



Peter L. Strodel

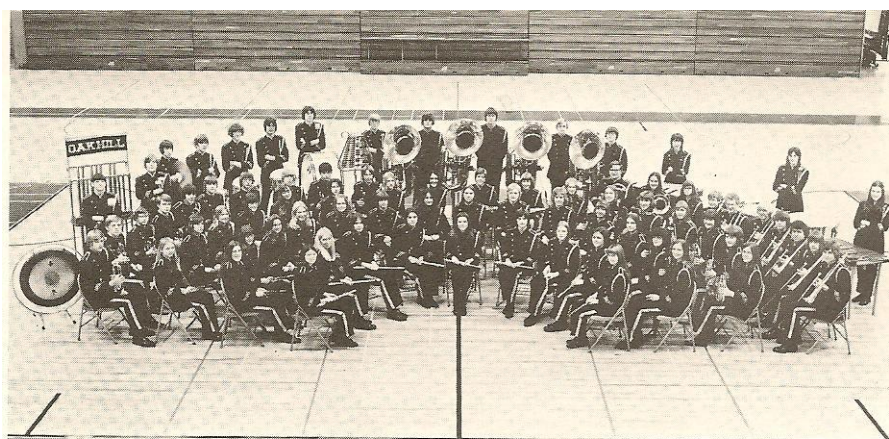
Born May 25, 1938 in Huntington, Peter Louis Strodel was the second Executive Director of the Indiana State School Music Association (following William Fread), serving in that position from 1991 until his untimely death in 2000. At Huntington High School Pete was inspired by his band director, Delmar Weesner, to excel on the bassoon along with the saxophone. This work earned him a scholarship to Morehead State. Mr. Strodel graduated from Morehead State University in 1960 and received his Master's degree from Ball State University.

He was the band director at Oak Hill High School in Grant County from 1968 to 1991 where his bands consistently earned "Superior" ratings and frequently competed in Group I in concert band competition. As one of the very fine 'small school' bands in Indiana, his Oak Hill Band performed at the Indiana Music Educators Convention in 1975. Prior to Oak Hill, he was assistant band director at Northfield High School and also taught music at Roann.

After his appointment as Director of ISSMA, Pete and his wife Linda moved to Lebanon where they maintained a close friendship with Gamma Chapter member Joe Haboush and his wife. There he was a member of the the Lebanon Elks Lodge, American Bandmasters Association, Music Educators National Conference, the Indiana Music Educators Association and the Indianapolis Symphonic Band.

Pete was a beloved member of Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Mu who was well known for his kind demeanor, sense of humor, and mastery of story-telling. At the annual Gamma Chapter meeting we now award a member the "Pete Strodel Award" for the best story or joke. Pete Strodel was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1993.

Pete Strodel passed away on April 5, 2000.



*Oakhill H.S. Symphonic Band, Converse
Peter Strodel Director*