

# NOTES



*Assistant Director Major Dennis R. Burian has announced his September retirement. See Page 1 for details.*

# End of an Era

## Assistant Director Announces Retirement

Major Dennis R. Burian, senior Assistant Director and Executive Officer of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band, recently announced that he will retire from the band in mid-September after 31 years of service.

"I've been lucky to have had three careers here," said Major Burian, who joined "The President's Own" in 1969 as a clarinetist. After five years in the band and completion of his bachelor's and master's degrees in clarinet performance from The Catholic University of America in Washington, Major Burian left to become band director at Muhlenberg College in his hometown of Allentown, PA. A year later, he returned to the Marine Band. "I knew this was where I was supposed to be," Major Burian recalled. "I enjoyed teaching, but nothing compares to working with the musicians of 'The President's Own.'"

Before being named Assistant Director in 1988, Major Burian served 10 years as Operations Chief and leader of the White House Dance Band and one year as Operations Officer. He served as the band's operational liaison with the White House and Marine Corps Headquarters, and was directly involved with scheduling and coordinating the band's commitments.

In 1996, he was appointed senior Assistant Director and Executive Officer and promoted to his present rank. In addition to conducting the Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra at the White House, in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, and across the country, Major Burian has performed at

the White House with numerous celebrities, including Neil Diamond, Frank Sinatra, and Sammy Davis, Jr. He is a member of the prestigious Gridiron Club and the Military Order of the Carabao.

"I have enjoyed all my jobs in the Marine Band," Major Burian said, "but conducting is the best. The privilege of being able to stand in front of these



musicians is very humbling; it's unlikely that I'll conduct a band this fine again."

Major Burian's final concerts as Assistant Director will take place at 8 p.m. on August 22 on the West Terrace of the U.S. Capitol and on August 26 at the Sylvan Theater. For these programs, he has chosen a range of audience and personal favorites, including selections from Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera* and Porter's *Kiss Me, Kate*, Ward's "America, the Beautiful,"

Sousa's "The Black Horse Troop," and Hérold's Overture to *Zampa*.

"I first played 'The Black Horse Troop' in the Allentown Band, and *Zampa* is one of the first overtures I conducted as Assistant Director," Major Burian said. Also on the program is Sammy Nestico's "Portrait of a Trumpet," featuring Staff Sergeant Douglas Burian, Major Burian's son, as soloist. Prior to this performance, Major Burian has conducted him on just one other work: Neruda's Trumpet Concerto, programmed earlier this year by the Marine Chamber Orchestra (as pictured).

"Throughout Doug's career, I have tried very hard to avoid any perceptions of favoritism," Major Burian said. "Given that this is my last concert before retirement, I thought I could indulge myself a bit. It's the last time we'll be able to do this," he added, with a smile.

After retirement, Major Burian plans to stay in the Washington, DC, area, continuing to work in music. "All good things must come to an end, but the Marine Band will always be a big part of my life," he said. "I will truly miss the people and their professionalism—their striving for perfection, no matter what the task."

Captain Michael J. Colburn will succeed Major Burian as senior Assistant Director and Executive Officer, and Staff Sergeant Jason K. Fettig has been nominated to become the band's next Assistant Director. SSgt Fettig, a clarinetist with the band since 1997, will conduct his first Marine Band concerts on August 1 and 5 (see pages 3 and 4 for program information).

## White House Highlights

Recent Marine Band appearances at the White House include:

- Baseball Hall of Fame Luncheon
- Spring Garden Tour
- Teacher of the Year Awards
- National Day of Prayer Reception

## Marine Band's Swiss Concerts Highlight American Music

As introduced in the last issue of *NOTES*, "The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band will travel to Switzerland this July in conjunction with the 10th International Conference of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE).

