

OTTO PARIS
1993

OTTO PARIS

Born: June 7, 1904 Munger, Texas

Education through high school:

Hubbard, Texas
Hillsboro, Texas
Mexia, Texas

Colleges and Institutions:

1924-1926	Westminster College	Tehuacana, Texas
1926	Certificate of Graduation (2 year Institution)	
	North Texas State Teachers College	Denton, Texas
1930	Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music	
	Houston Conservatory of Music	Houston, Texas
1939	Bachelor of Music Degree	
	Vandercook School of Music	Chicago, Illinois
1941	Master of Music Degree	

Teaching & Band Career:

1926-1927	McCanles School	near Dawson, Texas	Teacher
1927-1928	Burleson School	near Kirvin, Texas	Teacher
1928-1933	Munger, Texas		Teacher
1933-1937	Kilgore, Texas		Band
1937-1942	Alvin, Texas		Band
1945-1947	Texas City, Texas		Band
	Pearland, Texas		Band
1946-1951	Friendswood, Texas	Principal-Coach-Band-Teacher	
1959-1971	Houston, Texas		Teacher

United States Armed Service

1942-1945 U. S. Navy

Other Employment:

1945	American National Insurance Co
1951-1953	Pace Piano Co of Houston, Texas
1953-1959	Paris Piano Enterprise

Noteworthy:

1941	Chairman of Texas Music Educators Association Region V
1988	Otto Paris Band Scholarship Established Alvin High School Alvin, Texas
1993	PHI BETA MU Texas Bandmasters HALL of FAME TMEA Headquarters Austin, Texas

Present Interests and Activities: Resides in Huntsville, Texas

1993 Photography, Golf, Gardening, Computer "Mania"

OTTO PARIS

OTTO PARIS was born June 7, 1904 in Munger, Texas (Limestone County) at the family farm home to Henry and Ella Kendall Paris, the third of six children. As a youngster, he began calling himself 'Henry' Otto Paris because he wanted a double name "like everyone else". His school days began near the rural cotton-farming community of Hubbard, Texas in a small one-room building called School #74. He continued his schooling in Hillsboro, Texas 1920-1921 where he worked in a boarding house to pay for his "keep" and education. His mother had given him a cornet and Hillsboro had a band director! He moved on to Hubbard, Texas for the 1921-1922 school year. He played in the Hubbard City Band. However, the director departed, leaving the band without leadership. So, the town merchants took up a collection for a salary and hired OTTO to direct the band--his first band at age 17. Between 1922-1924 he worked on the farm; then, eventually accepted a scholarship to play high school baseball in Mexia, Texas. There he supplemented his living by working in a grocery store.

He attended Westminster College in Tehuacana, Texas 1924-1926 on a baseball scholarship, playing catcher. He also played end on the football team (weighing 135 lbs. dripping wet). Otto played cornet in the Moody Orchestra at Westminster. During this same period, he also played with the "Jackson Night Owls" dance band in Mexia, Texas. He was selected "Best All-Around Boy" of the college in 1926. On June 7, 1926 he married Ruth East whom he had met at Westminster.

Mr. Paris began his school teaching career at McCanles School (commonly called "Chicken Bristles") near Dawson, Texas 1926-1927; Burleson School near Kirvin, Texas 1927-1928; then at Munger, Texas School 1928-1933. During this period, he attended summer school sessions at North Texas State Teachers College in Denton, Texas receiving his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music in 1930. While at North Texas, he directed and played in the college dance orchestra and worked as a lifeguard. In 1939, he received a Bachelor of Music Degree from the Houston Conservatory of Music, Houston, Texas and a Master of Music Degree from the Vandercook School of Music of Chicago, Illinois in 1941.

Otto Paris established band programs in several Texas schools starting in Kilgore, 1933-1937. A harmonica club was the foundation for the Kilgore High School Band. With Mr. Sam Parker, he organized, directed and played in the Kilgore Stage Band and the Kilgore Junior College Band. In 1937, Alvin High School lured him there to initiate a band program. During his tenure there, 1937-1942, he made a lasting impression of bandsmanship and creativity. His bands consistently won top ratings at all regional, state, and national band meets. He created sensational "lighted" night routines that his band performed at athletic events. The band participated in parades of distinction throughout the state. The community of Alvin was proud of the band and its progress, and showed it by boosting all of its activities.

The Alvin "Yellowjacket" Band made a concert and vacation tour through West Texas, New Mexico and Mexico in 1938 seeing Carlsbad Caverns, the Alamo, the peaks of Texas and other historical landmarks. This was a first-time experience for most of the band members.

Mr. Paris collaborated with Coach Dave Engman in 1938 to compose the "Alvin Fight Song". The song was played and sung to arouse the fighting spirit of the school.

In 1940 the Alvin Band accepted an invitation to perform at the New York World's Fair and lead the Parade. Traveling some 4000 miles by school buses with their bedrolls, these seventy-odd youngsters made their way from Alvin to New York playing free concerts at each stopover in exchange for a gymnasium (or the like) to throw their bedrolls for the night. On one occasion, due to a late arrival, lodging reservations had been cancelled; so Mr. Paris contacted a large used car lot and made arrangements to open enough autos to sleep two students to a car. The trip was extended to include Canada, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Philadelphia, and many other sites of significance and interest. At Niagra Falls, Mr. Paris conducted a mock wedding ceremony for the band members.

Mr. Paris departed Alvin in 1942 to enter the US Navy where he served until 1945 as a radio and radar technician in the Pacific during WW2. After his honorable discharge from the service, he worked successfully for a short time with the American National Insurance Co. From 1945-1947 Mr. Paris organized band programs in the Texas towns of Texas City, Friendswood and Pearland. He continued his employment in Friendswood through 1951 as band director, football coach, math instructor, principal and bus driver. During the next eight years, 1951-1959, he was with the Pace Piano Company of Houston for two years and then established his own piano business. From 1959-1971 he was with the Houston ISD as a math instructor at Deady Junior High School and sponsor of the school's Interscholastic League Number Sense Program for math competitions.

OTTO PARIS retired in 1971, but has maintained a busy schedule with interests and activities in photography development, gardening, golf and computer "mania". He resides in Huntsville, Texas with his wife of 43 years Dr. Janelle Avenell Paris. He has two children, Mrs. Betty Ruth Paris Brightwell and Mr. Billy Otto Paris; nine grand-children and fourteen great-grandchildren.

The OTTO PARIS BAND SCHOLARSHIP was established in 1988 by the Alvin High School Class of 1938, and supported by his many devoted former students and friends. The scholarship is awarded each year to the outstanding Alvin band student. Mr. Paris' picture and an article concerning this honor appeared in the Texas Music Educators Magazine in August, 1988. He also appeared on the cover of the TMEA magazine in 1940, and was Chairman of the TMEA Region V in 1941.

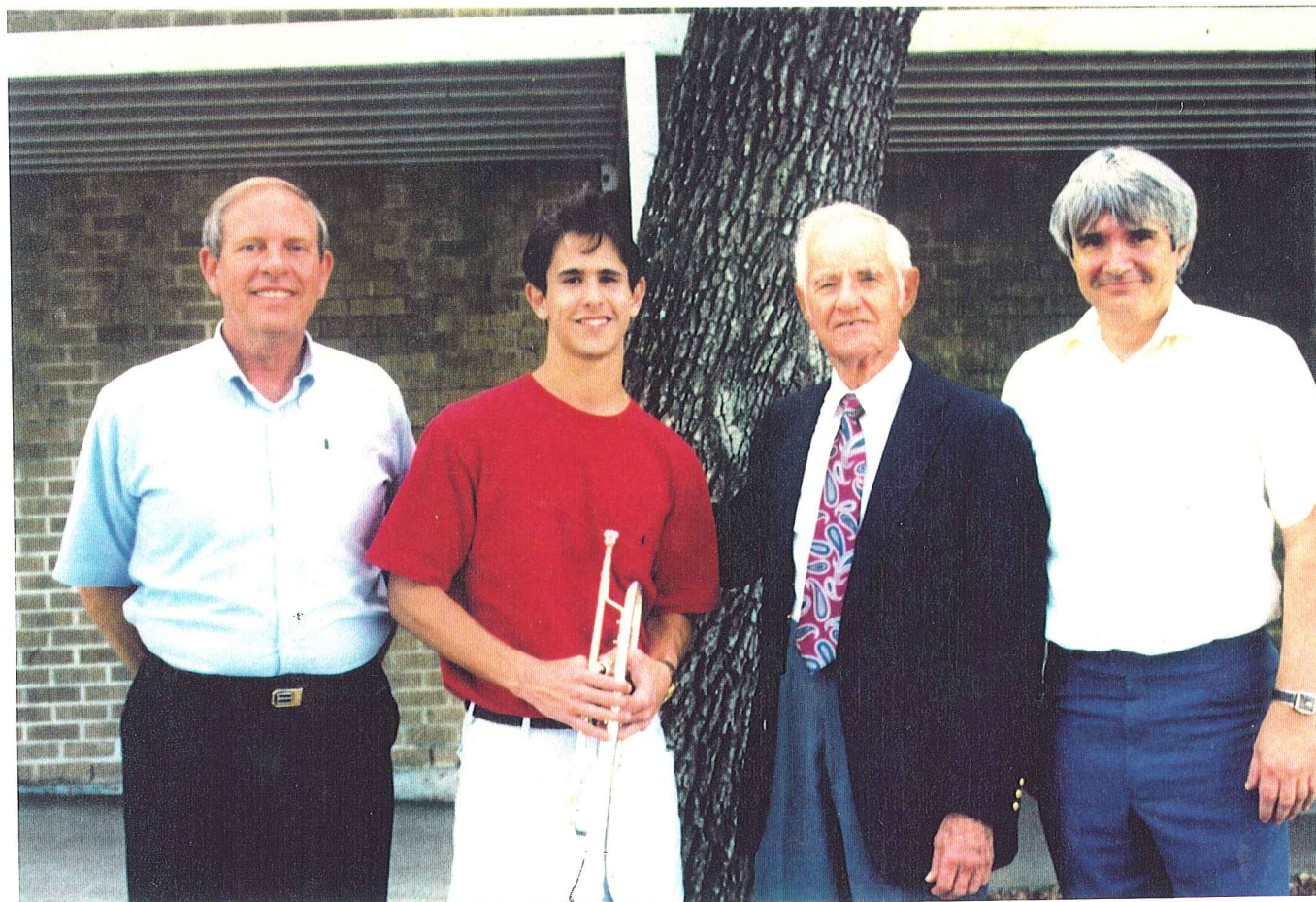


OTTO PARIS
1936



OTTO PARIS
1941

ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL
Alvin, Texas
May, 1993



CHARLES SALYER
Band Director 1974-1993

JASON FRERKING
Scholarship Recipient 1993

OTTO PARIS
AHS 1st Band Director 1937-1942

ROBERT GRAY
Asst. Band Director 1968-1993

OTTO PARIS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

1989	CASEY DARE
1990	JILL SCHULZ
1991	HOLLIANNE HUFF
1992	MARY RHYNE
1993	JASON FRERKING

Paris inducted into band hall of fame

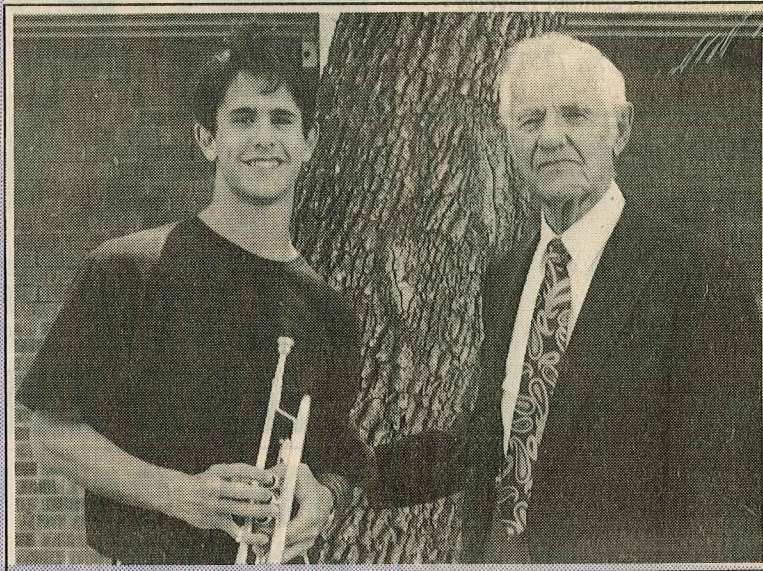
Former director surprised by recent honor

By Karyn Pannell
The Alvin Sun

The man who started the band program at Alvin High School will now have the honor of being inducted into the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame. Otto Paris was in Alvin recently and he presented the award for the scholarship in his name to this year's winner, Jason Frerking.

The Otto Paris Scholarship was established in 1988 by the AHS Class of 1938. The scholarship is awarded each year to the outstanding band student. In this year's graduating class six out of the top 10, including the valedictorian and the salutatorian, are band students.

The induction into the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame will take place during their conference this summer in San Antonio. This honor is given to retired Texas band Directors age 65 or over. The letter that the family



received praised Paris for his dedication and hard work. Paris said the call was a surprise and that he was not expecting it. "I think it's wonderful, it came to me out of a clear sky," Paris said.

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Otto Paris came to Alvin in 1937. He had successfully started band programs in other school districts and was asked to do the same for Alvin.

The bands he directed won

See Paris, page 2

Alvin

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1993

BRAZORIA COUNTY'S
OLDEST NEWSPAPER

25¢

Sun

Paris

Continued from page 1

many top ratings at all regional, state and national events. The community supported the band in all its activities.

In 1938 Paris led the band on a concert and vacation tour through West Texas, New Mexico and Mexico, where they toured many historical landmarks. That also was the year when Paris and Coach Dave Engman composed the Alvin Fight Song.

During Paris' tenure at AHS, the band was invited to perform at the 1940 New York World's Fair and lead the parade.

Paris left Alvin in 1942 and served in the U.S. Navy. After the war, Paris worked for a while in the insurance business.

Not only was Paris responsible for beginning the band program

in Alvin, he began the band programs in Pearland and Friendswood as well.

Paris retired in 1971 but he remains active in many interests. He and his wife of 43 years, Dr. Janelle Avenell Paris live in Huntsville. He has two children, Betty Ruth Paris Brightwell and Billy Otto Paris. He also has nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

The class of 1938, who were the first band members, set up the scholarship and it is supported by former students and friends. Past winners include Mary Rhyne, Hollianne Huff, Jill Schultz and Casey Dare.

To donate to the Otto Paris Band Scholarship contact Beverly Henson, Comptroller, AISD, 301 E. House, Alvin, Tx., 77511.

Southwestern Musician combined with The Texas Music Educator

August, 1988

OVER

50

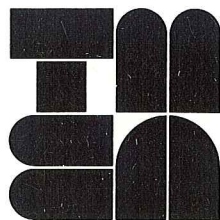
YEARS

OF PARTNERSHIP



TEXAS EDUCATION
AGENCY

1936 - 1988

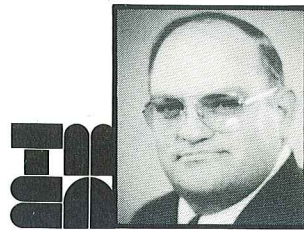


TEXAS MUSIC
EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

1947 - 1988



UNIVERSITY
INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE



Editor's Column

by Bill Cormack

This issue is designed to help you recognize the organizations with which TMEA works, the relationships that exist and the people responsible for decision making in the areas for which they are responsible. We will introduce to you Dr. Ernest Chambers and Dr. John Sommer of TEA, Dr. Bailey Marshall and Richard Floyd of the UIL, Sandra Glover and myself of the TMEA, and we will inform you of the importance of our working with the State Board of Education and the Legislature, especially the House and Senate Education Committee.

This issue will also include news from Washington concerning our tax exempt status and possible serious financial demands caused by new IRS regulations; an editorial about UIL penalties for personnel involved in unethical practices in the sight reading room during contest and an update on Edgewood-Kirby.

Texas Bands Named Best Dressed by National Association of Uniform Manufacturers and Distributors

New York, May 5, 1988, the Frisco High School "Fighting Coon" marching band, Frisco, Texas, was named Grand National Winner of the 1987-88 Best Dressed Band Awards Program, sponsored by the NAUMD. The Frisco H.S. Band was named best dressed band in the Southwest before being designated as the Grand Winner. The Frisco Band won over schools from New York, Cincinnati, Ohio, Bassett, Virginia, and Corcoran, California.

The association chose eight other bands to receive outstanding achievement awards, one of which was the Cooper H.S. Band of Lubbock, Texas.

Bob Bergin Elected President of Music Industry Conference

During the recent Music Educators National Conference convention in Indianapolis, Bob Bergin, Executive Vice President of Rhythm Band, Inc., was elected President of the Music Industry Conference. Other newly-elected officers of MIC are as follows: Michael Bennett from Yamaha International Corporation - President-Elect; Sandy Feldstein from Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. - Vice President; LeRoy Esau from Esau Products, Inc. - Secretary/Treasurer; Ken Fruhauf from Fruhauf Uniforms, Inc. - Executive Board Member; Willard Markey from Malmark, Inc. - Executive Board Member; Roger McRae from Temporal Acuity Products, Inc. - Executive Board Member; and Barry O'Neal from Carl Fischer, Inc. - Executive Board Member.

TMEA congratulates Bob on this very fine honor.

Otto Paris honored at 1988 50th Anniversary Celebration - by Michael Petrisky

You may find this hard to believe, but I actually volunteered to escort my mother to her 50th



BOB BERGIN



OTTO PARIS

high school reunion. She was a 1938 graduate of Alvin High School. What luck! I ran into their class honoring Mr. Otto Paris with a scholarship in his name. The first scholarship of its kind by any alumni of this school.

Mr. Paris was the first band director for Alvin High School. He arrived for the 1937-1938 school year. Prior to coming to Alvin, he was responsible for starting up the Kilgore High School, and Kilgore Junior College Bands in 1934. He is also a past president of the Texas Bandmasters Association.

I had the pleasure of listening to his band kids reminisce. (These kids are 66-68 years young) Their stories were fresh, and humorous, but still had the sound of familiarity of my high school band days, as well as those when I worked as an assistant.

One story was of cancelled lodging reservations for his band on a trip to New York. (None of us have ever worried about this, right?) The 69 piece Alvin band arrived late, and lost their rooms. Mr. Paris contacted a large used car lot, and made arrangements to open enough autos to sleep two students in each car. (Boys separate from girls, of course) One student in the front seat, and one in the rear. "Now, that's what I call leadership," said this student.

Another student related that when they were about to reach Niagara Falls, Mr. Paris conducted this huge wedding ceremony. The whole band got married. Some boys having to marry three or four girls. Mr. Paris said, "You can't go to Niagara Falls unless you get married first!"

