

Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band 2016 Yearbook and History



PROLOGUE

At the request of the Alumni Band Board of Directors this book was compiled by Donald Hiron. It was originally meant to contain only the pictures and names of the current players in 2014, but as a result of the many requests and suggestions of the new members it was decided that a history of the Alumni Band would precede the photos and list of the members. Further to that, again as a result of many suggestions it was decided that it had to include the history of the original Band. That soon proved to be a job of uncontrolled proportions and the job of gathering and pruning the many sources of information down to a reasonable size extended the preparation time from a few weeks to well over a year.

Everyone that was contacted for help eagerly provided valuable and interesting bits of history and an overabundance of pictures.

Those who need to be thanked are:



The Edmonton Jewish News,

The Edmonton Journal,

The Central Lions Seniors Centre,

The Edmonton Schoolboys' Band Archive Centre,

Carol Mellors, The Band's default historian,

Lome Langman, Band President and walking encyclopedia of information,

Clint Mellors, who photographed most of the Alumni Band Concerts,

Bob, Davies a former Band Member who has written many articles of Band History,

Ross Denham who wrote his recollections of Oliver Murray,

Gordon Beimes, for his computer expertise,

Tory Cuff, for knowing where the information was. and providing it.

Don Hiron: For the pictures and assembling the yearbook. Nearly 1½ years was spent gathering, sorting and choosing what information to use for this 20th year Celebration.

The Picture on the cover is the original Alumni Band at about 1998.

The names of the Members are:

Front Row (l. to r.): Tom Mundy, Richard Campion, Doug Massey, Carol Mellors, Harry Goldberg, Ray Friedman,

Second Row (l. to r.): Jim Strembiski, Frank Sklove, Willie Miller, Ken Thatcher, Bill Krisch.

Third Row: (l. to r.): Bob Koehn, John Gray, Al Boyd, Fred Husband, Sandy Petrovich, Bill Carroll, Jack Winter.

Fourth Row: (l. to r.): Frank Mathew, Rudy Melnychuk, Bill Green, Cliff Currie, Ken Berg, Ed Kay, Bert Ward.

Back Row (l. to r.): Ray Leppard, Ray Herbert, Ted Hole, Lawrence Summers, Ron Reed, Don Colter, Gerry Krisch, Bill Faulder

THE EDMONTON JOURNAL NEWSBOYS' BAND And THE EDMONTON NEWSBOYS' BAND

In 1913 Edmonton Journal editor and Managing Director, Milton Jennings, and John Michaels, owner of Mike's Newsstand, and one-time newspaper boy, founded THE EDMONTON JOURNAL NEWSBOYS BAND as a means to combat juvenile delinquency. The sole prerequisite for joining the Band was the boy had to be a Journal

paper Carrier. No previous musical experience was necessary. The boys raised money for instruments by selling flowers as well as papers. Under the direction of Mrs. Ruth Michaels, as the first Bandmaster, the Band gave their first performance on June 11th, 1914. After giving several concerts in local parks and theatres, and playing for Servicemen leaving Edmonton to fight in WWI, the Band made its first tour to Detroit and then to Buffalo accompanying the Shriners to their 1916 Convention.

The Prince of Wales, later to become King Edward VIII, saw and heard them play while he was visiting Canada and invited them to play at the 1924 British Imperial Exposition in Wembley, England.

For this four-week engagement, the 54 boys aged 9 to 22, practiced under the baton of R.A. Bullock. While on their train trip to the east coast, the Band took time to give concerts in several major Canadian cities. At Wembley, the Band with their large repertoire of 300 selections, was able to provide a complete change of program for each concert. Since each boy had only one uniform, Mrs. Michaels, assistant Bandmaster and cornet soloist, spent her nights ironing the suits for presentable readiness the following day. While in England the Band opened the largest ballroom in the country, with a capacity of 30,000 at Edmonton, Wembley.

When many of the Experienced Members left the Band in 1926, the group was reorganized under the name of THE EDMONTON NEWSBOY'S BAND to allow all city newsboys to be included. Under Bandmaster F.G. Aldridge, the 150-member Band in 1927, received a complete set of over 100 instruments that were purchased through public subscription. They led the Confederation Day parade down Jasper Avenue to mark Canada's Diamond Jubilee.

After receiving acclaim as one of the finest Bands in the world, and the largest in Canada, the Band's concerts were brought to an end by the start of the Depression in 1929. In 1936 their instruments and equipment, which had been in storage, in trust by Mr. Michaels, provided the equipment for the formation of THE EDMONTON SCHOOLBOY'S BAND.

Thomas Vernon Newlove had organized the Viking School Band when he was a teacher at that school in the early 1930's. He became a Teacher on the Edmonton Public Schoolboard's staff at the Edmonton Technical School, for the 1935/36 school term. He had a dream of organizing the best School Band in Canada, and so called an organizational meeting in November of 1935. Practicing began in April, 1936, with 28 experienced musicians and 12 beginners. Some instruments were player owned, and some were donated. The Department of Education amended their regulations to allow for music credits for Band Members. This encouraged the School Board to allocate some funds for the purchase of music and instruments. Mr. Newlove toured second hand stores and pawn shops to acquire instruments. He repaired and restored instruments to get them into working condition.

In the late spring of 1936 the Band played its first engagement at a Technical School open house. Their second performance was at corner stone laying ceremony for the new gymnasium at Eastwood School. Their uniforms were white shirts, red ties, black pants and black shoes, all provided by the Members themselves. On November 9th, 1936, the existing Band Members performed their first "Under the Baton" concert in the Royal Canadian Legion Memorial Hall on MacDonald Drive, today the site of the Telus Tower.

There were many 'high' spots over the 33-year life of the Edmonton School Schoolboy's Band, as summarized earlier, but very few 'low' spots. Probably the lowest spot came in the May 13th, 1945 V.E. (Victory in Europe) Celebration Parade and March Past. For over 5 years the Band had performed whenever requested for patriotic functions. There were Victory Loan Parades and Ceremonies; entertainment of troops at the Canadian Legion; trips to nearby military bases; Red Cross fund-raising drives; and many other public appearances. Of 416 boys and 26 girls Band's roster from 1936 to 1945 when some of the youngest members would have only been about 12 years old) a total of 164 enlisted in the armed forces. In addition, the band had invested \$1000 in Victory Bonds.

