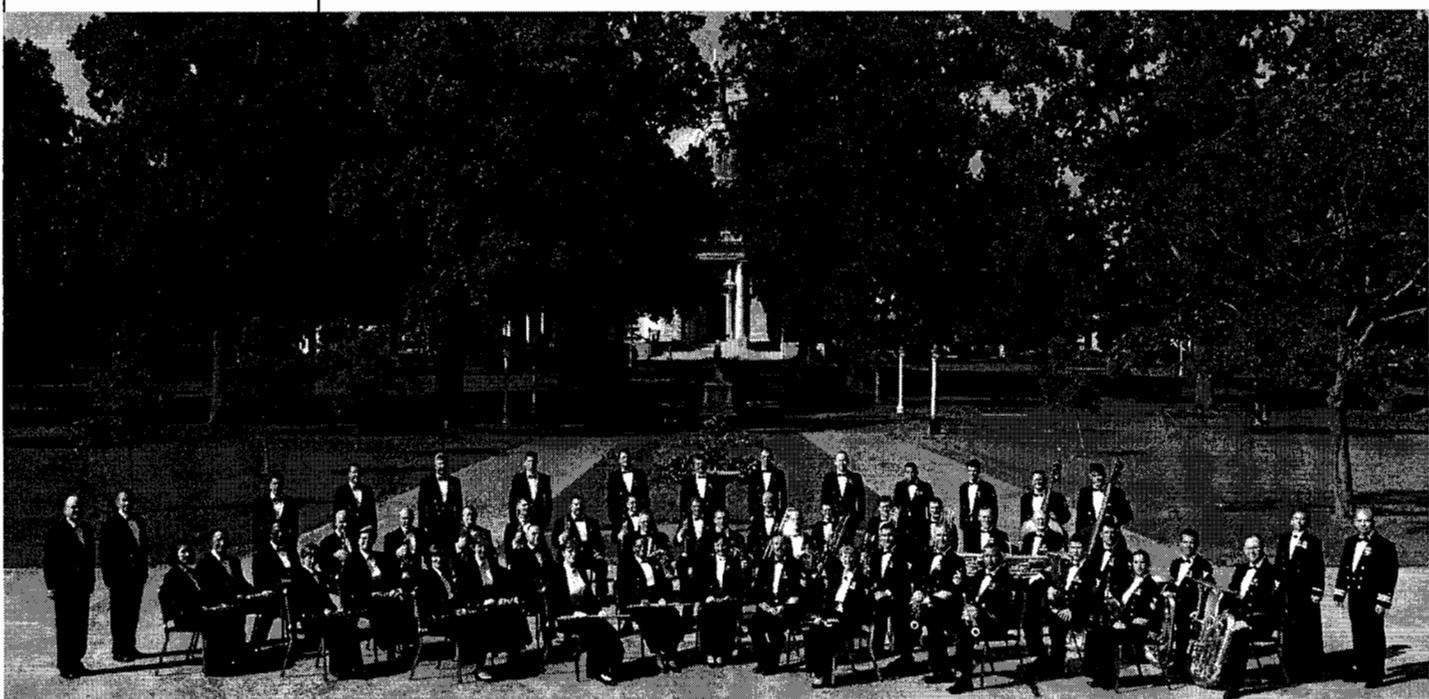


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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
United States Naval Academy
121 Blake Road
Annapolis MD 21402-5000



Fall 2005



Welcome Aboard! And Farewell!

Being a musician in a fine musical group can be a powerful shared experience. Nothing in life remains unchanged and this is certainly the case with Navy Bands. Over time, these ensembles go through many changes, the most profound of which are the welcoming of new members and the retiring of old friends. Through the years spent making music and working together, deep bonds are often formed. Our recent Alumni Concert at the Annapolis City Dock reminds us that these relationships can last a lifetime. This article highlights the accomplishments of three of our recent retirees and introduces our two newest members.

