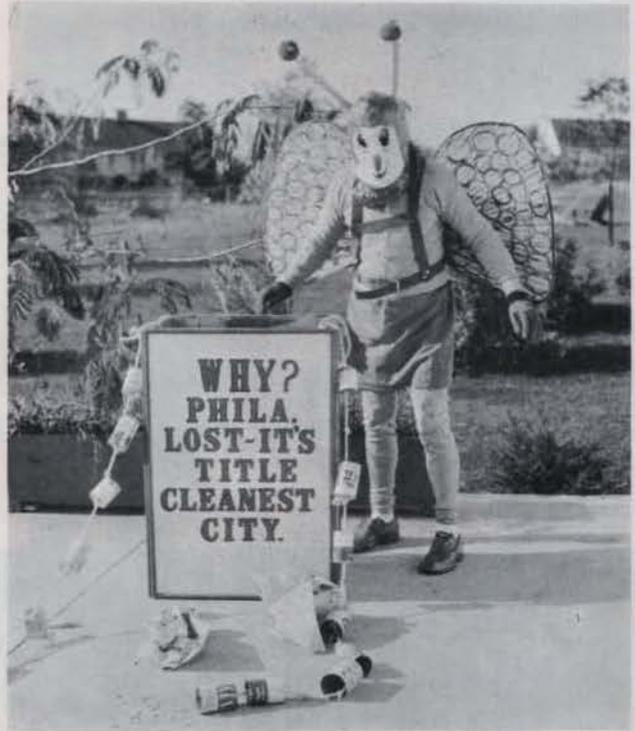
(830 S. Front St.)

Joseph Purul .....	President
John Galloway .....	Vice-President
John Purul .....	Captain
Frank Soda .....	Treasurer
Al Smith .....	Secretary
John Press .....	Chief Marshal
Henry Leit .....	Public Relations Director

This is the 23rd marching year for the Purul Comic Club which was organized in April, 1936, by the current president, Joseph Purul.

## 1959 THEME—"GOLDEN SLIPPERS"

Among the varied presentations of the club this year are: John Galloway as John B. Kelly leading 40 hod-carrying Irishmen in welcoming "Princess Grace and the Prince" to Philadelphia; Frank Stermel and Joseph Burke leading a contingent of raiding "Vikings"; a unit showing a "Hula Hoop" contest; "The Major Operation," a float satirical of the Republican elephant after the 1958 elections; "The Purple People Eaters" led by Jimmy Passio, and "Wagon Train" re-enacting the western movement of cowboys and Indians led by Bob De Francesco.



GUS WITTE AS PHILA. LITTER BUG  
2ND PRIZE OF MOST ORIGINAL COSTUME — 1958



# S. D. Wheeler Fancy Club

(218 St. James St.)

Frank Shay, Sr. . . . . *President*  
 James Happold . . . . . *Vice-President*  
 Tony Fenda . . . . . *Secretary*  
 Al Runz . . . . . *Treasurer*  
 William Doyle, Sr. . . . . *Captain*  
 William Doyle, Jr. . . . . *Co-Captain*

Some 700 men and two bands make up the Wheeler contingent as the organization begins its 28th year of parading.

The club was organized February 5, 1945, at the Philadelphia Naval Base and memorializes the late, beloved Buck Wheeler, who strutted as a Mummer for more than half a century.

## 1959 THEME—"STATUE OF LIBERTY"

Captain . . . two-section cape carried by 30 page boys. Red, white, blue and gold.

King Clown . . . six-foot plumes of red and green in headpiece.

Trio Jockey . . . Red, white and blue along with peach and green.

Trio Clown . . . Orange and black along with red and yellow.

King Jockey . . . Blue and yellow horse-shoes, eight-foot suit of blue and yellow panels.

Ray Dormer Brigade . . . will march with 30 men wearing solid deep purple suits.



# Hog Island New Year Association Fancy Club

(624 S. Front St.)

Robert Oder	.....	President
Robert Gorrie	.....	Vice-President
Robert Meimbresse	.....	Treasurer
John Huston	.....	Secretary
George Roney	.....	Financial Secretary
John Fitzmaurice	.....	Sergeant-at-Arms
Tom A. Howley	.....	Captain
William Knight	.....	Assistant Captain

The Hog Island New Year Association, organized in 1949, has proved that youth has no bearing on its ability by consistently finishing among the leaders in fancy competition.

Hog Island has a number of father-son parading units as well as several grandfather-father-son cliques. Pop Gabriel, the club's grand marshal, is parading for his 50th year with Hog Island.

## 1959 THEME—"KING OF DIAMONDS"

Captain . . . 45 page boys will carry green, gold and fuchsia cape of four sections.

In King Jockey competition, Bob Meimbresse will be attired in black, green and gold; John Hansforth in purple and gold; William Knight in pink and blue and Tom McHugh in fuchsia and green.

Jim Welsh will carry a red, white and blue "Mr. USA" suit; William Roney, Jr., will be a silver and blue "Moon Nymph," and William Roney, Sr., will carry an emerald green cascade adorned with 1000 red roses.

Merry Makers Brigade, led by captain Francis Boland will be "Sun Worshippers" and will dance to "The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise." Five-year-old Chuck Cassidy and Chris Rock will march in this unit. Each Aztec sun-worshipper will have a headpiece adorned with 35 plumes.

The Starlighters Brigade, led by captain Eugene Ziegler, will march as "Miss Pat McCormick and Her Mighty Matadors."

The Avenuers Brigade will march as a scene from "The Arabian Nights" attired in green, red, purple and black. Captain is John McMurtrie, Jr., with John, 3rd, Charles Sullivan and William Sanborn as juveniles.

The Gallagher Brigade, led by captain Jack Walsh, will present "Death of the Viking." The 35 members will be clad as Norsemen in red-blue and orange velvet. Captain Walsh will have a 16-foot high backpiece of



500 ostrich plumes symbolizing the Viking war shield. The drill will feature a Viking burial ceremony.

Captained by Ed Marquis, the Fancy Dans will present the "Moth and the Flame."

The newly-organized Satin Slipper Brigade will present "The Vikings" attired in blue, red, purple and green trimmed with gold sequins adorned with red rubies. Captain Chick Veasey's costume will be white satin trimmed with white fur and gold sequins, and the unit will take part in a Viking raid.

The Golden Slipper Brigade, led by Captain John Lynch, will march as "Aztec Sun Worshippers" in costumes of white satin trimmed with black, backpiece featuring a circle representing the sun and sun rays done in mirror on a blue background with gold sequins. The captain's suit will be blue velvet with black trim and gold trim cloth. Captain Lynch's son, Stephen, will wear an identical suit.

The captain has a backpiece with a 26-inch circle representing the sun and 18-inch rays with mirror.

# Oregon New Year Association

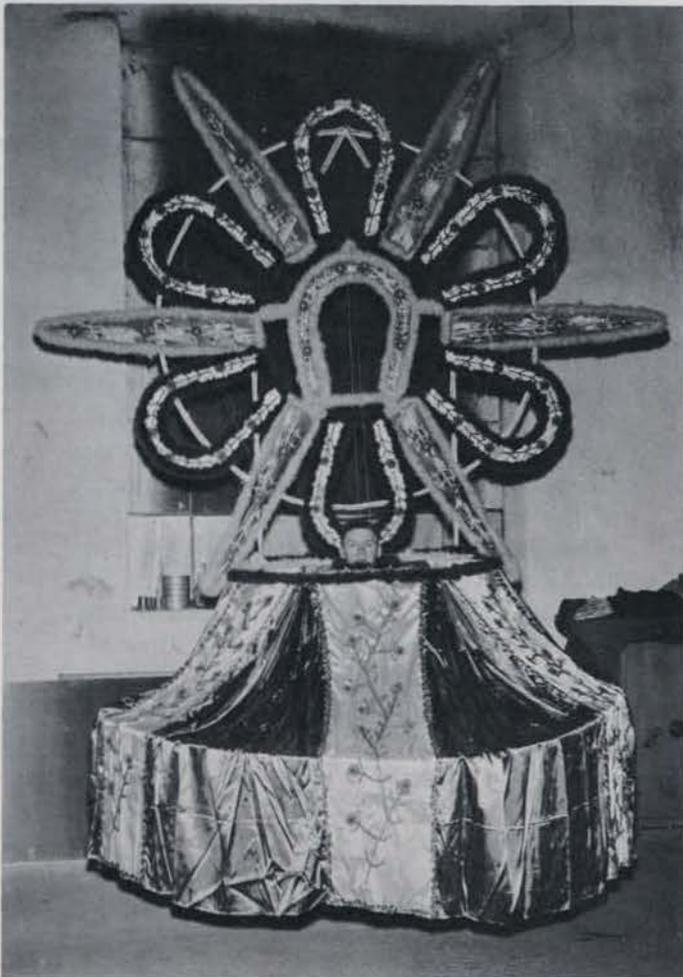
(2849 S. 11th St.)

James S. White ..... *President*  
 Thomas Napoleon ..... *Vice-President*  
 David Jackson ..... *Treasurer*  
 John McCracken ..... *Recording Secretary*  
 Jules Sosinsky ..... *Financial Secretary*  
 Harry Starner ..... *Captain*  
 John Hayden ..... *Co-Captain*  
 James Green ..... *Steward*  
 Joseph Mirigliano ..... *Sergeant-at-Arms*

Chartered in 1936, the Oregon New Year's Association has become famous in Mumpers' circles because of its lavish "chenille work."

Captain Harry Starner, who has been "King Mummer" on several occasions, this year wears one of the most colorful costumes ever seen in Mumpers' parades.

The Oregon Association is a neighborhood organization, and a host of wives and daughters participate in preparation of costumes and in producing a lavish party for the many youngsters who serve as page boys on New Year's Day.