With such an impressive patriotic background, the Band was invited to march in the Celebration "Parade and March Past" at the Edmonton Exhibition Grounds. At a meeting of civic and military representatives some days before the event, it was found that no adequate place could be found for the Band in the Main Ceremony. An offer to withdraw the Band was turned down and the meeting insisted that the Band participate in the March Past. A few minutes before the Parade Time, an order was received from the Parade Marshall that the Majorettes could not parade. The organizing Committee knew that there were girls in the Band, and the girls had been told that they could march in the Parade, but with no twirling of the batons. Supposedly, girls were not to be in the Parade, although there was a contingent of C.W.A.C. girls. The order was ignored until further word from the Parade Marshall was



BANDMASTER NEWLOVE

received stating that he had instructed the Police to stop the girls at the gate to the Exhibition Grounds. Rather than humiliate and disgrace the girls publicly, Mr. Newlove withdrew the entire Band from the Parade. There was considerable public indignation over the action of the Military Parade Marshall and in support of the action taken by Mr. Newlove.

OLIVER W. MURRAY
Assistant Bandmaster

Recollections and Thoughts of a Gentle Man
by Ross. A. Denham Former Band Member

September 1999

There are unsung heroes in most organizations. Oliver W. Murray, or "Mr. Murray" to all of us in the Band was such a person. As conductor of the Junior Band he had the challenge year after year of seeing raw recruits appear in front of him. He also had the joy and the frustration of watching rather good young musicians leave him for the Senior Band. He had an exemplary impact on several hundreds of young people in the Edmonton Schoolboy's Band from 1941, shortly after his arrival from Wainwright, to his retirement from the Band in 1959.

The arriving recruits often had little or no musical experience, just a few lessons from Mr. M or the Boss, Mr. Newlove. Sometimes one or two of the young fellows never would develop any aptitude for the Band, or any kind of music for that matter. That did not stop Mr. M. though. Turning a 'greenie' into a 'musician', and particularly one with a pleasure for music and bands, is one of his legacies as far as I am concerned. He had the personality and knack to foster a spirit of learning. Mr. M. had an uncanny way of inspiring enthusiasm to be the best you could be. I think that the view of most of us was that "We cannot let Mr. Murray down" even if that did happen now and then. Those whom he 'promoted', and that was the status to which we all aspired, had become credible bandsmen in an amazingly short period of time under the

patient eye of Mr. M.



It is no easy matter to deal with as many as seventy-five young individuals and mould them into something that can sustain rhythm, appropriately harmonize, carry a melody, and especially maintain the same speed as the Conductor's baton. Mr. M. had to lead some pieces of music excruciatingly slow as he has to stomp his foot loudly more than once to instill the beat. He had to repeat, over and over, particularly 'fast' passages, and he had to somehow overcome the jitters of the young bandsmen on concert night. Who better to do this than a calm, patient, understanding man – O. W. Murray? Especially on concert nights, Mr. M. seemed to exude a supreme conviction that all was well. We seemed capable of adopting his apparent confidence in us as we lived with insecurity and contemplated the impending failure of the work ahead. We were young, of course, and ready to follow when well led. I think we soon felt that with the steady, assuring hand of a pro guiding us, how could we fail? And, for sure we could always rely on the loudness, of which we were quite capable, to overcome certain technical inadequacies, even as Mr. Murray valiantly sought 'pianissimo'.

On reflection, Mr. Murray left a clearly lasting imprint on just about all of us as we passed through his hands. We did not know at the time, I am sure, but we had in Mr. Murray a fine example of a gentleman – an honourable, considerate person who understood young people. He shared his time and his car when, for instance, some of us took part in a conducting seminar in Wetaskiwin. He applied a velvet glove approach all the time. He was such that even if we tried to 'tease' a little bit, but never too much, our respect for him always overcame any small urge to 'test' him. His musical skills and steady manner, even when he had to be stern with us to get to concert condition, provided us with exactly the kind of guidance that developed good musicians and better citizens.

Wise leaders surround themselves with exceptional, talented colleagues that make a leader look good. This is amply reflected in the association between T. V. Newlove and talented colleagues that make a leader look good. This is amply reflected in the association between T. V. Newlove and O. W. Murray. The Boss's overall leadership and his many strengths were quietly enhanced and perfectly complemented by Mr. Murray. During their partnership Mr. M. was always there to ease the load and help T. V. over the bumps. Here is no doubt but that we are better individuals for the contribution and wonderfully suitable personality that Mr. Murray shared with us. His passing in March of 1972 was a loss to all who knew him.

Richard Campion was a volunteer Conductor during this time for a while. I'm not at all sure for how long or when, but the following excerpt by Jeff Holubitsky is from an Edmonton Journal, Sunday December 6, 1998



Conductor Richard Campion is as thin as a rapier. His wit is just as sharp.

He taps his baton on his music stand and sneaks in a whistle to get the attention of the Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band.

"Do you have '*piano*' written here' he rhetorically asks, referring to a passage of a Christmas carol that should be played softly.

He quietly waits for the band – who are neither in school nor boys – to adjust their reading glasses and quit muttering.

Campion knows the answer, "Will those who have '*piano*' please use it.

He glares at the clarinet section, raises his baton and the music comes to life somewhere in the middle of "Let It Snow".

When the song ends he lowers his baton and announces the break. "Now you can do something that you are good at" he laughs. "Coffee", and the 40 or so clarinet, saxophone, flute, trumpet, trombone, baritone, and horn players – not to mention the percussionists – clear the room in seconds. Because in a big way, Campion is right, the members of the Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band have come together to relive some of the finest memories of their lives.

Frank Mathew, Ted Hole, Don Colter, Willy Miller, and others are retired from Teaching, Business, Broadcasting, Medicine, Sales, and numerous other professions where they spent their working lives. But now with an average age of 71, they are spending their Thursday mornings in the Music Room of the Lions' Senior Centre making music together and talking about their days when they were young buddies.

Frank Mathew was a schoolboy when he joined the Band in 1936, and was instrumental in forming the Alumni Band 60 years later after a 1966 reunion which drew 400 former members.

"Some of the people hadn't met in 40 or 50 years and a few of us got the idea that we should start a band, so we sent out a letter and asked if they would like to be in a Band and we had 45 people come out", he says.

The original Edmonton Schoolboys' Band came to an end in 1969, the victim of changing times. School Boards had fine music programmes in place and the All City Band was formed which also allowed girls. Kids in the '60s were also living in an era of plenty, and the band didn't play the same role in the lives as it had in their fathers'.

But to boys like Mathew, growing up in inner city Edmonton in the middle of the Depression, it provided an opportunity his parents couldn't give him. It was the biggest deal of his life, and it all started with a Math and Band Teacher from Viking. "All of us to this day are indebted to Mr. Newlove, for all of his efforts," says Mathew.

