



fanfare

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2002 ★ VOLUME 23 ★ NUMBER 5

SPOTLITE CONTINUED...

directors, taught me my first "wind instrument" in the fourth grade – the Tonette. John Pickereel started me on tenor saxophone the next year and Pete Phillips saw me through junior high. My high school band director, Jack Snyder, was an exceptional theory teacher. The most formative experiences I had were the summers I spent at Dr. Frederick Fay Swift's New York State Music Camp in Oneonta, NY. It was at camp that I met Thomas A. Brown. I learned more about music – teaching, playing, and writing – from Tom than any other single individual. At 15 I wrote my first arrangement. I don't remember what caused me to think I could, or even why I wanted to, but by the time I was a junior I was good enough that I was hired to write charts for our local Kiwanis Club's annual variety show. After graduation from Shenandoah Conservatory of Music with a Bachelor of Music Education in 1971, I taught elementary band for a year, and then moved up to the band director's position at Hayfield Secondary School in Fairfax County, Virginia.

staff arranger...When I auditioned for the Commodores on tenor sax in the spring of 1976 I took along some of my charts. Unbeknownst to me they were looking for an arranger to fill Jay Chattaway's billet as Chief Arranger. Even though I'd been writing since high school and had just completed six graduate hours (to renew my teaching certificate) studying arranging with Mike Crotty, I hadn't considered the possibility of writing for a living until MUCM Jeff Taylor asked me if I'd be interested in taking a formal audition for Jay's job.

memories...Among my best Navy Band memories are the productions in which my children have performed. One of those was with the Concert Band at the U.S. Capitol. We put together a "father/son" rock band that included CDR John Pastin, MUC Scott Ragsdale, MU1 Gary Malvaso, our sons, and me. We decided to let our sons play the first tune by themselves. While their opening chord was excruciatingly loud it was also mercifully short lived. The kids drew so much power that they blew out the circuit breaker!

It's been an amazing 26 years. The Navy Band has played my music all over the United States and as far away as St. Petersburg, Russia. The great theologian, Martin Luther, noted that "Music is a fair and glorious gift of God." I'm blessed, and thankful, to have had the opportunity to participate in that gift in this way.

the future...As I mentioned, I've been teaching jazz band to middle and high school students. Last year we had three big bands and a combo involving around 50 kids, so teaching is going to be a big part of retirement. I'm also looking forward to building my "dream" model railroad layout now that Rochelle has ceded most of the basement to me.

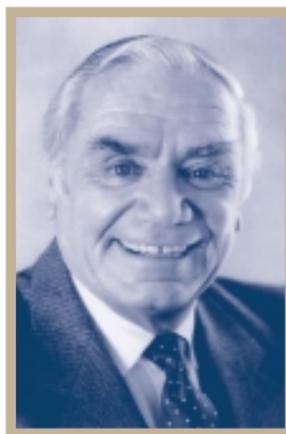
ERNEST BORGNINE NARRATES 227TH NAVY BIRTHDAY CONCERT

Once again the Navy Band looks forward to celebrating the Navy's birthday with a special concert sponsored by the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Vern Clark. This year's concert will be held on October 19, 2002 at DAR Constitution Hall beginning at 8:00 p.m. and will feature a special tribute to the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway narrated by Academy Award winning actor, Ernest Borgnine. As part of this tribute, three Midway veterans will tell their story of that tragic day when the Japanese sank the USS *Yorktown*.

Ernest Borgnine's participation as guest narrator

adds a special dimension to the theme of this concert. Not only did Borgnine win an Academy Award for his role in the 1955 movie, *Marty*, but he also served in the Navy from 1935 to 1945 and attained the rank of Chief Gunner's Mate. He also starred in the popular television series, *McHale's Navy*, from 1962 to 1966. Borgnine continues his close association with the Navy and was bestowed with the title "Honorary Flight Leader" for the Blue Angels and has been honored for his support of the Navy Memorial Foundation with the "Lone Sailor" award from that organization.

Commander Ralph M.



