

NOTES

November - December 2001



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

Season Preview

2002 Schedule includes new venues in Maryland and Virginia

“The President’s Own” is pleased to announce its 2002 concert schedule, which includes more than 50 free performances throughout the greater Washington, DC, metropolitan area by the Marine Band, Chamber Orchestra, and chamber ensembles.

“I am already looking forward to the new concert series, which promises to be full of exciting changes,” said Director Colonel Timothy W. Foley. “This season will feature a new conductor in Staff Sergeant Jason Fettig, and we will be performing in several new venues, giving audiences fresh opportunities to hear the ensembles of ‘The President’s Own.’”

The new season begins on Sunday, January 6, with a Marine Band performance at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland College Park. Officially opened in September 2001, this “state-of-the-art,” 1,100-seat concert hall offers a beautiful design, comfortable seating, and brilliant

acoustics. Audiences will have the opportunity to enjoy a total of six Marine Band and Chamber Orchestra performances in this suburban Maryland location.



School in Arlington, VA.

“The President’s Own” will return to its most familiar venues next season, presenting four Marine Band concerts at

continued on page 4

The Marine Band and Chamber Orchestra will also give debut performances at Kraushaar Auditorium at Goucher College, marking a much-anticipated return to the Baltimore area. The band last played in Baltimore at Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in 2000.

Other new venues for the Marine Chamber Orchestra include the recently opened Rachel M. Schlesinger Auditorium and Fine Arts Center at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria, VA, and at Bishop O’Connell High

Fettig Conducts First Concerts as Assistant Director Nominee



On August 1, with a backdrop of the Washington Monument and the U.S. Capitol, two quintessentially American landmarks, Staff Sergeant Jason K. Fettig conducted his first formal concert with one of the nation’s oldest *living* landmarks: “The President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band.

SSgt Fettig’s nomination to the podium by Director Colonel Timothy W. Foley followed the retirement announcement of senior Assistant Director and Executive Officer Major Dennis R. Burian (see story on page 5).

Fettig, who joined the band as a clarinetist in December 1997, is the first Marine Band director to be selected in

his first enlistment. “I almost feel like I have skipped some steps,” he said. “This position has been my ideal all along: to be a conductor with the best band in the world—the Marine Band.”

“We are indeed fortunate to be adding Jason to our team,” Colonel Foley said. “His leadership and musicianship ensure that the Marine Band is led by the most capable hands, today and for the future.” Colonel Foley further commented that Fettig’s “gifted musical leadership and imaginative programming will contribute greatly to the success of our 2002 concert season and beyond.” A native of Manchester, NH, Fettig has

continued on page 3

Promotion

To **Master Sergeant:** Drum Major Thomas D. Kohl of Rialto, CA

Retirements

Hornist **Master Gunnery Sergeant Donald L. Dosch** of York, PA, and trombonist **Master Gunnery Sergeant John E. Schaefer** of Flint, MI, retired in October after 26 and 30 years of service, respectively, with “The President’s Own.” MGySgt Dosch earned a bachelor’s degree in music education from West Chester University in West Chester, PA, and joined the band in May 1975. MGySgt Schaefer, who earned bachelor’s degrees in music education and performance from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI, joined the band in May 1970. In addition to their musical duties with the Marine Band, both Dosch and Schaefer served as tour coordinators for the band’s annual concert tours. In this capacity, they worked closely with the Marine Band Tour Director and public affairs staff in conducting the band’s spring tour advances and supervised many logistical aspects of the tour while traveling and performing with the band in the fall.

Vacancies

“The President’s Own” announces the following audition/interview dates:

Tuba: December 3-4

Clarinet: January 11-12

Sound Technician/Recording

Engineer: February 11-22

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

Career information may be found at
www.marineband.usmc.mil

“The President’s Own” to Participate in November Birthday Celebrations

United States Marine Corps

A Marine Band brass choir under the direction of Staff Sergeant Jason K. Fettig, Assistant Director Nominee, will perform during the annual service honoring the United States Marine Corps on **Sunday, November 4**, at the Washington National Cathedral in Northwest Washington. The prelude begins at 3:30 p.m. and will be followed by a worship service. Prelude selections will include George Frideric Handel’s Overture to *Music for the Royal Fireworks* and Thomas Knox’s *American Psalms*. The worship service, which begins at 4 p.m., will include John Williams’ Liberty Fanfare and an arrangement of The Marines’ Hymn. Both the prelude and service are free and open to the public.

