

PHILADELPHIA MUMMERS' STRING BANDS' NEW YEARS ASSOCIATION, INC.

The 2026 String Band SHOWCASE



***FIRST PLACE
CAPTAIN
WINNER
JIMMY
GOOD***

STRING BAND WINNERS' PAGE

FORT NASSAU

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YEAR	1st PLACE	2nd PLACE	3rd PLACE	4th PLACE	5th PLACE
1958	Ferko	Quaker City	Uptown	South Philadelphia	Polish American
1959	South Philadelphia	Polish American	Greater Bucks County	Ferko	Fralinger
1960	Aqua	Polish American	Quaker City	Ferko	Greater Overbrook
1961	Polish American	Ferko	Aqua	Greater Overbrook	Fralinger
1962	Hegeman	Polish American	Quaker City	Ferko	South Philadelphia
1963	Quaker City	Polish American	South Philadelphia	Hegeman	Ferko
1964	Polish American	Greater Kensington	South Philadelphia	Ferko	Fralinger
1965	Greater Bucks County	Ukrainian American	Ferko	Greater Kensington	Woodland
1966	South Philadelphia	Polish American	Aqua	Greater Bucks County	Greater Kensington
1967	Fralinger	Ferko	Woodland	Polish American	South Philadelphia
1968	Fralinger	Ferko	South Philadelphia	Greater Overbrook	Aqua
1969	Ferko	Polish American	Greater Kensington	Woodland	Palmyra
1970	Polish American	Hegeman	Fralinger	Aqua	Ferko
1971	Hegeman	Woodland	Palmyra	South Philadelphia	Ferko
1972	Palmyra	Fralinger	Ferko	Durning	Trilby
1973	Fralinger	Greater Overbrook	Uptown	Ferko	Polish American
1974	Ferko	Fralinger	Greater Overbrook	Broomall	Aqua
1975	South Philadelphia	Greater Kensington	Ferko	Garden State	Harrowgate
1976	Harrowgate	Polish American	Woodland	Quaker City	Fralinger
1977	Harrowgate	Fralinger	Ferko	Trilby	Durning
1978	Quaker City	Fralinger	South Philadelphia	Hegeman	Polish American
1979	Greater Kensington	Ferko	Harrowgate	Polish American	Quaker City
1980	Fralinger	Ferko	South Philadelphia	Greater Kensington	Harrowgate
1981	Polish American	Hegeman	Greater Kensington	Ferko	Quaker City
1982	Ferko	Fralinger (tie-2)	Garden State (tie-2)	Quaker City (tie-2)	Aqua
1983	Fralinger	Polish American	Quaker City	Ferko (tie-4)	Greater Kensington (tie-4)
1984	Fralinger	Greater Kensington (tie-2)	Polish American (tie-2)	Avalon	Ferko
1985	Quaker City	Ferko	Avalon	Polish American	Fralinger
1986	Polish American	Fralinger	Quaker City	Ferko	South Jersey
1987	Fralinger	Quaker City	Hegeman	Aqua	South Philadelphia
1988	Greater Kensington	South Philadelphia	Quaker City	Ferko	Fralinger
1989	Quaker City	Fralinger	Greater Kensington	Ferko	Polish American
1990	Polish American	Palmyra	Ferko	Avalon	Quaker City
1991	Quaker City	Fralinger	Polish American	Avalon	Ferko
1992	Hegeman	Fralinger	Uptown	Avalon (tie-4)	Ferko (tie-4)
1993	Quaker City	Ferko	Fralinger	Avalon	Uptown
1994	Ferko	Fralinger	Uptown	Woodland	Quaker City
1995	Hegeman	Ferko	Quaker City	Fralinger	Uptown
1996	Ferko	Quaker City	Hegeman	Avalon	Woodland
1997	Ferko	Fralinger	Hegeman	Quaker City	Avalon
1998	Ferko	Polish American	Greater Kensington (tie-3)	Quaker City (tie-3)	Avalon
1999	Quaker City	Fralinger	Ferko	Avalon	Polish American
2000	Quaker City	Fralinger	Ferko	Avalon	Greater Kensington
2001	Quaker City	Greater Kensington	Fralinger	Avalon	Ferko
2002	Quaker City	Fralinger	Avalon	Ferko	South Philadelphia
2003	Fralinger	Quaker City	Ferko	Avalon	South Philadelphia
2004	Fralinger	Quaker City	Avalon	Ferko	Greater Kensington
2005	Fralinger	Quaker City	Avalon	Ferko	Greater Kensington
2006	Fralinger	Quaker City	Ferko	South Philadelphia	Polish American
2007	Fralinger	Quaker City	Ferko (tie-3)	South Philadelphia (tie-3)	Uptown
2008	Fralinger	Quaker City	South Philadelphia	Ferko	Avalon
2009	Fralinger	Quaker City	South Philadelphia	Ferko	Avalon
2010	Fralinger	Ferko	Quaker City	South Philadelphia	Avalon
2011	Quaker City	Ferko	South Philadelphia	Fralinger	Avalon
2012	Woodland	Quaker City	South Philadelphia	Ferko	Fralinger
2013	Fralinger	Quaker City	Woodland	South Philadelphia	Ferko
2014	Quaker City	Hegeman	South Philadelphia	Woodland	Fralinger
2015	Fralinger	Quaker City	Woodland (tie-3)	South Philadelphia (tie-3)	Ferko
2016	South Philadelphia	Ferko	Fralinger	Woodland	Hegeman
2017	Quaker City	Fralinger	South Philadelphia	Woodland	Ferko
2018	South Philadelphia	Quaker City	Woodland	Fralinger	Ferko
2019	Quaker City	South Philadelphia	Woodland	Fralinger	Avalon
2020	South Philadelphia	Quaker City	Fralinger	Woodland	Avalon
2021	No Parade				
2022	South Philadelphia	Quaker City	Fralinger	Avalon	Woodland
2023	Quaker City	Fralinger	South Philadelphia	Avalon	Woodland
2024	South Philadelphia	Quaker City	Fralinger	Woodland	Avalon
2025	South Philadelphia	Quaker City (Tied for First)	Fralinger	Uptown	Avalon
2026	Quaker City	South Philadelphia	Fralinger	Uptown	Aqua



2026 String Band Showcase

Philadelphia Mummers' String Bands' New Years Association, Inc.

Band Write-Ups Are In Alphabetical Order

Mummers Parade Prize	Band	Theme Title
1st	Quaker City	The Joker's Funhouse
2nd	South Philadelphia	BeWISHED
3rd	Fralinger	Making Waves
4th	Uptown	From Script To Screen
5th	Aqua	Shamrock Shenanigans
6th	Greater Kensington	Adventurers Beware
7th	Woodland	A Taste Of Bourbon
8th	Polish American	Log Jammin'
9th	Durning	Be Our Guest
10th	Duffy	Music Store Galore
11th	Jersey	Nifty Fifties Jukebox Jamboree
12th	Hegeman	Viva Las Hegeman

The Mummers Museum *A Unique Experience...*

Opening in the bicentennial year of 1976, the Mummers Museum, located at Second Street (2 Street) and Washington Avenue, stands in tribute to all Mummers ... past, present and future.

Dedicated to the Philadelphia celebration of the New Year, the museum houses a rich collection of mummers' paraphernalia and memorabilia, including spectacular costumes, a few of which date back to the turn of the 20th Century.

The Mummers Museum provides the visitor with a chronological progression of the Mummers Parade from a simple neighborhood celebration to a City sanctioned attraction drawing tens of thousands of spectators to the side-walks of Broad Street every New Year's Day, as well as a highly rated, vast local television audience.

Through exhibits and displays, a visitor can sense the commitment, dedication, sacrifice, creativity and talent of the men, women and children, from various backgrounds, who regard being a Mummers as a "way of life."

The museum offers an on-site gift shop, an on-line store and a banquet hall which is available for rental.

The museum conducts programs for both children and adults, and, free String Band concerts will be held this spring and fall.



Scott Brown, Executive Director of the Mummers Museum, invites you to visit and to attend numerous, fun filled events planned for this spring and summer. Consult the Mummers Museum web site for a schedule of events and activities. The appreciation of the art of Mummery acquired from touring the Museum will enhance your enjoyment of future Mum-mer Parades. You may also want to consider becoming a member of the Mummers Museum. Yearly memberships start at \$25.00 per year.

For more information and hours contact the Mummers Museum at 215-336-3050 or online at www.mummersmuseum.org

THE PHILADELPHIA MUMMERS' STRING BANDS' ASSOCIATION



Sam Regalbuto

Message from the President...Sam Regalbuto

Good evening, and welcome to the Philadelphia Mimmers String Band Association Annual Awards and Installation of Officers Banquet.

Tonight, we gather not only to celebrate excellence, but to honor a remarkable milestone — 125 years of tradition, pride, and dedication to the music and pageantry that define who we are.

As I reflect on 2025 and the beginning of 2026, I can't help but think of one word that seems to define my presidency: unprecedented.

And 2025 certainly began that way.

It has truly been one unexpected first after another. Over the past year, we experienced something none of us had ever witnessed before—an unprecedented tie for first place—followed by a persistent Mother Nature who simply would not let up. It seemed every event we held came with rain.

Then came 2026. Just when you think a new year brings a fresh start, there she was again testing our resilience—this time with sudden snow squalls and sustained winds over 60 miles per hour that came out of nowhere. It forced us to face yet another unprecedented moment: postponing our beloved competition not days or hours beforehand, but during the event itself.

Thanks to our renewed relationship with the City of Philadelphia and our great friend, the Honorable Madame Mayor, Chelle L. Parker, and her administration, we were able to adjust quickly and continue delivering the kind of String Band entertainment that delights our fans like only we know how.

As Louis Speziale said to me, "Isn't it ironic that on our 125th anniversary we were forced to perform the way it all started 125 years ago?" Simple, authentic, and ultimately entertaining—just as this great tradition was meant to be.

Just when it seemed the future looked uncertain, a new friend appeared to help guide our path—Frank Gumienny from the Philadelphia Eagles and Lincoln Financial Field. Thanks to Frank and his wife's love for the String Bands—sparked by the fact that his father-in-law is Dave Myers, former Captain of the Harrowgate String Band—we were given a home for our beloved competition.

On very short notice, Frank and his entire team did everything possible to create an incredible experience for our performers and fans. There were unforgettable moments, including each band having the opportunity to visit the reigning Super Bowl champions' locker room, take photos, and receive a personalized locker placard for every performing organization.

Once again, Mother Nature tried to throw a wrench into things with snow and colder-than-usual temperatures. Yet through every challenge, our organization showed its resilience, determination, and unwavering commitment to the tradition we all love.

It was an event I will never forget, surrounded by more than 4,600 fans.

