

September - October 2004

NOTES



Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Colburn leads "The President's Own" for the first time as 27th Director at the Change of Command Concert and Ceremony held July 17, 2004.

PUBLISHED FOR THE FRIENDS OF "THE PRESIDENT'S OWN"

A Letter to Our Patrons

It is with tremendous excitement, gratitude, and humility that I write this letter to you as 27th Director of “The President’s Own.” In a Change of Command ceremony on July 17, I was deeply honored to accept the ceremonial baton of John Philip Sousa from my predecessor, Colonel Timothy W. Foley. I think it only appropriate to begin my tenure as Director by thanking Colonel Foley for his 36 years of selfless dedication to the United States Marine Band.

One of the great fortunes of my life has been to work alongside Colonel Foley, who I consider to be a great musician, mentor, and friend. He has been a strong and visionary leader for this organization, taking the Marine Band to new heights in terms of its musical and ceremonial reputations. His skills as a musician and conductor are among the best ever witnessed by this organization, and are exceeded only by his modest personality and amazing lack of ego. His generosity in sharing the podium has provided me with considerable opportunity to hone my skills as a conductor and leader. The Marine Band is a stronger, healthier, and more professional organization as a result of his gifted leadership, and I wish Colonel Foley the happiest of retirements.

One of the first questions any new leader faces is: What is your vision for the organization? Understandably, people want to know how much is likely to change. As a result of having worked so collaboratively with Colonel Foley for the past eight years, we share a similar vision for the organization. In terms of music programming, organizational philosophy, and day-to-day operations, my sincere hope is that this leadership change will be largely transparent to those outside the organization.

Of course, we will continue to focus on our primary mission of musically supporting the White House and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. However, we also will maximize our opportunities to perform for the general public, presenting programs that consist of standard repertoire, classic transcriptions, marches, and valuable new works. The band’s annual concert tour will provide citizens around the country an opportunity to hear the concert band, while local Washington, D.C., audiences also will have occasions to hear our fine chamber orchestra and chamber ensembles. We will continue to feature renowned guest conductors and soloists and hope to maintain an active role in commissioning substantial new works from the finest composers. Today’s Marine Band has built a reputation as a healthy and dynamic music ensemble that is committed to honoring its past without becoming an artifact.



Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Colburn (right) accepts the John Philip Sousa baton from Colonel Timothy W. Foley at a gala Change of Command Concert and Ceremony held on July 17, 2004.

Our upcoming schedule promises to be an exciting one, including a Midwest/West Coast concert tour, a performance at the Pageant of Peace for the National Christmas Tree Lighting, appearances at The Midwest Clinic, an annual international band and orchestra conference in Chicago, and participation in our 51st Presidential Inaugural, marking 204 years of consecutive involvement in this most important ceremony.

One of the biggest events looming on our horizon is an upcoming move into a brand-new rehearsal and administrative facility. The building, which will be christened the John Philip Sousa Band Hall on Nov. 6, 2004, the 150th anniversary of the “March King’s” birth, is a beautiful state-of-the-art complex that will wonderfully accommodate the ever-expanding needs of our organization. Stay tuned to *NOTES* for information and photographs of our new home.

I especially would like to thank all of you for your support of “The President’s Own,” and I look forward to sharing this magnificent ensemble with you. I hope to see you soon at a concert by “The President’s Own.”

~Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Colburn, 27th Director

White House Highlights

Recent Marine Band appearances at the White House include:

- Reception for Black Music Month
- Senate Spouses Luncheon
- Congressional Picnic
- Clinton Portraits Unveiling
- T-ball Game
- Fourth of July Fireworks



Students from the Torah School of Greater Washington in Silver Spring, Md., learn French horn fingerings from Gunnery Sergeant Mark Questad during the Marine Band's Music in the Schools program, which takes place annually in October.

In Memoriam

Master Gunnery Sergeant Charles Corrado, who served with "The President's Own" as pianist and accordionist for 41 years, passed away in June. MGSgt Corrado performed for countless public concerts and was regarded as one of the most-recognized musicians at the White House.

Master Gunnery Sergeant Frank Reda, Marine Band clarinetist from 1957-1973, passed away in July. MGSgt Reda also served nine years in the Army Field Band at Ft. Meade, Md.