## 1959 THEME—"A KING AND HIS PAGES"

**Captain . . .** Four sections, requiring 65 page boys. Cape contains at least 5000 rosebuds and is green and gold.

**Music . . .** Four bands supply marching music for the 1000 who parade under the Oregon banner.

**Brigades . . .** "King's Goodwill Tour," Happy Rowan's Young Stars captained by Harry Rowan, Jr.; "South Pacific," Joker, captained by co-captains Joe and Bucky Walters. Joker men will be attired as Hawaiian kings with headdresses of multi-color flowers topped by three tiers of red and gold plumes extending four-and-a-half feet into the air . . . Bodice of copper satin set off with a breast plate of gold metallic cloth . . . arms adorned with flowers and gold sequins . . . beachcomber's pants of red fluorescent velvet and gold sequins with gold metallic sarong draped from the waist . . . entire costume set off with red collar extending into a red velvet cape of hand-sewn flowers . . . sandals will be gold . . . marchers will play "Blue Hawaii," "Hawaiian War Chant," "Aloha," and "Lovely Bunch of Coconuts." . . . Drill will be highlighted by machete dancers in green velvet and grass-skirted hula dancers . . . co-captains have costumes of turquoise velvet, breast plate and sarongs of silver sequins, set off with turquoise and white-plume headpiece . . . also will have seven-foot backpiece with hundreds of flowers.

James Schweikers carries purple and gold King Jockey costume, while captain Bill Isaacs leads a special unit in "An Artist's Dream."



# Charles Klein New Year Association Fancy Club

(2413 Wharton St.)

Joseph Brydges	.....	<i>President</i>
M. Roddy	.....	<i>1st Vice-President</i>
F. Dilmerio	.....	<i>2nd Vice-President</i>
J. Coyle	.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
T. Judge	.....	<i>Secretary</i>
W. Friedman	.....	<i>Financial Secretary</i>
Al Graham	.....	<i>Captain</i>

The Klein Association is the oldest fancy unit parading and among the oldest of all Mummers' troupes. Organized in 1911 and marching since 1912, Klein won 21 fancy division titles through 1958 and has won more prizes as "Kinger Mummer" than any other unit.

Five bands supply music for the more than 1200 marchers under the Klein banner.

Harry Jerdon, who is 74, will march with the Klein club.

## 1959 THEME—"HEARTS & ROSES"

Captain . . . red plush hearts, silver horse-hair, sequins, maribout, red and white slipper satin, red and silver scalloped sequins. Captain will be followed by first and second lieutenants and 52 page boys.

Brigades: Shooting Stars, "Oriental Fans," captained by Bill McIntyre; Pop Chambers, "Matadors," captained by Jim Houseman; George Martin, "Melody of Stars," captained by John Stewart.

Special . . . Bob Kinee and Jim Kinee, Jr., will carry green and white King Jockey suit in honor of deceased Jim Kinee, Sr., and Larry Mullin will carry trio Jockey suit in honor of deceased Whip Elias.



**RICHMOND  
MACHINE COMPANY**  
RICHMOND & ONTARIO STS.  
Philadelphia 34, Pa.

# John J. Fralinger String Band

(1829 S. Second St.)

Harry Brannau ..... *President*  
John Fralinger ..... *Captain, Treasurer*  
Tom Black ..... *Recording Secretary*  
Fred Calandra ..... *Financial Secretary,  
Music Director, Drill Master*

Organized in 1915 by Dr. John Fralinger, the Fralinger String Band paraded eight years, then disbanded.

In 1940, however, the unit was reorganized by the doctor's son, John Fralinger, Jr., and has been a consistent parade entry ever since.

The Fralinger unit is one of the few Mummer's organizations still located in South Philadelphia—where local Mummery got its start.

## 1959 THEME—"TOYLAND"

Costume . . . Pink slipper satin suit, trimmed in gold sequins. Each headpiece contains 31 white plumes and each depicts gaily decorative TOYLAND scenes with a hobby horse, teddy bear and a doll detailed in. Each hat has a simulated drum with a set of trains traveling around the rim of the drum. Each coat has alphabet blocks detailed on their puffed sleeves. The pants are bell-bottomed, containing a detailed Jack-in-the-Box detailed on the back panel. The two front panels have a sailboat, drumsticks, horn, and a ball. The interlining of the cape is something new, polka dots.

Music . . . "Toyland," "Me and My Teddy Bear," "Brahms Lullaby," "March of the Toys," "Little Girl" and "Mary."

Captain . . . all white, trimmed with gold, with a rocking horse on the headpiece . . . elaborately made with great detail work.



# Peter A. Broomall String Band

(1931 S. 3rd St.)

James V. Broomall ..... *President*  
Edward Broomall ..... *Musical Director*  
Donald Wallace ..... *Vice-President*  
Andy Criss ..... *Drill Master*  
Charles Broomall ..... *Secretary*  
Peter A. Broomall ..... *Captain, Treasurer*

Three generations of the Broomall family will parade in 1959 with the band bearing this name that was organized in 1930.

Captain Peter A. Broomall, is in his 29th year as captain and 49th year of parading. He has been a Mummer since his early childhood and has marched in all divisions. Broomall parades with 60 men, 10 abreast and six deep.

1959 THEME—

## "TOURNAMENT OF ROSES"

Captain . . . gold cape and suit with huge headdress of yellow gold feathers and spangles and jeweled sequins.

Costume . . . blue plumes . . . members wear blue plumes, red roses in their back-pieces, college-type dinkies trimmed with sequins. Flamingo cape and iced blue satin pants, with capes having felt footballs on them.

Music . . . "On Wisconsin," "Fight On Pennsylvania," "Notre Dame Victory March," "California Here I Come."



**FAMOUS  
PHILADELPHIA TRADITIONS:**

For Entertainment — the Mummers!  
For Food . . .

*Horn &  
Hardart*

84 Cafeterias, Automats, Waitress-Service Restaurants and Retail Shops, providing Finest Quality Food at Lowest Possible Prices for more than 350,000 Philadelphians daily.

*"The Public Appreciates Quality"*



**Show of Shows  
STRING BAND CONCERT**

CONVENTION HALL

**Sunday Matinee,  
February 15 and 22**

**Evening Shows:  
February 17-18-19,  
March 16-17**

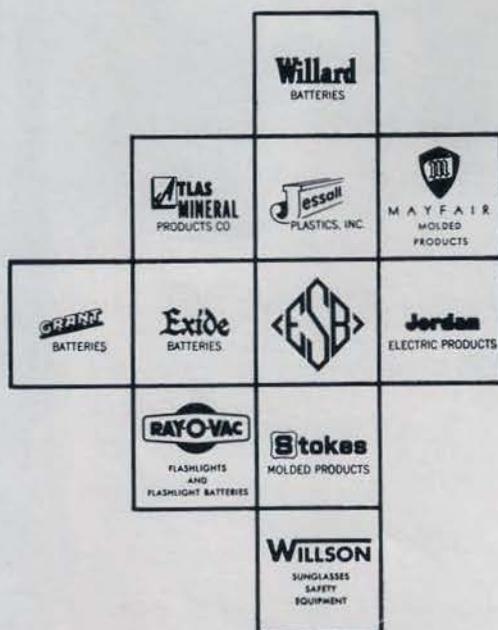
**1959**

8:00 P.M.

ALL SEATS RESERVED

Tickets may be ordered at  
5142 Castor Ave. (CU 8-9120)  
425 Green St. (MA 7-8298)  
325 N. Felton St. (GR 4-4307)

In New Jersey —  
Collingswood 5-4050



**The Electric Storage Battery Company**

PENN CENTER, PHILA., PA.



# Polish American String Band

(2808 E. Allegheny Ave.)

John Baukus ..... *President*  
Stanley Gogoj ..... *Recording Secretary*  
William Batcheller ..... *Financial Secretary*  
John Fritz ..... *Treasurer*  
Raymond Pasternack ..... *Sergeant-at-Arms*  
Walter Krop ..... *Captain*  
Edward Skowronski ..... *Assistant Captain*  
Benjamin Sitek ..... *Musical Director*  
Robert Kimrey ..... *Assistant Musical Director*

For the past 25 years the Polish American String Band has thrilled the public with its fine music, beautiful costumes and outstanding drills. The band has won five first prizes and consistently placed among the top five on New Year's Day.

The band's policy is to train its members not only in music but also in the fine art of Mummery so that they can fully enjoy their hobby. No applicant for membership is refused.

The beginning of the band's second 25 years has been marred with sadness with the death of the founder and lifelong president, Joseph Janowski. To his memory this year's presentation is dedicated.

## 1959 THEME—

### "MELODIES OF THE SEASONS"

Drill . . . Consists of a series of seasonal sketches opening with a four-tone introduction heralding the seasons of the new year. The band then will play the capricious "Spring Song" and "Welcome Sweet Spring" to which pastel green-garbed bandsmen will dance a sprightly "Spring Hop." The former tune is actually "Melody In F" but careful research revealed that words were written to it with its new title. . . . A gradual change of season will be affected after which pink and red clad musicians will perform a lazy "Summer Shuffle" to the sound of "Summertime" and "In the Good Old Summertime." . . . A scene of falling autumn leaves will be depicted by amber and gold-clad men to the strains of "Autumn Leaves" and "The Autumn Concerto." "Winter and Winter Wonderland" set the scene for a skating presentation by white and blue-clad bandsmen. Thus the musical year comes to an end.

Costume . . . Sixty-seven bandsmen will wear specially-created brocaded satin. They



are trimmed with yards and yards of chantilly lace, specially-imported furs and multitude of semi-precious stones. . . . Each bandsman wears an 11½-foot-high headpiece with 56 large plumes and simulating a large tree. . . . These headpieces were made by 22 band members.

## Show of Shows STRING BAND CONCERT

CONVENTION HALL

Sunday Matinee,  
February 15 and 22

Evening Shows:  
February 17-18-19,  
March 16-17

1959

8:00 P.M.

