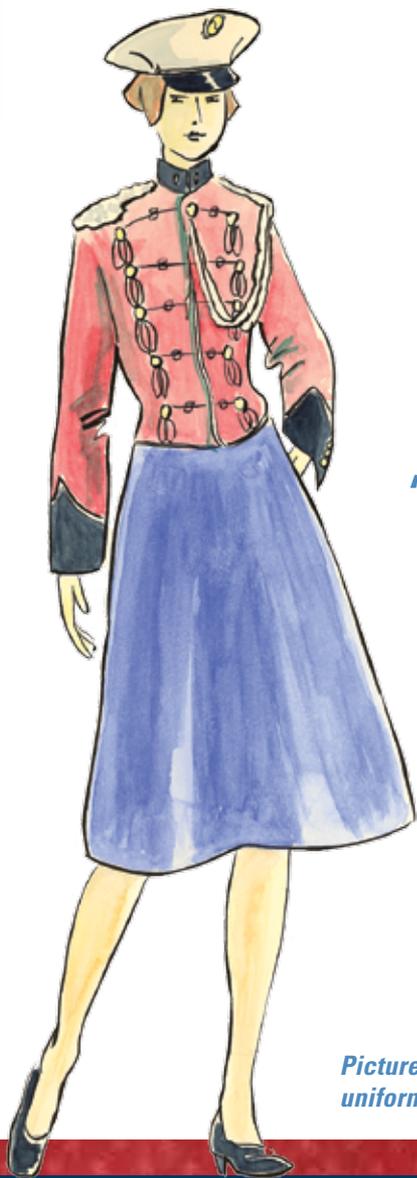


notes

May
June



Women celebrate 40 years in "The President's Own"

Pictured: One of the five original proposed uniforms for Marine Band women

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4-5 Concert Programs 6-7 Member News/Vacancies

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WOMEN CELEBRATE 40 YEARS IN THE MARINE BAND

BY GUNNERY SERGEANT AMANDA SIMMONS

February 18, 1973 - Dear Col. Harpham, I understand there is a French horn opening in the band in August. If it is agreeable with you, I would like to audition for this position. I realize there are no female members in the Marine Band at this time, but I believe there are a few in some of the other bands, and I know I could handle any and all of the duties required. I have been thinking about this for quite some time, hoping some other woman would be accepted before me so that I would not have to be first. I am not a Woman's Lib militant, and I'm not trying to make trouble for you, but I really do want to be in your band - very much! I cannot think of any problems or details that could not be worked out. If you will seriously consider me, I will be in the Washington, D.C. area the week of March 4-10 and would like to audition during that time, preferably March 7 or 8. If this is not convenient for you or is too early, please give me a different date and time. I will be graduating May 1, 1973 and would be available any time after that.

Very sincerely, Ruth Johnson

On March 7, 1973, at age 21, Ruth Johnson successfully won the Marine Band French horn audition and went on to become the first female to enlist in "The President's Own" United States Marine Band. The late Lt. Col. Dale Harpham, USMC (Ret.), Marine Band Director from 1972-74, made the decision to enlist Johnson and recalled in a prior interview for *NOTES*, "At the time, there were no legal ramifications against admitting women. I wanted to see this happen because I wanted the Marine Band to be the best."

According to the Women's Marine Association, the Secretary of the Navy permitted women to enroll for clerical duty in the Marine Corps in 1918. The Marine Corps Women's Reserve was established in February 1943, but it wasn't until 1975 that the Corps approved the assignment of women to all occupational fields except infantry, artillery, armor, and pilot/air crew. In a press release dated April 25, 1973, the United States Marine Corps stated: "In its quest for more job opportunities for women, the Marine Corps is about to open up bands, including the U.S. Marine Band and Drum and Bugle Corps, to women Marines." Johnson's request to audition for "The President's Own" may have prompted the admission of women to all Marine Corps bands.