Under Otto Paris the Alvin High School Band was state and national marching band champions. A 1940 band tour covered 4,000 miles which included Washington, D.C. and New York City. The band led the Parade at the New York World's Fair. The honors continued from Atlanta, Philadelphia, and Dayton. The band lost two students to emergency appendectomies. One in Philadelphia, and one in Little Rock. The two got together and flew the parents to the students. The bandsmen fully recovered from the surgery.

The news articles from the scrapbook I read through are more numerous than I can relate. All I'm sure of is that the whole town loved their band, and Mr. Otto Paris.

He was presented a plaque to commemorate the scholarship being named in his honor. I can't think of a better way to be remembered. I hope the students who receive his scholarship will appreciate Mr. Paris, and what he has done for Alvin, and Texas music.

Congratulations, Mr. Paris!

Edgewood-Kirby

At this time the Finance Committee studying ways to place more money into the poorer school districts is awaiting the outcome of a study made by the Equity Center on equalizing student expenditures. Word is out, however, that the plan put forth by Bob Bullock is not being accepted as a viable option. At first, many felt it would be a way out of this serious problem, but a closer look, especially at borrowing multimillions from the permanent university and permanent school funds, is creating a very negative feeling against the plan.

The judge who ruled that the state must equalize funding has been asked to justify more deeply his ruling and what parts of the Texas Constitution he based his findings upon. So, at this time in mid-summer, we really have no news concerning Edgewood-Kirby.

When the PEIMS report becomes available we will start to see some movement in the Legislature, indirectly related to Edgewood-Kirby, but more directly related to extracurricular activities, funding and teacher duties. We plan on keeping you updated as events begin to unfold.

United States House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee

Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, Chairman

This committee held a series of hearings on tax exempt, non-profit groups (501-C-3's) to determine if they are violating IRS rules by having revenue sources not protected by their tax exempt purpose. Simply put, if tax exempt groups compete with those in the private sector for money, then the rules governing how money is to be made are very strict.

For example, religious groups own book publishing firms that print song books, bibles, music, etc., and pay no tax while a privately owned book firm must pay corporate (34%) income tax on the same items. If the religious groups were discounting the items to be sold so the purchaser would receive the benefit of the tax exempt status of the firm, then Uncle Sam would not be looking so hard at these groups. But, since the items are being sold at a normal sale price, the profits are considerable and the government is losing millions in tax revenues.

The recent T.V. religious scandals caused this look into tax exemption. Other groups being looked at are colleges, universities, private schools, foundations, and PAC's (Political Action Committees).

The hearings and committee work have now moved into the tax exempt, non-profit 501-C-6 groups such as TMEA.

In Houston, at a meeting of the Texas Society of Association Executives, Rep. Jake Pickle of Austin informed us that legislation was being drawn up to:

1. tax investments
 2. challenge subsidiaries that are set up to avoid taxes
 3. tax advertising fully with no deductibles
 4. tax unrelated income
- Tax for TMEA at the corporate level will be 34%, therefore, our taxes would be as follows:
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Investments, 34% of | \$36,000 |
| Advertising, 34% of | 60,000 |
| Unrelated income, 34% of | 40,000 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$136,000 |

Possible IRS tax on 1988 income \$46,240

President Nail and your Executive Director went to Washington in May for Association Defense Day. We left feeling that we had stopped a lot of the changes. We will await word on the actual wording of the Committee report, but knowing what we do, we are prepared for the news, which will not be good.

Teacher Ethics

On June 21, at the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center, University of Texas at Austin, the State Executive Committee of the UIL met to consider allegations that a Texas High School Band Director violated Section 1111 (c) of the Constitution and Contest Rules. This violation was in the form of having a copy of the 5A band sight reading music, hand copying the parts, making them available to the band and rehearsing the music.

During the hearing the following was entered into the record:

- The assistant band director warned the head band director that to copy the parts and to rehearse the music would be a violation. Answer

was: every other 5A band director in the region does it.

- The band rehearsed the music then appeared at the contest where, when asked, "Has this band or director seen, played, rehearsed this music before?", the answer was "no".

• Upon returning, the assistant band director informed the Principal that the violation had occurred.

• The Principal and Superintendent turned the violation into the Region UIL Executive Committee.

• The Committee passed the violation on to the State Executive Committee.

Many other items were discussed during the hour long hearing, but one thing stood out over and over. The defense given by the director was that to compete in 5A it was necessary to cheat and that all other band directors did it.

When the hearing ended, the punishment given to the teacher was that he could not teach any student when the teaching was involved in UIL or extracurricular activities. This, in effect, removed the director from teaching at the secondary level.

While this is an isolated instance, it is not a rare one. This causes us to consider our personal feelings regarding morals and ethics. Without laws there would be chaos, without ethics we would be without honor, without meaningful standards. There will always be those among us who desire to be first, to win at all costs. Let us hope that they will continue to get caught, as did not only this director, but the three coaches that appeared at the same hearing and were likewise

found guilty of violating the rules of fair play.

Usually the guilty party is caught by one of three ways;

1. some competitor turning in the violation
2. some student turning in the violation
3. someone from the inside letting a third party know of the violation

To expect a 70, 80 or 90 piece band to keep silent about lying at a contest is to expect unethical and immoral conduct from the very students we are training to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Let us now discuss how the assistant director came to hold such loyalty to truth and fairness above his loyalty to his superior. Obviously he is a man of moral courage, a man of integrity. He, from the very first, never took his eyes off the fact that a violation was happening and went about to stop it by going straight to the source of the problem. When threatened with loss of his job he stood firm and continued to protest, eventually feeling the necessity to report the final act that occurred at contest. Many might say he owed it to the head director to say nothing. We say he had an obligation to a higher calling, an obligation to play the game fairly.

We owe a debt of gratitude to this assistant director and the middle school director who stood with him, both at home and in the "dock" at UIL. It took courage for the two of them to force this issue to the hearing in Austin. This was not a pleasant day for any of us, certainly not for the teacher who violated the rules, but more importantly, it was not a pleasant day for the integrity of music educators. On the other hand, maybe it was a good day for music educators.

SYMPHONIC BAND TECHNIQUE

At last, a COMPLETE warm-up and technical study method for the symphonic band by Tom C. Rhodes and Donald Bierschenk. Symphonic Band Technique will assist in developing all aspects of musicianship.

Each of the 167 exercises was written to achieve a specific musical goal. Exercises include warm-up chords, chorales, ear-training, flexibility, slurring, major and minor scales, scale studies, chromatic scales, tonguing, rhythmic and reading etudes, articulation, syncopation, triplets, odd meters, dotted note studies, and unique exercises called "Balance Builders".

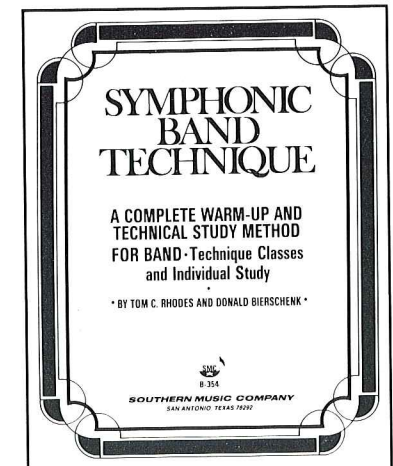
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Lifestyle

Class of '38 honors Paris

By DELORES FENWICK
Journal Staff

The bands at Alvin, Friendswood and Pearland high schools have something in common besides instruments and uniforms. Otto "Pop" Paris played a part in all of their beginnings.

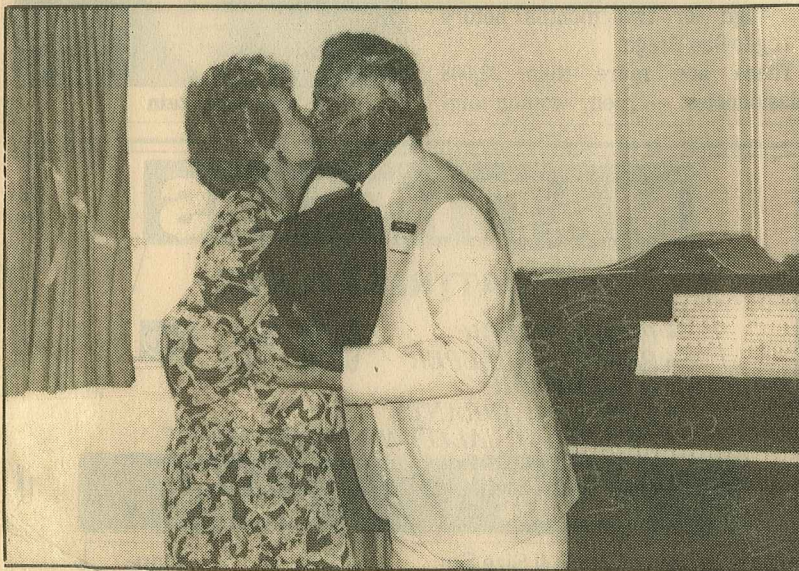
Recently the Alvin High School Class of 1938 celebrated its 50th anniversary. At a reception for all Alvin High School alumni during that celebration, the class established the Otto Paris Band Scholarship to be presented to an Alvin High School band student each year.

At the reception, a plaque was presented to Mr. Paris and folks reminisced about their days in the band that was established by Paris at Alvin High School in the 1937-38 school years.

They remembered the triumphant trip to the "National Band Meet" in Abilene in April of 1939, just 18 months after the band was organized. The contest was actually a regional one since the national contest had been divided into regions just the year before. A total of 51 bands and about 800 soloists were judged during the three-day event and the Alvin band came home with the top spot in the marching competition.

Betty Brightwell of Pearland is Paris' daughter. She said her dad took the band on a trip to West Texas and Carlesbad that summer. She said they took their bedrolls with them. In each town her father would arrange in advance for them to play a concert in exchange for the opportunity to sleep in a local gym or hall.

The following year Mr. Paris took



OTTO PARIS GETS a kiss from a well-wisher during the reunion in which it was announced a scholarship would be made in his honor.

(See CLASS, next page)

● Class of '38 honors Paris for his band efforts

Continued from page 7A

the band all the way to New York for the World's Fair with stops in such places as Philadelphia, Washington and even Niagra Falls. Some of the students who made that trip were at the reunion and remembered some of the highlights. For example, one student remembered that at Niagra Falls "Pop made us all get married." She said a mass wedding was staged and "some of the girls married more than one of the fellows."

Another man remember vividly one stop on the trip when they thought they were not going to have a place to stay because the bus with the instruments in it got lost and they couldn't play the concert as agreed and therefore were not allowed to stay in the gym. The kids were not left out in the cold, however. Mr. Paris made arrangements with a used car lot and the students were allowed to sleep in the cars on the lot.

Mr. Paris had come to Alvin from Kilgore, where he organized the band there in 1933 and remained until 1937. When he left Alvin in 1942, it was to serve in the United States Navy from 1942-45, during World War II.

Upon his return, he was the band director at Texas City for a half year. However, at that time they could not get instruments, so he resigned the position because he did not feel he was doing any good as a

band director with no instruments for the musicians to play.

In the 1946-47 school year, Mr. Paris was the band director at both Pearland and Friendswood high school. He established band programs at both schools that year, and the next year he continued with the program at Friendswood, where he remained until 1951.

While at Friendswood, he not only directed the band, but coached the football team and taught math. Brightwell was newly married at that time, and she recalls that she and her husband used to help out with the games. Her husband officiated and she would lead the band for her father at half-time while he was coaching the game. She said they played six-man football at that time and many of the players also were in the band. She said at half-time they would join the band on the field in their football uniforms.

After leaving Friendswood, Mr. Paris worked for Pace Piano Co. and for himself for a time. In 1951 he became the band director and taught math at Deady Junior High, where he remained until he retired in 1971.

Mr. Paris began his schooling in Munger, Texas, at a four-room school for all grades. He went to a number of different high schools because he went where he could get a job to help pay for his high school education, Brightwell said. He first went to high school in Hillsboro. It

was there that he got a coronet. Next he went to Hubbard, Texas, where he was in the band. The band director left in the middle of the year and they appointed him to run the band. One of the local merchants donated some money so that he could be paid something for this work, Brightwell said.

Next he went to Mexia, where he received a baseball scholarship and worked for his sister and brother-in-law, who owned a grocery store. And finally in 1926, he went to West-

minister College in Tehuacana, Texas. The school was really a combination high school - junior college and Mr. Paris attended on a baseball scholarship. While there he had a dance band called "Jackson's Night Owls."

Many folks gathered at First United Methodist Church in Alvin for the reunion reception. In addition to the former Alvin students there were representatives from his bands in Pearland, Friendswood and even Texas City.

MARJORIE McCOWN LAWRENCE

Presentation

Establishment of Band Scholarship
in honor of Alvin High School's
first band director OTTO PARIS
by AHS Class of 1938
May 25, 1988



ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL
Class of 1938 50th Reunion
Alvin, Texas
May 25, 1988

Marjorie McCown Lawrence
Nita Marie Brennan
Honoree Otto Paris



Hello, Otto, well, Hello, Otto, it's so nice to have you back where
you belong,
You're looking swell, Otto, we can tell, Otto,
You're still glowin', you're still crowin', you're still-goin' strong.
We feel the room swayin' for the band's playin' one of your old
fav'rite songs from 'way back when,
SO---come up here, Otto, find you a comfy chair, Otto,
We wanta show you that we really care!

Otto 'Pop' Paris plays role in start of our area bands

By DELORES FENWICK
Journal Staff

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And from their comments, it was clear that the former students had come for one main purpose — to honor the man that they had all called "Pop" when he taught them, led them and helped mold their lives as they played in the band many years ago.

*The VanderCook School of Music
of Chicago, Illinois*

takes pleasure in announcing the

conferring of the degree of

Master of Music

Thursday, July thirty-first

nineteen hundred forty-one

Pilgrim Hall

Washington Bl'vd. at Ashland Bl'vd.

8:00 p. m.

Otto Paris

is this eye Otto??



This came out in the Hubbard paper

Paris

HUBBARD BAND — This 1921 Hubbard City Band went to Dallas to participate in a band contest. A reader of The News suggested the picture be printed to see how many could identify this early twenties band members. John Bounds identified the following: Ben Moore, Loeb Bass, Joe "Frog

Eye" Bounds, Ottie Farelman, Otto Parrish, Hugh McRae, Fed Tomek, Willie Gray and Edgar Phillips. Anyone who can identify other members of the band, please call 669-2254, L.L. Wilkes.

1921 HUBBARD CITY BAND
HUBBARD, TEXAS
OTTO PARIS--CORNET
1st on Left



The Moody Orchestra performing on stage of the auditorium at Westminster College in the 1920s: (left to right) Otto Paris, Virgil Moody, Dwight L. Moody, Lillian Pierce Moody and Wayland P. Moody.

THE ORCHESTRA



WESTMINSTER COLLEGE
1926
TEHUACANA, TEXAS
THE ORCHESTRA
OTTO PARIS 1st on Left



JACKSON'S NIGHT OWLS
1925-1926
MEXIA, TEXAS
OTTO PARIS 2nd on Left



OTTO PARIS
Best All-Round Boy

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE 1925-1926
TEHUACANA, TEXAS
FOOTBALL TEAM

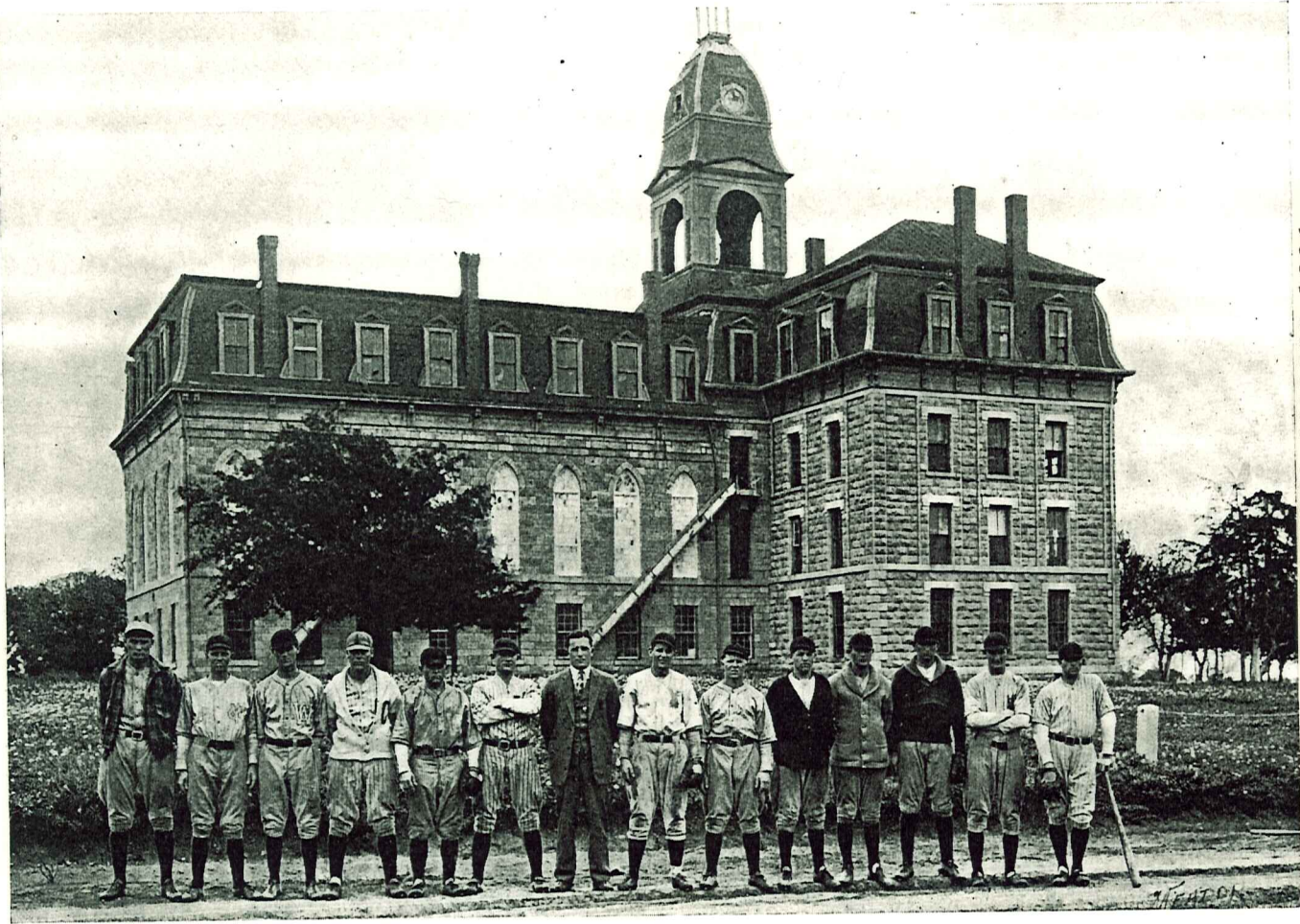


OTIS PARIS, No. 15

Otto is from Hubbard City. He is one of the hardest workers and best trainers on the squad. He plays end on the team and has the makings of a good end. Although he didn't play so much this year he did well when called upon.

