



Published for the friends of "The President's Own"

notes

November
December



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SOUSA: BY REQUEST

BY GUNNERY SERGEANT AMANDA SIMMONS

Now in its eleventh year, the Sousa Season Opener will continue with tradition and take its inspiration from the many brilliant programs conducted by the “March King” throughout his career as Director of the Marine Band and his own Sousa Band. But this year’s concert has a special feature: the audience will choose the program from among some of Sousa’s favorite works.

It’s hard to imagine a time when you couldn’t stream a concert live or have the works of millions of artists available at your fingertips on iTunes. Today’s musicians have a plethora of digital resources available to them to help promote and expand the reach of their compositions and performances. It makes you wonder how it was possible for a young conductor named John Philip Sousa to become a viral star and one of the first musician millionaires without the benefit of YouTube or even a radio.

There are a number of elements that contributed to Sousa’s success, beginning with the fact that he took music directly to the American people. In his era, the only way people could partake in the cultural arts was in the form of live entertainment. In 1891, the opportunistic conductor obtained official sanction from President Benjamin Harrison for the first Marine Band tour. The wild success of these tour concerts is attributed to Sousa’s showmanship and unorthodox programming style, which was influenced by his early years of musical study and his time playing with the Marine Band.

After his discharge from the Marine Corps at age 20, Sousa remained in Washington for a time, conducting and playing the violin. He toured with several traveling theater orchestras and in 1876 relocated to Philadelphia. There he worked as a composer, arranger, and proofreader for numerous publish-

ing houses. Sousa was fascinated by the operetta form and toured with a company producing the musical *Our Flirtations*, for which he wrote the incidental music and a march. While on tour in St. Louis, he received a telegram offering him the leadership of the Marine Band in Washington. He accepted and reported for duty on Oct. 1, 1880, becoming the band’s 17th Leader at age 25.

The Marine Band was Sousa’s first experience conducting a military band, and he approached musical matters unlike most of his predecessors. In his autobiography “Marching Along” he noted, “I found its [Marine Band] music library limited, antiquated, and a good deal of it poorly arranged and badly copied. There was not a sheet of Wagner, Berlioz, Grieg, Tchaikovsky, or any other of the modern composers who were attracting attention throughout the musical world. I immediately selected some of the first-class compositions from the leading catalogues in Europe and proceeded with the most rigid rehearsals, in order to bring that band up to modern requirements.”

Sousa did not follow a precedent for programming, and due to a rigorous touring schedule with the Marine Band and later the Sousa Band, his style was not geared toward one segment of the population or part of the world. According to Sousa scholar Paul Bierley, “He believed that music was a universal language and that pieces played well would have appeal anywhere. He made sure, though, that every program would be appealing, no matter where it was played.”

Patriotic music was always a staple in band repertoire, but it wasn’t the only thing Sousa offered to his audiences. Undeterred by critics, Sousa was known for mixing orchestral transcriptions and light opera with military music, and is credited with exposing a large segment of the American population to classical music. He was also progressive and often surprised the audience with contemporary works; in many instances he played pieces straight from the manuscripts prior to publication.

“John Philip Sousa was a master of programming, demonstrating throughout his career that he could mix familiar, popular music with new and substantial works to create diverse and entertaining concerts,” notes Marine Band Director Lt. Col. Jason K. Fettig. “He was also a consummate showman and his programs were filled with surprise encores, unique and unusual solos, and plenty of musical drama.”

Due to the diversity of the audience, from the average concertgoer to serious classical music patrons, Sousa also went to great lengths to avoid monotony in his programs; he

SOUSA continued on page 6

Lt. Col. Jason K. Fettig will conduct the Marine Band in his first Sousa Season Opener on Sunday, Jan. 11 at George Mason University’s Center for the Arts.



WHITE HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS



Recent appearances by “The President’s Own” supporting the White House include:

- Africa Leaders’ Summit
- Moment of Silence Marking 13th Anniversary of the 9/11 Attacks
- AmeriCorps 20th Anniversary
- Medal of Honor Ceremony for Command Sgt. Maj. Bennie G. Adkins, USA, and Spec. Four Donald Sloat, USA
- Political Appointees Picnic
- Congressional Picnic
- Global Health Event
- Cooper-Hewitt Design Awards
- United Nations General Assembly Reception

MUSIC IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS

The Marine Band’s 2015 Music in the High Schools program will take place mid-February through mid-March and applications will be accepted starting Jan. 3. For more information please contact Master Sgt. Kristin duBois at (202) 433-5813 or kristin.dubois@usmc.mil.