Staff Sgt. Johnson received a considerable amount of media attention that first year, becoming the subject of countless feature articles and even made an appearance on the television show "What's My Line?" Johnson stayed in the Marine Band for eight years prior to moving on to a career as an air traffic controller.

Johnson was not alone for long in her endeavor. Just two months later, Elizabeth Eitel reported for duty as an oboist followed shortly by flutist Gail Gifford.

"My father was a member of the American Bandmasters Association and he heard through the annual convention that the military bands had begun to enlist women," Master Gunnery Sgt. Elizabeth (Eitel) Schaefer, USMC (Ret.), explained. "Coming to Washington, D.C., where our country's heritage is centered, was such a thrill. I could hardly believe it was possible."

When Schaefer arrived at Marine Barracks Washington upon graduating from the University of Montana in Missoula, she quickly discovered there were some challenges with being one of the first women in an all male unit. There were no locker rooms and more importantly, no women's uniforms.

"At first we were wearing the men's uniforms, including altered jackets, trousers, and cover," noted Schaefer. "Later we received varied lengths of skirts." She even recalls wearing a seersucker uniform at one point.

According to Schaefer, the men treated them respectfully and were "gallant." Despite being treated well, she admitted that the focus on gender did not diminish until about 1990 after roughly 40 women had served in the Marine Band.

While women continued to make great strides in the enlisted ranks, the Marine Band did not have a female officer until 2004. Assistant Director Capt. Michelle A. Rakers joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in May 1998 as a trumpeter/cornetist; she was the third woman to join this section, preceded by Nancy Taylor in 1990 and Master Sgt. Susan Rider in 1997. Following an audition, Capt. Rakers was appointed Assistant Director and commissioned a first lieutenant in July 2004. She was promoted to her current rank by then-Commandant of the Marine Corps General Michael W. Hagee on Jan. 1, 2006. She is both the first female Assistant Director and first female commissioned officer in the history of "The President's Own."

"I am grateful for the opportunity to conduct this band, but also indebted to the women who have forged the pathway for this to become a reality," said Capt. Rakers. "It is so important to have women in executive positions, to be those mentors and role models for all young people, girls and boys alike, ultimately retiring those old doubts that women are not capable, or confident enough, or whatever the predisposition might have been in the past."

continued on page 5 (timeline on page 2-3)



1975: The first six women to join the U.S. Marine Band, from left to right: bassoonist SSgt Dyane Wright; violist SSgt Carol Hayes; flutist SSgt Gail Gifford; violinist SSgt Elnora Figueroa; French horn player SSgt Ruth Johnson; and oboist SSgt Elizabeth Eitel.

WHITE HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS



Recent appearances by "The President's Own" at the White House include:

- NBA Champions Miami Heat Visit
- National Medals of Science and National Medals of Technology and Innovation Presentation
- Medal of Honor Ceremony for Army Staff Sgt. Clinton Romesha
- State of the Union Address Reception
- Citizens Medal Presentation
- First Lady's Luncheon
- Governors' Dinner
- African American History Month Reception
- NCAA Football Champions University of Alabama Visit

MARINE BAND ANNIVERSARY CONCERT CANCELLED

The United States Marine Band's 215th anniversary concert scheduled for Saturday, July 6, 2013, at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts has been canceled due to sequestration. This event will not be rescheduled.