Newlove, who played and provided instruction, who ran the Band with a famous iron-fist, who hunted through second-hand stores for old instruments he could scavenge or restore in the shop in his basement.

"He could take a Trombone and straighten out the slides, he was quite a man," says Mathew. And most importantly Newlove took the group of about 120 boys and perhaps 30 majorettes to Banff every summer. For many it would be their only chance for a holiday. "Mrs. Newlove did all of the cooking over open fires in the cook shack, she worked like a Trojan for us." All it cost was \$5.00 for the train fare and if you didn't have the money you went anyway, because kindly conductors would look the other way. "Those were the days when they would overlook things", Mathew says.

Unfortunately for Mathew, his summer camp of 1940 also became one of the saddest moments of his life when his younger 14-year-old brother fell and died during a hike to the Cave in the Hole-in-the Wall Mountain. His parents not wanting to ruin the summer for the rest of the kids, insisted that the Camp continue. Ken Thatcher, who plays tenor saxophone with the Alumni Band, was one of those kids. "I



Bill Carroll, Don Ward, Cliff Currier and Ted Hole - an all-time important section

remember him lying in the back of a truck and he was just as pale as he could be," he says. Thatcher is thankful for the opportunity which led to a stint in a dance band.

"During the Depression my father was cut off the railway and went to work for the old Woodland Dairy delivering milk for \$25.00 a week but somehow he managed to buy me a clarinet."

Fred Husband joined the Band in 1948, after original members went to war. It was incredible. I was in Grade VII when I joined the Band and I really felt proud," he says.

"There wasn't another Band programme in Edmonton, so if you were a Band member, you really felt special.

Now retired from his career with the Alberta Government, Husband dug out his old trombone, to play with the Alumni. "I bought my horn in 1945 at a fire sale and I'm still playing that horn today." He recalls dressing up in cowboy costumes and marching at the head of the Calgary Stampede.

The Parade is also one of the fondest memories of trumpeter Jack Winter, who remembers one year when the truck taking the Band from the Banff camp broke down on the Cochrane hill.

"Here we were hitchhiking out there when a farmer came along with a big truck and we put everyone and everything in the back and he took us right downtown to where they were forming the Parade"

With the coffee break over it's time to get back to practising for Christmas. The Band plays at least 2 concerts a month and many more during the holiday season.

With Campion again in charge, they wade through *Sleigh Ride*, with Winter playing the familiar horse neighing over and over. Then the Band picks up the pace with a medley from *Music Man*. The horns blast through *Seventy-Six Trombones*, but the best is yet to come.

From the first notes of *Till There Was You*, the clarinet players play with such enthusiasm their faces grow red. If the tune of youth is the music that defines a life, this is it.

And the Schoolboys' play it for all it's worth.

Except from EDMONTON JEWISH LIFE – August 2002
by Joy Ruth Michelson

I looked at the smiling faces, clapping hands, twitching toes and tapping feet and knew that everyone in the packed auditorium was enjoying his/herself. We were there to hear the fifth concert played in the auditorium of the Beth Shalom Synagogue by the Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band. The auditorium was packed. Standing room only! Row upon row of chairs was squeezed in, and I learned later that there were no spare chairs left in the Synagogue. All had been used for this popular concert. And what a concert it was! It was dedicated to the memory of beloved Alex Mair, Edmonton's well-known historian and story-teller par excellence. Alex had been the Master of Ceremony of the previous concerts given at Beth Shalom and his heart was closely tied to the Alumni Band. Alex was also a member of the Band and he taught percussion. It was Alex who had told us that the Band had a great family history. It was birthed as The Edmonton Newsboys' Band and its story can be found at the Edmonton Public Schools' Archives at the former McKay Avenue School. The Edmonton Schoolboys' Band, a forerunner of the Edmonton Schoolboy's Alumni Band, was organized in 1935 and presented its first concert the following year. During the entire life of the Band it was under the direction of T.V. Newlove, later assisted by Mr. Oliver Murray. The Schoolboys' Band played hundreds of engagements until May 1969, at which time the Edmonton Public School Board decided to place its support of music programs within individual schools in Edmonton. With the break-up of the Schoolboys' Band, many of its members continued with their musical interest through involvement in various other musical organizations within and outside of the city of Edmonton. A large number of the members, however, put away their instruments and gave up playing for one reason or another.

There were other tributes given during the program, one to the man of indefatigable energy, Frank Mathews. Frank had the idea of organizing a reunion of Band



members, which led to the successful creation of the Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band. I had the good fortune to know Frank as a colleague and I remember his excitement when he told me about the reunion.

In 1996, a reunion was held celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Band's founding. The reunion attracted over four hundred former members. In anticipation of the reunion, the idea was put forward that interested alumni members get together to rehearse and if the music was recognizable, perform at the reunion. It was and they did. Six founding charter members are: Al Boyd, trombone; Bill Carrol, trumpet; Harry Goldberg, percussion; Frank Mathews, clarinet; Sandy Petrovich, flute; and Jim Srembiski, saxophone.

The result was a reunion concert performed most successfully by forty-five members from all parts of Canada and the United States. This concert was under the direction of Mr. Ray Friedman, who had earlier been a member of the Band.

The Redbird by Karl Beedle, arr. Larry Schrum was played in Frank Mathews' memory. The piccolo solo of the arrangement was played by Harlan Green, former Principal Flautist with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, whose versatile performances have enthralled us all for many years. His playing of this arrangement was superb-it truly was breathtaking. The image of Harlan's nimble fingers dancing up and down the slender piccolo remains.

Following the reunion and concert, thirty-five of the Edmonton and area alumni Band members decided to continue as a band under the name of The Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band. Since that time, Band members continue with regular practices and have played numerous concerts in and outside of the City of Edmonton. They now number forty musicians.

Two alumni, currently sidelined due to recent ill-ness, were welcomed with applause: saxophonist Frank Sklove, in his ninety-second year and John Jackson, the trumpeter, who was celebrating his eighty-third birthday. We sang a rousing Happy Birthday to honour his mile-stone. Our best wishes for health also go to John Gray, horn player. We were happy to see him at the concert.



As host Colin MacLean noted, Alex Mair was a hard act to follow; Colin did admirably. He gave succinct summaries of composers and their music and provided us with a fair share of stories to enrich our listening. He reminded us that the average age of the Alumni was seventy-five years but my guess is that the median age is also over seventy.