FEATURED DOWNLOADS



NOVEMBER

March of the Month

“The Directorate”
John Philip Sousa

Director’s Choice

Capriccio italien, Opus 45
Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky/
arr. Hindsley

DECEMBER

March of the Month

Military March No. 1 in F,
“York’sher”
Ludwig van Beethoven/
arr. Schade

Featured Soloist

Chaconne from Partita No. 2 in
D minor for Violin, BWV 1004
GySgt Erika Sato, violin
Johann Sebastian Bach

For downloads, visit:

www.marineband.marines.mil/audioresources

O CHRISTMAS TREE

By Master Sergeant Kristin duBois

In December the Marine Band will provide the holiday soundtrack for the lighting of the National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse in front of the White House. Directed by Lt. Col. Jason K. Fettig, the band will play songs of the season to compliment special guest artist performances and the holiday festivities.

There is much debate over whether the tradition of lighting a “national” Christmas tree in Washington, D.C., began in 1913 or 1923. But there is no question as to who led the musical portion of the event. According to historical accounts, more than 20,000 people gathered to sing carols and light a tree on the East Plaza of the U.S. Capitol on Christmas Eve 1913. The Evening Star reported that in preparing for the event, “Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the Navy, has said the [Marine] band would be available for the Christmas celebration provided the President did not need its services on Christmas Eve.” Since President Wilson did not attend the festivities, the lighting was deemed a community, not a national, event.

But in 1923, the president of Middlebury College sent President Calvin Coolidge a 48-foot Balsam fir as a gift from his home state of Vermont. With the push of a button, President Coolidge lit the 2,500 electric bulbs, and the tradition of lighting a National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse began. The prelude featured a quartet of Marine Band musicians including cornetists Arthur Witcomb and John Miller, euphonium player Peter Hazes, and trombone player Lee Janford, and the ceremony featured the full band led by Director Capt. Taylor Branson.

The location of the National Christmas Tree Lighting moved from the Ellipse to Lafayette Park and then to the South Lawn of the White House (for a tree lighting ceremony that included Winston Churchill just weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor), before moving back to the Ellipse in 1978 when a Colorado blue spruce from York, Pa., was transplanted there.

The tree remained dark from 1942-44 due to World War II. In 1979 President Jimmy Carter lit only the star in deference to the Americans held hostage in Iran, and in 1980 he lit the tree for only 417 seconds, one second for each hostage. Several weeks later, newly inaugurated President Ronald Reagan ordered the tree to be lit on Jan. 20, 1981, after the hostages were released.

It was the Marine Band or a brass choir from the band who performed at nearly every Tree Lighting for many years. The 1939 program for the event reads, “The United States Marine Band leads off with a preliminary concert lasting about 30 minutes ... It is the custom that the finale shall be ‘Cantique de Noel,’ a cornet solo played by a member of the Marine Band, and if there is earthly music nearer Heaven

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EARLY AMERICAN MUSIC INSPIRES MARINE BAND'S 30TH ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL RECORDING

By Master Sergeant Kristin duBois

Lieutenant Colonel Jason Fettig drew inspiration for his first educational recording as the Marine Band's Director from an unlikely source: a one-eyed Revolutionary War tanner named William Billings. Noted historian William Bentley called Billings the "father of our New England music" due to his prolific and patriotic compositions. More than 150 years after Billings died, composer William Schuman wrote *New England Triptych* using Billings' lyrics and musical styles. Fettig used the name of the first movement, "Be Glad Then, America," as the title of the recording, the Marine Band's 30th in its series of educational discs (cover, pictured right). The CD includes Schuman's *New England Triptych*; John Williams' "For 'The President's Own,'" Jonathan Elkus' transcription of *Memories, Very Pleasant and Rather Sad*; A Charles Ives Song Set featuring mezzo-soprano Gunnery Sgt. Sara Dell'Omo; Robert Russell Bennett's Symphonic Songs; Vincent Persichetti's Psalm for Band; and a new Marine Band transcription of the finale to Aaron Copland's monumental third symphony.

"The collection of music on this recording comes from sources that span the entire history of our nation, from the Revolution to the present," Fettig said. "While the style, language, and musical influences of each work in many ways diverge on their surfaces, they are bound together at their core by a vivid and inescapable sense of the indelible spirit of America."

