

# fanfare

March/April 2013 ♦ Volume 34 Number 2

INAUGURATION 2013  
IN MEMORIAM...MU1 KENNETH R. FENNEL  
SPOTLIGHT ON MU1 SARAH TIETSORT



THE UNITED STATES  
**NAVY BAND**  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



2012-2015

AMERICA'S  
**NAVY**

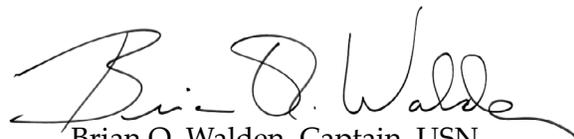


## A Message from the Commanding Officer

The last few months have been very exciting for your Navy Band. We hosted another successful International Saxophone Symposium, this year with record crowds. I want to thank Senior Chief Musician Mike Bayes and his staff for putting together this wonderful event. Shortly after the symposium, we were immersed in our 22nd inauguration as the Navy's premier musical organization. This was my first time, and what a blast it was to participate in such a grand showcase of American democracy. It's amazing to me that there are musicians here, like drum major Master Chief Musician Joe Brown, who have been a part of seven inaugurations.

As many of you are probably aware, the Navy (and the Department of Defense) is facing budget shortfalls as a result of operating under a continuing resolution. Additional budget reductions could take effect if sequestration is triggered. We are busy planning cost-saving measures while still striving to share great music and our great Navy with you. Our goal is to save money, but also to continue delivering the product that you've come to expect.

Finally, we lost a great shipmate and friend on Christmas Eve. Ken and I both enlisted in the Navy in 1981. Our paths crossed when he was assigned to Navy Band Charleston, S.C., and again when we served together in Washington. I always enjoyed the opportunity to stop by our public affairs office after business hours (when Ken was usually still working), and exchange stories about the "old days." You could always count on Ken for a big laugh and an even bigger smile. He is missed. Fair winds and following seas, shipmate.

  
Brian O. Walden, Captain, USN  
Commanding Officer/Leader



# fanfare

Volume 34 Number 2  
Commanding Officer/Leader  
CAPT Brian O. Walden, USN

**Public Affairs Chief**  
MUCM Aaron L. Porter

**Editorial Staff**  
MUCM Aaron L. Porter  
MUCS Juan Vazquez  
MU1 Adam K. Grimm

**Layout and Design**  
MUC Stephen W. Hassay  
MU1 Adrienne W. Moore

**Photographers**  
MUC Stephen W. Hassay  
MUC Brian P. Bowman  
MU1 David B. Aspinwall  
MU1 Jeremy Buckler

fanfare is a bi-monthly magazine published by the U.S. Navy Band public affairs staff.

Front Cover: The U.S. Navy Band marches on Pennsylvania Ave. during military support for the 57th Presidential Inauguration. More than 2,100 service members from each of the five branches are marching in the Inaugural Parade, with approximately 5,000 supporting the inauguration.

U.S. Navy photo by EJ Hersom/Released

## SEA CHANTERS

*I can not express our gratitude for such a wonderful night of music and acting...THANK YOU ALL!!!*

Tom and Betty - Fredericksburg, Va.

# Inauguration 2013

by Chief Musician Cindy Wolverton with Musician 1st Class Adam Grimm

**“MSG:Pls reply-MON 21JAN 0800 Online in SL. Parade. FDB; bridge coat, all weather coat, scarf, white and black gloves, earmuffs, rain covers for hat.(End)”**

That was the text message that 112 members of the Navy Band received on Friday, Jan. 18. In plain English, it told everyone to be in uniform with instruments on Monday in the Sail Loft, in full dress blues with every accessory. And let us know you received the message.

The morning of Inauguration Day, musicians packed the locker rooms. They were busy making the most important decision of the day, whether or not to wear long underwear. The forecasted high for the day was 39 degrees, relatively balmy compared to the low-twenty temperatures of the previous inauguration, in 2009. Decisions regarding outerwear are made outside the band, so musicians play games, guessing what the “coat call” will eventually be, and how long the band will be outside.

Jan. 18 was the 57<sup>th</sup> presidential inauguration, and the 22<sup>nd</sup> that the Navy Band participated in. The Navy Band’s first inauguration was for President Herbert Hoover in 1929, and the Navy Band was formally signed into law on Inauguration Day in 1925. President Calvin Coolidge signed Public Law 611, Title 34, Section 596

## In memoriam Kenneth R. Fennell, 1960 – 2012

By Master Chief Musician Aaron Porter

**T**he Navy Band mourns the passing of Musician 1st Class Kenneth R. Fennell, who died on active duty on Monday, Dec. 24 at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.

