



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

NOTES

February - March 1990

Published Bi-Monthly for the Friends of the Marine Band

"The President's Own" Announces 1990 Spring Season



The cornet and trumpet sections in performance during last year's Kennedy Center concert. (Photo by Master Sergeant Andrew R. Linden)

Annual Concerts Given In Baltimore and Washington

The Marine Band's annual concert at Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore, MD, will take place on Monday, April 9th at 8 p.m. The program will be repeated in Washington in the Concert Hall of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Wednesday, April 11th at 8:30 p.m.

The program will feature Johan de Meij's "Lord of the Rings", the winning composition of the 1989 Sudler Wind Band Composition Competition. Also scheduled are selections from both Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" and Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition", and Copland's "Old American Songs" with baritone soloist Michael Ryan. Tickets for these concerts will be free but available in limited supply. Information on obtaining tickets will be available in a separate publication mailed out in early March.

Sunday Afternoon Showcase Series Begins in March

The Marine Band's 1990 Showcase Series will be held on Sunday afternoons at 3 p.m. in Sousa Band Hall starting in March. This series will highlight both the full concert band and orchestra. This year the Chamber Music Series, usually held in January and February, has been incorporated into the Showcase Series. Chamber ensembles formed by band and orchestra musicians will be featured for these performances. The schedule for the Showcase Series is as follows:

March

- 4th: Chamber music
- 11th: Chamber Orchestra, Maj. Timothy W. Foley conducting
- 18th: Concert Band, Col. John R. Bourgeois conducting
- 25th: Concert Band, 1stLt. Dennis R. Burian conducting

April

- 1st: Chamber Orchestra, 1stLt. Dennis R. Burian conducting

8th: Chamber music

15th: Concert Band, Col. John R. Bourgeois conducting

22nd: Chamber music

29th: Chamber music

May

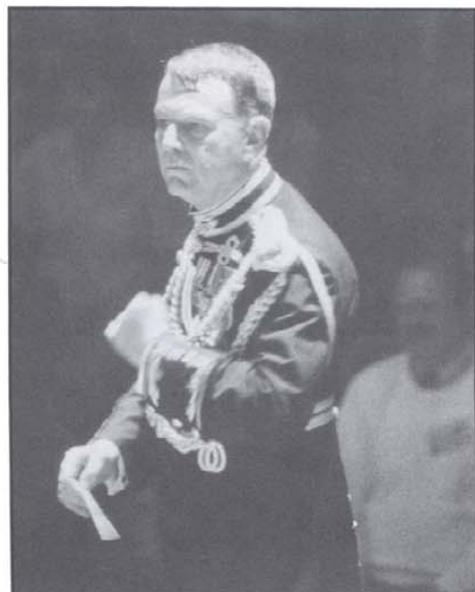
6th: Chamber music

13th: Concert Band, 1stLt. Dennis R. Burian conducting

20th: Chamber Orchestra, Maj. Timothy W. Foley conducting

27th: Concert Band, Maj. Timothy W. Foley conducting

All of these concerts are free and no tickets are required. The concerts will be held at the Marine Barracks, 8th and I Sts., S.E., Washington D.C., three blocks from the Eastern Market Metro stop. Street parking is also available. For up-to-date information call our concert information line at (202) 433-4011.



Colonel John R. Bourgeois conducts the Marine Band in a performance at Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks. (Photo by Master Sergeant Andrew R. Linden)

U.S. - Soviet Military Band Exchange

At press time for this publication, the First Independent Performing Orchestra of the USSR Ministry of Defense is scheduled to make a concert tour of the eastern United States, January 12 - 29, 1990. A reciprocal visit to the Soviet Union by the U.S. Marine Band is scheduled for February 6 - 23, 1990. (More information on this trip will be available in the next issue of NOTES.)

These tours are part of a professional exchange between the U.S. and Soviet militaries to promote better understanding

between the two countries. It will also provide an opportunity for military musicians in both countries to observe cultural differences in the performance practice of military music.

NOTE - Due to the overwhelming response for tickets to the Soviet Band concert, we regret that we were not able to honor all of the requests from the Friends of the Marine Band. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Former Marine Band Director Francis Scala Memorialized

Francis Maria Scala (Leader, 1855-1871) has long been recognized as one of the most important and influential men to serve as Director of the U.S. Marine Band. As clarinetist, conductor, and composer, Scala was primarily responsible for formalizing the modern instrumentation of the Marine Band. Yet for many years his grave at Washington's historic Congressional Cemetery has been unmarked and, therefore, anonymous.

This all changed on Tuesday, November 28th, 1989 when representatives of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation, Congressional Cemetery, and the U.S. Marine Band, unveiled an impressive new headstone identifying Scala's final resting place. The headstone was made possible by the Marine Corps Historical Foundation's Marine Band Fund and matching funds from Congressional Cemetery.

John Hanley, Superintendent of Con-

gressional Cemetery since May of 1988, was responsible for locating the Scala grave and bringing the information to the attention of the U.S. Marine Band. "I had been reading articles on Scala and was very impressed by what I had found," Hanley said. "Our records said that his grave was in one place, but as I was going through them I found a misprint. I wanted to look at his marker but when I went out there, I found there was no marker. I had to come out here with a ruler to exactly pinpoint the location of the grave."

Congressional Cemetery was established by members of Christ Church - Washington parish (Episcopal) in 1807 "for all denominations of people." A series of Congressional appropriations dating from 1823 make it, in the words of a 1939 report, "the first national cemetery created by the government."