ALL SEATS RESERVED

Tickets may be ordered at  
5142 Castor Ave. (CU 8-9120)  
425 Green St. (MA 7-8298)  
325 N. Felton St. (GR 4-4307)

In New Jersey —  
Collingswood 5-4050

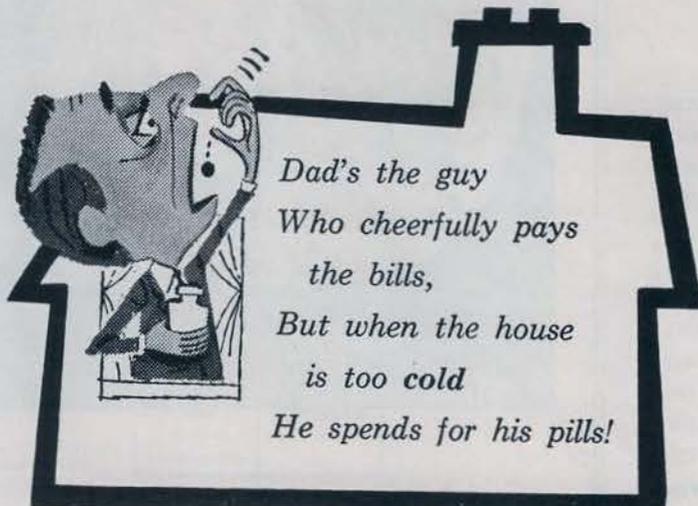


# GAS

is **FIRST** in Philadelphia

for **ESSENTIAL**  
household services!

- COOKING
- WATER HEATING
- HOUSE HEATING
- CLOTHES DRYING
- REFRIGERATION
- INCINERATION



*Dad's the guy  
Who cheerfully pays  
the bills,  
But when the house  
is too cold  
He spends for his pills!*

## National

**AIR COOLING & HEATING CO.**

Visit Our Showroom — Oregon Ave. Shopping Center

2513 S. 24th STREET

One of the Nation's Largest Installers of Heating Equipment

# Rheem

## GAS HEAT

Can't Be Beat!

•  
NO MONEY DOWN • EASY TERMS

•  
FREE ESTIMATE • PHONE DAY OR NIGHT

# DE 6-3616

OUT-OF-TOWN CALL COLLECT

# Quaker City String Band

(1943-45 S. 3rd St.)

John Strine ..... *President*  
 Tony Napp ..... *Vice-President*  
 Ray Endriss ..... *Captain and Treasurer*  
 John Adgate ..... *Recording Secretary*  
 John Mayer ..... *Musical Director*  
 George Myers, Sr. .... *Assistant Musical Director*  
 Ray Endriss ..... *Captain*

One of the best-known of all string bands because of its television appearances throughout 1957 on the WCAU-TV "Big Top" circus show, the Quaker City String Band is celebrating its 27th year.

Quaker City has won seven first-place awards and consistently ranks among the top three in string band competition.

## 1959 THEME—

### "WHEN HEARTS ARE YOUNG"

**Captain . . .** White and gold costume with headpiece containing 12 dozen plumes surrounding two kingsize lollipops made in three-dimensions. Plumes arranged back-to-back to give overhanging effect from front and back.

**Music . . .** "When Hearts Are Young," "Lazy Mary Will You Get Up," "School Days," "My Little Red Wagon," "Dear Little Boy of Mine," "My Little Girl," "Rock-A-Bye Baby," "Dormi-Dormi," "Won't You Come Over to My House," "Memories."

**Costume . . .** Baby pink and blue and containing those things that are "dear" to a child's heart (lollipops, peppermint sticks, dolls, castles, etc.). Through use of intricate drill steps and formations and songs, the band presents a child's day from morning to night.

**Morning:** The band opens up with the theme of "WHEN HEARTS ARE YOUNG," then wakes up the children to "LAZY MARY WILL YOU GET UP."

**School:** The band then drills at a slow pace to "SCHOOL DAYS." This signifies reluctance of the children to depart for school.

**At Play:** At the end of the school day, the tempo quickens signifying the children's quick departure from school. Band then plays "MY LITTLE RED WAGON" while the children are at play and plays "WON'T YOU COME



OVER TO MY HOUSE" as the children meet other children at play.

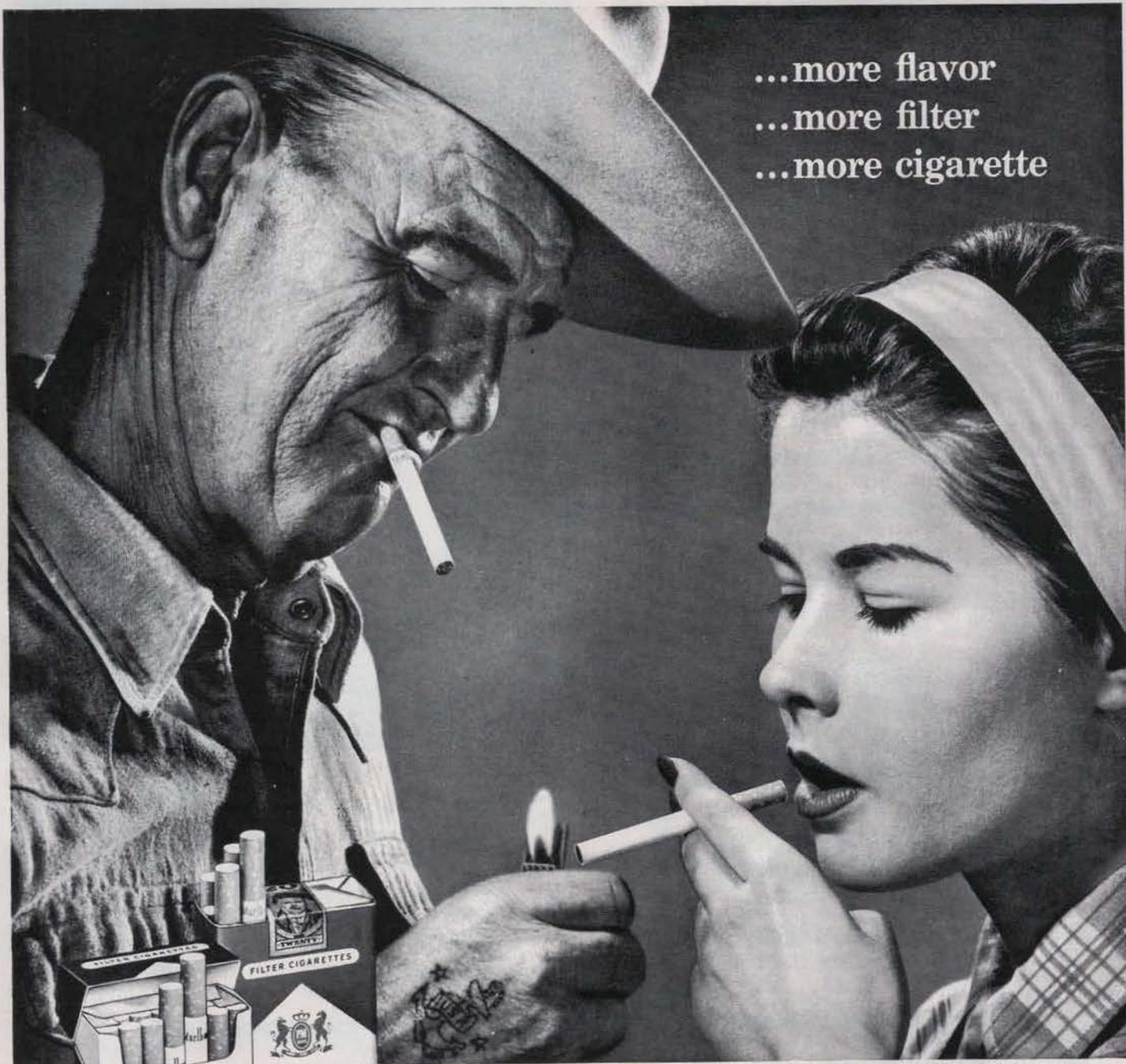
**Evening:** When day is done and the supper dishes have been put away, the children are gathered together with their parents as the band plays "DEAR LITTLE BOY OF MINE" and "MY LITTLE GIRL."

**Bedtime:** At bedtime, when the children are safely tucked away in their beds, the band forms a large cradle, and plays, to the rocking motion of a cradle, "ROCK-A-BYE BABY" and "DORMI-DORMI."

**Memories:** The band departs to the tune of "MEMORIES"—the child's memories of the day just gone by and the parents' memories of days gone by.

# Better "makin's"

...more flavor  
...more filter  
...more cigarette



*The cigarette designed for men that women like*

## The secret is in the Marlboro recipe

It was created in Richmond, Virginia, from fine, mild tobaccos specially blended—then carefully processed for filter smoking. This recipe, teamed up with Marlboro's improved filter, gives you a generous helping of flavor in a smoke of surprising mildness.