Academy Award winner, Ernest Borgnine

Gambone and all the members of the Navy Band encourage you to take part in this year's exciting event. In addition to the Midway Commemoration segment of the program, the "Commodores" jazz ensemble will recreate the big band era of the 40s with a medley of favorite tunes. The "Sea Chanters" chorus will present a medley of sea chanteys and soloists, Senior Chief Musician Wayne Taylor of the "Country Current" country-bluegrass group and Musician First Class Yolanda Pelzer of the Commodores will treat us with their vocal talents. See the performance calendar section of this issue for information on ordering tickets to the concert. It is one you won't want to miss! *ff*



Admiral Vern Clark, Chief of Naval Operations addresses the audience at the 2001 Navy Birthday Concert.

Performance Calendar

The U.S. Navy Band and specialty groups present the following FREE concerts. Tickets or reservations are not required unless noted (*). For more information call (202) 433-2525.

SEPTEMBER NAVY BAND & SEA CHANTERS

"LABOR DAY CONCERT"
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 8 P.M.
Navy Memorial
701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

NAVY BAND
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 8 P.M.
Great Mills High School
21130 Great Mills Rd.
Great Mills, Md.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 7:30 P.M.
"Symphonic Celebrations"
Bishop Ireton High School
210 Cambridge Rd.
Alexandria, Va.

SEA CHANTERS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 6:30 P.M.
Lake Redman
William Kain County Park
Hess Farm Rd.
Jacobus, Pa.

COUNTRY CURRENT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2:30 P.M.
Bowling Green Town Festival
Near the City Courthouse
Bowling Green, Va.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 7 P.M.
Rockbun Branch Park
6145 Montgomery Road
Elkridge, Md.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, TBD
Halifax County Harvest Days
State Rd. 903
Halifax, N.C.

COUNTRY CURRENT bluegrass quartet

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 10:40 A.M. & 2:40 P.M.*
Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival
Salem County Fairgrounds
7 miles East of Delaware Memorial Bridge
Woodstown, N.J.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, TBD
Deale Bluegrass Festival and Car Show
Herrington Harbour North Marina
Tracys Landing
Deale, Md.

CRUISERS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 4 P.M.
Garrett Lakes Fine Arts Festival
Deep Creek Lake State Park
McHenry, Md.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 7:30 P.M.
"23rd Annual Hampshire Heritage Days"
Downtown
Romney, W.Va.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 6:30 P.M.
North Beach Boardwalk Pavilion
Waterfront Boardwalk Pavilion
North Beach, Md.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 4 P.M.
St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
8908 Old Branch Ave.
Clinton, Md.

CEREMONIAL BAND
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 3:30 P.M.
Tattoo
Ft. McHenry National Monument
& Historic Shrine
Baltimore, Md.

OCTOBER

NAVY BAND
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 8:15 P.M.
Towson University
Center for the Arts Concert Hall
Towson, Md.

NAVY BAND & SEA CHANTERS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 7:30 P.M.
Pottstown High School Auditorium
748 North Washington St.
Pottstown, PA

COUNTRY CURRENT
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 12:30 P.M.
Old Fashioned Apple Harvest Festival
Burlington, W.Va.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER

NAVY BAND
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 8 P.M.
Metz Junior High School
9700 Fairview Ave.
Manassas, Va.

CHAMBER GROUPS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2 P.M.
Glenview Mansion
603 Edmonston Dr.
Rockville, Md.

COUNTRY CURRENT 2002 FALL TOUR

The Country Current country-bluegrass group departs November 4 on a 15-day tour through Arkansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas. The list of tour performances will appear in the November-December issue.

COMMODORES 2002 FALL TOUR

The Commodores jazz ensemble departs November 4 on an 18-day tour through Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. The list of tour performances will appear in the November-December issue.

227th NAVY BIRTHDAY CONCERT

The 2002 Navy Birthday concert is scheduled for **Saturday, October 19 at 8 p.m.** at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. Academy Award winner **Ernest Borgnine** will be the guest narrator. To receive up to four **FREE** tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped business envelope to*:

**Navy Birthday Tickets (FF)
U.S. Navy Band
617 Warrington Ave., S.E.
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5054**

*Requests will be accepted through October 11. All ticket requests are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

The United States Navy Band ■ Washington, D.C.
Commander Ralph M. Gambone, USN ■ Officer in Charge/Leader

