

Minnesota Music Hall of Fame

Inductee



Schells Hobo Band

Inducted in 1995

A rousing circus march played by a group of shabbily dressed musicians announces the presence of Schell's Hobo Band on parade. The band has about 400 marches, old-time tunes, current favorites and special arrangements. In 1946, Les "Red" Magers invited some of his buddies to Vernon Center to play for a VFW Celebration. From that



date the band was asked to play for the Nicollet Minnesota American Legion Post at the District Convention in Glencoe. They were supposed to play on a truck, which never showed up, so they were forced to march in the parade. The band won third place out of 50 units. After representing the Nicollet American Legion at the state convention which won them first place among marching units, they were so popular, there were almost more jobs than the band could handle. In the fall of 1949, August Schell Brewing Co. of New Ulm became the sponsor of the band and officially named them "Schell's Hobo Band". Schell's Hobo band has played all over southern Minnesota and also in surrounding states at parades and celebrations. Their rise to fame was obtained when they won The Grand Parade Award at the Minneapolis Aquatennial three years in a row: 1951, 52, and 53. Most of the Hobo Band's engagements are parades and celebrations with a few county fairs and stage shows. Their colorful uniforms, precise marching, martial music and novelty tunes all combine to give the spectators a source of relaxation and enjoyment that is never forgotten.

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