Marine Band Goes West for 2004 Concert Tour

"The President's Own" United States Marine Band will depart Saturday, Oct. 2, 2004, for its annual fall concert tour, during which they will perform 44 concerts in 50 days throughout western Maryland, central West Virginia, Kentucky, southern Indiana, southern Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, and Arizona. The tour will conclude on Saturday, Nov. 20. For the complete itinerary, please see pages 3-4 and for program information, please visit www.marineband.usmc.mil/pgm_tours_1.html.

This year's tour will feature a first for the Marine Band, as Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Colburn leads the band for his inaugural tour as 27th Director.

"I am eager to take this fantastic ensemble on tour," Lieutenant Colonel Colburn said. "We always find enthusiastic audiences on our national concert tours, and nothing makes a musician happier than the sound of appreciative applause."

Lieutenant Colonel Colburn has chosen a quartet of soloists to feature on this tour, including first-time soloists from Illinois, Master Gunnery Sergeant Philip Franke, the band's principal euphonium from Quincy, who will perform Simone Mantia's "Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms" and Gunnery Sergeant Jihoon Chang, a clarinetist from Granite City, who will perform a transcription of the Finale from Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's Concerto for Violin, Opus 35.

Co-principal flutist Master Sergeant Betsy Hill from Shepherdstown, W.Va., will return for her fourth tour as a soloist performing selections from Georges Bizet's *Carmen*. Another West Virginia native, Staff Sergeant Kevin Bennear from Keyser, will return for his fifth tour performing Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's aria, "Non più andrai" from *The Marriage of Figaro* as well as medleys of Stephen Foster songs and Irish folk songs.

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Sousa Baton is Passed, 27th Director Takes Lead

On July 17, 2004, in a private ceremony preceding a gala Change of Command Concert and Ceremony, 26th Colonel Timothy W. Foley retired from the United States Marine Corps after 36 years of service. Assistant Commandant General William L. "Spider" Nyland performed the retirement ceremony, in which Colonel Foley was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and praised for many dedicated years with the Marine Band, which he joined 1968 as a clarinet player.

On July 16, 2004, Senior Assistant Director and Executive Officer Michael J. Colburn was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. Lieutenant Colonel Colburn joined the band in 1987 as a euphonium player, and was appointed Assistant Director in 1996, Executive Officer in 2001, and assumed leadership of "The President's Own" on July 17, 2004.

Earlier in July, Colonel Foley (right) participated in a historic commissioning when he promoted Staff Sergeant Michelle A. Rakers (far right) to first lieutenant. First Lieutenant Rakers became both the first female commissioned officer and first female assistant director in the band's 206-year history.



2004 TOUR ITINERARY

The 2004 concert tour itinerary follows. Dates, locations, and times are subject to change. For ticket information, call the number listed or mail a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the address below, ATTN: Marine Band Tickets. For detailed program information, visit www.marineband.usmc.mil.

Saturday, October 2, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Keyser, WV
Church-McKee Auditorium
Potomac State College of West Virginia University

Mineral Daily News-Tribune
24 Armstrong Street
Keyser, WV 26726
(304) 788-3333

Sunday, October 3, 2004, 2:30 p.m.
Oakland, MD
Southern Garrett High School Gymnasium

Garrett Lakes Arts Festival
687 Mosser Road
McHenry, MD 21541
(301) 387-3082

Monday, October 4, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Charleston, WV

Charleston Municipal Auditorium
Charleston Civic Center Box Office
200 Civic Center Drive
Charleston, WV 25301
(304) 345-7469

Tuesday, October 5, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Danville, KY
Newlin Hall, Norton Center for the Arts Centre College

Norton Center for the Arts
Centre College
600 West Walnut Street
Danville, KY 40422
(877) HIT-SHOW (448-7469)

Wednesday, October 6, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Louisville, KY

W.L. Lyons Browne Theatre
The Kentucky Center
501 West Main Street
Louisville, KY 40202
(800) 775-7777

Thursday, October 7, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Indianapolis, IN

Ben Davis High School Gymnasium
Great Lake Music Camp
Post Office Box 47604
Indianapolis, IN 46247
(317) 787-2787