All concert information is accurate at time of publication, though subject to change due to weather and other conditions. For concert updates call the 24-hour Navy Band Performance Calendar at (202) 433-2525, or visit us on the web at www.navyband.navy.mil.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

The United States Navy Band
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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



With the passing of the Labor Day weekend, summer has officially ended for the Navy Band and we now begin working on our fall and winter schedule. This schedule will be extensive and varied and will include national tours to the Southwestern United States for our "Commodores" jazz ensemble and "Country Current" country-bluegrass group. In addition, the "Sea Chanters" chorus will be participating in a memorial ceremony for those who lost their lives in the September 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon and the Ceremonial Band will be performing for the 911 Group Burial for the Pentagon at Arlington National Cemetery. We are proud and honored to represent our Navy and our country at these most important ceremonies.

This year's Navy Birthday concert will feature renowned actor Ernest Borgnine as our guest narrator along with the Navy Band, Sea Chanters, Commodores and vocalists from Country Current and the Cruisers. The concert features a very special tribute to the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway. Three Midway veterans, will be featured along with Mr. Borgnine as we commemorate the Battle of Midway through music and narration.

Our Navy Band Alumni Association reunion went very well this past August 4 - 5 in spite of our combined concert being rained out at the Navy Memorial on Monday night. Over 135 people attended this year's reunion, which is the largest number in the 17-year history of the association. Thanks to all who attended, it was wonderful seeing so many old friends once again. Special thanks to MUCM Don Stratton, USN (Ret.), MUCS Frank Seckler, USN (Ret.), and the alumni committee for their terrific work in making this year's reunion such an overwhelming success.

As you read this edition of FANFARE, please check your favorite Navy Band performing unit's schedule and see if you can take some time from your busy schedules to attend one of these concerts. We would love to see you!

Thank you again for your continued support of your United States Navy Band. We greatly appreciate it.

Ralph M. Gambone, Commander, USN
Officer in Charge/Leader

"I want to acknowledge your impressive team for the great job done supporting various ceremonies in the Washington area. I have had the pleasure of observing the Ceremonial Band recently at two changes of command at the Navy Yard. Your team is performing a vital service in upholding the traditions and values that have made our Navy and out nation so great."

John J. Young, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of the Navy

FEATURES/CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

NAVY BAND ALUMNI GATHERS AT THE SAIL LOFT

Over 135 Navy Band Alumni members and spouses gathered together for their semi-annual meeting. The festivities kicked off with a banquet at the Noncommissioned Officer's club at Andrew's Air Force Base on Sunday night, August 4. It was evident by the smiles, hugs and handshakes that old friends were glad to see each other again and reflect on days gone by. Association President, MUCM Don Stratton, USN (Ret.) held a brief business

Charge/Leader of the Navy Band to address the alumni members. Former member and oboist, Leonard Sjogren, now a Methodist minister in Bloomington, Ind. offered a blessing and all those in attendance were treated to an excellent buffet.

At the Sail Loft



Former Navy Band leader, Lt. Cmdr. and Mrs. Anthony A. Mitchell, at Sunday night's Alumni banquet.



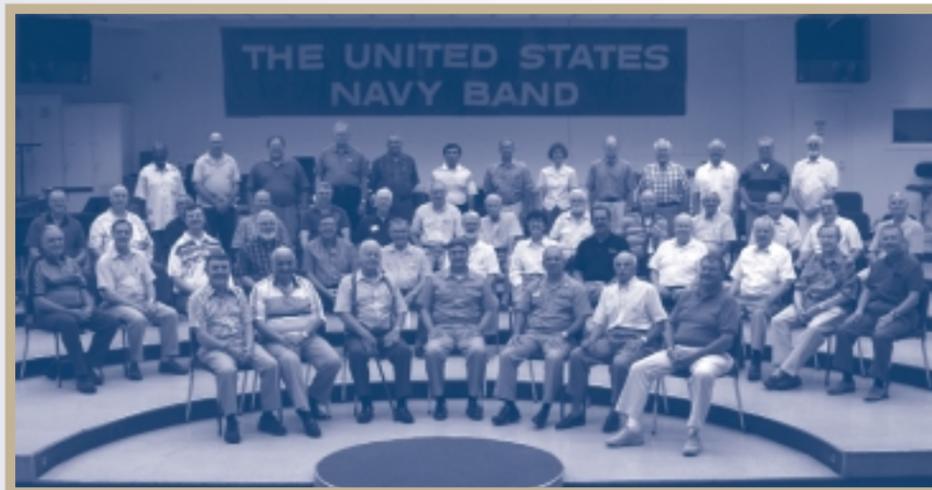
Members of the Navy Band and Alumni rehearse in the Sail Loft for the evening concert.

