

John Bromell Marshall was born February 2, 1850 in Cornwall, England. As a young man he was a member of the Queen's Own Guard Band, performing for Queen Victoria on numerous occasions. Mr. Marshall arrived in Topeka in 1871 seeking employment as a contractor and builder. By 1881 he was connected with the First Regiment Band in Topeka and in 1884 he was asked to organize a band to aid in the campaign of James G. Blaine and John A. Logan, Republican candidates for President and Vice-President. Being a staunch Republican, Marshall accepted the assignment and organized the First Ward Republican Flambeau Club Band. The twelve-member band was outfitted in white canvas uniforms and oilcloth capes and caps. When the election was won by the Democratic ticket of Grover Cleveland and Thomas Hendricks, Marshall is quoted as saying "Boys, it's all over and Marshall's band dies with the election."

Marshall's Band, as it was already being called, did not die as easily as anticipated, however. A committee of the victorious Democrats asked Mr. Marshall to have his band lead a local jubilee procession for Cleveland and Hendricks. This did not sit well with the ardent Republican, and Marshall thought that he could get out of the request by asking an inflated fee for the band's services. Much to his surprise, the price was agreed to and Marshall's Band has been in the business of providing music to the city of Topeka ever since.

The early years of Marshall's Band provided a greater opportunity for travel than today. In 1886 and 1887 the band travelled to San Francisco and St. Louis, respectively, performing for the national encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic. In St. Louis, the band was honored as being the best marching band at the event. Two years later they travelled to Washington, D.C. to lead the presidential escort at the inauguration of Benjamin Harrison. In 1892 the band travelled to Denver, performing as the official band of the Topeka Commandery No. 5 Knights Templar, and to Boston, again performing for the G.A.R. national encampment. The next year the band had the honor of representing the state as the official band for Kansas Week at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

Although the golden era of the concert band ended over 80 years ago, Marshall's Band has continued to survive due to the support we've received from the Topeka community. While changing fashion and economic downturns have spelled the demise of most of the concert bands in this country, we are looking forward to continuing into the next century and beyond. Thank you for keeping alive the tradition of free band concerts in the park.



Concert No. 1  
May 28, 1995

## MARSHALL'S CIVIC BAND

### Established 1884

Star Spangled Banner. . . . .	Key
There's No Business Like Show Business. . . . .	Berlin
The Screamer. . . . .	Jewell
Coat of Arms. . . . .	Kenny
Eternal Father, Strong to Save. . . . .	Smith
Royal Garden Blues. . . . .	Williams & Williams
March Grandioso . . . . .	Seitz
God Bless the U.S.A.. . . . .	Greenwood
The Barber of Seville . . . . .	Rossini

#### INTERMISSION

Funiculi Funicula . . . . .	Denza
The Sound of Music. . . . .	Rodgers & Hammerstein
Belle of the Ball . . . . .	Anderson
The Liberty Bell. . . . .	Sousa
America, The Beautiful. . . . .	Ward

Our next concert will be Thursday, June 1st at 7:30 pm in Gage Park.



Marshall's Band is sponsored by the Topeka Parks and Recreation Department, the Music Performance Trust Fund, the American Federation of Musicians Local 169 Topeka-Manhattan, and the following merchants....

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