The recording marks the first time a Marine Band vocalist has been featured on an educational recording since "The Bicentennial Collection" in 1998. "This recording presented the perfect opportunity to include the Ives song set that was transcribed specifically for the Marine Band by Ives scholar Jonathan Elkus at the request of 27th Director Col. Michael Colburn," Fettig said. "These songs speak to the heart of what this entire collection of American music represents."

Gunnery Sgt. Dell'Omo is very familiar with this set of songs. She has already performed them on the 2007 national concert tour through Ives' home state of Connecticut; the Conductors Guild Conference in Baltimore and the MENC National Conference in Milwaukee, both in 2008; the 2011 American Bandmasters Association Convention in Norfolk, Va.; and, most recently, at the Marine Band Directors' Change of Command concert this summer. "This set itself is unique to our organization," she explains. "All of these songs are found in Ives' 114 Songs, but as individual pieces. This specific set was chosen through a collaborative effort between Col. Colburn, Mr. Elkus, and myself."

Although the songs were originally written with piano accompaniment, Dell'Omo feels privileged to sing Elkus' adaptation of them with the Marine Band. "Ives captures a



charming quality with these art songs, without taking himself too seriously. They are reminiscent of his childhood and are a unique blend of nostalgia and childlike whimsy." One of the whimsical elements features the soloist whistling, which presented Dell'Omo with a challenge. "In *Memories: Very Pleasant* the lyrics say, 'We whistle and we hum, beat time with the drum,' and then the singer is supposed to whistle for about 8 measures. Try as I might, I cannot whistle. Thankfully, Mr. Elkus wrote it into the piccolo part, so you will hear the notes but they aren't from me."

Her favorite part of the songs are Ives' use of quotes from liturgical hymns. "It's like uncovering hidden treasures within the music," she said. "The best example of this is heard in 'Things Our Fathers Loved.' Ives uses the old hymn 'In the Sweet Bye and Bye' as a part of the melody. It reminds me of my own upbringing and singing those great hymns in church."

"Although we have not typically recorded vocal solos in the past, Sara sings these difficult songs beautifully, and I felt as though it was the right time to add a new and exciting color to our educational recordings," Fettig said.

The Marine Band produces recordings for educational purposes and to enhance the public affairs and community relations programs of the Marine Corps. The recordings are distributed free of charge to educational institutions, public libraries, and radio stations. Because appropriated funds are used, they may not be distributed for private use and are not for sale. Educators, librarians, and station managers may request that their educational institution, library, or radio station be added to the CD mailing list by contacting Marine Band Public Affairs at marineband.publicaffairs@usmc.mil.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TREE continued from page 2

than the cornet's notes in this French carol on the frosty air of Christmas Eve, it is far to seek."

It was the frosty air in 1975, however, which resulted in no music at all. According to the band's library log, "Not one note was played! 20-30 mph winds, chill factor made it well below zero! Horns completely frozen in less than 5 minutes!"

The modern National Tree Lighting features music provided by an ensemble from a different service band each year, as well as other unique highlights. Since 1954, the décor around the Ellipse includes a "Pathway to Peace," 56 smaller, decorated trees representing all 50 states, five territories, and the District of Columbia. In 1993, a model train was added to the base of the tree, and in 2008 the tree featured energy-efficient LED bulbs and the "Pathway to Peace" included a stop at Santa's Workshop.

But the Lighting of the National Christmas Tree has always featured the sounds of the season, and "The Presidents' Own" will once again take a place on the Ellipse for the most wonderful time of the year.

The Lighting of the National Christmas Tree is free, but tickets are required (exact date and time of the event was not available at press time). For ticket and live streaming information visit www.marineband.marines.mil.



President Lyndon B. Johnson at National Tree Lighting, Washington, D.C., Dec. 15, 1966; White House courtesy photo.

CELEBRATING JOHN PHILIP SOUSA'S BIRTHDAY

11 AM, Thursday, Nov. 6

"The President's Own" will pay homage to its 17th Director John Philip Sousa at Congressional Cemetery located at 1801 E Street, SE, in Washington, D.C., on the 160th anniversary of his birth. Conducted by Lt. Col. Jason K. Fettig, this annual musical tribute will include Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever" and "Semper Fidelis." The grave site ceremony and traditional wreath-laying is free and open to the public.

VETERANS APPRECIATION CONCERT

7 PM, Friday, Nov. 7

Conducted by Lt. Col. Jason K. Fettig, the Marine Chamber Orchestra will perform a Veterans Appreciation Concert at Washington National Cathedral along with the Cathedral Choir. The concert is free and open to the public.

