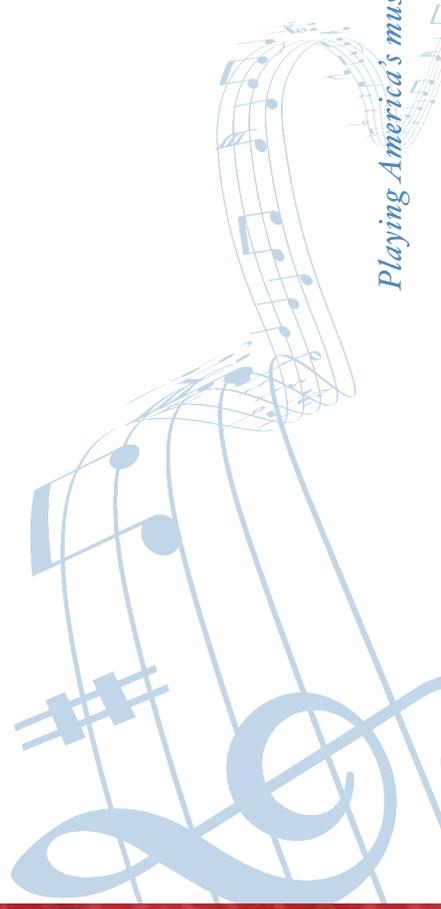


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UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

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March
April

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notes



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The following article about former Marine Band principal trumpet John Hagstrom is based on an interview conducted Dec. 15, 2009, by Colonel Michael J. Colburn and Historian Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Ressler at Symphony Center in Chicago. Hagstrom, a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) trumpet section, will return to the Washington area to perform with the U.S. Marine Band on March 15 at The Music Center at Strathmore.

Chicago is always bustling at Christmas time. This is also true for Symphony Center where Col. Colburn and Master Gunnery Sgt. Ressler met with former Marine Band member John Hagstrom during the week of the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago to discuss his upcoming performance with “The President’s Own.” The mini reunion was squeezed in between the CSO’s grueling holiday performance schedule and the band’s conference commitments. Upon arrival to the green room, Col. Colburn and Hagstrom jokingly arranged their chairs the way they were seated on the 1992 tour bus—with an aisle between them. The two former Marine Band principal brass players (Col. Colburn joined in 1987 as a euphonium player and Hagstrom in 1989) quickly began to reminisce about parade music, memorable performances with Colonel John R. Bourgeois, tour bus parties, and Hagstrom’s tenure with the band.

A native Chicagoan, Hagstrom earned his bachelor’s degree at the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester in N.Y. While pursuing post-graduate studies at Wichita State University in Kansas, he decided to ride along with a colleague to take the Marine Band audition for cornet. At the time, the Marine Band held separate auditions for trumpet and cornet.

Hagstrom knew, based on his experience at Eastman, that obtaining a job as a professional musician would not be an easy task. Of the 21 auditionees that day, Hagstrom found himself one of three finalists; another was the colleague with whom he had made the journey. “It was a quiet trip home,” Hagstrom joked when he returned to Kansas with a job offer from “The President’s Own.”

Prior to his audition, Hagstrom had never seen the Marine Band perform but was quite aware of its reputation. His first exposure to a military band was in the 1980s on a family trip to Washington, D.C. During the vacation he attended a United States Air Force Band concert at the U.S. Capitol and following the event he met a member of their trumpet section. It was this early exposure to a premier military band, coupled with listening to their recordings during high school band rehearsals, that made a big impression on the young musician.

Hagstrom enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in the summer of 1989 and reported to the band during an interesting time of the year—“homeguard.” During tour, the musicians who remain in Washington are considered to be on homeguard status and fulfill all commitments, including White House events, full honors funerals, patriotic openers, and educational appearances.