Congressional Cemetery is the final resting place of over 65,000 persons from all walks of life. Scala is but one of the Marine Band musicians buried at Congressional Cemetery. John Philip Sousa, who joined the Marine Band as an apprentice musician during Scala's tenure as leader and later became its leader from 1880-1892, is buried there as is Sousa's father, Antonio, who was a trombonist in the Marine Band. Other Marine Band members include Antonio Pons (Leader 1843-1844 and 1846-1848), John Baptista, John Bonini, and Gaetano Carusi, one of the original group of musicians recruited from Italy at the suggestion of

Band Member News

RECENT REENLISTMENTS - **Trombonist Gunnery Sergeant Bryan R. Bourne** of Richardson, TX, for two years . . . **Tubist Master Gunnery Sergeant Eliot D. Evans** of Cutchogue, NY, for two years. . . **Operations Assistant Master Sergeant Tracey P. Schofer** of East Greenville, PA, for two years.

IN MEMORIAM - We have been informed of the passing of two former members of the U.S. Marine Band: **Charles W. Thompson**, Bassoonist (Member 1937-1957) and **William C. Jolly**, Chief Arranger (Member 1958-1965).

Thomas Jefferson to bolster the membership of the early Marine Band.

Francis Scala was born in Naples, Italy. Due to inconsistencies within various historical documents, there is some discussion among scholars regarding the exact year of his birth, but it is generally placed at 1819. An article published in a Washington newspaper around 1894-1895 entitled Scala's Glorious Past contains personal accounts of Scala's life in his own words:

"My family was not a musical one but I had loved music and had been trained at the musical college in Naples. I was about twenty years old when I went aboard the old Brandywine of the Mediterranean fleet in 1841 and enlisted as a 3rd Class musician."

In spite of his musical talents, the seagoing life did not agree with Scala and he secured his discharge from the Navy. His decision set the stage for his joining the Marine Band. "I journeyed up the Chesapeake to Baltimore and came to Washington. Soon I secured a place in the Marine Band." Marine Corps records show that Scala enlisted in the Marine Corps on August 11, 1842 at Washington, D.C. with the rate of Musician.

His musicianship was immediately noted and he was promoted to Fife Major on May 22, 1843. At that time, the Marine Band had both a Fife Major and a Drum Major. Both were of equal rank and wore identical uniforms, but the Drum Major was considered to be the leader.

On the retirement of Rafael Triay in 1855, Scala was put in charge of the band. Scala would become the first man to hold the title of "Leader of the Band" but this position was not established until the Act of July 25, 1861 which abolished the rank of fife major, and created the positions of "Leader of the Band" and "Principal Musician." Scala reported that at that time, the Leader of the Marine Band was paid \$16.00 a month.

See "Scala" on next page



LtGen. C.D. Dean, USMC (Ret.), President of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation; Mr. John Hanley, Superintendent of Congressional Cemetery; and 1stLt. Dennis R. Burian, Assistant Director of the Marine Band, following the ceremonies to unveil the new Scala Grave headstone. (Photo by Sergeant Debbie Scott)

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During his 16 years as Leader, Scala increased the size of the band from the ten or so musicians he found when he joined the band to approximately 35 pieces at the time of his retirement. More importantly, he established and maintained a full compliment of woodwinds in the band during the Civil War period, a time when many bands were dominated (if not composed entirely) by brass instruments. Scala's foresight in keeping the balanced instrumentation of both woodwinds and brass gave the Marine Band a continuity matched by few other organizations and set the stage for the further developments which were accomplished under the leadership of John Philip Sousa.

As Leader of the Marine Band, Scala became close to all the Presidents of the United States for whom he provided music at the White House. Scala had conducted the Marine Band in a serenade for Lincoln

the evening the President-elect arrived in Washington and the band also accompanied Lincoln to Gettysburg for the dedication of the National Cemetery when Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address.

As a composer and arranger, Scala was prolific. His personal music collection, now housed at the Library of Congress, contains over 600 titles ranging from original compositions (marches, quicksteps, waltzes, etc.) to major transcriptions and arrangements of operatic repertoire, particularly that of Italian composers Giuseppe Verdi and Gioachino Rossini.

Scala was discharged as Leader of the band on December 13, 1871. He remained in Washington for the rest of his life, residing in his home on South Carolina Avenue, Southeast. He died there on April 18, 1903.

Francis Maria Scala served as Leader of the U.S. Marine Band at a critical period in its history and will be remembered as a visionary who played a singular role in the evolution of the organization.



Francis Scala, circa 1865-70. This photograph has been attributed to the famed Civil War photographer, Matthew Brady.

Marine Band to Perform at ABA Convention

On March 3rd, 1990, "The President's Own" United States Marine Band will be featured in a concert at the American Bandmasters Association annual convention. The concert will take place at 8 p.m. at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois in Champaign.

The program will include many works by John Philip Sousa, such as selections from "The Bride Elect" and the "The Gallant Seventh" march, as well as the winning composition of the ABA-Ostwald Composition Contest. Also included will be selections from "Carousel" by Rodgers and Hammerstein. The concert is free and open to the public.

Marine Band Concert Information Line

(202) 433-4011

Marine Band Announces Vacancies

"The President's Own" will hold auditions in May and June for the following three instruments:

- B-flat Clarinet
- Cornet/Trumpet
- Percussion

For further information concerning these vacancies, please contact Marine Band Auditions, Attn: GySgt. Hurley, 8th and I Sts., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20390-5000; or call (202) 433-5714.

From Marine Band Archives . . .

Showcase concerts continue a tradition of public performances in Sousa Band Hall since its construction in 1908. Here, Major William F. Santelmann (Director from 1940-1955) is shown conducting a performance of the Marine Band in 1944. The Band Hall (named John Philip Sousa Band Hall on October 7, 1974) was renovated in 1982 to restore many of the original features of the hall. It provides an attractive performance site to showcase the various ensembles of "The President's Own". (U.S. Marine Corps photo)