FEATURED DOWNLOADS



MAY

March of the Month
"The Invincible Eagle"
John Philip Sousa*

Featured Soloist

Horn Concerto
James Stephenson
GySgt Hilary Hart, horn soloist

JUNE

March of the Month
"Thomas Jefferson"
William H. Santelmann*

New Music Corner

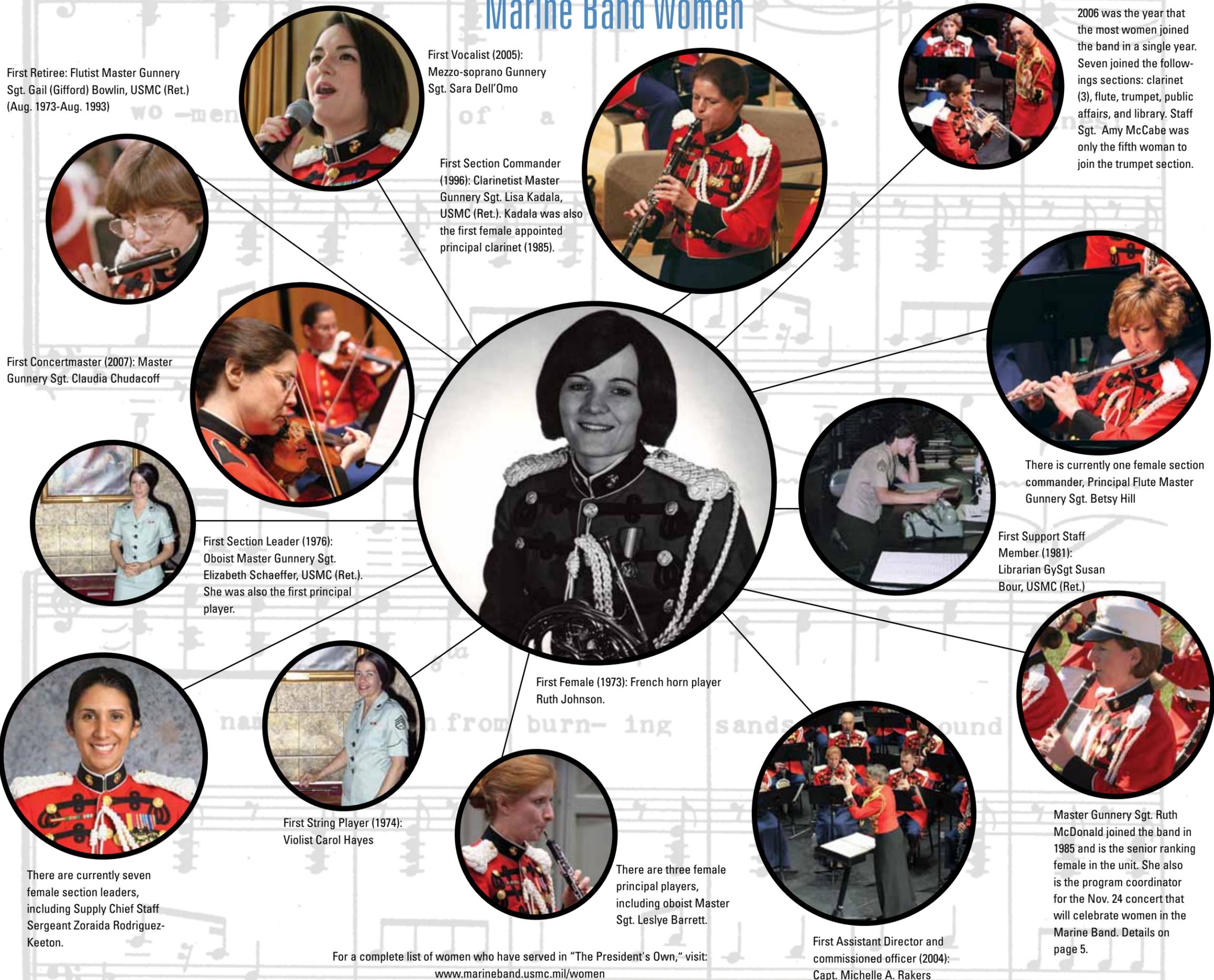
Information Age
Jacob Bancks



*Member, U.S. Marine Band

Scan the QR code for the May/June Featured Downloads or visit www.marineband.usmc.mil/audio_resources.

