

“On the starting line, from Toronto..... The Optimists.”

Anticipation is building to a fever pitch as we prepare for the first rehearsal of the Optimists Alumni Corps.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1-5 P.M. AT THE ROYAL
CANADIAN LEGION (FORMER SHRINE) 1395
LAKESHORE BLVD. WEST**

(at the foot of Dowling St. just west of the CNE). Parking entrance is just east of the building. Phone (416) 532-8892. The first rehearsal will take place on the second floor (enter building through front doors on Lakeshore).

WHAT MEMBERS NEED TO BRING:

Horn players will need a mouthpiece. We suggest you buy the cheapest one you can find for now because you can be provided one FREE from Warburton Music Products, (see below). **IF YOU HAVE YOUR OWN HORN. PLEASE BRING IT.** And if you have any contacts for instruments we might be able to borrow, please see Vern Johansson at the first rehearsal.

Drummers will need sticks. Practice pads will be provided. Colour Guard flags and poles will be provided.

THERE WILL BE A \$50 REGISTRATION FEE FOR EACH MEMBER. CASH OR CHEQUE PAYABLE TO: OPTIMISTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION. These funds will be used to pay for rehearsal facilities, music copying, drum practice pads, instrument insurance and transportation.

FREE WARBURTON MOUTHPIECES.

Terry Warburton marched in the Optimists in the late '60's. Since then he has been dedicated to designing and building mouthpieces for brass instruments. His manufacturing plant is in Orlando, Florida and he is currently building a facility in Belize, which will also manufacture brass instruments. Terry provides mouthpieces to symphony and jazz players all over the world. He has generously agreed to provide FREE mouthpieces to all brass players in the Optimists Alumni Corps. Unfortunately we won't be able to provide these for the first rehearsal but if you would like to order a FREE WARBURTON, simply go to his website: <http://www.warburton-usa.com> click on the "Products" icon and you will see a variety of charts that show various manufacturers along with the comparable Warburton product. Pick the one most suited to you and email Terry at: mpceman@warburton-usa.com if you don't have access to the Internet, see Vern Johansson at the first rehearsal.

Terry unfortunately can't attend the first rehearsal but he will attend whenever he can. He's very excited about playing as a member of the corps again. We thank him for his immense generosity.

MUSIC ON THE WEB.

Ray Roussel, our web guru, has been busier than a one-armed paperhanger, translating original Optimists arrangements into webspeak. You can access these charts—provided by Barry Bell---by visiting the alumni website at: www.optimists-alumni.org. In order to view and print copies of the music at home you will need to download and install the free Acrobat Reader from Adobe. Ray will place a link to Adobe on our website. Or if you wish to be prepared you can go immediately to: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> and download Acrobat Reader 5.0 Hardcopy of music will be provided at rehearsals. The instructional staff is currently deciding on our first few selections. These will be announced at our first rehearsal.

A TRIBUTE TO TRUMAN.

Although the corps played many tunes by many fine arrangers, one arranger in particular stands out for the sheer number and quality of his artful creations, ingenious charts that defined the corps' musical character from 1958 to 1967.

In tribute to Truman's arranging talent and his colossal contribution to drum corps everywhere, the Optimists Alumni Drum & Bugle Corps is proud to perform exclusively the musical arrangements of Colonel Truman Crawford.

In Scranton, Pennsylvania, this past Labour Day weekend, the famed Chicago Royal Airs alumni corps performed their 1965 championship show at the DCA Alumni Corps exhibitions. Colonel Crawford conducted them on the field in his Marine Drum Corps uniform. The moment was so moving that many knees buckled and eyes welled up during this stunning performance.

No other drum corps in history played more music by Truman Crawford than did the Toronto Optimists. During our most successful period as a drum corps we were fuelled by the music of Truman Crawford.

It was a time that can't be replaced.
But it can be re-lived.

See you on October 20th