WASBE, the world's leading organization for wind bands, was founded in Manchester, England, in 1981. From its early days, the group had strong Marine Band ties through Director Emeritus Colonel John R. Bourgeois and Captain Frank P. Byrne, former Executive Assistant to the Director. Both men were instrumental in guiding and nurturing the organization's growth.

"Given the Marine Band's longstanding relationship with WASBE and the importance of its mission, we are honored to perform for the 10th International Conference," said Director Colonel Timothy W. Foley. "We are grateful to WASBE and the city of Luzern for their hospitality and look forward to sharing our music with conference attendees and the people of Switzerland," he added. The band's last WASBE appearance was in Boston, MA, in 1987.

Not only will this trip mark the Marine Band's first visit to Switzerland, it is the group's first major overseas trip since 1992, when they traveled to England for the Mountbatten Festival of Music in Royal Albert Hall. During the

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## Historic Summer Milestones in Marine Band History

This July, the Marine Band will mark its 203rd birthday while sharing its music with the people of Switzerland and members of WASBE (see story at left). This trip, the band's first international travel since 1992, will join a number of important July milestones in Marine Band history. Two of these events took place on July 4: the laying of the Washington Monument's cornerstone in 1848, and the rededication of the Statue of Liberty in 1986.

The Washington Monument's cornerstone almost didn't make it to its designated site just south of the White House. According to Kenneth Carpenter's 1970 doctoral dissertation on the Marine Band for the University of Iowa, "the 24,500-pound stone of Maryland marble broke through a bridge over the city canal on its way to the site.... Civilian workers at the Navy Yard volunteered to spend their lunch hour rescuing the stone, and the Marine Band urged them on with spirited melodies."

With the cornerstone in place, the ceremony commenced. Many dignitaries were in attendance, including President James Polk; former First Lady Dolley Madison; Elizabeth Hamilton, wife of Alexander Hamilton; and George Washington Parke Custis, George Washington's adopted grandson. President Polk wrote in his diary, "...the procession was formed and moved to the site of the Washington Monument on the Banks of the Potomac and south of the President's Mansion. I witnessed the ceremony of laying the cornerstone. This being a regular evening for receiving company a large crowd attended... The Marine Band attended and played south of the mansion."

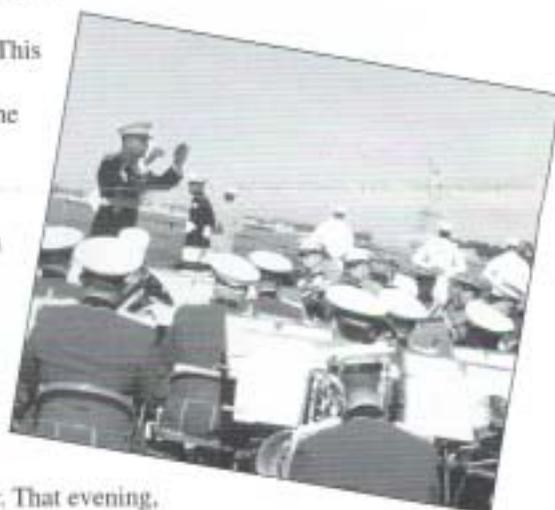
A large crowd also attended the Statue of Liberty's 1986 rededication in New York City. In the morning, "The President's Own" performed aboard the USS Iowa for President Ronald Reagan during the International Naval Review.

Thirty-three ships from 14 countries stretched for 10 miles along the Hudson River into New York Harbor. That evening, the band boarded the USS John F. Kennedy to perform music choreographed with the pyrotechnics of the 30-minute International Fireworks Spectacular.

*The New York Post* reported, "Two million observers hugging the shoreline stood deafened and mesmerized... as 20 tons of rockets, fountains, and parachute flares burst into kaleidoscopic patterns... The U.S. Marine Band, meanwhile, performed a patriotic medley that included 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' and 'Grand Old Flag.'"