During this era in the Marine Band, homeguard included the Marine Band’s annual graveside tribute to its 17th Director, John Philip Sousa, at Congressional Cemetery in southeast Washington, D.C. Due to inclement weather conditions that year, the band opted to send a lone trumpeter, Staff Sergeant John Hagstrom, to render “Taps.” This was his first performance as a member of the band. Hagstrom recalls being so nervous that he “arrived two hours early just to warm up.” Unfortunately he, Assistant Director then-First Lieutenant Dennis R. Burian, and Operations Assistant then-Staff Sgt. William Perry were the only three in attendance that rainy day.

With his first performance under his belt, Hagstrom quickly began making his mark in the Marine Band. When he auditioned for “The President’s Own,” the audition process consisted only of a difficult sight-reading session and a prepared solo piece. Hagstrom encouraged then-Major Timothy W. Foley to reshape the process to include prepared



1992 National Concert Tour publicity photo from left: Cornet soloists Staff Sgts. Richard Lehman, John Hagstrom and Frederick Marcellus

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WHITE HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS



Recent appearances by “The President’s Own” at the White House include:

- “In Performance at the White House” Classical Music Reception
- Veterans’ Day Breakfast
- Congressional Spouses’ Luncheon
- Senior Health Care Event
- Tea for Women in the Military
- Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award Event
- State Arrival Ceremony and State Dinner Welcoming His Excellency Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of the Republic of India
- Official Pardoning of the Thanksgiving Turkey
- Thanksgiving Day Reception
- White House Christmas Tree Presentation
- Residence Staff Reception
- Friends and Family Holiday Receptions
- Kennedy Center Honors Reception
- Congressional Ball
- Menorah Lighting and Hanukkah Reception
- Senior Staff Dinner

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March of the Month
“From Eagle to Star”
William F. Santelmann*

New Music Corner

It perched for Vespers nine
Joel Puckett

APRIL

March of the Month
“The Federal”
John Philip Sousa*

Director’s Choice

Dwellers of the Western World
John Philip Sousa*

*Member, U.S. Marine Band

For more information, visit www.marineband.usmc.mil and click on Audio Resources.

WHITE HOUSE EASTER EGG ROLL

By Staff Sergeant Brian Rust

*John Philip Sousa stood on a stand,
Directing the music of the Marine Band.
Their red coats were brilliant;
their instruments shone,
Every trumpet and flute and golden trombone.
Hand-clapping, toe-tapping, music fast and slow,
People laughing, children dancing—moving to and fro.*

These lines, taken from the book *The White House Easter Egg Roll* by C. L. Arbelbide, colorfully describe the Marine Band’s inaugural performance of the annual Easter Monday event on the White House lawn. The White House Easter Egg Roll, which draws flocks of children and their families onto the South Lawn of the White House for egg rolling and other games, has become a yearly tradition that dates back to 1878; however, it wasn’t until 1889 that President Benjamin Harrison first invited John Philip Sousa and the Marine Band to perform during the celebration.

“It is a thrill to be a part of the time-honored practice of rolling Easter eggs on the White House South Lawn on Easter Monday,” said Marine Band historian Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Ressler. “It has become a great tradition for the Marine Band and we look forward to being a part of the festivities every year.”

Egg rolling on the Monday after Easter had long been a custom in Washington. Sometime after the end of the Civil War, egg rolling became particularly popular on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol because the steep terraces on the West Front made perfect hills for the colored eggs to roll down. As the Easter activities on the Capitol grounds continued year after year, several congressmen complained of the noisy children running about, the eggshells littering the grounds,

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Former Marine Band Director Colonel John R. Bourgeois conducts the Marine Band at the White House Easter Egg Roll during the Reagan administration.

excerpts that would better demonstrate the individual's musicianship.

While in the band, Hagstrom worked diligently to complete his degree at Wichita State University in the spring of 1990. His first solo appearance with the band was on Aug. 25, 1990, at the U.S. Capitol, where he performed Clifton Williams' "Dramatic Essay" under the baton of Maj. Foley.

"Soon after John joined the band he began to stand out as a very talented musician and a hard worker," Master Gunnery Sgt. Ressler said. "The time and energy he put into his playing was noticed and his serious and thoughtful approach to music making really helped him to continue to advance as a player. I am not surprised at the tremendous success he has enjoyed."