Tonight, we celebrate excellence—not only our champions, but our entire division. Each year, together, we produce some of the most elaborate and creative productions ever seen anywhere in the world.

Each and every one of you should be proud of your performance, your hard work, and your dedication.

We would like to congratulate the Quaker City String Band on their incredible back-to-back victory and clean sweep championship at the 2026 String Band Spectacular. What an extraordinary achievement.

A special congratulations as well to Captain Jimmy Good for his stellar rendition of The Joker. Jimmy, your performance was truly over the top — creative, commanding, and unforgettable.

And finally, my heartfelt congratulations go out to the exceptional individuals inducted into the Hall of Fame Class of 2025. Your unwavering dedication and passion for the String Band Association shine through in everything you do. This prestigious honor is a testament to your hard work, commitment, and the countless hours you have given to preserving and advancing our cherished tradition.

The String Band Division now faces some serious challenges and a time for honest soul-searching. We must make some of the most important decisions we have ever faced—decisions about what we need to do, and the smart choices required to secure our future.

At the same time, there is great reason for optimism. With renewed partnerships, new friends, and tremendous opportunities ahead of us, the future can be very bright. As we celebrate not only our 125th year, but also the upcoming 250th anniversary of our nation, we find ourselves at a pivotal moment in our history.

The question before us is simple: Do we seize this moment and chart our course with optimism, professionalism, and unity—ensuring this tradition continues to thrive? Or do we remain comfortable with the status quo and risk slowly watching it fade?

The future of the String Bands will be determined by the choices we make together.

String Band Hall of Fame



1956	JACK TOWERS	1989	NICHOLAS (DUKE) BUONPASTORE	2012	JIM BROWNE
1957	JOSEPH A. FERKO		STAN POJAT		JACK DAILEY
1958	JAMES A. DURNING	1990	THOMAS E. KNIG		JOHN JORDAN
1959	FRED J. KESEL		LEN GIACOBETTI, SR.		ED LYNCH
1960	PETER A. BROOMALL	1991	WILLIAM SPEZIALE		JOHN WERNEGA
1961	RAYMOND ENDRISS		DAVID ANDERSON, JR.		BILL GARTON
1962	ROBERT RUNKLE, JR.	1992	FRANK ANELLO		WARREN RIVELL
1963	RAYMOND GURT	1993	JOSEPH BROGAN		ANTHONY TENUTO
1964	WALTER KROP	1994	JAMES FOX, JR.	2013	MARK DANIELEWICZ
1965	HARRY STRAUB		JOHN MILLAWAY		DAN MARAKOWSKI
1966	HARRY LAWSON	1995	MIKE RAYER		DAN SPENCER
1967	WILLIAM MINK	1998	JOHN G. (OZZIE) OSTROWSKI		JOE VOLKERT
	HARRY WHITMAN		DANIEL F. CREEDON, III	2014	DENNY PALANDRO
1968	JOHN FRALINGER	1999	WILLIAM BOWEN, JR.		BOB SCHUHL
	DAVE ANDERSON		WILLIAM BOWEN, SR.		ED WEISSER
1969	ROBERT HALL	2000	JAMES (Jimmy) KING	2015	PETER J. (PETE) BROOMALL, SR.
	JOHN HOGG	2002	WALTER (DUKE) BURKHARDT		JAMIE CALDWELL
1970	JOHN BAUKUS		JOHN MACHALOWSKI		STEVE COPER
	FRED CALANDRA		DON MORRISSEY		ROBERT A. (BOB) KING
1971	ADAM QUAGLIA		JIM MCKNIGHT		LEO VOLZ
	JOSEPH BRUECKS		JOHN R. PIGNOTTI, JR.	2016	LEO DIGNAM
1972	GEORGE DUFFY		ROBERT W. QUAILE, SR.		DOMINIC DIODATA
	ROBERT ZIEGLER	2003	FRANCIS J. FOIDL, JR.		JOHN GILBERT
1973	JIM DONAGHY		HARRY HILL		HAROLD PEOPLES
	PETE AMADIE		TOM LOOMIS	2017	ALEX DEPUTRON
1974	JOHN ARLETH		JAMES MORAN, JR.		HON. JAKE HART
	HENRY J. KUNZIG, SR.		J. KEVIN O'BRIEN		JOHN KEANE
1975	JOHN E. MAYER	2004	GEORGE J. BADEY, III		BOB LIGHTFOOT
	JOSEPH PISUZKO		ROBERT (BOBBY) CUNNINGHAM	2018	HARRY BROWN, JR.
1976	EDWARD VENCKUS		TOM DONAHUE		CHARLES R. GRASER
	ARTHUR (LINK) GARDNER		CHARLIE NICHOLAS	2019	JIM MULLER, SR.
	ANDY OAKLEY	2005	THOMAS FERRY	2020	JAMES BUCHAK JIAN, SR.
1977	ANTHONY (IGGY) GENEVA		THEODORE F. KUDRICK		THOMAS (SHAGGY) ROBISON
	JOSEPH BLASS		EDWARD MOYER		ANGELO LUTZ
1978	HENRY KUNZIG, JR.		BOB CORCORAN	2021	EDWARD REAGAN
	HERB SMITH, JR.		JOHN RASMUS, SR.		HARRY HARGESHIEMER
1979	RON MOYER		CHARLIE ROETZ		LEONARD CAMUCCIO
	HERMAN SEFLIN		FRAN ROTHWEIN	2022	HARRY RIVELL
1980	JAMES BROOMALL	2006	ANTHONY CELENZA		JIM MCGUGAN III
	ANTHONY (TISH) BORDONI		JERRY LAROSA, JR.		SAM REGALBUTO
1981	JAMES M. DRIADON	2007	JOSEPH KING	2023	BOB COLLINS
	JOHN WALSH		CHARLES KOCHENSKY		ROBERT (BOBBY) HAYWOOD
1982	TOM A. HOWLEY	2008	MIKE (LAPP) LAPERGOLA		STEVEN BUJNOWSKI
	JOSEPH L. BRESSET		SCOTT MOYER	2024	JOSEPH FARRELL
1983	DON KEIR	2009	BOB FARRELL		JACK MILLS
	BILL (CURLY) CONNERS		SAM HAMILTON, SR.	2025	JAMES BROWNE III
1984	RAY DANIELEWICZ		RAY MALACH		MICHAEL (CRASH) RIDDLE
	WILLIAM R. KRUZENBERGER	2010	HON. ROBERT (BOB) BRADY		LOUIS SPEZIALE
1985	JOSEPH DEIGHAN		JOSEPH BUJNOWSKI	2026	JOSEPH POMANTE
	PHIL PESCHI		JOSEPH LESO		CHRIS FARR
1986	JOSEPH A. VENUTO		DENNIS QUAILE		JOHN J. EVANS
	CLIFFORD J. JOHNSON	2011	JERRY CROMPTON		
1987	JACK HEE		CHERYL CROWE		
	BOB SHANNON, JR.		MARTY GOOD		
1988	AL PRIMAVERA, JR.		STEVE HIGHSMITH		
	EDWARD P. BROOMALL		JIM JAEP		
			MARGARET (PEG) RULLO		
			JIM TATAR, SR.		

“Old Timers” Hall of Fame

1977	AL FINK	1993	FRANK KOHRI	2006	FRANK ROTHWEIN
1978	DAVID (POP) ANDERSON	1994	JOHN POOLER, SR.	2007	HARRY BROWN, SR.
1979	AL PRIMAVERA, SR.	1995	RICH NOTTIS, SR.		BOB MORRISSEY
1980	SAM HAMILTON, JR.	1996	JAMES J. FOX, SR.	2008	CY DALY
1981	JOSEPH RILEY	1997	JOSEPH LONG		ROBERT E. (BOB) DICKS
1982	JAMES J. KING	1998	JOHN (POP) PIGNOTTI, SR.		ROBERT H. FINNIGAN
1983	HENRY DUNAWAY	1999	ROBERT (POP) SHANNON	2009	ARCHIE WHITE
1984	EDWARD (RAB) CARTER	2000	RUSSELL (MR FIG) FIGUEROA		SPENCE WHITE
1985	JOE (BAGEL) STRINE	2001	JOSEPH (JOE T) TRINACRIA	2010	AL KOENIG
1986	AL STEWART	2002	CHARLES N. MURARESKU, SR.		DONALD REEVES
1987	CARL JANKIEWICZ	2003	ANGELO CARANGO	2021	MICHAEL CAPUTO, JR.
1988	JOSEPH GIARDINO, SR.		JOHN WRIGHT, SR.	2023	GEORGE (BUCKY) PINE, JR.
1989	JOSEPH JANKOWSKI	2004	WILLIAM (POP) DEISSORTH	2024	JOHN (UNCLE JACK) CHRISTY
1990	GENE M. NEMETH		JAMES (POP) MCKNIGHT		ROBERT TRAUB
1991	MICKEY MALLON	2005	BOB HOLZ	2026	JOSEPH FORSTER
1992	CLEMENT C. RENDE		JIM MURRAY		



2026 Hall of Fame Inductee

Joseph Pomante



Esteemed members of The Philadelphia Mummers String Band Association Hall of Fame Committee: Please allow me to present, on behalf of The Officers and Members of The James Durning String Band, our beloved Captain, Joseph Pomante for consideration to be inducted into The Philadelphia Mummers String Band Association Hall of Fame.

Joe, or Asti as he is affectionately known, started his Mummers career with The Aqua String Band in 1976. Asti marched with Aqua until after the 1978 parade. He then joined The Durning String Band after The Show of Shows in 1978 at the suggestion of our then music director Anthony D'Amore. Joe had been taking accordion lessons from Anthony and Anthony could see the tremendous talent and potential that Joe possessed.

In 1980, Joe took a leave of absence from the band when he enlisted in The United States Air Force to serve his country. After his honorable discharge, Joe rejoined The Durning String Band in 1985.

In 1988, The Durning String Band and The Garden State String Band merged. Joe played an integral part in the not so easy task of drafting the by-laws of both bands into one document. This started Joe on a lifelong path of service to our band that continues to this day. There has never been a time since Asti has not served the band in some capacity. Over the years, he has served numerous terms as the music director and the presentation director. He has been the producer for our recordings. He has sat or still

sits on our music, presentation, building, fundraising, by-laws and recruiting committees. Joe is also a fixture on our theme committee, quite often serving as the chairperson.

After the 2009 parade, Joe was unanimously elected as only the 9th captain in Durning's long history. 2026 will be Asti's 17th year as Captain of The Durning String Band! This is a tenure second to only Jim Durning's 20 years as Captain of Durning. Joe had his best finish as captain in 2016 when he placed 5th. While he is proud of this accomplishment, Joe never looks for personal recognition or attention as it is the success of the organization that matters to him.