The festivities continued the following day, and the Marine Band performed in the International Classical Concert televised live from Central Park. An estimated 500,000 people attended the performance, which included Zubin Mehta directing the New York Philharmonic, and guest artists Marilyn Horne, Yo Yo Ma, Plácido Domingo, and Itzhak Perlman.

While the Marine Band's presence at the rededication of the Statue of Liberty was undoubtedly historic, it was not the first time the band performed on a boat in New York Harbor. Nearly 100 years earlier on October 28, 1886, 17th Director John Philip Sousa led the band in providing music for the original unveiling and dedication of the historic landmark.



## CONCERT PROGRAMS

**U. S. Marine Band**  
**Sunday, July 1 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

*Colonel Timothy W. Foley, conducting*

Visit website for program information

**U. S. Marine Band Combo**  
**Sunday, July 8 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

Visit website for program information

**U. S. Marine Band Combo**  
**Wednesday, July 11 at 8 p.m.**  
**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**  
**Sunday, July 15 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

Visit website for program information

**U. S. Marine Band Combo**  
**Wednesday, July 18 at 8 p.m.**  
**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**

Visit website for program information

**U. S. Marine Band**  
**Sunday, July 22 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

*Major Dennis R. Burian, conducting*

John Philip Sousa  
March, "Daughters of Texas"

Franz Liszt/trans. Godfrey  
Hungarian Rhapsody No. 1

Eugène Damaré/arr. Patterson  
Piccolo Solo, "Cleopatra Fantasia  
and Polka"

*Cynthia Rugolo, soloist*

Leonard Bernstein/Grundman  
*Candide Suite*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart/  
trans. Bowljin  
Aria, "Donne mie la fate a tanti"  
from *Così fan tutte*  
*Kevin Bennear, baritone*

Frank W. Meacham  
American Patrol

Morton Gould/trans. Lang  
"American Salute"

John Philip Sousa/ed. Byrne  
March, "The Stars and Stripes Forever"

**U. S. Marine Band**  
**Wednesday, July 25 at 8 p.m.**  
**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**  
**Sunday, July 29 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

*Colonel Timothy W. Foley, conducting*

Visit website for program information

**U.S. Marine Band**  
**Wednesday, August 1 at 8 p.m.**  
**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**  
**Sunday, August 5 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

*Staff Sergeant Jason K. Fettig, conducting*

John Philip Sousa  
March, "The Bride Elect"

Otto Nicolai/trans. Sousa  
Overture to *The Merry Wives of Windsor*

Herbert L. Clarke  
Cornet Trio, "The Three Aces"  
*Thomas Hooten, Daniel Orban, and  
Christian Ferrari, soloists*

Ottorino Respighi  
Huntingtower Ballad

Percy Grainger  
Three Folksong Settings

Stephen Foster/arr. Bulla  
*Stephen Foster Songbook*  
*Kevin Bennear, baritone*

Charles Ives/trans. Elkus  
Suite, *Old Home Days*

Henry Fillmore  
March, "Rolling Thunder"

**U.S. Marine Band**  
**Wednesday, August 8 at 8 p.m.**  
**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**  
**Sunday, August 12 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

*Captain Michael J. Colburn, conducting*

Program to include the following:

Richard Wagner/trans. Seidel  
Overture to *The Flying Dutchman*

Herbert L. Clarke  
Cornet Solo, "Sounds from the Hudson"  
*Steven Matera, soloist*

Paul Hart  
*Cartoon*

Henri Rabaud/trans. Gee  
Clarinet Solo, "Solo de Concours"  
*Randall Riffle, soloist*

**U.S. Marine Band**  
**Wednesday, August 15 at 8 p.m.**  
**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**  
**Sunday, August 19 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

*Staff Sergeant Jason K. Fettig, conducting*

Sergei Prokofiev/trans. Yoder  
March, Opus 99

Jean Sibelius/trans. Hindsley  
Tone Poem, *Finlandia*, Opus 26

Carl Maria von Weber/trans. Snavely  
Clarinet Solo, Fantasia and Rondo  
*Michelle Guadagnino, soloist*