In addition to a rigorous self-imposed practice schedule, Hagstrom attributes much of his early success in the Marine Band to Col. Foley and Captain Frank Byrne, USMC (Ret.), former Executive Assistant to the Director. "They took an interest in me and took the time to listen to my concerns and questions. They took my energy and taught me how to channel it a certain way," Hagstrom notes.

Hagstrom continued to make strides in the band, and in the summer of 1990 he transitioned into the trumpet section. That fall, he was selected as a tour soloist; he and principal trumpet Master Gunnery Sergeant Carlton Rowe performed George Frideric Handel's Entrance of Queen of Sheba from *Solomon* 10 times throughout tour. In 1992, Hagstrom performed at the wedding of President George H. W. Bush's daughter Dorothy at Camp David, the only wedding ever held at the presidential retreat. By 1993, Hagstrom was appointed principal trumpet, where he remained until his departure in 1996. By the end of his Marine Band career, he had performed numerous solos and completed five tours, one to each region of the country.

"John Hagstrom is one of the most dedicated and hardest working musicians I've ever worked with," current Marine Band principal trumpet Master Gunnery Sgt. Kurt Dupuis states. "His knowledge of the instrument and his pursuit of new innovations have made a positive impact on many trumpeters."

Following his service in the Marine Band, Hagstrom returned to Kansas where he became a professor of trumpet at Wichita State University and principal trumpet of the Wichita Symphony. In 1996, Hagstrom won the audition for fourth trumpet in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and a year later, he won the position of second trumpet.

According to Hagstrom, "It [the Marine Band] prepares you in a way that no school can, specifically regarding work ethic. ... Playing in the band allowed me to physically orient myself on playing the C-trumpet, the instrument of the orchestra."

By performing with the Marine Band early in his career, Hagstrom felt he gained "a lot of momentum for my playing," but explained that not many people in the orchestra world have taken the same path [military band] that he had to obtain an orchestral position. He did, however, find what he calls a "kindred spirit" in Adolph "Bud" Herseth, principal trumpet of the CSO from 1948-2001. Herseth served in Navy bands during World War II and Hagstrom found that despite their 45-year age difference they had a similar "mission-

driven vision,"—a vision that he believes was derived from their experience in military bands. Although Hagstrom's background is unique, he is not the only former Marine Band musician in the CSO. In fact, he's not the only alum in his section. In 2002, Tage Larsen joined the CSO as

fourth/utility trumpet. Larsen played cornet with "The President's Own" from 1995-99.

"John Hagstrom is one of the most dedicated and hardest working musicians I've ever worked with. His knowledge of the instrument and his pursuit of new innovations have made a positive impact on many trumpeters."

MARINE BAND PRINCIPAL TRUMPET MGYSGT KURT DUPUIS

Performing at Strathmore

Hagstrom's solo with the Marine Band, Larry Bitensky's *Awake, You Sleepers!*, can be heard at 8 p.m., Monday, March 15 at The Music Center at Strathmore. Bitensky wrote the piece for Hagstrom and offers the following about the work:

The ancient instrument known as the shofar, or ram's horn, has a special place in the Jewish tradition. Legend recounts that its sound was heard at the giving of the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai, the tumbling walls of Jericho, as a call for battle, and that its sound will be heard to herald a messianic era. The instrument has survived through post-Biblical and contemporary times and features prominently in the liturgy of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. The blowing of the shofar in the Rosh Hashanah service is a call for repentance, symbolically awakening the sleeper from a moral and spiritual slumber.