John Philip Sousa

On **Tuesday, November 6, at 10:30 a.m.**, the Marine Band will celebrate the life of John Philip Sousa at a graveside ceremony to honor his 147th birthday. A native of Washington, DC, Sousa was born on November 6, 1854, at 636 G Street, SE, just two blocks from historic Marine Barracks, home of “The President’s Own.”

As part of the annual ceremony, the Marine Band will place a wreath on Sousa’s grave at Congressional Cemetery, located at 1801 East E Street, SE, in Washington. The event also will include a short musical tribute to the band’s legendary 17th Director and brief remarks. Sousa’s gravesite is off the main crossroad, west of the front of the chapel. The ceremony is open to the public.

Final Honors for Fallen Marines

At Arlington National Cemetery on August 17, members of “The President’s Own” participated in funeral ceremonies for a group of 13 Marines from the 2nd Raider Battalion who lost their lives in battle 59 years earlier on Butaritari Island in the Makin Atoll.

The battalion, under the command of LtCol Evans Carlson, attacked a Japanese garrison on Butaritari at dawn on August 17, 1942. The raid was intended not only to destroy the garrison but to divert Japanese attention from Guadalcanal, where U.S. troops had landed 10 days earlier. Although the attack was successful, rain and raging waves interfered with the withdrawal and not all of the men were able to evacuate.

A total of 19 Raiders were listed as “missing in action” until their bodies were found in the fall of 1999 and identified a year later. In his eulogy, Marine Corps Commandant General James L. Jones said, “Today, the 59th anniversary of the raid on the Makin Atoll, these Marines have, at long last, reached their final resting place. They are reunited with the Nation they gallantly served and the loved ones who have clung to their memories for these many long years. They are finally home, and we welcome them.”



Celebrating 200 Years of Marine Band White House Performances



White House Photo

Music lovers, history buffs, and friends of “The President’s Own” were treated to an evening of Marine Band musical history in September with the debut of “In Performance at the White House: The President’s Own” on PBS.

Co-hosted by Gerald McRaney and Larry Gatlin and featuring Nell Carter and Toby Keith, the one-hour special celebrated 200 years of Marine Band performances at the White House with Presidential anecdotes and musical selections dating to 1801.

In her introduction, First Lady Laura Bush said, “The United States Marine Band, ‘The President’s Own,’ has been at the side of our Chief Executive throughout American history. In times of triumph, at moments of tragedy, and on days of celebration, the Marine Band has filled this house with music that always hit the right note.”

Wolf Trap Holiday Tradition Continues

Ring in the holidays with the Marine Band on **Sunday, December 2, at 4 p.m.** at the 32nd annual holiday performance at Wolf Trap’s Filene Center. The performance will feature baritone vocalist Staff Sergeant Kevin Benneer. Following a prelude concert of seasonal works, the band will accompany local school, church, and community choirs in traditional holiday songs. The evening will conclude at dusk with the lighting of candles by audience members. The concert is free, tickets are not required, and free parking is available. Wolf Trap is located in Vienna, VA. For program information, call the Marine Band 24-hour Concert Information Line at (202) 433-4011. For directions and parking information, contact Wolf Trap at (703) 255-1860.

Fettig continued from page 1

been a frequent soloist with “The President’s Own” and was a featured clarinetist on the band’s premiere performances and recording of David Rakowski’s *Ten of a Kind* earlier this year. He also has served as a conductor and coordinator for the fall and winter Chamber Music Series. Outside of Washington, he has represented the band on several occasions as a guest conductor, soloist, instructor, and clinician.

While the band is on its national concert tour this fall, Fettig is responsible for conducting the “home guard” band which remains in Washington to fulfill White House and other ceremonial commitments.

“I will miss playing clarinet and playing in the band as a whole, but I consider it a small sacrifice to be able to work with the group in a way I never would have done otherwise,” he said. “For me, conducting generates an extra spark in music making that is harder to achieve as a player than as a director.”

