



"The President's Own"
**UNITED STATES
MARINE BAND**
Colonel John R. Bourgeois, Director

NOTES

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"The President's Own" Prepares for 1990 Tour to Southwest



In this promotional photo, Lt. Col. Albert F. Schoepper stands in front of the 1964 tour band in John Philip Sousa Band Hall. (U.S. Marine Corps photo)

Continuing an annual tradition since 1891, "The President's Own" United States Marine Band will depart October 2nd for its 1990 national tour. Led by Colonel John R. Bourgeois, the band will travel to the southwestern U.S., performing 46 concerts in 50 days through the states of western Virginia and North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona. The band will fly back from Tucson, Arizona on November 20th.

Highlights of this year's tour include the band's appearance at several universities, including Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge), University of Texas (Austin), East Texas State University (Commerce), and Arizona State

University (Tempe). The band will also perform in New Orleans at Col. Bourgeois' alma mater, Loyola University, where a special presentation will be made in his honor.

Moving 66 people and a truckload of equipment efficiently to a different city every day requires years of experience and careful advance planning. The master plan for the annual tour is coordinated by the Marine Band's tour director, Mr. John Potochney, the former tour director for the Army Field Band who is a veteran organizer of nearly 100 military band tours.

Mr. Potochney starts planning each tour over one year in advance by developing a proposed tour outline and submitting it to Headquarters Marine

Corps. Once the proposal is approved, the actual booking of the tour can begin. Every city on the tour is researched for qualified sponsors and concert sites. The most common sponsors are newspapers, educational institutions and civic groups. Very often, a potential sponsor will initiate the band's appearance by calling the band's tour office. According to Mr. Potochney, "I attempt to include as many requests from potential sponsors as I can."

"More than anything else," Potochney says, "putting together a national tour requires countless hours on the phone." Sometimes a concert date will fall through because of scheduling problems with a performance site, and this may require going to another city. "In the end, it's like putting together a giant jigsaw puzzle," says Potochney.

Once the itinerary is complete and the dates are in place, two advance teams are sent to confirm the arrangements. Each two-person "team" consists of one performing member of the band and one public affairs staff member. The teams travel in a 15-foot van full of publicity materials which are distributed to the sponsors. In each city the ticketing and publicity procedures for the band's appearance are discussed with the sponsor. Afterwards, the band representatives visit the concert site to inspect the stage area and dressing facilities.

Each team is on the road for a month, collectively covering the entire tour route during the spring prior to the tour. While on the road, the teams also stay at each of the hotels scheduled for the band along the route.

One major advantage of the tour advance is that teams follow the route the
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Marine Band Summer Concerts Continue

The Marine Band Summer Concert Series will conclude Wednesday, August 29th with its final outdoor concert of the season on the West Terrace of the Capitol Building. Concerts also continue through August on Sunday evenings at the Sylvan Theatre by the Washington Monument. However, due to other events at the site, the concert on August 19th has been cancelled.

The Friday Evening Parades at Marine Barracks will continue every Friday evening through August 31st. The one hour and fifteen minute program features the Marine Band, the Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and the Marine Corps Silent Drill Team. Those wishing to attend should call (202) 433-6060 for reservations, which, because of demand, must be made three weeks in advance.

All Marine Band performances are open to the public and no tickets are required. If you would like to be added to the band's mailing list to receive information on all performances, write to: Marine Band Public Affairs, Marine Barracks, 8th and I Sts., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20390-5000.



DID YOU SEE . . . ? On June 4th Deborah Norville, co-host of NBC's *Today Show*, interviewed Colonel Bourgeois prior to the Marine Band's performance of Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever". To close the broadcast, the band performed Sousa's "Semper Fidelis". (U.S. Marine Band photo.)

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band will take in the fall, thereby documenting exact directions and the timing between each location. Master Sergeant Don Dosch, a French horn player in the band and an advance team member, says, "We set it up very thoroughly ahead of time so the tour proceeds as efficiently as possible."

Meetings with the tour sponsors also provide essential "face-to-face" contact, an added complement to the months of phone calls and letters.

On a tour of this magnitude, the band brings enough equipment to fill a 60-foot tractor-trailer, the responsibility of which falls to the Marine Band stage manager, Gunnery Sergeant Earl Hurrey. Hurrey starts preparing and evaluating the tour equipment several months in advance. Among the tasks involved: making sure that the leased truck is adequate and "climate controlled" for the protection of the instruments.

Once on tour, GySgt Hurrey and his four crew members arrive at each concert site early in the day. He meets with the site manager and surveys the stage, back-stage, dressing area, and lighting and sound systems before unloading the truck and setting the stage for the concert. The crew handles many set-up details including taping down all the electrical cables. According to Hurrey, "we use about 10,000 yards of tape on every tour."

During the concert, Hurrey and the stage crew operate the sound system and the lights, and afterward pack everything back into the truck exactly the same way

every time. Hurrey has done graduate work in arts management, "but I only use about 10% of what I learned there," he says. "In this job, you really learn by hands-on experience."

Over the years, the "science" of organizing a Marine Band tour has been continually fine-tuned. Once the lights go up on the opening fanfare of a tour concert, it is the culmination of many months of work behind the scenes.

All Marine Band tour concerts are free and open to the public. Tickets are required and are distributed by the sponsoring organization. In September, the Friends of the Marine Band will receive a tour itinerary with the concert dates, locations and sponsors listed.

From Our Archives . . .