Each of the three movements of *Awake, You Sleepers!* is based on one of the three calls associated with the blowing of the shofar. Tekiah is a long note rising in pitch; shevarim is three shorter notes; and teruah is a long repeated staccato blast. Each movement is also preceded by well-known verses from the Rosh Hasha-

continued on page 6

CONCERT PROGRAMS

MARINE BAND

2 PM | Sunday, March 7

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Major Jason K. Fettig, conducting

FOLK FESTIVAL

Percy Grainger
English Morris Dance, "Shepherd's Hey"

Dorothy Chang
Sunan Dances (2002)

Alexander Arutiunian/arr. de Meij
Tuba Concerto (1992)
GySgt Mark Thiele, soloist

Maurice Ravel/trans. Bowlin*
Rhapsodie espagnole

Eric Whitacre
Ghost Train

Charles Ives/trans. Elkus
Memories, Very Pleasant and Rather Sad:
A Charles Ives Song Set
SSgt Sara Dell'Omo, mezzo-soprano

Dmitri Shostakovich/ed. Reynolds
Folk Dances

MARINE BAND

8 PM | Monday, March 15

The Music Center at Strathmore
North Bethesda, MD

Colonel Michael J. Colburn, conducting

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH: THE FORCE OF DESTINY

Giuseppe Verdi/trans. Creatore
Overture to *La Forza del destino*

Laurence Bitensky
Awake, You Sleepers! (2002)
John Hagstrom, guest trumpet soloist
Member, Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Sergei Prokofiev/trans. Patterson*
Suite from *Romeo and Juliet*

MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

2 PM | Sunday, March 21

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Captain Michelle A. Rakers, conducting

MASTERS OF THE CRAFT

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Overture to *Così fan tutte*, K. 588

Paul Hindemith
Clarinet Concerto
MGySgt Elizabeth Matera, soloist

Ludwig van Beethoven
Romance in F for Violin and Orchestra, Opus 50
SSgt Chaerim Smith, soloist

Franz Joseph Haydn
Symphony No. 86 in D

MARINE BAND

2 PM | Sunday, March 28

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Colonel Michael J. Colburn, conducting

Mark Shields, guest narrator
Commentator, "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer"

THE DREAM HOUR

Johan Svendsen/trans. Godfrey II
Carnival in Paris, Opus 9

John Philip Sousa*
March, "The Royal Welch Fusiliers"

Joseph De Luca/arr. Roberts
"Beautiful Colorado"
GySgt Matthew Summers, euphonium soloist

Johann Strauss Jr./trans. Hibbet/arr. Winter
Voices of Spring

Modest Mussorgsky/trans. Hindsley
Night on Bald Mountain

Jean Sibelius/trans. Winterbottom
Finlandia, Opus 26

Edwin Franko Goldman/arr. Lake
March, "On the Mall"

Pablo de Sarasate/trans. Knox*
Zigeunerweisen, Opus 20
SSgt Jonathan Bisesi, xylophone soloist

Frédéric Chopin/trans. Kappey
Polonaise in A, Opus 40, No. 1, "Military"

Henri Kling
"Two Little Finches"
MGySgts Cynthia Rugolo and Betsy Hill, piccolo soloists

Richard Wagner/trans. W. H. Santelmann*
Ride of the Valkyries from *Die Walküre*

John Philip Sousa*
March, "Semper Fidelis"

MARINE BAND

7:30 PM | Thursday, April 1

Bowie Center for the Performing Arts
Bowie, MD

Major Jason K. Fettig, conducting

TIME CAPSULE: 1932

John Philip Sousa*
March, "George Washington Bicentennial"

arranged by Chris Walden/adapted Bulla*
Tribute to Benny Goodman
featuring the clarinet section



John Hagstrom of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (pictured left) will perform with the Marine Band at The Music Center at Strathmore at 8 p.m., Monday, March 15. The concert is free, but tickets are required and are limited to two per request. Patrons may pick up tickets at the Strathmore Ticket Office or mail a self-addressed stamped envelope to: The Music Center at Strathmore, Attn: Marine Band Concert, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD 20852. All other Marine Band concerts are free and open to the public; no tickets required.