Master Chief Jeffrey B. Diehl of Joliet, Illinois, joined the Naval Academy Band in 1985. During his tour, he performed as bass trombonist in virtually every performing group and held myriad collateral duties. Master Chief Diehl served as the band's Physical Readiness Testing coordinator, Education Services Officer, Leading Chief Petty Officer of Concert Band, and Trombone Section Leader. His most recent duties were Operations Division Chief, unit awards writer, and leader of the trombone quartet. His dry sense of humor and consummate professionalism are already sorely missed.



Senior Chief Steven Barzal of Baltimore, Maryland, joined the Naval Academy Band in 1984 and has the distinction of serving the longest tenure as Principal Horn. He performed as featured soloist with the concert band on eight occasions and conducted the band in numerous performances throughout the eastern region. Senior Chief Barzal's previous duties include Unit Leader of Ceremonial Band "Gold," and the Wind Quintet, Auditions Supervisor, Special Projects Manager, Career Information Program Manager, and Equal Opportunity Advisor for the Brigade of Midshipmen. Senior Chief Barzal was selected for the highly prestigious Topical Research Intern Program at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) and is a graduate of the Equal Opportunity Program Manager Course at DEOMI.



COMMANDER'S COLUMN

We have just completed another successful summer season. In spite of the extremely high temperatures and high humidity we played every concert note perfect from beginning to end. Along with the Summer Serenade concerts at City Dock the concert band performed in Bowie and Bel Air, MD and Holtsville, Pennsylvania. Electric Brigade was equally busy with performances throughout the area. Next Wave has also been keeping busy with concerts here and one in Pennsylvania. The Alumni Concert was a great success and it was good to see familiar faces again.

Many changes have been taking place over the last few months. We gained 3 new Chiefs in the band, and lost four people. Over the next couple of months we will have new people in Electric Brigade as we rebuild that group because of retirements and separations. So next time you see Electric Brigade you may not recognize some folks.

The fall season is coming fast. In addition to the concert season, I'm looking forward to Navy football and the annual trip to the Army/Navy game. I've planned a few of our concerts with themes and hope you will join us for concerts featuring "Octoberfest," "Bernstein and Friends," and music from "Around the World." Also, please join us for the Navy Birthday Concert as we remember and celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War II. We will play a lot of good music from that era, making for a nice walk down memory lane for some of you, and a chance for others to just hear good music. The fall season will also include our Veterans Day Concert and end with the Holiday by the Bay Concert on December 9th.

I hope you will all mark your calendars and join us for as many concerts as possible.

Sincerely,



Melvin P. Kessler
Director



The United States
Naval Academy Band

DIRECTOR
LCDR Melvin P. Kessler
ASST. DIRECTOR
ENS Diane Nichols
COMMAND MASTER CHIEF
MTCM James F. Redak
OPERATIONS
MUCS Dan Drew
ADMINISTRATION
MUCS Kendra Orlandi
SUPPLY
MUC Karl Schultz
LIBRARIAN
MUC Jarrod Williams
AUCTION SUPERVISOR
MUC Ken Pihle
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
MUCS Rob Wenz
CONCERT INFORMATION:
(410) 293-0263



The U.S. Naval Academy band supports the funeral of Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale on Saturday, July 23rd. Looking closely in the background to the left, you can see part of the procession of pall bearers, including Senator John McCain and Mr. Ross Perot.

FRIENDS OF THE NAVAL ACADEMY (FONA) APPLICATION INFORMATION

The Friends of the Naval Academy program provides appropriate access to people outside the normal Department of Defense scope that support the USNA mission, its people, and its reputation. The FONA pass allows patrons affiliated with the Naval Academy to have vehicular access. Patrons that already have a DOD vehicle decal or handicapped tags/pass do not need to apply for a FONA pass. FONA passes take time to process and will be forwarded when available. Due to limited parking onboard, you should strongly consider the shuttle bus service. There are a limited number of FONA passes available to Naval Academy Band patrons on a first-come, first-served basis. To renew an expired FONA pass, call the Pass and Tag office (410) 293-5762 to arrange either a walk-in or mail-in exchange pass.

