

Alonzo Leach Music Store

Des Moines, Iowa

- 1884 Alonzo Leach is born in April in Ackley, Iowa (WWII draft).
- 1907 Leach is flute player with Wheelock's Indian Band in PA.
- 1913 Leach performs with the Gentry Bros. Dog & Pony Show.
- 1914 Leach joins Karl King w/ the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show.
- 1918 Alonzo Leach, music professor, Princess Theatre (draft).
- 1920 Alonzo Leach, Theatre Orchestra Musician (census).
- 1921 Alonzo Leach, musician, Princess Theatre, Des Moines.
- 1922 Alonzo Leach, musician, Berchel Theatre.
- 1923 Alonzo Leach opens his music store in Des Moines, #805-1/2 Locust St. (dir).
- 1924 Leach is appointed director of the Drake University Band.
- 1928 Leach is one of the founders of the Iowa Bandmasters' Association and secretary from 1930 until his death.
- 1930 Alonzo Leach, music store owner (census).
- 1940 Alonzo Leach, music store owner, #669 31st St. (census).
- 1946 Leach is one of the founders of the Des Moines Municipal Band.
- 1947 Leach is the leader of the Shrine Band.
- 1966 Leach is still performing with the Des Moines Municipal Band along with son Joseph (1918-1997) and grandson David (b. 1945).
- 1968 Alonzo Leach retires from the music shop probably now run by son Joseph.
- 1969 Alonzo dies on August 1.
- 1970 David Leach leaves the Air Force and probably returns to Des Moines at this time to help run the music store.
- 2017 The store is now called "Family Music Center" and owned by David, #4110 SW 9th St., Des Moines.

David says that Alonzo used the "Hawkeye" name as a model for his instruments. Flutes were by Armstrong, wood clarinets by Penzel-Mueller, brass instruments were probably by Holton (although the serial #s are too low). Cornets #9702 (photos 2&3) and #30,010 (photo 4) are two rare



examples of his stencil. #30,010 has a receipt for being purchased new in April, 1939. One trumpet has #46,727. Stringed instruments were made in Germany. One French horn owned by David is just labeled, "Hawkeye Des Moines". (instrument photos from Horn-u-copia.net)

I have found one mouthpiece marked, "Alonzo Leach Des Moines" (at right).

Alonzo Marcus Leach