In 1998 the Band recorded its first of two compact discs and audiotapes under the direction of Ray Friedman, who was the director from 1996. The second recording was produced in 2000. Shortly thereafter Mr. Friedman moved to Lethbridge and was replaced by the stage and concert band's current conductor, Mr. Armand Baril.

Ray Friedman – The Honourable Lois Hole

Harry Goldberg, who was taught percussion by Alex Mair and is a percussionist with the band, was a former President of the Beth Shalom Board and one of the organizers of the concert. The proceeds from sale of the tickets [a Best Buy at \$5.00!] are shared between the Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band Scholarship Fund and the Beth Shalom Building Fund.

Senator Tommy Banks gave a cheery wave when he was acknowledged for his contribution as a musician to music in Alberta, and his vocal contribution as a CBC commentator. We all clapped heartily. But the biggest and loudest and most enthusiastic applause was given to the Alumni Band members and to The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta. Her speech came, as do all her speeches, from the heart. Her stories and impromptu comments were filled with grace and humour. She is a woman of the people firmly grounded in Alberta and its history. And she is gracious. She spoke for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II bringing her appreciation to the Jewish community, and in particular to Beth Shalom, for its ongoing support of the Band. The love and admiration felt by the audience for Lois Hole was palpable.

At a previous concert given by the Band at Beth Shalom during the finale, we, the audience, rose as a body and marched with great gusto around the chairs and down the aisle. On this day, July 21st 2002, this was not possible-the room was too packed-some were still standing. But had it been possible, I think we would have danced down the aisles. The sheer exuberance that came from the Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band had wound its way into our hearts.

Armand Baril
Conductor and Music Director (2000-2013)

Armand Baril was born in Edmonton, Alberta on October 18th, 1930. With musical roots that can be traced back to Calixa Lavallee, composer of our national anthem, it is not surprising that his family background instilled in him an early love of music. At the age of five he began taking piano lessons, an activity that led to the development of a great passion for the instrument. He soon became an accomplished musician, entertaining friends and family whenever he was asked, and this ultimately led to a lifelong career in the arts.

A part-time job as a teen correspondent on Teen Time, a CKUA radio show in the late forties, led to a full-time position as announcer of classical music programs on CKUA in 1949. This exposure, along with his French background, made him a perfect fit for his next job with CHFA radio. In 1954, music called to him once again and Armand went to Toronto to complete his piano studies at the Royal Conservatory of Music. Upon returning to Edmonton after graduation, he was hired by the CBC as a broadcaster, a move that marked the beginning of a 36-year career in the industry. He also continued in his role as a performer, by playing piano and singing for the Edmonton Civic Opera. In 1957, Armand was transferred to CBC Toronto where he became Floor Director for Television Productions that included the Wayne and Shuster Hour, Planet Ice and several TV concerts with the iconic pianist, Glen Gould. Again, he carried on with his artistic pursuits, this time singing in the chorus of the Canadian Opera Company.

In 1960, Armand was transferred to CBC Winnipeg where he produced a cowboy show called Red River Jamboree. A year later, he returned to Edmonton, where he would remain, and took on the management position of Program Director for both radio and television. By 1962, Armand's love for a more hands-on role saw him take over as the Senior TV Producer for the newly established CBC Television Outlet. One of his early jobs in this position was to produce the TV game show, Reach for the Top with host, Colin McLean. He eventually became responsible for the Production and Direction of shows that were musically oriented, including the weekly series Keynotes featuring pianists Tommy Banks and Harry Boon. This led to the production of an amazing array of music programs that featured local and visiting artists and performers such as The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. These were shows such as Music In Miniature, CBC Young Performers, the Gala Tri-Bach Festival Concert and the Opening of the Calgary Center for the Performing Arts. He was instrumental in bringing Bravo Alberta, a show inspired by the Toronto Arts Awards, to Edmonton. It brought recognition to the work of nationally and internationally known Alberta artists. Armand is perhaps most well known for producing the highly acclaimed Tommy Banks Live for which he won an Anik Award for Best Regional Series in 1981. His reputation became strongly established as a creative and highly professional influence and he could be found producing shows not only in Edmonton, but also for CBC Calgary, the Banff School of Fine Arts, CBC Ottawa, and venues throughout Alberta.

Armand's community involvement has always been strong. At the age of 18, he became a member of the Knights of Columbus, a connection he maintains to this day. From 1968 -1970 he served on the Board of The Edmonton Opera Association and from 1970-1981, he was conductor of the choir at St. Joseph's Basilica in Edmonton. He has acted as emcee for band and choral festivals on numerous occasions, including the Alberta International Band Festival and the Kiwanis Festival. Armand conducted a band for the Commonwealth Games held in Edmonton in 1978 and again, for the Universiade Games in 1983. He played bass clarinet with the Cosmopolitan Band under the direction of Harry Pinchin for many years and, in 1980, he formed the Cosmopolitan Chorus, acting as its conductor until 1990. In 1981, Armand worked with the Edmonton Symphony, under the baton of Uri Mayer, on a CBC recording, "Orchestral Suites of the British Isles", which was awarded the Canadian Music Council's Grand prix du disque.

Armand and his wife Lucie, an accomplished French Horn player and former opera singer, have been long-time supporters of Edmonton's arts scene, providing financial support and acting as patrons for the Edmonton Opera, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, the Edmonton Art Gallery, the

University of Alberta, MacEwan University and the New Edmonton Wind Sinfonia, to name a few. Armand and Lucie have two grown children, both of whom have achieved prominence as musicians in their own right. Raymond is a saxophonist and conductor in Edmonton, and Gianetta is a harpist in Calgary.

Armand took over the Directorship of the Band in the year 2000 and continued on until the end of December 2014. When you come to think of it, the Original Members of the Edmonton Schoolboy's Band had Armand as Director for about ten years more than any of us had Mr. Murray or Mr. Newlove. It was an honour to have him.

In about 2001 or 02 when Armand decided to arbitrarily allow previous non-members of the Schoolboys' Band to become members of the Alumni Band I was the Secretary for the Alumni Band and became interested in what might happen if someone contested these persons' membership. A few (very few) disgruntled members left the Band because of this happening.

I asked a Lawyer friend if there was a precedent, and he said, "Yes there was a very famous precedent." I wasn't that interested at the time and over the years lost the letter he gave me. As near as I can remember the story goes-

In the late 1490's John Cabot wanted to sail west to explore a country the Vikings claim to have discovered. He was turned down for financing by Italy, Spain, Portugal, and England. Finally, some Portuguese Bankers and some businessmen in Bristol financed him and he set sail in a Ship called the Mathew from Bristol as a Portuguese Captain.