In 2025, at Durning's 90th Anniversary Gala, Joe was one of five inductees in the inaugural class of Durning's newly formed Hall of Fame. It was my honor and privilege to be chosen to induct my friend. As I stated in his induction speech, "in my 45 years in our hobby, I have never seen an individual give so much of themselves to an organization. He does it all without any fanfare or attention. From running sectionals to giving lessons to new members, from going unannounced to play music for an ailing member in hospice to running up a steep embankment to make sure the senior citizens watching feel included in the parade, from talking to high school marching band members at a standstill in a parade to dancing with toddlers and senior citizens, he promotes the hobby of Mummery wherever he goes".

Joe has been married to his wife Maureen for 37 years. They have 3 beautiful daughters and have recently been blessed with 3 precious grandchildren. Mummery is a family tradition in the Pomante household. All three of Joe's daughters are members of Durning and you can see them every New Year's Day dancing proudly, side by side with their father.

Joe taught himself to play the alto saxophone. He plays whatever role is required of him to make the band sound and look better. Joe sits in at music rehearsals and helps run both accordion, banjo and alto sax sectionals. He works with our members to help them become better musicians and is willing to give lessons to anyone wanting to learn saxophone or accordion.

From day to day, you never know what role you will see Joe filling. At any given time, you can see him playing sax or accordion, building props for New Year's Day, painting scenery, attending dance rehearsals in Pennsauken, helping with drill rehearsal in Magnolia or music rehearsal in Gloucester City. In the weeks prior to New Year's Day, Joe is a whirlwind blowing through the club just long enough to check on things and see what is needed after coming from our seamstress, the hardware store or a trip to New York City to pick up a certain type of fabric that can't be found anywhere else.

Joe is a tireless champion of our hobby. Wherever he goes, you can hear him talking about Mummers, educating those who are not familiar with our hobby and trying to recruit new members into the hobby.

I can honestly state that if it was not for Joe's commitment to The Durning String Band and his passion for Mummery, Durning may have ceased to exist long ago. Joe's positive energy gets everyone excited and invested throughout the year and makes people want to be involved!

As the face of our band, you can often find Asti at other Mummers organizations clubhouses and functions, either representing our band at their open houses or presenting a donation check from our band to various charities. Joe is also willing to help other clubs out as much as possible, whether that means giving them materials that they have run out of, loaning an instrument during a parade to replace a broken one or lending his years of knowledge and experience to help another club succeed.

For his dedication to our organization, his passion for Mummery and his tireless efforts to promote our hobby, The Officers and Membership of The Durning String Band are proud to nominate Mr Joseph "Asti" Pomante for enshrinement in The Philadelphia Mummers String Band Hall of Fame.

Yours respectfully in Mummery,

Robert T. Collins
President, Durning String Band
PMSBA HOF - 2023

Gary Pisarek
Vice President, Durning String Band

2026 Hall of Fame Inductee



Joseph Forster



Please allow me to present, on behalf of The Officers and Members of The James Durning String Band, our beloved member, Joseph Forster for consideration to be inducted in The PMSBA "Old Timers" Hall of Fame.

Joe became interested in music in 1963. He had many cousins who were members of The Polish American String Band and his admiration of them led to Joe taking saxophone lessons. Joe continued perfecting his craft while in high school as a member of the marching band, concert band and jazz band. In October of 1970, Joe joined the Broomall String Band at the request of Johnny Avis. Johnny was Broomall's music director and was also Joe's saxophone teacher.

Joe's first Mummers Parade was in 1971 with Broomall. The theme was titled "Love" and earned Broomall 18th prize. This theme title was quite significant and telling, as a life-long love of being a Mummer had begun. After doing his first Show of Shows in 1971, several members convinced Joe to move with them to The Garden State String Band.

In 1976, Joe transitioned from alto saxophone to tenor. He was gaining a reputation as a musician that anyone would be happy to play with in a jam session. In 1980, Joe heeded the calling to take on a larger role within the band. He was nominated and elected as a trustee officer in 1980.

Joe remained with Garden State until 1988 when The Garden State String Band merged with The Durning String Band. Never one to take a back seat, Joe played a significant role in adapting the combined by-laws of each organization into one document. In 1994, Joe was elected as treasurer and the very next year, he received his 25-year Gold Lifetime Membership Card.

In 1996, Joe was elected as The President of The Durning String Band. These were turbulent times for the band. The City of Gloucester deemed the band's current clubhouse was unfit to stand as a structure. Durning was left without a club, but Joe and the other officers acted quickly and secured other rented practice facilities.

1996 also saw a substantial decline in the membership of Durning. Always the problem solver, Joe presided over the decision to open the membership to females. It was at this time that Durning and The Mummers became a Forster family tradition when Joe's wife JoAnn, his daughter Karen and his son Greg joined the band. Joe was able to hold the band together, keep it solvent and ensure that Durning made its 61st consecutive year up Broad Street. Joe was rewarded for his efforts with a unanimous election to a second term as president in 1997.

Joe took on the role of Financial Secretary again in 1998 and 1999 and again from 2013 – 2015. In 2018, Joe decided to expand on his musical repertoire by joining The Gloucester City "Old Timers" String Band. Sadly, due to physical issues catching up with Joe, after 54 consecutive years, 2024 was Joe's last time in front of the judges on New Year's Day.

Joe continues to indulge in his love of music as a member of The Gloucester City String Band. You can also catch Joe participating in jam sessions at The Durning Clubhouse on any given Wednesday night or Sunday afternoon once rehearsal has wrapped up. One of Joe's favorite times of the year is participating in the jam sessions of Durning Day, where he gets to play with old friends and newer musicians just starting out.

Joe will be the first to tell you how fortunate he is. This long-standing musical hobby that he entered into some 55 years ago has provided him with the opportunity to meet hundreds of people and make life-long, treasured friendships. Joe Forster's life is truly a life filled with music and Mummery.

In closing, The Officers and Membership of The James Durning String Band could think of no finer tribute to reward his many years of leadership and dedication than to nominate Joseph Forster for induction into The Philadelphia Mummers String Band Old Timers Hall of Fame in this, our 90th anniversary year. We thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully in Mummery,

Gary Pisarek
Vice President
Durning String Band



2026 Hall of Fame Inductee

Chris Farr



Chris Farr’s contributions to the String Band tradition are nothing short of extraordinary. Chris has written 10 First Prize and thirty-one Top Three musical arrangements in the String Band Division. Those results reflect not only consistent excellence, but also the trust and respect he has earned among his peers.

Chris began his String Band journey with Fralinger String Band alongside his father and brothers, learning the craft and spirit of mummery the way so many of us did—through family, community, and shared tradition. As his musicianship developed, he built a life devoted to music and education. A graduate of the University of the Arts (B.M. 1994; M.M. 1995), Chris served there as Professor of Jazz Studies and Division Head for Instrumental Performance, then moving onto the faculty at Temple University, mentoring the next generation while continuing to elevate the art form we celebrate.

Over the years, Chris has arranged and consulted with nine string bands and created more than 40 thematic musical arrangements for seven different bands. His work stands out for its creativity, adaptability, and deep understanding of what makes a program succeed—musically and visually. He doesn’t simply write charts; he helps bring each theme to life, collaborating closely to ensure the final product is clear, compelling, and ready to “hit the street” at the highest level.

Just as important as his talent is his character. Chris is a generous teacher, a valued advisor, and a friend to the String Band community. He has supported young musicians who want to learn the craft of arranging, contributed his insight to judging conversations and symposiums, and consistently shows up with the same spirit that defines the best of mummery: work together to make things more entertaining, impactful - better.

Behind that sustained commitment is also the steadfast support of his family. The time, energy, and dedication required to participate at this level isn’t possible without a strong foundation at home, and Chris is fortunate to have a family that believes in this tradition and supports him in the many hours it takes to create, collaborate, and contribute year after year. Their encouragement helps make his continued involvement—and his continued excellence—possible.

For his remarkable achievements, his lasting influence, and his unwavering dedication to our tradition, Chris Farr is richly deserving of induction into the String Band Association Hall of Fame.

2026 Hall of Fame Inductee



John J. Evans



The Joseph A. Ferko String Band is proud to announce John J. Evans, Sr. into the Philadelphia String Band Association Hall of Fame. - a man whose life reflects the very spirit of our tradition.

John's service to the SBA spans generations. Following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Captain Harry T. Lawson - a charter member and founder of the Avalon String Band - John has faithfully served as Alternate Delegate, Recording Secretary, and committee member, while supporting Philabundance, the Palandro Ferry Foundation, and Mummers Against Cancer for the String Band Association.

John's journey began in 1965, marching with the Avalon String Band at just two and a half years old as a Munchkin alongside his brother Joe. That early beginning grew into a lifelong devotion.

As an alto saxophonist with the Duffy String Band, John found not only a musical home but a mentor in Captain Henry J. Kunzig Sr, whose guidance and generosity shaped John's path. John paid that forward by organizing serenades and benefits, teaching music, assistant musical director and drill director of Broomall String Band and always stepping up when help was needed.

Known affectionately as a true "mum geek," John is an avid historian and collector, preserving the stories and memories of all bands. One of his greatest honors has been marching alongside his three sons, John, Ryan, and Sean Patrick, as well as his sister, nieces, and nephews, keeping this tradition alive through generations.

John proudly played with various bands and found his home as one of Joe's Boys in Ferko String Band. In 2023, John was named Captain of the Joseph A. Ferko String Band - a role which he served for one year. He continues to serve as Recording Secretary, as well as an active playing member of the Ferko String Band.

Not only is John dedicated to this great tradition, he will be retiring in February 2026 from the Philadelphia Police department where he spent 37 years protecting and serving the public. John's heart and dedication to the SBA, Ferko, and our parade ensure that this remarkable tradition will continue for years to come.

Congratulations to a fine gentleman, truly deserving of this prestigious honor.





2026 People Behind The Scenes

Joe Mulewski *Uptown String Band*



The Uptown String Band is proud to honor Mr. Joe Mulewski, a man whose dedication, reliability, and quiet strength have defined nearly two decades of service to our organization. Joe has been a member of Uptown for 19 years, and in that time, he has become one of the most indispensable contributors to the daily life of our band. Though a man of few words, his actions have spoken volumes.

Joe's commitment to Uptown is unmatched. For almost twenty years, he has been present at nearly every job; often arriving early, staying late, and handling the behind-the-scenes work that keeps our band moving. Whether packing coolers, loading buses, passing out water during performances, or lending a hand at every fundraiser, Joe has consistently stepped forward without hesitation. His reliability has been a cornerstone of our operations, and his willingness to do whatever is needed has earned the respect and gratitude of every member.

His leadership extended beyond logistics. Joe served as Uptown's Chief Marshal for ten years, leading our marshals with precision and pride. His contributions have been recognized through some of our highest honors, including the Presidential Achievement Award in 2013 and induction into the Uptown String Band Hall of Fame in 2019, a testament to the impact he has made on our organization.

