



*"The President's Own"*

# UNITED STATES MARINE BAND NEWSLETTER

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1985

PUBLISHED FOR FRIENDS OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

## HOME GUARD: FULL SCHEDULE

While members of the 1985 tour band bring the Marine Band's music to America, musicians remaining in Washington find plenty to keep them busy.

The "Home Guard" band, under the direction of LtCol Charles Erwin, provides musical support for the White House and performs the other ceremonial jobs assigned to the Band. The Home Guard kicked off its fall season 8 Sept., the same day the tour band departed Washington, with Sunday concerts at the Smithsonian's turn-of-the-century style National Bandstand.

This year the Home Guard will once again present its popular "Kiddie Concerts" to approximately 4,500 elementary school students. These hour-long programs begin at the end of September and are designed to promote an appreciation of music among the children.

The students are escorted from their buses to Sousa Band Hall and then the fun

begins. Musical skits encourage participation from the young audiences while teaching them the names and sounds of several instruments. A medley of Michael Jackson tunes had the youngsters clapping and singing along last year. LtCol Erwin even invites some lucky boys and girls to take center stage and conduct the Band. It's hard to tell who enjoys the show more -- the children, their teachers or the musicians themselves.

## BRASS CHOIR PERFORMS

The Marine Band Brass Choir will present a special concert Sunday, Nov. 3, 1985 at 3:30 p.m. at the Washington National Cathedral.

Services observing the 210th anniversary of the U.S. Marine Corps will follow at 4 p.m. during which the Marine Brass Choir will also perform.

This performance is free and the public is invited. No tickets are required.

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

# First Anniversary Issue!

Dear Friend of the Marine Band:

One year ago, that salutation opened the first issue of our Marine Band Newsletter and it is hard to believe that this will mark the first anniversary.

Tradition is an important word around the Marine Band and, judging from your response to the Newsletter, we believe it will be around for many years to come. Our ever-expanding mailing list has grown to nearly 6,000 individuals, schools and organizations around the world and we have received many, many letters about the Newsletter and about our monthly program mailings.

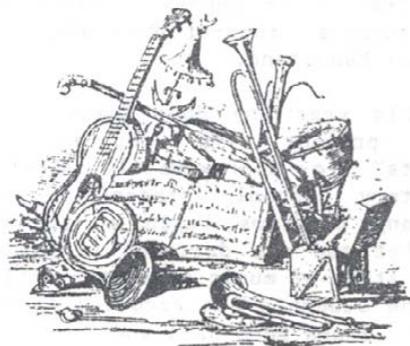
We appreciate hearing from you and it lets us know that our Newsletter and program mailings are important to you, our audiences. The July, 1985 issue of Band International, the journal of the International Military Music Society, contained a lengthy editorial on the subject of variety in programming. In closing, the author wrote, "As examples are better than dissertations, the reader is invited to turn to the centre double-page." There, reprinted in its entirety, was the complete Marine Band program listing for our Spring Concerts last May.

Similar interest in our activities and programming was expressed by many people to Colonel Bourgeois when he attended the conference of the World Association of Symphonic Bands and

Ensembles in Kortrijk, Belgium. Through our Newsletter, our monthly program mailings and our Concert Information Line, our goal is to keep you informed and to be responsive to your requests for information about your United States Marine Band.

Whether it be here in Washington or for our friends around the country and abroad, we hope we will provide you with news and information which will help you feel part of our "Friends of the Marine Band" family. Thank you again for your interest in and support of "The President's Own."

The Marine Band Public Affairs Staff



# A LITTLE DINNER MUSIC?

Performing at official state dinners is one of the ways the Marine Band provides musical support for the president. In fact, musicians from "The President's Own" perform at every state dinner.

The Marine Band (in several forms) figured prominently in one state dinner held recently honoring Danish Prime Minister Poul Schlueter. Such dinners are held for heads of government who visit Washington to meet with the chief executive.

For White House state dinners, many alternate plans are made to cope with any foreseeable occurrence (i.e. inclement weather) and these plans extend to the Band, geared for versatility and readiness in any event.

As planned, the Marine Orchestra, conducted by LtCol Charles Erwin, performed in the foyer as the guests arrived at the executive mansion. The Orchestra normally plays light American popular music to create a relaxed atmosphere. During dinner, the Orchestra performs standard classical selections. The director usually performs a selection by a composer from the honored guest's native country. On this occasion, LtCol Erwin featured "Little Suite," Op. 1 by Danish composer Carl Nielsen.

When the president, the first lady and Prime Minister and Mrs. Schlueter descended the grand staircase into the foyer, the Orchestra played "Hail America." "Ruffles and Flourishes" preceded the formal introduction of the first couple and their guests and was followed by "Hail to the Chief." Then

the usual order of events -- dinner, entertainment, dancing -- was followed with only the wheres and hows changed.

It had been planned that the Marine Show Band would accompany singer Vic Damone during his after-dinner show in the Rose Garden. When impending rain moved the show indoors to the East Room, the Show Band's brass section was sent home since there would have been too many musicians and too much sound for this setting.

The rest of the Marine Show Band musicians along with most of the Marine string players ran through new musical arrangements at about 3 p.m. Damone and his conductor are reported to have been well pleased that evening with the performances and the versatility of these musicians of "The President's Own." They were also surprised to learn that the string players had been serenading guests before and during dinner in addition to playing with Damone.

Following the entertainment, guests danced in the White House foyer to music provided by the Marine Dance Band, an eight-piece combo led by MCySgt Dennis Burian.

What songs do White House guests dance to? At the first lady's request, "Shall We Dance?" typically starts the guests dancing. This is usually followed by "society" tunes, songs whose two-beat rhythms allow most people to dance. The president and first lady enjoy the music of Cole Porter, George Gershwin and other music of the American Broadway stage.

## WHITE HOUSE TOUR

One of the most frequent comments from our audiences is: "I wish I could hear the Marine Band play at the White House." If you're in Washington, D.C. on 13 Oct., that's your opportunity.

The White House grounds will be open to the public from 2 to 5 p.m. on that date for the Fall Garden Tour. "The President's Own" will entertain guests from 2 to 3:15 p.m.

These tours, presented twice yearly in the Spring and Fall, are sponsored by the White House Visitors Office.

## SOUSA BIRTH REMEMBERED

On 6 Nov. each year, the Marine Band visits the Congressional Cemetery gravesite of its former leader, John Philip Sousa, to commemorate his birth. The ceremony consists of musical selections, brief remarks and a wreath laying.

Congressional Cemetery is the burial site of many prominent Americans and a number of former Marine Band members, including Sousa's father, Antonio.

## DINNER...

Other Marine Band musicians were at the ready for this state dinner. The Woodwind Quintet and a pianist were to have played outdoors. Due to the weather, these musicians were not used.

At a phone call from the White House, "The President's Own" is prepared to cover just about any musical need. The Marine Band has had a while to get used to the flexibility required to serve the president. January 1, 1986 marks the Marine Band's 185th year of service to the White House.

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### REENLISTMENTS

MSgt Frank N. Del Piano, Percussion

### NEW ENLISTMENTS

SSgt Steven M. Matera, Cornet

SSgt Bradley T. Weaver, Tuba

SSgt Maribeth A. Warfield, French Horn

SSgt Charles F. Findley, Clarinet

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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.