I tried to verify this whole story on the Internet and in the 25 places I looked I found 25 quite different stories, so you can believe whatever you like. It is claimed that he landed in one of five places, somewhere between Nova Scotia and Maine. No one was home so he went back to England in following days King Henry VII dressed him in silk clothes, retroactively made him a Court Member and hence an English subject and paid him £10 (a large sum in those days) and declared the land was discovered by an English Sea Captain and as such Henry claimed it for England. So we have it, "Retroactive Membership". Actually this was the second time it was done. Henry declared himself "retroactively" to have been an English subject the day before the Battle of Bosworth so that when he won the Battle he had a strong (otherwise weak) claim to the throne of England.

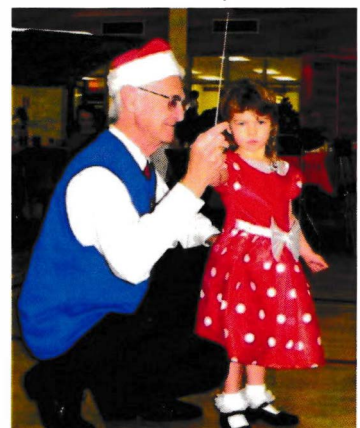


Mr. Baril's problems were much the same as Mr. Murray's. Mr. Murray's recruits had to be taught how to play the music, and Armand had to teach the recruit's how to play the music "again". Mr. Murray's Band Members were graduating to the Senior Band at the school, and Armand's Band Members were graduating to the Senior Band in Heaven. They both had their eyes out for new Members and both needed a lot of patience.

Armand did an absolutely prodigious job looking after the Band and, in my opinion, was more like a superb Shepherd than a Director because his motivation

for the original Band Members was to keep the family together and enjoying music, and his second purpose was to produce fine music.

As the purpose of the original Band was to encourage young people to start a lifelong involvement in music, he never missed an opportunity at a concert to get young people involved.



A couple of times we even had the Band Members of the present McCauley School (at the McCauley School) let us play with them.

It was an exhilarating experience and a pleasing 'Sentimental Journey'.

You could feel the sadness when Mr. Baril announced his resignation because of health reasons, but health reasons are the only reasons many of the Band Members are leaving.

We had a plethora of concerts under Armand's direction.

I can't remember them all but the ones that I can remember are:

West Edmonton Mall



Fort Edmonton Park (every May 24th celebration)
The Grand Opening of the Lions Senior Centre
Festival of Trees (every December)
Edmonton Synagogue (5 annual concerts)
Winspear Centre (Alberta Band Association)
Robertson Wesley United Church (Annually)
St. Albert United Church
St. Albert Farmers Market (Annually)
Pigeon Lake
Sherwood Park Mall
Jasper Alberta

According to Armand the Gig at Jasper was a very special event for him as he had his beloved little ones enjoying marching in the parade.

Armand was Music Director from 2000 to December 2014. He was a good friend to everyone in the Band.

Our Present Conductor Director Taina Lorenz, B.Ed., MMus

Taina is passionate about making music with people, and is a self-proclaimed "band geek," Taina Lorenz, is thrilled to take on the role of Music Director of the Edmonton Schoolboys Alumni Band. She is involved in many areas of the community. Taina is also Music Director of the Cosmopolitan Music Society where she is conductor of the Monday and Tuesday Bands. She is Associate Conductor with the Mission Hill Brass Band, and teaches Trumpet privately to students of all ages. With her solid experience as both a conductor and trumpeter including eighteen years of teaching instrumental music with Edmonton Catholic Schools. Taina is sought after as a clinician and guest conductor in Edmonton, around Alberta, and the United States.

As a performer for most of her life, Taina has played Trumpet with a wide range of ensembles, including wind ensemble, concert band, brass band, chamber winds, choir, and chamber orchestra.

She has studied advanced conducting with Angela Schroeder, Wayne Toews, Emily Threinin, Craig Kirchoff, Gary Hill, Gillian MacKay, Jeff Reynolds, and Mallory Thompson. Her studies on trumpet have been with Fordyce "Duke" Pier, Wendy Grasdahl, and Ottawa's Rick Rangno. Taina holds a Bachelor of Education in Music Education and a Master of Music in Wind Conducting from the University of Alberta.



The Following is an excerpt from the St. Albert Leader by Glen Cook.

Schoolboys' Band conductor to make debut Sunday



Taina Lorenz has some big shoes to fill.

Lorenz is the new conductor of the Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band, and she'll be in charge of her first concert with the band this Sunday evening at the St. Albert United Church (20 Green Grove Dr.).

Members of the Edmonton Schoolboys Alumni Band play their way through a program of classic and contemporary favourites at the St. Albert United Church in June 2012. (Leader file photo)

She is taking over the baton from former conductor Armand Baril, who headed up the band from 2000 to 2013, and she knows that's a tough act to follow, but she's excited to give it a shot.

"It's like a dream come true. It's absolutely awesome," Lorenz said.

"Armand is such an icon. He's such a strong musician and so well-respected," she added. "And he was in the position for 13 years. As a person and as a musician, those are definitely big shoes to fill."

Gerry Buccini is a St. Albert resident and plays clarinet in the band. He said that Lorenz is fitting very well with the group.

While parts of the ESAB's repertoire has remained the same under Lorenz, she has also introduced a few newer, more contemporary pieces.

"Because I'm young, I guess, I've brought sort of a youthful energy and a different set of ears, a different approach to rehearsing," she said. "... We're staying with the standard, classic repertoire, but adding in new compositions that are just really solid music."

At Sunday's concert, Lorenz said those who come out can expect a nice blend of the old standards and some new pieces.

"They're going to hear the Schoolboys in their absolute top form," she said.

The Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band was formed in 1996 when more than 400 members of the Edmonton Schoolboys' Band — which was formed in 1935 and disbanded in 1969 when Edmonton Public Schools placed music instruction in the hands of individual schools — got together for a reunion and some decided to keep on playing.

These days, the band boasts about 70 members, some 10 or 15 of which live in St. Albert, according to Buccini. They rehearse Thursday mornings at the Central Lions Seniors Recreation Centre in Edmonton.

Buccini said it's incredibly important for band members to keep music in their lives in some fashion as they enter their golden years.

"For 55 years, I've had a clarinet in my hand. I don't know what I would have done had I not brought my clarinet to university," he said. "... Music is for life, and the proof is in the pudding in that group. We've got guys who are in their 80s who are still playing."