Outside the band, Joe is a proud Vietnam veteran, carrying with him a legacy of service, discipline, and humility that shines through in everything he does. His steadfast presence and unwavering dedication have shaped the Uptown experience for countless members over the years.

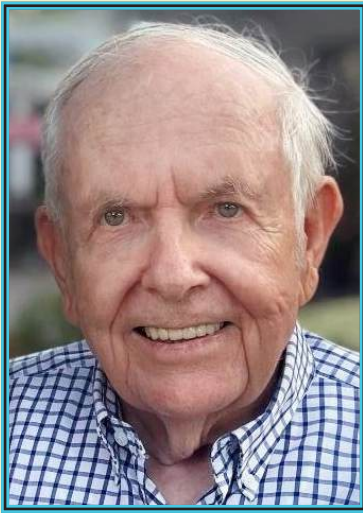
The Uptown String Band could not be more grateful for what Joe has meant to us, nor could we ever fully express the appreciation he deserves. He has embodied the true spirit of the Man Behind the Scene in every way; quietly, consistently, and wholeheartedly supporting the band he loves.



2026 People Behind The Scenes



John Clemency *Fralinger String Band*



The Fralinger String Band proudly honors John Clemency, whose more than twenty years of dedication, service, and unwavering commitment have left an indelible mark on our organization.

Since joining Fralinger in 2003, John has exemplified integrity, dependability, and a true spirit of service. In his vital role as Transportation Director, he expertly manages all logistics for our bus and truck rentals, ensuring that the band, costumes, and instruments arrive safely and on time to performances of every kind—parades, concerts, corporate events, and more. His work, often unseen but always essential, keeps Fralinger moving.

John's spirit of service predates his time with Fralinger. While supporting his two daughters as Equipment Manager for the Gloucester City High School Marching Band, he shared with a member that he had always dreamed of joining a Mummers String Band but did not play an instrument. Learning that he could serve as a Marshal—and make a meaningful impact—opened the door.

The Fralinger family embraced him immediately, welcoming the time, talent, and heart he was eager to contribute.

What began as helping behind the scenes quickly revealed just how indispensable John would become. He mastered the tasks that keep the organization running: packing for bus trips, copying music, sweeping the garage, driving trucks when needed, and even performing in costume on occasion. Over time, his responsibilities grew into full leadership of all transportation and bus contracting for New Year's Day and every event throughout the year.

As Transportation Director, John's notable accomplishments include:

- Coordinating bus transportation for up to 30 performances annually for more than two decades
- Traveling with the band to Hong Kong in 2007, overseeing the international transport of instruments and costumes for 55 members
- Driving round-trip from Philadelphia to New Orleans in 2012 with the equipment truck for Fralinger's multiple Mardi Gras krewe parade appearances

John and his wife, Nancy, reside in Gloucester City, NJ, and raised five children—Tom; Rich (who recently passed away); Mary Jo; Anna; and Sarah.

Whether organizing transportation, marshaling, assisting with props in the Fralinger garage, or simply offering a helping hand and a kind word, John's dedication shines through in everything he does. Beyond his many measurable achievements, it is his character we cherish most—his humility, tireless work ethic, and unwavering support for the Fralinger family.

John Clemency embodies the very essence of a "Person Behind the Scenes."

It is with deep gratitude and heartfelt admiration that we recognize him as the 2026 People Behind the Scenes Award recipient. His example inspires not only our membership today, but also the generations of Fralinger members who will follow.

Congratulations, John—and thank you for more than two decades of extraordinary service to Fralinger and to the tradition of Philadelphia Mummers.

PHILADELPHIA MUMMERS STRING BAND ASSOCIATION

Lifetime Achievement Award

Each year the String Band Association presents a lifetime achievement award to a string band member for his or her individual accomplishments for the String Band Association going above and beyond to improve the quality of the Parade and promote the spirit of mummery. Following is the listing of the award recipients.



2003 Herbie Smith	2010 Mike Rayer	2017 David E. Anderson, Jr.	2024 Cheryl Crowe
2004 John Machalowski	2011 Joe Deighan	2018 Robert Shannon	2025 Marty Good, Sr.
2005 Ray Malach	2012 Bill Bowen, Jr.	2019 Jack Hee, Jr.	Angelo Lutz
2006 John Gilbert	2013 Bill Garton	2020 Frank Foidl	Dan Spencer
2007 Robert Qualie, Sr.	2014 Bill Speziale	2021 John Pignotti	
2008 Tom King	2015 James Fox, Sr.	2022 John Jordan	
2009 James Fox, Jr.	2016 James Donaghy	2023 Dominic Diodata	

Presidents Award

2000 James Donaghy	2007 Wayne Boyd	2014 Mike Tomaselli	2021 Frank Quinn
2001 John Zachwieja	2008 Bill Patterson	2015 Bill Bowen	2022 Dan Spencer
2002 Cliff Johnson	2009 Cliff Johnson	2016 Steve Volkert	2023 Louis Speziale
2003 Tom Ferry	2010 Dominic Diodata	2017 Dan Marakowski	2024 T.J. Ferry
2004 Charlie Nicholas	2011 Leo Volz	2018 Jack Dailey	2025 Jacky Bam Bam
2005 Anthony Celenza, Jr.	2012 Joe Volkert	2019 Sam Regalbuto	
2006 George Badey	2013 Mike & Heather Brown	2020 Marty Good, Sr.	

Officer of the Year

2000 Jerry Larossa	2007 Perry DiMatteo	2014 Denny Palandro	2021 Frank Quinn
2001 Joe Venuto	2008 Daniel Marakowski	2015 Jack Hee	2022 Mike Riddle & Steve Coper
2002 David E. Anderson, Jr.	2009 None Awarded	2016 Denny Palandro	2023 Shawn Blubaugh
2003 John Zachwieja	2010 None Awarded	2017 Jack Hee	2024 Angelo Lutz
2004 Charlie Nicholas	2011 Daniel Marakowski	2018 Ray Danielewicz	2025 Shawn Blubaugh
2005 Cliff Johnson	2012 Ron Iannacone	2019 Marty Good	
2006 Tom Loomis	2013 Cheryl Crowe	2020 Thor McLaughlin	

Award of Distinction

2022 Jessica Mazzone	2023 IBEW Local 98	2025 John Little / Seaport Pier
2023 Barry Fisher / Me TV/WFMZ	2023 Dave Grzybowski	
2023 Joe Billhimer / Live Casino	2024 Larry Mendte & Dawn Stensland	



THE PHILADELPHIA MUMMERS STRING BAND ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A DEEP APPRECIATION TO THE CHAIRPERSONS AND MEMBERS OF THE BELOW COMMITTEES THAT ASSIST IN ORGANIZING THE MANY PARADES AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH OUR ASSOCIATION:

NEW YEAR'S DAY PARADE COMMITTEE	MIKE RIDDLE
NEW YEAR'S DAY RULES COMMITTEE	THOR MCLAUGHLIN
NEW YEAR'S DAY JUDGING COMMITTEE	LOUIS SPEZIALE
NEW YEAR'S DAY THEME COMMITTEE	DANIEL SPENCER
2024 & 2025 BANQUET COMMITTEE	FRANK QUINN, ANGELO LUTZ & CHERYL CROWE
2025 PROGRAM BOOKS	JOE CONNELLY
HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE	DANIEL SPENCER
BUSINESS AGENT	DOMINIC DIODATA
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE	FRANK QUINN
AUDIT COMMITTEE	JAY NESTOR
BY LAWS COMMITTEE	MIKE RIDDLE
MUMMERS MUSEUM COMMITTEE	SAM REGALBUTO & NICK MAGENTA
SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE	ALEX WALTON & T.J. FERRY
STRING BAND ASSOCIATION LUAU	SAM REGALBUTO & FRANK QUINN
STRING BAND WEEKEND IN WILDWOOD	SAM REGALBUTO

FOUNDATIONS

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE	ANGELO LUTZ
PALANDRO-FERRY FOUNDATION	DENNY PALANDRO
MUMMERS AGAINST CANCER	GEORGE BALZER III
KELLY'S KIDZ TOY DRIVE	FRANK QUINN
KUBIAK MCCLOSKEY FOUNDATION	JAMES LIPPI
AHMAD BUTLER FOUNDATION	LATONYA MORRISON

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN ANY OF THE COMMITTEES LISTED ABOVE, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEES, YOUR STRING BAND ASSOCIATION DELEGATE OR PRESIDENT SAM REGALBUTO TO EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST.



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CHRIS FARR *on his induction into the*

STRING BAND HALL OF FAME!



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SHAMROCK SHENANIGANS

Captain: Austin Tilley



OFFICERS

Board of Directors:

President - Mike Riddle

Vice President - Edward Maminski

Recording Secretary - Austin Tilley

Treasurer - CJ Poirier

Financial Secretary - Ken Maminski

Booking Agent - Michael Osowiecki

Steward - Shane Coleman

Fundraising Director - Joe Farrell

Sergeant at Arms - Alex Lamborn

Captain - Austin Tilley

Drill Master - Ed Maminski

Music Director - Andrew Maminski

Music Arranger - Fran Kerr Jr.

Choreographer - Riley Theil

Costumer - Regal Costumes

Costume Designer - David Rigler Designs

Theme Committee - Shane Coleman, Michael

Fitzpatrick, Brennan Flaherty, C.J. Poirier, Corey

Riddle, Coleton Rivera, Austin Tilley



Theme Concept

Taking you through a “Day in the Life” of a Leprechaun mayor and his bustling tiny town. The sounds of a bagpipe fill the air, while flowers bloom on a hillside. The inhabitants of the mushroom fields awake and shamrocks pour from carts. Everyone joins together on the “One Road” to greet their Mayor as he appears from his shoe abode!

From a “golden coins” rain shower, our captain then unveils the rainbow, and invites our colorful friends who live at the end of it, with their lucky Irish Gold, to join.

We’ll take a break from our busy day, to go by the pond, where we will encounter more of our friends, flying insects, fishing, and sailing! Then it’ll be right back to work as we continue to move our gold to storage, but trouble is afoot...

The pesky Giant is back, looking for our gold. A few brave townfolk attempt to take him on, but only our brave captain can take him down! In celebration, we take a trip to our tree stump Pub. Here we end our day with singing, dancing, and GOLD!... but you know that gold will always bring our BIG friend back around.

2025-2026 Officers

Philadelphia Mummers String Band New Years Association, Inc.



