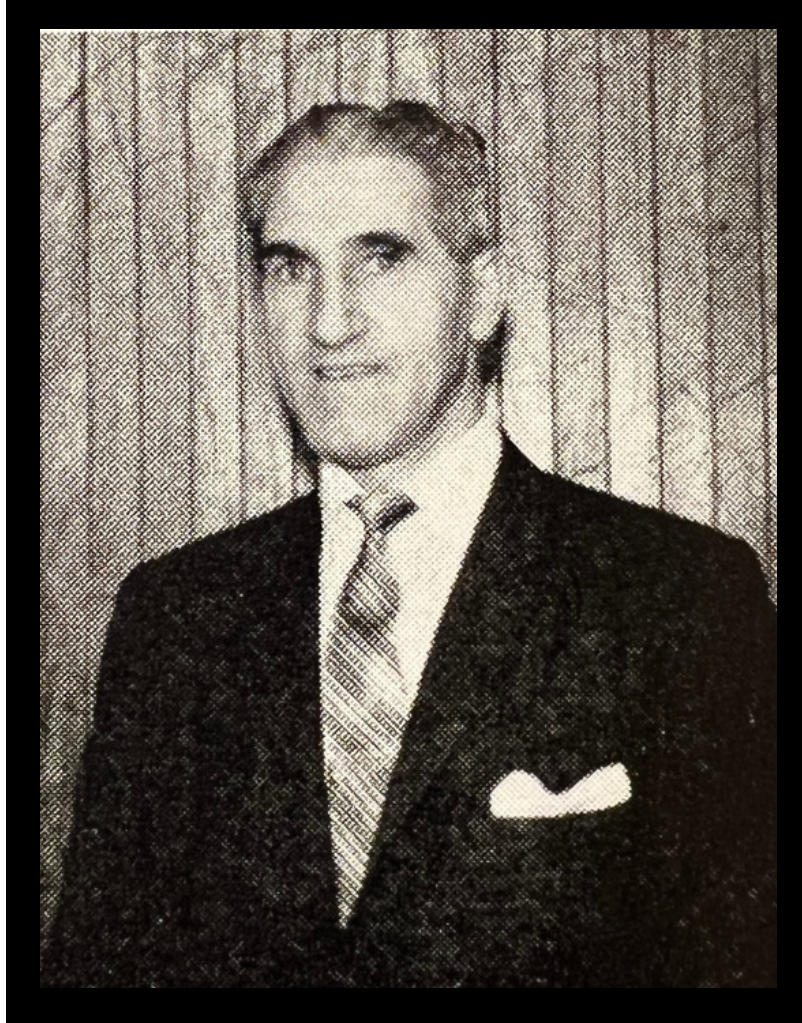


MUSIC TEACHERS THAT MADE A DIFFERENCE



LOUIS FUCHS

Mr. Louis Fuchs was born in Zurich, Switzerland and moved to the United States in 1939, where he played for the Swiss Orchestra at the New York World's Fair. He moved to North Conway around 1944 where he played in the Eastern Slope Inn Orchestra and taught music in the Conway District Schools and around the Mt. Washington Valley for nearly 40 years.

Mr. Fuchs touched the lives of many people as he shared his musical talents with children and adults. He was also deeply respected as a friend and neighbor. His contribution toward the advancement of music in the schools was outstanding and many young children received a positive start in the instrumental field as a direct result of his teaching.

A talented musician, Mr. Fuchs was a true professional in every sense of the world, and his musical abilities made him one of the very best leaders in the music field during his time. Whether he was teaching or performing, he gave much of himself and his talents. He enriched all the lives of everyone who met him with his warmth, humor, understanding and the greatest of his many talents, his music. He was a devoted and conscientious teacher who loved his students and formed lasting friendships with many of them. Some of his students went on to become professional musicians themselves. Through the years, he

shared his love of music with others in many ways. Many remember him playing his cello in churches; playing the bass fiddle at the Eastern Slope Inn, eyebrows dancing; playing the alphorn, dressed in the beautiful Swiss outfit he always wore for such occasions; and marching with the elementary school band at parades.

The Louis Fuchs Memorial Concert was established to honor the memory of Louis Fuchs. The first Louis Fuchs Memorial Concert was held on May 22, 1977, just months after the passing of Mr. Louis Fuchs. Many children that took part in this memorial concert were students of Mr. Fuch's at one time.

This memorial concert was and still is composed of students from Kennett (Jr. High) Middle School, Conway Elementary School, Pine Tree Elementary School, John Fuller Elementary School, Josiah Bartlett Elementary School, Jackson Grammar School, Madison Elementary School, Freedom Elementary School and Kenneth A. Brett School.

OTTO NINOW

Mr. Otto Ninow was born in Dresden, Germany in 1910, where he was a professional musician. Otto played several instruments during his musical career including the accordion but settled on the saxophone as his favorite.

In 1952 Otto and his wife moved to the United States. He opened a Music Store in Riverhead, Long Island, named after himself, "Ninow's Music."

In the late 1960's he moved to Jackson, NH which he considered paradise, and opened a small music store in North Conway where he taught music lessons. He conducted the Mt. Washington Valley Band and was a philanthropist within the community. He sponsored both civic and musical projects while encouraging everyone to experience and enjoy music.

Otto had an enduring motto: "Life without music would be a mistake. Live every day on earth, and be happy with it, as though it were your last."

In 1996, Otto Ninow passed away. One of his last conversations with local music teachers included a request that a memorial concert be performed, thereby ensuring that his legacy of promoting music in the valley would not die with him. The MWV Community decided to add his name to the Louis Fuchs Memorial Concert to become the Louis Fuchs/Otto Ninow Memorial Concert.



JEAN FICKETT

Mrs. Jean Fickett came to Kennett High School in 1960, originally very timid and shy, she grew into a gigantic force in music. She was responsible not only for high school activities but also the three elementary schools. Many remember her flying into the schoolyard in her VW, late for her next class. Students would hold their hands over their ears as Ms. Fickett attempted to find the correct spot on the record for the correct song. The Songsters Select Chorus won several state awards, and many of her students made All-State Chorus due to her instruction. The General Chorus boasted 100 voices at one time, both boys and girls.

For thirty-seven years she taught students and adults in the valley and ran a music shop out of her home. Students who could not afford to purchase instruments would mysteriously receive one, for keeps. She introduced everyone to all types of music: classical, folk, Christian patriotic, and even composed some songs herself.

Jean was one of the founders of the Louis Fuch Memorial Concert and recently her name was added to the program with honor. It was a unanimous decision to honor her legacy by changing the name of the "Middle School Chorus" to the "Jean Fickett Chorus."