*You can tell today's Marlboro by the new gold crest on the package.*



*A lot to like:  
filter, flavor,  
pack or box.*

# String Band Award Winners



Year	Winner	Second	Third
1916	Talbot .....\$150	Victoria .....\$50	Fralinger .....\$50
1917	Talbot .....\$150	Fralinger .....\$100	Oakey .....\$50
1918	Talbot .....\$150	Trilby .....\$100	
1919	No parade on Broad St.		
1920	Fralinger .....\$350	Aronomink .....\$250	Trilby .....\$150
1921	Quaker City .....\$350	Fralinger .....\$250	Hegeman .....\$150
1922	Quaker City .....\$350	Hegeman .....\$250	North Phila. ....\$150
1923	Aqua .....\$350	Ferko .....\$250	Hegeman .....\$150
1924	Hegeman .....\$500	Aqua .....\$400	Ferko .....\$300
1925	Hegeman .....\$1000	Ferko .....\$750	Trixie .....\$600
1926	Hegeman .....\$1000	Ferko .....\$800	Wildwood .....\$650
1927	Ferko .....\$1100	Wildwood .....\$900	Steubling .....\$800
1928	Hegeman .....\$1000	Wildwood .....\$900	Ferko .....\$800
1929	Ferko .....\$1200	Wildwood .....\$1100	Hegeman .....\$1000
1930	Ferko .....\$1600	Hegeman .....\$1300	Wildwood .....\$1200
1931	Ferko .....\$1550	Wildwood .....\$1250	Woodland .....\$1150
1932	Ferko .....\$750	Woodland .....\$650	69th St. ....\$500
1933	No prizes either at Broad St. parade or Stadium show		
1934	No parade on Broad St.—no prizes		
1935	Quaker City .....\$650	69th St. ....\$550	Ferko .....\$450
1936	Ferko .....\$750	Polish American ..\$600	69th St. ....\$500
1937	Ferko .....\$800	Woodland .....\$600	48th Ward .....\$500
1938	Ferko .....\$1200	Aqua .....\$1000	Quaker City .....\$900
1939	Ferko .....\$1200	Polish American ..\$1000	Feltonville .....\$900
1940	Quaker City .....\$1200	Polish American ..\$1000	Ferko .....\$900
1941	Polish American ..\$1200	48th Ward .....\$1100	Feltonville .....\$1000
1942	William Bell ....\$1300	Ferko .....\$1200	Quaker City .....\$1100
1943	Hegeman .....\$1600	Morrow .....\$1500	Polish American ..\$1300
1944	Quaker City .....\$700	Ferko .....\$600	Aqua .....\$550
1945	Quaker City .....\$850	Durning .....\$750	Ferko .....\$700
1946	Durning .....\$750	Quaker City .....\$620	Polish American ..\$570
1947	Ferko .....\$1400	Quaker City .....\$1300	Durning .....\$1200
1948	Durning .....\$1375	Ferko .....\$1275	Quaker City .....\$1175
1949	Polish American ..\$1100	Ferko .....\$1000	Durning .....\$900
1950	Ferko .....\$1650	Polish American ..\$1550	Quaker City .....\$1450
1951	Ferko .....\$1650	Uptown .....\$1550	Durning .....\$1450
1952	Polish American ..\$1900	Trilby & Ferko tied: each received \$1750	
1953	Hegeman .....\$1900	Ferko .....\$1800	Uptown .....\$1700
1954	Polish American ..\$2000	Ferko .....\$1900	Hegeman .....\$1800
1955	Polish American ..\$2000	Kensington .....\$1900	Crean .....\$1800
1956	Quaker City .....\$2000	Hegeman .....\$1900	Uptown .....\$1800
1957	Uptown .....\$2000	Fralinger .....\$1900	Ferko .....\$1800
1958	Ferko .....\$2100	Quaker City .....\$2000	Uptown .....\$1900

# Philadelphia New Year Shooters' and Mummers' Parade

**OFFICIAL ROUTE:** Broad Street and Snyder Avenue, up Broad Street to Spring Garden Street.  
**LEAVE BROAD AND SNYDER** at 8:30 A.M., JANUARY 1, 1959.  
(If postponed: Saturday, January 3, 1959 — same time — same route.)

## Program

PHILADELPHIA MOTORCYCLE POLICE  
WALKIE-TALKIE AUTO  
COLOR GUARD

Parade Marshal — MAYOR RICHARDSON DILWORTH  
Assistant Parade Marshal — ROBERT W. CRAWFORD  
Recreation Commissioner  
Director of Parade — MAGISTRATE ELIAS MYERS  
PHILADELPHIA POLICE AND FIREMEN'S BAND

## Comic Division

1. PHILIP J. HAMMOND COMIC CLUB  
Captain: Frank Iacuzio  
Theme: "Volare"
2. MURRAY COMIC CLUB  
Captain: Joseph Keenan, Jr.  
Theme: "Golden Age of Comedy"
3. LIBERTY CLOWNS COMIC ASSOC.  
Captain: Joseph Schultz  
Theme: "A Star Is Born"
4. JOSEPH A. PURUL COMIC CLUB  
Captain: John Purul  
Theme: "Golden Slippers"



## Fancy Division

1. S. D. WHEELER FANCY CLUB  
Captain: William Doyle, Sr.  
Theme: "Statue of Liberty"
2. HOG ISLAND NEW YEAR ASSOC.  
FANCY CLUB  
Captain: Tom A. Howley  
Theme: "King of Diamonds"
3. OREGON NEW YEAR ASSOCIATION  
FANCY CLUB  
Captain: Harry Starner  
Theme: "A King and His Pages"
4. CHARLES KLEIN NEW YEAR ASSOC.  
FANCY CLUB  
Captain: Al Graham  
Theme: "Hearts & Roses"

# “Pepsi, please”

*to refresh  
without  
filling!*

People on the go prefer lightness in diet—  
like today's Pepsi-Cola, reduced in calories  
... the modern, the *light* refreshment.



# String Band Division



1. **JOHN J. FRALINGER STRING BAND**  
 Captain: John J. Fralinger  
 Theme: "Toyland"  
 Songs: "Toyland," "Me and My Teddy Bear,"  
 "March of the Toys."
2. **PETER A. BROOMALL STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Peter A. Broomall  
 Theme: "Tournament of Roses"  
 Songs: "Fight On Pennsylvania," "On Wisconsin," "Notre Dame Victory March."
3. **POLISH AMERICAN STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Walter Krop  
 Theme: "Melodies of the Season"  
 Songs: "Spring Song," "Welcome Sweet Spring"
4. **QUAKER CITY STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Ray Endriss  
 Theme: "When Hearts Are Young"  
 Songs: "When Hearts Are Young," "School Days," and "My Little Red Wagon"
5. **JOSEPH A. FERKO STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Joseph A. Ferko  
 Theme: "Carnival of Venice"  
 Songs: "Oh Marie," "Italian Street Song,"  
 "Carnival of Venice"
6. **AVALON STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Harry Lawson  
 Theme: "Welcome Alaska"  
 Songs: "Beautiful Ohio," "Hi Neighbor,"  
 "Pennsylvania Polka"
7. **WOODLAND STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Edgar W. Middleton  
 Theme: "Easter Parade"  
 Songs: "Easter Parade," "Here Comes Peter Cottontail," "Eggbert, the Easter Egg"
8. **GREATER KENSINGTON STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Howard Peoples  
 Theme: "King and I"  
 Songs: "Hello, Young Lovers," "Getting to Know You," "I Whistle a Happy Tune"
9. **AQUA STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Fred J. Kesel  
 Theme: "Gypsy Baron"  
 Songs: "Golden Earrings," "Hungarian Dance," "Hungarian Czardas"
10. **UPTOWN STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Robert W. Runkle, Jr.  
 Theme: "Puppets on Parade"  
 Songs: "Toyland," "March of the Toys,"  
 "Parade of Wooden Soldiers"
11. **JAMES DURNING STRING BAND**  
 Captain: James Durning  
 Theme: "An Orchid to You"  
 Songs: "Say It with Music," "Orchids in the Moonlight," "An Orchid to You"
12. **TRILBY STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Adam Quaglia  
 Theme: "Honor Guard of Mummers Hall of Fame"  
 Songs: "The Thunderer," "Memories"
13. **HEGEMAN STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Alfred Fink  
 Theme: "Cavalcade of States"  
 Songs: "Pennsylvania Polka," "Dixie,"  
 "California, Here I Come."
14. **SOUTH PHILADELPHIA STRING BAND**  
 Captain: James Donaghy  
 Theme: "African Fantasy"  
 Songs: "Witch Doctor," "Jungletown,"  
 "Chant of the Jungle"
15. **GREATER OVERBROOK STRING BAND**  
 Captain: Harry Straub  
 Theme: "American Jubilee"  
 Songs: "Yankee Doodle," "Grand Old Flag,"  
 "National Emblem"
16. **GEORGE E. DUFFY STRING BAND**  
 Captain: George E. Duffy  
 Theme: "Serenade of the Stars"  
 Songs: "Stairway to the Stars," "You Are My Lucky Star," "Catch A Falling Star"

# AMERICA'S LUCKY NUMBER!



If fortune smiles on a good product, it smiles even more on those who appreciate it. And for the millions of people who made America's finest whiskey America's favorite whiskey, good luck began the day they discovered 7 Crown.

Say **Seagram's** and be **Sure**  
OF THE FIRST AND FINEST AMERICAN WHISKEY

# Joseph A. Ferko String Band

(500 W. Glenwood Ave.)

Joseph A. Ferko	Captain and Treasurer
John E. Arleth	President and Bus. Mgr.
William DeSanro	Vice-President
Peter Amadei	Secretary
William Connors	Music Director
James Keenan	Drill Director
Robert Traub	Assistant Music Director
Curtis Steur	Assistant Drill Director
Joseph Blass	Librarian
Joseph Long	Director
Joseph Gellenthin	Director
Michael Betzale	Property Director

This marks the 37th consecutive New Year's parade for the Joseph A. Ferko String Band. They salute it with their presentation of a program honoring the "Carnival of Venice" with music, drill and elaborate, artistically designed costumes.

This organization led by Captain Joseph A. Ferko in his 45th parade has an enviable record of 13 first prizes, the latest, last year, when their presentation of a tribute to "My Fair Lady" was judged tops in the String Band Division.

With numerous appearances on television over the past few years, the band as a unit also appeared during October at the "National Tobacco Festival" in Richmond, Virginia, over a network of southern TV stations.

Missing in the ranks today is Harry A. Leary, who passed away this year. He paraded with the band for 36 years and was president for 21.

Others who retired this year are Harry C. Teller, charter member who paraded 36 years; Frank DeLia, oldest member, 77, who paraded 26 years, and Charles Bittner, Sr., who paraded 19.



## 1959 THEME—"CARNIVAL OF VENICE"

Costume . . . Slipper satin predominantly white and offset in shades of red and green trimmed with artistic sequin mesh motifs, lace and jewels. Hat reproduced from past historical records and adorned with three art sequin motifs. . . . Recognizing craftsmanship and artistic work of the Venetians there is applied on the back of each white cape, the figure of a Venetian dancing girl with tamborine, resplendant in peasant dress and displaying all the gaiety and life that interprets the Venetian love of freedom. Green and red satin on opposite sides of the cape. Shoulder piece three-sectional solid sequin mesh motif which opens and closes edged with 48 large red, white and green plumes.

Music . . . "Oh, Marie," "Carnival of Venice," "Italian Street Song," "Funiculi, Funicula." Done to musical number "Tarantelle," presenting Venetian festival dance.



# Avalon String Band

(510 Fairmount Ave.)

