

NOTES

PUBLISHED FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE U.S. MARINE BAND

MARCH - APRIL 1996

Director Announces Retirement

Colonel John R. Bourgeois, Director of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band and Music Adviser to the White House, announced January 26 that he will retire after nearly 40 years in the United States Marine Corps and 17 years as Marine Band Director.

In a statement to Marine Band members, Colonel Bourgeois, 61, said, "While serving with the Marine Band has been the greatest privilege of

my life, it also entrusted me with an obligation to prepare for the band's future. In that spirit,

I informed the Commandant [General Charles C. Krulak] of my intention to retire this year. The Commandant instructed me to inform you that, while he was not in favor of my retirement from a personal point of view, he accepted my decision."

Colonel Bourgeois' career has spanned nine presidential administrations – from President Eisenhower to President Clinton. He entered the Marine Corps in 1956 and joined "The President's Own" in 1958. He was named the Marine Band's 25th Director in 1979 and was appointed to his present rank in June 1983, making him the first musician in the Marine Corps to serve in every rank from private to colonel.

As Music Adviser to the White House, Colonel Bourgeois regularly conducts the Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra at the Executive Mansion, appearing there more frequently than any other musician in the nation. Colonel Bourgeois has selected the musical program and directed the band in its place of honor at the U.S. Capitol for four Presidential Inaugurations, a Marine Band tradition dating to 1801.

Among the many awards and honors the Colonel has received are the 1991 Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia National Citation "for service and dedication to music and country," the Medal of the Sudler Order of Merit, and the Star of the Sudler Order of Merit of the John Philip Sousa Foundation in recognition of his outstanding contributions to bands and band music in the United States and abroad.

Colonel Bourgeois also is the President of the John Philip Sousa Foundation, the President of the National Band Association, the past President of the American Bandmasters Association, and the American Vice President of the International Military Music Society.

Colonel Bourgeois will conduct his final concert as Director of "The President's Own" in a change of command ceremony on July 11, 1996, at DAR Constitution Hall. This date also marks the Marine Band's 198th birthday. Major Timothy W. Foley, Marine Band Assistant Director and Executive Officer, has been recommended to succeed Colonel Bourgeois as Director. Captain Dennis R. Burian, Marine Band Assistant Director will assume the duties of Executive Officer/Assistant Director formerly held by Major Foley, and Master Sergeant Michael J. Colburn has been recommended to become Assistant Director.

Spring Concerts Feature Orchestra and Band

America's oldest professional musical organization returns in spring to three exciting concert venues. The Marine Chamber Orchestra will perform at the beautiful National Academy of Sciences Auditorium in Washington, DC, and the Marine Band will present concerts at George Mason University's Center for the Arts in Fairfax, VA, and the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore, MD.

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ACTIVITIES UPDATE

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MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA at National Academy of Sciences

The U.S. Marine Chamber Orchestra begins its second year at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC, with two performances in March and four in May. The concerts are the only public performances by the orchestra and present a rare opportunity for the public to enjoy the ensemble that primarily performs at State Dinners, diplomatic receptions, and many other White House events.

Performances will take place at 2 p.m. on **Sundays, March 3 and 31, and May 5, 12, 19, and 26** at the National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW (across from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial). **Concerts are free, and tickets are not required.** Ample parking is available on the street or in a lot adjacent to the Academy (enter on 21st Street). The closest METRO station is Foggy Bottom.

These concerts are presented by the U.S. Marine Chamber Orchestra in collaboration with the Arts in the Academy, a public service program of the National Academy of Sciences. *See pg. 3 for March orchestra programs.*

MARINE BAND at George Mason University's Center for the Arts

"The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band celebrates its fifth season at the Center for the Arts with a series of six free concerts on Sunday afternoons in March and April.

The Center for the Arts Concert Hall provides an optimal setting for the band. Completed in 1990, the state-of-the-art concert hall was designed by renowned architect George C. Izenour.

These spring concerts will feature a blend of music that is patriotic, traditional, and contemporary. From Sousa marches to orchestral transcriptions, Marine Band concerts suit a variety of

musical tastes. Programs also will feature instrumental soloists and the band's baritone vocalist, Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Ryan.