Friday, October 8, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Decatur, IL

Kirkland Fine Arts Center
Millikin University
Kirkland Fine Arts Center, Millikin University
1184 West Main Street
Decatur, IL 62522-2084
(217) 424-6318

Saturday, October 9, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Quincy, IL

Morrison Theater
Quincy Junior High School
Breakfast Kiwanis
Post Office Box 178
Quincy, IL 62306-0178
(217) 228-6600

Sunday, October 10, 2004, 2:30 p.m.
St. Louis, MO

E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall
Community Music School of Webster University
Community Music School
560 Trinity Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63130
(314) 968-7426

Monday, October 11, 2004, 8 p.m.
Columbia, MO

Jesse Auditorium, University of Missouri
University of Missouri-Columbia
202 Loeb Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
(573) 882-3438

Tuesday, October 12, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Overland Park, KS

Carlson Center, Yardley Hall
Johnson County Community College
Box Office/Carlson Center
12345 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66210-1299
(913) 469-4445

Wednesday, October 13, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Lawrence, KS

The Lied Center of Kansas
The University of Kansas
Lied Center Ticket Office
1600 Stewart Drive
Lawrence, KS 66045-7502
(785) 864-2787

Friday, October 15, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Concordia, KS

Arly Bryant Gymnasium
Cloud County Community College
Cloud County Community College
Attn: President's Office
2221 Campus Drive
Concordia, KS 66901
(785) 243-1435

Saturday, October 16, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Colby, KS

Colby Community Building
Western Plains Arts Association
Colby Community College
1255 South Range Avenue
Colby, KS 67701
(785) 462-3984

Sunday, October 17, 2004, 2:30 p.m.
Greenwood Village, CO

Cherry Creek High School South Gymnasium
Cherry Creek High School Band
Attn: Tim Libby
9300 East Union Avenue
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
(720) 554-2344

Monday, October 18, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Grand Junction, CO
Grand Junction High School Auditorium

KJCT-TV Channel 8
8 Foresight Circle
Grand Junction, CO 81505-1014
(970) 245-8880

Tuesday, October 19, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Price, UT

Bunnell-Dmitrich Athletic Center
College of Eastern Utah
College of Eastern Utah
451 East 400 North
Price, UT 84501
(435) 613-5378

Wednesday, October 20, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Park City, UT

The Eccles Center
The Eccles Center
Post Office Box 1297
Park City, UT 84060
(435) 655-3114

Thursday, October 21, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Pocatello, ID

Reed Gymnasium
Idaho State University
Idaho State University Music Department
Campus Box 8099
Pocatello, ID 83209
(208) 282-3636

Friday, October 22, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Boise, ID

Morrison Center For the Performing Arts
Main Hall
Morrison Center Box Office
1910 University Drive
Boise, ID 83725-1050
(208) 426-1110

Saturday, October 23, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Pendleton, OR

Pendleton Convention Center
East Oregonian
Post Office Box 1089
Pendleton, OR 97801
(541) 276-2211

Sunday, October 24, 2004, 2:30 p.m.

Spokane, WA
Spokane Opera House
Lilac City Chapter #1116
Non Commissioned Officers Association
Post Office Box 93
Veradale, WA 99037
(509) 924-3088

Monday, October 25, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle, WA

Benaroya Hall
Benaroya Hall
200 University Street
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 215-4747

Saturday, October 30, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Portland, OR
Benson Polytechnic High School Auditorium
 8837 NE Schuyler Street
 Portland, OR 97220
 (503) 286-3962

Sunday, October 31, 2004, 2:30 p.m.
Bend, OR
Bend Senior High School Auditorium
The Bulletin
 Post Office Box 6020
 Bend, OR 97708
 (541) 382-1811

Monday, November 1, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Ashland, OR
Southern Oregon University Gymnasium
Mail-Tribune
 Post Office Box 1108
 Medford, OR 97501
 (541) 776-4411

Tuesday, November 2, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Chico, CA
Laxson Auditorium
California State University-Chico
 California State University-Chico Box Office
 400 West First Street
 Chico, CA 95929-0120
 (530) 898-6333

Wednesday, November 3, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Sparks, NV
Edward C. Reed High School Gymnasium
 Washoe County Music Department
 Post Office Box 30425
 Reno, NV 89520-3425
 (775) 348-0200