Fred Gardner ..... *President*  
Joseph Elliott ..... *Vice-President*  
Fred Ventresca ..... *Secretary*  
Joseph Rudley ..... *Treasurer*  
Harry Lawson ..... *Captain*  
Walter C. Kunicki ..... *Musical Director*  
Edward Dougherty ..... *Assistant Musical Director*  
Patrick Smith ..... *Drill Master*

Avalon is in its 22nd year under its original captain, Harry Lawson. He credits much of the success of the organization to the outstanding work of musical director Walter C. Kunicki.

## 1959 THEME—"WELCOME ALASKA"

Costume . . . Headpieces of all white plumes . . . map of the U. S. in pastel colors . . . each man representing a state . . . costumes in pastel colors.

Captain . . . Silver metallic cloth trimmed with multi-color sequins. (Junior captain Lawrence Rudley, 10, will be dressed similarly).

Music . . . "Beautiful Ohio," "Pennsylvania Polka," "Hi Neighbor," "Best Things in Life are Free," and varied state songs.



# Woodland String Band

(6119 Woodland Ave.)

Edgar W. Middleton	Captain
Joseph L. Bresset	Musical Director
John G. Lower	Treasurer
George J. Tait	Recording Secretary
Gerald Paladino	Financial Secretary
John Grose	Director
Herbert L. Hoopes	Director
Richard Kauffman	Director
Alfred Nigsch	Director

Marching in its 32nd parade this year, the Woodland String Band has one of Mummery's most outstanding records.

Woodland has been out of the first 10 string bands in yearly competition only four times in three decades.

## 1959 THEME—"EASTER PARADE"

Costume . . . will depict the annual "Easter Parade" on Fifth Avenue in New York. Clad in formal attire, in pastel shades of gold, lavender, blue and green, the 56 musicians' costumes will be adorned with sequins similar to the basic formal attire, to embellish the ruffled slipper satin shirt and golden bow tie, and high hats, in keeping with the tradition of finery. The headpiece of the band is an opened hat box, from which appears three gaily decorated Easter eggs, representing the faces of women, upon which is superimposed the time-renowned Easter Bonnets, a must at the annual parade. Lavish and meticulous work has been imparted to fabricate the hats of satin, complete with trimmings of multi-colored miribou and sparkling sequins, engulfed in 36 snow white plumes, adorning each headpiece.

Captain . . . Eddie Middleton is making his "debut" as a captain in the String Band Division, and will be dressed in a cut-a-way jacket of white slipper satin, adorned with golden sequins, arranged in modern design to enhance the sequined vest, white bow tie and ruffled shirt of imported chantilly lace. The white trouser legs will be trimmed with red tulips, and green leaves, of sequins and raised satin to simulate the flowers of Easter. The ten-foot headpiece will be a floral arrangement of tulips, of brilliant hues, multi-



colored carnations, interspersed with gigantic replicas of Easter lilies, circumvented by a wreath of satin tulips and lilies, entirely engulfed in 15 dozen of the largest white plumes available and golden sequins to embellish the beauty of this "Eastern Garden." The captain's son, Danny, will be attired in a miniature of the captain's costume, and will be participating in his first Mummer's Parade.

Music . . . Specially arranged by our musical Director, and will include "Easter Parade," "Eggbert, the Easter Egg," "Here Comes Peter Cottontail," "Chocolate Rabbit," "April Showers" and "Mr. String Band" written by a band member.

# Greater Kensington String Band

(2505 N. Lee St.)

Howard Peoples ..... *Captain*  
 Francis Rittenhouse ..... *President*  
 George Burgert ..... *Musical Director*  
 Charles Murray ..... *Drill Master*

Organized in 1946, the Greater Kensington String Band is one of the newer, but widely-known units in Mummer lore.

Captain is Howard Peoples, who struts at the head of the organization in a gaily-decorated costume accompanied by his grandson, seven-year-old Thomas Friend.

## 1959 THEME—"KING & I"

Costumes and theme, created and designed by Ranell costumers, based on the original Broadway show of the same name.

Costume . . . Headpiece of simulated oriental temple design, topped with 2½ dozen, 2-inch white ostrich plumes. Center of headpiece contains replica of ancient Siamese signal and ceremonial gong, nestled between four golden pillars, with miniature palm trees, giving an effect of a great temple hall. Hat is oriental type turban, with flowing silk riding veil, decorated with sequins.

Jacket is woven of gold imported lame fabric, tunic type, lavishly decorated with simulated jewels and sequins. Trousers are dark blue simulated cashmere, richly decorated in sequins and gold lame. Innercape of white gold brocade, with hand-painted Siamese dancing girl studded with simulated jewels transparent blue silk organza overcape embroidered with gold and white lurex. Overcape is manually operated by drawstring raising to reveal Siamese dancing girl.

Captain . . . Headpiece stands six feet over captain's head, containing 250 white ostrich plumes. Center of headpiece consisting of mirrored gong, surrounded by imitation flowers. Jacket is tunic type woven of imported gold and silver lame, decorated with specially-woven sequins and simulated jewels with kimono type sleeves.

Drill . . . Designed to present the KING (captain), band opens into a circle facing captain, bandsmen bow, waltz from center to the front as the band closes into solid unit.

Music . . . "Hello, Young Lovers," "Getting to Know You," "I Whistle a Happy Tune."



# Aqua String Band

(5142 Castor Ave.)

Edward Sylvester ..... *President*  
Warren Shields ..... *Vice-President*  
Jules Gershenfeld ..... *Recording Secretary*  
Jack Morgan ..... *Financial Secretary*  
Sol Ginsburg ..... *Business Manager*  
Fred J. Kesel, Jr. .... *Treasurer*  
Gene Nemeth ..... *Musical Director*  
William Gehm ..... *Assistant Musical Director*  
Max Tieger ..... *Instructor*  
William Hooton ..... *Drill Instructor*  
William Harper ..... *Assistant Drill Instructor*  
William Ruch ..... *Assistant Drill Instructor*

Fred J. Kesel ..... *Captain*

Organized in 1920, the Aqua String Band was formed from the membership of the old Talbot String Band which was disbanded in 1918.

Many current Aqua musicians paraded with captain Fred J. Kesel from 1912 to 1920 with the International String Band, the old Trilby Band and the Hartman String Band.

Aqua has appeared all over the country and in 1939 was officially named the "New York's World's Fair Band."

queen. They will dance, the captain's right hand portraying the Gypsy King and the left hand the Gypsy Queen. In a surprise finale the King transforms his Queen into an elaborate "flower."

The four lieutenants will be the King's aids, attired in band costumes and each holding 10-foot maypoles which they twirl and create a balalaika effect.

Music . . . "Golden Earrings," "Hungarian Dance," "Hungarian Czardas," "Play Gypsy, Dance Gypsy," "Dark Eyes," "I Want a Girl," "Two Guitars."

## 1959 THEME—"THE GYPSY BARON"

Costume . . . Rich, wet, gold lame jacket and trousers, accentuated with delicate embroidered lacy shoulder, lacy doubleview sleeves and spangled with multi-color jeweled sequin braid. Black suede boots, jewel-trimmed baron hat, a lush black silk velvet coat, cape trimmed in jewels and mink tails, with bright red satin lining, cut for flaring drill effect. Prop backpiece in shape of a rounded "bracket" covered with gold lame and sequins. The left side holds 24-inch white plumes. On the right side there's a hook which holds a gold ring in which sets a 36-inch plumed African Parrot, contentedly swinging.

Captain . . . Leading his band of 70 musicians will be the Gypsy King, Fred J. Kesel, about to be wedded to a Gypsy Queen. The captain wears two-in-one richly-ornamented white silk velvet costume with mink tails, similar to his band, while he escorts on his left arm a life-size model of his bridal



# Uptown String Band

(516 W. Lehigh Ave.)

Robert W. Runkle, 3d ..... Co-Captain  
Robert W. Runkle, Jr. .... President, Captain  
Cliff Johnson, Jr. .... Business Director  
John Herold ..... Treasurer  
Carl Heere ..... Financial Secretary  
Chris Frye ..... Recording Secretary  
Frank Beatty ..... Musical Director  
Edward Humphry, Sr. .... Lieutenant  
Robert Lignelli ..... Assistant Lieutenant  
Joe Giardino ..... Assistant Music Director

Formed in 1937 with a membership of eight, the Uptown String Band now boasts 75 marching Mumpers.

Bob Runkle, Jr., the band's captain is the only original member still parading. Uptown has placed first, second or third in New Year's Day competition for the past 10 years, having won top honors as recently as 1957—during the unit's 20th anniversary year.

Uptown has made a number of records, including the most recent, "Liberty Bell" and "Someday." President Eisenhower sent the club a congratulatory letter on the "Liberty Bell" disc.

Uptown often is referred to as the "Four Leaf Clover Band" and the "Ambassadors of Goodwill."

## 1959 THEME—"PUPPETS ON PARADE"

Captain . . . Girl and boy puppet holding hands on the back of headpiece keeping time with his movements.

Costume . . . Blue, cherry and white . . . life-size stringed puppet on back of each member . . . headpiece a stage setting . . . puppets have movement that keeps in time with the music as the man walks.

Music . . . "Toyland," "March of the Toys," "Parade of Wooden Soldiers," "Teddy Bear Picnic," "Thumbelina," "Wedding of the Painted Dolls."



## EBELING & REUSS CO.

IMPORTERS  
5TH & LOCUST STS.  
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

## OLD, ORIGINAL BOOKBINDERS

125 WALNUT STREET  
Philadelphia, Pa.

# James Durning String Band

(1500 Shunk St.)

Louis J. Amarando ..... *Honorary President*  
Edward Dougherty ..... *President*  
Frank Foidl ..... *Vice-President*  
James Durning ..... *Captain and Treasurer*  
Arthur Gardner ..... *Recording Secretary*  
Christian Strohmets ..... *Financial Secretary*  
Anthony Geneva ..... *Sergeant-at-Arms*  
Walter Majewski ..... *Musical Director*  
Thomas Greco ..... *Assistant Musical Director*  
Donald Cranmer ..... *Drill Master*  
Joseph Aiello ..... *Assistant Drill Master*

Organized in 1935 by James Durning, the Durning String Band has won a host of first, second and third-place honors.