**Charles Ives**/trans. Singleton  
Postlude in F

**Charles Ives—William Schuman**/  
trans. Rhoads  
Variations on "America"

**Pablo de Sarasate**/trans. Kline  
Marimba Solo, "Zapateado"  
*Kenneth Wolin, soloist*

**Leonard Bernstein**/trans. Benciscutto  
"Profanation" from Symphony No. 1,  
*Jeremiah*

**John Philip Sousa**/ed. Byrne  
March, "Solid Men to the Front!"

**U.S. Marine Band**  
**Wednesday, August 22 at 8 p.m.**  
**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**  
**Sunday, August 26 at 8 p.m.**  
**Sylvan Theater**

*Major Dennis R. Burian, conducting*

**John Philip Sousa**  
March, "The Black Horse Troop"

**Louis Joseph Ferdinand Hérold**/  
trans. Safranek  
Overture to *Zampa*

**Sammy Nestico**  
"Portrait of a Trumpet"  
*Douglas Burian, soloist*

**Andrew Lloyd Webber**/arr. Barker  
Selections from *The Phantom of the Opera*

**Carl Maria von Weber**/trans. Bennett  
Allegro moderato from Clarinet  
Concerto No. 1 in F minor, Opus 73  
*Elizabeth Gish, soloist*

**Cole Porter**/arr. Knox  
"Where Is the Life that Late I Led?"  
from *Kiss Me, Kate*  
*Kevin Benneer, baritone*

**Samuel Augustus Ward**/arr. Dragon  
"America, the Beautiful"

**John Philip Sousa**/ed. Byrne  
March, "The Stars and Stripes Forever"

**U. S. Marine Band**  
**Wednesday, August 29 at 8 p.m.**  
**U.S. Capitol, West Terrace**

*Colonel Timothy W. Foley, conducting*

Visit website for program information

**Please note that there is no concert on July 4, and programs are subject to change. Inclement weather cancellations will be announced the day of the concert after 6 p.m. on the band's Concert Information Line (CIL) at (202) 433-4011. For the latest information, call the CIL or visit [www.marineband.usmc.mil](http://www.marineband.usmc.mil).**

## Marine Band's Swiss Concerts Highlight American Music

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festival, "The President's Own" presented three joint performances with the Massed Bands of the Royal Marines.

The Marine Band's performance schedule in Switzerland includes three live concerts for an estimated 6,000 people: a gala concert for WASBE members at the Luzern Culture and Convention Center (KKL), a public concert at the KKL, and a public concert at the Kursaal Bern. The band also will prepare a short program for evening radio broadcast on its 203rd birthday, Wednesday, July 11.

Woven throughout the programming for both concerts are selections by three icons of American music, Sousa, Ives, and Copland, as well as newer works by the next generation of American composers. A highlight of the Friday, July 13, gala concert will be the international première of *Ten of a Kind* by David Rakowski. Commissioned by "The President's Own," the work features a section of 10 clarinetists on E-flat, B-flat, alto, bass, and contrabass clarinets, creating the impression of a single large solo instrument.

Rakowski, a Pulitzer Prize finalist for his work *Persistent Memory*, also composed *Sesso e Violenza*, which was performed by the Marine Chamber Orchestra last spring.

Commissioned by the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Seculum Musicae, Parnassus, and Ensemble 21, as well as other ensembles and individuals, Rakowski has received a number of awards and fellowships, including those from the American Academy in Rome, the Guggenheim Foundation, the NEA, and the Rockefeller Foundation. Currently teaching composition and theory at Brandeis University in Massachusetts, he is a former faculty member of Stanford, Columbia, and Harvard Universities.

In addition to *Ten of a Kind*, the band's repertoire for the Friday evening concert will include Rossini's Overture to *William Tell*, Stravinsky's Symphonies of Wind Instruments, Copland's Suite from *The Red Pony*, and Grainger's *Lincolnshire Posy*.