The Washington National Cathedral is located at the intersection of Wisconsin and Massachusetts Avenues in northwest Washington, D.C., and is easily reached by Metro. It is handicapped accessible and parking is available in the adjacent garage for a small fee. For detailed directions and further information, please call (202) 537-6200 or visit www.nationalcathedral.org.

U.S. MARINE CORPS WORSHIP SERVICE

3:30 PM, Prelude

4 PM, Service, Sunday, Nov. 9

A brass and percussion ensemble from "The President's Own" will perform for the annual U.S. Marine Corps Worship Service at the Washington National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., conducted by 1st Lt. Ryan Nowlin. The Marine Corps' annual worship service offers civilians, service members, and their

families the chance to pause in prayer and pay tribute to Marines who have given the ultimate sacrifice to their country. The service is free and open to the public.

U.S. MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

10 AM, Monday, Nov. 10

Marine Band Drum Major Master Sgt. Duane King will lead "The President's Own" at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va., at the memorial ceremony commemorating the 239th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps. The band will perform along with "The Commandant's Own" The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and Marine Barracks Washington D.C. ceremonial marchers. Commandant of the Marine Corps General Joseph Dunford will speak at the birthday celebration and lay a wreath in honor of all Marines who have given their lives in service to our country since 1775. The event is free, open to the public, and Metro accessible.

VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE

11 AM, Tuesday, Nov. 11

Marine Band Director Lt. Col. Jason K. Fettig will lead "The President's Own" at Arlington National Cemetery's Memorial Amphitheater before a public ceremony at 11 a.m. The ceremony is free and open to the public; no tickets are required.

INTERSERVICE SAXOPHONE ENSEMBLES CONCERT

2 PM, Sunday, Nov. 23

Coordinated by assistant principal saxophone Gunnery Sgt. Steven Temme, this chamber music series concert will focus on the life of Adolphe Sax and feature saxophone ensembles from the Marine Band, Navy Band, Army Band, Army Field Band,

and Air Force Band. The groups will perform Hector Berlioz's *Chant sacré*; Marc Mellits' *Black*; Jacques Ibert's *Allegro con moto* from *Concertino Da Camera*; Paul Hindemith's *Konzertstück*; John Philip Sousa's *March, "The Stars and Stripes Forever"*; Jean Matitia's *The Devil's Rag*; and Rudy Wiedoeft's *Danse Hongroise*. The free concert will take place at John Philip Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks Annex in southeast Washington, D.C.

WOODWIND QUINTET AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

12 PM, Tuesday, Dec. 2

A Marine woodwind quintet will perform at the Library of Congress as part of the festival commemorating mid-20th century American composer Irving Fine's 100th birthday. The concert will follow a lecture by Nicholas Alexander Brown titled "Irving Fine and the American Woodwind Quintet." The free lecture and performance will take place in Whittall Pavillion in the Library of Congress, located on the ground floor of the Thomas Jefferson Building, 10 First Street, SE, Washington, D.C. No tickets are required. To learn more, visit www.loc.gov/concerts or call (202) 707-5502.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG AT WOLF TRAP

4 PM, Saturday, Dec. 6

The Marine Band will perform at Wolf Trap's Annual Holiday Sing-A-Long at the Filene Center at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts in Vienna, Va. Conducted by 1st Lt. Ryan Nowlin, the Marine Band—with Marine Band vocalists Master Sgt. Kevin Benneer and Gunnery Sgt. Sara Dell'Omo—will lead the audience in traditional Christmas carols and Hanukkah songs such as "Joy to the World," "Feliz Navidad," "Jingle Bells," "Silent Night," and The Dreidel Song. Gates to the Filene Center will open at 3 p.m., and free parking is available. The Metro shuttle bus will not run for this event. Attendees are encouraged to arrive

early. The event is free and tickets are not required. For directions and parking, visit www.wolftrap.org or call (703) 255-1900.

MARINE BIG BAND HOLIDAY CONCERT

2 PM, Sunday, Dec. 14

Coordinated by trumpet/cornet player Gunnery Sgt. Daniel Orban and guitarist Gunnery Sgt. Alan Prather, the holiday concert will feature standards such as Irving Berlin's "White Christmas," "Count Your Blessings," and "Blue Skies" and Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker Suite*. The free concert will take place at John Philip Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks Annex in southeast Washington, D.C.

MIDWEST CONVENTION

Dec. 17-19

Visit Marine Band musicians at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago at booth #649 at the McCormick Place Convention Center.