Thursday, November 4, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento, CA
Hiram Johnson High School Auditorium
 Sacramento City Unified School District
 Music Library
 4701 Joaquin Way
 Sacramento, CA 95822
 (916) 277-6375

Friday, November 5, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Stockton, CA
Warren Atherton Auditorium
Delta Center for the Arts
San Joaquin Delta College
 San Joaquin Delta College Fine Arts Division
 5151 Pacific Avenue
 Stockton, CA 95207
 (209) 954-5110

Saturday, November 6, 2004
San Jose, CA area
 Location and time to be determined. Please visit
www.marineband.usmc.mil for updates.

Sunday, November 7, 2004, 2:30 p.m.
San Francisco, CA
Nob Hill Masonic Center Auditorium
 Marines' Memorial Association
 609 Sutter Street
 San Francisco, CA 94102

Monday, November 8, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Fresno, CA
Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center
William Saroyan Theatre
Veterans Magazine
 4877 East Norwich Avenue
 Fresno, CA 93726
 (559) 291-1239

Tuesday, November 9, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Porterville, CA
Porterville Memorial "Buck Shaffer" Auditorium
The Porterville Recorder
 Post Office Box 151
 Porterville, CA 93258
 (559) 784-5000

Wednesday, November 10, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Bakersfield, CA
Bakersfield Centennial Garden & Convention Center
 University of La Verne
 Post Office Box 153
 Bakersfield, CA 93303
 (661) 328-1430

Thursday, November 11, 2004, 7 p.m.
Oxnard, CA
Oxnard Performing Arts Center
 Oxnard Chamber of Commerce
 400 Esplanade Drive
 Suite 301
 Oxnard, CA 93036
 (805) 983-6118

Saturday, November 13, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Norwalk, CA
Cerritos College Gymnasium
 Cerritos College Music Department
 11110 Alondra Boulevard
 Norwalk, CA 90650-6298
 (562) 860-2451

Sunday, November 14, 2004, 3 p.m.
San Diego, CA
Mt. Carmel High School Gymnasium
 Mt. Carmel High School Band Boosters
 9550 Carmel Mountain Road
 San Diego, CA 92064
 (858) 484-1180 ext. 3519

Monday, November 15, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
San Diego, CA
Brown Chapel
Point Loma Nazarene University
 Point Loma Nazarene University
 Music Department
 3900 Lomaland Drive
 San Diego, CA 92106-2899
 (619) 849-2325

Tuesday, November 16, 2004, 7 p.m.
Imperial, CA
DePaoli Sports Complex
 Imperial Valley College Student Affairs Office
 300 East Aten Road
 Imperial, CA 92251
 (760) 355-6455

Wednesday, November 17, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Coolidge, AZ
Pence Center for the Performing Arts
Central Arizona College
 Pence Center for the Performing Arts Office P129
 Central Arizona College
 8470 North Overfield Road
 Coolidge, AZ 85228
 (520) 426-4223

Thursday, November 18, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Sahuarita, AZ
Sahuarita Unified School District Auditorium
 Green Valley Marine Corps League
 Post Office Box 1196
 Sahuarita, AZ 85622
 (520) 399-9098

Friday, November 19, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Tucson, AZ
Flowing Wells High School Gymnasium
 Flowing Wells High School Band
 3725 North Flowing Wells Road
 Tucson, AZ 85705
 (520) 690-2281

Saturday, November 20, 2004, 7:30 p.m.
Scottsdale, AZ
Desert Mountain High School Auditorium
 Desert Mountain High School
 Band Director
 12575 East Via Linda
 Scottsdale, AZ 85259
 (480) 484-7054

Fall Concerts

Free Country
6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 4
 Harpers Ferry National Historic Park's
 Cavalier Heights Visitors Center
 Harpers Ferry, W. Va.
 Info: (304) 535-6298
 FREE, no tickets required

Marine Band
6 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 9
 College of Southern Maryland's
 Fine Arts Center
 La Plata, Md.
 Info: (301) 934-7828
 FREE, tickets required

Marine Chamber Ensembles
2 p.m., Sundays, Oct. 10-24
 George Washington Masonic National
 Memorial Auditorium
 Alexandria, Va.
 Info: (703) 683-2007
 FREE, no tickets required

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“Since the earliest tours of John Philip Sousa, soloists have been an important element of every tour concert,” Lieutenant Colonel Colburn said. “These accomplished musicians will undoubtedly knock the socks off of anyone who hears them.”