Sam Regalbuto
President



Thor McLaughlin
Vice President



John Evans
Recording Secretary



Mike Riddle
Treasurer



Steve Coper
Financial Secretary



Shawn Blubaugh
Publicity Director



Nick Magenta
String Band Director



Cheryl Crowe
String Band Director



Angelo Lutz
Sergeant at Arms



CONFECTION PERFECTION



OFFICERS

- President – Jim Crompton
- Vice President - Jerry Crompton Jr
- Treasurer – Mike Spivak
- Financial Secretary – Eric Johnson
- Recording Secretary – Mike Myslinski
- Members at Large – Bobby Coyle(Chairman)
- Jim Tatar
- Kyle Matusik
- Christian Hankerson
- Sergeant at Arms – Jeff Davidson
- Music Director/Arranger – Joe Urzillo Jr
- Presentation Director – Jeff Crompton
- Captain – Bobby Gagliardi
- Business Manager – Carmen Maniaci
- Theme Committee Chairman – Jeff Crompton
- Costume Director – Jim Tatar
- Club Steward – Charlie Cook
- Costumer – Regal Costumes
- Choreographer – Dana Theil
- Costume and Set Designer – Russ Fama
- Painter – Mark Kannengieszer

Theme Concept

Confection Perfection! The Baker of Pastrytown faces his biggest challenge: a colossal, single-day cake for the town square! With the help of his whimsical crew—Blueberry Pie Guy, Red Velvet, Donuts, and more—they stir up the ultimate recipe, proving that the perfect cake requires a dash of everyone.

Prepare for a tiered triumph of flavor, color, and music.





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MUSIC STORE GALORE

Captain: Jake Kudrick



OFFICERS

President - C.T. Kochensky
 Captain - Jake Kudrick
 Business Agent/Treasurer - Cheryl Crowe
 (609-320-3001)
 Secretary - Peg Rullo
 Music Arranger - Bob Leso
 Set Designer - Tim Magenta
 Presentation Director - Sharon Crowe
 Music Director - Anthony Ovecka
 Choreographer - Lisa Miller-Rogers
 Head Marshal - Joe Connelly
 Painter - John McGarvey

Special Thanks to the hard working and dedicated committees, band members, marshals and social members who helped Duffy this year!!

Uncle Jack 87 years young.
 Cheryl Crowe, first female to receive the SBA Lifetime Achievement Award.



Theme Concept

Stroll past Duffy's Music Store and hear "Ode to Joy" and instruments being practiced within. Inside, "Marriage of Figaro" plays as violins emerge. Our shopkeeper slides from his perch accompanied by his pianos to "Piano Roll Blues." They are joined by fiddles and a drummer playing a full kit.

The shopkeeper summons his songbook to "I Write The Songs", flipping through its pages on a journey through Latin ("Copacabana") and operatic ("The Anvil Chorus") styles. The final page flips and sheet music erupts from the book with banjos and accordions featured on "Music! Music! Music!"

The percussionists take over as drums and cymbals roll by, followed by the shopkeeper and his drums taking us to the Doo Wop era with "Shake, Rattle & Roll" He leads his band through Beethoven's "Fifth Symphony" and demonstrates his longevity in the business by taking this classical tune on a spin through the decades.

The instrumentalists revert to an operatic sound with "William Tell Overture" but something is not right! Maestro realizes his error and corrects the sheet music as they play the classic overture. Before closing up shop, the shopkeeper and inventory give you one last reminder that "You Can't Stop The Beat."

**The Officers & Members of The Durning String Band
congratulate our two Joe's on their induction into The
Philadelphia Mummer's String Band Association Hall of
Fame! Truly an honor well deserved!**



**JOE FORSTER PMSBA OLD TIMERS HOF CLASS OF 2026
CAPTAIN JOE "ASTI" POMANTE PMSBA HOF CLASS OF 2026**



BE OUR GUEST

Captain: Joe Pomante



OFFICERS

- President – Bob Collins
- Vice President – Gary Pisarek
- Captain – Joe “Asti” Pomante
- Treasurer – Erin Collins
- Financial Secretary – Paul Wolf
- Recording Secretary – Steve Palsy
- Music Director – Rich Burr
- Presentation Director – Rich Marlow
- Sergeant-at-Arms – Eric Heidrich

Theme Committee

- Joe Pomante (Chairman), Rich Marlow,
- Rich Burr, Paul Wolf, Steve Palsy, Gary Pisarek,
- Wayne Robenolt, Cheryl Wolf, Logan Robenolt,
- Christine Boyd, Eric Heidrich, Phylcia Robenolt

Theme Consultants

- Music Arranger – Fran Kerr
- Banjo Arranger – Pat Bradley
- Choreographer – Michelle Villaronga at the
- Ronnie McLaughlin School of Dance
- Artist – Bill Bernard
- Percussion Arranger – Andrew Kruc

Theme Concept

There is an ominous tone in the air. Chimes ring out as the enchanted roses play a simple melody. The gates open and out jumps Lumiere! He greets Belle with a welcoming “Bon Jour!”, as he invites Belle into the castle for shelter.

A grand ball is taking place and Belle is now the guest of honor. The band is assembled around the grand staircase as they welcome Belle to the celebration by playing a song just for her. Lumiere introduces Belle to the royal guests. Everyone begins to mingle, dance and enjoy the evening.

Being the observant host that he is, Lumiere can see how much Belle is enjoying the music. He invites her to the music room to play the organ for her, accompanied by accordions, a flute and a bass fiddle. But BEWARE! The Beast is near! What was that going past the window? As the Beethoven Banjo Quartet springs forth to entertain Belle, she imagines being Under Paris Skies.

Lumiere senses that Belle has had enough excitement for the evening and takes her to her bed chamber so that she can freshen up. The Wardrobe has some ideas about what Belle should wear. Lumiere tells Belle “this is how I’d like to Dress You Up”, as he brings enchanted dresses to life.

Upon hearing of Belle’s love of books, Lumiere wants Belle to use her Pure Imagination as he orders a gigantic copy of her favorite book brought out. Belle is shown to the library. The Royal Librarians remind everyone that they are in a library, so they need to Shut Up And Dance With Me.

Now the enchanted roses deliver A Kiss From A Rose, but the presence of The Beast is sensed yet again! Count LaFleur, the Royal Saxophonist serenades an image of Belle, accompanied by Mozart’s Mandolins. Will true love be found before the last petal drops?

Belle is now whisked away to the grand dining hall as we invite her to BE OUR GUEST and we proudly present...her dinner. She is seated at a huge dining table as plates spin, dancers dance and all of the enchanted inhabitants of the castle entertain her. Finally, Lumiere introduces The Beast to Belle. Is this the end of the story...or the beginning of a beautiful relationship.



The Joseph A. Ferko String Band would like to congratulate John Evans into the String Band Association Hall of Fame!

His deep-rooted love of Mummery has led to invaluable contributions to this activity we all love and share.

Thank you, John!



Joseph A. Ferko String Band



Captain: Scott Ratzke, Jr.

SOUL STATION



OFFICERS

Captain - Scott Ratzke, Jr.
 Co-Captain - Jimmy DiGuglielmo
 President - Patrick Bradley
 Vice President - Matthew Gibson
 Recording Secretary - John Evans
 Treasurer - Roy Gibson
 Financial Secretary - Robert Stango
 Sergeant At Arms - Joseph D'Emilio
 Music Director - Matthew Gibson
 Assistant Music Director - Adam Welwood
 Music Arranger - John Wernega
 Music Librarian - Andy Esterly
 Presentation Director - Byron Friend
 Assistant Presentation Director - Andrew McHale,
 Scott Ratzke, Jr.
 Theme Chairperson - Justin Fayette
 Prop Director - Michael Pezzeca
 Costume Director - Jeanette Jackson
 Business Committee - 610-459-9303 - Patrick Bradley,
 Joseph D'Emilio, Frank Sesko
 Property Director - Michael Pezzeca
 Chief Marshall - William Riday
 String Band Association Delegates - Patrick Bradley,
 John Evans, Matthew Gibson
 Chaplain - Joseph D'Emilio
 Club Steward - Andrew McHale
 Website Administrator - Justin Fayette
Board of Directors - Nicholas Caggiano, Joseph
 D'Emilio, Renee Duffy, John Evans, Matthew Gibson,
 Roy Gibson, Lisa Kaiser, Scott Ratzke, Jr., Frank Sesko
Theme Committee - Justin Fayette, Chairperson,
 Byron Friend, Matthew Gibson, Jeannette Jackson,
 Michael Pezzeca, Scott Ratzke, Jr.
Music Committee - Matthew Gibson, Music Director,
 Adam Welwood, Andy Esterly, John Wernega
Presentation Committee - Byron Friend,
 Presentation Director, Assistants: Andrew McHale,
 Scott Ratzke Jr., Bryan Brady - Staging Coordinator,
 Dan Bruskin - Special Effect Coordinator, Development
 Assistants: Adam Welwood, Conor DiRocco, Grace
 Jerry, Stevie Conway, Cassandra Yashinsky, Riley Theil,
 Choreographer.
Costume Committee - Jeannette Jackson, Costume
 Director, Michael Caputo, Shoe Engineer, Costume
 Crew: Cassandra Yashinsky, Jimmy DiGuglielmo, Susan
 Pennypacker, Bob Jackson, Linda Volgraff,
 Missy Clifford.
Prop Committee - Michael Pezzeca, Prop / Set
 Coordinator, Assistant Prop Coordinators: Chris Halpin,
 Chris Salvatore. Erica Harney - Artist / Painter.

A special thank you to John Wernega, Music Arranger,
 Riley Theil, Choreographer, and our entire
 Theme Committee.

Theme Concept

“Soul Station” sets the Joseph A. Ferko String Band’s 2026 performance inside a playful reimagining of the world of Soul Train. The show begins with a traveling train engineer who crosses into the “Soul Station” universe—a place where a routine stop turns into an encounter with a rhythm-filled, retro-inspired realm. As he explores, the station reveals its unusual retro landmarks.

On behalf of the Theme Committee and the entire Joseph A. Ferko String Band, we want to congratulate **Jeanette Jackson**, on her recognition by the City of Philadelphia and Councilman Mark Squilla as the first African-American Female costume chairwoman in the history of String Bands.

On behalf of the entire Joseph A. Ferko String Band, we want to congratulate our former captain, **John Evans** on your induction into the Philadelphia Mummer's String Bands New Year Association – Hall of Fame.



CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE 2026
FIRST PLACE CAPTAIN WINNER
JIMMY GOOD



QUAKER CITY
STRING BAND

Quaker City String Band – 2026 First Prize

Captain
Good, Jim

Accordion
Rothwein, Fran

Banjo
Bamberski, Joe
Bradley, Pat
Ferry, Tj
Lippi, Jim
Morrison, Ed
Rivell, Jim
Rivell, Jim Jr.
Urzillo, Dominic

Tenor Saxophone
Brown, Harry Jr.
Brown, Mike "Spanky"
Brown, Shane
Cavanaugh, Paul
Eisenhower, Brian
Falcon, Julio Sr.
Farrell, Matt
Fletcher, Dylan
Fox, Jim III
Frattari, Lou
Oliveri, Lenny
Regalbuto, Rodney Jr.
Wisniewski, Tom

Alto Saxophone
Broomall, Pj Jr.
Brown, Aiden
Capaldi, John
Check, Len
Creedon, Dan IV
Falcon, Julio Jr.
Figueroa, Justin
Figueroa, Karl
Fox, Jason
Fox, Jim Jr.
Fox, Justin
Harvey, Bill Jr.
Kelly, Matt Jr.
Lemanowicz, Greg
McGugan, Jim III
McGugan, Jim IV
McGugan, Jim V
McGugan, Mike Sr.
McLaughlin, Kevin

Niewinski, Kenny
Quinn Frank, V
Rapone, Frank
Regalbuto, Rodney Sr.
Rothwein, Kyle
Rothwein, Nick
Stermel, Jamie
Stermel, Patrick
Yurick, Jim
Zulli, Mark

Baritone Saxophone
Kelly, Matt Sr.
Navickas, John
Salvato, Brian

Bass Saxophone
O'Driscoll, Ryan
O'Driscoll, Tim
Schonely, Chris
Wray, Scott

Percussion
Good, Marty Jr.
Graser, Scott
Muller, Jim Jr.
Rothwein, Shawn
Stinger, Kevin

Bass Fiddle
Harris, Joe
McGugan, Patrick
Rivell, Kevin
Roetz, Chalie Jr.
Roetz, Chris

Marshals
Adams, Michael
Baker, Dan
Bamberski, Joe Sr.
Bamberski, Matt
Barr, John
Barrett, Jim Sr.
Beck, Tj
Berdo, Noah
Bishop, Mike
Bradley, Patrick IV
Brass, Dave
Brass, Dave Jr.
Brett, Grayson
Broomall, Pete Sr.

Calter, Charlie
Caponegro, Dominic
Cassidy, Kevin
Castaneda, Alejandro
Chiario, Joe
Cieplinski, Matt
Coley, Billy
Connelly, Dennis
Craig, Michael Sr.
Craven, John
Creedon, Jim
Croteau, Evan
Curran, Bobby
Darling, Ethan
Deacon, Jim
Dejesse, Dino
Delquadro, Tony
Demarco, Lily
Demarco, Matt
Demarco, Rich
Depre, Jack
Depre, Jim
Desalis, John
Donnelly, Brian
Donnelly, Shane
Dorman, Kevin Jr.
Dorman, Kevin Sr.
Dougherty, Matt
Dudzic, Tom
Dymowski, Joe
Ells, John
Ferrante, Phil
Ficco, Matt
Forte, Len
Fox, Eric
Fox, John
Fox, Kevin
Fragale, Jon
Gallagher, Sean
Gault, Pat
Good, Marty Sr.
Good, Scott
Graser, Chuck Jr.
Graser, Chuck III
Graser, Luke
Graser, Megan
Graser, Sean
Haggarty, Joe
Halner, Steve
Harris, Ryan
Hasson, Connor

Herner, Tony
Hickey, Bill
Jarosz, John
Johnson, Fred
Kapshuniak, Charlie Sr.
Keane, John
Kelly, Fran Sr.
Kelly, Fran Jr.
Kelly, Kieran
Killian, Fran
Koszelak, John
Kromchad, John
Kwapinski, Joe
Lapergola, Mike
Larocca, Nolan
Lees, Bob
Little, Andy
Lord, George
Mackin, Ed Jr.
Mackin, Ed Sr.
Manigrassi, Jim
Mann, Stephen
Marren, Jack
Martin, Cam
Mastero, Rich
Mastero, Steve
McCormick, Rod
McGugan, Dan
McGuire, Michael
Mckenna, Brian
Mckeown, Mark
Mcmanus, Pat
Middleton, Bob
Morrisette, Steve Sr.
Morrisette, Steve Jr.
Muller, Jim Sr.
Muller, Justin
Murphy, Steve
Napierkowski, Rich
Natoli, Bill IV
Naugle, Thomas
Nolan, Shane
Osborne, Jeff
Oskowitz, Jack
Pagano, Mike
Pagano, Sal
Pagano, Steve
Perry, Shawn
Podagrosi, Alex
Pupis, Matt
Quinn, Frank IV

Rauch, Mike
Regalbuto, Dean
Regalbuto, Sam
Reiber, Dave
Rivera, Anthony
Roetz, Charlie Sr.
Roney, Mike Jr.
Runowski, Bob
Salvato, Hank
Salvatore, John
Sanborn, Aussie Jr.
Sanborn, Aussie Sr.
Sanborn, Justin
Sanborn, Phil
Scheuren, Andrew
Schwartz, Chris
Screnci, Nicholas
Shallow, Jim
Sicilia, Pat
Slivinski, Shawn
Smith, Jerry
Stinger, Larry
Strine, Joe
Thompson, Mike
Tomaselli, Mike
Trettin, John
Trombetta, Anthony III
Turner, John
Vaughan, Casey
Vaughan, Mick
Vaughan, Mike
Verrilli, Carmen
Walsh, Pat
Ward, Charlie
Watts, Justin
Watts, Scott Jr.
Watts, Scott Sr.
Wisniewski, Carter
Wisniewski, Tom Jr.
Wojnar, Tom
Wolski, Sebastian
Wood, Buzzy
Wray, Cole
Wright, Joe
Yocum, Bill
Yurick, Steve
Zulli, Dominic
Zulli, Nick

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Bill Natoli Jr.

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Kyle Rothwein

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Rod McCormick

Steward
Jamie Stermel

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Jim McGugan IV

Captain
Jimmy Good

Music Director
Michael "Spanky" Brown

Music Arranger
John Wernega

Drill Master
Matt Farrell

Choreographer
Andrea Hendri Kenney

Costumer
Regal Costumes, Inc.

Costume Designer
Sean Graser

Make-Up Designer
Jim Lasasso

Make-Up
The Ladies of Quaker City

Club Historian
Joe "Bagel" Strine

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MAKING WAVES

Captain: Brad Bowen



OFFICERS

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Music Director Emeritus - Herb Smith
Captain Emeritus - Bill Bowen Jr
Presentation Director Emeritus - Mike Rayer
Music Arranger - Chris Farr
Costumer - Regal Costumes
Captain Costumer - Regal Costumes
Artist - Russ Fama
Choreographer - Dana Theil
Make Up - Kelly Lichorobiec

Theme Concept

Join King Neptune as he takes you on a voyage under the waves! We start at sea level on a calm day and with one swift motion, our "tail" begins. As chaos ensues, we are taken to the depths where we are greeted by sea life of all kinds and a regal visit by the King with his guard close at hand.

As we explore, we find the remains of a familiar boat with residents who are now one with the sea. A plethora of mollusks is followed by a visit of one of the ocean's "greatest" inhabitants. Close by, we find a "ball" like no other that is quickly eclipsed by fields of jellyfish and a duel between Neptune and a local cave dweller. A storm ensues and brings chaos to the sea floor which Neptune quickly calms.

In the aftermath, we watch as our King rebuilds all that the storm destroyed while taming the biggest beast of the sea. The sea floor is once again restored and all we know is as it should be.

Or is it...



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Greater Kensington String Band

ADVENTURERS BEWARE

Captain: Shawn Blubaugh



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 Costumer: Dennis Terlingo
 Captain: Shawn Blubaugh
 Drill/Presentation Director: Matthew Krohn
 Music Director: Matt Deininger
 Costume/Set Designer: Sean Graser
 Costumer: Regal Costumes
 Music Arranger: John Wernega
 Choreographer: Haley Fry
 Masks- Jim LoSasso
 Artist: Joshua Shipton

Theme Concept

School is over, and 12-year-old Billy Bravestone fires up his favorite video game, "JUMANJI"—only to have mysterious figures PULL HIM INSIDE. He awakens to a jungle lullaby, realizing "the lion sleeps tonight"... but everything else is wide awake. Billy is thrust into his new role as Dr. Bravestone, Lead Explorer! Foliage opens to "Welcome him to the Jungle", revealing Vine dwellers in the shadows. Then, the ground erupts in a fiery "Burn Baby Burn," unleashing Lava creatures. Before he can react, slick Water beasts surge through with a taunting "See Ya Later, Alligator."

Bravestone discovers an abandoned plane straight from an "Indiana Jones" chase. It looks like his ticket to be "Leavin' on a Jet Plane"—until the jungle disagrees. Bird Aviators dive overhead "Shaking a Tailfeather", and as they "Chant Through the Jungle", a troop of Monkeys arrives with "Wanna be Like You" charm before immediately "Trashin' the Camp".

At last, the legendary temple emerges in full "Jungle Fantasy." Bravestone races to solve its puzzles and claim the Gem to unite these "Two Worlds" ...but as the world around him shifts, he realizes the game has one final surprise waiting... Can he make it out in time?

GAME OVER

The logo for SONESTA Hotels, Resorts & Cruises is centered on a background of a repeating pattern of light green, stylized, rounded shapes. The word "SONESTA" is written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font, with a small "TM" trademark symbol to the upper right of the letter "A". Below "SONESTA", the words "HOTELS, RESORTS & CRUISES" are written in a smaller, bold, black, sans-serif font.

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A solid light green horizontal bar at the bottom of the page contains the text "OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF THE MUMMERS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a white outline.

OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF THE MUMMERS



VIVA LAS HEGEMAN



OFFICERS

- President - Kelliann Gallagher
- Vice President - Shawn Burke
- Music Director - Ken Stein, Jr.
- Recording Secretary - Barbara Kilmartin
- Drill Director - Foley Anastasi
- Treasurer - Ryan Echols
- Music Arranger - Fran Kerr
- Captain - Kelliann Gallagher
- Choreographer - Riley Theil
- Artists - Kerrienne Bender, JayLynne Echols, Krystle Griffin, Cindi Kelley
- Chief Marshal - Shawn Burke
- Props - Ryan Echols, Amanda Ettinger, Shawn Burke
- Delegate - Kelliann Gallagher



Theme Concept

Step right onto the glittering Las Vegas Strip as the Hegeman String Band transforms Broad Street into the ultimate casino spectacular in “Viva Las Hegeman!”

The show opens true Vegas style with the legendary magic duo Siegfried Fischbacher and Roy Horn, dazzling the crowd with an opening illusion fit for the Strip revealing .Captain Kelvis. As the magic fades, the stage erupts into the bright lights and excitement of a bustling casino floor. Hegeman’s musicians become high-rolling dealers, dealing out the rhythm while dancers are showgirls as well as poker faces. All things Vegas are apparent, including a legitimate wedding performed during the actual performance. With cards on the table, lights flashing, and the crowd on their feet, the entire production builds to a high-energy finale as the band launches into the iconic anthem Viva Las Vegas, sending Hegeman out in true Vegas fashion.



