



"The President's Own"

UNITED STATES MARINE BAND NEWSLETTER

JUNE-JULY
1987

PUBLISHED FOR FRIENDS OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

OUTDOOR CONCERTS BEGIN JUNE 3RD

Open-air concerts by the Marine Band are a Washington tradition and this tradition continues with our summer concert series at the U.S. Capitol and at the Sylvan Theater on the Washington Monument Grounds. This marks the 188th season of outdoor concerts by the Marine Band. The Band's first Washington concert was performed on August 21st, 1800, on its hillside encampment near the present site of the Lincoln Memorial. Although the Marine Band's early performances in the "capital city" cannot be tied to one location, we do know that President Franklin Pierce approved legislation in 1854 allowing the Band extra pay for playing "on the grounds of the President and the Capitol." Today's performances are given on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol Building every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. and at the Sylvan Theater every Sunday at 8:00 p.m., weather permitting. These concerts will continue through August and are free and open to the public. No tickets are required. For more information, please call our concert information line at 433-4011.

Summer Concert Series: June 3rd through August 30th
Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.- West Front of the U.S. Capitol
Sundays at 8:00 p.m.- Sylvan Theater near the Washington Monument

EVENING PARADES CONTINUE AT MARINE BARRACKS

Another summer institution in Washington is the Evening Parade which is held every Friday at Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, S.E. "The Oldest Post of the Corps" provides a stunning backdrop for the ceremonies which feature the U.S. Marine Band, the U.S. Marine Drum & Bugle Corps and the marching and ceremonial units from Marine Barracks. The evening begins at 8:20 p.m. with a 30-minute prelude concert by the U.S. Marine Band. All Evening Parades are free and open to the public, but **RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST**. We recommend calling several weeks in advance for Parade reservations at 433-6060.

FOR MARINE BAND CONCERT INFORMATION CALL (202) 433-4011

MARINE BAND PERFORMS IN MICHIGAN AND MASSACHUSETTS

The U.S. Marine Band will be making two trips this summer, apart from our annual concert tour. Both trips feature special performances which will be free and open to the public .

JUNE 24TH: NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP- INTERLOCHEN, MICHIGAN

Over the years, Interlochen has been the summer home for thousands of young musicians who have attended the National Music Camp. With Interlochen celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, this provides the perfect setting for the annual convention of the American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA). The Marine Band, under the Direction of Colonel John Bourgeois, will perform a concert in the Interlochen Bowl at 8:00 on Wednesday, June 24th, as part of the ASBDA Convention festivities.

JULY 20TH AND 21ST- BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The U.S. Marine Band is pleased to perform two Boston concerts in conjunction with the third international conference of the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE). Previous conferences have been held in Skien, Norway (1983) and Kortrijk, Belgium (1985), making this United States conference a first for WASBE. The conference is sponsored by WASBE, Boston University and the New England College Band Association. WASBE was founded in Manchester, England, in 1981 and its membership includes composers, conductors, publishers and musicians from 34 countries.

The Marine Band last performed in Boston in May, 1980, as part of "Operation Sail" celebrating the 350th anniversary of the city of Boston. As in 1980, the Band will perform a concert at the Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade, site of the concerts made famous by Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops Orchestra.

The U.S. Marine Band will perform at the Hatch Memorial Shell on Monday, July 20th at 8:00 p.m. in a concert of virtuoso solos and patriotic selections. Included on the concert will be Richard Wagner's "Flying Dutchman" Overture, Harvard alumnus Leroy Anderson's "Irish Suite", John Philip Sousa's "Looking Upward" Suite, an "International March-Past" of great marches from around the globe. Featured Marine Band soloists will perform J.B. Arban's cornet variations on "The Carnival of Venice", Simone Mantia's variations for

(continued)

MARINE BAND PERFORMS IN BOSTON (continued)

euphonium on the Irish song, "Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms" and Baritone vocalist Michael Ryan will perform selections from Meredith Willson's "The Music Man". The concert will also include the world premiere of a new composition entitled "Concord" by American composer Clare Grundman, a work which was commissioned for this occasion by the United States Marine Band. The title "Concord" reflects the Revolutionary War music on which the composition is based.

