

**North Carolina Bandmasters Association  
Hall of Fame Award  
By James Daugherty, NCBA President-Elect**

Please take the time prior to our General Business Meeting on Monday, November 9, 2009 to read over our 2009 Hall of Fame Nominees. The names below were submitted to me by the July 1, 2009 deadline. We will vote on the nominees during our Monday afternoon General Business meeting at 4 PM. We will also allow speakers to give us additional info not included below about our esteemed colleagues.

**2009 Nominees**

**Edwin “Eddie” Harrington** (Retired) Eddie Harrington taught for the Asheboro City School system for 35 years, retiring in 1998 after a total of 37 years as an educator. He was an active member of the state and district bandmasters associations, ASBDA and was honored with the ‘Award of Excellence’ for the Central District in 1989. Mr. Harrington’s junior high and middle school bands were well known as some of the finest bands in the state, consistently garnering ‘Superior’ ratings and standing-room only audiences at state contest. Most Asheboro band members of the time will enthusiastically agree that Mr. Harrington played a major role in the success of the legendary Asheboro High School bands of the 1960’s and ‘70’s. Eddie’s enduring legacy is an unwavering standard of character, integrity and intensive work ethic that is still modeled today. Each year, three graduating students from the Asheboro Band program are each awarded a \$500 H. Edwin Harrington Band scholarship, recognizing character and musicianship. Mr. Harrington remains an active supporter of the Asheboro bands, regularly attending performances and offering evaluations and insights into musical preparation. His primary vocation now is being a full-time grandfather to four grandchildren in Charlotte and in Baltimore, Maryland. NOMINATED BY: Phil Homiller

**Joseph Hedden** (Retired) Joe Hedden rebuilt the band program at Kings Mountain High School after WWII in 1945 following his discharge from the United States Navy. Joe is the first graduate from Western Carolina University with a degree in music. He designed the music degree himself. He studied at the Navy School of Music and served his country in two theaters on battleships. He was on a ship sunk by German torpedoes. Joe contributed to a History Channel documentary about that battle. During his career, Joe produced many students who became members of the elite military bands, music educators, and the Metropolitan Opera. Joe was a self taught musician and teacher. He never was part of a school band as a student. Joe taught band at Kings Mountain with membership ranging from third grade through twelfth grade and built one of North Carolina’s respected band programs. Joe taught in a cinder block building for twenty-five years without insulation. Hearing damage eventually led to Joe’s departure from band directing to administration, where he provided opportunities to many students. He was a top-notch instrument repairman as well. He also served as the King’s Mountain Band’s repairman until recently when health problems prevented him to continue. NOMINATED BY: Gil Doggett/Andy Washburn

**John Lackey** (Retired) taught for many years in North Carolina and is most known for the many years he spent at Enka High School in Enka, North Carolina. During his time at Enka, he inspired countless musicians, including many who entered the profession as band directors. Many of those he taught include *Mike Robinson, Connie Weeks, Roger Caldwell, Ralph Caldwell* and several others. Mr. Lackey served as the treasurer of the Western District Bandmasters Association for many years and was an important part of all of the district functions. His bands received numerous superior ratings at festival, always displaying a high level of preparation and musicianship. One of his most important contributions to our profession was the creation of the Land of the Sky Marching Band Festival in the mid 1970s. At the time Mr. Lackey started this marching band festival, it was one of only a handful of marching band festivals in existence. Since its inception, it has grown to be one of the largest vents of its kind and has been in continual operation for over 40 years! During this time it has inspired countless students and directors to aspire to a high level of excellence. The influence of this event simply cannot be gauged! NOMINATED BY: Ralph Caldwell

**Jack Pindell** (Retired) Made outstanding contributions to New Hanover County Schools, at John T. Hoggard High School and D.G. Virgo Middle School. Additionally Jack was a supervisor of student teachers and a mentor to many young teachers. He worked as a dedicated teacher, retired, worked as a music representative for *McFadyen*

*Music*, and continues to volunteer in schools. He also continues to teach young students privately. NOMINATED  
BY: Deborah Phillips

