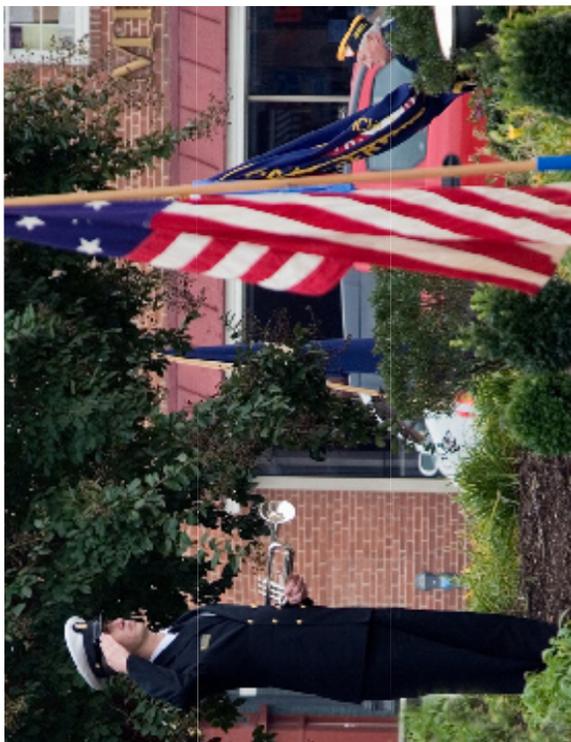
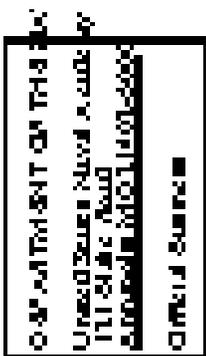


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MUC Geoffrey Bayne, bugler, performs for the annual Veterans Day ceremony in Annapolis.

(photo by MUI Paul Skinner)



Winter/Spring 2008



The U.S. Naval Academy

Band



Guest Conductors

By MUI Jessica Privler

The Chamber Winds of the Naval Academy Band presented a special concert on Friday, November 2. The audience at Mitscher Hall was treated to an eclectic program of rarely-performed chamber works, conducted by Lieutenant Commander Brian O. Walden and internationally-renowned conductor and clinician, Mr. Rodney Winther.

Commander Walden opened the concert conducting *Scherzo alla*



Marcia from the *Symphony No. 8* of Ralph Vaughan Williams. Although part of a large-scale orchestral work, Vaughan Williams composed the *Scherzo* movement for winds alone, which makes it accessible for wind band. This short, quick march, with a pastoral trio section, provided a lively opening for the concert, and featured MUI Heidi Schultz on oboe in her final performance

with the band. Commander Walden then passed the baton to Mr. Winther, who conducted the remainder of the program.

Mr. Winther serves as Director of Wind Studies and Professor of Music at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where he has taught for the past ten years. He frequently serves as a guest conductor and clinician around the country and abroad, working with such prestigious ensembles as Summit Brass, the Taiwan National Symphony Orchestra Wind Ensemble, The United States Navy Band, and the Taller para Bandas del Tachira in Venezuela. A leader in commissioning new works for wind band, Mr. Winther has also premiered works by distinguished composers Karel Husa, Joseph Schwantner, and Samuel Adler, to name a few.

(Continued on page 5)

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Greetings from the U. S. Naval Academy Band! 2007 has been an exciting year which included concerts featuring our wonderful musicians as well as guest artists. For those of you who attended our brass ensemble concerts in the winter, you were able to observe the conducting talents of one of America's premiere trumpet specialists, David Hickman from Arizona State University. During our "Meet the Composer" series, attendees were exposed to an important Pulitzer Prize winning American composer, teacher, music historian, and conductor: Gunther Schuller. Concert goes at our chamber music series enjoyed the prominent conductor and chamber wind music expert, Rodney Winther from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Additionally, our Veterans' Day concert at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts featured guest conductors from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the Marine Detachment at the Navy's School of Music. The holiday concert was highlighted by CAPT Owen Thorpe, Permanent Military Professor and former Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of the Naval Academy, narrating "Twas the Night Before Christmas" at the Holiday by the Bay concert in historic Mahan Hall. From the beginning of the formal concert season to informal City Dock concerts, including the fun Alumni concert and July 4th festivities, to the annual seasonal events, I think you will all agree that your Naval Academy Band is doing its part to promote an integral part of American culture and provide the Annapolis community with a rich and proud tradition of outstanding military music.

I take this opportunity to welcome our new Assistant Leader, ENS Scott Mythen, who recently transferred from Officer Development School in Newport, RI. ENS Mythen was commissioned a Limited Duty Officer Bandmaster on October 1, 2007 after serving eleven years as a musician/trumpet player in various Fleet bands. He has an extensive resume from which to draw vast experience and we look forward to his executive leadership and musical insights as we traverse the exciting year ahead. ENS Mythen will be interviewed in a future edition of "Serenade" so you will be able to get to know him a little better and hopefully you will join him at concerts as he takes over the baton of the long vacancy of the Assistant Leader position. Welcome aboard Ensign!

Again, thank you all for a great year with the Naval Academy Band and we certainly look forward to seeing you at our concerts in the New Year. Please check out our website for future events and plan your calendars so you can enjoy the sounds of your Naval Academy Band in 2008. See you soon and I wish you good health, happy holidays, and a very musical New Year.