Concerts will take place on **Sundays March 17, 24, and April 7, 14, 21, and 28** at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall at George Mason University, Fairfax, VA. All performances begin at 2 p.m.

Marine Band concerts are free, but tickets are highly recommended for best seating. To request tickets, call the **Center for the Arts Box Office at (703) 993-8888**. Unclaimed general admission seats are released 15 minutes before concert time to non-ticket holders. Please limit requests to four tickets per concert. For group tickets, send requests in writing to: Group Tickets, Public Affairs Office, U.S. Marine Band, 8th and I Streets, SE, Washington, DC, 20390-5000.

See pg. 3 & 4 for concert programs.

MARINE BAND returns to Meyerhoff

The U.S. Marine Band, conducted by Colonel John R. Bourgeois, returns to Baltimore, MD, **April 17** for its annual concert at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. The performance, which begins at 8 p.m., is the final Baltimore concert Colonel Bourgeois will conduct as Director of "The President's Own."

The concert is free, but tickets are required. Patrons should request and pick up tickets in person beginning March 18 at the Meyerhoff Box Office, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and weekends from noon to 5 p.m. Please limit requests to four tickets. For more information, call the **Meyerhoff Box Office at (410) 783-8008 or toll free at (800) 442-1198**. Ticket holders must be in their seats 15 minutes prior to the performance. Any unclaimed general admission seats thereafter will be made available to non-ticket holders. *See pg. 4 for concert program.*

Marine Band Winter Scrapbook:



The Marine Band, directed by Colonel Bourgeois, performed for a capacity audience at the annual "Carols at Wolf Trap" concert on Dec. 3. The program featured traditional holiday selections.



Assistant Director Captain Dennis R. Burian leads "The President's Own" in a medley of traditional Chanukah songs during the Dec. 18 lighting of the National Menorah on the Ellipse.



Marine Corps Commandant General Charles C. Krulak greets Colonel Bourgeois and band members at the traditional New Year's "surprise" serenade, a tradition that dates back to the time of the Civil War.

MARCH CALENDAR

3rd

**Auditorium of the
National Academy of Sciences**
Captain Dennis R. Burian, conducting

U.S. MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Ottorino Respighi
Gli uccelli (The Birds)
Preludio (Prelude)
La colomba (The Dove)
La gallina (The Hen)
L' usignuolo (The Nightingale)
Il cucù (The Cuckoo)

Ralph Vaughan Williams
Concerto for Bass Tuba and Orchestra
in F minor
Cameron Gates, soloist

Aaron Copland
Music for Movies
New England Countryside
Barley Wagons
Sunday Traffic
Grovers Corners
Threshing Machines

Jacques Ibert
Divertissement

17th

**Center for the Arts
George Mason University**
Colonel John R. Bourgeois, conducting

Patrick S. Gilmore
March, "The Famous 22nd Regiment"

Leroy Anderson
Irish Suite
The Irish Washerwoman
The Minstrel Boy
The Rakes of Mallow
The Wearing of the Green
The Last Rose of Summer
The Girl I Left Behind Me

Walter B. Rogers/Smith
Cornet Solo, "The Harp of Tara"
David Haglund, soloist

Percy Grainger
Irish Tune from County Derry

B. Walton O'Donnell
Fantasy, Songs of the Gael, Op. 31

Robert Dwyer Joyce/Nestico*
March, "The Boys of Wexford"

traditional
Brian Boru's March

traditional/Potter
Finnegan's Wake

Steve Graham/Hunsberger*
Vocal Solo, "Dear Old Donegal"
Michael Ryan, baritone

Victor Herbert/Clark
Irish Rhapsody

24th

**Center for the Arts
George Mason University**
Colonel John R. Bourgeois, conducting

Samuel Barber
Commando March

Roy Harris
Cimarron Overture

Walter Piston
Intermezzo, "Tunbridge Fair"

Henry Cowell
Little Concerto for Piano and Band
Robert Boguslaw, soloist

Charles Cushing
Angel Camp

Howard Hanson
Chorale and Alleluia

Charles Ives/Brion
March, "Omega Lambda Chi"