Marine Band Women



FEATURED PROGRAMS

MARINE BAND

2 PM | Sunday, May 5

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA

FROM THE KEYBOARD

Colonel Michael J. Colburn, conducting

Johann Sebastian Bach/trans. Nowlin*
Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 56

David Rakowski
Sibling Revelry (2004)

Claude Debussy/trans. Patterson
The Engulfed Cathedral

Sergei Rachmaninoff/trans. Lavender
Lento assai; Allegro vivace from *Symphonic Dances*, Opus 45

Modest Mussorgsky/orch. Ravel/trans. Lavender
Pictures at an Exhibition

MARINE CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

2 PM | Sunday, May 12

**John Philip Sousa Band Hall
Marine Barracks Annex
Washington, DC**

Joseph Haydn
String Quartet in G, Opus 76, No. 1

Atar Arad
Esther (2008)

Claude Debussy
Sonata in G minor for Violin and Piano (1917)

Eugène Ysaÿe
Sonata in D minor, Opus 27, No. 3, "Ballade"

Felix Mendelssohn
String Quartet in E minor, Opus 44, No. 2

MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

2 PM | Sunday, May 19

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Major Jason K. Fettig, conducting

*Member, U.S. Marine Band

*Available for download on the Marine Band's website

Igor Stravinsky
Octet (1923, revised 1952)

Sergei Prokofiev
Violin Concerto No. 1 in D, Opus 19 (1916–17)
GySgt Erika Sato, soloist

Georges Bizet
Symphony No. 1 in C

MARINE BAND

8 PM | Sunday, May 26

Filene Center, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, Vienna, VA

SUMMER BLAST OFF

The program will include the première of the fanfare, "For 'The President's Own,'" composed by John Williams in honor of the band's 215th anniversary.

Colonel Michael J. Colburn, conducting

John Philip Sousa*/ed. Bourgeois*
March, "From Maine to Oregon"

Richard Wagner/trans. Patterson*
Ride of the Valkyries from *Die Walküre*

Arthur Pryor
"Air Varie"
GySgt Samuel Barlow, trombone soloist

Morton Gould
"Yankee Doodle," Saratoga Quickstep, Battle Hymn, and "American Salute"

Stephen Flaherty/lyrics Ahrens/trans. Nowlin*
Selections from *Ragtime*
GySgt Kevin Bennear, baritone
GySgt Sara Dell'Omo, mezzo-soprano

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky/trans. Patterson*
Overture Solennelle, "1812," Opus 49

George W. Warren/arr. Knox
"God of Our Fathers"

John Philip Sousa*
March, "The Stars and Stripes Forever"*

arranged by Thomas Knox*
A Salute to the Armed Forces of the United States of America

MARINE BAND

8 PM | Wednesday, June 5

U.S. Capitol, West Terrace

7:30 PM | Thursday, June 6

The Yards Park, Capitol Riverfront

Colonel Michael J. Colburn, conducting

Sergei Prokofiev/ed. Goldman
Athletic Festival March, Opus 69, No. 1

Giuseppe Verdi/trans. Patterson*
Overture to *La Forza del Destino*

Robert W. Smith
Teutonic Tales (2010)
GySgt Mark Thiele, tuba soloist

Gustav Holst/ed. Fennell
Suite No. 1 in E-flat, Opus 28, No. 1
SSgt Ryan Nowlin, conducting

Camille Saint-Saëns/trans. Frackenpohl
Pas Redoublé, Opus 86
SSgt Ryan Nowlin, conducting

arranged by SSgt Ryan Nowlin
A Tribute to Bing Crosby
GySgt Kevin Bennear, baritone
SSgt Ryan Nowlin, conducting

Benjamin Britten/trans. Knox*
Matinées musicales, Opus 24

John Philip Sousa*
March, "The Stars and Stripes Forever"*

MARINE BAND

8 PM | Wednesday, June 12

U.S. Capitol, West Terrace

 **New Summer Venue:** This summer the Marine Band will continue its tradition of *Summer Fare* concerts filling the warm evening air from June to August with the sounds of Sousa, light classics, country music, contemporary jazz, and other popular band favorites. While the band will continue to perform at 8 p.m. on Wednesdays on the west terrace of the U.S. Capitol, its Thursday evening concerts at 7:30 p.m. will move to a new venue: the boardwalk overlooking the Anacostia River in the newly-developed Yards Park located at 355 Water Street in southeast Washington, D.C. All concerts are free and open to the public. Schedule is subject to change. For complete program, concert information, and inclement weather announcements, please call (202) 433-4011 or visit www.marineband.usmc.mil.