Fettig holds two bachelor degrees from the University of Massachusetts Amherst: clarinet performance (1997), and music education with an emphasis in conducting (1998). Prior to joining the Marine Band, he was principal clarinet with the American Wind Symphony Orchestra in Pittsburgh, PA, and a member of the Massachusetts Wind Orchestra in Amherst and Boston.

He was associate conductor with the UMass Chamber Choir and the Granite Winds and also has conducted the Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble, the Chamber Winds of New Hampshire, and the UMass Symphony Band. In addition, he took first prize in the International Clarinet Association’s Young Artist Competition in 2000. Fettig currently resides in Arlington, VA, with his wife, Lydia.

Barclay Commissioned



John R. Barclay, Executive Assistant to the Director, was commissioned a captain by Director Colonel Timothy W. Foley in an August 10 ceremony held in John Philip Sousa Band Hall. During the ceremony, Colonel Richard T. Tryon, Commanding Officer of Marine Barracks Washington, and Captain Frank P. Byrne (Ret.), the band’s former Executive Assistant to the Director, pinned the new shoulder rank insignia. Sergeant Major Dennis S. Frye of Marine Corps Base Quantico and Captain Barclay’s wife, Dina, pinned his collar rank insignia.

Encore at White House Visitors Center

Completing a tour of Presidential Libraries around the country, the Marine Band Bicentennial exhibit has returned to the White House Visitors Center in Washington, DC.

The 10-panel exhibit, which debuted at the Visitors Center in the summer of 1998, incorporates nearly 60 photographs and documents covering topics ranging from the band's history and the origins of "Hail to the Chief" to the use of music as a tool of diplomacy.

After being viewed by nearly 1 million visitors in Washington, the exhibit was displayed at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library in Grand Rapids, MI; the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont, OH; the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene, KS; and the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda, CA.

The exhibit will be displayed in Washington until January 14, 2002, and can be accessed through the "Visiting" section at www.whitehousehistory.org.

2002 Season

continued from page 1

George Mason University's Center for the Arts in Fairfax, VA, five chamber ensemble concerts at the Coolidge Auditorium in the Library of Congress, and four chamber ensemble programs at the John Philip Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks. The band also is scheduled for Mary Washington College's Dodd Auditorium in Fredericksburg, VA, where they have performed the past two years for capacity audiences.

All performances are free and open to the public; no reservations or tickets are required. Additional concerts will be announced in future editions of *NOTES*.

For more information, please visit www.marineband.usmc.mil or call the Marine Band 24-hour Concert Information Line at (202) 433-4011.

2002 Concert Season Schedule

Sunday, January 6 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at UMD

Wednesday, January 9 at 8 p.m.:
Chamber Ensembles at LOC

Sunday, January 20 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at GMU

Sunday, January 27 at 2 p.m.:
Chamber Orchestra at GC

Sunday, February 3 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at GMU

Wednesday, February 6 at 8 p.m.:
Chamber Ensembles at LOC

Sunday, February 17 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at GMU

Sunday, February 24 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at UMD

Sunday, March 3 at 2 p.m.:
Chamber Orchestra at Northern Virginia Community College's Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard Street, Alexandria, VA

Wednesday, March 6 at 8 p.m.:
Chamber Ensembles at LOC

Sunday, March 17 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at Mary Washington College's Dodd Auditorium, 1301 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA

Sunday, March 24 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at UMD

Sunday, March 31 at 2 p.m.:
Chamber Orchestra at GC

Sunday, April 7 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at UMD

Wednesday, April 10 at 8 p.m.:
Chamber Ensembles at LOC

Sunday, April 21 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at GC

Sunday, April 28 at 2 p.m.: Brass and Percussion Ensembles at JPS

Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m.:
Chamber Orchestra at UMD

Sunday, May 12 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at GMU

Sunday, May 19 at 2 p.m.:
Marine Band at UMD

Wednesday, May 22 at 8 p.m.:
String Ensembles at LOC

June, July, and August: Outdoor concerts by the Marine Band at 8 p.m., Wednesdays at the U.S. Capitol Building; Sundays at the Sylvan Theatre on the Washington Monument grounds

Chamber Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, June 15, July 20, and August 10, at Bishop O'Connell High School, 6600 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA

October: Chamber ensembles at 2 p.m., Sundays, October 13, 20, and 27, at JPS

2002 Concert Tour: In October and November, the Marine Band will visit northern and eastern Maryland, Delaware, northern and eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine.