Born in Macon, Ga., in 1960, Fennell first picked up the clarinet in fourth grade, and started playing saxophone in 1973. After graduating from Southwest High School in Macon in 1978, Fennell spent two years at Valdosta State College in Valdosta, Ga., before enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1981. He attended the Armed Forces School of Music in Little Creek, Va., before reporting to Atlantic Fleet Band in Norfolk, Va. Fennell served with Navy Band Guam and Navy Band Charleston, S.C., and deployed twice, performing in South America and Africa.

He separated from naval service in 1988, returned to college and graduated magna cum laude in 1990 with a Bachelor of Music in saxophone and flute performance



Members of the Navy Band wait in the staging area on the National Mall prior to the Band stepping off onto Pennsylvania Ave. as part of the 57th Inaugural parade. (U.S. Navy Photo by MU1 Tina Catalanotto/Released)

shortly after being sworn in.

While the 99-piece Ceremonial Band (plus one drum major and four officers) was preparing to head to the Pentagon for security screening, Chief Musician Courtney Williams was already at the Capitol. In fact, he had been there since 3:30 a.m. Williams, our own “Voice of the Navy,” once again had a starring role in the inauguration. Four years ago, he was appointed by the Armed Forces Inauguration Committee to be the official platform announcer. This time there was an audition process. All the services had the opportunity to nominate their best “voices” and a committee narrowed it down to four candidates. These four were then invited to the Senate Radio Station in December to do a live reading, where Williams was selected.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

from the Berklee College of Music in Boston. In the 1990s, he was a very active musician working with the Norwegian Cruise Lines show band; at the Church of the Apostles in Atlanta; as a digital editor for Leading the Way ministries; at his own recording studio, Ken Fen Productions; and he designed, built and sold a computer with home recording software.

In 2002, Fennell returned to the Navy, serving with Navy Band



Musician 1st Class Ken Fennell performs during the 2008 Holiday Concert at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Musician Stephen Hassay/Released)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## INAUGURATION (BAND)

U.S. Navy in front of reviewing stand for CINC. Navy Band always looks sharp.

@1stCongressGuy - Twitter



# Performance Schedule

All concerts are FREE and open to the public. Tickets or reservations are not required unless noted (\*). Please note that all concert information is accurate at time of publication, though subject to change due to weather and other conditions. For inclement weather announcements, please call 202-433-2525 or visit [www.twitter.com/usnavyband](http://www.twitter.com/usnavyband). For the most up-to-date information, please check our online performance calendar at: [www.navyband.navy.mil](http://www.navyband.navy.mil)

## MARCH

### CEREMONIAL BAND

SATURDAY, MAR. 2, 12 P.M.

#### ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Old Town Alexandria, Va.

### CONCERT BAND

THURSDAY, MAR. 14, 1:30 P.M.

#### NATIONAL TRUMPET COMPETITION

George Mason University

Center for the Arts

4400 University Dr.

Fairfax, Va.

FRIDAY, MAR. 22, 7:30 P.M.

Northern High School

2950 Chaneyville Road

Owings, Md.

### CONCERT BAND TOUR

The Concert Band departed Feb. 12 on a 18-day national concert tour through California, Colorado, Oregon, Nevada, Utah and Washington. The following list is a continuation from the previous issue of fanfare. For more information visit [http://www.navyband.navy.mil/tour\\_concert\\_band.shtml](http://www.navyband.navy.mil/tour_concert_band.shtml).

FRIDAY, MAR. 1, 7:30 P.M.

Union Colony Civic Center

Moufort Concert Hall

701 10th Ave.

Greeley, Colo.

SATURDAY, MAR. 2, 7:30 P.M.

Newman Center

for the Performing Arts

Gates Concert Hall

2344 E. Iliff Ave.

Denver, Colo.

SUNDAY, MAR. 3, 3 P.M.

Skyline High School Auditorium

600 E. Mountain View Ave.

Longmont, Colo.

### SEA CHANTERS TOUR

The Sea Chanters departed Feb. 25 on a 20-day national concert tour through Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri and Texas. The following list is a continuation from the previous issue of fanfare. For more information visit [http://www.navyband.navy.mil/tour\\_sea\\_chanters.shtml](http://www.navyband.navy.mil/tour_sea_chanters.shtml).

FRIDAY, MAR. 1, 7:30 P.M.

Northern Arizona University

Ardrey Auditorium

1115 S. Knoles Drive

Flagstaff, Ariz.

SATURDAY, MAR. 2, 7 P.M.