Sincerely,
Brian O. Walden

Director

NEW FACES IN THE BAND

Welcome aboard ENS Scott Mythen
and MU1 Russell Sharp



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The United States Naval Academy Band

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LCDR Brian O. Walden
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ENS Scott A. Mythen
COMMAND MASTER CHIEF
MUCM James E. Rodak
OPERATIONS
MUC Nick J. Pastelak
ADMINISTRATION
MUC Amy K. Jarjoura
SUPPLY
MUC Geoffrey C. Bayne
LIBRARIAN
MU1 Erin R. Heere
AUDITION SUPERVISOR
MUC Kenneth S. Pfabe
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
MUCS Ronda J. Ory-Lettie
CONCERT INFORMATION:
(410) 293-0263

FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS

MU1 Heidi Schultz



BUGLERS

by MU1 Carl Lindquist

Bugling has held an important place in American military tradition since the Revolutionary War. Trumpet players in the Academy Band provide midshipmen and the Academy community with a connection to this rich tradition by bugling for important ceremonies and functions, on and off the Yard. This article examines the primary calls used by Naval Academy buglers, giving a brief history of their origins, and the way in which they are used today.

Almost all of the calls in use today find their beginnings in the Revolutionary War. As the Continental Army interacted with British and French forces, they picked up the various signals used on the battlefield. Different units adopted their own versions of these bugle calls, and it was not until after the Civil War that any effort was made to standardize their usage to avoid confusion. In 1867, Major Truman Seymour of the 5th U.S. Artillery compiled and revised the set of calls that are still in use by all branches of the military. While buglers have been replaced, in the practical sense, by modern communications technology, they are still employed for ceremonial functions.

Certainly the most well-known bugle call is "Taps," used to signal the close of the day, as well as to render military honors for funerals and memorial services. "Taps" was composed in 1862 by Union General Daniel Adams Butterfield in collaboration with his brigade bugler, Oliver W. Norton. Sounded for the first time in July of 1862, it soon spread to other units in the Union and possibly the Confederacy as well. Music may have played a role in connecting a nation when other methods had failed. Not a part of Maj. Seymour's 1867 system of calls, it was officially adopted in 1874.

Naval Academy buglers perform "Taps" frequently at funerals and memorial services at the USNA cemetery and columbarium. Medal of Honor recipients, past superintendents of the Academy, midshipmen, and former employees are among those buried or inurned at the Academy. Military honors are also rendered at nearby cemeteries in the Annapolis area when requested. "Taps" brings distinction and honor to these ceremonies and is certainly among the most important duties a military trumpeter performs.

"Church Call" is another bugle call used frequently at the Naval Academy. Identical to the French version, it is performed every Sunday at the 9 and 11 o'clock services at the Chapel. While not as well known as "Taps," "Church Call" provides a dignified opening to a worship service, sounding assertive and lyrical at the same time.

A series of three bugle calls are used during morning colors at the Academy, where the ceremonial band accompanies a color guard of midshipmen who raise the colors in Tecumseh Court. "First Call," "Attention," and "Carry On" are the three calls used for this sequence, and all are part of the 1867 system by Maj. Seymour.

Bugling, originally used as a practical way to communicate everyday messages to soldiers and sailors, has evolved over our nation's history. It remains an important part of honoring the past and continuing the traditions of the Navy.



(photo by MU1 Paul Skinner)

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(continued from page 1)



Mr. Winther began his portion of the program with the *Wind Serenade in F Major, Op. 102* by the little-known composer Wilhelm Berger. Written in 1910 shortly before the composer's death, it was Berger's final composition. The form of the piece, in five movements, was atypical of the time period in which it was written, but it was well-received in its first performance in Berlin, which the composer

did not live to hear. In this performance, the music's romanticism was well-served by Mr. Winther's dynamic conducting style.

After a brief intermission, the concert concluded with Richard Strauss' ambitious *Sonatine No. 2 in E-flat* for 16 wind instruments, subtitled *The Happy Workshop*. As Mr. Winther explained to the audience, Strauss began his career with two works for winds, and concluded it with two works for winds, including the *Sonatine No. 2*, which he completed in 1945. Reminiscent of the composer's tone poems for large symphony orchestra, the virtuosic nature of this music is challenging to even the most seasoned professionals. The instrumentation alone presents its own challenges, as the score calls for a basset horn, a period instrument from the clarinet family that is nearly obsolete in the modern repertoire. Clarinetist MUI Sam Chin demonstrated his versatility by aptly performing this demanding part. MUC Michael Curtis of The U.S. Navy Band, Washington, DC, joined the ensemble on contrabassoon.



For Naval Academy Band musicians, the concert was a fulfilling conclusion to two days of rigorous rehearsals with Mr. Winther. "It was a pleasure hosting and working with Mr. Winther for this concert," said LCDR Walden. "His professional skills as a conductor, musical insights, and wonderful demeanor were inspiring to witness. He is a passionate leader in the field of wind music and we hope he will return to the Naval Academy to conduct additional works in the future."



(photos by MUI Paul Skinner)

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

Congratulations to MUI Rory Cherry for his selection as USNA Band's Sailor of the 3rd Quarter, 2007.



MUI Rory Cherry

FRIENDS OF THE NAVAL ACADEMY (FONA) APPLICATION INFORMATION

The Friends of the Naval Academy (FONA) program provides vehicle access to people outside the normal Department of Defense scope that support the USNA mission, its people, and its reputation. Patrons that already have a DoD vehicle decal or handicapped tags/pass do not need to apply for a FONA pass. There are a limited number of FONA passes available to Naval Academy Band patrons on a first-come, first-served basis. FONA passes take time to process and will be forwarded when available.

To renew, or apply for a FONA pass, e-mail Senior Chief Ronda Ory-Lettie oryletti@usna.edu or write to:

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