

Brass Band Broadcast

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and during his musical career Karl King wrote over 300 compositions for band, including over 200 marches, three of which we are playing at the June Ceremonial: The Trombone King (1945), Torch of Liberty (1942) and Pan-American (1942). The latter two marches reflect Karl's patriotism, were both inspired by the gallantry and sacrifice of our Armed Forces during World War II and were published together by C. L. Barnhouse as part of a collection entitled "Marching to Victory."

Noble Karl became the conductor of the Fort Dodge, Iowa Municipal Band (later renamed the Karl L. King Municipal Band) after directing several bands including the Sells-Floto and Barnum and Bailey's Circus Bands. He and his wife, Ruth, later moved to Fort Dodge, established their own music store and publishing company, thus becoming prominent and permanent citizens of that community. The city park in which the Karl L. King Municipal Band now holds its concerts was named for Karl King along with a two million dollar viaduct spanning the Des Moines River.

Mr. Anthony Adams, who first studied arranging music with Karl King at his kitchen table, related how King opted not to compose full scores, as such, but wrote lead parts for each instrumental section and then "fitted the pieces together" for the entire band. Arranging band or orchestra music is a kind of "layering process" in which each new instrument part is added to a score and is an arduous, painstaking and time intensive process, albeit a rewarding one. Each part has to harmonize and blend with all the others, much like pieces of a jig saw puzzle which only fit together in a particular way. Because it is so tedious and consumptive of time, even the great



Victor Herbert (1859-1924) orchestrated his music standing up, so he wouldn't fall asleep and had a special desk constructed for that purpose!

Perhaps, Noble Karl shortened the overall time requirement by arranging his music in the way he did, but the process nonetheless required fantastic memory and virtually perfect recall of each note and chord progression. Moreover, by arranging his own compositions, he ensured that the final product sounded exactly the way he had "heard" each piece in his brain prior to putting it on paper.

Physicists distinguish music and noise by whether or not the frequencies of the sound waves emitted are ordered and discrete (music) or continuous, and without order (noise), but most of us would add some qualifiers to the scientist's cold analysis. For example, Paolo Mantovani (1905-1980), whose orchestra featured cascading sounds of a string ensemble as a kind of trademark, performed according to his maxim that "Music without feeling is little more than a noise." We in the Brass Band feel the same way and



every piece that we practice and play, whether a bright march or a complex and more contemplative concert selection has embedded within it very distinct emotions. These are first expressed on paper by the composer with the challenge to make them manifest in the performance.

All of our musicians, Shriners and volunteers alike, play out of their love for music and a desire to share that love with our audience. Music has sometimes been called the "unforgiving art"



because, unlike the visual arts or literary works, a musical note, like a word or a stone, once released can never be recalled. It has to be right the first time and thus enjoyed by both musician and listener while it is being produced. All corrections must occur beforehand at rehearsals. There is no "going back" at concert time. There will be, of course, other opportunities to play the notes again, but those will be at other performances.

"Music is one of the glues of life, the universal language that transcends boundaries and differences. Karl King lived with that particular kind of glue. God gave him a gift and he gave it back to all of us." (Pastor Ben Hearn at Karl King's funeral in 1971)

In this, our 100th anniversary year, the Brass Band is proud to be able to continue the traditions and high performance standards established many years ago by Noble Karl L. King as well as those who came before us as Aleppo musicians. We strive to transmit the love of music (especially brass band music) to both those who hear us today and those who will succeed us in the future.



Bunker Hillbillies

Shrine Club Clan #126




ALEPPO'S very own Shrine Club Clan #126 is planning a corn cob party on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 from 6:00 to 9:00pm in the Most Worshipful Harvey J. Waugh Fez Room. For only \$10.00 donation per person, there will be sandwiches, hot dishes and a cash bar. Dress will be jeans with either a hillbilly or straw hat and the ladies, whatever is most comfortable. There is also a "special" ceremony being planned for joining the Hillbillies! A donation will be made to the Aleppo Shriners Children's Transportation Fund. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend or two or three.

Please call **Curt Nitzsche** at (781) 944-3669 for reservations.

The Shriners Swing Band

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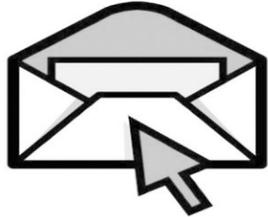
Shrine Shrine Club and Masonic functions.

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