

Swingin' at Overlook

By CHARLES "BUCKY" BUCHANAN

DURING the Big Band Era, they were "Stompin' at the Savoy" and Saturday, September 29, 2007, they were "Swingin' at the Overlook." **Christine Chasson**, Program Director at the Overlook and Noble **Dick Fink**, Band Director, brought the 16 piece Aleppo Shriners Swing Band to the Overlook's beautiful Performing Arts Center in Charlton, Massachusetts for two concerts.

The morning session was attended by the patients from the Masonic Health Care Center and the afternoon concert was for the residents of the Overlook, the Independent Living Complex in Charlton.

The band opened with the popular "Moonlight Serenade" and the spontaneous applause by the appreciative packed house set the mood for the program of romantic, military, swing and patriotic songs. During the medley of military songs the veterans from each branch of the service were recognized. This was followed by a special medley from the 50's, which included: "You Belong to Me" and "So Rare." The romantic "Stardust" and "It's the Talk of the Town" created some hand holding and a lot of smiles. "Night Train" and "Sing, Sing, Sing" featuring **Charlie Vaughan** on the drums. We even had some impromptu dancing in the lobby.

When the concert ended, the unanimous question was "when are they coming back?" Christine had the answer, "the Shriners Swing Band will return to Overlook in May of 2008 for your listening and dancing pleasure."



THE AMESBURY (MA) Fire Department Local 1783 presented a \$3,000 check to **Illustrious Potentate Albert D. Flight** for the Aleppo Shriners Children's Transportation Fund. The monies were from the proceeds of their 3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off, held on Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007 at the Barking Dog restaurant in Amesbury MA. The Cook-Off was a competition between the local fire departments. Reading FD took first place as well as the People's Choice award, Merrimac FD was second, and Salisbury FD placed third. From left to right are: **Eric Cole**, Amesbury, AFD; **Ron Welch**, Seabrook, AFD; **Albert D. Flight**, Potentate; **Jameson Ayotte**, Amesbury, AFD; **Rob Johnson**, Litchfield, NH, Oriental Band Director; **Lester Oshry**, Canton, Oriental Band.

Super Market Has Super Staff

THE Super Stop & Shop in Saugus, managed by **Leonard Taddeo**, has been kind enough to set up a pull-tab kiosk in the front of their store for customers to drop their tabs off. The pull-tabs are recycled and sold to raise money for the Children's Transportation Fund. Noble **Leon Golden** arranged for several members of the store's staff to tour the Shriners Burns Hospital in Boston. The tour group brought gifts of fruit, candy, and toys for the patients' families. When the families go back to where they are staying, typically they are from another country and don't have the means to get snacks and other essentials. The hospital has beds at the "Y" for them to stay in, and of course there is no cupboard stocked with these items. They are very grateful when these items are donated.

During their visit they were given a guided tour of the facility by Noble **David Faulkner**. The tour group was in awe at the superior medical treatment and care provided by the hospital, and the professionalism of the staff. At the conclusion of the tour, the group was treated to a luncheon in the hospital cafeteria.

Next time you are at the Super Stop & Shop at 164 Main Street in Saugus, make sure you drop some tabs off!



THANK YOU to the Stop & Shop management staff who were instrumental in erecting the kiosk at the Saugus store. From left to right are: **Pat Hickey**, Assistant Manager, **Kevin McCauley**, Assistant Manager, **Leonard J. Taddeo**, Store Manager; **Tina Rozier**, Assistant Manager.

The Aleppo Brass Band Manager Comes Marching In!

By HERMES BOYATIS

I first met **Daniel T. Nager** at the Cambridge Star Market where we were designated by **Leon Golden** to offer our cans for donations to the Shriners Children Transportation Fund.

My attire on that cold morning was casual and not warm enough. Nager's was spit-and-polish, trousers creased, all the requisites of a leader.

My usual inquiries came first. He was born on August 13, 1926 in Providence, Rhode Island. His mother, who lived to be 103, was born in Fall River, Massachusetts; his father, Harry, in Russia.

What, we continued, was your education? "First let me tell you about my memorable birthday present. I had just turned 81 when I was appointed Aleppo Brass Band Manager on August 21, one week after my date of birth."