Community Concert Hall

Fort Lewis College

1000 Rim Drive

Durango, Colo.

MONDAY, MAR. 4, 7:30 P.M.

Avalon Theater

645 Main St.

Grand Junction, Colo.

TUESDAY, MAR. 5, 7:30 P.M.

St. Andrew's United

Methodist Church

9203 South University Blvd.

Highlands Ranch, Colo.

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 6, 7:30 P.M.

Mitchell High School

1205 Potter Drive

Colorado Springs, Colo.

THURSDAY, MAR. 7, 7:30 P.M.

Colby High School Auditorium

1890 South Franklin Ave.

Colby, Kan.

FRIDAY, MAR. 8, 7:30 P.M.

East Campus Auditorium

609 Grant Ave.

Norton, Kan.

SATURDAY, MAR. 9, 7:30 P.M.

Washburn Rural High School

5900 Southwest 61st St.

Topeka, Kan.

SUNDAY, MAR. 10, 7:30 P.M.

Hendricks Hall

208 East South St.

Warrensburg, Mo.

TUESDAY, MAR. 12, 7 P.M.

Barton Theater

621 North Madison Ave.

Webb City, Mo.

## INAUGURATION (BAND)

*United States Navy Band looking and sounding good at the Inaugural parade!!!*

@mi\_angel510 - Twitter

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 13, 7 P.M.  
Memorial Auditorium and  
Convention Center  
503 North Pine  
Pittsburg, Kan.

## APRIL CONCERT BAND

SATURDAY, APR. 6, 8:15 P.M.  
Howard J. Kaplan  
Center for the Arts  
Concert Hall  
Towson University  
Towson, Md.

THURSDAY, APR. 25, 7:30 P.M.  
Chesapeake Center for the Arts  
194 Hammonds Lane  
Brooklyn Park, Md.

## COMMODORES

THURSDAY, APR. 11, 7:30 P.M.  
Fallston High School  
2301 Carrs Mill Road  
Fallston, Md.

## FRIDAY, APR. 12, 7 P.M. UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE JAZZ FESTIVAL

Amy E. DuPont Music Building  
Amstel Avenue and Orchard Road  
Newark, Del.

SATURDAY, APR. 20, 7 P.M.  
Notre Dame of Maryland University  
LeClerc Hall  
4701 North Charles St.  
Baltimore, Md.

## CEREMONIAL BAND

SUNDAY, APR. 14, TBD  
CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL  
Waterfront  
Washington, D.C.

## SEA CHANTERS

THURSDAY, APR. 25, 7 P.M.  
Broadneck High School  
1265 Green Holly Drive  
Annapolis, Md.



### Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

MUCS Michael Bayes  
MUCS William Mulligan  
MUC Michael Shelburne  
MU1 Lera League



### Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

MU1 David Babich  
MU1 William Kelly



### Sailor of the Year MU1 Lera League



### Chief of the Quarter MUC Curt Duer



### Sailor of the Quarter MU1 Justin Cody

## In memoriam Thomas L. Liley, 1948-2013

by Master Chief Musician Aaron Porter

The Navy Band mourns the passing of former member Musician 1st Class Thomas L. Liley. Liley was born in Topeka, Kan., on Sept. 9, 1948 and began his musical instruction at age 8 on the piano and string bass. After graduating from Topeka High School in 1966, he attended the University of Kansas Lawrence, studying saxophone under Robert Stanton, and earning a Bachelor of Music in education. Upon graduation from the university in 1971, he joined the United States Navy Ceremonial Band as a saxophonist. During his time in the Navy, he continued his education at Catholic University, earning a master's degree. After serving one enlistment, he separated and continued his education at Indiana University, where he studied with the internationally renowned virtuoso

Eugene Rousseau, and was awarded a Doctor of Music in saxophone with distinction. As a performer and lecturer he traveled throughout the United States and Canada, China, Eastern Europe, Hong Kong and Thailand. He also served as professor of music at Joliet Junior College and as a guest professor at Indiana University, the University of Minnesota, Kansas State University and University of Iowa. Liley is survived by his wife Nancy, his daughter Noel Harmon and his sister, Patricia Pearce. *ff*



## INAUGURATION (MUC COURTNEY WILLIAMS)

*Great pipes on the inauguration announcer.*

@bustedcoverage - Twitter

## Inauguration continued...

There were weeks of script meetings and rather stressful rehearsals at the Capitol. The script was constantly being modified as the officials decided who would get introduced and how. Protocol had to be followed to the smallest detail and the ceremony was on a very tight timeline. Williams didn't get the final version of the script until the day of the inauguration. Everything went smoothly and Williams' commanding and resonant voice rang out to 800,000 people gathered on the mall. For head drum major Master Chief Musician Joe Brown, this day marked his seventh and final inauguration. Brown said, "I've had the privilege and honor to serve with the country's finest musicians and serve the Navy in this capacity for the last 28 years. It's humbling to serve. Never in my wildest dreams did I think a baritone player from Clinton, Miss., would one day lead the world's finest Navy Band in the inaugural parade."