* member, U.S. Marine Band

arranged by Stephen Bulla*
Stephen Foster Songbook
"Gentle Annie"
"Ah! May the Red Rose Live
Always!"
"Some Folks"
Michael Ryan, baritone

John Philip Sousa*
Suite, People Who Live in Glass Houses
The Champagnes
The Rhine Wines
The Whiskies - Scotch, Irish,
Bourbon and Rye
Convention of the Cordials and
Wines

George Whitefield Chadwick/Bowlin*
"Jubilee" from *Symphonic Sketches*

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

31st

**Auditorium of the
National Academy of Sciences**
Captain Dennis R. Burian, conducting

U.S. MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Johann Sebastian Bach/ Soldan
Suite No. 3 in D, BWV 1068

Carl Stamitz
Clarinet Concerto No. 3 in B-Flat
Barbara Haney, clarinet

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Six German Dances, K. 571

Ludwig van Beethoven
Symphony No. 1 in C, Op. 21

For 24-hour
concert information
call (202) 433-4011

APRIL CALENDAR

7th

**Center for the Arts
George Mason University**

Colonel John R. Bourgeois, conducting

John Philip Sousa*
March, "Power and Glory"

Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov/Miller
Russian Easter Overture, Op. 36

Richard Wagner/Bourgeois*
Prelude to *Parsifal*

Pietro Mascagni/Brinkmann
Intermezzo Sinfonico from
Cavalleria Rusticana

David R. Holsinger
"The Deathtree" from A Passion
Cantata for Band

John Philip Sousa*
"Easter Monday on the
White House Lawn"

Stephen Adams
words by F.E. Weatherly
Vocal Solo, "The Holy City"
Michael Ryan, baritone

Ottorino Respighi/Duker
The Pines of Rome

14th & 17th

**April 14 — Center for the Arts
George Mason University**

**April 17 —
Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall**
Colonel John R. Bourgeois, conducting

John Philip Sousa*/Byrne*
March, "El Capitan" (1896)

*Celebrating the 100th anniversary
of its composition*

Giuseppe Verdi/Cailliet
Overture to *Nabucco*

Ron Nelson
Courtly Airs and Dances

Warren Benson
"The Solitary Dancer"

Thomas Knox*
First Symphony
Premiere performances

Carl Teike/Bourgeois*
March, "Old Comrades"

Thomas Knox*
American Hymn Variant
"... and grace will lead me home."

**Jerome Kern and Oscar
Hammerstein II/Bulla***
A Show Boat Revue
Michael Ryan, baritone

Thomas Knox*
"American Pageant"

21st

**Center for the Arts
George Mason University**
Major Timothy W. Foley, conducting

Bob Margolis
Terpsichore (after Michael Praetorius)

Morton Gould
Derivations for Clarinet and Band
Lisa Kadala, soloist

Fisher Tull
Sketches on a Tudor Psalm

Maurice Ravel/Knox*
Song Cycle, "Don Quichotte à Dulcinée"
Michael Ryan, baritone

Jules Massenet/Reynolds
Ballet Music from *Le Cid*

John Philip Sousa*
March, "A Century of Progress"

28th

**Center for the Arts
George Mason University**
Major Timothy W. Foley, conducting

Paul Dukas
Fanfare from *La Péri*

Paul Dukas/Winterbottom
Symphonic Scherzo,
"The Sorcerer's Apprentice"

Paul Dukas/Britten
Horn Solo, "Villanelle"
Kristin Davidson, soloist

Bernard Rands
"Ceremonial"

Witold Lutoslawski/Heffler*
Clarinet Solo, Dance Preludes
Ruth Schlenker, soloist

Bernard Rogers
Three Japanese Dances
Dance with Pennons
Mourning Dance
Dance with Swords

John Philip Sousa*
March, "We Are Coming"

Charles Ives/Sinclair
March, "They Are There!"