MARINE BRASS ENSEMBLES HOLIDAY CONCERT

2 PM, Sunday, Dec. 21

Coordinated by trumpet/cornet player Gunnery Sgt. Robert Singer, the holiday soundtrack continues as Marine brass ensembles perform seasonal favorites as well as Georges Bizet's *Carmen Suite*; Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Serenade No. 10 in B-flat, Gran Partita*; Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's *Romance, Opus 5*; and Sergei Prokofiev's *Suite from Romeo and Juliet*. The free concert will take place at John Philip Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks Annex in southeast Washington, D.C.



Marine Band performs at a wreath-laying ceremony honoring the U.S. Marine Corps' birthday at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. (U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class Todd Frantom, released)

2015 CONCERTO COMPETITION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Deadline Nov. 15, 2014

For complete details and an application packet, visit www.marineband.marines.mil.

MARINE BAND OFFERS BIRTHDAY BALL MUSIC ONLINE

This November, Marines all over the world will recognize the Marine Corps' 239th birthday with celebrations that have become one of the Corps' proudest traditions. A formal Marine Corps birthday ball traditionally includes both dinner and dancing, but the highlight is the official ceremony. When a live musical ensemble is not available for a birthday ball, recorded music is a viable alternative. Event organizers and Marines across the globe can utilize appropriate ceremonial music by downloading MP3s from the Audio Resources section of the Marine Band's website. "The President's Own" website offers the bugle calls, marches, and other selections required for a birthday ball ceremony as well as many martial pieces available for other military functions. To download birthday ball music, patriotic favorites, and General John A. Lejeune's birthday message, visit the band's website www.marineband.marines.mil.

LIVE STREAMING

Can't make it to John Philip Sousa Band Hall in Washington, D.C.? You can watch Marine Chamber Series performances online at www.marineband.marines.mil.

SOUSA continued from page 1

alternated between fast and slow works, meters, keys, and styles. One component that set his programming apart was the use of rapid encores, which were played throughout the program immediately after almost every selection, rather than at the end of the concert. Sousa knew the importance of playing music that the audiences wanted to hear, and these encores were often some of the “March King’s” most popular works. This structure took audiences by surprise, and generally kept them engaged throughout the program. The encore tactic helped bridge the gap for those who were not as interested in the heavier selections.

According to the Quincy, Ill., Whig newspaper, on Feb. 27, 1900: “It is the great band of the master American composer and conductor that has done more to promote the cause of good music throughout the length and breadth of the land than all the erudite symphony orchestras combined, for Sousa reaches the great body of people who love music for its inherent attractions rather than its classical aspects.”

Sousa didn’t take his job as an entertainer lightly. According to Bierley he was known for searching the newspapers for local accounts on what pieces might be most appropriate in a city and he always sought to add variety to his programs. For the same reasons, Sousa was also open to taking requests from his audiences.

HOW TO VOTE

This year you can help Lt. Col Fettig program the Sousa Season Opener concert. Voting will open Nov. 3 and close on Nov. 28. You may only vote once, selecting one piece in each of the following categories: overtures, suites, dances and interludes, opera features, and orchestral showpieces. Additionally, Sousa marches are available to choose from, and those voted to the top will be featured as encores throughout the program.

You can vote via e-mail (marineband.publicaffairs@usmc.mil), the Marine Band website (www.marineband.marines.mil), or mail (utilize the form provided to the right). Phone requests will not be fielded. Visit the Marine Band website to listen to and learn more about the pieces.

Once the major pieces of the concert have been chosen by your votes, the performance will be rounded out with virtuosic solos and vocal features all packaged in our most famous Director’s unique style. The final program will be available online by Dec. 15. The concert will take place at 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 11 at George Mason University’s Center for the Arts in Fairfax, Va. The event is free and no tickets are required. 🐼

 CUT OUT AND SEND YOUR SELECTIONS!

VOTING SELECTIONS

MARCHES (CIRCLE THREE)*

“Sound Off”
“The Mikado”
“The Thunderer”
“Manhattan Beach”
“King Cotton”
“The Charlatan”
“Hail to the Spirit of Liberty”
“The Diplomat”
“The Pathfinder of Panama”
“The Loyal Legion”

*The concert will include Sousa’s marches “The Stars and Stripes Forever” and “Semper Fidelis.”