Schedule subject to change

Concert Venues

UMD: University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Stadium Drive and Route 193 (University Boulevard), College Park, MD

LOC: The Coolidge Auditorium in the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress, 10 1st Street, SE, Washington, DC

GMU: George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, Braddock Road and Route 123, Fairfax, VA

GC: Goucher College's Kraushaar Auditorium, Baltimore Beltway (I-695) and Dulaney Valley Road South (exit 27-A), Towson, MD

JPS: John Philip Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks, 8th & I Streets, SE, Washington, DC

Band Bids Farewell to Assistant Director Major Dennis R. Burian

Marine Band members, family, and friends gathered on September 14 in John Philip Sousa Band Hall to honor the 32-year career of Major Dennis R. Burian, senior Assistant Director and Executive Officer of “The President’s Own.”

During Major Burian’s retirement ceremony, Director Colonel Timothy W. Foley presented him with the Meritorious Service Medal. The award citation, signed by Commandant of the Marine Corps General James L. Jones, stated, “[Major Burian’s] corporate knowledge and experience, coupled with his outstanding judgment and leadership ability, have greatly contributed to the effectiveness of the United States Marine Band at all levels.

“As an instrumental musician, an administrator, and a conductor, Major Burian’s talent, foresight, and

uncommon devotion to the organization have helped shape and guide the band’s image and reputation it enjoys worldwide.”

Former Marine Band Executive Officer LtGen Raymond P. Ayres, Jr.,



Commander of the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Atlantic, was unable to officiate the ceremony as planned due to the terrorist attacks of September 11. In a message to Major Burian read by Colonel Foley, LtGen Ayres said, “My time at the band was miniscule compared to others, but my heart has never left. It’s because of Marines such as you that I have always felt I belonged there. You need never look back and ask if you made a difference, because you did.”

In his remarks, Colonel Foley reflected upon his friendship with Major Burian and further highlighted his contributions to the Marine Band. “Major Burian epitomizes our motto, ‘Semper Fidelis,’” Colonel Foley said. “Statesmanship, modesty, integrity, fidelity, and loyalty...these are the qualities that distinguish his legacy of military service.”

GySgt Claudia Chudacoff Assistant Concertmaster



Birthday: November 15, 1963

Hometown: Ann Arbor, MI

Family: Married to Alan; daughters Sophia, 4, and Madeleine, 1

Education: BM and MM from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY

Joined the band: January 1991

Self-portrait: Warm, hard-working, fair, funny once you know me

Greatest accomplishment: Still to come!

Pet peeves: I’m working on it, but I still see computers and e-mail as more of a nuisance than anything else.

Most memorable moment in band: When nearly all of the living U.S. Presidents were assembled within several feet of the orchestra to listen to us play in celebration of 200 years of Marine Band performances at the White House

Inspiration: Music, nature, human strength

Favorite movie: I don’t go to movies.

Favorite foods: Sushi and ice cream

Hobbies: Reading

Bad habits: I love clutter-free existence but can’t seem to maintain it.

Three things always found in your refrigerator:

Condiments (hot sauces, mustards), Half-and-Half, and Rose’s Lime Juice (it never goes away!)

Most influential teachers: Michael Avsharian of Ann Arbor, Zri Zeitlin of Eastman

Professional experience before the band: Assistant Concertmaster, Louisville (KY) Orchestra; First Violin Section, Louisville Orchestra

Luxury defined: My definition has changed since having children—now it’s more than four hours of sleep in a row!

Books at bedside: Again, this has changed for the same reason. Right now I have short stories by Ethan Canin, David Sedaris, and Margaret Atwood. Also, thanks to my husband we have had *Radio Designer Handbook* (1938) at our bedside for years. I have found that it makes a good coaster.

Favorite piece of music: This always changes with what I am preparing. Right now I’m working on Bartok’s String Quartet, No. 3. A few months ago I was learning Beethoven’s String Quartet, Op. 131. Of course, almost anything by Bach.

Place you’d most like to be stranded: A beautiful, clean private beach

Last words: “Every day of life is a precious gift.” I hope to still feel that way by then.