Brown was responsible for making sure the band looked its best. When passing the reviewing stand, and the Commander-In-Chief, the Navy Band represents more than three hundred thousand Sailors stationed all around the world. "The biggest challenge is pulling resources from all of our units into a cohesive marching

unit that will perform together as a large ensemble," Brown stated.

When the band finally passed the White House at 5:33 p.m., everything went perfectly as four ruffles and flourishes were sounded, followed by "Anchors Aweigh." It was another celebration of democracy in the books and, for some, time to start planning for the next inauguration. ff



*The U.S. Navy Band salutes President Barack Obama as it passes the presidential review stand during the 57th Presidential Inaugural Parade in Washington. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Mark A. Cloutier/Released)*

## In Memoriam Ken Fennell continued...

Northeast in Newport, R.I., before joining the United States Navy Band in 2003. He spent six years with the Cruisers popular music group before moving to the public affairs staff in 2009.

During his time with the Cruisers, Fennell's professionalism and experience were crucial in performances for military and civilian dignitaries such as the secretary of defense, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, chief of naval operations and the master chief petty officer of the Navy. He was a featured soloist on the annual birthday and holiday concerts at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, and traveled with the Cruisers on their first national tour in May 2010. Fennell was an energetic participant in the Navy Band's annual International Saxophone Symposium, serving as a vendor liaison and clinician.

In 2009, Fennell made a transition to the staff department as a public affairs (PAO) assistant, and due to personnel shortages continued to perform with the Cruisers for several months while working in PAO. He quickly established himself in PAO with innovative

ideas focused on making as many people as possible aware of the Navy Band and its various performing groups. He instituted the command's first email contact database, providing patrons with email alerts about all unit performances. He also created a unique events marketing database and led a team focused on using the Internet to increase marketing and public awareness of the band's performances. In 2011, he started the band's first e-ticketing campaign for concerts at Constitution Hall, which greatly streamlined the process for patrons, and saved several hundred manhours and dollars. His gentle voice, imbued with a southern lilt, his unfailingly positive outlook and ability to talk to anyone about anything always put patrons at ease. He was a great colleague and shipmate, and a terrific Navy and Navy Band representative.

Fennell is survived by his wife, Bridgit, and their children, John Christian and Emily. Donations in his memory can be made to The American Brain Tumor Association at [www.abta.org](http://www.abta.org), or to the Fisher House Foundation at [www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org). ff

## INAUGURATION (MUC COURTNEY WILLIAMS)

*Oh hey Mr. Inauguration announcer. Your voice is amazing.*

@TCOoper94 - Twitter

## Spotlight on...

# MU1 Sarah Tietsort

by Senior Chief Musician Juan Vazquez

**One of the Navy Band's newest members is Musician 1st Class Sarah Tietsort, a soprano with the Sea Chanters chorus. Her talent, willingness to contribute and enthusiasm are true treats for all of us.**

*Tell us a little about yourself.*

I was born and raised in South Bend, Ind., home of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish! I was always involved with music in some capacity and I had many influences encouraging me to pursue music. When I was 3, my oldest brother was taking piano lessons, and my parents, my brother's piano teacher, and I discovered early on that singing came very naturally to me. One day I just sang for his teacher and I think the rest was history. Starting at the age of 5, I was musically involved at my church – First United Methodist Church of South Bend. I participated in the children's choir, bell choir, Christmas musicals and Kid's Praise; I even played the organ for a couple of Christmas Eve services. When I was in middle school, I was even in a group called the "Treble Maker Choir."

After high school, I attended Bethel College in Mishawaka, Ind. While in college, I had the opportunity to tour with the concert choir and the jazz ensemble as we traveled by bus to different cities in the Midwest and performed in churches. Little did I know at the time that those experiences would prepare me for national tours with the Sea Chanters.