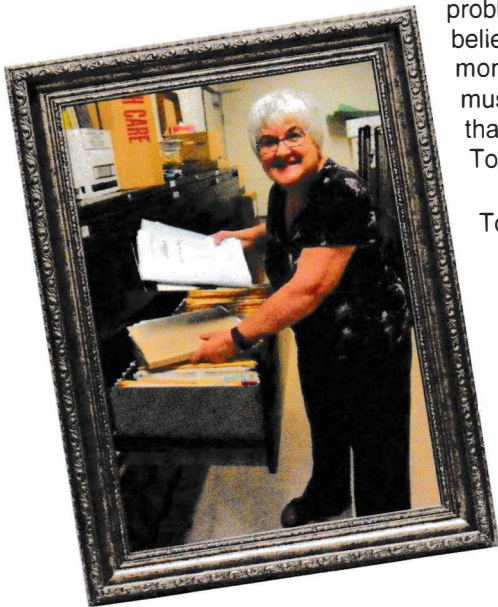
BAND PRESIDENT – LORNE LANGMAN

Lorne is our great Unsung Hero. In 1998 he was swooshed into taking the Band President's job because he was in arm's length of the swoosher. That was about 17 years ago and he has been resigning every 2 years ever since, and we the Band Members keep swooshing him back into the job (but just until we find someone) else. He is still the President to this day and believe me it's not an easy job. Every month there are major problems. Problems such as "How to mount a Concert with half the Band across the US Border- or even worse, suddenly struck ill with the flu". "How to mediate a problem between two or three of the Members or between the Members and the Senior's Centre".

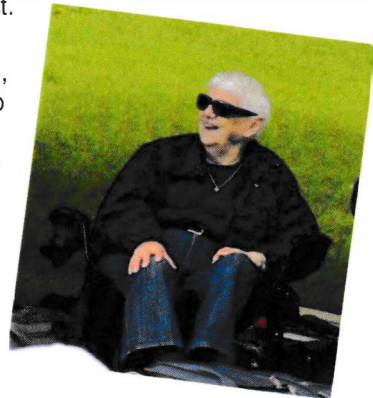
"How to make our finances stretch to the end of the Season". "How to arrange for the Band to be at the Funeral of a Member". "How to find a Director". These are only a miniscule sample of the ongoing problems, and yet the enjoyment of participating supersedes the problems. Lorne you are a great guy and we all like you as President.



There have been four Librarians, Janette Massey, Doreen Hiron, Tory Cuff, and now Rose Lorenz. Once again being the Librarian is no small task. Not at all. There are problems such as not having the right number of parts in a folder for our instrumental configuration and the problem of lost parts. Would you believe that at least once a month someone loses their music "during practice"? I think that's hilarious but I'm sure Tory didn't



Tory Cuff



Rose Lorenz

The common thread between all four Librarians is they had happy-go-lucky personalities and very charming smiles, and all did a great job. Rose took over like she knew what she was doing and there was no break in the quality of the Library. We are lucky to have Rose on such short notice.



1997 REUNION AT THE MAYFIELD RECEPTION CENTRE



2001 ROBERTSON WESLEY UNITED CHURCH



2001 HOLE'S GREENHOUSE GARDENS



2003 MACAULAY SCHOOL HRH LOIS HOLE ALBERTA GOVERNOR GENERAL



2003 FESTIVAL OF TREES



2006 FORT EDMONTON PARK



2013 ST. ALBERT FARMER'S MARKET



Alumni 2004

2004 FORT EDMONTON PARK

The Majorettes by Carol Mellors

Now, last but not least our major attraction, THE MAJORETTES, (no pun intended).

In Bob Davies articles to the Edmonton Centennial Committee 'Edmonton, a City Called Home' he gave a history of the Edmonton Newsboys Band and the Edmonton Schoolboy's Band.

In the autumn of 1938 five teen-aged girls joined the band as Majorettes. Mr. Newlove read books on baton twirling and routines so that he could instruct the girls. He had made their early batons, first of wood, then later aluminum. Lighted batons for blackout routines were made with small flashlights at each end of the batons. The complement of Majorettes, like musician members, changed almost every year. Over a 15 year span a total of 50 girls led the band in spectacular style in parades, with their high-stepping and baton twirling tosses and usually catches. Their blackout routines at the concerts were received very enthusiastically by every audience.'

One thing he did not mention in his history were the 2 bells players (girls) that were added when the Junior Band started. I believe that Joyce Buckles and Jean MacLeod were the first ones. There were 2 sets of Lyre Bells (Glockenspiels). Ann Carol Johnson and were the Junior Bell' players. I am not certain but I think the Bells were started approximately 1948.

In September of 1951 Mr. Newlove approached me Carol Mellors nee Shonn, Murdeen Finlayson, Pat Boyd, Lois McArthur, Rita Pearce from Macaulay School and Suzanne Gilbert from King Edward School to train to be Majorettes with the Junior Edmonton Schoolboy's Band. I had applied to play the bells, but the positions were taken. By this time Mr. Newlove imported batons from the United States. They were chrome with white rubber ends. Mr. Newlove said that if we were willing to give up several lunch hours a week, he would show us how to twirl. In deed he did. He had taken a Drum Major and Majorette Twirling seminar with a Sousa Band in the United States the previous summer. He said his goal was to have us ready for the Spring Concert in May and the July Band Tour to Banff, Penticton, Trail, Victoria and ending with leading the Calgary Stampede. After Mr. Newlove taught us the twirling skills he brought in the top majorette from the Senior Band to teach us routines — how to put our moves together to music. She taught us Baton routines, Flag Baton routine and Lighted Baton routine. Our first concert went well and so did the tour. As all of our concerts were outdoors, the weather even cooperated.

It was a great year to join the band. They had 3 different uniforms and were having special ones made for the Tour. As we were part of the Edmonton Public School Board, the rules were that our outfits could be no shorter than 4 inches above the knee. Susanne's mother, Mrs. Gilbert took on the huge job of making the outfits for the Junior and Senior Majorettes — a red Top Hat, red Tunic and white Indian Cotton Pleated Skirts. The Boots were white leather with gold tassels to match the braid on the tunic and hats. We had 4 routines to learn — Regular Concert Routine, Flag Routine, Lighted Baton, and a special Parade Marching Routine giving us the opportunity to do tosses (baton in the air for 1,2,3 revolutions before catching it).

