



# FRALINGER STRING BAND

Steve Coper, Chairman and Business Manager – 610.517.3081

Email: [fralinger@comcast.net](mailto:fralinger@comcast.net)

Website: [www.fralinger.org](http://www.fralinger.org)

## FACT SHEET

In 2010, the band won its *eighth consecutive first prize* in the New Year's Day parade with the theme "Feudin', Fussin' and a Fightin'". Full of energy, spirit and fun, our Mountain Men Hillbillies entertain you with exciting music and dance routines. Fralinger is renowned throughout the world for their unique musical and performance style.

- Most *consistent* top prize winner over the last 25 years:
  - Won first, second or third prize in 20 of the last 25 New Years' Day parades
  - 16 First Prizes overall
  - Thomas D'Amore, in his debut, was awarded First Prize Captain's honors.
- Organized on December 18, 1914 by **Dr. John J. Fralinger, M.D.**, a Philadelphia physician, pharmacist and also the team doctor for Connie Mack's Philadelphia Athletics. **WE ARE NINETY-FIVE YEARS PROUD!**
- Reorganized in 1974 as a nonprofit organization governed completely by the membership
- A *progressive* Mummers String Band organization:
  - First string band to vocalize
  - First String Band to emulate brass instrument sounds with reed instruments (1971)
  - First String Band to feature the Big Band sound (1972) and Dixieland Jazz (1973)
  - First String Band to receive Philadelphia Mayor's Achievement Award (1975)
  - Herb Smith (Music Director Emeritus), Mike Rayer (Presentation Director Emeritus), and Bill Bowen Jr. (Captain Emeritus) – all members of elite Mummers' Hall of Fame
- Significant engagements:
  - Hong Kong International Chinese New Year Parade (2007)
  - Walt Disney World SpectroMagic® Parade (2007)
  - Official 2008 World Series Champion Philadelphia Phillies "Whiz Kids" pep band (since 1990)
  - Mardi Gras - New Orleans, LA
  - Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell Inaugural Parade – Harrisburg, PA (2003)
  - Miss America Pageant Parade – Atlantic City, NJ
  - Pearl Harbor Memorial Concert – Honolulu, HI (1997)
  - Baseball Hall of Fame Parade – Cooperstown, NY
  - Selected for "America's Bicentennial Celebration" television special (1976)
  - Appeared in Brian De Palma's movie, "Blow Out" (1981)
  - Appeared in Philadelphia Constitution Bicentennial Parade (1987)
  - Appeared at Disney's New York premieres of "Pocahontas" (1995) and "Hercules" (1997)
  - Dick Clark's "Freedom Festival" television special (1989)
- Musical Specialties:
  - Sing-along favorites
  - Standards
  - Dixieland/Jazz
  - Big Band/Swing
  - Patriotic
  - Contemporary
  - Latin

*"The Ultimate in Mummers Entertainment"*