*Member, U.S. Marine Band

Nathaniel Shilkret
Skyward

Maurice Ravel/trans. Dupont
Bolero

George Gershwin/trans. Rogers
Cuban Overture

Randol Alan Bass
Casey at the Bat
GySgt Kevin Bennear, narrator

John Williams/trans. Lavender
Selections from American Journey

MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

2 PM | Sunday, April 11

Bishop Ireton High School Auditorium
Alexandria, VA

Colonel Michael J. Colburn, conducting

ANCIENT AIRS AND DANCES

Ottorino Respighi
Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite No. 1

Luciano Berio
Folk Songs (1964, rev. 1973)
SSgt Sara Dell'Omo, mezzo-soprano

Richard Strauss
*Suite from Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme (Der
Bürger als Edelmann)*, Opus 60 (1918)

MARINE BAND

2 PM | Sunday, April 18

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and
Arts Center, NOVA, Alexandria, VA

Captain Michelle A. Rakers, conducting

GERMAN MASTERWORKS

Featuring the winner of the 2010 Marine
Band Concerto Competition. Visit the Marine
Band Web site for more information.

Carl Teike/ed. Bourgeois*
March, "Old Comrades"

Johannes Brahms/trans. Safranek
Academic Festival Overture, Opus 80

Paul Hindemith
Symphony in B-flat for Band



SSgt Chaerim Smith (left) and MGySgt Elizabeth Matera will perform at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 21 during the Marine Chamber Orchestra's *Masters of the Craft* concert at NOVA.

Felix Mendelssohn/ed. Hogwood
Overture in C for Winds, Opus 24

Richard Strauss/trans. Hindsley
Dance of the Seven Veils from Salome

Richard Strauss/trans. Smith
Two Strauss Songs
"Allerseelen," Opus 10, No. 8 ("All Soul's Day")
"Zueignung," Opus 10, No. 1 ("Dedication")
SSgt Sara Dell'Omo, mezzo-soprano

Richard Wagner/trans. Singleton
Overture to The Flying Dutchman

MARINE CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

2 PM | Sunday, April 25

John Philip Sousa Band Hall,
Marine Barracks Annex
Washington, DC

Verne Reynolds/ed. Gbur
"Calls and Echoes" (1986)
SSgts Robert Singer and Amy McCabe, trumpet

François Devienne/ed. Voxman
Trio in F, Opus 75, No. 1
MSgt John Mula and GySgt Tracey Paddock, clarinet
MSgt Christopher McFarlane, bassoon

Mark O'Connor
Appalachia Waltz (1993)
GySgt Regino Madrid, violin
SSgt Charlie Powers, cello
GySgt Eric Sabo, double bass

Mark O'Connor
College Hornpipe
GySgt Regino Madrid, violin
SSgt Charlie Powers, cello
GySgt Eric Sabo, double bass

Johann Sebastian Bach/trans. Voxman
Allegro from Sonata No. 2 in A minor, BWV 1003
GySgt William Bernier, clarinet

SSgt Ryan McGeorge*
Tubicus Galacticus (2009)
SSgt Ryan McGeorge and GySgt Mark Jenkins, euphonium

MGySgt John Cradler and MSgt Thomas Holtz,
tuba
SSgt Michael Metzger, percussion

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart/ed. Schmid
Quintet in A for Clarinet and Strings, K. 581
GySgt Vicki Gotcher, clarinet
GySgt Erika Sato and SSgt Christopher Franke, violin
SSgt Tam Tran, viola
SSgt Charlie Powers, cello

2010 CONCERTO COMPETITION FINALS

The Marine Band is pleased to announce the
following seven finalists for the 2010 Marine
Band Concerto Competition:

- Robert Chapman of Austin, Texas
(Marimba)
- Catherine Chen of Greenwich, Conn.
(Bassoon)
- Matthew Griffith of Sheboygan, Wis.
(Clarinet)
- Matt Solis of Irving, Texas
(Euphonium)
- Austin Taylor of Plano, Texas
(Saxophone)
- John Turman of Austin, Texas
(French horn)
- Katie Velasquez of Austin, Texas
(Flute)

The finalists performed in the final round of
the competition at 2 p.m., Saturday,
Feb. 20, in the John Philip Sousa Band Hall
at the Marine Barracks Annex in southeast
Washington, D.C. This issue of *Notes* went to
print prior to the final round. Please visit
www.marineband.usmc.mil for the results.

