

Growing up with the O'Rourkes



Courtesy of Lincolnfest/Vic Gutman

Big band era sounds attract festival crowd

By Sarah Knight
Staff Reporter

"In the mood . . . Oh, boy! In the mood . . . Oh, joy!"

Strains of Glen Miller will fill the air as the Resurrected Swing Orchestra swings to the classics at this year's Flatwater Festival.

Band leader Bob Start said he became interested in the big-band sound during his early junior high school years.

"I just found some other kids that liked the same kind of music and we got started," he said.

Start's musical background began in fifth grade and continued through his days at Hastings College.

As for Start's favorite type of music, "I like anything, as long as it's in the big band era setting."

The band's repertoire concentrates attention on the big band era sound with classics such as "Autumn Leaves," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "Who's Sorry Now," "In the Mood" and "Moonlight Serenade."

The group also performs relatively new artists' music, including Whitney Houston, Lionel Ritchie, Kenny Rogers and Barry Manilow but adds a swing "twist" to the current melodies.

The festival show, scheduled for Sunday at 2:45 p.m., will feature the entire 18-member entourage.

The size of the band ranges from 16 to 18 members but depends on the type of program, Start said.

Many of the 18 members, as well as Start, teach music when they're not performing. Members of the band come from all locations in the Midwest and travel quite a distance to assemble for performances and rehearsals, he said.

Resurrected Swing performs about twice a week and in places as far away as the Nebraska Panhandle region, Start said. Unfortunately, the Kansas City circuit usually stays booked fairly solid, he added.

As for the relationship between 18 different band members, Start said, "We have good members. They don't have egos."

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