OTTO PARIS--END #15
1st Row: 1st on Right





WESTMINSTER COLLEGE 1926
BASEBALL TEAM

OTTO PARIS--CATCHER
3rd from left

BASEBALL

Eighty-five

With the coming of Springtime also comes baseball. A sport that is well liked by the population, young or old.

The boys seemed to have an unusual amount of pep for the coming season. They worked for their places on the team. At the beginning of the year there were many aspirants out for the team, but as the season rolled away the number has dwindled until now we have the Original Dirty Dozen. The Fighting Dozen has fought them all to a finish and you cannot find a one that will say that they are quitters.

Games Played—Conference Games

Team and Scores—Where Played.
 Team and Scores—Where Played.
 W. C. 4, Rusk 3—Tehuacana.
 W. C. 3, Rusk 9—Mexia.
 W. C. 3, Wesley 4—Tehuacana.
 W. C. 5, Wesley 12—Mexia.
 W. C. 16, T. M. C. 5—Tehuacana.
 W. C. 9, T. M. C. 8—Tehuacana.
 W. C. 3, Wesley 10—Greenville.
 W. C. 5, Wesley 12—Greenville.
 W. C. 3, Rusk 10—Rusk.
 W. C. 2, Puroil 1—Tehuacana.

Other Games

Team and Scores—Where Played.
 Team and Scores—Where Played.
 W. C. 0, Puroil 1—Mexia.
 W. C. 9, Puroil 4—Mexia.
 W. C. 16, Mexia Hi 3—Tehuacana.
 W. C. 5, Wortham 5 (called)—Wortham.
 W. C. 17, Wortham Hi 4—Tehuacana.
 W. C. 10, Puroil 11—Tehuacana.
 W. C. 0, Puroil 2—Mexia.
 W. C. 5, Puroil 4—Tehuacana.

Lon Morris forfeited four games to the W. C. team. There are two more conference games to be played.

The Players

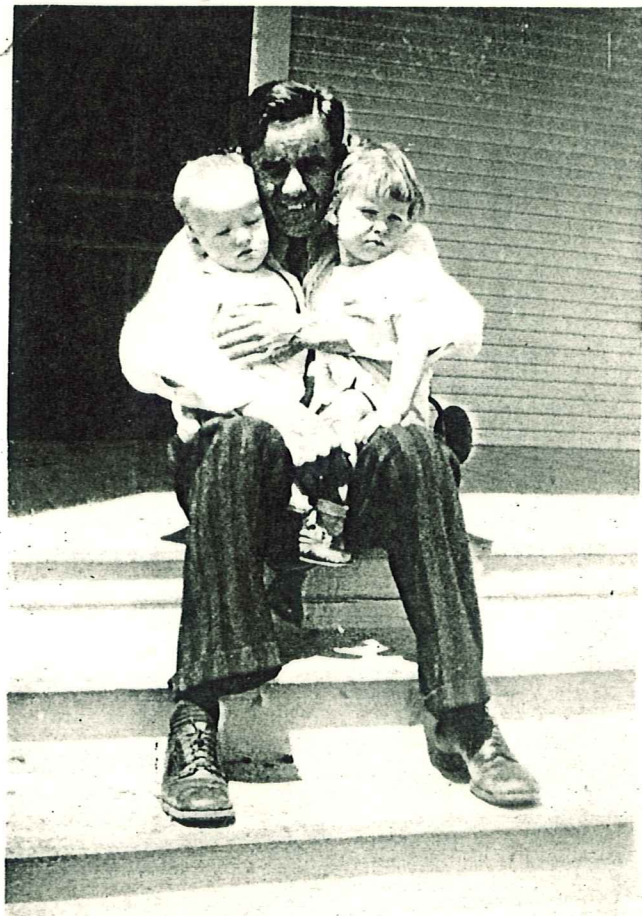
Name—Position.
 Name—Position
 Knight—Catcher.
 Shires—First base.
 Greer—Second base.
 Hill—Shortstop.
 Moore—Shortstop.
 Wallace—Third base.
 Rankin—Right field.
 Potter—Center field and pitcher.
 Kidd—Center field.
 Erskine—Left field and pitcher.
 Whittaker—Pitcher.
 Paris—Catcher.



MUNGER, TEXAS 1930

OTTO PARIS--TEACHER

With his two children
at the Teacherage--the
family's residence next
to the Munger School



OTTO PARIS--DIRECTOR
ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND 1941
ALVIN, TEXAS



DEDICATION

To our understanding friend and instructor

OTTO PARIS

. . . because he is young in spirit, fair in his dealings,
firm in his convictions, kind and understanding, and
because "Pop," in his smooth easy-going
manner, has captured the respect and
affection of all those who
have been associated
with him.



The Band, with Mr. Otto Paris as Director, is giving unlimited opportunities to the students. Not only is it a boost to Alvin High at present, but it also prepares a foundation for the future work of many students.

Otto Paris, Dir.



Otto Paris
B. A. North Texas State
Teachers College
B. M. Houston Conservatory of Music
M. M. Vandercook School of Music
Band

Otto Paris



OTTO PARIS
U. S. NAVY 1942-1945

**OTTO PARIS GRADUATES FROM
NAVAL AIR TECH. TRAINING
CENTER AT CORPUS CHRISTI**

Corpus Christi, Texas, May 15th, 1943—Otto Paris, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Paris of Coolidge, graduated today from the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Corpus Christi, and received promotion to the rate of Aviation Radio Technician second class.

The graduation, at which certificates were presented by Commander George K. Stoddard, commanding officer of the training center, marked the end of an intensive 7-months course in which he received thorough instruction in all types of aircraft radio and electrical equipment.

From here, he and other members of the graduating class are being transferred to operational bases, naval shore establishments and units of the fleet to play their specialized parts in the all-out struggle against the Axis powers.



OTTO PARIS 1983
HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS

**Otto Paris New
Band Director at
High School Here**

**Well-Known Man
Formerly Served
In Alvin Schools**

Otto Paris, discharged veteran of World War II and formerly band director at Alvin, has been employed as band director for Central high school, Levi Fry, superintendent, announced.

Mr. Paris served at Alvin for five years, previous to entering the Navy in 1942, and is well known for his ability as a showman, Mr. Fry said. It was considered fortunate that the schools here were able to obtain a man of his capabilities, Mr. Fry declared, and his work is expected soon to show up in the band's performance at athletic events and other public affairs.

The new band director served with the Navy in the South and Western Pacific areas, a total of three years, one month and 11 days in service, and has just been accorded his honorable discharge. His work with the Navy was with radio-controlled planes.

Mr. Paris will take charge of the senior high band, for all its appearances at athletic contests and public events, and soon is to make a start on a junior high band, Mr. Fry said.

The director noted a need for band instruments, he declared, on his first day with the school. He felt that there must be any number of instruments, not now in use, scattered about town, which would be an assistance to the band, and asked that anyone owning such instruments which they will sell, contact him there Tuesday of next week at the Wolvin school between 8 and 11 a. m. and 1 and 5 p. m., phone 1035. Or, they may contact Mr. Fry at the school, phone 87.

Conway R. Shaw, who has been working with the band on a three-day-a-week schedule, will continue to teach music for the schools, Mr. Fry said.



Otto Paris starts Friendswood Band

By DELORES FENWICK
Journal Staff

The bands at Alvin, Friendswood and Pearland high schools have something in common besides instruments and uniforms. Otto "Pop" Paris played a part in all of their beginnings.

Recently the Alvin High School class of 1938 celebrated its 50th anniversary. At a reception for all Alvin High School alumni during that celebration, the class established the Otto Paris Band scholarship to be presented to an Alvin High School band student each year.

At the reception, a plaque was presented to Mr. Paris and folks reminisced about their days in the band that was established by Paris at Alvin High School in the 1937-38 school years.

They remembered the triumphant trip to the "National Band Meet" in Abilene in April of 1939, just 18 months after the band was organized. The contest was actually a regional one since the national contest had been divided into regions just the year before. A total of 51 bands and about 800 soloists were judged during the three-day event and the Alvin band came home

with the top spot in the marching competition.

Betty Brightwell of Pearland is Paris' daughter. She said her dad took the band on a trip to West Texas and Carlesbad that summer. She said they took their bedrolls with them. In each town her father would arrange in advance for them to play a concert in exchange for the opportunity to sleep in a local gym or hall.

The following year Mr. Paris took the band all the way to New York for the World's Fair with stops in such places as Philadelphia, Washington and even Niagra Falls. Some of the students who made that trip were at

the reunion and remembered some of the highlights. For example, one student remembered that at Niagra Falls "Pop made us all get married." She said a mass wedding was staged and "some of the girls married more than one of the fellows."

Another man remember vividly one stop on the trip when they thought they were not going to have a place to stay because the bus with the instruments in it got lost and they couldn't play the concert as agreed and therefore were not allowed to stay in the gym. The kids

Wednesday, May 25, 1988

Continued from page 1

were not left out in the cold, however. Mr. Paris made arrangements with a used car lot and the students were allowed to sleep in the cars on the lot.

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While at Friendswood, he not only directed the band, but coached the football team and taught math. Brightwell was newly married at that time, and she recalls that she and her husband used to help out with the games. Her husband officiated and she would lead the band for her father at half-time while he

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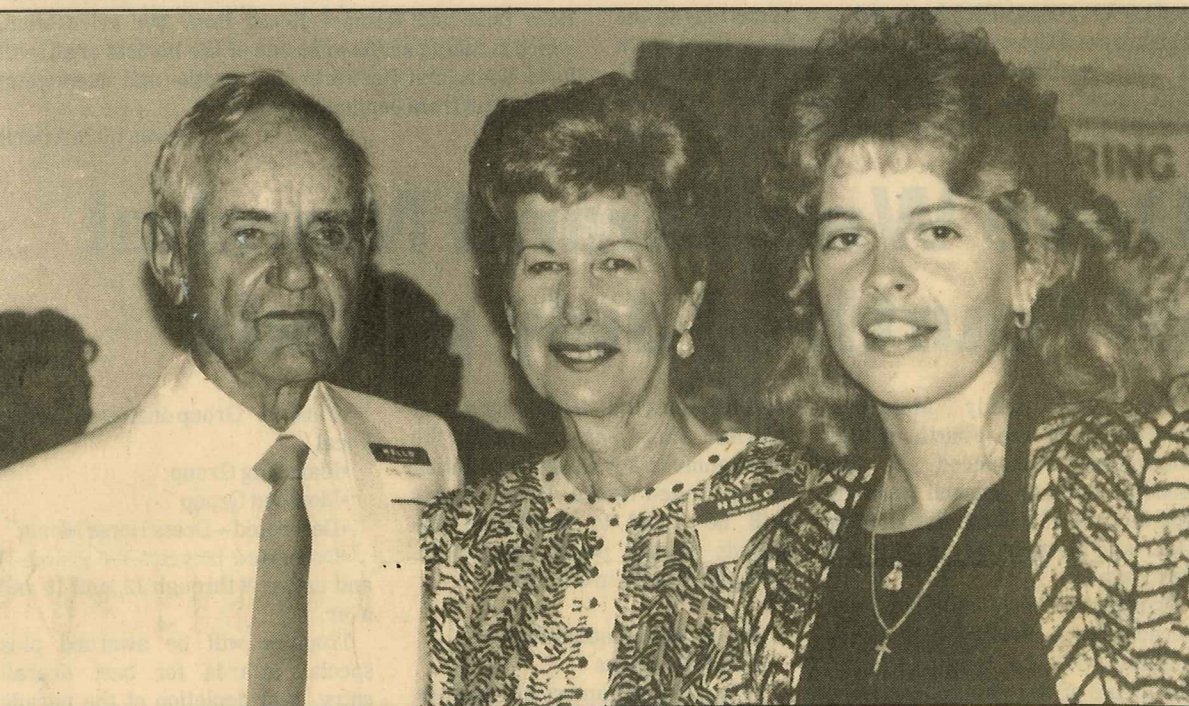
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Photo by Delores Fenwick

BAND



In 1946 Friendswood High School Band was again started with Otto Paris as band director.

While they were getting their instruments Mr. Paris gave them a few lessons in musical theory. They also did a lot of marching.

In the spring they gave their first concert. They all had white coveralls.

The band met for rehearsals once a week during summer vacation and each section had a class twice a week.

They started this year with several new members and some new instruments. They now have new uniforms of which they are very proud.

They played for the home football games and they gave a concert during the holiday season.

FRIENDSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BAND

FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS

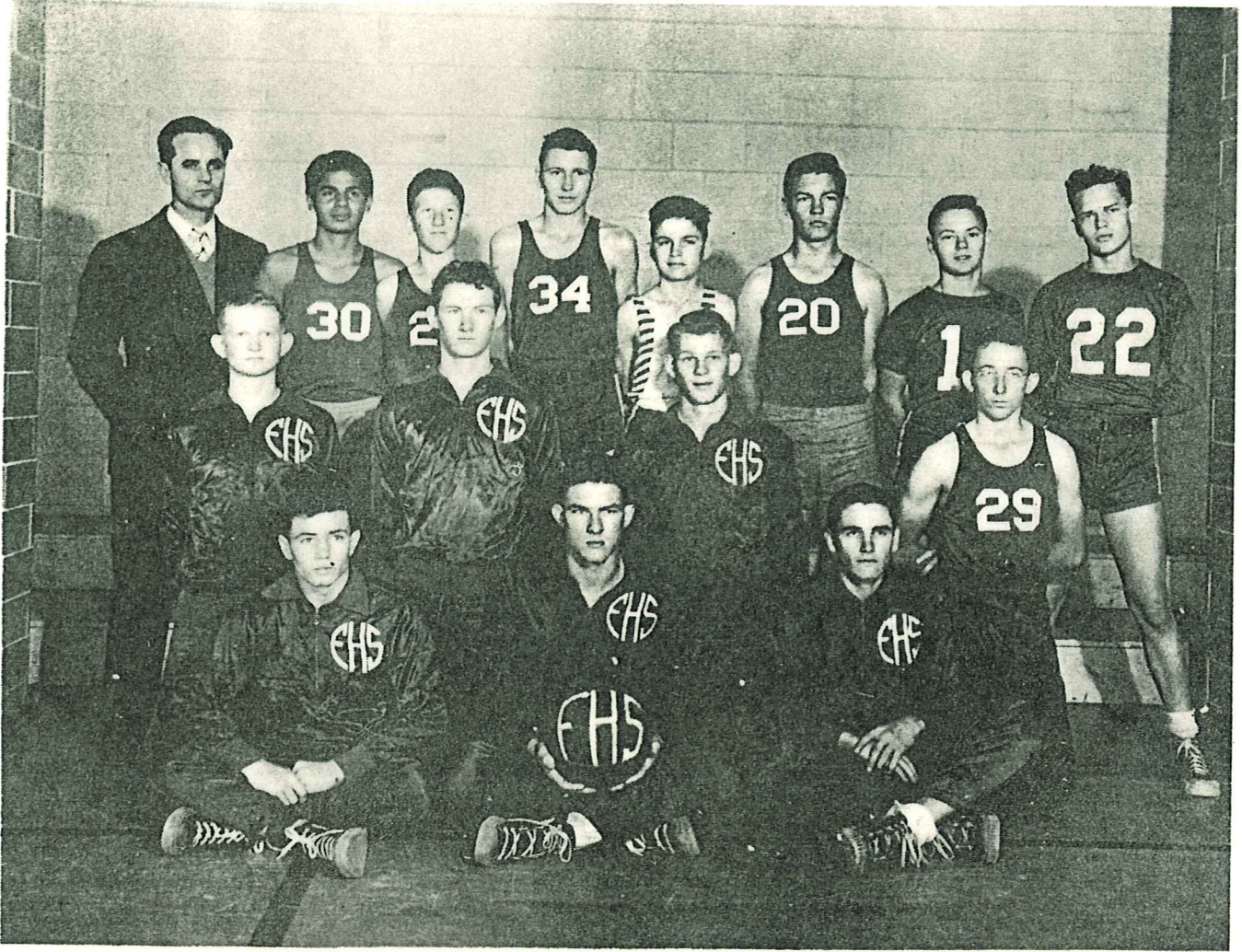
1947-1948



FRIENDSWOOD BARBER SHOP QUARTET
FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS
1947

Left to Right: Otto Paris, W. S. Lyon,
Laurence Cline, E. W. Roberts.

BASKETBALL



Front Row: Arnold Brink, Omer Surface, James Brantley
Middle Row: Maurice Jeffery, Edwin Lambright, Beryl
Cline, Harold Goar.
Back Row: Otto Paris, Coach; Jesse Tobar, Charles
Lindley, Jimmy Clark, Harold Allman, John
Burton, Lavern Cole, Buddy Kelly

The basketball squad, composed of all the boys in high school, proved very successful this year. After long workouts by Pop Paris, who did a wonderful job, the boys showed a lot of good team work that enabled the team to win and place some large upsets.

One of the most interesting games played by the Mustangs this year was the F.H.S. vs Pearland. The Mustangs lead the first quarter only to find the Oilers with a one point half-time advantage. The Oilers started the second half with exceptionally fine shooting, but the Mustangs came back fighting hard, only to be beaten by a score of 23-24.

HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY

OTTO PARIS, B.A., M.M.
Vandercook Conservatory of
Music
Principal



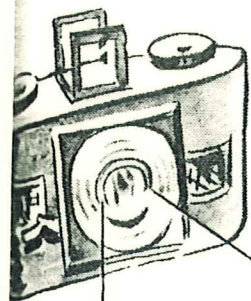
FRIENDSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS
1947-1948

FOOTBALL

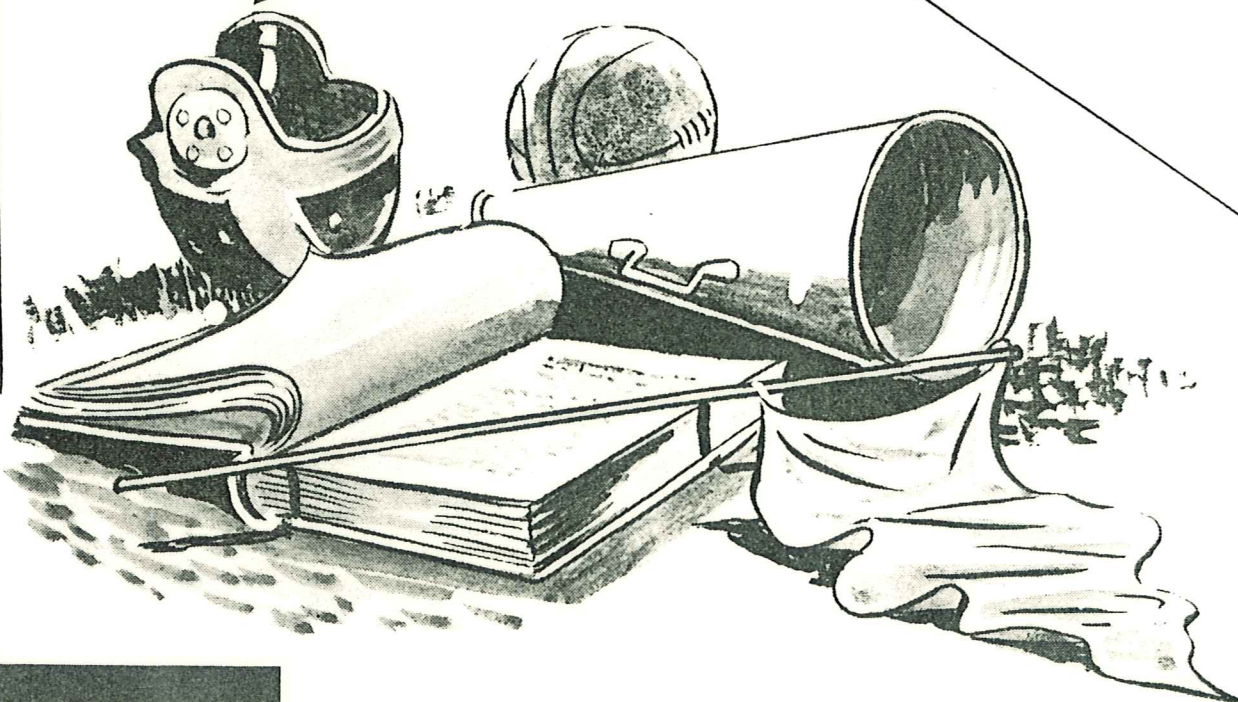
"POP" PARIS: The Grand Ole' Man of the Gridiron, who took over the vacancy of J. B. Outlaw, and paced the boys to A Third place in the district. It was through his great ability to get the boys to work that they came out with five wins and two losses. He has been the largest individual asset to the team and the boys sincerely appreciate it.



FRIENDSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
1948-1949



Snapshots



HIGH SCHOOL
FACULTY

OTTO PARIS, B.A. M.M.
Vandercook Conservatory
of Music
Band and Coach



Gloria Ann Van Winkle
Betty Gale Knudson

Twirlers

June Davis
Lois Jean Glines

FRIENDSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS
1949-1950

Faculty



MR. O. PARIS, B.A., M.M.
Band, Math

MR. HAROLD ALLMAN
MR. OTTO PARIS



FRIENDSWOOD SCHOOL
BUS DRIVERS

THE HOUSTON POST

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1939

ALVIN BEAUTY



Miss Ethel Marie McDaniel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. McDaniel, who has been selected as the most beautiful girl in Alvin and also named drum major of the Alvin 90-piece high school band, by Director Otto Paris. Miss McDaniel won first in the first division of band twirlers at the state band meeting and won in the second division at the national band meeting this year. Misses Mary Matshushita, Jeanne Arnold, Ivie Mae Tatum, Susie Alexander and Ethel Jane Whitson will be Miss McDaniel's assistants.

Alvin High Band Is Invited To Play for New York Fair

Otto Paris, director of music in the Alvin High Schools announced Thursday that the Alvin High "A" band had been invited to play at the New York World's Fair during the summer.

The band has not yet accepted the invitation voiced in letters from the New York Police Bandmaster and the Committee on Arrangements for the fair.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1940

"Parade of Stars" Featuring 225 Young Musicians Presented Here Thursday Night for Band Benefit

More than 225 young musicians were presented in the "Parade of Stars," the concert sponsored by the Alvin Band Boosters' club Thursday night at the school auditorium. The event was one of a series of benefits planned by the club for the local school bands.

Under the direction of Calvin Parker, the Alvin School "B" band opened the program with "Activity," a march by Harold Bennett and "Young America," an overture by Edward Russell.

Otto Paris' championship "A" band of 60 members played "Foot-lifter" by Alford, Blind Man's Movie and Zamenik's overture, "Chief of Bagdad."

An accordion solo was played by Eugene Lorenzato and J. B. Shane entertained with a novelty reading.

"Country Gardens" was the selection played by the youthful Rhythm Band under the direction of Miss Mildred Blair.

Several numbers were given by the Pearland Glee Club directed by Mrs. L. C. Hawkins with Miss Hazel Skinner playing the piano accompaniment.

Other novelty numbers included a tap dance by Judith Ann Barker and Sue Carol Shawver, a toe adagio dance by Betty Jean Rogers and Bill Buchan, a violin solo by Steve Koenig and a modern ballet number by Mary Joe Weikerth.

JANUARY 11, 1940

Subtle Sarcasm via the A.H.S. radio: "The Alvin High School Band will give a concert tonight in the gymnasium. As a sideline the basketball boys will play a game with West Columbia. Be sure to come out and support the band as well as the sideliners."

Band Boosters Club Entertained By Students

Band Boosters Club met Monday evening in the "Band House" for the purpose of appointing committees to receive and entertain members of the "Pigskin Revue" to be presented by the club February 22, and were enjoyably entertained by band members preparing to enter State Band Meet.

The first number presented by students was a cornet duet by Mary Nell McKithan and Mary Matsushita. A drum solo was played by Ann Abbotts and a clarinet trio by Joe DeWitt, Howard Kost and Joe Dudley Jephson.

Harold Madara entertained with a bass horn solo, Nita Marie Brennen, a flute solo, and Jeanne Arnold played a saxophone solo.

Mrs. Shirley Cherry presided in the absence of the president, Mrs. Jud Whitson, who is ill.

Committees appointed for the coming "Pigskin Revue" were housing: Mrs. Dan York, Mrs. Carl Bolin and Mrs. C. B. Jinks.

The refreshment committee includes Mesdames George Stanton, Frank Cisco, Ed Avitts, J. F. Law and John Hart.

Ticket and advertising committee consists of Mrs. R. L. Anderson and Mrs. O'Connor.

An invitation to all teachers to attend the matinee performance as guests of the club has been extended by Prof. Otto Paris.

Acceptance of the band to play at the New York Worlds Fair was discussed, and plans to attend were made, pending proceeds from the two entertainment events to be staged by the Band Boosters Club. A report from the secretary showed a treasury amount of \$73.69.

After a delicious refreshment plate was served in the cafeteria to the 30 members present, it was voted to extend an invitation to each parent of a junior high band member to become a member of the club.

Purpose of the Band Boosters Club is to promote welfare of Alvin School Bands, and parents and friends of both bands are asked to participate in the club, Mrs. Whitson said.

Band Plays Twice At County Fair

The Alvin High School Band, directed by Otto Paris, made two appearances when they played at the Brazoria County Fair at Angleton Friday, October 25.

The band played for the coronation of the queen at 4:30 o'clock and later put on a concert at 6 o'clock.

The Alvin band also led the parade which opened the County Fair Tuesday morning.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1940

Band Asked To Play At Festival

The Alvin High Band has been invited to attend the Mardi Gras celebration held annually in Galveston from Feb. 1 to 6. On Monday, Feb. 5, special interest has been given for a high school band festival. Invitations have been extended to 50 bands within a radius of 75 miles to take part in the music festival. Nationally known music critics will give each director, in a sealed envelope, a criticism on the performance of the band to aid in state contest work.

College organizations will give concerts with the high school bands. The Alvin High band will also appear in the Royalty Parade to be held Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Another feature of the festival will be a mass band concert in which all visiting bands will take part. This concert will be held at 7:30 Monday evening.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1940

Group To Attend Music Clinic At Mineral Wells

Five students and two teachers of Alvin High School left Wednesday for Mineral Wells to attend the Texas Music Education Clinic.

Three band students, Iva Mae Tatum, Mary Matsushita, and Susie Alexander, who are twirlers in the "A" band, are going to take a drum major course under the auspices of Mrs. H. E. Nutt, nationally known twirler.

Marion Bish and William Patrick from the choral club are to sing in a group, composed of students from all over Texas, directed by Mr. Noble Cain of Chicago.

Mr. Otto Paris, band director, and Miss Ruth Pierce, choral club teacher, are accompanying the students. Mr. Paris will drive the group to Mineral Wells in his car; therefore, the students will only have to pay their entrance fee, board and room.

They are expected to return home Sunday.

Concert Tour Is Arranged For Alvin Band In March

A concert tour, to be climaxed by the State Band Meet in Huntsville on April 4, has been arranged for the Alvin High School Band with the first program scheduled to be in Friendswood at the school auditorium at 8 p. m. on March 8.

According to Professor Otto Paris, director of the band, all plans have been completed with the only tentative arrangement being the Angleton concert on March 28.

The complete program is as follows: Friends, March 8; West Columbia, March 12; Pearland, March 15; Manvel, March 21; Freeport, March 26; and Angleton, March 28. All concerts will be free of charge and will be given in school auditoriums at 8 p. m.

Mr. Paris stated this week that band students who will compete in state band meet competition of solos and trios will appear at Friendswood on March 1; Manvel, March 11; and Angleton, March 18. The musicians will play in Alvin on March 4.

The list of soloists and others entering the contest are: Jeanne Arnold, saxophone; Ethel Jane Whitson, flute; Doris Brennen, clarinet; Carl Beverly Bolin, bass clarinet; Joe DeWitt, clarinet; Nita Marie Brennen, flute; Josephine Boyd, oboe; Bennett Lee Rodgers, basshorn; Lois Matteson, French horn; Leona Florida, cornet; Arlyne Haggard, trombone; Harold Madara, baritone; William Davidson, bass horn. Joe Dudley Jephson, Howard Kost and Joe DeWitt are entering with a clarinet trio and Margaret Madara, Alice Kost and Irene Savidge are playing a drum trio. Other entrants will include the drum majors, Ethel Marie McDaniel, Susie Alexander, Iva Mae Tatum, Ethel Jane Whitson and Mary Matsushita.

Band Plays for the Cornerstone Laying

The Alvin High School Band played in Angleton Saturday for the laying of the cornerstone of the new Brazoria County Courthouse which is now under construction.

Band Will Attend Music Festival

The Alvin High School Band will attend the Music Festival, sponsored by the American Legion in Pasadena Saturday.

There will be approximately 15 bands attending who will be judged according to their playing ability. There will also be a marching contest Saturday night.

Alvin High Band Plays in Houston

The Alvin High Band, under the direction of Mr. Otto Paris, gave an open air concert in front of the Coliseum at the Houston Fat stock show Thursday afternoon beginning at 5 o'clock. The selections played were: "Our Director," "Victory and Fame," "Trombones on Parade," "Traveler," "Avenger," "Footlifter," "Varsity Swing," "His Honor," "Wanderlust," "Washington Post," and "Hail Alma Mater."

In the evening they attended the rodeo. Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Law were chaperons.



THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1940

—The Clarion—

Band Director Is Given Sweater

Mr. Otto Paris, band director, was given a jacket by the band students Monday. Harold Madara, president of the band, presented the sweater during band practice at the sixth period.

The body of the jacket is orange wool, the sleeves are a cream leather, and the cuffs and collar are latex. The white emblem is a lyre with A.H.S. printed on the bar.

Landscape For Band House Is Planned

A beautiful landscape is being planned for the band house by the Band Boosters Club. Mrs. J. S. Roberts is chairman of the committee and she is being assisted by Mrs. W. E. Steele. Flowers are being planted along the walks, the lawn has been sodded and St. Augustine grass has been planted. Shrubbery will surround the building, and a rose garden is being planted.

Most of the planting will be completed at the end of this week. Approximately one hundred dollars will be used for the landscaping.

Band Boosters To Hear From Committee At Meeting Monday

Members of the Alvin Band Boosters Club will hear the nominations for new officers selected by the nominating committee at the regular club meeting Monday, May 6 at 7:30 p. m. The meeting will be held in the Bandhouse and all members are asked to attend.

Final plans will be made for the Alvin band's trip to New York in the summer and a list of clothing to be taken with the musicians will be issued.

Mrs. A. J. Whitson is president of the organization and extends an invitation to any parent, guardian or friend of the Alvin bands to join the Band Boosters Club and attend their meetings.

BAND PRESENTS THREE CONCERTS

The Alvin Senior High School band gave three concerts this week, going to Angleton Monday night, Friendswood Tuesday night, and Pearland Friday night. These concerts were given for practice to help the students prepare for State Meet.

The programs ranged from novelty numbers to the heavier classical music, including the required State Meet number, "Hero", and the selected number, "The Traveler".

Carl Beverly Bolin, William Davidson, and Bennett Rodgers, student directors, conducted the band through several marches.

Band Graduates To Get Jackets

Twenty-six seniors were measured Tuesday for band jackets which are given to the graduating members each year. Last year the members had a choice of orange or white sweaters. They have decided upon felt jackets this year.

The sleeves are white with burnt orange cuff bands. The boys' sleeves are made of leather while the girls' are felt. The body of the jacket is burnt orange with a white belt and a zipper front. On the left front side of the jacket will be a lyre-emblem with "ALVIN" across it and stripes representing the number of years the student was in the band.

Dance Is Given By Band Boosters

The Alvin Band Boosters sponsored a dance at the American Legion Hall Saturday night. The admission was twenty-five cents a person, the proceeds to go in the fund for the trip the band is planning for this summer.

Mr. George Stanton furnished a recording machine which supplied the music. The dance was chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jephson, Jr., Mrs. Jud Whitson, Mrs. Otto Paris, Miss Estel Nettles, Mrs. Morris Tilton, Mrs. Max Weems, Mrs. Gus Durant, Miss LeNoir Arnold and Mrs. Dan York.

After the dance the group made a recording of several of the school songs.

—The Clarion—

STUDENT DIRECTOR SELECTED BY BAND

William Davidson, junior student, was selected Friday by the members of the Alvin High Band to enter the contest of student directing in the state band meet to be held in Huntsville April 4th and 5th.

Bennett Lee Rodgers and Carl Beverly Bolin have also been studying directing under Mr. Otto Paris, director of the Alvin High "A" Band.

In deciding which boy should lead them, the band considered his posture, his ability to lead the band, and his interpretation of music. In the contest he will be expected to direct the band through two overtures, "Greir" and "Azalea." He also has to be able to take the band through a sight-reading number.

—The Clarion—

Band Boosters Sponsor Dance

The Alvin Band Boosters sponsored a dance at the American Legion hall Saturday night, March 30.

Mr. George Stanton furnished the recording machine for the music.

Approximately sixty students attended the dance.

The chaperones were: Mr. and Mrs. Otto Paris, Mrs. Jud Whitson, Mr. and Mrs. Max Weems, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Durant, Mrs. LeNoir Arnold and Mrs. H. V. Boyd.

BAND BOOSTERS MEET

Alvin Band Boosters Club will meet Monday night at 7:30 in the Band House. All members are requested to attend as final plans will be made for the New York trip, Mrs. LeNoir Arnold announced.

Slips with a list of clothing will be issued and a demonstration of the bed linens to be used will be shown.

24 Bands Take Part As Music Contests Open at S.H.S.T.C.

HUNTSVILLE, April 5.—(Sp)—Contests for Class C, D and E bands were held Friday as the Region 5 band and orchestra contests of the Texas Music Educators association got under way at Sam Houston State Teachers college.

More than 1500 high school musicians, representing 24 bands, participated in Friday's events. Some 2000 more boys and girls will move into Huntsville Saturday when the contests for Class A and B bands will be held.

Approximately 1000 visitors were in Huntsville to witness Friday's events.

Huntsville Band Wins

Huntsville's junior high school band, directed by Hal Spencer, was the only Class D band to win first division rating, and Alvin high school's band, directed by Otto Paris, was the only class C band to place in first division. There were no first division winners in Class E.

The Hamilton junior high school orchestra and band, directed by Mary Ellen Henderson, placed in the second division.

Brass soloists to gain first division rating were Lois Matteson, Alvin; Arlynne Haggard, Alvin; Betty Cole, Bryan; Coman McDonald, Normangee, and Bennett Rodgers, Alvin.

Rebecca O'Bannon and Betty Jean Hartt of the Huntsville junior high school band were the only drum majors to win first division.

Percussion Winners

Margaret Madara, Irene Savidge and the drum trio from Alvin were the winners in the percussion group.

Eugene Blankenship of Crockett was the only first in the string contest. In the reed solos, Josephine Boyd of Alvin, Catherine Richards of Grapeland and Joyce Herbert of Galena Park placed first.

First division winners are eligible to enter the national region contest at Waco in May.

ALVIN BAND ONE OF FIVE TO GET FIRST AT MEET

SIX SOLOISTS GET FIRST DIVISION HONORS AT HUNTSVILLE

The Alvin High School Band, under the direction of Otto Paris, again "brought home the bacon" by winning first division in sight reading and concert playing at the State Band Meet in Huntsville last Friday. This is the second year the band has rated first division in the meet and a new honor was bestowed upon it Friday. The Alvin band was the only entrant in Class C which won first division. There were only five first division winners in the entire meet.

Not only did the band rate tops, but also the individual members who entered solo and ensemble contests.

Margaret Madara won first division in drumming to repeat her record last year. She also won second division in National meet. Other entrants who won first division are: Bennett Lee Rodgers, bass horn player who won first at State and third at National last year; Lois Matteson, French horn; Josephine Boyd, oboe; Irene Savidge, drum;

and Arlynne Haggard, trombone.

Second division winners are: Leona Florida, cornet; Nita Marie Brennen, flute; William Davidson, bass horn; Harold Madara, baritone; Margaret Davidson, French horn; Carl Beverly Bolin, bass clarinet; Ethel Jane Whitson, flute; Alice Kost, drum; and Luther Avitts drum. Jeanne Arnold, saxophonist, won third division as did Ethel Marie McDaniel, Susie Alexander, Iva Mae Tatum, Mary Matsushita and Ethel Jane Whitson, twirlers. William Davidson placed second in student directing.

Having won first division in marching at the meet last year, the band was not entitled to march at the meet this year; however, they will enter the marching contest at the National Band Meet in Waco on May 9, 10 and 11. Only bands winning first division are allowed to enter in National competition. The Alvin band took first place honors in the marching contest at the National meet held in Abilene last year.

The Galena Park band placed second in the meet in Class C. Other winners in Alvin's class were: Sour Lake, Trinity, Crockett, Liberty and Tomball, third division; and Hemp-

HUNTSVILLE STATE BAND MEET HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS 1940

BAND BOOSTERS APPOINT NOMINATING COMMITTEE MONDAY

At the regular monthly meeting of the Alvin Band Boosters Club Monday night, a nominating committee was elected with Mrs. George Stanton chairman of the group. Other members of the committee are Mrs. Frank Richter, Mrs. J. F. Law, Mrs. Walter Wright and Mrs. H. V. Boyd.

Arrangements for the Band's trip to Huntsville where they will participate in the State Band Meet this week-end were completed. The Band will stay in the Boy Scout Lodge and meals will be prepared for them by several members of the Band Boosters Club. Those announcing their intentions to make the trip to Huntsville a day before the band's departure were: Mesdames John Brennen, LeNoir Arnold, A. O. Evans, Otto Paris, A. J. Whitson, C. B. Jinks, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Law and Mr. and Mrs. Luther Avitts.