OVERTURES (CIRCLE ONE)

Overture to *Rienzi* by Richard Wagner
Overture to *Zampa* by Louis-Joseph F. Hérold
“Morning, Noon and Night in Vienna” by Franz von Suppé
Overture to *Mignon* by Ambroise Thomas

SUITES (CIRCLE ONE)

Looking Upward Suite by John Philip Sousa
People Who Live in Glass Houses by John Philip Sousa
At the Kings Court by John Philip Sousa
Leaves From My Notebook by John Philip Sousa

DANCES AND INTERLUDES (CIRCLE ONE)

Pasquinade, Opus 59 by Louis Moreau Gottschalk
“Handel in the Strand” by Percy Grainger
Dance of the Tumblers from *The Snow Maiden* by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov
“Kitten on the Keys” by Zez Confrey

OPERA FEATURES (CIRCLE ONE)

Prelude and Liebestod from *Tristan and Isolde* by Richard Wagner
Selections from *Andrea Chenier* by Umberto Giordano
Love Scene from *Feuersnot* by Richard Strauss
Triumphal Scene from *Aida* by Giuseppe Verdi

ORCHESTRAL SHOWPIECES (CIRCLE ONE)

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 in D minor by Franz Liszt
Capriccio espagnol, Opus 34 by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Marche slave, Opus 31 by Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Invitation to the Dance, J. 260 by Carl Maria von Weber

Votes must be received by midnight Nov. 28. Vote at www.marineband.marines.mil or email your selections to marineband.publicaffairs@usmc.mil. Or circle your selections and mail to: Marine Band Public Affairs, 8th and I St, SE, Washington, DC 20390.

Help Sousa travel the world! 1) Take a picture of Sousa at different locations 2) Post it on social media and tag it #sousa #marineband and/or email your photo(s) to marineband.publicaffairs@usmc.mil 4) Your photo may be shared in the Marine Band Facebook Traveling Sousa album



TRAVELING SOUSA

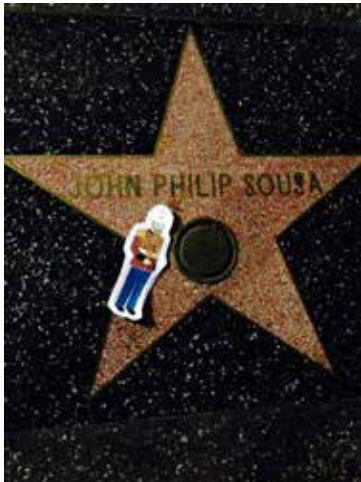
In celebration of the 160th anniversary of his birth, help John Philip Sousa travel the world! Tag your photo on Facebook or Twitter, or simply send your Traveling Sousa photo to the Marine Band Public Affairs Office: marineband.publicaffairs@usmc.mil.



Mt. Rainier (courtesy Gunnery Sgt. Karl Johnson and Staff Sgt. Karen Johnson)



Stonehenge (courtesy Master Sgt. Susan Rider)



Hollywood, Calif.; Hollywood Walk of Fame (courtesy Jennifer Marotta)



Grand Canyon (courtesy Will Thomas)



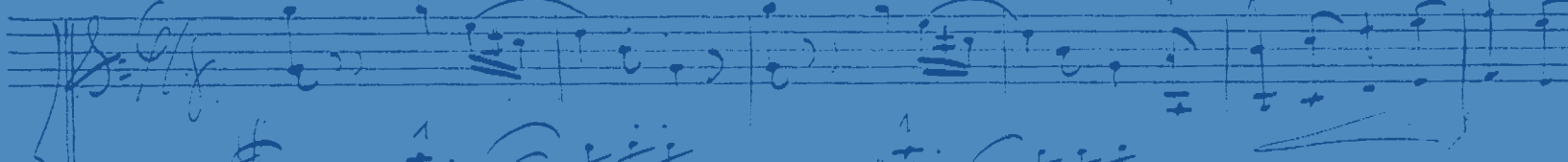
Spring Lake High School Marching Band, Spring Lake, Mich. (courtesy @springlakeband)