7:30 PM | Thursday, June 13

The Yards Park, Capitol Riverfront

Major Jason K. Fettig, conducting

John Philip Sousa*
March, "Nobles of the Mystic Shrine"

Carl Maria von Weber/trans. Patterson*
Overture to *Preciosa*

Richard Wagner/trans. Cailliet
"Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral" from *Lohengrin*

arranged by Stephen Bulla*
Irish Songs, Set No. 2
GySgt Kevin Benneer, baritone

Malcolm Arnold/trans. Paynter
Four Scottish Dances, Opus 59

MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

7:30 PM | Saturday, June 15

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Colonel Michael J. Colburn, conducting

Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach
Symphony No. 1 in G, W. 182

Benjamin Britten
Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge,
Opus 10 (1937)

Antonín Dvorák
Serenade in E for Strings, Opus 22

MARINE BAND

8 PM | Wednesday, June 19

U.S. Capitol, West Terrace

7:30 PM | Thursday, June 20

The Yards Park, Capitol Riverfront

Captain Michelle A. Rakers, conducting

Karl L. King
March, "The Mystic Call"

Engelbert Humperdinck/trans. Cailliet
Overture to *Hansel and Gretel*

James Barnes
Duo Concertante
MSgt Christian Ferrari, trumpet soloist
SSgt Hiram Diaz, euphonium soloist

John Mackey
Hymn to a Blue Hour (2010)

Ron Nelson
Savannah River Holiday Overture



On May 26 the Marine Band will premiere a new fanfare, "For 'The President's Own,'" composed by John Williams in honor of the band's 215th anniversary.

Louis Saverino*
March of the Women Marines

FREE COUNTRY

8 PM | Wednesday, June 26

U.S. Capitol, West Terrace

7:30 PM | Thursday, June 27

The Yards Park, Capitol Riverfront

Free Country will perform patriotic favorites, original works by members of the group, and contemporary country music by artists such as Toby Keith, Shania Twain, John Michael Montgomery, Alabama, Lady Antebellum, and Patty Loveless.

WOMEN continued from page 1

May 2005 marked another milestone for women with the addition of the Marine Band's first female vocalist, mezzo-soprano Gunnery Sgt. Sara Dell'Omo. Marine Band Director John Philip Sousa utilized civilian female vocalists while touring with the Marine Band as early as the 1890s, but Dell'Omo is the first official Marine Band female vocalist. She not only tours with the Marine Band as both a soloist and concert moderator, but is heavily involved with local Marine Band, Marine Chamber Orchestra, and Marine Chamber Ensembles performances.

In celebration of the 40th anniversary of women in the Marine Band, clarinetist Master Gunnery Sgt. Ruth McDonald, who is the senior ranking woman in the band, is coordinating a Marine Chamber Ensembles concert which will be held in John Philip Sousa Band Hall on Sunday, Nov. 24, at 2 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

"I think that it's an important milestone, however brief in the context of the Marine Band's 215 year history, to recognize the past 40 years of women in the band," notes McDonald. "In that short time, women have made significant contributions to the organization. Women have played principal chairs in the violin, clarinet, piccolo, flute, oboe, French horn, and harp positions."

The program will showcase works written by female composers; specifically, McDonald will include works by those female composers who struggled to be recognized due to gender bias, such as Clara Schuman, Louise Farrenc, and Rebecca Clarke. The program will also feature composers well known among audiences of today, such as Libby Larsen and Jennifer Higdon.