*Application packets and information about the
2011 Marine Band Concerto Competition will be
available in late spring 2010.*

BAND MEMBER NEWS

Hagstrom continued from page 3

nah liturgy. Much of the music for *Awake, You Sleepers!* is based on Rosh Hashanah motives and melodies that occur in the German/East-European musical tradition.

Hagstrom premiered *Awake, You Sleepers!* on July 2, 2002, at the International Trumpet Guild Conference in Manchester, England. He is particularly passionate about the work because he collaborated with Bitensky on fine-tuning the dramatic elements of the piece.

“John is one of the most driven and dedicated musicians with whom I have ever worked, and I greatly look forward to this opportunity to collaborate with him once again,” Col. Colburn said. “I know that it will be a memorable experience for our musicians and our audience.”

Hagstrom feels nostalgic about returning to perform with the band 20 years after first joining and especially looks forward to playing for the Marine Band’s audience. “The bands are a place where you conjure up a spirit ... watching audience members, especially former Marines. ... It’s a great feeling because it [the performance] really means something to them. No matter how well you play, you don’t hit that same nerve in a CSO concert. During the band concerts you’re a real conduit to people’s spirit and that is something I never got tired of,” Hagstrom said.

Detailed program information about the Strathmore performance can be found on page 4. The concert is free; however tickets are required and are limited to two per request. Patrons may pick up tickets at the Strathmore Ticket Office or mail a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The Music Center at Strathmore, Attn: Marine Band Concert, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD 20852. For additional information, call (202) 433-4011 or visit www.marineband.usmc.mil.

STAFF LINES



SSgt Tam Tran

*Assistant
principal viola*

BIRTHDAY

March 12

HOMETOWN

Appleton, Wis.

EDUCATION

BM from Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, MM from the

University of Michigan in Ann Arbor

JOINED THE BAND

January 2005

SELF-PORTRAIT

Jack-of-all-trades, master of none...and I procrastinate. So basically I procrastinate, but I’m not very good at it.

FAVORITE SAYING OR MOTTO

“Named must your fear be before banish it you can.” Yoda

MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHER

Lawrence Dutton of the Emerson String Quartet

WALTER MITTY FANTASY

Writing a one-hit wonder, making a “Vanilla Ice” amount of money, buying my own tropical island, and hanging out on the beach thinking about the meaning of life with a half empty glass of water

LUXURY DEFINED

Hanging out on the beach of my tropical island, not thinking about the meaning of life with a glass of water that’s half full

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

In college, I worked the graveyard shift at a gas station, and in the summers, I worked 8-10 hours a day at a factory assembling heavy-duty welding machines. I met some interesting characters, learned a lot about life, and wondered each day if I would ever make it as a musician. Going through that experience was certainly an accomplishment and has definitely shaped who I am today.

FAVORITE FOODS

A Five Guys bacon cheeseburger, Cajun fries, and a fresh, warm Krispy Kreme doughnut

FAVORITE MOVIE

Groundhog Day. I can relate to that movie on so many levels.

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE

Bill Murray. Honorable mention goes to Shaq.

BAD HABITS

Sometimes I fish for compliments. By the way, my answers to this questionnaire are okay, right?

BEST-KEPT SECRET

After high school, I wanted to move to Colorado, find a job as a dishwasher, and snowboard everyday. I can’t figure out why, but the parents didn’t let that happen.

HOBBIES

Snowboarding and wakeboarding, although my knees are telling me to do yoga instead.

BOOK AT BEDSIDE

Cutting the Cheese by one of my high school classmates, Kathryn Purdy Pegorsch. It’s a children’s book about a mouse who is lactose intolerant.

FAVORITE PIECE OF MUSIC

“You’re Nobody ‘Til Somebody Loves You” performed by Dean Martin. I love the Rat Pack.

