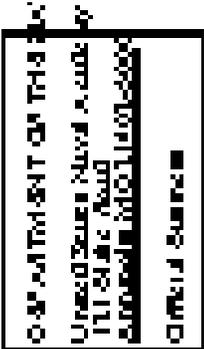


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Captain Ralph Gambone, Jr., (pictured at left) poses in an undated photo with his father, MUCM Ralph Gambone, Sr., near the Naval Academy Chapel. Captain Gambone retired from the Navy in April after 38 years of service. He started his career as a clarinetist in the Academy Band and was the leader from 1996-1998. MUCM Gambone was the leading chief petty officer of the band from 1970-1973. Congratulations CAPT Gambone, and fair winds and following seas!



Summer 2007

The U.S. Naval Academy

Band



International Artists Unite with Naval Academy Band

By MU1 Lynda Dembowski

Naval Academy Band concertgoers enjoyed a musical double-delight of performances under the baton of two of the world's finest musical artists - trumpet virtuoso David Hickman and composer Gunther Schuller. Hickman directed the United States Naval Academy Band's Brass Ensemble in a stirring performance in the magnificent setting of the Naval Academy Chapel on February 2, 2007. Distinguished composer, hornist, and conductor Gunther Schuller led the band in an energetic and technically demanding concert on April 13 at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts. Each captivated audience members with his conducting finesse and candid, articulate musical commentary.

David Hickman is recognized as one of the world's elite trumpet performers, amassing over 2,000 appearances as guest soloist with over 500 orchestras worldwide. He is currently a Regent's Professor of Music at Arizona State University. Hickman selected challenging repertoire from various periods of brass literature. The concert opened with Richard Strauss' *Vienna Philharmonic Fanfare*, and featured *Canzon septimi toni No. 2* from *Sacrae Symphoniae* by Giovanni Gabrieli. The Brass Ensemble also performed modern brass selections by Anthony Plog, Jan Koetsier, Herbert Haufrecht, and Morten Lauridsen. The trumpet trio of Chief Musician Ken Pfabe, and Musicians First Class Brian Strawley and David DeArmond, demonstrated a technical tour-de-force in Raphael Mendez' *Gallito*. Hickman spoke of Mendez' life as a famed Hollywood trumpet virtuoso and composer.



Pulitzer Prize recipient Gunther Schuller has enjoyed a prestigious career as French hornist, teacher, composer, and conductor. In his youth, Schuller performed as principal hornist with the Cincinnati Symphony and the Metropolitan Opera, and began his teaching career at the Manhattan School of Music. Subsequent teaching positions have included Professor of Composition at the Yale School of Music and Artistic Director of the Tanglewood Berkshire Music Center.

Schuller has created over 160 works, exploring almost every genre. He has received commissions from numerous major orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony, Berlin Philharmonic, National Symphony, and the New York Philharmonic. He was awarded the 1994 Pulitzer Prize in Music for *Of Reminiscences and Reflections*, a work commissioned by the Louisville Symphony.

(Continued on page 3)

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Much has happened around the Naval Academy Band spaces since the last edition of "Serenade." LT Michael Grant departed for his "normal" duties back onboard the U.S. Navy Band in Washington, DC. I take this opportunity to thank LT Grant for his short, but valuable, interim leadership of the Navy's *Oldest and Finest*. Mike and I were actually stationed together on the island of Guam in the 80's before Navy Band Guam closed. It was a pleasure to receive a turnover from Mike and we all wish him well.

The Assistant Director of the Naval Academy Band, LTJG Diane Nichols (promoted 1 April 2007) departed for duty as Director, Navy Band New Orleans. Before departing, she conducted her last concert for the Annapolis Music Festival where the visiting high school musicians greatly appreciated the music she selected and performed with the band. We all wish LTJG Nichols much success in her new job. She will certainly be missed here at the Academy.

While we were saddened to say goodbye to fellow shipmates, we were also glad to welcome special guests to the podium, such as David Hickman and Gunther Schuller, about whom you will read more in the cover story of this newsletter.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank the Naval Academy Band and you, kind patrons, for welcoming me to the band. After four years on staff at the Navy School of Music, it is a pleasure to be back on the podium. I look forward to many concerts with you, filled with exciting music. I appreciate your warm gestures of welcome.

See you on the City Dock for our Summer Concert Series!

Sincerely,



Brian O. Walden

Director

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

Congratulations to MU1 Devona Schiller for her selection as USNA Band's Sailor of the Year, 2006, to MU1 Ritchie Smith for his selection as Sailor of the 4th Quarter, 2006, and to MU1 Steven Tomlinson for his selection as Sailor of the 1st Quarter, 2007.



MU1 Devona Schiller



MU1 Ritchie Smith



MU1 Steven Tomlinson

(continued from cover)

On April 13, Gunther Schuller programmed three works from varying genres. *Lines and Contrasts* for sixteen horns (1960) featured the band's horn section joined by members of the U.S. Army Field Band, the U.S. Marine Band, and the U.S. Navy Band. The work explores the sonorous qualities of the instrument through complex chords and intricately woven phrases. *Symphony for Brass and Percussion* (1950) pulled out all the acrobatic stops, demanding technical prowess from each ensemble member. Schuller candidly explained to audience members his intention to create the first large-scale work for brass since the celebrated works of late 16th century composer Giovanni Gabrieli.

