



Area Chamber of Commerce

5 1st St SW

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www.hamptoniowa.org

Facts about the Band Shell

Chronological Facts

November 12, 1912 J.W. Kim gave the first band concert with 20 boys.

August 13, 1914 Hampton Chronicle reported "Hampton does not take a back seat for any town in the state twice it's size, and the weekly concerts would not only be a drawing card, but would be more than appreciated by the large number of people in the surrounding territory who make Hampton their regular trading point.

1914 to 1922 Band played concerts from a horse drawn wagon especially built for the band and pulled into City Park for concerts.

February 21, 1921. Band concert at the Windsor with Fred Hughart as the coronet soloist.

March 17, 1921 Iowa Band Law signed by the governor.

March 21, 1921 Hampton City Council carried unanimously the motion for a band tax levy.

March 28, 1921 Voters agreed to the levy and Hampton became the second community in the state to take advantage of tax money made possible by the passage of the Iowa Band Law.

1922 First Band Shell built for \$1,000.

1939 Band Shell remodeled to make room for a larger band.

June 27, 1959 Current bandshell dedicated as part of the Dairy Day Celebration in Hampton.

1922 to 2010 13 band directors over 88 years. This year Brian Stevens passes the baton to Chris Sauke, making him number 14.

March, 2010 Suggestion made to raze Band Shell and build a new one.

June, 2010 RDG Planning and Design offer, pro bono, their services to take a look and see if the Band Shell can be saved.

July 6, 2010 Press Conference to announce the Band Shell Renovation Fund raiser



*To support the economic growth by improving the quality of life
and business climate in the Franklin County area.*



Interesting Facts

The Band Shell in 1959 was made possible by a donation from the estate of Fred Holmes and an existing fund from the Hampton Park Board. George Manolyvich of the Hampton Construction Company designed the new shell to give the listener the best in musical sound and to eliminate noise to the hospital that was to the west.

Fred Hughart once related the story that part of the audition for Municipal Band Director was designed to test the musical skills of the applicant. The band was given the music to one set of music and the conductor was given the music to another. The committee wanted to see how long it would take the conductor to discover the problem and what he would do. Maybe that's why the Band has only had 13 directors.

It is evident that the commitment to bands in this community has a long standing tradition. That dedication has survived the Depression, two World Wars, the advent of television and the electronic age. The unbroken series of summer concerts by the band since 1922 is evidence of the community's appreciation for those programs.

The opportunity to perform is also important to Hampton's cultural life. The enjoyment of playing in a band does not end when a person graduates from high school or college. Rather, in a time when we, as a society, are in danger of becoming passive consumers rather than active performers of music, the band has given local musicians the opportunity to continue playing their instruments long after their school years have ended.

Contact Info Facts

If you'd like to speak to the Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce or Brian Stevens, please call 641-456-5668 or email hacc@hamptoniowa.org Or visit <http://bandshell.hamptoniowa.org>