Durning captained the band until a few years ago when he suffered a leg injury that required partial amputation of his right foot.

The Durning Band—with 60 playing members—has paraded in 15 cities, performed on TV locally and on network programs, in Madison Square Garden and at the “Miss America Pageant” at Atlantic City. For a number of years Durning supervised string band participation at the shore pageant.

Durning was originator of the “Show of Shows” at Convention Hall. He also organized the idea of a Mumpers’ magazine. He is one of the founders of the Mumpers’ Association and has been president of the group four times.

## 1959 THEME—“AN ORCHID TO YOU”

Costume . . . Headpiece representing half-moon bearing 40 orchids and 50 white plumes. Jackets and trousers white satin trimmed with orchid. Full-length white satin cape lined with orchid and large orchid painted on center of cape.

Music . . . “Say It With Music,” “An Orchid to You,” “Orchids In the Moonlight,” “Philadelphia, USA.”



# Trilby String Band

(1911 Morris St.)

William Mink . . . . . *President*  
 Homer Knappenberger . . . . . *Vice-President*  
 Adam Quaglia . . . . . *Captain*  
 John Ramagano . . . . . *Treasurer*  
 Dom De Mura . . . . . *Secretary*  
 Jerry Vitelli . . . . . *Recording Secretary*  
 Buster Ciarcello . . . . . *Financial Secretary*  
 James McKnight . . . . . *Musical Director*  
 Phil Peschi . . . . . *Drill Master*

Trilby was the first string band ever to parade up Broad Street, making the trek at the turn of the century. One of its original organizers, Jack Towers, still survives.

Trilby is proud of its annual banquet and party for the band members and their families.

Since it is the oldest string band, Trilby feels as though it is the founder of Mummery as far as the String Band Division goes.

Trilby is extremely proud of some of the suits they have put out in the past such as Eskimos, Naughty Twenties, Garden in the Rain and Glow-worm. They also are proud of their outstanding past dance and drills like the Charleston, Four Winds Drill and Congo.

The Trilby band annually has a number of youngsters in its ranks, and each year these "kids" help the club to a number of honors.



## 1959 THEME—"HONOR GUARD OF MUMMERS HALL OF FAME"

Captain . . . White trimmed with gold.  
 Cape gold velvet, lined with white satin.  
 Members costumes will be similar with colors reversed.

Music . . . "The Thunderer," "Memories" and medley of String Band favorites.



# Hegeman String Band

(4251 N. Fairhill St.)

Al Fink ..... *Captain, Treasurer*  
Elias Myers ..... *President*  
Herman Sefflin ..... *Musical Director*  
Fred Fischer, Jr. .... *Drill Master*  
Rudy Hatzfeld ..... *Assistant Captain*  
Harry Roats ..... *Assistant Music Director*  
Sam Iriana ..... *Assistant Drill Master*



Organized in 1920 by pioneer Mummer Ernest A. Hegeman, the string band bearing his name has one of the most closely-knit organizations in the New Year's Shooters Association.

Al Fink, Hegeman captain, has almost a half century of parading behind him. He was a winner in the fancy and comic divisions before taking over the Hegeman helm in the '30's. Hegeman's president is Magistrate Elias Myers, the well-known "Judge" who serves as parade director on New Year's Day.

Musical Director Herman Sefflin is a well-known dance band maestro and drill master Fred Fischer has served with the renowned Reilly Raiders.

## 1959 THEME— "A CAVALCADE OF STATES"

Costume . . . Honoring each of the 54 states and possessions of our country. Each costume bears a different state in its makeup. Red, gold, and white colors; semi-military in style; plumed backpiece.

Music . . . "Pennsylvania Polka" honoring the greatest state in the nation; "Dixie," "On Wisconsin," "California Here I Come." Honoring our national capital at Washington with "God Bless America" and leaving with an admonition to "See the USA."



# South Philadelphia String Band

(1341 S. 28th St.)

Edward Carter ..... *President*  
 Edward Salmon ..... *Vice-President*  
 Harry Murray ..... *Recording Secretary*  
 Robert Kaige ..... *Financial Secretary*  
 John O'Brien ..... *Treasurer*  
 Sam Hamilton, Jr. .... *Sergeant-at-Arms*  
 Carl Rolette ..... *Musical Director*  
 Edward Roop ..... *Drill Master*  
 William Campbell ..... *Business Manager*  
 James Donaghy ..... *Captain*

The South Philadelphia String Band, led by Jim Donaghy and his just as gaily-costumed son, marches in competition in memory of a number of deceased members who served the organization with distinction for many years.

Donaghy, only 29, is the youngest captain in the String Band Division.

South Philadelphia was organized and founded May 14, 1946 by Sam Hamilton, Sr.

## 1959 THEME—"AFRICAN FANTASY"

Captain . . . Headdress of imported swan skin of cerise and white with multi-colored tipped plumes and cerise sequins. Backpiece has assorted colored tipped plumes, and coque feathers are used. The costume is highlighted by a shield and spear and silver spangled horns.

Music . . . "Witch Doctor," "Jungletown," "Chant of the Jungle," "Black Magic," "The Wizard," "Aba Daba Honeymoon," "Civilization."

Costume . . . Black and white sequin masks, gold spangled horns, leopard-skin jackets with multi-color sequins . . . red cellophane pants signifying grass of Africa and leopard shoes.

Mascots carry imported Tiger-skin suits.



# Greater Overbrook String Band

(66th St. and Media Ave.)

V. DeAngelo . . . . . *President and Drill Master*  
 D. Piciulo . . . . . *Musical Director*  
 A. Zinni . . . . . *Vice-President*  
 J. Venuto . . . . . *Treasurer*  
 T. Clark . . . . . *Secretary*  
 J. Gebhart . . . . . *Financial Secretary*  
 Harry Straub . . . . . *Captain*

The Greater Overbrook String Band is led by Captain Harry Straub, a marching Mummer for 44 years and Overbrook's leader for the past eight.



## 1959 THEME—"AMERICAN JUBILEE"

Costume . . . American bald eagle . . . red, white and blue backpiece with feathers . . . headpiece is white in shape of eagle's head . . . suits are similar to Uncle Sam's suit, white pants, blue coat, Uncle Sam hat . . . eagle spread on backpiece is eight feet.

Captain . . . Similar but gold and white costume with feathers on head and backpiece.

Music . . . "National Emblem," "Yankee Doodle," "America I Love You," "Grand Old Flag," "America the Beautiful."



# George E. Duffy String Band

(2551 N. Front St.)

George E. Duffy ..... *Captain*  
Frank Murphy ..... *President*  
Andrew Turner ..... *Vice-President*  
Harry Kubis ..... *Musical Director*  
Robert Kunzig ..... *Drill Master*

The Duffy Band was organized as the Fire Fighters' String Band in 1945 at the Fire Department's Engine Co. 22 at 214 Pine St.

The name later was changed to the Crescentville String Band and recently to the Duffy String Band.

Captain Duffy, now a Fire Department deputy chief, has been a fireman for 35 years.

## 1959 THEME—

### "SERENADE OF THE STARS"

Costume . . . Shrimp satin trimmed in blue sequins and gold stars . . . capes of blue satin trimmed with gold stars.

Captain . . . Similar but suit of white satin trimmed in gold.

Music . . . "Stairway to the Stars," "You Are My Lucky Star," "Catch A Falling Star," "The World is Waiting for the Sunrise."



## MUMMERS' MEMOIRS



The clothes show it's almost two decades ago, but the sight's the same as today—up on the fruit baskets to see the parade!



agency

*quality* auto insurance

Low Rates . . .  
. . . Tops in Claim  
Service

CALL  
OR  
DRIVE  
IN

- F AND ALLEGHENY
- BROAD AND YORK
- 4209 CHESTNUT ST.  
EVERgreen 2-3800

SEE YOU AT THE

# Phillies

OPENING HOME GAME

CINCINNATI

Friday nite, April 10



TICKETS ON SALE AT CONNIE MACK STADIUM  
21st AND LEHIGH, PHILADELPHIA 32, OR BY MAIL.

# shortslugs "Oh Dem Golden Slippers"



The shoes are lined up and painted bright gold for the parade. This Mummer is out of action, so he's taken over the fix-up job.

# Philadelphia Lager Beer Brewers' Association

Members

Adam Scheidt  
Brewing Company  
C. Schmidt & Sons, Inc.

Henry F. Ortlieb  
Brewing Company

Esslinger's, Inc.  
Wm. Gretz  
Brewing Company

## Parade Rules and Regulations

### Fancy Division

1. All Clubs must have a Captain's Cape with at least 20 page boys.
2. All Clubs must have at least one entry in each category and have at least one band of music of not less than 15 playing men.
3. Floats will be allowed in the parade, but they must not be of a commercial nature.
4. No horses will be allowed.
5. The only automobiles to be permitted in each club's line of march are as follows: One auto in front of Club, (Banner Auto.) One auto for each Brigade. One car at the end of the parading Club.
6. Club prizes will be awarded by the point system. (Points to be set up by the parading fancy clubs.) Each individual prize (to be determined by the judges) would receive so many points. The Club with the highest number of points will receive First Prize, etc.
7. No costumes borne by vehicles with wheels will be permitted between Broad and Porter Streets and Broad and Girard Ave. Any suit being borne on wheels between these two points will be disqualified.
8. Cards are to be handed to the Judges by one man representing his own club at the Judges' Stand. The cards must specify what field the costume is in. The parading fancy clubs will appoint a man to assist the Judges by explaining to them the various costumes heading into the Judges' Stand.
9. The juvenile classification must consist of one suit, carried by only one child and not included in any other groups or classification. The age limits for juveniles must range from 12 years or under.
10. Trio Pantomime Clowns must state on their cards "Trio Pantomime Clown" or they will be disqualified.
11. Any suit in line may compete for Handsome Costume prize but to consist of only one suit to be carried by only one man.
12. All Trio Jockey, Trio Clown, King Jockey, King Clown and Handsome Trim Suits must be a frame suit consisting of a yoke and spreaders and legs.
13. Special Mention category will cover any entry in the fancy division excepting any brigade and frame suits consisting of a yoke and spreaders and legs. All entries must have 19 participants or less, 20 or more will constitute a brigade.
14. Costumed or uniformed bands are not to be judged for prizes. They will only supply the music for the line of march.
15. All Brigades must have at least twenty men in costume to compete for and be eligible for prizes.
16. No musical brigades are to be considered for prizes; imitation musical brigades are also ineligible for prizes.
17. All Brigades will be judged on the point system. The points being: 70% for beauty of costume, and 30% for presentation of theme.
18. All Brigades with new suits will be judged and awarded prizes higher than any brigade with old suits or suits that were on Broad Street before.
19. All Brigades will mark their cards to be handed to the Judges, new or old costumes. Any Brigade failing to mark their card correctly will be disqualified.

