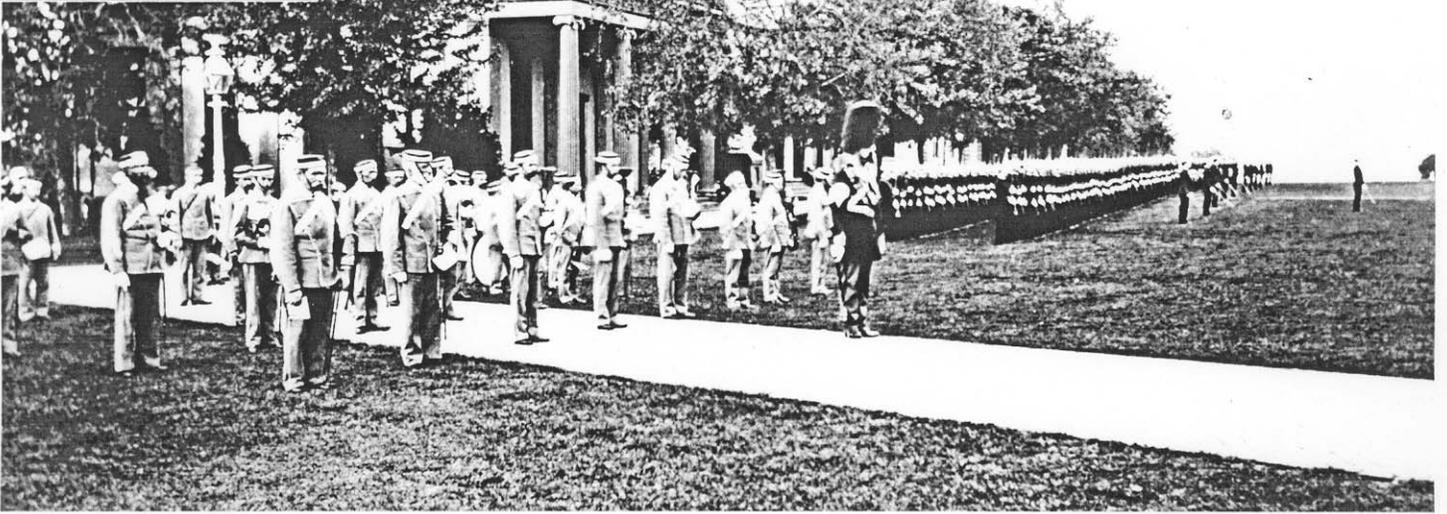


DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

United States Naval Academy
121 Blake Road
Annapolis MD 21402-5000

Official Business

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Fall 2004

The U.S. Naval Academy



SUPERINTENDENT RAISES THE ROOF AND RAISES THE BAR

Along with messages you would expect to hear in motivational speeches to future leaders, the Naval Academy Superintendent, VADM Rempt, speaks about the intrinsic value of music and how music can enrich the lives of Naval Officers and the people they lead. To that end, he has made sing-alongs standard fare for the Brigade of Midshipmen and told them to “sing as loud as you can... I want you to raise the roof.” When asked about the sing-alongs, MUI Ira Ostrowski, the vocalist tasked with leading the songs, said: “It’s been great! The reaction has been very positive.”

Electric Brigade has had an increasingly active role in pumping up the volume. The band rocked the dock at a cosponsored USNA – City of Annapolis concert and pep rally in support of Navy Football and added Country songs to their repertoire for use at Superintendent hosted barbecues.

One of the most notable changes has been the lyric revision to the Naval Academy’s alma mater “Navy Blue and Gold.” Since the first woman graduated in 1980, 2,322 women have earned their commissions here with another 670 currently enrolled. The original verses were written at a time when only men attended this institution. The Superintendent felt it important that we not disenfranchise any of our shipmates so he directed that two small but important changes be made to the first verse. In the first line, “college men” will be replaced by “colleges.” In the third line, “Sailor men” will be replaced by “Sailors brave.” Without changing the meaning of the song, these words will make Blue and Gold inclusive for all who cherish it.

From special joint appearances by the Naval Academy Band and the Midshipmen Glee Club during commencement week, to more routine ceremonies and receptions, the band is at the forefront of what VADM Rempt has deemed a “renaissance of music” at the Naval Academy.

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

We are very excited to resume our newsletter this Fall. Serenade serves as a great way to inform you, the best audience a band ever had, of upcoming concerts and recitals. As we look forward to another academic year with classes started and the Yard alive with the return of the Brigade, we can feel the excitement of another great year at the Naval Academy.

