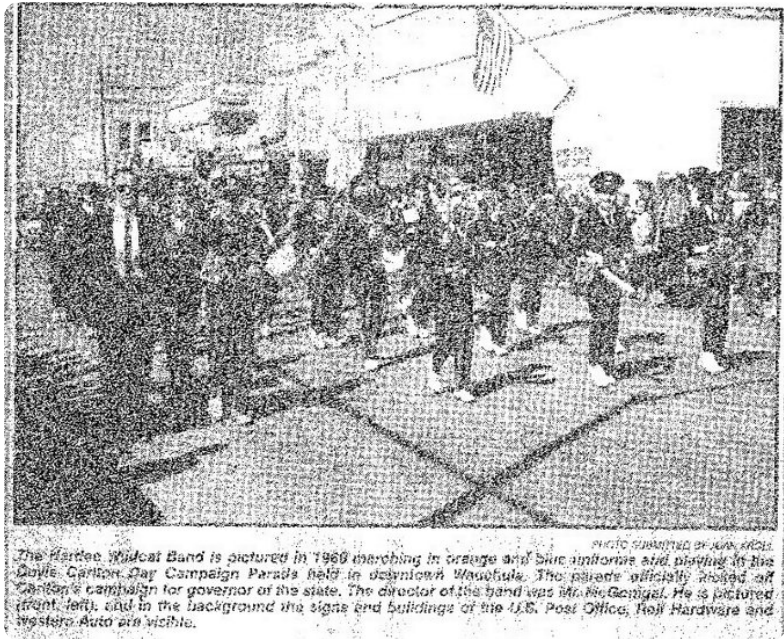


WILDCAT MARCHING BAND

THE SCHOOL BAND ORGANIZES IN 1947

The School Band was organized in the summer of 1947 under the Direction of Paul Creech. The band consisted of sixty-eight members and five mascots. Several of the civic organizations and other individuals in the county were responsible for donations and securing instruments for the band. The uniforms were furnished by the Elks Club. Monetary donations from Lions Club, Attorneys Rosin and Paderewski. A.B. Pearce and H. F Johnson secured the instruments. needed. (Board Minutes, Vol:2, page 209)



The School Band made it's first appearance at the football games. Later on in the year, they participated in nearby parades. The most significant event they entered was the District Contest held in Fort Myers where they placed second. Other Events that year included : Strawberry Festival in Bowling Green, Concert at Fort Meade High School.

On New Years Eve they marched in the Lakeland Rodeo Parade. They also went to Tallahassee on January forth for the Inauguration of the Govenor. In addition, they participated in the Gasparilla Parade held in Tampa, Fort Myers Pageant of Lights, Plant City's State Strawberry Parade and the Spring Music Festival at Wauchula.

All in all, the band was busy throughout the year and became a favorite for our community.

Although, the school yearbook of 1949 clearly states that the band began in the summer of 1947, an article was found in the local newspaper indicating that the school band was already in existence several years earlier.

The article states the following information:

“A long needed attraction is to be added this year in the form of a complete band, under the direction of Miss Kate Hadsel. Much credit is due Miss Hadsel as she is training the band gratis and they will be seen between halves in maneuvers on the field and will play during the contest.”

(The Advocate, _____1945 or 1946)

1948-49

Joanne Erler
Mary Frances Joiner
Barbara Slaughter
Ninfa Collier
Mary Esther Lapinski
Jackie Carlton
Roger Jaudon
Buddy Griffiths
Jimmy Hardy
Tommy Carlton
Richard Myer
Sylvia McDonald
Evelyn Brown
Jerry Dunn
Joe Carlton
Jeff Crane
Ronell Whidden
Bill Crews
Murrell Davis
Kenneth Stanton
Idella Pearson
Carolyn Long
Dorothy Corley
Leland Holland
Barbara Slaughter

Victor Wray Irby
Ray Turner
Betty Mitchel Miller
Carol Lou Lambert
Joyce Steffins
Margaret Himrod
Patty Timmerman
Jack Pepper
Carlo Neal

Clyde Stephens
Freddie Timmerman
Lynell Searcy
Kay McDonald
Betty J. Rose
Billy D. Tyus
Iris Kulick
Joanne Thomas
Ronnie Smith

Donald Smith
Robert Moon
Rozella Pearson
Carolyn Joiner
Patricia Thornton
Eddie Kennedy
Martha Clark
Clayton Collier
Bobby Fisher
Joanne Carlton
Virginia Chance
Polly Whidden
Iva Leah Earnest
Joy Thornton
Delores Gough
Sylvia A. Warren
Geraldine Parr
Nancy Alderman
Rosemary Messich
Sally Fletcher
Darlene McLeod
Tony Nelrich
Belton Dominick
Lamar Knight
Judith Linder

Sue Smith
Phyllis Prine

Ray Graham

Terry Murrell
Mike Mitchell

1949-50

The Hardee County High School Band completed its fourth year under the present director, Mr. Paul Creech, and has made several public appearances throughout the county. During the year many events have transpired which have strengthened the interest of the band members. Outstanding among these are: Edison Pageant of Light, Gasparilla, and the Plant City Strawberry Festival.