The proposed trip to the World's Fair to be made by the band this summer was discussed and the general opinion of the group was that the trip would be possible providing the support and cooperation of the entire community could be relied on.

Alvin Travelers Find Band Picture in Edinburg Curio Shop

A curio-us coincidence occurred over the week-end in a small Edinburg curio shop.

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Lambden of Alvin and Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wright of Houston had been traveling in Mexico visiting Matamoros, Reynosa and Monterrey. Enroute home they visited in Brownsville and other valley points. While in Edinburg the group stopped at a curio shop and rummaging through various articles ground a scrapbook.

The scrapbook contained a picture of the Alvin High School Band.



A band which in three years has made an outstanding record is the Alvin High School pictured above. Members of the organization are: left to right, first row, Doris Brennen, Joe DeWitt, Joe Dudley Jephson, Hazel Copeland, Margaret Davidson, Jo Eva O'Connell, Josephine Boyd, Dortha Mae Collins, Alice Idoux, LaDell Jackson, Lois Matte-

son, Florence Brennen, Nita Marie Brennen and Ethel Jane Whitson. Second row: Jimmie Richter, Austin Evans, Roy Lee Powell, Pearl Lee Perry, Irene Savidge, Marjorie Chambers, Mildred Idoux, Jeanne Arnold, Keith Cope, Betty June Davidson, Mary Nell McKithan, Mary Matsushita, Bobby Brennen, C. B. Jinks, Leona Florida,

Susie Alexander, Carl Beverly Bolin, Leta Rue Thompson, Edith Schilhab. Third row: Ruth Hornback, Anita Huepers, Mildred Schilhab, Mary E. Gandy, Estelle Anderson, Evelyn Eilers, Doris Stanton, William Davidson, Bennett L. Rodgers, B. D. Flora, Bobby Cherry, Johnnie Lea Brennen, John Hart, Harold Madara,

Gertrude Chambers, Carlton Ely, Elmer Wooster, Eleanor Carrott, Arlyne Haggard. Fourth row: Otto Paris, Alice Kost, Ann Avitts, Irene Savidge, Margaret Madara, Florine Wright, Iva Mae Tatum, Luther Avitts and Drum Major Ethel Marie McDaniel. —Photo by A. G. Welch.

Alvin Band Starts For All Points 70 Musicians to Give Eight Concerts Enroute Excursion East Saturday in 4000 Mile Tour

Seventy wide-eyed Alvin kids will start Saturday on a trip that will take them through most of the Eastern United States and a smattering of Canada. It is an experience to be remembered also by thirteen grown-ups who have volunteered for the job of chaperoning.

Final plans for the Alvin Band's proposed motor caravan to New York City via Washington, D. C., Philadelphia and other cities were made at a meeting of the Alvin Band Boosters Club Monday night at the band house.

The group will leave Alvin Saturday, June 1 at 5:30 a. m. and go thence to Morgan City, Louisiana where a concert has been arranged. The first day's trip will cover a distance of 320 miles.

Gulfport, Mississippi will be the next stop for the Alvinites where they will be on June 2. A musical program will also be presented at Gulfport. On June 3, the band will go 283 miles to stay at Opelika, Ala-

Gainesville, Ga. on June 4. June 5 will see the group in Asheville, N.C. and a stop-over will be made in Roanoke, Va. on June 6.

To Washington

The District of Columbia and the capital city of Washington will provide a two day visit for the bandsters. Congress, the White House and numerous other official buildings as well as Washington's monument will be viewed on June 7 and 8.

From Washington, D. C. the musicians will go a distance of 141 miles and stop at the beautiful city of Philadelphia. The city has bid for a concert from the visiting Texans and after spending the night at the Pennsylvania metropolis, New York City and the World's Fair will be the next stay-over.

Four days will be spent in the "heart of the skyscrapers" and during that time 70 pairs of feet will tramp over the World's Fair grounds, Radio City, Rockefeller Center, the State

Liberty and a trip down the Hudson around the city will climax a thrilling stay. Fair officials have arranged a concert at the grounds and the band will be guests of the Texas Club during Texas Day at the fair. The New York visit will last from June 11 to June 15 when the band will again be on their way to Port Jervis, New York.

A concert will be given at Port Jervis and on the same day, June 15, the first division marchers will view West Point Cadets in a full dress military review.

Niagara Falls

On June 16 the caravan will have reached Niagara Falls for the sights there and then into the Province of Quebec, Canada where a royal welcome has been promised at Windsor. A Windsor civic club will be hosts to the group at an international dance to "further the goodwill and understanding between youths of the two nations" after the Alvin Band gives a concert to

"OUR DIRECTOR"



Otto Paris, who has woven 70 school students into one of the finest musical organizations in the south, is director of the Alvin High School Band and it was he who came here three years ago to start the group on a path of musical fame. Mr. Paris is a former director of the Kilgore high school band.

BAND TRIP—

(continued from page one)

entertain the Canadians. June 18 will be spent sight-seeing in Windsor and the huge automobile factories in Detroit.

Leaving Detroit on June 19, Dayton, Ohio, will be the next stop-over and a program by the band is also scheduled at this city. The blue grass country of Louisville, Kentucky will be visited by the bandsters on June 20 and from there, the travelers will proceed to Bowling Green, Kentucky for a night's stay. June 22 will see the group in Decatur, Alabama for a night concert with the Decatur Band and a marching exhibition. From Decatur the group will travel to Little Rock, Arkansas.

The group will be on the trail home by June 24 when they plan to stay in Kilgore and give a concert in the Texas oil fields of that area.

The travelers will be at home after June 25th.

Plans Completed

A trained nurse, Mrs. O. L. Goodman of Alvin, will be included in the party and every precaution for the young peoples' protection is being taken. Insurance policies have been taken out in case of accidents and to every five students will be appointed a chaperone.

Approved water will be kept on the bus.

Nights will be spent in schools, colleges and similar structures, reservations already having been taken care of. Only in Washington, D. C. and New York City will hotels be patronized.

How To Send Mail

Parents and friends of the bandsters may write to the following cities by addressing letters as follows: Name of child, % Alvin School Band, General Delivery, and name of city. Air mail is the suggested method of delivery as it is faster and delivery is better assured. Parents are cautioned to send the mail in plenty of time to have it at the desired destination by the time of the band's arrival.

Cities at which mail will be called for are as follows:

Gainesville, Georgia
 Washington, D. C.
 Philadelphia, Pa.
 New York City
 Windsor, Canada
 Bowling Green, Ky
 Little Rock, Ark.

A telegram will be sent back each night to George Haggard and will be posted at the post office.

Haggard, Alice Kost, Ann Avitts, Irene Savidge, Margaret Madara, Florine Wright, Iva Mae Tatum, Luther Avitts, Ethel Marie McDaniel, Patsy Connor, Bob Shaw, Peggy Baines, Charles Collier, Doris Middleton, James Sparks, Wayne Law, Patricia Monarch, Morine Huepers. Chaperones will be Mesdames E. W. McDaniel, C. B. Jinks Sr., LeNoir Arnold, John Brennen, A. J. Whitson, O. L. Goodman and Mr. and Mrs. Luther Avitts, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Paris, Mr. and Mrs. J.

SHE'S LEADER OF BAND



The gal who prances in front of the crack Alvin High School Band, which leaves Saturday for New York City, is brunette Ethel Marie McDaniel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. McDaniel. She is an accomplished twirler and with Twirlers Susie Alexander, Mary Matsushita, Iva Mae Tatum and Ethel Jane Whitson will do several flag and baton drills at concerts to be given enroute the trip.

F. Law, W. H. Meyers, Bob Ripley and Roy Chambers.

ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND
 1940

To Make Trip

Those who plan to make the trip are: Doris Brennen, Joe DeWitt, Jot Dudley Jephson, Hazel Cope-land, Margaret Davidson, Jo Eva O'Connell, Josephine Boyd, Dortha Mae Collins, Alice Idoux, LaDell Jackson, Lois Matteson, Florence Brennen, Nita Marie Brennen, Ethel Jane Whitson, Jimmie Richter, Roy Lee Powell, Pearl Lee Perry, Irene Savidge, Marjorie Chambers, Mildred Idoux, Jeanne Arnold, Keith Cope, Betty June Davidson, Mary Nell McKithan, Mary Matsushita, Bobby Brennen, C. B. Jinks, Leona Florida, Susie Alexander, Carl Beverly Bolin, Leta Rue Thompson, Edith Schilhab, Ruth Hornback, Anita Huepers, Mildred Schilhab, Mary E. Gandy, Estelle Anderson, Evelyn Eilers, Doris Stanton, William Davidson, Bennett L. Rodgers, B. D. Flora, Bobby Cherry, Johnnie Lea Brennen, John Hart, Gertrude Chambers, Carlton Ely, Elmer Wooster, Eleanor Carroll, Arlyne

Day by Day Diary Of Alvin Band's 4000 Mile Tour

By OTTO PARIS

Since June 1 when 82 Alvinites left on the 4000 mile tour there has never been a dull moment. Last week you read about New Orleans and Gulfport and the scenery and industries of the South Coast. This week we leave the coast, going northward through Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania.

In Atlanta the band received a very cordial welcome. We were taken to the Holt Junior High School where we were fed by the Home Economics girls. We presented a dressed concert on the school lawn to about 1600 students.

We as guests were taken to see the "Cyclorama" located on the spot of the battle of Atlanta. The Cyclorama is part painting and part touchable objects connected together forming one huge pic-

ture reenacting the "Battle of Atlanta."

The night of June 4 was spent in Gainesville, A. G. Welch's home town. We spent a grand night in the Gainesville High School. In the evening some went to a movie and some of the the gang went swimming. Coal and steel mills are found in Gainesville.

June 5 found us travelling between Gainesville and Ashville, N. C. The scenery has changed to mountains covered with tall, deep green trees while here and there is sheltered a mirror-like lake trickling over the rocks. Over the rivers are bridges barely wide enough to permit the busses to cross.

We ate a picnic lunch among the mountain trees and traveled on, Ashville coming into view about 5 p.m. Here again we received hospitality in the gymnasium of the Biltmore College. We were even given an ironing board.

For recreation different groups enjoyed swimming, movies, Waterloo Bridge and the recreation park where free rides were given the band members. Ashville has a rayon mill and coal mines. Rye fields are frequently seen along the road.

On June 6 Roanoke, Va., was our goal. The scenery didn't change. We travelled through the mountains for six hours covering only 100 miles. Dinner was eaten in Bristol, Virginia, but across the street was Tennessee. Roanoke High school was the lodging place for the night.

Sky-Line Drive

June 7. The main point of interest was the Shenandoah National Park, Va. It includes 182,854 acres of land with the altitude varying from 600 feet above sea level at the north entrance to 4,049 feet at the summit of Hawksbill mountain. It is for the far-reaching views from the Skyline Drive that the park is most widely known. The drive stretches through the park for 97 miles, 74 of which we covered.

At intervals along the drive parking overlooks have been constructed to afford the motorist an opportunity to pause and enjoy the breath-taking vistas. It was at one of these we ate a picnic lunch. The altitude was so high we felt balmy as we walked about.

Washington, D. C.

At 9:45 p.m. on June 7 the band reached Washington, D. C. One will never really appreciate his capital without seeing it. As we entered the city we rounded the Lincoln Memorial Building. The statue of Lincoln, dimly lighted is seen through huge pillars which on either side are famous inscriptions engraved in the marble. From here a long, reflected pool leads to the Washington monument.

We rented cabins in Camp Washington, located on the island surrounded by the Potomac River. Every one slept well, but were anxious to tour the city and see all the important buildings the next day. The tour was everything it promised to be.

Enroute to the Capitol building we passed many interesting governmental buildings and as a grand climax to the street, the huge Capitol is seen in the center of the distance settled among the many trees and shrubs surrounding it.

Our picture was taken on the Capitol steps with Senators Shepard, and Connally and Congressman Mansfield.

Among other places of interest we visited the Smithsonian Institution. This Institution is a museum containing important relics of by-gone days such as "The Spirit

of St. Louis," the plane of Lindburgh.

The Arlington Cemetery is the resting place of men and women who have struggled for this country. In this is the home of General Robert E. Lee, the tomb of the soldiers of the Civil War, the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, protected by a continuous guard, and many others.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Paris were married 14 years on June 7, but it seemed the band weren't satisfied with that marriage because they married them over again in a mock wedding after which ice cream and cake were served to the group.

After leaving Washington we hardly realized when we left one city and entered another. The main sight enroute to Philadelphia was Baltimore.

Philadelphia

At last the band reach that historical city of the north, Philadelphia. It was impossible, but sure enough, as we entered the city, there stood the Elverson Building,

home of the Daily Inquirer.

We met some grand people. Mrs. Robert C. Loving, president of the Mother's club of the Girls' High school took us to visit the mayor and the city hall. We met Mr. Samuels, head of City Council and Supt. Sutton of the police department who gave us a police escort throughout the tour. We made a left turn that hadn't been made in 10 years and ran a red light!

Independence Hall is about the most valuable site of Philadelphia. Here the Colonial Assembly met in 1752 and it was here that the Constitution of the United States was adopted. In the hall hangs the original chandelier which was used in 1753, over two centuries old.

Benjamin Franklin was buried in a corner of the Old Christ Church cemetery. The grave is decorated with a flag. The Betsy Ross home, birthplace of the American flag, still stands as a humble but memorial dwelling. Betsy Ross and her husband ran an upholstery shop.

The magnificent Delaware River

bridge connects Delaware and New Jersey.

Broad street is the main street of Philadelphia. It is 14 miles long, claiming the reputation of being the longest straight street in the United States.

We stayed in the Philadelphia Girls' High School. Here real hospitality was rendered with huge showers, elevators, a banquet and dance and true friendship. We gave a concert and in return they demonstrated their singing ability.

We are leaving for New York City! It seems as though we will reach there at last.

OTTO PARIS

P. S. Given Police escort through New York. Great thrill to run red lights.

ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND
1940

Alvin Trippers Seeing Washington

EVANGELINE COUNTRY, "OLD ORLEANS"; ATLANTA ARE SEEN ON FIRST LAP

Will See World's Fair Next Week

BY MORINE HUEPERS

Opelika, Ala., June 3—Singing "The Eyes of Texas", seventy members of the Alvin High School Band arrived in Morgan City, Louisiana Saturday night at about 6 p. m. and the first lap of a 4000 mile trip to New York City and Canada was completed.

The trip marks the second time in four years that the championship musicians have made an extensive tour. Their "trip of a lifetime" was taken in 1938 to Carlsbad Caverns and almost to the day, this "dream trip" was planned by Director Otto Paris, Alvin school board members and the Alvin Band Boosters Club of which Mrs. A. J. Whitson is president.

Going by way of Port Arthur, the first few miles of Saturday's journey was uneventful with the exception of a thrill received when the magnificent 185 foot tall bridge at Port Arthur was viewed, and candid cameras clicked at the engineering masterpiece. We left Alvin at about 6 a. m. and reached Galveston in time to catch the 7 o'clock ferry to Bolivar.

For many of the band students, the entrance into the state of Louisiana proved to be the first visit they had ever made to the state. Miles of lavender hyacinths covered the roadsides and most of the towns were typically French in appearance. Old timers preserved the "old south" atmosphere in numerous towns by driving dilapidated sulkies and many of the drivers looked to be of moderate means.

Lunch was eaten in Jennings and coffee which was "out with a knife and the cream poured in the crack" was served. Of course Maxwell House (pardon the plug) was available and the waiters asked if the orderer wanted Louisiana coffee or the other.

Proceeding into Louisiana we saw many acres of sugar cane and, although rice is supposed to be prevalent in that state, we did not see much of it; however, we did note that the rice crop was considerably "behind" many of the fields near Alvin.

Giant oak trees rated many "ohs and ahs" from the travelers as we went through the country which has been made famous by the story of

Evangeline and her tragic life with the Acadians who were driven from the north. We noticed that instead of counties, parishes are used in Louisiana and religious names predominated the list. Several large forests of oaks stood barren of foliage in a section near Lake Charles and reminded one of a Norman's land in Europe. The trees are said to have been killed by chemicals from an arsenal factory nearby.

We spent the night in Morgan City in a Catholic Memorial Hall and were in bed and asleep by 10:30 p. m. We arose at about 5 a. m. Sunday morning and after eating a breakfast drove on to New Orleans.

Down In Orleans
The inspiration of "Basin Street Blues" and the well known Canal Street of New Orleans were seen by us Sunday at about 10 o'clock after motoring over the new \$13,000,000 Huey P. Long bridge, which is 4.4 miles including approaches, longest railroad bridge in the world. The bridge has two 18 foot auto roadways and its central pier rests on sand 170 feet below the water of the Mississippi and extends a (See BAND TRIPPERS page 8)

BAND TRIPPERS—

(continued from page one)

total of 409 feet high or equal to a 36 story building.

A licensed guide was provided to show us the many historical spots of the city.

We first saw Loyola University, Tulane University and the Sugar Bowl stadium where the annual New Year's Day football classic is played. We then went down Canal street, the main business thoroughfare which we were told was once covered with water. The street is also the scene of the New Orleans Mardi Gras each year.

Louisiana Purchase Building

The guide explained that there is actually an Old Orleans and then the new addition which is known as New Orleans. The difference in the two "towns" is marked inasmuch as the Canal street of the new area measures 172 feet from curb to curb and some of the older streets measure only 19 feet. During the administration of Governor Huey Long a \$12,000,000 charity hospital, the largest in the United States, was built and it is truly a contrast to the centuries old buildings in "Old Orleans."

Of the old buildings, possibly the most historical is the Cabildo which was used for the signing of the Louisiana Purchase and which was built soon after the disastrous fire of Orleans in 1788. The building holds the famous painting of the Battle of New Orleans and Napoleon Bonaparte's death mask in bronze, which was made by the emperor's own physician who later presented it to the City of New Orleans. The cabildo is the city museum and is on the upper side of the well known St. Louis Cathedral which was constructed during the Spanish regime of Governor Carondelet. Antique furniture used by the early governors of the city has been preserved and is shown at the museum.

The original Confederacy flag is housed at the museum and our guide said that it was made of pure silk. It is framed and a glass cover protects it but age has almost deteriorated the banner.

A huge slave block which was used for auctioning slaves before the war of 1861 is in back of the Cabildo and quarters where the slaves were kept are also in the rear of the building.

The French quarter of the city is almost completely covered with antique shops some of which are run in buildings formerly owned by prominent citizens and houses of state.

While in the Louisiana city we were also taken to several cemeteries where graves are all on top of the ground. The water level in New Orleans is now only 8 feet and formerly water could be reached at 3 feet, thus the above ground graves. One cemetery which was started by a very wealthy gambler is said to be one of the most beautiful in the United States and several of the huge monuments costs as much as \$95,000.

After completing the sightseeing tour we ate a chicken dinner and proceeded to Gulfport, Mississippi.