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NIFTY FIFTIES JUKEBOX JAMBOREE

Captain: Patrick Walton



OFFICERS

- President - Patrick Walton
- Vice President - Tim Erikson
- Treasurer - Glenn Zuroski
- Recording Secretary - Robert Erikson
- Financial Secretary - Sarah Marlar
- Member at Large - Eric Wertz
- Sergeant of Arms - Joann Walton
- Delegates - Patrick Walton, Patrick Walton, Jr., Eric Wertz
- Social Media - Alex Walton

2026 Theme Production

- Captain- Patrick Walton
- Music Director - Ryan Erikson
- Choreographer - Charlotte Erikson
- Musical Arranger - Anthony Trombetta III
- Consultant/Drill Designer - Rick Tierno
- Artist - Daniel Duffy
- Set Designer - Robert Erikson
- Costumer - Regal Costumes
- Theme Committee - Michael Jusko, Pat Walton, Robert Erikson, Eric Wertz, Tim Erikson, Ryan Erikson

Theme Concept

The show begins with you, the viewer, being magically transported through your TV screen into a vibrant 1950s world. The action follows three cool Greasers on their bikes as they ride to the local Soda Shop to meet up with the Poodle Skirt Girls. Inside, the group orders food and gathers around the Jukebox.

The fun hits a snag when the record begins to skip, leading to a comedic moment where the attempt to fix it accidentally causes parts of the jukebox to explode outwards.

Taking the party outside, the Leader of the Pack attempts an audacious stunt: jumping his bike over the live band. He misses his landing, crashing spectacularly into a food cart! After his friends and the girls clean him up, the showman's spirit is reignited.

The antics conclude with a high-energy Hand Jive competition and a climactic Car Race.

The question remains: who will win the final showdown? Watch to find out!

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Polish American String Band



LOG JAMMIN'

Captain: Nick Magenta



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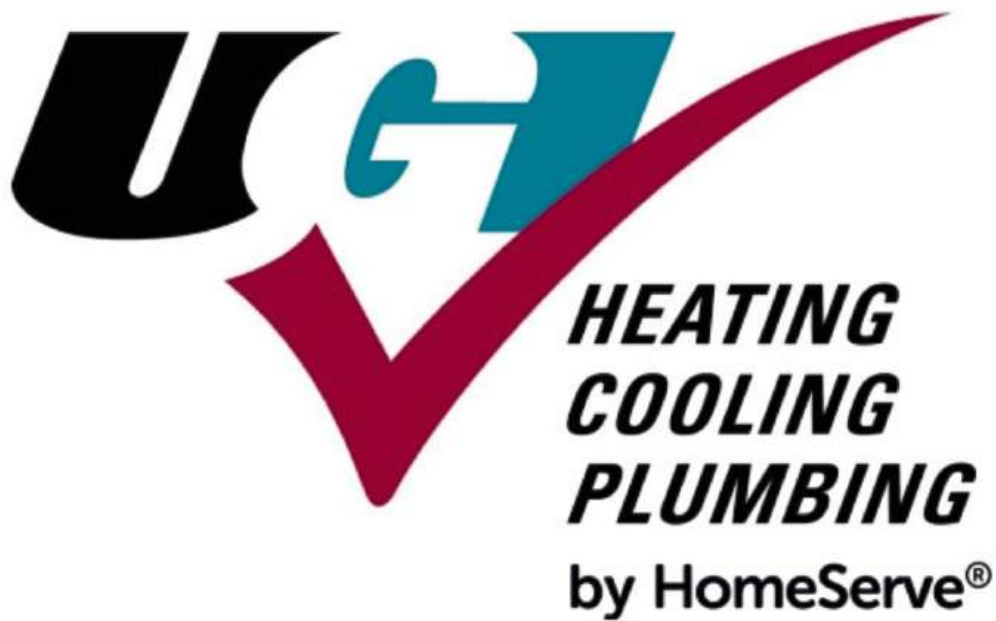
President - Joe Casee
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Recording Secretary - Jason Cohen
Financial Secretary - Keith Maysonet
Treasurer - Carl Price
Director - Jason Krajewski, Tom Krajewski
Publicity Director - Kevin Sullivan
Sergeant-at-Arms - Mike Petrick Jr.
Club Steward - Rick Hagenbuch Jr.
Captain - Nick Magenta
Music Director - Scott Johnson
Music Director Emeritus - Frank Foidl
Presentation Director - Rick Hagenbuch III
Theme Committee -
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Scott Johnson, Frank Foidl, Pat Defusco,
Tom Krajewski, Jason Krajewski,
Rick Hagenbuch Jr., Tim Magenta,
Chris D'Amore, John Carver, Marc Seibert Sr.,
Andrew Rohrbach, Rick VanDexter,
Greg Schwarz, Bob Bizik
Music Arranger - Christopher D'Amore
Choreographer - Jaclyn Lieb
Costume/Set Design/Artist - Tim Magenta
Costumer - Regal Costumes

Theme Concept

Timber!!!! Set deep within the forest, we lead you on an epic journey through a world inspired by the logging industry—complete with unexpected twists, imaginative turns, and the sounds of chainsaws echoing through the trees. From the chorus of Monty Python's "Lumberjack Song" to a swinging version of Pitbull/ Kesha's "Timber," this show will have you toe-tappin' and Log-Jammin'!

Costumes feature influences by the iconic Royal Canadian Mounted Police "Mounties", while others reflect intricate wood carvings, and large saw blades. As the trees fall, wood carvings and Mounties set the scene as the captain is carved from a large tree trunk. The saw shed is broken open as the characters are covered in saw blades featuring vocals and stringed instruments.

Wood carvings are drawn into an oversized woodchipper jammed by a rouge saw blade, sending sparks flying, igniting the forest ablaze! The entire scene is engulfed in flames before a hovering helitanker can extinguish the flames. In a tree-mendous finale, Smokey the Bear reminds us to respect our environment amidst a backdrop of lush wooded terrain.



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THE JOKER'S FUNHOUSE

Captain: Jimmy Good



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Administrative Vice President - Frank Quinn IV
Financial Secretary - Bill Natoli IV
Recording Secretary - Kyle Rothwein
Treasurer - Rod McCormick
Steward - Jamie Stermel
Business Agent - Jim McGugan IV
Captain - Jimmy Good
Music Director - Michael "Spanky" Brown
Music Arranger - John Wernega
Drill Master - Matt Farrell
Choreographer - Andrea Hendri Kenney
Costumer - Regal Costumes, Inc.
Costume Designer - Sean Graser
Make-Up Designer - Jim LaSasso
Make-Up - The Ladies of Quaker City
Club Historian - Joe "Bagel" Strine

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Bamberski, Jr. - Mike Craig Sr.
T.J. Ferry - Mike McGugan
Sam Regalbutto - Charlie Roetz
Nick Rothwein - Chris Schonely

Theme Concept

Our proprietor plays his calliope, inviting guests to his playful palace, "The Joker's Funhouse!" Acting the Creep, he summons his Harlequin harlots to help lure the crowd by singing, "Girls Just Want to Have Fun!" Behold the Entry of the Gladiators as the ball bouncing, topsy turvy, mirror mazed group of characters dance they think, "I Want to Be Happy." Sometimes, to make that happen, Anything Goes.

The Joker blasts his cannon, exploding into a colorful cloud of Cotton Candy and Toy Balloons. The Looney Ballooneys strum with the greatest of ease much like The Man of the Flying Trapeze. After all, our clowns just want to Make 'Em Laugh even if it means they pop their tops! There's no sad Pagliacci at this Mischievous Manor. The Joker goes for a tightrope walk and receives a close shave by the Mime's Sabre Dance, but they all Smile at the site of the beautiful carousel.

It's all Fine and Dandy when the giant Jack in the Box appears, but the Mime's believe, "This is It," their last chance to thwart the Joker's surprise when Pop! Goes the Weasel. The Joker packs quite the punch, as he always gets the last laugh.



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CAPTAIN KELLIANN GALLAGHER OF THE HEGEMAN STRING BAND



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South Philadelphia String Band



BEWISHED

Captain: Denny Palandro, Sr.



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Mike Johnson, Jr. – Vice President
Joey Mizner – Recording Secretary
Paul Rucci – Treasurer
Brian Ramey – Fin. Secretary
George Hafto – Sgt.-at-Arms
Lou Palena – Music Director
Jim Browne, III – Drill Director

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Fred Vicario, Chairman
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Bob Dougherty, Sr.
Jim Ferry
Dan Mizner
Jay Nestor
Ken Schwarz
Russ Wilson

Captain – Denny Palandro

*The South Philadelphia String Band
congratulates our friend and music arranger,
Chris Farr, on his induction into the Philadelphia
Mummers String Band Association
Hall of Fame!*

BeWISHED

Set in the vibrant world of Agrabah, the story bursts to life with unforgettable characters and high-energy action.

From the mysterious caves to lively town streets and a bustling marketplace, the journey builds toward a grand celebration at the Palace.

Along the way, you will meet an entire cast of enchanted companions: majestic camels, sly snakes, playful monkeys, and diamonds in the rough, joined by personified perfume bottles that dance and dazzle, as well as Jafar and Fire captivate the Cave of Wonders.

Our Genie, in fulfilling one of many wishes will take his traveling trunk and float upon the magic carpet on a quick trip around the world, whisking you and Aladdin across three iconic locations punctuated by three unforgettable theme songs, each fast-moving scene filled with humor, adventure, and surprise.

With the Genie as our larger-than-life guide, every twist brings new excitement. So, hold onto your hats—and your pants—because this production delivers a thrilling, funny, and unforgettable ride through a world where wishes come alive.

Welcome to BeWISHED! Where magic is not just seen...it is experienced.



Fame By Association

Music, Movies, Mummers & Me

by James J. Donio

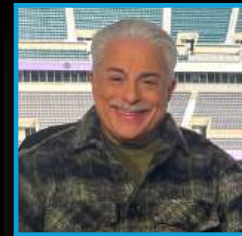


Associations and membership organizations became the unexpected pathway for the development of James Donio's personal and professional lives.

Through these important affiliations and connections, he was able to enter the worlds of entertainment from unique and decidedly different vantage points...and experience fame by association. He's been a writer, critic, business executive, public speaker, broadcaster, musician, dancer, choreographer, actor, producer, professor, podcaster and **Mummer**. This is his memoir.

Order your copy at sirjamesproductions.com

I want to thank the members of the Philadelphia Mummers String Band Association for inviting me to host the new String Band Sessions Podcast and to be the Color Commentator for the Mummers Parade and the String Band Spectacular. It is an honor and a privilege. And of course, I congratulate all of the bands for their terrific performances at both events.