The Naval Academy Superintendent, Vice Admiral Rempt, strongly believes in the intrinsic value of music and how it can enrich the lives of Naval Officers and the people they lead. He has called for a "renaissance of music" which has energized the band and Brigade alike. Our Brass Quintet has been the primary support tool for dozens of Superintendent hosted sing-alongs at his quarters and the Morning Colors ceremony has been expanded to include the "song of the week" so midshipmen can sing along as they make their way to morning classes.

I also want to take a moment to congratulate our five new Chief Petty Officers, MUC Raymond Ascione, MUC John Babcock, MUC Kenneth Plabe, MUC Adam Tillet and MUC Jarrod Williams. This is a great milestone in their careers and is very well deserved.

I look forward to seeing you at our many performances throughout the Fall and Winter and I am sure you will enjoy all the great music we have planned. Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

D. H. Keller, Jr.
Director



Friends of the Naval Academy (FONA) Application and 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 do not need to apply for a FONA pass.

There are a limited number of FONA passes available to Naval Academy Band patrons. There is a limited supply of passes on a first come, first-served basis. You will find a FONA application in the center of this newsletter. Please print, complete and return it, along with a self-addressed envelope, to:

United States Naval Academy Band

U. S. Naval Academy

101 Buchanan Road

Annapolis, MD 21402-5080

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. Parking restrictions are strictly enforced in red curb zones. Only official vehicles may park by white curbing. Speed limit on USNA is 25 miles per hour or as posted. Seat belt usage is required at the Naval Academy.



The United States Naval Academy Band

DIRECTOR

CDR Donald H. Keller, Jr.

ASST. DIRECTOR

LtJg Robert J. Wreem

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

MUCM James E. Radak

OPERATIONS

MUCS Dan Drew

ADMINISTRATION

MUC Ronda Oy-Lettie

SUPPLY

MUC Karl Schultz

LIBRARIAN

MUC Jarrod Williams

AUDITION SUPERVISOR

MUC Ken Plabe

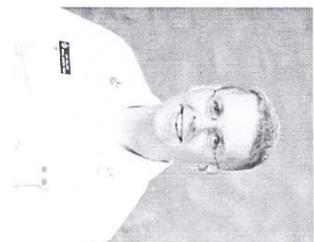
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MUCS Rob Wenzel

CONCERT INFORMATION:

(410) 293-0263

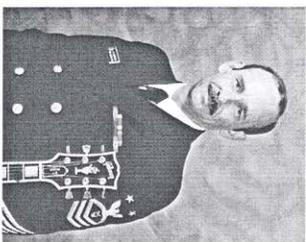
MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER



Musician First Class Cameron W. Collins is a native of Columbus, Indiana. He attended Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana as a Jazz Studies Saxophone and Clarinet Performance Major. Petty Officer Collins has studied with Isami Kawachi, James Campbell, Alfred Prinz, Tom Clark, Tom Walsh, Rich Perry, Pat Harbison, and David Baker. He has made recent appearances with Bill Watrous, Tom Kubis, Bob Florence, Fred Hersch, Steve Allee, Bobby Rydell, Alex Iles, and Steve Houghton. Petty Officer Collins was selected by the United States Naval Academy Band as Lead Alto in "The Next Wave" big band, and alto saxophone instrumentalist in the concert, ceremonial, and marching bands.

FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS

Master Chief Musician Jim Cunningham, a native of Manson, Iowa, began playing the trumpet at the age of ten and was active in the Manson school music program through high school. He was a frequent member of the Karl King Band, a community band located in Ft. Dodge, Iowa, established by the renowned march composer, Karl L. King. As a sideline, he also pursued an interest in guitar, performing in several "garage" bands in his home town.



Upon graduation from Manson High School in 1972, MUCM Cunningham enlisted in the Navy Music Program as a trumpet instrumentalist and attended the Armed Forces School of Music in Little Creek, Virginia. After completing the Basic Music Course, he reported to his first duty station, the COMPHIBPAC Band in San Diego, where he was a trumpet and guitar instrumentalist. While there, Cunningham deployed on the U.S.S. New Orleans for the two Skylab astronaut recoveries off the coast of Hawaii.

In 1974 Cunningham was assigned to Navy Band San Francisco where he performed as guitar instrumentalist with the newly formed rock/fusion band, "Ocean Express." Navy Recruiting kept this group busy performing extensively in the Northern California area, attracting young people to the new "All-Volunteer" military. Shortly after the busy Bicentennial celebrations of July 1976, Cunningham was discharged from the Navy.