INSPIRATION

The parents. They sacrificed a lot and worked several jobs so that my brother and I could have a better life in America.

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN BAND

Playing in a string quartet with Itzhak Perlman and Yo-Yo Ma at the White House.

Egg Roll continued from page 2

and, as was reported by the *Evening Star*, “the wanton destruction of the grass on the terraces of the park.”

After the Egg Roll of 1876, frustrated congressmen introduced a bill that was signed into law by President Ulysses S. Grant banning egg rollers from the Capitol grounds to “protect the public property, turf and grass from destruction or injury” (*Evening Star*, April 20, 1878).

Following a rained-out Easter Monday in 1877, a small notice in the newspaper on the Saturday before Easter in 1878 mentioned the new law banning egg rollers from the Capitol grounds that year. Capitol Hill police would be onsite to enforce the law and turn away any children who showed up.

On that same Saturday, as President Rutherford B. Hayes took his daily walk, a number of egg rollers approached him and asked about the possibility of rolling eggs Easter Monday on the South Lawn of the White House. President Hayes, unfamiliar with the egg rolling tradition, consulted with his staff about the option and issued an order that any children who came to the White House on Easter Monday would be allowed to roll eggs on the South Lawn. With the Capitol grounds off limits, several children made their way to the Executive Mansion.

The Egg Roll continued on the White House grounds in the years that followed, its popularity growing each year. In 1928, 40 years after the Marine Band’s first appearance at the event, John Philip Sousa wrote a special piece in honor of the annual occasion titled “Easter Monday on the White House Lawn.” Since 1889, the Marine Band has provided the soundtrack for this special celebration entertaining thousands of children as they play games and roll eggs on a spring day at the White House.

“It’s a lot of fun seeing the schoolchildren enjoying the camaraderie and games as they experience the day in such a historic setting,” said clarinetist Master Gunnery Sergeant Charles Willett. “I always look forward to when we play Irving Berlin’s ‘Easter Parade,’ signaling the arrival of the President and First Lady. That’s a very exciting moment for all in attendance.”

In addition to the Marine Band’s performances at the annual event, Presidents have traditionally invited celebrity performers and popular children’s characters, including a larger than life-size Easter bunny. The White House Easter Egg Roll has grown tremendously since its inception in 1878, yet its purpose has remained the same: to allow children the opportunity to play in “America’s most famous backyard.” In fact, in order to attend the egg roll, it’s the adults who must be accompanied by children!

For details regarding the 2010 White House Easter Egg Roll, including information about attending, visit www.whitehouse.gov/eastereggroll.

VACANCY

“The President’s Own” announces an audition for the following:

Violin: Aug. 23-24

For information contact:

Operations Officer, U.S. Marine Band
Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, SE
Washington, DC 20390-5000

(202) 433-5714, marineband.operations@usmc.mil

Audition repertoire is available at www.marineband.usmc.mil.

IN MEMORIAM

Gunnery Sergeant William Scheneman, USMC (Ret.), of Wyomissing, Pa., passed away on Nov. 12, 2009. Gunnery Sgt. Scheneman was a euphonium player with the Marine Band from 1955-64. Prior to joining “The President’s Own,” Gunnery Sgt. Scheneman served in the Army during World War II and in the U.S. Air Force Band from 1945-55.

Master Sergeant Joseph Leo Jr., USMC (Ret.), of Oxon Hill, Md., passed away on Nov. 29, 2009. Master Sgt. Leo was a clarinetist with the Marine Band from 1942-69 and was known for his virtuosic performances.

Master Gunnery Sergeant Robert Isele, USMC (Ret.), (pictured left) of Harrisburg, Pa., passed away on Dec. 8, 2009. Master Gunnery Sgt. Isele joined the Marine Band in 1937 and quickly became principal trombone. He was one of the most frequently featured soloists in the band’s history. After retiring from “The President’s Own” in 1961, he went on to have a successful career in the National Symphony Orchestra.

MARINE BAND CONTACT INFORMATION

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