BAND MEMBER NEWS

STAFF LINES

MSgt William J. Zsembery

Principal Horn

Birthday: March 9, 1950

Hometown: Holbrook, NY

Family status: Married to Joyce

Children: Rachel, 17, and Will, 15

Pets: a golden retriever named Mollie

Joined the band: May 1980

Professional experience before Marine Band:

Principal Horn, Albany (NY) Symphony Orchestra, and office supply salesperson

Education: BA, State University of New York (Fredonia); MM, Manhattan School of Music

Most influential teachers: Richard Moore and Philip Farkas

Self-portrait: Quiet (except when angry), impatient, hardworking, a tease

Favorite saying or motto: "Music is more than the notes."

Greatest accomplishment: My children

Favorite piece of music: Richard Strauss' *Ein Heldenleben*

Pet peeves: Flavored coffee and latté, inane questions in rehearsals, wasting time

Most memorable moment in band: The 1990 tour of the Soviet Union

Inspiration: The playing and teaching of Philip Farkas, the poems of Robert Frost

Favorite movie: *Jeremiah Johnson*

Who would play you in a movie: Alan Alda

Best kept secret: I have played *Ein Heldenleben* on the parade deck (during a march, instead of the afterbeats!)

Favorite food: It used to be fried chicken but now (unfortunately) it is grilled skinless breast of chicken

Hobbies: Fly fishing, backpacking, woodworking, baking bread, reading

Bad habits: Drinking too much coffee, not sleeping, being impatient (Is there a pattern here?)

Three things always found in my refrigerator: Sam Adams ale, apples, coffee beans

Luxury defined: A long day fly fishing on the Yellowstone River in Montana with a bottle of vintage port waiting at the cabin

Books at bedside: J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, Harry Middleton's *Rivers of Memory*, a dictionary

Walter Mitty Fantasy: To play Principal Horn in the Chicago Symphony during a performance of *Ein Heldenleben*

Place you'd most like to be stranded: The Catskill Mountains (with a backpack and flyrod)

Last words: "I can't complain—dying while climbing Mt. McKinley at the age of 110 isn't so bad."



Vacancy Announcements

Auditions will be held for the following vacancies:

- B-flat Clarinet** on March 18
- Cornet/Trumpet** on April 22
- Trombone** on April 29
- Euphonium** on May 4
- Viola** on May 6
- Saxophone** on May 13
- Violin** on June 3

For information, please write to:
Operations Officer
U.S. Marine Band
8th and I Streets, SE
Washington, DC 20390-5000
or call (202) 433-5714 between
7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time.

See the next issue of NOTES
for information about
Colonel Bourgeois' final concert
as Marine Band Director in a
change of command ceremony
on July 11.



**Colonel Bourgeois and
cornetist SSgt J. Frederick Marcellus
appeared with the Montgomery County
Youth Orchestra at the 1995 Mid-West
Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, IL.
Olivia Gutoff, SSgt Marcellus' mother, is
the orchestra's director and shared the
podium with Colonel Bourgeois.**

The Storms of '22 and '96



Marine Band musicians rescue victims of the Knickerbocker Theater collapse. (c)1922, *The Washington Post*. Reprinted with permission.

The Blizzard of '96 has been compared to the 1922 Knickerbocker storm, named after one of the greatest disasters in Washington history. On January 28, 1922, the Knickerbocker Theater collapsed under nearly two feet of snow, killing 98 people. Musicians from "The President's Own" were dispatched to carry out casualties.

Despite a blizzard that virtually shut down the Washington, DC, metropolitan area in January, two Marine Band musicians — harpist Staff Sergeant Karen Grimsey and keyboardist Master Gunnery Sergeant Charles Corrado — plowed through more than 17 inches of snow to keep their musical commitments.

White House Highlights

Recent Marine Band appearances at the White House included:

- Reception prior to the **Kennedy Center Honors** program on December 3
- **Pageant of Peace** reception on December 6

NOTES

"THE PRESIDENT'S OWN"
United States Marine Band
Public Affairs Office
Marine Barracks
8th and I Streets, SE
Washington, DC 20390-5000
Colonel John R. Bourgeois, Director
Public Affairs Office: (202) 433-5809



U.S. Marine Band photos