

Bibliography
by
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BAND PARENTS' CLUB

In 1951 Mrs. Eleanor Colburn Fletcher, with the help of Mary A. Doyle, then Assistant Superintendent of Schools, sought support from the parents of students who were in the music program.

A group of mothers were brought^h together and a Band Mothers' Club was formed. The first president of the organization was Mrs. Sirkka French. Two other mothers who played an important part in the early organization^{were} Mrs. Nicholas Kane and Mrs. Virginia Robinson. The club was small and so was the band which had thirty members.

The School Department report contained in the Maynard Town Report of 1951 acknowledged the formation of this group.

"A group of mothers have organized a Band Mothers' Club and are assuming the responsibility of purchasing uniforms. This is an example of the cooperation between school and home in Maynard. At the present time there are thirty members in the band and forty-three taking lessons."

In September, 1953, Mr. Charles Garabedian became Director of the Maynard School Band. At that time the band was composed of mostly Junior High students.

In October, 1953, the Parents' Instrumental Music Club was organized. Although this is the official name of the club, it is always referred to as The Band Parents' Club and that is the name that will be used in this report.

In 1958, the Band Parents' Club had its first experience with an exchange weekend. The Nashua, New Hampshire Band came to Maynard and later Maynard went to Nashua. This program has continued and Maynard has been involved in exchanges with eleven bands from the New England states and New York. In

addition to these exchanges the band has gone to the New York Worlds Fair, Expo 1967 at Montreal, Canada, and the Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington.

In 1965 the Northeastern Music Festival was held in Maynard and bands, orchestras and choral groups took part. About forty towns were represented.

The Band Parents' Club can look back through the years with the satisfaction that it has contributed to the success of the Music Programs in the Maynard Schools. Many of us believe that many of the tensions which beset the youth of today would be lessened with more exchanges of people who come together and speak the universal language of music.

A report of this type would be amiss if we did not acknowledge the inspirational leadership of Mr. Charles Garabedian, Director of Music of the Maynard Public Schools for the last eighteen years. He has provided an excellent musical education for our children. He has made the Band Parents' Club a success.