20. Any protest or infraction of the above rules must be submitted to an aide, who will forward said protest to the Judges for their ruling on whether a costume in question is an infraction of the rules, on the day of the parade.
21. The Captain of each Club will be held responsible for the conduct of the members of his club and the execution of the above rules and regulations. Violations will result in the disqualification for prizes.
22. Each club will appoint one man to form a committee at City Hall to help point out infractions of the rules to the judges and to go over the prize winning cards before the judges make them final.
23. No String Band Captain's costume will be allowed to enter in the Handsome Costume category.
24. No one in the special mention category will drill at the Judges' stand.
25. Two thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of the members of a brigade must be 18 years of age or older to qualify as a brigade.
26. Brigades will be limited to three minutes drill at the Judges' stand. One point will be taken off of drill for each 60 seconds over three minutes.

### Comic Division

1. Each club must have a captain's cape with twelve page boys or more, and the cape can be carried on wheels.
2. Each club must have two or more bands.
3. Each club must have 100 or more men in line.
4. No horses will be allowed in the parade unless pulling floats.
5. Smearing the faces of spectators along the line of march and other improper conduct will not be permitted.
6. No horseback riding.
7. Club captain will be held responsible for the conduct of his club.

### String Band Division

1. Band must have 48 players in the line, but no more than 10 other members at any point of the compass, either vertical or horizontal. (In suits—this does not mean marshals or service men.)
2. No floats will be allowed.
3. No string band shall be more than one block in back of the preceding one; if so, it may hurt the standing for a prize.
4. No brass or cup instruments such as: trombones, French horns, etc., shall be allowed.
5. Each band shall be allowed four minutes in front of the Judges' stand.
6. The following system shall be carried out for the judging of the string bands: 40 points for music, 40 points for costumes, and 20 points for presentation.
7. A string band shall be allowed one pleasure car carrying a banner and a sign in front of the car; also a closed car for the rear of the band. No extension on the sides or back; nothing to extend above the car or above the banner.
8. Amplification, either on instruments or in any way connected with the string band, is absolutely forbidden.
9. No animals of any kind allowed.
10. Any string band wearing old suits must get last prize.

The  
**F. T. VAN URK AGENCY**

Representing

**Mutual of Omaha**

The Largest Exclusive Health  
and Accident Company  
in the World

**United Benefit  
Life Insurance Co.**

One of America's Foremost  
Life Insurance Companies

**123 SOUTH BROAD STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.**

**Quaker City Cold  
Storage Co.**



**313 South Water Street**

**PHILADELPHIA**



The real student of Mummer lore recognizes the many niceties, the stringent rules and regulations that go into the operation of a successful club.

The Fancy Club Division, especially, has through the years developed a series of traditional costumes that are highly specialized and fall into strict categories, which to the uninitiated, bear strange names. In the Fancy Division, the prize winning club is that organization which, in the opinion of the judges, has the most beautiful costumes overall, has an outstanding number of participants, does not exceed the time limit in passing before the judges' stand and displays sportsmanlike and not rowdy behavior. The Captain's "Canopy" or Cape is generally the club's masterpiece and has attained an overall length of sixty to seventy feet in four sections, requiring as many as sixty pageboys to carry it by its "points." This cape displays a theme, and the judges decide how well the motif has been carried forth. King Clowns, King Jockeys, Trios of Clowns and Jockeys and Handsome Trim costumes are typical Fancy Club suits. These are the large framed creations, sometimes attaining a width of eight feet and a height of ten, which are carried by one man who must support the costume's weight unassisted. King Clown can be identified by the painted effect of his face, A Trio of Clowns are three clowns dressed alike. King Jockey is usually wearing a jockey cap, but his identifying symbol are the gorgeous horseshoes adorning his headpiece; the same apply also to a Trio of Jockeys. A Handsome Trim suit is a framed creation which does not fall into the above descriptions; it is usually a very large suit, most elaborately embellished and adorned. All the framed suits are made up of vivid satin panels which have been embroidered in bold woolen threads in leaf and flower patterns. The patterns have then been adorned with sequins and satin rosebuds, and the whole creation trimmed in colored maribou.

The Fancy Clubs will present unframed suits also and among these categories are seen the Trio Pantomime Clowns, whose faces are painted like clowns, but whose suits are not framed. The Handsomest Costume is a suit which is judged on the overall beauty and the development of the theme chosen by the individual wearing it. This suit is also most lavishly decorated. The Special Mention suit, not quite so lavish, is also judged on the development of its theme. Self explanatory are the Female Impersonators, who are judged on the beauty of their costumes, make-up, and individual beauty; and the Juveniles, who must be under twelve years of age and compete on the beauty of the costume and its originality. A Fancy Club Brigade is made up of a troupe of not less than twenty costumed men who carry forth a specific theme.

In the Comic Division, the Captains carry a cape which is not elaborate as in the Fancy Clubs, but instead carries forth a theme of current or comical interest. There are numerous brigades in the Comic Division, each made up of fifteen or more men. They must be dressed alike and feature a certain theme or activity. The definitions of Comic Division categories can be guessed from their names, and these funsters leave no doubt as to who or what they are lampooning.

In the String Band Division, each unit must have 48 players in line. No floats are allowed and they are not permitted to utilize brass instruments such as trombones, French horns, etc. Those marching in this line must observe fine ethics, such as, be more than one block in back of the preceding band in order not to mar their musical arrangement by playing in a loud or unseemly manner.

# the Philadelphia Mummer Story . . . . .



As one watches the magnificent spectacle of the Philadelphia Mummers Parade, the thought instinctively comes, "How did they start; what did they look like, and how did it feel to be a Mummer in those days?"

It is generally conceded that the idea of Mummery was first brought to this country by emigrants from various European nations. Among them were the Swedes who settled near Philadelphia in what is now known as Tinicum. One of the Swedish old-world habits was to visit friends on December 26th, officially known as "The Second Day Christmas," and extend this visiting and attendant festivities until the New Year, January 1. It appears that they had so much fun in doing this that they wanted to share their good cheer with their neighbors so they ventured forth into "The Neck," as South Philadelphia was called even in those days.

The Swedes had a series of pantomime miracle plays which featured the pursuit of man and woman by the devil. There would always be quite a struggle but invariably the devil would be thrust back into hell, and as soon as this worthy adversary was defeated it was the signal for a general unmasking and rewards of food and drink for players and non-players alike. This masquer-

ade made such a hit with the inhabitants of "The Neck" that they decided to enter into the spirit of the affair themselves. Many of the male celebrants disguised themselves in black face, women's dresses and grotesque trappings and assembled in groups to venture into Philadelphia proper, waking the neighbors, shooting guns, kissing pretty girls, and dancing and singing until morning. This habit of gun-shooting earned the Mummers the still-prevalent nickname of "The New Year's Shooters."

Henry Muhlenberg, who established the Lutheran Church in America, wrote in 1839, "Met men on the roads in Tinicum and Kingessing who were disguised as clowns shouting at the top of their voices and shooting guns."

The Mummers or Shooters then decided that they might as well turn their antics into more lucrative channels. Each group appointed a leader who bore the title of "Speech Director." He was chosen upon the basis of his fine singing voice, his glib tongue, or in many cases, his threatening appearance. The group would come to a house, line up, and bring the occupants to the door by shouting, banging pans, or shooting guns. They would go into their favorite act which always had certain improvised dance steps similar to the cake-

walk that the Mummers now use consistently in their Annual Parade. At the end, the Speech Director would step forth and speak his little piece. Some of them have come down to us through the years:

*"Here we stand before your door*

*As we stood the year before.  
Give us whiskey, give us gin,  
Open the door and let us in."*

There is a more virile version than that one which goes:

*"We take liberty to come on your land*

*With guns and pistols in our hand.*

*We have shot and played  
For those who have let us in.  
With stories and brass band  
music we begin,*

*Don't get excited or amazed  
When you see our powder  
blaze.*

*With shooting and music we  
all admire,*

*What don't snap will surely  
fire."*

Even as today, the early Mummers would try to impersonate famous characters and who but General George Washington was considered any more popular. With the Speech Director dressed to resemble an exaggerated likeness to the "Great Father of Our Country," the Mummers would knock on the door and while his companions in the background would parade in the manner of the ragged Continentals, the leader would start off:

*"Here am I, great Washington,  
On my shoulder I carry a gun."*

This was usually sufficient to receive copious quantities of food and drink.

—Continued on next page



# the Philadelphia Mummer Story

Another less known character but still popular in Mummery was "Humpback Jack," whose story went:

*"In comes I old Humpback Jack  
With me wife and family on  
me back.*

*In comes I who ain't been yet  
With my great head and little  
feet*

*Me head is great, my feet is  
small*

*So I'll tell you a tale to please  
you all."*

Humpback Jack would then tell his story and collect according to its merits and appreciation.

Another character was dressed in a manner that is believed to be the forerunner of the present Uncle Sam and was known as the traditional "Cooney Cracker." His doggerel went like this:

*"Here come I, old Cooney Cracker,*

*I swear to Gawd my wife  
chews terbacker,*

*A pipe is good, cigars are  
better,*

*Buy me some grog and I'll  
write you a letter."*

It was a smart man who recognized the Mummies and invited them in for refreshments, because if he refused they would more than likely come in anyway and act somewhat boisterously into the bargain.