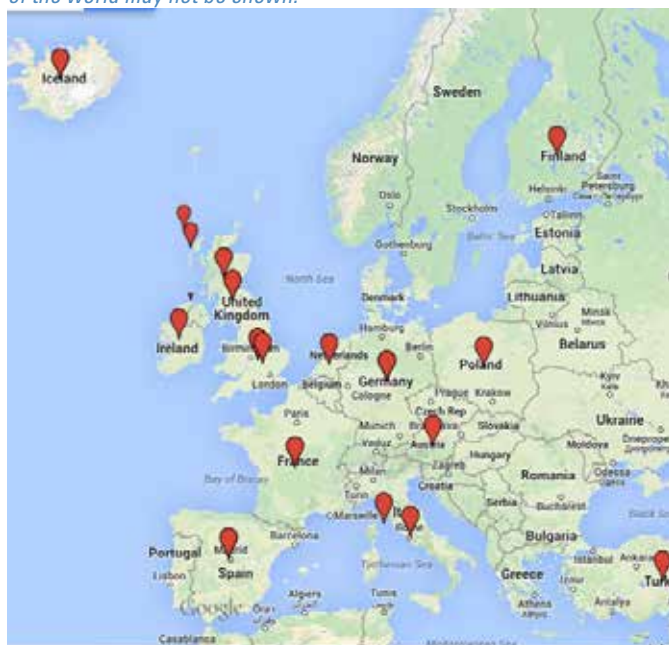
Rockefeller Center, New York (courtesy Master Gunnery Sgt. Charles Willett)



Elba, Ala. (courtesy ...)



Red icons show where *Traveling Sousa* has been according to individuals who shared their photos. Due to limited space, some parts of the world may not be shown.



Berlin Philharmonic Brass section (courtesy Stefan Dohr)



2d Tank Battalion, Camp Lejeune, N.C. (U.S. Marine Corps photo released)



(courtesy Diane Peery)



Japan Sousa Band (courtesy Seiichiro Takahashi)

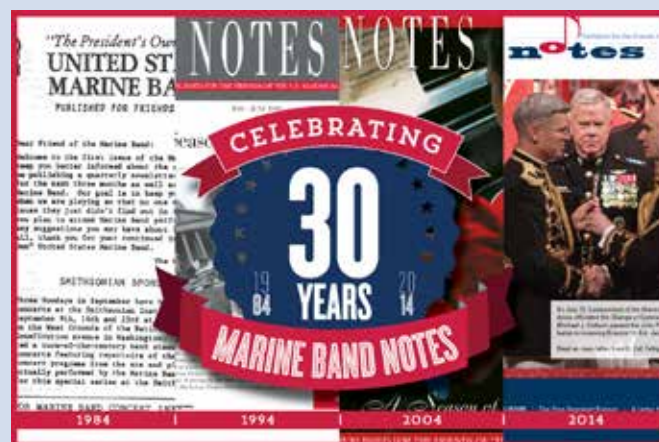
FALL 2014 HIGHLIGHTS



On Sept. 13, the Marine Band performed at Fort McHenry in Baltimore as part of the Star-Spangled Spectacular, the bicentennial celebration of "The Star-Spangled Banner." (Photo courtesy of Fort McHenry National Monument & Historic Shrine)



On Sept. 21, a Marine brass ensemble performed along with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir at the Tabernacle on Temple Square in Salt Lake City, Utah. (Photo courtesy Debra Gehris, choir photographer)



Thirty years ago, the Marine Band Public Affairs Office sent its first newsletter. Visit www.marineband.marines.mil to view the Notes archive and read articles dating back to 1984.

NEW MEMBERS



Audio Technician Gunnery Sergeant Jeffrey Higgs of Pueblo, Colo., joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in July 2014. Higgs began his musical training on percussion and piano at age 7 and audio in middle school. After graduating in 2001 from Pueblo South High School he enlisted in the Marine Corps and attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. Following Marine Combat Training in Camp Pendleton, Calif., he attended the Armed Forces School of Music in Little Creek, Va., for the Basic Music Course. He returned to the School of Music in 2008 for the Unit Leader and Senior Musician Courses, where he also served as the Marine Detachment Platoon Sergeant. In addition, he attended Full Sail University in Winter Park, Fla., where he earned a bachelor's degree in music business in 2014. He studied with Stanton Moore in New Orleans and volunteered at the House of Blues as an audio engineer. Prior to joining "The President's Own," Higgs served with the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band in Okinawa, Japan from 2002-04 as a percussionist, audio engineer, and an instructor in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program; the Marine Forces Reserve Band in New Orleans from 2004-08 where he became the platoon sergeant, chief audio engineer, and small ensemble leader; the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Band at Twentynine Palms, Calif., from 2010-12 as the leader and coordinator of several ensembles, chief audio engineer, and music arranger; and the Parris Island Marine Band in South Carolina from 2012-14 where he served as the small ensemble leader and chief audio engineer, performed with the All-Star Marine Jazz Combo, and was the audio engineer for the All-Star Marine Big Band.

STAFF LINES



MSgt Miles Smith

Saxophone

BIRTHDAY
Nov. 11, 1964

HOMETOWN
St. Joseph, Mo.