On Tuesday, July 21st, at 8:00 p.m. the Marine Band moves indoors for a featured concert in the George Sherman Union at Boston University. On this occasion, Colonel Bourgeois has selected a program of exciting wind literature and will share the podium with two distinguished guest conductors. The concert features several works which were premiered by the United States Marine Band: "Hammersmith" by Gustav Holst, "La Fiesta Mexicana" by H. Owen Reed, and two Sousa marches, "Semper Fidelis" and "Royal Welch Fusiliers".

"Hammersmith" will be conducted by Dr. Frederick Fennell, founder of the Eastman Wind Ensemble and currently conductor of the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra. It is thanks to Dr. Fennell's exhaustive research that we learned of the Marine Band's 1932 premiere performance of "Hammersmith". Until Dr. Fennell's discovery, scholars believed that this great composition had not been performed until 1954. Letters and other sources led Dr. Fennell to search the archives in the Marine Band Library which revealed that Gustav Holst had been scheduled to conduct the premiere performance at the 1932 Convention of the American Bandmasters Association in Washington. When illness prevented Holst from appearing, "Hammersmith" was conducted by Capt. Taylor Branson, then Director of the Marine Band.

Former Marine Band member Dr. Donald Hunsberger will conduct members of the Marine Band in Joseph Schwantner's "...and the mountains rising nowhere". Dr. Hunsberger was a member of the U.S. Marine Band from 1954 to 1958 and served as both trombonist and arranger for the Band. He is the current director of the Eastman Wind Ensemble and has won critical acclaim for his recent recording of vintage cornet solos with Winton Marsalis and the Eastman Wind Ensemble.

The 3rd WASBE International Conference will be held July 20-25th in Boston and will include performances by bands from the United States, Norway, Japan, Canada, Israel, Switzerland and Holland; daily forums and panel discussions. For more information, write: **WASBE CONFERENCE, BOSTON UNIVERSITY, P.O. BOX 1987, 25 BUICK ST., BOSTON, MA 02215**

FOURTH OF JULY AT WOLF TRAP FARM PARK

Once again the Marine Band will perform at Wolf Trap on Independence Day. As you may remember, Col. Bourgeois and part of the Band were in New York last July 4th for the Liberty Weekend festivities, but he and the full band will be at WolfTrap for this year's celebration. The Marine Band and the Marine Dixieland Band will perform at the Filene Center from 1:00-4:00 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public, no tickets are required.

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE AND COUNTING

One week after Independence Day, the U.S. Marine Band will celebrate its 189th birthday. The Marine Band was founded by an Act of Congress signed by President John Adams on July 11, 1798 and this makes the Marine Band America's oldest, continuously active musical organization. Although no special concerts are planned to celebrate this event, the Marine Band will present its regular schedule of weekly concerts and will perform in Alexandria on this date (see below). A special Kennedy Center concert is planned for 1988 to celebrate the Band's 190th birthday.

FIREWORKS IN ALEXANDRIA

July 11th will find the Marine Band in a special concert along the Alexandria, Virginia waterfront. The one-hour concert begins at 8:30 p.m. and will be followed by a fireworks display. The concert is free and open to the public.

SPECIAL NOTE TO DIXIELAND FANS: The Marine Dixieland Band will be featured in two special concerts July 22nd at the Capitol and July 26th at the Sylvan Theater. Both concerts begin at 8:00 p.m.

DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS OR RELATIVES WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE ON OUR MARINE BAND MAILING LIST? THEY'LL RECEIVE OUR BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, ADVANCE LISTINGS OF CONCERT PROGRAMS, FORTHCOMING CONCERT SERIES AND SPECIAL TRIPS OR TOURS YEAR ROUND. THERE'S NO CHARGE TO BE ADDED TO OUR "FRIENDS OF THE MARINE BAND" MAILING LIST AND IF YOU'D LIKE TO BE INCLUDED, PLEASE WRITE TO THE MARINE BAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, MARINE BARRACKS, 8TH AND EYE STREETS, S.E. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20390.