We worked extremely hard, suffered many blisters on our hands and bruises on our elbows, but the reward of the train trip to Victoria was absolutely worth the many hours we did practicing, learning Lighted Batons, an invention of Mr. Newlove's. What a wonderful opportunity it was for us. The dedication, making many friends, learning something very different as well as performance skills. We were dedicated and very well disciplined.

Note: We usually had a standing ovation and the audience yelling 'more, more'.

It was an honour to be a member of the ESB, as it was an honour to be a musician. When we had the ESB Reunion in 1996 it was fantastic to see people I had not seen since High School and see our twirling idol, Betty Spence. I was even more thrilled to find out they were starting an Alumni Band. I attended the Alumni Lunches at the Norwood Legion and in 1998 I was talking with Harry Goldberg and asked if they wanted to go to the original concept of having a female Bell Player. He said, of course and he talked to Frank Mathew who was pleased to have another player in the Band and invited me to attend a practice. He told me they practiced Thursdays in the Music Room at Central Lions. I took my primitive glockenspiel, the band members accepted me and have been attending practices ever since. Thanks to our 2nd Bandmaster, Armand Baril, I have a much better set of bells. I have been attending Thursday Practice ever since. It has been a total joy and a dream come true. It seems amazing that we are celebrating our 20th Anniversary, September 23, 2016. We have grown to a band of 67 with amazing conductors: Ray Friedman, Richard Campion, Armand Baril and Taina Lorenz. MUSIC (and Band) IS FOR LIFE.



The Majorettes in the bottom row are from left to right, Bell Player Ann Carol Johnson, Donagh Webber, nee Power, Eva Buchanan neeTurner, Carol Mellors nee Shonn, Murdeen Findlayson nee Vavra, Sue Gilbert nee Waterman, Betty Spence nee Harman, Rita Pearce, nee Worthington, Pat Boyd nee Doherty Lois McArthur nee, Bell Player

What most Band Members remember is that our CODA at almost every Concert was the Colonel Bogey March by Kenneth Alford. As result for the first 15 years of the Original Band's Phoenix, the Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band the Coda "Colonel Bogey" was ate the end of every concert. We sometimes played the long version but most times we played the short version.

Eleanor Park, a fellow flute player, graciously gave me this except from the magazine "This England"

Any young person who hums or whistles the theme tune from the 1957 film "Bridge on the River Kwai" may be forgiven for not knowing its real title is Colonel Bogey. Written by Kenneth Alford, it has probably been marched to by vastly more soldiers than any other music in history, often accompanied by rhyming sets of rude words about the enemy and their leaders!

In 1914 came the most famous march of all, Colonel Bogey, which was reputedly linked to an incident on a Scottish golf course when a fellow competitor whistled two notes at the composer to get out of his way. The cheeky musical couplet echoed in Alford's mind and gave him the inspiration for the start of his famous marching song. A "bogey" is the name given in golf when a player takes one more stroke to complete a hole than the average, or "par". A later 'march, Voice of the Guns, was dedicated to the Royal Artillery and adapted for the film "Lawrence of Arabia".

Promoted to Major in 1942, Ricketts served another 2 years before retiring through ill health. He died in Reigate, Surrey in 1945, survived by his wife three daughters, and three sons. It seems unlikely that Colonel Bogey will go out of fashion and will always be associated with marching troops and rude words. It is unlikely, however, that Frederick Joseph Ricketts, alias Kenneth Joseph Alford, would have disapproved. After all, it is the melody that matters, and everybody recognizes that military music is an extremely important part of the Armed Services.

I think that it is only fitting that the CODA to this brief history of The Edmonton Schoolboys' Alumni Band be a credit to The Colonel Bogey.