A light moment during the 1930 southwest tour finds band members sightseeing in the desert outside Phoenix, Arizona.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo)

Band Member News

RECENT REENLISTMENTS - Guitarist Gunnery Sergeant Kent J. Ashcraft of Washington D.C., for two years. . . Clarinetist Gunnery Sergeant Robert W. Cassel of Hershey, PA, for two years . . . Percussionist Master Sergeant Neal T. Conway of Easton, PA, for four years . . . Cornetist Gunnery Sergeant Edwin S. Gay of Schenectady, NY, for two years. . . Clarinetist Gunnery Sergeant Barbara A. Haney of Great Neck, NY, for two years. . . Saxophonist Master Gunnery Sergeant Ronald C. Hockett of Evanston, IL for two years. . . Keyboard player/Trumpet player Master Gunnery Sergeant Edward L. James of Gulfport, MS, for two years. . . French Hornist Gunnery Sergeant Cheryle J. Sager of Elmwood Park, IL, for two years. . . Trombonist Master Sergeant John E. Schaefer of Flint, MI, for two years. . . French Hornist Gunnery Sergeant John P. Troxel of Seattle, WA, for two years. . . French Hornist Brett B. Widenhouse of Belmont, NC, for two years. . . Violinist Gunnery Sergeant Vickie J. Yanics of Paterson, NJ, for two years. . . Librarian Gunnery Sergeant Susan M. Zaffke of Germantown, NY, for two years.

JULY PROMOTIONS - Violinist Kim H. Miller of Jacksonville, FL was promoted to Master Sergeant. . . French Hornist John P. Troxel of Seattle, WA, was promoted to Gunnery Sergeant. . . Clarinetist Lisa A. Mitchell of Livonia, MI was promoted to Gunnery Sergeant.

August Summer Concert Series Programs

These outdoor performances are held Sundays at 8 p.m. at the Sylvan Theater on the Washington Monument grounds and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. on the West Terrace of the U.S. Capitol Building. The concerts are free and open to the public. No tickets required. All programs are subject to change.

U.S. Marine Band: August 1 and 5, Colonel John R. Bourgeois, conducting

March, "Comrades of the Legion" John Philip Sousa*
Overture, "La Chasse du Jeune Henri" Etienne-Nicholas Méhul
Concerto for Trombone and Band Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Bryan Bourne, soloist

Intermezzo from *Goyescas* Enrique Granados
trans. by Pierre Dupont

Selections from *Annie* Charles Strouse
arr. by Philip Lang

Aria, "Cortigiani, vil razza" from *Rigoletto* Giuseppe Verdi
trans. by Errol Schlabach*

Michael Ryan, Baritone

The Pines of Rome Ottorino Respighi
trans. by Guy M. Duker

U.S. Marine Band: August 8 and 12, Colonel John R. Bourgeois, conducting

March, "Who's Who in Navy Blue" John Philip Sousa*
edition suggested by Frank Simon

Overture to *Luisa Miller* Giuseppe Verdi
trans. by William G. Pruyne

Cornet Solo, "The Carnival of Venice" Jean Baptiste Arban
revised by Erik Leidzen

James Klages, soloist

"American Patrol" Frank W. Meacham
Concert Piece for Euphonium Claude T. Smith

Michael Colburn, soloist

Highlights from *Mame* Jerry Herman
arr. by John Krance

Aria, "E sogno? o realtà" from *Falstaff* Giuseppe Verdi
trans. by Thomas Knox*

Michael Ryan, Baritone

Suite from "The Firebird" Igor Stravinsky
trans. by Thomas Knox*

U.S. Marine Band: August 15, Major Timothy W. Foley, conducting. August 19th - cancelled.

March, "Glorious Victory" W. M. Kendall
"Fête-dieu à Séville" Isaac Albéniz
trans. by Lucien Cailliet

Trumpet Solo, "Dramatic Essay" Clifton Williams

John Hagstrom, soloist

Three Dance Episodes from *Spartacus* Aram Khachaturian
trans. by Donald Hunsberger*

Clarinet Solo, Fantasia and Rondo Carl Maria von Weber
arr. by Jack Snavely

Frederick Lemmons, soloist

Polka, "Auf der Jagd," Opus 373, from *Cagliostro in Wien* Johann Strauss Jr.
trans. by Robert O'Brien

Dance Hilarious, "With Pleasure" John Philip Sousa*
March, "Mikado" John Philip Sousa*

U.S. Marine Band: August 22 and August 26, Major Timothy W. Foley, conducting

Fantasia in G Timothy Mahr
Fugue à la Gigue Johann Sebastian Bach

arr. by Gustav Holst

Tuba Solo, Introduction and Dance J. Ed Barat
arr. by Dan Phillips

John Cradler, soloist

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August 22 and 26 program continued

Music from Szék László Gulyás
 "Ye Banks and Braes o' Bonnie Doon" Percy Grainger
 "Bacchus on Blue Ridge" Joseph Horowitz
 Concerto No. 2 in E-flat for Clarinet, Op. 74 Carl Maria von Weber
 trans. by A. Morelli

John Barclay, soloist

Overture, "Husitská," Op. 67 Antonin Dvorák
 trans. by Thomas Knox*
 March, "El Capitan" John Philip Sousa*
 ed. by Frank Byrne*

U.S. Marine Band: August 29, First Lieutenant Dennis R. Burian, conducting

March, "The Pathfinder of Panama" John Philip Sousa*
 Capriccio italien, Opus 45 Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
 trans. by Frank Winterbottom
 Cornet and Euphonium Duet, "Cousins" Herbert L. Clarke

John Hagstrom, cornet
 Dale Allen, euphonium

March from Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes of Weber Paul Hindemith
 trans. by Jack T. Kline*
 Selections from *Oklahoma* Richard Rodgers
 arr. by Erik Leidzén
 Aria, "Chanson du Toreador" from *Carmen* Georges Bizet
 arr. by Thomas Knox*

Michael Ryan, Baritone

Festive Overture, Opus 96 Dmitri Shostakovich
 trans. by Donald Hunsberger*

*Member U.S. Marine Band