"In addition, we'd like to celebrate the current women of the Marine Band by featuring as many as possible to perform on this recital," concludes McDonald. "We'd also love to have our female Marine Band alumnae return for this event to help celebrate this milestone and share their stories."

Currently the Marine Band boasts 46 female members, and 106 women have served since Ruth Johnson enlisted in 1973. Women make up about 30 percent of the Marine Band, but only about six percent of the Marine Corps. For a complete list of women who served in "The President's Own," visit www.marineband.usmc.mil/women.

 The Evening Parades at Marine Barracks Washington take place at 8:45 p.m., Fridays from May 3 to Aug. 30. The parades are free; however, reservations are recommended. Please visit www.barracks.marines.mil or call (202) 433-6060 for reservations and parade information.

The Marine Band has always been a family affair. Throughout its 215 year existence, fathers and sons and daughters, brothers, and cousins have been connected in the Marine Band by genealogy, such as former Director John Philip Sousa and his father trombonist Antonio Sousa and 19th Director William H. Santelmann and his son 21st Director William F. Santelmann. These men had a profound influence on the band, and CWO3 Douglas R. Burian and his father, former Marine Band Operations Officer and Assistant Director Major Dennis R. Burian, USMC (Ret.), are part of that same legacy.

During a promotion ceremony on Friday, Feb. 22, in John Philip Sousa Band Hall in Washington, D.C., Marine Band Operations Chief Gunnery Sergeant Douglas Burian was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 3 and formally appointed Operations Officer by Director Colonel Michael J. Colburn.

“It’s a special day in the history of the Marine Band,” Col. Colburn said. He went on to say that the Burians share a deep love for “The President’s Own” and its people. He expounded upon CWO3 Burian’s character and integrity, dedication to the organization, and interpersonal and communication skills as well as the most important element CWO3 Burian will be bringing to the operations office: leadership.

CWO3 Burian joined the Marine Band’s trumpet/cornet section in July 1997. He pointed out that it was his fifth try and that winning a Marine Band audition had been a dream come true—being a member of “The President’s Own” had been a goal of his since age 10. While Burian thoroughly enjoyed being a member of the trumpet/cornet section for 11 years, and those years provided more highlights than he could possibly count, as the son of a former operations officer, he quipped that his interest in the operations side of things may have been “in his blood.” Following in the footsteps of his father, CWO3 Burian joined the Operations Office in June 2008 and was appointed operations chief in May 2010.

In CWO3 Burian’s closing remarks at the promotion ceremony he stated: “The Marine Band train keeps moving forward—dropping off passengers, picking new ones up—but always moving forward. I am thankful for the passengers who have ridden before me, and I am honored to be a passenger on this train with all of you. ... My sincere hope is that I can do the things necessary to help us all keep our focus on the mission of the Marine Band—to provide the best music possible for our President and our Commandant.” 🎆

STAFF LINES



CWO3 Douglas R. Burian
Operations Officer

BIRTHDAY
Jan. 14, 1974

FAMILY
Wife, Medessa; daughters, Ella, 10, and Gabrielle, aka “Gabi,” age 6

HOMETOWN
Bowie, Md.

JOINED THE BAND
July 1997

EDUCATION
BA in music, Centre College in Danville, Ky.; MM in trumpet performance, University of New Mexico in Albuquerque; DMA in trumpet performance and pedagogy, University of Maryland in College Park

MOTTO
Wherever you go, there you are.

SELF-PORTRAIT
Funny, hard-working, sarcastic, loyal

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Marrying Medessa; helping to raise our daughters

PET PEEVES
Negativity, taking oneself too seriously, shirts that wrinkle easily

WALTER MITTY FANTASY
Being a successful session drummer in Nashville, accompanied by the occasional tour with Rascal Flatts

INSPIRATION
Personally: my family; professionally: Vince DiMartino

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE
Ralph Macchio or Vin Diesel

BEST-KEPT SECRET
I’m a decent drummer and I also played bassoon in high school and, in fact, studied bassoon in college for my first year before I quit.