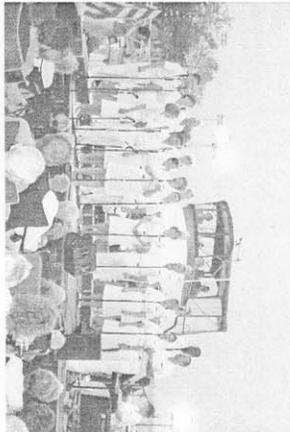
For the next two years he performed with bands in Iowa, Texas, and Massachusetts, before enrolling at The School of Contemporary Music in Boston, Massachusetts, where he studied guitar and jazz improvisation with Ross Adams.

In October, 1978 MUCM Cunningham reenlisted in the Navy and attended the School of Music's 6-month Intermediate Course, graduating first in his class. He was subsequently assigned for duty with the Naval Academy Band in 1979, and has performed as guitar, bass, and trumpet instrumentalist with many different ensembles. From 1986 until 1996 he performed as guitarist, vocalist, and eventually, as the leader of the Navy's premier contemporary music ensemble, "Electric Brigade." Since 1996 he has performed as guitarist with the jazz ensemble, "The Next Wave," guitarist and leader of "The Commandant's Combo," and as the Chief in Charge of the Band's Public Affairs Office. He was promoted to his present rank in 1998.

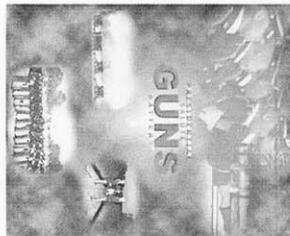
Master Chief Cunningham's military decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2 awards), Meritorious Unit Commendation (2 awards), National Defense Service Medal (2 awards), and Navy Good Conduct Award (5 awards).

In his spare time he enjoys travel, sports cars, luthiery, and woodworking. We all wish our shipmate, MUCM Cunningham, "Fair Winds and Following Seas."

Summer Serenade Grand Finale Concert



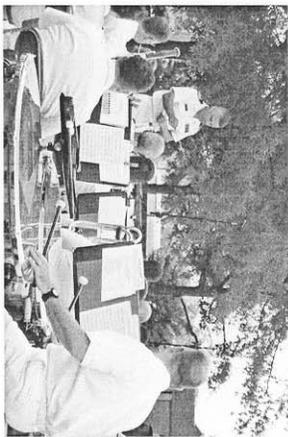
The Sea Chanters chorus from the United States Navy Band in Washington, D.C.



The Presidential Salute Battery from the 3rd United States Infantry Salute Guns Platoon (The Old Guard).

Alumni Corner

We had a wonderful evening making music and sharing sea stories with our alumni on July 20th. We look forward to an even bigger event in July 2005. We hope you can join us.



CDR Keller conducting the joint active duty and alumni concert band.



The alumni big band and another beautiful solo by "Bunny" Carfagno.

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

Congratulations to our new Master Chief, Senior Chief, and Chief Petty Officers, and Sailor of the Quarter



MUCM Richard Chappell



MUCS James Bean



MUCS Dan Drew



MUC Ray Ascione



MUC John Babcock



MUC Ken Pfabe

Sailor of the Year



MUC Adam Tillet



MUC Jarrod Williams



MUI Tony Valerio
Sailor of the Quarter

United States Naval Academy Band

Fall Concert Series 2004

October 1

SEASON OPENER

8:00 P.M. at Mahan Hall

October 15

NAVY BIRTHDAY

8:00 P.M. at Mahan Hall

November 6

RECITAL SERIES

Featuring MUC Marcia Diehl, MU1 Dawn Henry and Dr. Charles Hulin

8:00 P.M. at First Presbyterian

Duke of Gloucester at Conduit Street, Annapolis

November 11

SALUTE TO VETERANS

7:30 P.M. at Gordon Center for Performing Arts, 3506 Gwynbrook Avenue, Owings Mills.

November 12

SALUTE TO VETERANS

8:00 P.M. at Todd Performing Arts Center, Chesapeake College

U.S. 50 at Rt 213, Wye Mills.

November 14

BRASSSTASTIC

Featuring MU1 Brian Strawley and MU1 Jonathan Reyeraft

3:30 at Gloria Dei

461 College Parkway, Arnold

November 19

CLARINET CHOIR

8:00 P.M. at First Presbyterian

Duke of Gloucester at Conduit Street, Annapolis

December 10

HOLIDAY BY THE BAY

8:00 P.M. at Mahan Hall.