To apply for a FONA pass, e-mail Senior Chief Rob Wenz: wenzr@usna.edu or write to:

United States Naval Academy Band
U. S. Naval Academy
101 Buchanan Road
Annapolis, MD 21402-5080

If you or a friend would like to receive "Serenade", the Naval Academy Band newsletter, please fill out the enclosed coupon and mail it to us. We will be happy to include you on our patron list. **BONUS!** Patrons with email will receive press releases for each concert.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

email : _____

Mail to:
U.S. Naval Academy Band
101 Buchanan Rd
Annapolis MD 21402-5080

We're looking forward to showing off our newest members in our upcoming Concert Series, so be sure to attend this Fall to hear and meet these talented musicians. Congratulations and best wishes to our recently retired shipmates and welcome aboard to our newest members! Your many contributions continue the tradition of excellence of "The Navy's Oldest and Finest Band."



Your United States Naval Academy Band marching in 1955.

PROMOTIONS AND AWARDS

Congratulations to our recent Chief Musician selectees. We got three! Amy Jarjoura, Anthony Valerio, and Geoffrey Bayne will be promoted to Chief Petty Officer on September 16th, 2005. Congratulations also to Petty Officer Ira Ostrowski for his selection as USNA Band's Sailor of the 2nd Quarter.



MUC Geoffrey Bayne MUC Amy Jarjoura MUC Anthony Valerio MUJ Ira Ostrowski



Petty Officer First Class John Ohlmeeyer of Beaver Creek, Ohio, joined the band in August of 1985 as a trumpet instrumentalist. Prior to his enlistment, Petty Officer Ohlmeeyer studied at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and served as the Principal Trumpet of the Caracas Philharmonic, Caracas, Venezuela. Petty Officer Ohlmeeyer served as a member of the arranging staff, as well as the concert band, Next Wave big band, ceremonial and marching units, and as a duty bugler. Most recently, Petty Officer Ohlmeeyer composed "The Sesquicentennial March" in honor of the Naval Academy Band's 150th year of service to the nation. This march was featured in our gala performance in the Naval Academy's Alumni Hall.

Replacing band members can be a difficult task. When a vacancy is created, we not only lose an accomplished musician; we also lose a stellar drum major, a capable administrator, or a terrific ceremonial band leader. The musical abilities of each member earned them a spot in the Naval Academy Band, but as each person develops as sailors, they acquire new skills that directly serve the daily operations of the organization.



In the case of our pianist vacancy, finding a replacement required a lot of patience. The nature of our musical groups necessitates that our pianist be as comfortable with jazz as he is in the classical style. Unfortunately for our audition supervisor, this kind of musician is fairly rare. Since gifted pianists are always in high demand, our special requirements made a tough job even more challenging. With patience and a lot of expert "leg work," the Naval Academy Band found the piece to this puzzle when Petty Officer First Class James J. Wright of Amherst, New York, joined the band in July of 2005. A remarkably gifted pianist, Petty Officer Wright brings to the organization a depth of musical maturity and creativity that is rare at such a young age. Petty Officer Wright came to us directly from freshman year music studies at Indiana University. He performs in the Concert Band, Next Wave big band, the Superintendent's Combo, marching units, and as a solo pianist.

Petty Officer Doo Sik (Sam) Chin joined the Naval Academy Band in August of 2005. Petty Officer Chin was born in Seoul, South Korea, and immigrated to America in 1988. A gifted clarinet instrumentalist, Petty Officer Chin is a graduate of the University of Michigan where he performed in the orchestra and the symphonic band. Prior to his selection for the Naval Academy Band, Petty Officer Chin was engaged in masters degree studies at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Petty Officer Chin's musicianship and skill are a welcome addition to our fine clarinet section.