I graduated from college with a music performance degree, but had no idea what I was going to do. I decided to become a substitute teacher to at least start to pay back my student loans. I couldn't believe that I was teaching young people my passion in life. However, I soon realized that teaching was not what I really wanted to do and I applied to graduate schools. I applied to The Ohio State University and Belmont University in Nashville. I got accepted to both schools, but really loved Belmont because it reminded me so much of Bethel and Nashville Opera was going to give me an opportunity to become a Fellow and sing with their organization. I couldn't turn that down! So, off to Belmont I went.

When I auditioned for the Navy Band in May 2008,

just after graduation, everything was meant to be. I had a great audition, fell in love with the group, and it's been an awesome ride ever since.

*What extra roles do you perform with the band?*

I am the head librarian for the Sea Chanters. On a regular basis, I'm tasked to have music at the ready for all rehearsals and often have to order music for upcoming performances. I am also a command fitness assistant (CFA). I help with our quarterly weigh-ins and as a proctor for the physical readiness test (PRT). The PRT is required of all Navy personnel twice a year and consists of timed sit-ups, push-ups, and cardio (run, swim, bike, or elliptical). As CFA, I also help individuals with their fitness and lead workout sessions. It's like I'm their personal trainer. That's probably my favorite part of being a CFA. I really aspire to engage people and to encourage them to accomplish their fitness goals.

*Share with us three highlights during your time with the Navy Band.*

The first highlight for me is President Obama's inauguration in 2009. It was one of the biggest events for me since joining the band. The Sea Chanters made history by singing the national anthem for the country's very first African-American president! It was an exciting day, especially looking out at the millions of people in Washington.

My second highlight was on our 2012 national tour through the Midwest. We performed in cities near my hometown and it was so cool for me to perform for my family and friends. Only my mom has been able to come out to the D.C. area to see me perform since getting this job. My family hadn't seen the Sea Chanters perform before so needless to say, they were really proud of me and impressed with our group.

My third highlight happened just recently, on Jan. 18, 2013. The Sea Chanters were given the opportunity to sing at the White House for President



MU1 Sarah Tietsort

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## INAUGURATION (MUC COURTNEY WILLIAMS)

*Who is this PA announcer at the #Inauguration? I want him to narrate my life.*

@carloscanto - Twitter

# fanfare

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

THE UNITED STATES NAVY BAND  
617 WARRINGTON AVE SE  
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20374-5054

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PRESORTED  
FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Washington DC  
Permit No 6184

DATED MATERIAL  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Spotlight continued...

Obama's inaugural reception. This day was not only special because we got to sing in the White House, but because it was my birthday! We performed about 25 minutes of acapella music and then were escorted to take a group photo with President Obama and the first lady. When they came into the room, they went down the line to shake our hands; when they got to me I wished Mrs. Obama a happy birthday because it was her birthday the day before. She said thank you and then I slipped in that it was my birthday. They both exclaimed "happy birthday" to me! The president then asked us to sing another selection for him and we did a shortened rendition of "Let There Be Peace On Earth." The president and first lady were impressed. He thanked us and let us know that he was proud to serve as our commander in chief. Then he looked at me and said, "And happy birthday to you! You are the birthday girl today. Make sure everyone treats you really nice today!" "Yes, Sir." That day and moment will forever be special to me.

*What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?*  
There are several things that I enjoy doing. People

will probably think I'm a crazy person, but I do enjoy spending time with my cats. They bring a lot of joy to my life and I appreciate my cuddle time with them. I can proudly admit that I'm a crazy cat lady. I even have a magnet that says "Crazy Cat Lady" on my locker at work to prove it!

I enjoy working out on a regular basis. I usually get up pretty early, around four in the morning, to work out. One of my fitness heroes always says, "Exercise in the morning before your brain figures out what you're doing." It's so true. I find that if I don't do it in the morning, then I will find an excuse to not to do it later.

I really enjoy knitting! My mom taught me in March 2008 and since then I've made several scarves, blankets and doggie sweaters. I even taught my husband to knit and I'm pretty sure he's a much better knitter than me!

I really enjoy cooking and preparing my meals. I will often take pictures of what I cook on a regular basis and share it through Instagram and Facebook. I'm constantly in the kitchen. It's my sanctuary and another place in my home where I can meditate. *ff*

Contact Information:  
Public Affairs Office  
The United States Navy Band  
617 Warrington Ave. SE  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5054  
202-433-3366

Visit us on the Web at [www.navyband.navy.mil](http://www.navyband.navy.mil)  
[www.facebook.com/usnavyband](http://www.facebook.com/usnavyband)  
[www.twitter.com/usnavyband](http://www.twitter.com/usnavyband)  
to comment on this issue of *fanfare*,  
e-mail us at [navyband.comments@navy.mil](mailto:navyband.comments@navy.mil)