BANDSTER STRICKEN WITH APPENDICITIS

Eleanor Carroll, Alvin High bandster, was stricken with acute appendicitis while the group was staying in Philadelphia. She was operated on Sunday night in the Herman hospital there, and according to reports from her parents, relayed from Philadelphia, she is doing very nicely.

Mrs. A. J. Whitson, who talked to Eleanor's mother, Mrs. Porter Carroll over long distance, said that the whole city had practically adopted her, and that Philadelphia citizens insisted on taking care of all expenses at that end.

Eleanor will return home in approximately a week, and to take the place of the thrill she is missing at the New York World's Fair, she will be brought home by airplane in exactly eleven hours, to Houston, where she will be met by an ambulance and carried to Alvin.

Play For Hundreds

Enroute to Gulfport an avenue of summer estates dots the waterfront. We arrived in Gulfport at about 5:30 p. m. and prepared to spend the night. Our "house" was the band house of the Gulfport High School Band. After donning uniforms and going to supper we gave a concert at the community center which is out on a wide pier in the Gulf. Several hundred people jammed around the open building in which we played.

After the concert a swimming party was held at the pool of a local resort hotel. Then seventy sleepy band students "hit the hay" to dream of "things to come."

Monday morning we left Gulfport for Opelika, Alabama and visited Mobile, Montgomery and other cities. The scenery along the way is similar to that in East Texas and towns are few and far between. In one small hamlet we saw several cotton farmers plowing their crops with cows and several of the people we saw in the "piney woods" wore long old fashioned clothes.

In Brewton, Alabama we ate lunch and were told the town was kept up by a crate factory which produces crates for Maytag washers.

We will not give any more concerts until we reach Philadelphia on Sunday. Everybody is anxious to reach the "big town" but several have hinted that a "little" homesickness has set in; however, songs are still sung as we enter and leave the cities—which is a good sign of enthusiasm.

ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND
1940

Each band member has added a P. S. to this which is "Be seeing you on the 25th."

We leave for Atlanta and Gainesville, Georgia, Tuesday morning.

Alvin High School Band Captures National Capitol



Receiving one of the most generous receptions ever accorded a high school organization, Alvin's National Champion High School Band was met on the capitol steps by a delegation of Senator Morris Sheppard between two Alvin girls at right of Congressman J. J. Mansfield who is seated in the chair. Senator Tom Connally is between two girls at Mr. Mansfield's left. The band, after playing a concert at the New York World's Fair and in Windsor, Canada, will return home through the middle western states.

—Photo Courtesy Houston Chronicle

ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND
1940

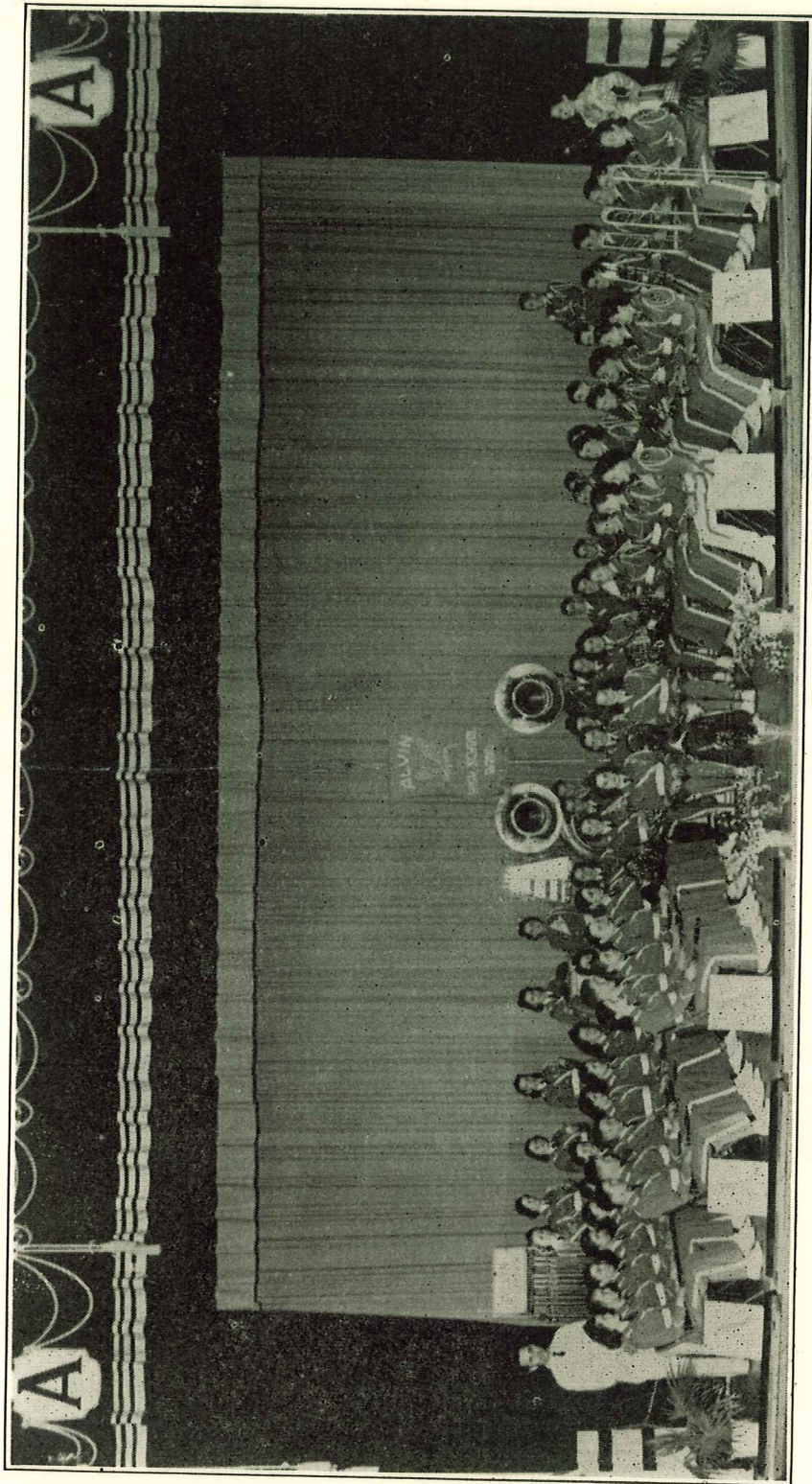
Alvin High School Band
Alvin, Texas

PRESENTS

NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR
PROGRAM



OTTO PARIS, *Director*



The Seventy Piece Alvin High School Band

A band which in three years has made an outstanding record is the Alvin High School pictured above. Members of the organization are: left to right first row, Doris Brennen, Joe DeWitt, Joe Dudley Jephson, Hazel Copeland, Margaret Davidson, Jo Eva O'Connell, Josephine Boyd, Dortha Mae Collins, Alice Idoux, LaDell Jackson, Lois Mat-
 son, Florence Brennen, Nita Marie Brennen and Ethel Jane Whitson.
 Second row: Jimmie Richter, Austin Evans, Roy Lee Powell, Pearl Lee Perry, Irene Savidge, Marjorie Chambers, Mildred Idoux, Jeanne Arnold, Keith Cope, Betty June Davidson, Mary Nell McKithan, Mary Matsushita, Bobby Brennen, C. B. Jinks, Leona Florida,
 Susie Alexander, Carl Beverly Bolin, Leta Rue Thompson, Edith Schilhab.
 Third row: Ruth Hornback, Anita Huepers, Mildred Schilhab, Mary E. Gandy, Estelle Anderson, Evelyn Eilers, Doris Stanton, William Davidson, Bennett L. Rodgers, E. D. Flora, Bobby Cherry, Johnnie Lea Brennen, John Hart, Harold Madara,
 Gertrude Chambers, Carlton Ely, Elmer Wooster, Eleanor Carroll, Arlyne Haggard.
 Fourth row: Otto Paris, Alice Kost, Ann Avitts, Irene Savidge, Margaret Madara, Florine Wright, Iva Mae Tatum, Luther Avitts and Drum Major Ethel Marie McDaniel. —Photo reproduced through court-
 esy A. G. Welch.

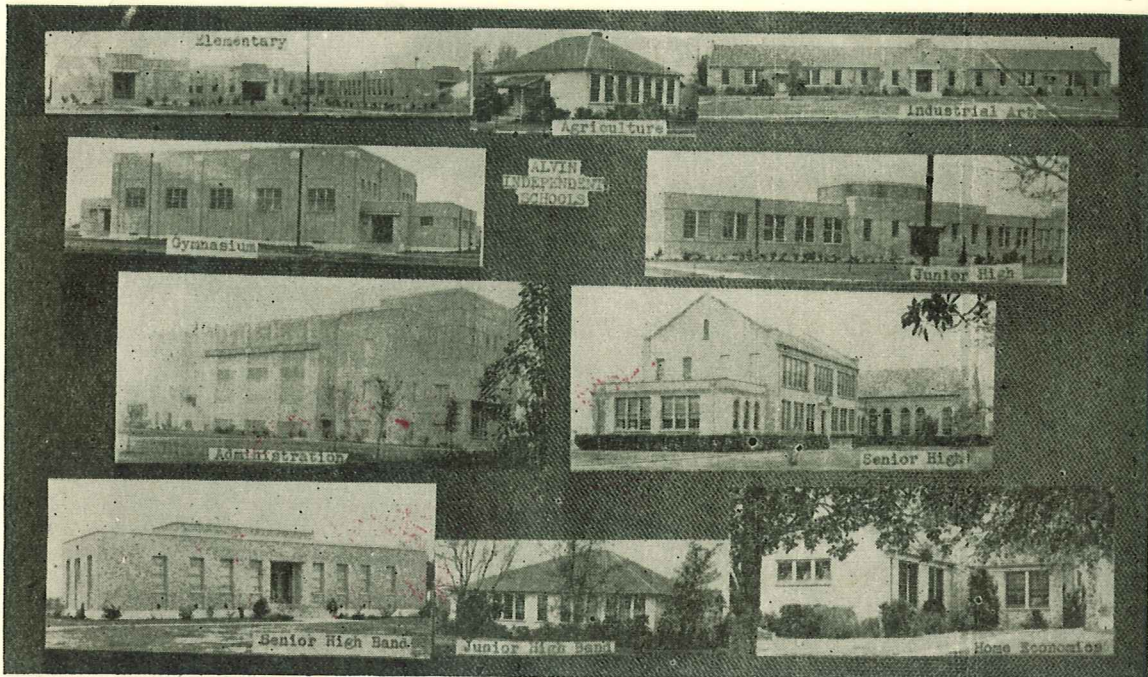
PROGRAM

- "The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You"
 "Victory and Fame" Concert March Holmes
 "Hero" Overture Johnson
 "In the Good Ole Summer Time" As played on bottles
 "The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise" Arr. by Alford
 Acrobatic Dance Peggy Baynes
 "Trombones on Parade" March
 "I'm An Ole Cowhand" Arr. by Paul Yoder
 Six Tunes Played at Once by Six People
 "Traveller" Overture
 Tap Dance Charles Collier
 "Stormy Weather" Arr. by Davis Bennett
 "Three Bears" Newell Long
 "March of Youth" Olivadoti
 School Song
 National Anthem

ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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A. G. WELCH <i>Superintendent</i>	W. H. MEYERS <i>Senior Principal</i>



Alvin, a city of 2500 people where twelve passenger trains daily compete with ten buses for its traveling public, is located 26 miles from Houston and 31 miles from Galveston.

In 1878 Alvin Morgan paid the high price of \$1.00 per acre for ground that has since leased to oil companies for as high as \$5,000 per acre. Production of citrus fruits, pears, strawberries, figs, and the dairy industry helped consolidate and hold the city until the discovery of oil in 1934. Within a radius of fifteen miles there are now seven oil fields valued at many millions of dollars. Sulphur fields are located nearby.

The Alvin \$1,000,000 school plant, built since 1936 and conveniently arranged on a 37 acre campus, is rated among the best in the south. With a faculty of forty-seven picked teachers for approximately 1,000 scholastics and a total income of \$209,729 in 1939-40, the Alvin people are seeing just how much can be done for their children.

The Senior High School offers a total of 48½ credits, fifty per cent of which are included in such special departments as: Home Economics, Industrial, Arts, Commercial, Public Speaking, Public School Music, Journalism, Band, Physical Education and Agriculture. Each of these departments is in the charge of specially trained teachers, who devote full time in the field of their major training.

The school plant will be fairly complete when the \$33,000 Athletic Stadium, which is now under way, is finished.

(John S. Poyner Co., Alvin, Texas—publishers of The County News)

Otto Paris and His National Champion High School Band Given "Award of Merit" at Fair

**Chairman of Fair Board Made Presentation;
First Award to Be Presented This Year,
Only Three Given During Last Season**

Alvin's National Champion high school band and their director, Otto Paris, were presented with an "Award of Merit" by the chairman of the Board of Directors of the New York World's Fair, where the band appeared in full dress for a concert and parade.

The Alvin band is the only high school organization to receive the award this year and only three such awards

BAND WELL RECEIVED AT WEST NEW YORK

Miss Leona Florida wrote very enthusiastically about the reception of the band at West New York, her mother's home town. Her mother's friends, Dr. and Mrs. Louis Bader, arranged for the care and entertainment of the Texas visitors.

A police escort led them into the city, supper was provided and public officials gave greetings. Under the leadership of Dr. and Mrs. Bader the band went to see New York City by night.

They crossed the Hudson River by way of the George Washington Bridge, traveled south along New York's brilliantly lighted avenues, then back under the Hudson River through the Lincoln tunnels. The Alvinites were amazed that the bridge hung from four cables and some were rather dubious about going under the river.

On the 12th Dr. Bader personally conducted a tour to such well known points of interest as Grant's Tomb, Columbia University, St. John's Cathedral, the Aquarium, Stock Exchange and Radio City.

On the 13th the band visited the Fair then returned to West New York to parade for a Flag Day celebration. Leona Florida was happily surprised by seeing quite a number of her relatives. She spent the night with her uncle, Dr. H. B. Hansen at his home on Long Island. Friday the band spent sightseeing at the Fair again.

Mrs. Bader sent a special message to Alvin saying that everyone was thrilled with the Alvin Band and had enjoyed their having been there.

were presented during the season last year. W. H. Meyers, principal of the Alvin high school, said.

A flag day parade featuring many high school bands was led by Otto Paris and his Alvin bandsters in the fair grounds and it was said that the superior playing, marching and colorful uniforms of the Alvin group led to the decision of the Board of Directors to make presentation of the award.

Mrs. LeNoir Arnold, who is accompanying the band as a chaperone, writes from West Point that the band stopped at the school and saw a drill by the cadets and then played a concert for the boys.

During their stay in Windsor, Canada, the band was lavishly entertained by the Canadians and was guest of the Ford Motor Company at their Rouge plant in that city.

Thursday the band was in Dayton, Ohio, and played a concert before a record crowd in the municipal park. They left Thursday for Bairdstown, Ky., and will reach Alvin Tuesday.

FLORENCE BRENNEN SECOND BAND VICTIM

The second victim of acute appendicitis during the band trip was Florence Brennen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Brennen, who was stricken at Little Rock Sunday and was rushed to St. Vincent's hospital at that place where an emergency operation was performed. She was reported as getting along nicely at last reports.

Eleanor Carroll, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Porter Carroll was similarly stricken at Philadelphia and will arrive at the Houston airport at 9 o'clock tonight by plane from the Pennsylvania city.

Twirling on a Trip



Ethel Marie McDaniel, drum majorette with Alvin, Texas, high school band, shows Bernard Samuel, president of City Council, how to twirl a baton, as band visits city on its way (via school bus) to New York World's Fair

TEXAS CHILDREN PASS

(Story from Montgomery, (Ala.) Advertiser)—

While French school children are being slaughtered by German bombs, it was certainly a relief to the writer Monday to observe three large school buses passing through. They were loaded down with happy Texas children on their way to the New York World's Fair and a short visit to Canada thereafter.

The buses were from Alvin, Texas. There were, perhaps, 100 Texas high school boys and girls and they had a big time during a fifteen-minute stop on Madison Avenue. They said they were looking forward with delight to the wonders of New York and the fair.

Yes, what a difference between Montgomery and Paris. But will that difference be as wide in a year or two from now if Hitler wins?

By MISS MORINE HUEPERS

The Alvin High School Band from Alvin, Texas stopped over here Monday night and rendered a concert at the local ball park.

The band, which is composed of seventy members under the direction of Otto Paris, is traveling in three school buses to New York City and points in Canada. While in New York the group will give a concert at the World's Fair on a special invitation from fair officials. A civic club in Windsor, Canada will be host to the musicians at an international dance when they visit the Canadian city.

Organized in 1937, the Alvin band has won Texas State music meet honors and took first division at a recent National Music meet in Waco, Texas, which was attended by bands from New Mexico, Louisiana and Oklahoma.

The band is well known throughout Texas and made a 2,000 mile trip in 1938 to Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico and to Old Mexico. The organization is a part of a million dollar school plant completed in Alvin last year.