BAND MEMBERS 2013 - 2016

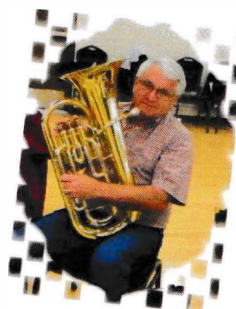
Baritones



2001 Lou Allemano



2009 Dale Rokosh



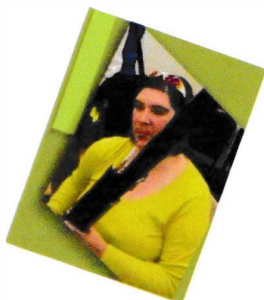
2010 David O'Shaughnessy

Bass Guitar



2006 Maura McGarrigle

Bassoon



2009 Lindsey Cohen



John Vogrinetz

Clarinets



2003 Joyce Bjerke



2006 Gerry Buccini



1948 Bill Faulder



1954 Ed Greaves



2009 Bob Kisilevich



1951 Bob Koehn



1942 Ray Leppard



2010 Doug Mcleod



2014 Mitch Meunier

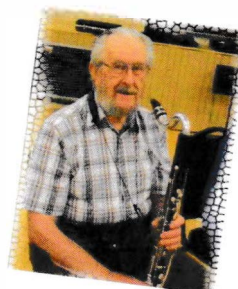


2012 Linda Shae

Bass Clarinet



2014 Sarah Derr



2003 Jack Park

Flute



1949 Lorne Langman



2006 Faye Breda



2011 Rob Churchill



2012 Kieth Erb



2012 Margaret Gendur



2010 Wendy Mathewson



2013 Dave Organ



2003 Eleanora Park



2011 Jackie MacDonald



1945 Donald Hiron



2013 Carolyn Wilson

French Horn



2000 Lucie Baril



1949 Ross Denham 2006



Jean Gillespie



2009 Dave Greidanus



2016 Audrey Shonn



2015 Ellen Smith

Percussion



2007 Peter Cuff



1950 Doug Massey



2005 Pat Sturges



1950 Carol Mellors

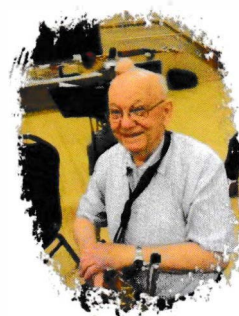
Alto Saxophone



2001 Aiden McGarrigle



1945 Jim Strembiski



1943 Bill Krish

Tenor Saxophone



2003 Ralph Bjerke



2009 Jude Lambkin

Trombone



1943 Fred Husband



2006 Diana Lee



2012 Rudi Radke



2010 Norm Shandro



1943 Hubert Vance

Trumpet



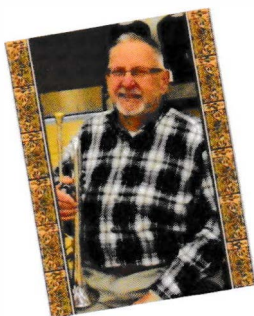
1958 Gordí Biernes



1948 Ken Berg



2007 Graham Cooke



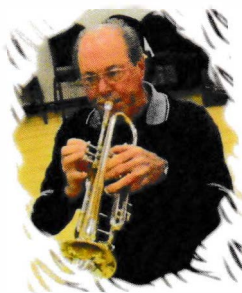
1949 Cliff Currie



2012 Theo De Bruijn



2006 Rudi Nothof



2012 J Malcom Smith

Tuba



2009 Earle Erickson



2015 David Otto



1941 Lawrence Summers

Baritone Sax



2010 George Adams



2011 Dick Switzer

E.S.A.B. Celebrates 20 Years

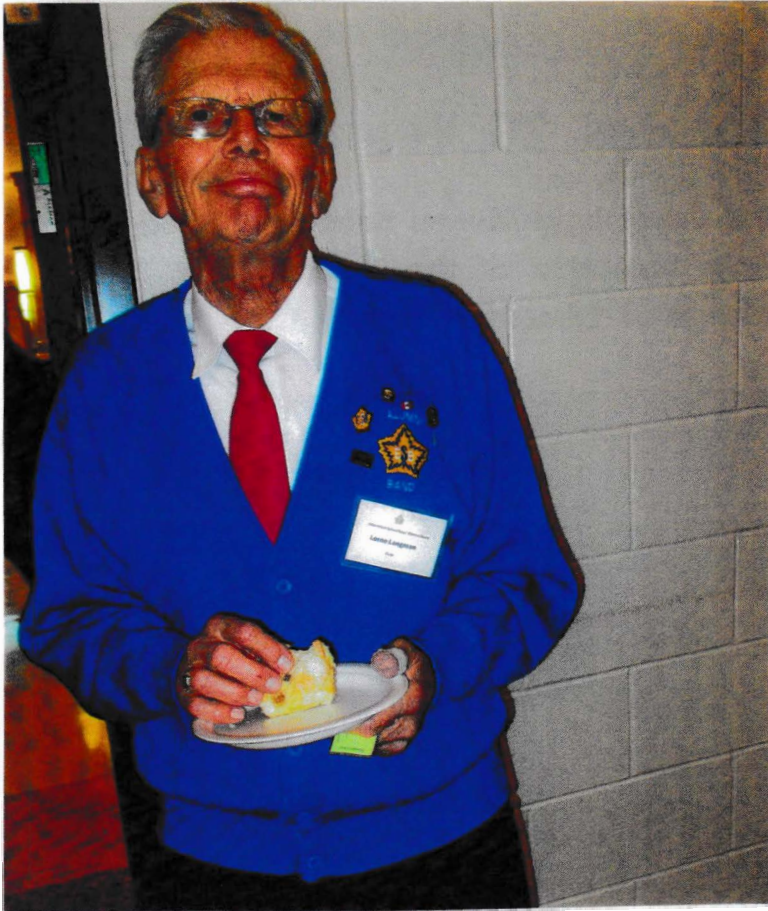
On September 23, 2016 the Edmonton Schoolboys Alumni Band celebrated 20 years since the 1996 reunion and the inception of the Alumni Band. The celebration took place in the Auditorium of Edmonton Central Lions Seniors Association.



The Edmonton
Swing Band
Entertained
us at Coffee
and Strudel

Director
Charlie Austen





President Lorne Langman gave Greetings.



**Year Book Editor
Don Hiron and son Nathan.**

**The E.S A.B.
Gave a great
Pre-luncheon
Concert.
Director
Taina Lorenz.**



Past Members

| | | |
|------|--------------------|----------------|
| 2006 | Anderson, Lisa | Flute |
| 1941 | Boyd, Al | Trombone |
| 1998 | Campion, Richard | Conductor |
| 2001 | Carnahan, Art | Baritone |
| 1945 | Carroll, Bill | Trumpet |
| 2003 | Chaston, Derek | Bass Clarinet |
| 1938 | Colter, Donald | Baritone |
| 2007 | Cuff, Tory | Librarian |
| 2009 | Fuhr, Bryan | Clarinet |
| 2006 | Gliener, Grace | Bari Saxophone |
| 1949 | Goldberg, Harry | Percussion |
| 2001 | Goodrich, Ada | Clarinet |
| 2001 | Goodrich, Clive | Clarinet |
| 1937 | Gray, John | French Horn |
| 1942 | Green, Bill | Clarinet |
| 1942 | Green, Harlan | Flute |
| 2009 | Gunter, Catherine | Bass Clarinet |
| 2000 | Herbert, Ray | |
| 2005 | Hiron, Doreen | Librarian |
| 1940 | Hole, Ted | Clarinet |
| 2001 | Jackson, John | Trumpet |
| 2001 | Jost, Jim | Alto Sax |
| 2014 | David Kenyon | |
| 1942 | Krisch, Gerry | Baritone |
| 2009 | Kuhnert, Leanne | Alto Sax |
| 2001 | Kupsky, George | Alto Sax |
| 2013 | Levesque, Andréé | Clarinet |
| 2013 | Lockshine, Marylin | Flute |
| 2001 | Massey, Janette | Librarian |
| 1937 | Mathew, Frank | Clarinet |
| 2014 | Meunier, Mitch | Clarinet |
| 2011 | McElroy, Michael | Trumpet |
| 1939 | Melnychuk, Rudy | Clarinet |
| 1942 | Might, Wally | Trumpet |
| 2001 | Millar, Don | Clarinet |
| 2001 | Miller, Willie | Alto Sax |
| | Perrier, Ray | Clarinet |
| 1949 | Perrin, Ed | Flute |
| 1937 | Petrovich, Sandy | Flute |
| 1945 | Reed, Ron | Bass |
| 2006 | Rowe, Arthur | Baritone |
| 1922 | Sklove, Frank | Alto Sax |
| 1950 | Spence, Matt | Flute |
| 2008 | Thompson, Chuck | Trombone |
| 2006 | Totino, Frank | Euphonium |
| 2003 | Tworek, Ed | Trumpet |
| 2006 | Walden, Dave | Tuba |
| 1942 | Ward, Bert | Cornet |
| 2003 | Wilkes, Greg | Tenor Sax |
| 1948 | Winter, Jack | Cornet |
| 2003 | Zurawell, John | Trumpet |



**EDMONTON SCHOOLBOYS' ALUMNI BAND
2014**