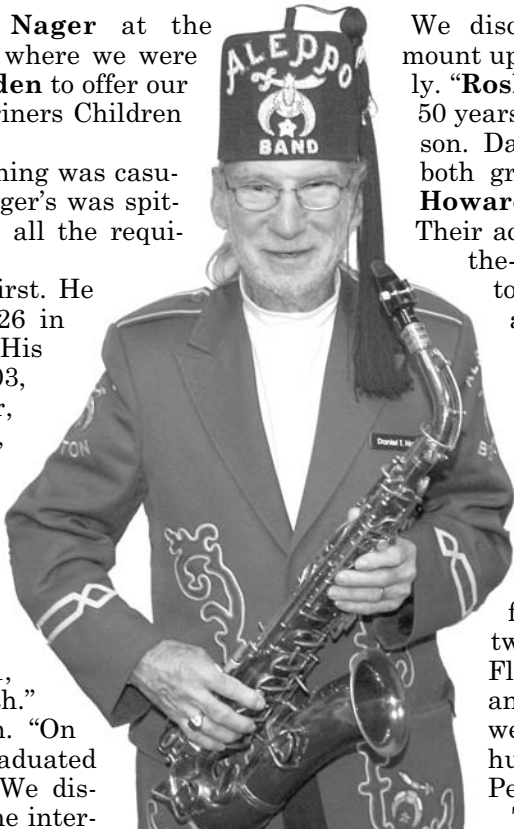
Back to Nager's education. "On June 6, 1944, (D Day), I graduated from Everett High School." We discovered at this moment all the inter-sections in his remarkable past and present.

"I enlisted in the U. S. Navy in September, 1944 and attended Radio Operator School. My service was aboard USS Pocono AGC 16 as 3rd Class Petty Officer, and I was discharged in 1946."

"My learning continued at business school with a major in accounting. This gave me the background for service in the furniture industry as official manager and comptroller. Later I formed by own business, Bookkeeping Services Company." Now non-stop, we heard Nager's credentials pile up!

When, we queried, did your musical education begin? "At Everett High School in 1942, I played the clarinet. A bunch of us kids formed a swing band. Since most men at that time were at war, we blew our clarinets and saxophones at the barracks and forts of Boston Harbor."

For a pause from music, we returned to our Band Manager's astonishing acumen. "In 2000 I became Business Manager of the Wakefield Retired Men's Club Band."



We discovered that cents and dollars mount up in Daniel T. Nager's entire family. "**Roslyne** and I have been married for 50 years. We have two daughters and one son. Daughters **Sharon** and **Ellen** are both graduates of Bentley College; son **Howard** is a graduate of Babson College. Their achievements, their present top-of-the-mark schedules are too numerous to mention here. They are officers and managers and accountants in businesses remote or near where they live. Howard works for a Hawaiian corporation, but lives in Roseville, California; daughter Sharon works in Boston, but her home is in Bridgewater; only Ellen works and lives at the same site, Peabody."

Have you and Roslyne ever found time to travel? "We went twice a year to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to visit my wife's mother and family and friends. Frequently we joined daughter Ellen and her husband **Jody** right here in Peabody."

These happy reunions with our families have come to an end. This year my and Roslyne's mother died, and Roslyne suffered a major heart attack. We were overcome with grief, but are grateful that my beloved wife is back in action." Having shared his sorrow, our Band Master marched forward.

At last we reached the most important role in our Band Manager's life. Before this, Nager assured your reporter that there was no time for pets or leisure or hobbies.

"My hobby is managing the bands, seeking substitutes immediately for bandsmen who don't show up. It's very important to find younger talented recruits."

At the time of our interview, Nager took a breather from his rehearsals for a luncheon with the North Shore Shrine Club.

Back to Nager's entry and rise in Freemasonry and Shrine. "I was raised in 1960 and joined Shriners and Scottish Rite in 1997, going through the Unity Class among more than 800 applicants."

Now to his leadership of Aleppo's bands. "As a saxophonist, I joined Shriners Brass band in 1998, and I'm still a member. I became business manager of the Wakefield Retired Men's Band in 2000. My appointment as Band manager of Aleppo Shriners Brass Band came on August 21, 2007. I'm a member of Second Chance Swing Band out of Danvers.

"Last year I volunteered to work with the North Shore Shrine Club, collecting monies, once again, for the Aleppo Shriners Children's Hospital Transportation Fund."

When his breathless pause had ended, we, also breathless, said: "Keep coming with your Brass Band, Daniel T. Nager! We'll all be there, whatever the weather, to hear and see your musicians!"



Luncheon for our
Widows

Wednesday, April 23, 2007

Mail your RSVP to the
Aleppo Shriners by April 16, 2008.

Invitation letters will be mailed out soon.