JOINED THE BAND
May 1995

FAMILY
Wife, Renae

EDUCATION

BM and MM from the Conservatory of Music at the University of Missouri-Kansas City

SELF-PORTRAIT

Mild mannered, optimistic, patient

FAVORITE SAYING OR MOTTO

"Believe you can and you're halfway there."

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

Getting married to Renae

PET PEEVE

Bad drivers in the Washington, D.C., area

WALTER MITTY FANTASY

Playing saxophone in the world's finest band with many of the world's finest musicians (fantasy complete)

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN BAND

Performing with the Tony award-winning cast of "The Jersey Boys" at the White House

INSPIRATIONS

My faith, family, friends, and colleagues

FAVORITE MOVIE

"Glory"

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE

Ray Liotta

BEST-KEPT SECRET

Sorry, it's a secret

FAVORITE FOODS

Good barbecue, and most anything made with chocolate

HOBBIES

Reading, fishing, and watching Green Bay Packers football with friends

LUXURY DEFINED

Spending time with family and friends

BAD HABIT

Seriously procrastinating on things I don't want to do

THREE THINGS ALWAYS FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR

Diet Dr. Pepper, Gates barbecue sauce, and beer

MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHERS

Tim Timmons, retired professor of saxophone at the University of Missouri-Kansas City; Gary Foster, world-renowned jazz saxophonist, studio musician, and recording artist; John Weiner, former principal clarinet with the Kansas City Symphony

BOOKS AT BEDSIDE

The Bible, and many books about historical events and inspirational stories

FAVORITE PIECES OF MUSIC

Most works by Paul Hindemith

PLACE YOU'D MOST LIKE TO BE STRANDED

On a lake where the fishing is good

LAST WORDS

"Go Packers!"

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE THE BAND

Woodwind instructor at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay; tour of the United States and Japan with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra

French horn player Staff Sergeant Timothy Huizenga

of Lansing, Ill., joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in July 2014. Huizenga began his musical training on piano at age 7 and French horn at age 10. After graduating in 2003 from Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights, Ill., he attended the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University in Bloomington where he earned a bachelor's degree in music in 2007 and a performer diploma in horn performance in 2008. He studied with Myron Bloom of the Cleveland Orchestra, Jeff Nelsen of the Canadian Brass, and Wolfgang Vladar of the Vienna Philharmonic. Prior to joining "The President's Own," Huizenga served in the United States Army Field Band at Ft. Meade, Md., for six years and was the principal horn of the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic.



Saxophone player Staff Sergeant Rachel Perry

of Otselic, N.Y., joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in May 2014. Perry began her musical training on flute at age 9 and saxophone at age 13. After graduating in 2007 from Otselic Valley Central School, she attended Ithaca College in New York where she earned a bachelor's degree in music education and performance in 2011 and studied with Steve Mauk. In 2013 she completed a master's degree in music performance from the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester in New York where she studied with Chien-Kwan Lin. Prior to joining "The President's Own," Perry performed as a soloist with The U.S. Army Band of Washington, D.C., and the Ithaca College Symphony Orchestra.



Cellist Staff Sergeant Caroline Bean Stute of Lakeland, Fla., joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in August 2014. Stute began her musical training on piano at age 6 and cello at age 14. After graduating in 2002 from Harrison School for the Arts in Lakeland, she attended the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester in New York, where she earned a bachelor's degree in cello performance in 2006. In 2008 she completed a master's degree in cello performance and literature from Indiana University (IU) in Bloomington. She is currently pursuing a doctorate from The Gradu-

ate Center at the City University of New York where she was the recipient of a teaching fellowship. She has studied with Steven Doane at Eastman and Janos Starker at IU. Prior to joining "The President's Own," Stute was a member of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Fla.; the Apollo's Fire Baroque Orchestra in Cleveland; and the new music ensemble Hotel Elefant in New York. She has performed at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival in Connecticut; the Aldeburgh Festival in Snape, England; and the Sarasota Music Festival in Florida. She was a fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center in Lenox, Mass., and has taught at Queens College and the Harlem Opus 118 School, both in New York. In 2012 and 2014 she volunteered in Central America as a guest teaching artist for the Honduran National Youth Orchestra, sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa.

VACANCIES

"The President's Own" announces auditions for the following vacancies:

Bassoon: Nov. 17
B-flat Clarinet: Dec. 15

For information contact the Marine Band Operations Officer at marineband.operations@usmc.mil or (202) 433-5714.

MARINE BAND CONTACT INFORMATION

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