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FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN

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 Chief Marshall - Chris Rocks
 Captain - Kade Radcliffe
 Drill Director - Josh Buffington
 Asst. Drill Director - Ryan Radcliffe
 Music Director - Thor McLaughlin
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 Steward - Nick Wheeler

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 Charlie Chaplin consultant - Jack Mills
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 Banjo Solo Arranger - Jim Rivell
 Music Instructor/Tech - Dr. Mike Scott
 Percussion Consultant - Jimmy Quail
 Choreographer - Dana & Riley Theil
 Set Designer - David Rigler
 Prop Artist - John McGarvey
 Costume Designer - Russ Fama
 Costumer - Regal Costumes
 Makeup - Stacey's Face Painting
 Masks - Jim LoSasso
 Foam Work - Imagine Factory

Theme Concept

In this story, we step onto the bustling lot of Backlot Studios, where the golden age of Hollywood still flickers to life. Inside a cozy writer's nook, the rhythmic clacking of a typewriter sets the tone as Flick Reelman hunches over his latest script, the one he hopes will catapult him into cinematic legend. With film reels stacked high and spotlights warming the room, he lifts the script once more, ready to turn imagination into motion. The studio hums with excitement as Flick joins his glam squad, led by the ever-popular Ms. Glitzy, whose brushes and powders transform everyday actors into silver-screen icons. Down the hall, in the costume department, Hemmy Stitchmen darts between racks of wardrobe magic, ensuring every performer looks picture-perfect. On set, Flick commands the action with precision, calling "Cut!" and "Reset!" whenever a moment needs sharpening, determined that every frame reflects his vision.

Once filming wraps, Flick retreats into the editing room, where strips of film dance between his fingers. Here, he trims, shapes, and polishes the story until it gleams, preparing it for its grand premiere. When the curtains finally rise, audiences are swept into the world he crafted with such care, losing themselves in the glow of his storytelling. As the credits roll, Flick steps into a new spotlight at the award ceremony. Flashing Pop-Arazzi bulbs ignite the night as he emerges from a sleek limousine, anticipation building with each step toward the grand entrance. The crowd buzzes, the orchestra swells, and at last, he stands center stage as he's presented with the Oscar for Best Director, a shining tribute to his imagination, dedication, and relentless pursuit of cinematic perfection.

CONGRATULATIONS JOHN J. EVANS STRING BAND HALL OF FAME RECIPIENT

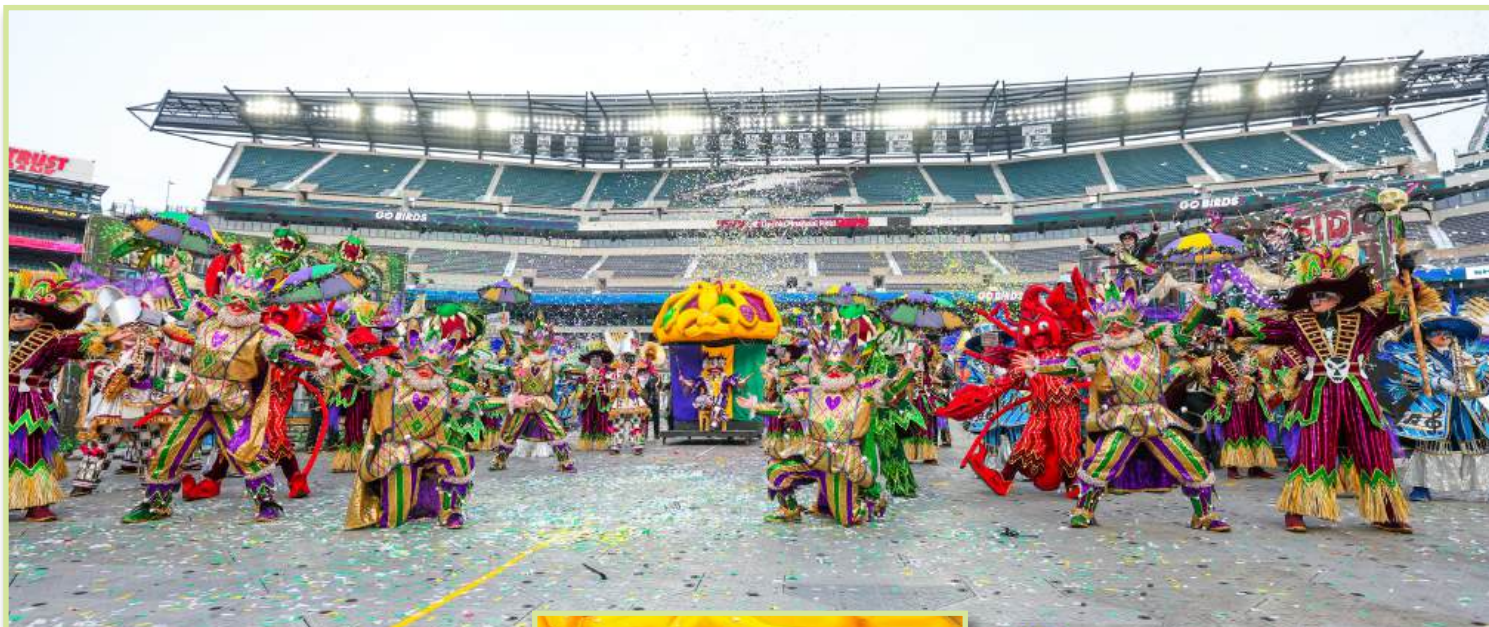


Love Mom and Pop Captain Harry T. Lawson



A TASTE OF BOURBON

Captain: George Balzer IV



OFFICERS

Captain - George Balzer IV
Music Director - AJ Ford III
Music Arranger - Brian Maher
Drill Master - Steve Bujnowski Sr.
Theme Chairman - George Balzer III
Asst. Captain - Lyle Kaighn
Choreographer - Jennifer Gordon
Sr. Advisor - Tom King
Costume Chairman - Albie Rementer
Costumer - James May Costume Co
Designer - Dave Rigler
Prop Construction - Gene Seedes and Team
Make-up Team - Women of Woodland
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Vice President - Bob Dreger
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Financial Secretary - Tom Loomis
Secretary - Dan Griffin
Sergeant-at-Arms - Sean Cunningham
Chief Marshal - Gene Seedes
Director Emeritus - Dave Anderson
Director-At-Large - Ken Piduch, Nick Blackford,
Jim Cunningham, George Balzer IV

Theme Concept

Join the Woodland String Band as we take a trip down south to the BIG EASY. What begins as a celebration in the French Quarter with our 'second line' dancers and umbrellas quickly turns into a full on experience of all things New Orleans. Captain George spends the day as Mayor and introduces us to the iconic elements of this vibrant city: the mystique of Voodoo traditions, the French and Cajun inspired cuisine and chefs and most importantly, the live music of Bourbon Street! Percussion is a must, so be sure to catch the section on the second floor tossing beads to the onlookers below! We spend some time in the marshlands where we encounter banjo playing alligators and dancing crawfish. And as all great parties should end, the jesters of Mardi Gras lead the parade down center stage and Bourbon Street as Captain George ends the day with his Mardi Gras crown! We hope you enjoyed our celebration of this incredible city and the many cultural traditions it offers!

Founded in 1926 in Southwest Philadelphia on Woodland Avenue, 2026 marks the 100th anniversary of the Woodland String Band. Woodland holds the second longest consecutive marching streak in the String Band Division and is the first member owned and operated String Band. The band is led by their exciting and energetic seventh year Captain, George Balzer IV. Congratulations on another top finish to our 2nd prize Captain George!

The band celebrated this amazing 100th anniversary milestone this past October with an entire weekend of fun, laughter and storytelling with friends and family! From a members/alumni night, to a black tie gala celebration and family day block party, it truly was a weekend to remember. We now plan for year 101 and the next 100 years to come! Now we look ahead to year 101 and the next 100 years to come!

One Heart - One Spirit.

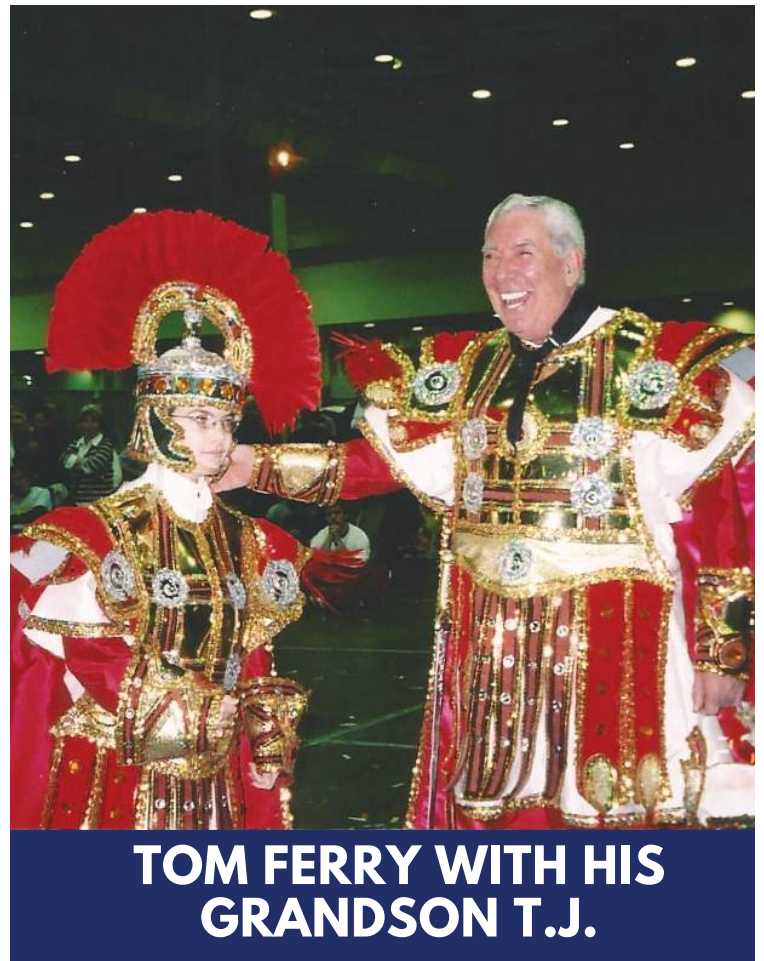
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Greater Kensington String Band

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www.gksb.org
215-624-9404
greaterkensington@gmail.com
Business Manager and
Hall Rental Manager, Dawn Morris

Hegeman String Band

1801 South 2nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145
Ryan Echols
HegemanSB@gmail.com
276-276-1901
IG and FB @hegemanstringband

Jersey String Band

Club house location
(Woodbury Heights Fire Department)
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Mailing address
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www.facebook.com/JerseyStringBand
Pat Walton
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Caitlin Jordan
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Philadelphia, PA 19148
www.woodlandstringband.org
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