Schuller conducted the Concert Band, assisted by members of the U.S. Navy Band, in his final selection. On *Winged Flight* was commissioned by the U.S. Air Force Band, Washington, DC, and premiered on April 3, 1989. Schuller compared the multi-movement form to Mozart's divertimenti, with each movement contrasting in form and thematic material. The first three movements are more serious in nature, using such compositional techniques as rhythmic juxtaposition and pointillism. The final movement carries the description, "with a respectful bow to Messrs. Charles Ives, James Reese Europe, and Henry Fillmore." Schuller explained his desire to combine elements of American popular music, military marches, and jazz idioms.

Naval Academy Band leader LCDR Brian O. Walden honored Schuller by conducting William Schuman's *George Washington Bridge*. In 1988, Schuller received the William Schuman Award from Columbia University for lifetime achievement in American music. The performance was well received by audience members. Comments praising the opportunity to experience Schuller's compositions and the harmonious interaction between conductor and ensemble have been numerous.



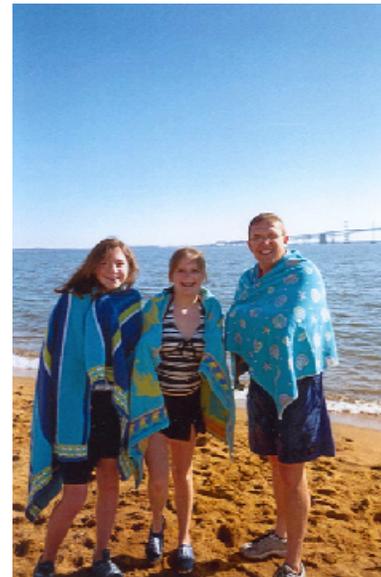
SENIOR CHIEF HELPS RAISE A "COOL" 2.2 by MU1 Ben Redwine

Senior Chief Musician James Bean, principal trumpeter with the US Naval Academy Band, did what only a macho, career serviceman, solo trumpeter would do: On January 27th, 2007, in 39° waters, he jumped into the icy Chesapeake Bay. Oh, and his wife and daughters joined him, too!

The 11th Annual Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge was the most successful to date, with 7,400 participants raising \$2.2 million for Maryland Special Olympics.

Senior Chief Bean and his family were joined on the banks of Sandy Point State Park by such notable figures as then Governor of Maryland Robert Erlich and Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele.

Naval Academy Band members not only entertain you throughout the year, but they also are actively involved in the Annapolis community, participating in many events. You never know when you'll run into a band member enhancing the quality of life throughout the region. Senior Chief Bean provides a stellar example of just such important community involvement. He has been a member of the Naval Academy Band since 1986 and resides on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.



Meet the Saxophone Section

By MU1 Jessica Privler

Arriving at the band in March 2007, the newest member of the Naval Academy Band's saxophone section is Petty Officer Colin Renick of Belmont, MA. He began his college education at Ithaca College, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in film production. Shifting gears, he attended the State University of New York at Buffalo and completed a bachelor of arts degree in music. At Indiana University, he earned master's degrees in saxophone performance and jazz studies. Before enlisting in the Navy, he served as part-time Professor of Music at DePauw University.

"I've studied all different styles of music, and I'm enjoying the opportunity the Naval Academy Band is giving me to perform in a variety of musical settings," said Renick. He performs baritone saxophone in concert, ceremonial, and marching bands, as well as in the Commandant's Combo, and the "Next Wave" jazz ensemble.

Musician First Class Cameron Collins joined the band in 2004. Originally from Columbus, IN, he attended Indiana University as a jazz studies saxophone and clarinet performance major. He is the lead alto saxophonist in the "Next Wave" big band, and performs on alto saxophone in concert, ceremonial, and marching bands.

Musician First Class Joseph Tubiolo, of Cobleskill, NY, joined the band in 2001. He is the principal alto saxophonist with the Concert Band, and also performs with ceremonial and marching bands. MU1 Tubiolo graduated from Ithaca College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in music education. His resume includes performances with the Catskill Festival Orchestra, Odyssey Saxophone Quartet, and the Swingin' Jive Patrol. Along with his musical contributions, MU1 Tubiolo serves as supervisor for the band's supply department.

Master Chief Musician James Rodak is a native of Orlando, FL. He earned an associate of arts degree from Valencia Community College in 1977 and a bachelor of arts degree in music education from the University of Central Florida in 1980. After college, he taught music at Liberty Junior High School in Orlando, and served on the faculty of the University of Central Florida as jazz instructor.

The senior member of the section, MUCM Rodak enlisted in the Navy Music Program in 1983 and began his naval career at Navy Band Great Lakes. In 1985, he reported for duty with the Naval Academy Band where he is the Senior Enlisted Leader. He currently performs on tenor saxophone, and serves as the announcer for the Concert Band.

"We've always had such great and diverse musicians in the saxophone section, and today's group is showing they are capable of things we never accomplished in the past," said MUCM Rodak. "It is always thrilling to make music with this great band."



from left to right: MU1 Renick, MU1 Collins, MU1 Tubiolo and MUCM Rodak

NEW FACES IN THE BAND

From left to right: MU1 Sheila Cullen Buck, clarinet, and MU1 Colin Renick, saxophone.



FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS

MU1 Cathy Stiles, saxophonist, retires from the band after 20 years of



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:

United States Naval Academy Band
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