**Robert “Bob” Romine** Biography not available at Journal Publication Deadline.

**Dr. William “Bill” Spencer** (Retired) (June 22, 1921-) was born and reared in La Grande, Oregon. He attended Eastern Oregon State College in La Grande, the University of Oregon, in Eugene and graduated from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, in 1943 with a bachelor of music degree. Spencer then enlisted in the Army Air Corps and served in the Fourth Fighter Group as a P-51 pilot during World War II, flying twenty-two combat missions out of Debden, England. After the war, he taught in the Nooksack, Washington school system and at Disston Junior High School in St. Petersburg, Florida. He later earned M.A. and D.Ed. degrees from Teachers College at Columbia University, New York, NY. Dr. Spencer began his career with Appalachian State University in 1951, directing the band and teaching courses in woodwinds, instrument repair, and music education. He also was in charge of the stage band during this time and chaired the Department of Music from 1958 to 1972. During this time, the number of faculty increased from nine to twenty-five, and the department added several new degree programs, including performance, church music, and B.A. degrees. He also was one of the founders of Cannon Music Camp, which is held on Appalachian State’s campus each summer. In 1972, Spencer resigned as chair of the Department of Music and, in 1973, he resigned as TTT professor. Within this period, he initiated the guitar program at Appalachian State in conjunction with the Ford Foundation and continued to teach bassoon, woodwind class, theory, conducting, the history and construction of the piano, and guitar classes. Spencer also served as coordinator of audiovisual equipment for the department and as building manager of the Broyhill Music Center. In 1978, he developed and directed the first Appalachian Dulcimer Workshop and Old Tyme Music Concert on the campus; the workshop has continued on an annual basis and has attracted students from all over the country. The new School of Music at Appalachian State has shown its appreciation of Spencer by dedicating a rehearsal room in his honor. Chancellor John Thomas led the dedication ceremony during the 1989 homecoming weekend, officially opening the door to the William G. Spencer Instrumental Rehearsal Hall. In response, Spencer said, “I was pleased that it [the dedication] was done. Of all the various areas in the building, the rehearsal halls are where a lot of the work goes on. I enjoy working hard and the real work behind a performance is done there. I’m pleased to be a part of it.” During his tenure at Appalachian State, Spencer served on the Faculty Senate, the Appalachian Studies Council, the Appalachian Consortium Task Force, and numerous other committees; he also served as chair of the new music building committee as Appalachian planned for the move into the Broyhill Music Center. Along with his academic responsibilities, he continued to play the bassoon professionally in a number of community and professional orchestras, including the North Carolina Symphony. Spencer is a member of the following organizations: Pi Kappa Lambda, the Music Educators National Conference, the International Double Reed Society, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. He also has served as a music consultant, clinician, and contest judge in most of the Southern states. He is a past president of the North Carolina Music Educators Association, as well as a past chair of the higher education section and a member-at-large. Phi Mu Alpha students honored Spencer by awarding him the Orpheus Award. Sigma Alpha Iota also honored him with receptions and awards by the Music Educators National Conference. Former Department of Music, chair Bill McCloud said of Spencer: “Appalachian is lucky to have had in its midst a man who has surfaced as a strong and effective leader, a highly respected contributor to the profession, a diligent overseer, a stern and fair counselor, a tireless taskmaster, and of most importance, one who is a genuine friend.” Spencer was recently elected the tenth president of the Association of the Fourth Fighter Group of World War II. It is the oldest of all fighter groups in World War II, having initially been a volunteer squadron made up of United States pilots volunteering with the British Air Force, and eventually incorporated into the United States forces and dubbed the “Fighting Fourth.” Spencer was also very active in the Boone community. He is a former choir director in the Presbyterian Church, as well as a former elder and past chair of the Board of Deacons. Spencer is also a past member of the Lions Club and a past president of the Civitans. He and his wife were longtime members of the Fifty-Nighters, a group of which Spencer is a past president. Presently, Spencer is a choir member in the Presbyterian Church and a charter member and secretary of the barbershop chorus in Boone. Dr. Spencer retired from teaching on July 1, 1986, but continued working part-time as building coordinator and audio-visual equipment manager until 1989. The Spencers still live in Boone year-round. Dr. Spencer’s retirement activities include woodworking, traveling, volunteering, fishing, and making music when “the spirit moves.” NOMINATED  
BY: Ed Rooker