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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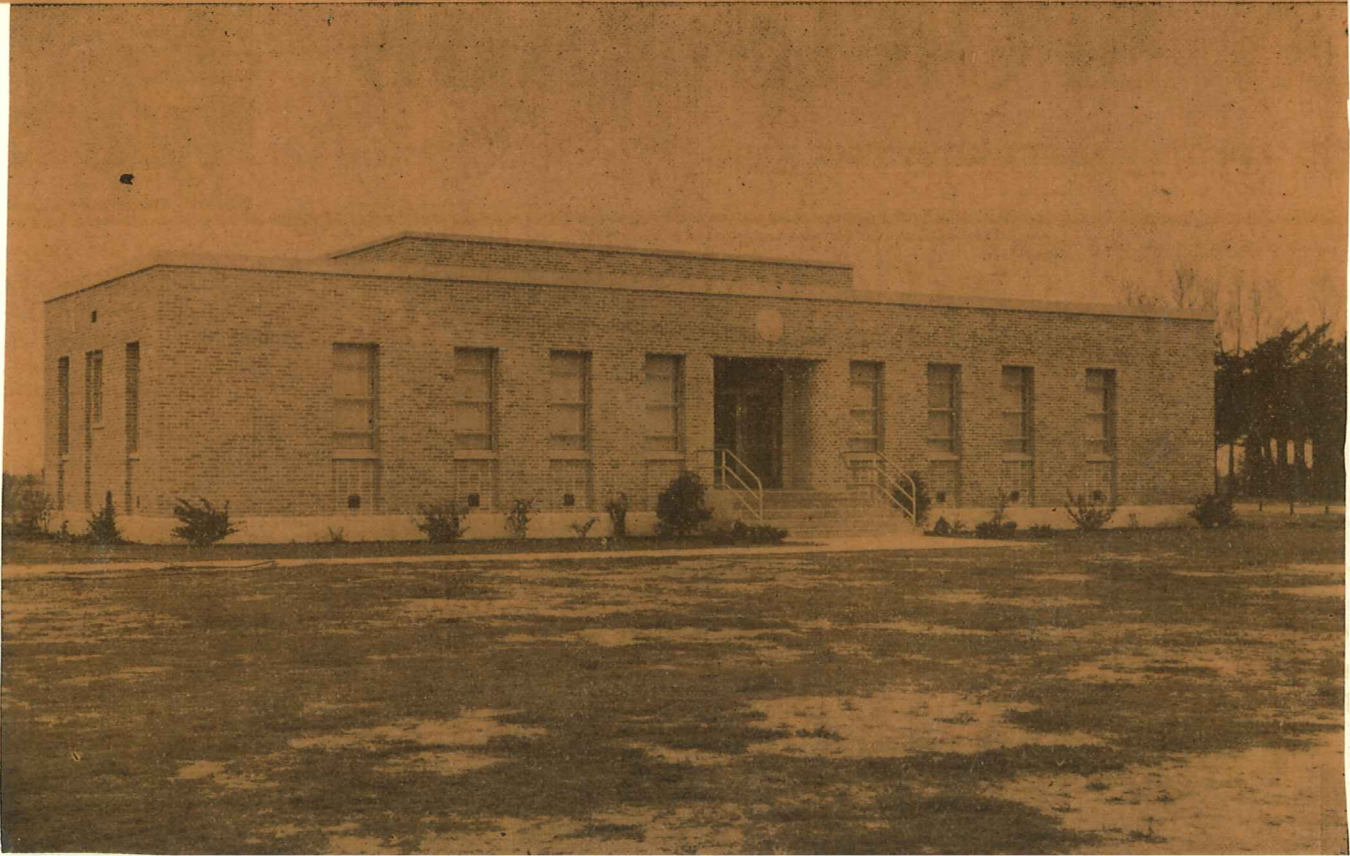
OTTO PARIS, BANDMASTER=

ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

CITY ORDINANCE PROHIBITS PARADES BETWEEN 3:30 AND 5:00 PM.
WILL ARRANGE POLICE ESCORT MEET YOU LITTLE YORK 3:00 PM,
TUESDAY, JUNE 25. WILL BE GLAD TO GREET YOU AT CITY HALL=
OSCAR HOLCOMBE MAYOR.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

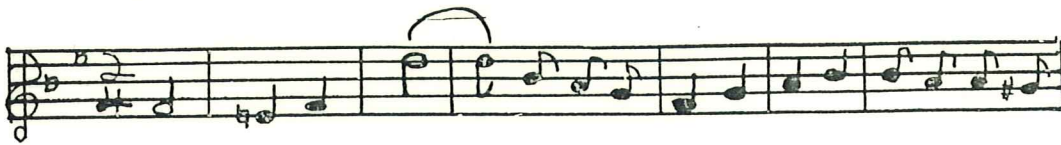
HERE'S WHERE PARIS TRAINED HIS CHAMPION BAND



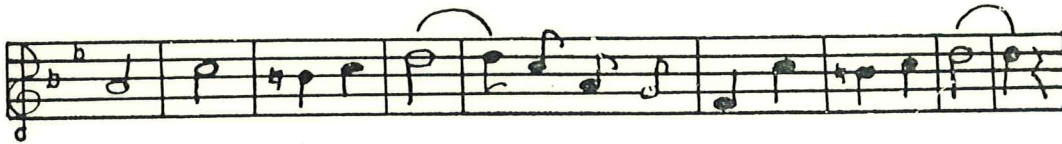
ALVIN FIGHT SONG

Dave Engman

Otto Paris



FIGHT Alvin High, Come on you Yellow Jackets drive on down the



field, And if you fight you'll win a victory to-night.

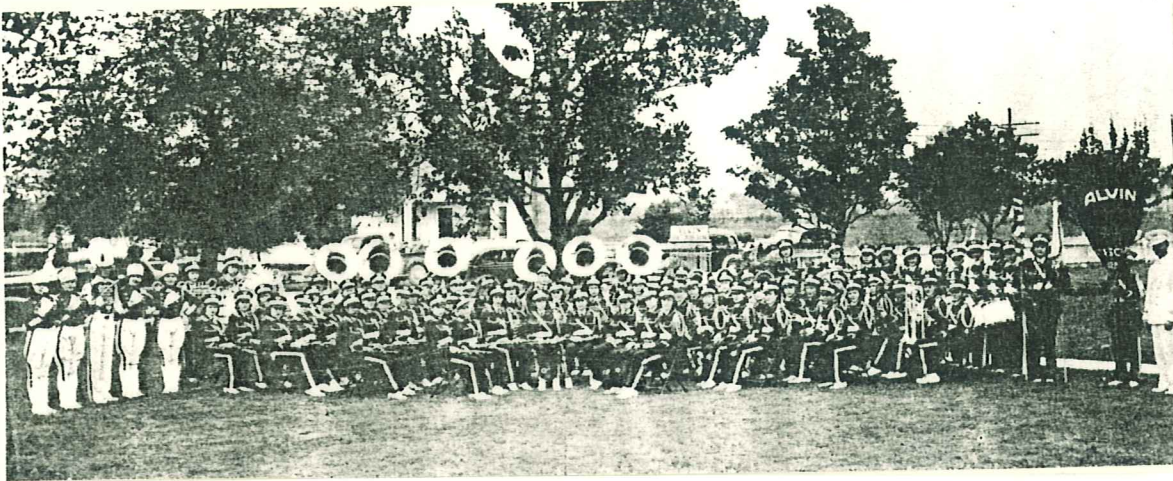


Orange and white, to our colors we'll be true,



Our Alma Mater bids you fight, Yellow Jackets fight.

ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND
ALVIN, TEXAS
1937-1938



BAND

Pictured above is the entire Alvin High School Band which boasts 81 pieces. Instruments and uniforms were purchased last fall at a cost of about \$12,000, and practices began in October. Remarkable progress was made by this group under the direction of Otto Paris who came to Alvin from Kilgore High School last fall.

The band won second division in concert playing and marching at the district band meet held in Huntsville April 8. They went to the state band meet in Waco April 29 and 30 where they won second in the Eastern Division in concert playing and marching. In the Huntsville meet Lois Matteson and LaDell Jackson won first places, and Margaret Davidson and Morine Huepers won second places in the French horn solo contest.

CORNETS

Evelyn Faye Brennen
Betty Donovan
Margaret Durant
Leona Florida
Lerert Pietzsch
James Sparks
Mary Matsushita

BARITONES

Dick Alexander
Fred Camp
Harold Madara

PICCALO

Ethel Jane Whitson

TROMBONES

Willie Mae Ballard
Eleanor Carroll
Arlyne Haggard
Wayne Law
Edmund Leary
Lee McVey
Elmer Wooster

BASSES

Vernon Cox
William Davidson
J. C. Hering
Bennett Rogers
James Shoemake
Vernon Thomson

FRENCH HORNS

Ramona Buchanan
Dortha Mae Collins
Margaret Davidson
Morine Huepers
LaDell Jackson
Lois Matteson

FLUTES

Nita Marie Brennen
Florence Brennen

OBOES

Josephine Boyd
Alice Idoux

CLARINETS

Dorothy Alexander
Doris Brennen
Marjorie Chambers
Hazel Copeland
Joe DeWitt
Austin Evans
Dorothy Idoux
Joe Dudley Jephson
C. B. Jinks
LaVerne Kilgore
Soledad Luna
Dorothy Parsley
Pearl Lee Perry
Roy Lee Powell
Edith Schilhab
Laurine Smith
Howard Kost
Jimmy Richter

SAXOPHONES.

Jeanne Arnold
Glenn Cisco
Mildred Idoux
James Littleton

BASSOON

Patricia Monarch

TYMPANI

Hortense Barrell

COLOR BEARERS

Adelaide Thomas
Brady Law

FANFARE TRUMPETS

Brady Law
Carl Beverly Bolin
Richard Goodridge
Ralph Colbert
J. C. Carlisle
Alma Walters
Gertrude Chambers

BELL LYRES

Patricia Monarch
Barbara Lee Doak
Josephine Boyd
Marjorie McCown
Ethel Jane Whitson

DRUMS

Gertrude Chambers
Ann Avitts
Maxine Bish
Alice Kost
Margaret Madara
Irene Savidge
Ivieve Mae Tatum
Florine Wright
Anna Marie Walters
Edith Madara

DRUM MAJOR

J. Ross Dollar

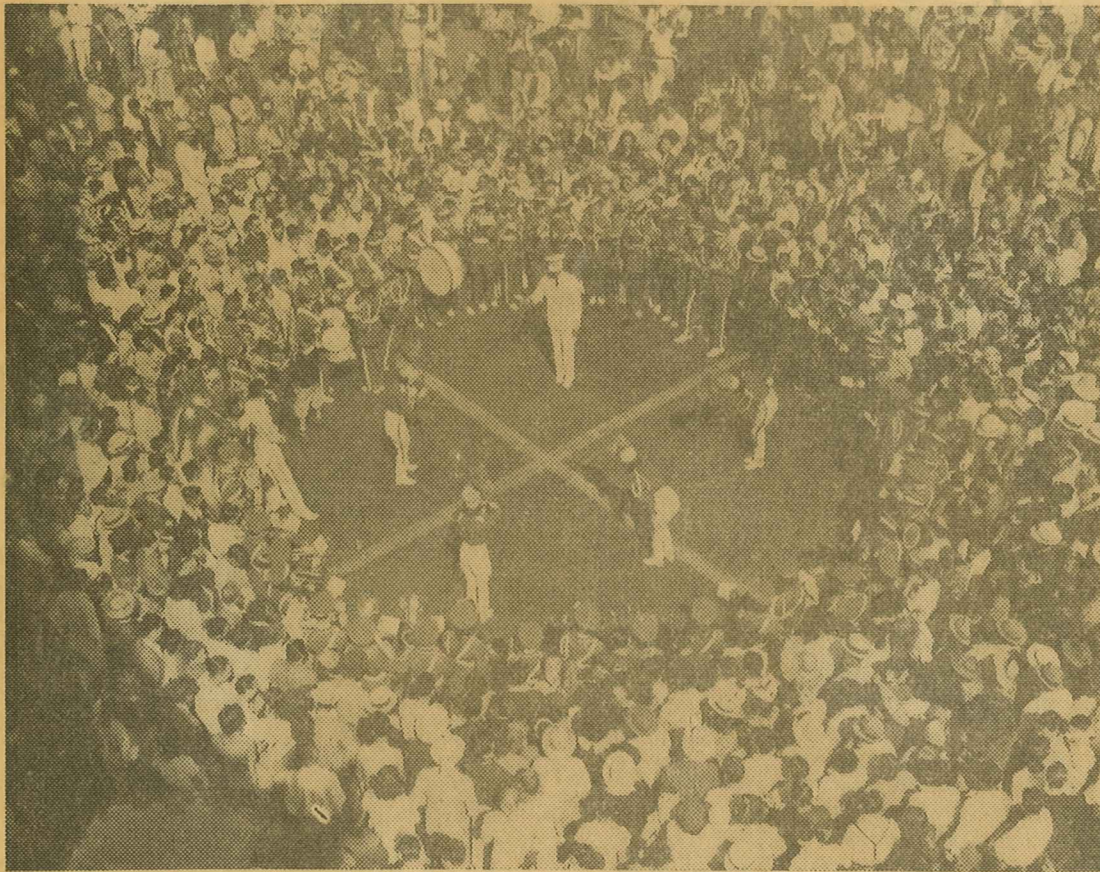
TWIRLERS

Mary Virginia Collins
Ethel Florida
Ethel Marie McDaniel
Martha Alexander



MR. OTTO PARIS
B.A., North Texas State Teachers
College
Band

ALVIN BAND ENTERTAINS SPLASH DAY CROWDS



The 75-piece Alvin High School Band had a conspicuous part on the Splash Day program here Sunday, enlivening the afternoon with its playing and the performance of its girl drum majors. The band is pictured above in front of the Buccaneer Hotel with four good-looking baton-twirlers going through their act while Otto Paris directs. The attention that they attracted is indicated by the thousands crowding around them on the Boulevard. The band this week will go to Abilene to participate in the national band meet at Hardin-Simmons University. It won first place in concert playing, sight reading and marching at the state meet in Huntsville March 30 and 31.

Alvin High Band To Play In Galveston

The Alvin High School Band has accepted an invitation to play in Galveston Sunday, April 23, for the Splash Day celebration which opens the bathing season for this spring.

Director Otto Paris first rejected the invitation but later accepted, since the Alvin band is the only one invited. Advertising literature already had been sent out over South Texas and Louisiana announcing that the Alvin Band would attend.

"Since the band will leave for Abilene April 27 for the National Band Meet, I at first judged our going might upset our practice to some extent," explained Mr. Paris when asked about his reply to the invitation.

The band will play and march in Galveston at the Oleander Festival parade.

Band to March In Oleander Parade

The Alvin High School Band has received an invitation from the Galveston Junior Chamber of Commerce to participate in the parade for the annual Oleander Festival to be held Sunday afternoon on the seawall boulevard. After the parade the band members will be guests of the Chamber of Commerce for supper.

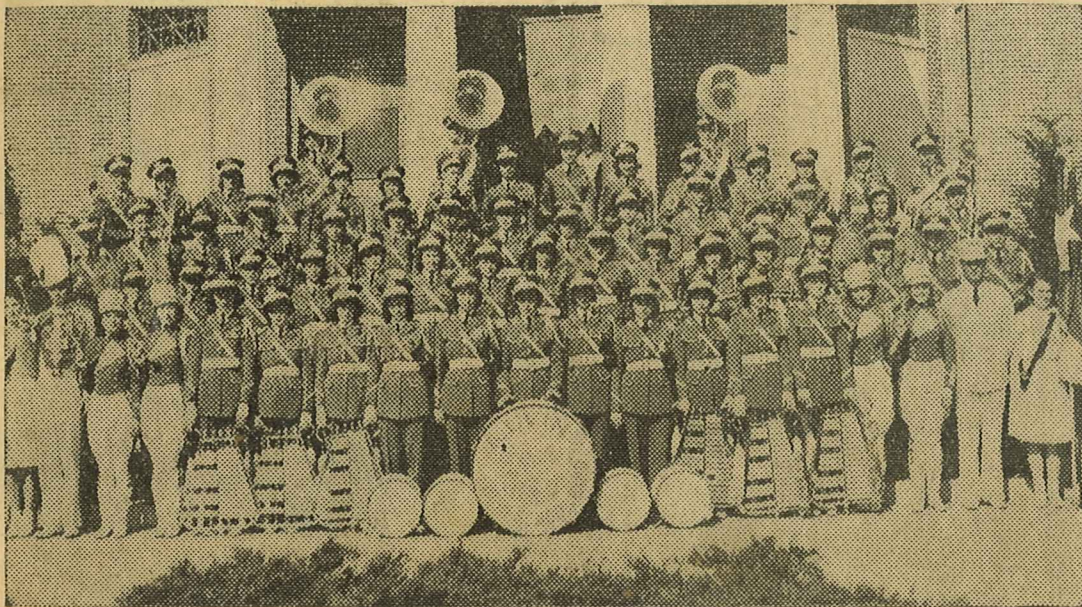
Last year fifteen bands from Texas and Louisiana attended this celebration and approximately that many are expected this year.

The band also received an invitation from the Lamar High School in Houston to attend Tuesday their concert given annually by their band and choral club. The band did not attend, though, because of conflicting engagements.

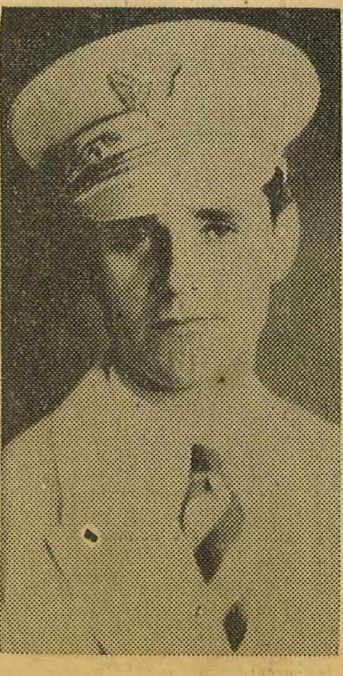
Band Seniors To Choose Sweaters

Fifteen senior members of the High School Band will meet with Director Otto Paris to choose the type and color of sweaters that are to be awarded to them in the near future. A music lyre with Alvin printed across the bottom and stripes indicating the years of service will be placed on the sweater that Mr. Paris hopes to give to every band member upon graduating.

The seniors in the band this year are Vernon Cox, Bennett Lee Rogers, Wayne Law, Morine Huepers, Hortense Barrell, Evelyn Fae Brennen, James Sparks, Dorothy Idoux, Patricia Monarch, Glenn Cisco, Soledad Luna, Mary Virginia Collins, J. Ross Dollar, Martha Alexander, and Ethel Florida.



The Alvin high school band, directed by Otto Paris (below), will leave Wednesday for Abilene, where the 75-piece organization will participate in the national band meet at Hardin-Simmons university. The band, organized 18 months ago, won its first public laurels when it placed in first division at state meet at Huntsville March 30.



Band To Leave Wednesday For National Meet

State Champions To Enter Contests At Abilene April 27-28

The Alvin High School Band will leave Wednesday morning at 6 o'clock for Abilene to compete for honors in concert playing, sight reading, and marching at the National Band Meet. About 80 students and chaperons are expected to make the trip.

The group will spend Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights in the Abilene Christian College Gymnasium and they will eat their meals at the college cafeteria, which adjoins the gymnasium, according to Mr. J. F. Law, who was in Abilene Sunday and Monday making arrangements for the trip.

The Band will participate in concert playing and sight reading Thursday afternoon and will march Friday night.

The three first division solos who will compete Thursday morning are: Ethel Marie McDaniel, twirler; Bennett Rodgers, bass horn, and Margaret Madara, snare drum.

Some of the chaperones who are planning to make the trip are: Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Whitson, Mrs. Otto Paris, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cisco, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Avitts, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Law, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Alexander and others. All other parents and Alvin citizens who are interested in going are cordially invited.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1939

DIRECTOR



OTTO PARIS

Alvin HS Band In Abilene For National Meet

Aiming at national championship honors, Alvin's State championship class C band, under the direction of Otto Paris, arrived in Abilene Wednesday night to compete Thursday and Friday in the national meet that is being held in that city.

The band will compete in the sight reading and concert contests on Thursday and will compete in the marching contest Friday night.

Among those accompanying the band to Abilene were: Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Law, Mrs. Carl Bolin, Miss Nora Louise Willeford, Mr. and Mrs. Jud Whitson and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cisco.