For the public concerts at the KKL on Saturday, July 14, and at the Kursaal Bern on Thursday, July 12, Colonel Foley has chosen Wagner's Overture to *Rienzi*, Massenet's Ballet Music from *Le Cid*, Holst's Suite No. 1 in E-flat, selections from Ives' Symphony No. 2, and Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever." Also on the program is American composer Joseph Schwantner's Concerto for Percussion. Performed by the band earlier this season, this exciting work showcases the talents of soloist Staff Sergeant Christopher Rose as well as the entire percussion section.

## STAFF LINES

## SSgt Christopher P. Rose

### Assistant Principal Percussionist

**Birthday:** November 13, 1968

**Hometown:** Atlanta, GA

**Family status:** Single

**Education:** BM and MM from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston, TX

**Joined the band:** October 1997

**Self-portrait:** Fun, witty, laid-back, dedicated, passionate—typical Southern gentleman

**Favorite saying:** "It's all good."

**Greatest accomplishment:** I don't think it has happened yet.

**Pet peeves:** People who lack common sense and people who don't carry out their responsibilities

**Walter Mitty fantasy:** Driving a 3-and-2 curve ball over the center field fence to win Game 7 of the World Series

**Most memorable moment in band:** Getting the opportunity to perform the Schwantner Percussion Concerto

**Inspiration:** My grandfather, Paul "Pop-Pop" Fisher. He was the only person who could get me to practice when I was young. I still feel him with me every day.

**Favorite movie:** *Raiders of the Lost Ark*

**Who would play you in a movie:** Matthew Modine

**Best-kept secret:** I used to work as a stock boy at Victoria's Secret.

**Favorite foods:** Anything on the grill and corn on the cob

**Hobbies:** Golf, softball, cooking

**Bad habit:** I fall asleep on the couch with the TV on almost every night.

**Three things always found in your refrigerator:** Apples, broccoli, and Flavor-Ice popsicles

**Most influential teacher:** Shirley Mills, my high school piano teacher. She got me to play and do things I never thought I was capable of.

**Professional experience before the band:** Percussionist for Andy Williams at his Moon River Theatre in Branson, MO, and extra percussionist with the Houston Symphony and New York City Opera

**Luxury defined:** Taking a trip and playing every golf course in England and Scotland

**Books at bedside:** The Bible and *Sports Illustrated* (the other bible)

**Favorite piece of music:** It changes day by day, depending on my mood.

**Place you'd most like to be stranded:** A golf course anywhere in the Southwest desert

**Last words:** "Be anxious for nothing...but in everything, let your requests be made known unto God."



## New Members

### Public Affairs Specialist SSgt Robert M. Massey

of Memphis, TN, attended the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, MA, where he earned a bachelor's degree in music. As a Beebe Scholar, Massey earned an artist diploma in music from the Paris Conservatory. Prior to joining the band, he was the artistic administrator at the Germantown Performing Arts Centre in Germantown, TN.



### French hornist SSgt Neil E. Chidester

of Portland, OR, received a bachelor's degree from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and a master's degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Prior to joining the band, Chidester was the principal hornist for the Springfield (OH) Symphony.



## Vacancies

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

**Trumpet:** August 20-21

**Clarinet:** September 21-22

For more information, please write to:

**Operations Officer,**

**U.S. Marine Band**

**8th and I Streets, SE**

**Washington, DC 20390-5000**

**(202) 433-5714**

**E-mail: HurleyJM@mbw.usmc.mil**

Audition repertoire may be found at  
[www.marineband.usmc.mil](http://www.marineband.usmc.mil)

## Retirement

Administrative Chief Gunnery Sergeant Loree Coulter, of Bronx, NY, retired in May after three and a half years with "The President's Own" and nearly 21 years in the Marine Corps.