As time went on, the Mummies grew bolder and now they penetrated into the very heart of William Penn's Quaker City. The most desirable spots to be visited were the grog shops along the waterfront and the beautiful sweet-smelling bakeries on Mar-

ket Street. Huge, special cakes would be prepared by the bakers and presented to the best-performing groups. This is where the present-day saying of "He takes the cake" originated and means that you were the best of the group.

An old Quaker family gives this interesting record of the Mummies:

"It was considered the proper thing in those days to give the leading Mummies a few pounds as a dole which in the language of the present time they would 'pool' and buy cakes and beer. It was also regarded as the right thing to do to invite them into the house and regale them with mulled cider or small beer and homemade cakes. It was considered a great breach of decorum or of etiquette to address or otherwise recognize the Mummer by any other than the name of the character he was assuming. I remember a little girl who, with all the curiosity of her sex, had discovered a neighbor's boy in the party, and with childish impetuosity broke out with, 'I know Isaac Simmons — that is not George Washington.' The departure from the proprieties of the occasion was made the subject of comment on many returning holidays."

As well can be imagined, many people in the staid Quaker City of Brotherly Love were not in favor of the spirit of carnival and carouse especially. The Mummies in their various disguises would carry stockings filled with white flour and one of their favorite pastimes was to belt the stolid gentry across the back. Inasmuch as these individuals in-

variably wore dark clothing, the flour-filled stockings would leave white welts which were difficult to erase from the coat — and incidentally from the pride and the mind of the receiver.

In view of the high feeling prevailing in 1808 against the Mummies, the Pennsylvania Legislature passed a rule that "masquerades, masked balls, and masked processions were public nuisances." A violation of this ordinance provided fines and imprisonment and remained upon the statute books of the Commonwealth until its repeal in 1859. However, in all justice to the lawmakers, we must say there was not a single instance of a conviction under this unpopular statute.

— ★ —

SOME OF THE EARLIEST COSTUMES worn by the celebrators were white cloaks and high silk hats. Then they went into white shirts and white trousers and this was followed by placing chicken feathers in their high silk hats and adorning their shoulders with rosettes and tinsel.

— ★ —

DURING THE WAR, the Mummies Clubs were hard hit by the draft, but in 1941, one thousand Mummies registered in a body at City Hall for police duty in the event of an air raid.

— ★ —

MEMBERS RECEIVED PRIZES TOTALING \$1,725 for marching in the first formal New Year's Parade on Broad Street, January 1, 1901. The first award went to the Elkton Association among the Fancy Clubs and the Whitecaps won first honor among the Comics.

# MUMMERS' MEMOIRS



Now adults, these youngsters stole all the honors 16 years ago on New Year's Day.



## MUMMERS' MAGAZINE COMMITTEE 1959

THOMAS HOWLEY  
*Chairman*

RAYMOND GURT

ALBERT GRAHAM

JOHN HOGG

BOB HALL

MIKE TERRY



Aren't they lovely? Two of the "lovelies" of New Year's Day 10 years ago.

# Comic Division Winners

1955

1st ..... Landi  
 2nd ..... Purul  
 3rd ..... Murray  
 4th ..... Liberty  
 5th ..... Hammond

1956

1st ..... Murray  
 2nd ..... Liberty  
 3rd ..... Purul  
 4th ..... Hammond  
 5th ..... Landi

1957

1st ..... Purul  
 2nd ..... Liberty  
 3rd ..... Murray  
 4th ..... Landi  
 5th ..... Hammond

1958

1st ..... Liberty  
 2nd ..... Purul  
 3rd ..... Murray  
 4th ..... Landi  
 5th ..... Hammond



# Fancy Division Winners

1955

1st ..... Oregon  
 2nd ..... Klein  
 3rd ..... Wheeler  
 4th ..... Hog Island

1956

1st ..... Klein  
 2nd ..... Oregon  
 3rd ..... Hog Island  
 4th ..... Wheeler

1957

1st ..... Klein  
 2nd ..... Oregon  
 3rd ..... Hog Island  
 4th ..... Wheeler

1958

1st ..... Klein  
 2nd ..... Hog Island  
 3rd ..... Wheeler  
 4th ..... Oregon

## The First Mummers' Parade



The Philadelphia Mummers started in the first Swedish Settlers' community in 1654 when groups dressed in outlandish costumes would go from house to house. This practice grew in popularity and was picked up by the inhabitants of South Philadelphia which was known in those days as "The Neck." As time went on, each neighborhood would organize their own Mummers group and invade the city proper in order to get food, drink, and money. Finally, it was agreed in 1901 that all the Mummers would band together and have one big parade. This was the first official recognition by the city who also put up prize money. That year 42 clubs fell in line at Broad and Reed Streets to contest for these prizes and started the first Mummers Parade up Broad Street.

An account of the Mummers carnival did not make the first page because the importance of the affair was not recognized; however, a story was published that read as follows:

"For two hours yesterday, almost to a minute, the official section of Philadelphia represented by the public buildings was given over to mummery so fantastic that the shades of the staid Quakers, who gave it its sobriquet, must have cloaked themselves in their gay winding sheets and stalked to bournes more sedate. Beneath the eyes of Wil-

liam Penn, at the very knees of Stephen Girard, about the base of the Reynolds Statue, 3000 men and boys in outlandish garb frolicked, cavorted, grimaced, and whooped, while the Mayor and members of Councils, Judges and other officials, State and municipal, looked on, laughed and applauded. How many thousands or ordinary mortals did the same thing no one could compute. The grand plaza about the City Hall and the streets converging were choked with people — a healthy, clean, orderly congregation. The city had put its official seal upon the mummery, the lawmakers were there as sponsors and directors, and from the windows of the courts of justice, wives and daughters of the Judges viewed and enjoyed the scene.

The first club in line was the Silver Crown New Year's Association. The George A. Furnival Association followed together with the Elkton Association and the John F. Slater Association. This was known as the Fancy Division.

Among the comics were such resplendent names as the "Dark Lanterns," the "Hardly Ables," "Early Risers," "Mixed Pickles," "White Turnips," "Katzenjammer Band," "White Caps," "Energetic Hobos," "Red Onions," "Ivy Leaf," "Corinthians," "Half and Half," and "Cucumbers." Everyone agreed that Philadelphia had never seen such a spectacle.

### Show of Shows

#### STRING BAND CONCERT

CONVENTION HALL

Sunday Matinee,  
February 15 and 22

Evening Shows:  
February 17-18-19,  
March 16-17

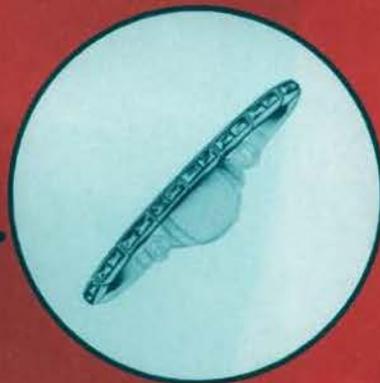
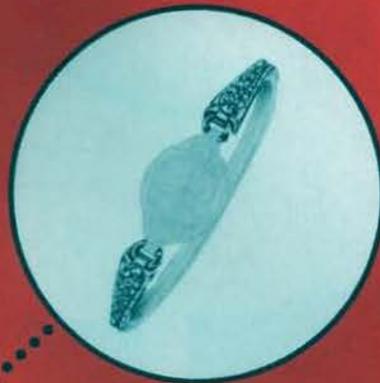
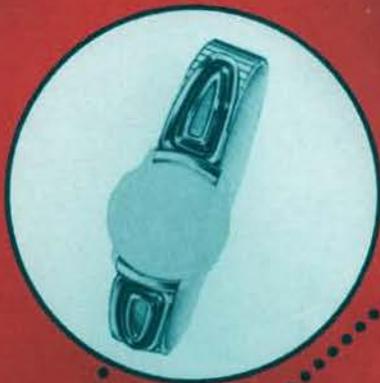
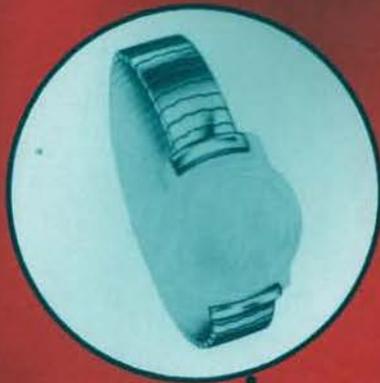
1959

8:00 P.M.

ALL SEATS RESERVED

Tickets may be ordered at  
5142 Castor Ave. (CU 8-9120)  
425 Green St. (MA 7-8298)  
325 N. Felton St. (GR 4-4307)

In New Jersey —  
Collingswood 5-4050

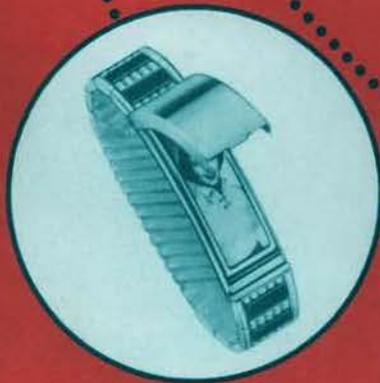
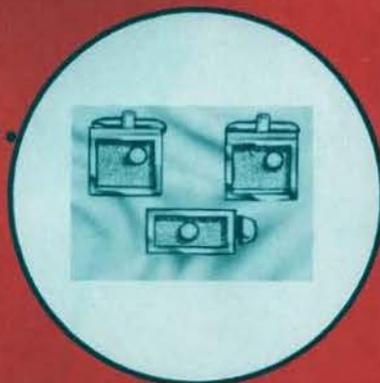


SSC

EDWARD SICKLES & COMPANY, INC.

distributor of  
*Speidel* PRODUCTS

IN EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY, DELAWARE,  
MARYLAND, VIRGINIA AND EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA



• Sold at all Leading Jewellery Stores •

WASHINGTON SQUARE BUILDING • SEVENTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA 6, PENNA. • PHONE WALNUT 5-8030

2009-4.3



**Schmidt's**  
OF PHILADELPHIA  
*Beer-Ale*

Beer as Beer  
should be

For deep-down satisfaction choose the beer that's sure to please your taste and ease your thirst—Schmidt's. Philadelphia's biggest selling beer.