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WESTERN UNION

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SYMBOLS

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LC=Deferred Cable

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Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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Received at 140 Cypress St., Abilene, Texas. Open 7 A.M. to 12 Midnight

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1939 APR 28 AM 11 26

OTTO PARIS=

ALVIN SCHOOL BAND PHONE CARE ABILENE CHRISTIAN

COLLEGE

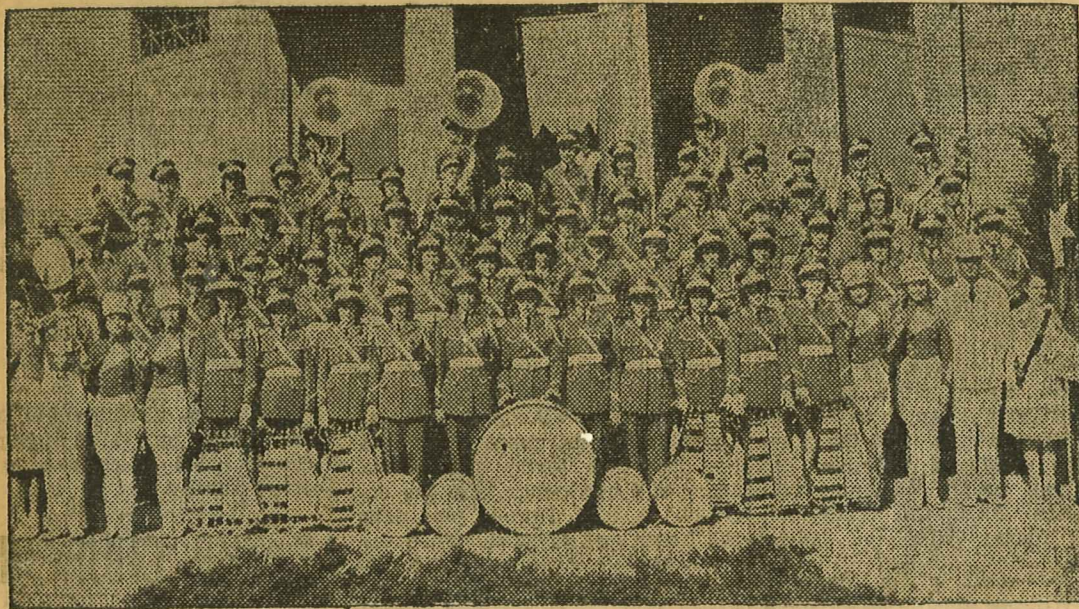
ITS OK YELLOWJACKET. THE BEST SOMETIMES MEET UNDESERVED
 REVERSES. THE OLD TOWN IS HUNDRED PERCENT WITH YOU JUST BE
 THE GOOD SPORTING HARD FIGHTING ALVIN HI AND GIVE THEM WHAT
 YOU HAVE TONIGHT STOP IT WILL BE PLENTY=
 ALVIN HI ROOTERS.

ALVIN

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1939

BAND

ALVIN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



OTTO PARIS

ALVIN SUN ALVIN, TEXAS

Results National Meet region six equivalent to ten states. Stop, first division nin marching third in concert playing stop. Ethel Marie McDaniel second division twirling Margaret Madara second drumming Bennet Rodgers third division sousaphone stop marched with seventeen other bands at Hardin Simmons stadium played at Abilene city auditorium at fair grounds missed second division in concert playing by small margin stop three thousand bandsmen in Abilene with two thousand sponsors, city overcrowded many bands staying in surrouding towns. Will leave early Saturday morning eat breakfast in Coleman dinner in Austin and supper in Alvin.

Morine Huepers.

WINS

WIN NATIONAL MARCHING CONTEST FRIDAY NIGHT AT ABILENE; HOME TODAY

Win 3rd in Sight Reading And Concert
Playing; Will Be Welcomed
At 7 p. m.

Meet the National Band Champions!

Marching down the field in a blaze of glory the Alvin High School Band carried off national honors in the National Regional Band Meet at Abilene Friday night, according to a telegram sent The Sun this morning by Director Otto Paris.

Led by Drum Major J. Ross Dollar, the Orange and White brigade from Alvin received a thunderous ovation as they paraded like West Pointers to bring to Alvin rare national honors.

On Thursday the 78 brilliant youngsters placed third in the sight reading and concert playing contests.

The musicians and those accompanying them left at 5 a. m. Saturday enroute home and will arrive in Alvin about 7 p. m.

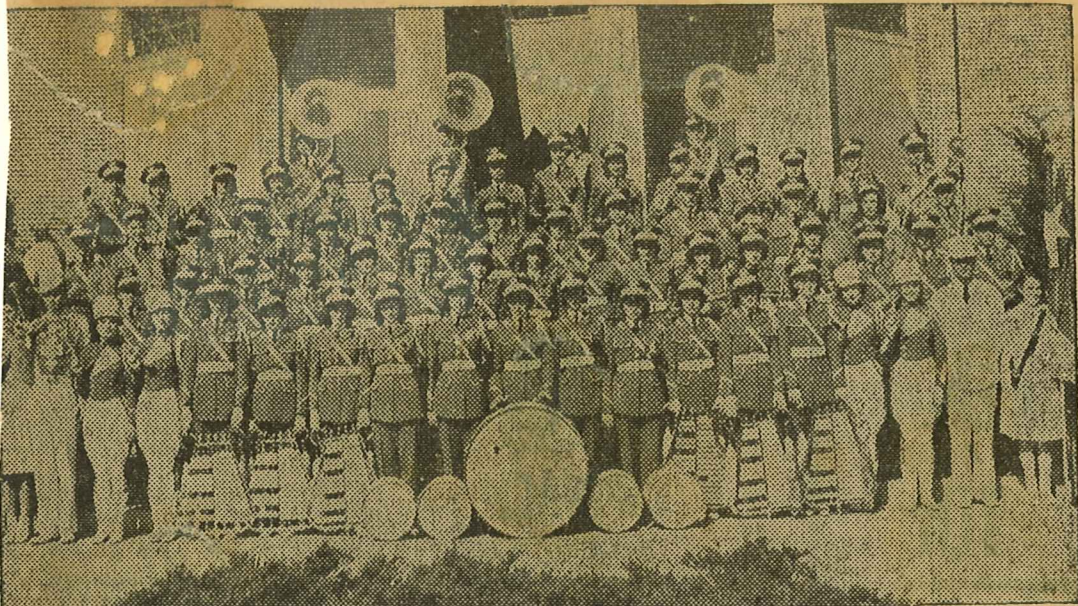
Alvin high school band carried off Class C honors at the recent state contest in Huntsville.

The band members include Ethel Marie McDaniel, Mary Virginia Collins, J. Ross Dollar, Ethel Florida, Martha Alexander, Florine Wright, Austin Evans, Soledad Luna, Dorothy Idoux, Joe DeWitt, Howard Kost, Roy Lee Powell, Joe Dudley Jephson, Doris Brennen, Mary Matsushita, Mary Nell McKithan, James Sparks, Lerert Pietzsch, Margaret Durant, Evelyn Fae Brennen, Leona Florida, Alice Idoux, Josephine Boyd, Marion Bish, Ellen Adams and Doris Walker.

Jimmie Richter, Jane Savidge, Leta Rue Thompson, Hazel Copeland, Anita Huepers, Ruth Hornback, Pearl Lee Perry, Dorothy Parsley, Marjorie Chambers, Laurene Smith, Edith Schilhab, LaVerne Kilgore, Jeanne Arnold, DeVonne Campbell, Mildred Idoux, Glenn Cisco, Luther Avitts, Irene Savidge, Ann Avitts, Ivie Mae Tatum, Hortense Barbell, Dortha Mae Collins, LaDell Jackson, Margaret Davidson, Morine Huepers, Lois Matteson, Florence Brennen, Ethel Jane Whitson, Director Otto Paris, Dick Alexander, Harold Madara, Patricia Monarch, Wayne Law, Willie Mae Ballard, Bennett Lee Rodgers, William Davidson, Vernon Cox, Alice Kost, Margaret Madara, Barbara Lee Doak, Maxine Bish, Arlyne Haggard, Nita Marie Brennen, Elmer Wooster and Eleanor Carroll.

Among those going with the band to Abilene were Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Law, Mrs. Carl Bolin, Miss Nora Louise Williford, Mr. and Mrs. Jud Whitson and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cisco.

NATIONAL CLASS C REGIONAL CHAMPIONS



new picture of Alvin's Great High School Band which brought home National honors at the Abilene meet last week. To the left is Director Otto Paris, who is making a remarkable record as director of the band.



ABOUT THE BAND CONTEST

Prior to 1937 one National Contest was held for bands all over the country who had won the right to participate by winning honors in the various state contests. The increasing interest in instrumental music and improvement in high school bands necessitated a change from the single National Contest plan to a Regional plan which would permit more bands to compete on an even basis without the burden of heavy expense to travel thousands of miles to one contest. Therefore the country was divided into ten regions, with several states in each region.

Region six, of which the Alvin High Band is a member, comprises the states of Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas. And since Texas, because of its size, is divided into eight divisions with each division having its own final contest, the Region comprises the equivalent of ten states in a scope.

So actually when the Alvin Band entered in the National contest for Region Six they were entering a contest in which bands from an area of ten states were entered, some of which had been organized from five to ten years.

The Band's winning first division in marching and third division in concert playing and sight reading set a precedent in national competition for there has never been a band which has been organized for only 18 months that entered or won in a national contest.

The contest management is under the auspices of the National High School Band Association and it is the duty of a committee selected by them to get judges for the national gathering. The judges for the 1939 contest included directors of the North Texas Agriculture College, University of Oklahoma, T. S. C. W., and Texas Technological College.

These men judged approximately 51 bands and 800 soloists in three days.

The bands are judged on a basis of intonation, interpretation, dynamics, instrumentation, stage personality, and the general effect of their playing or marching. Each band must play the required number, which for Class C bands this year was "Overture Militaire," a selected number, and a warm up number. In the marching contests each band must do certain kinds of turns, counter-marches, flanks and obliques, and any other formation providing it does not exceed the time limit of 6 minutes. In the sight reading contest each band is given a march and an overture which they have never seen before. The band director is given two minutes to look the number over and then the band is allowed three minutes to look the pieces over. They must then play the numbers without any rehearsing.

There were approximately 5000 band students and sponsors in Abilene for the meet and some of the bands had to stay out of town; however, the Alvin Band was fortunate enough to be able to stay in the Abilene Christian College gymnasium. Meals were provided for them by the Hardin-Simmons University cafeteria.

Thursday morning, April 28, the band played in the A. C. C. assembly and the program was broadcast over K. R. B. C. in Abilene. Thursday afternoon the band entered the concert playing and Friday night they entered the marching contest.

Harmonica Club



Members:

CURTIS BAKER
EZRA BOLBO
CHRISTINE BERNARD
MASON CHAPMAN
DORIS ANN CLEARY
W. O. COX
DOROTHY ANN DAVIS
MARGUERITE DODSON
MAGGIE EDGMON
J. B. EVANS
TRUDA FRISK
FAYE FISHERO
JUNIOR FLENNIHEN
EARLINE GABY
BUCK GARNETT
DORIS GRIFFIN
DOROTHY GRIFFIN
ROBERT GANGWERE
GOLDIE GREEN
EDWARD GRAY
DONALD GREENLEE
HOWARD GANDY

HENRY HOWELL
LESTER HULL
GLEN HENSLEY
LEROY HOWELL
HARRY HUCKLEBRIDGE
LEO JOHNSON
BROWNIE MCJILTON
LENARD KEYS
J. B. KRENEK
ARVERN LANGHAM
ALLAN MOREHEAD
FLOYD MOMAN
GEORGE MEDFERD
HERBERT MAXEY
JIMMIE MAYS
CAROL MASSEY
TOM MOSTEIT
WESTLEY MITCHELL
FRANCES NATION
RUSSELL LEE
LORING LOCK
JACK OSTROM
DON PATRICK

HERSCHEL POSTON
A. W. PRICE
ROLLIE PHILLIPS
MINNIE REDLINGER
ELIZABETH ROBINSON
RACHAL CLOVERDALE
SCOTTIE ROGERS
DELMAR READ
WILLIAM STANDY
GEORGE SMITH
W. B. SHEPERD
INEZ STARKEY
LOIS TROTTER
JAMES TRIMBLE
RONALD TAYLOR
JAMES TUTT
HUGH WELLS
DALE WELLS
JACK WHITE
MILDRED WILLIAMS
CHARLES WITT
MARTHA FRANCES YOUNG
BETTY RUTH YOUNG

OTTO PARIS, *Sponsor*

KILGORE HIGH SCHOOL
HARMONICA CLUB
1936

KILGORE HIGH SCHOOL BAND
KILGORE, TEXAS

1935



BAND

Organization and Personnel

Band Sweetheart.....	OMEGA FROST
Drum Major.....	DAIL WELLS
Commander.....	CLARENCE SMITH
Lieutenant Commander.....	NICK DENNIS
Custody of Uniforms.....	B. H. ROWE
Custody of Music.....	FREDDIE LEE FREDERICKSON
Secretary.....	GEORGE HAYES
Reporter.....	SOL STEPINOFF
Director.....	OTTO PARIS

Cornets: Freddie Lee Frederickson, Richard Robinson, Beuna Hudson, Marietta Massey, John T. Jeter.

Clarinets: James Harris, Bryan Curtis, Clarence Smith, Billie Lee Burcalow, Rex Kelso, Betty Huckatee, Ermalea Kendrick, Chloe Fielden, J. C. Goodwin, Easton Guillory. E-Flat Clarinet, Marion McKenzie.

Trombones: Raymond Dieffenbaker, Bob Kendall, Roy Smith, Bruce Bates, Charles Hale, Paul Couch.

Alto Horns: Homer Peck, Mary Louise Raborn, Claude Smith.

Baritones: Glenn Russell, Clifton Honea.

Bass: Blaze Bangwere, Dudley Moore.

Drums: Nick Dennis, Bob Cortts, Edsil Lyon, Floyd Dollar.



OTTO PARIS
Director



OMEGA FROST
Band Sweetheart



LIGGETT CRIM
Sponsor

KILGORE HIGH SCHOOL
 STAGE BAND
 1935
 OTTO PARIS-3rd from right



STAGE BAND ACTIVITIES

Members of Stage Band

SAM PARKER.....	Piano
OTTO PARIS.....	First Cornet
FREDDIE LEE FREDERICKSON.....	Second Cornet
RAYMOND DIEFFENBACKER.....	Trombone
BRYAN CURTIS.....	Saxophone and Clarinet
JAMES HARRIS.....	Saxophone and Clarinet
GEORGE HAYES.....	Saxophone and Clarinet
CLIFTON HONEA.....	Guitar
BOB CORTES.....	Drummer
BLAZE GANGWERE.....	Bass



The Kilgore High School Stage Band was organized in the year 1934 under the direction of Otto Paris and Sam Parker. The band has made a concert tour of East Texas schools to appropriate funds for a trip to the State Band Contest at Waco to be made by the High School Band. On several occasions they have furnished splendid music for the high school socials.



BLAZE GANGWERE
President

The
Kilgore
High
School
Band

1936



OTTO PARIS
Director

Assistant Drum Majors:

DAIL WELLS, JOHN SHETTLEWORTH

Color Guards:

ROBERT REEVES, WESLEY MITCHELL

Color Bearers:

DALE JOHNSON, THOMAS D. MURPHY, WARDEN MERCER

Director

MR. OTTO PARIS

BILLY OTTO PARIS
Mascot



MARRIETTA MASSEY
Drum Major



Mr. Paris collaborated with Coach Dave Engman in 1938 to compose the "Alvin Fight Song". The song was played and sung to arouse the fighting spirit of the school.

In 1940 the Alvin Band accepted an invitation to perform at the New York World's Fair and lead the Parade. Traveling some 4000 miles by school buses with their bedrolls, these seventy-odd youngsters made their way from Alvin to New York playing free concerts at each stopover in exchange for a gymnasium (or the like) to throw their bedrolls for the night. On one occasion, due to a late arrival, lodging reservations had been cancelled; so Mr. Paris contacted a large used car lot and made arrangements to open enough autos to sleep two students to a car. The trip was extended to include Canada, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Philadelphia, and many other sites of significance and interest. At Niagra Falls, Mr. Paris conducted a mock wedding ceremony for the band members.

Mr. Paris departed Alvin in 1942 to enter the US Navy where he served until 1945 as a radio and radar technician in the Pacific during WW2. After his honorable discharge from the service, he worked successfully for a short time with the American National Insurance Co. From 1945-1947 Mr. Paris organized band programs in the Texas towns of Texas City, Friendswood and Pearland. He continued his employment in Friendswood through 1951 as band director, football coach, math instructor, principal and bus driver. During the next eight years, 1951-1959, he was with the Pace Piano Company of Houston for two years and then established his own piano business. From 1959-1971 he was with the Houston ISD as a math instructor at Deady Junior High School and sponsor of the school's Interscholastic League Number Sense Program for math competitions.

OTTO PARIS retired in 1971, but has maintained a busy schedule with interests and activities in photography development, gardening, golf and computer "mania". He resides in Huntsville, Texas with his wife of 43 years Dr. Janelle Avenell Paris. He has two children, Mrs. Betty Ruth Paris Brightwell and Mr. Billy Otto Paris; nine grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

The OTTO PARIS BAND SCHOLARSHIP was established in 1988 by the Alvin High School Class of 1938, and supported by his many devoted former students and friends. The scholarship is awarded each year to the outstanding Alvin band student. Mr. Paris' picture and an article concerning this honor appeared in the Texas Music Educators Magazine in August, 1988. He also appeared on the cover of the TMEA magazine in 1940, and was Chairman of the TMEA Region V in 1941.

OTTO PARIS

Born: June 7, 1904 Munger, Texas

Education through high school:

Hubbard, Texas
Hillsboro, Texas
Mexia, Texas

Colleges and Institutions:

1924-1926	Westminster College	Tehaucana, Texas
1926	Certificate of Graduation (2 year Institution)	
	North Texas State Teachers College	Denton, Texas
1930	Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music	
	Houston Conservatory of Music	Houston, Texas
1939	Bachelor of Music Degree	
	Vandercook School of Music	Chicago, Illinois
1941	Master of Music Degree	

Teaching & Band Career:

1926-1927	McCanles School	near Dawson, Texas	Teacher
1927-1928	Burleson School	near Kirvin, Texas	Teacher
1928-1933		Munger, Texas	Teacher
1933-1937		Kilgore, Texas	Band
1937-1942		Alvin, Texas	Band
1945-1947		Texas City, Texas	Band
		Pearland, Texas	Band
1946-1951		Friendswood, Texas	Band, Football Coach, Teacher
1959-1971		Houston, Texas	Teacher

United States Armed Service

1942-1945 U. S. Navy

Other Employment:

1945	American National Insurance Co
1951-1953	Pace Piano Co of Houston, Texas
1953-1959	Paris Piano Enterprise

Noteworthy:

1941	Chairman of Texas Music Educators Association Region V
1988	Otto Paris Band Scholarship Established Alvin High School Alvin, Texas
1993	PHI BETA MU Texas Bandmasters HALL of FAME TMEA Headquarters Austin, Texas

Present Interests and Activities: Resides in Huntsville, Texas

1993 Photography, Golf, Gardening, Computer "Mania"