FAVORITE MOVIE
“Shawshank Redemption”

FAVORITE FOODS
Shoofly pie, Jerry’s Seafood Mariner’s Platter in Bowie

HOBBIES
Playing trumpet and conducting; currently taking up golf

THREE THINGS ALWAYS FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR
Coffee creamer, string cheese, things that need to be thrown out

MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHERS
MSgt Roy Griffin, USMC (Ret.), former member of the Marine Band and my teacher since age 7; Vince DiMartino (University of Kentucky and Centre College)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE THE BAND
New Mexico Brass Quintet and New Mexico Symphony

LUXURY DEFINED
Cold beer, warm day, a hammock, and grilled meats

PLACE YOU’D MOST LIKE TO BE STRANDED
Coronado Island, Calif.

FAVORITE PIECE OF MUSIC
Mozart Requiem

BOOK AT BEDSIDE
Books???? I’ll take the iPad, please.

LAST WORDS
“If you keep waiting for the ‘right time’ to do the crazy things you’ve always wanted to do, you’ll never do them.”

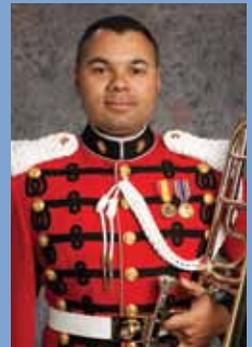
MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN BAND
The moment I was told that I had finally won my Marine Band audition after my fifth attempt. It was literally the culmination of a life-long effort.

Top: Operations Officer CW03 Douglas R. Burian as a teenager (far left) at the commissioning of his father, former Operations Officer and Assistant Director, Major Dennis R. Burian, USMC (Ret.). Below: CW03 Burian with his parents Major Burian and Florence Burian.



NEW MEMBER

Trombonist Staff Sergeant Christopher Reaves joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in February 2013. Staff Sgt. Reaves graduated in 2003 from Widefield High School in Colorado Springs and earned a bachelor's degree in music from The Juilliard School in New York in 2007. Prior to joining the band, Staff Sgt. Reaves performed with the Harlem Symphony Orchestra and the Manhattan Symphonie, both in New York, and freelanced in Colorado Springs, New York, and the Dallas/Fort Worth area.



PROMOTIONS

To Master Gunnery Sergeant: Assistant Principal Percussionist Christopher Rose of Atlanta; Chief Librarian Jane Cross of Morristown, Tenn.

To Master Sergeant: Trombonist Chris Clark of Commerce, Texas

To Gunnery Sergeant: Mezzo-soprano Sara Dell'Omo of Jacksonville, Texas

To Lance Corporal: Stage crewman Dustin Murphy of Ellsworth, Maine

VACANCIES

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

French horn: Aug. 19-20

Cello: Aug. 26-27

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

RETIREMENTS

Principal Trombone Master Gunnery Sgt. Bryan Bourne of Richardson, Texas, retired in January after 29 years of active duty service with "The President's Own." MGySgt Bourne joined the band in January 1984, was appointed principal trombone in 1990, and served in that capacity until 2013.



Operations Officer Chief Warrant Officer 5 William A. Perry of Houston retired in February after 32 years of active duty service in the Marine Corps; more than 25 were with "The President's Own." Throughout his career with the Marine Band, Perry planned, coordinated, and guided the execution of innumerable concert appearances and ceremonies and managed the Marine Band's day-to-day schedule.



MARINE BAND CONTACT INFORMATION

Marine Band Public Affairs Office
Marine Barracks
8th & I Streets, SE
Washington, DC 20390-5000

office: (202) 433-5809

concert information: (202) 433-4011

email: marineband.publicaffairs@usmc.mil

www.marineband.usmc.mil

Editor: Gunnery Sgt. Amanda Simmons



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