Lieutenant Colonel Colburn has designed distinctive programs for each performance to entertain a variety of audiences in the Midwest and on the West Coast. Highlights include: concerts Nov. 5-7 to honor the 150th anniversary of John Philip Sousa’s birth, special performances of works by local and regional composers, and concerts with a special focus on the men and women who served our country during World War II.

Lieutenant Colonel Colburn looks forward to this tour. “The scenery is breathtaking and the weather is wonderful,” he says, “but it is the warmth and generosity of the inhabitants of this region that always impresses me.”

While the patrons make Marine Band performances memorable, it is the sponsors who make the concerts a reality. Sponsors provide the Marine Band with a concert site, supply ushers, print and distribute tickets, execute a publicity campaign, and prepare a concert program. Admission to all concerts is free. Typically, sponsors are newspapers, radio and television stations, educational institutions, chambers of commerce, community or public service oriented organizations, and local governments.

Upcoming tour regions include the Southwest in 2005, Southeast in 2006, Northeast in 2007, and Midwest in 2008. For the states specific to each region, please visit www.marineband.usmc.mil/pgm_tours.html.

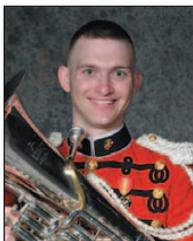
Anyone interested in pursuing sponsorship of a Marine Band tour concert may contact the National Tour Director, Mr. Dennis R. Burian, at (703) 614-1405 or buriandr@hqmc.usmc.mil.

New Members



Percussionist Staff Sergeant Jonathan Bisesi

of Orchard Park, N.Y., earned a bachelor’s degree in music from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory and a master’s degree from Boston University. Prior to joining “The President’s Own,” SSgt Bisesi was a teaching associate at Boston University and a fellow of Tanglewood Music Center in Lenox, Mass.



Euphonium player Staff Sergeant Ryan McGeorge

of San Diego, Calif., earned a bachelor’s degree in music from the University of North Texas in Denton. Prior to joining “The President’s Own,” SSgt McGeorge was featured as an euphonium soloist from 2001-2002 in the Tony and Emmy Award-winning Broadway production *Blast!*.



Flutist Staff Sergeant Elisabeth McCafferty

of Moline, Ill., earned a bachelor’s degree in music from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory and a master’s degree from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Prior to joining “The President’s Own,” SSgt McCafferty performed with the Opera Theatre of Pittsburgh and as guest principal flute with the Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo (São Paulo State Symphony Orchestra) in São Paulo, Brazil.

Promotions

To Gunnery Sergeant:

Percussionist Kenneth Wolin of Oak Park, Mich., and Public Affairs Chief Kristin Mergen of Westfield, Mass.

To Sergeant: Supply clerk Nafesa McCoy of Trelawny, Jamaica

To Lance Corporal:

Stage crewmen Dimitrios Karras of Anderson, Calif., Jared Kalish of Phoenix, Patrick Pages of Houston, and Matthew Williams of Edwardsville, Ill., and Administration clerk Lawrence Berry of Shelby, Ohio

Retirements

French hornist Gunnery Sergeant

Brett Widenhouse of Wilson, Ga., retired in April after 20 years with “The President’s Own.”

Vacancies

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

Trumpet/cornet: Sept. 13-14

Soprano or mezzo-soprano vocal

soloist: Sept. 20-21

B-flat clarinet: Dec. 13

For information, contact:

Operations Officer

U.S. Marine Band

Marine Barracks

8th and I Streets, SE

Washington, DC 20390-5000

(202) 433-5714

USMBOPS@mbw.usmc.mil

Audition repertoire may be found at www.marineband.usmc.mil.

The Marine Band is an equal opportunity employer.

Special Thanks

“The President’s Own” would like to recognize and thank the service personnel, civilians, and their families who have participated in the Global War on Terrorism.