meeting before dinner and invited Commander Ralph M. Gambone, Officer in

charge on Monday morning, the alumni were treated to coffee and doughnuts and the

opportunity to view a display board of pictures from Sunday's banquet, the Sail Loft at various points in time and those members who have passed on since the last meeting. This gathering at the Sail Loft holds great significance to past members because it will be the last time they can see the Navy Band building as it was before a complete renovation takes place beginning in January 2003.

Promptly at 9:00 a.m. Cmdr. Gambone assembled the Navy Band and those alumni who chose to sit in and began to



Cmdr. Ralph M. Gambone and Lt. Cmdr. Melvin P. Kessler (front row center) are joined by former leaders (Cmdr. Donald Stauffer and Lt. Cmdr. Anthony Mitchell) and members of the Navy Band Alumni Association in the Sail Loft.

rehearse for the evening's concert to be held at the Navy Memorial. Former leaders Cmdr. Donald Stauffer and Lt. Cmdr. Anthony Mitchell each



Retired Chief Musician's Heidi Hunter and Jim Allen pose for a picture at the Navy Band Alumni Association's Banquet.

conducted the band and looked to be in great form. Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate and the evening concert was cancelled. However, there was a final reception held at the Navy Memorial and "farewells and following seas" were shared until the next reunion in 2004.

THE UNITED STATES NAVY BAND ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES:

CONCERT/CEREMONIAL BAND

French horn By Appointment
Trumpet By Appointment

COMMODORES JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Bass Trombone October 24

COUNTRY CURRENT COUNTRY-BLUEGRASS GROUP

Pedal Steel Guitar By Appointment
Electric Guitar/ Vocals December 10 & 11

SEA CHANTERS CHORUS

First Tenor By Appointment

CRUISERS

ROCK ENSEMBLE
Saxophone By Appointment (background vocals)
Keyboard By Appointment (background vocals)

STAFF

Sound Technician By Appointment

For more information call: Senior Chief Musician Stuart McLean Audition Supervisor at (202) 433-2840. Or email: auditions@navyband.navy.mil.

WELCOME ABOARD TO...

Lieutenant Junior Grade Joseph E. Dolsak, who reports to the Navy Band as the Administrative Officer. Lt. j.g. Dolsak comes to the Navy Band after serving as the Music Program Liaison Officer at the Navy Office of Information in Washington, D.C. The Navy Band takes pleasure in welcoming Lt. j.g. Dolsak and his wife Teresa.



LTJG Joseph E. Dolsak

CONGRATULATIONS TO...



MUC Aaron L. Porter

Chief Musician Aaron L. Porter, French hornist with the Navy Band, on his selection as "Chief of the Quarter"...and to Musician First Class Kristin A. Pagent, soprano vocalist with the Sea Chanters, on her selection as "Sailor of the Quarter" for the period April-June 2002...and to the Navy Band's new Chief Musicians J. Kelly Diamond, John L. Fisher, James N. Fox, and Christopher J. Raifsnider...and to Senior Chief Musician Timothy A. Dickson; and Chief Musicians David E. Morse and Timothy E. Roberts on receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal...and to Chief Musician Juan Vazquez; and Musicians First Class David G. Malvaso, Suzanne N. Rice and Jamie W. Way on receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.



MU1 Kristin A. Pagent

CONGRATULATIONS AND FAREWELL TO...

Senior Chief Musicians Jeffrey L. Deegan, pianist for the Commodores, who received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal on the occasion of his retirement after 26 years of service and Bryan Kidd, Head Arranger for the Navy Band, who received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal on the occasion of his retirement after 26 years of service.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Come to any Navy Band concert and you will hear the group play great sounding pieces of music. Have you ever wondered where all those arrangements come from? Well, the Navy Band is fortunate to have a world-class arranging staff that writes not only arrangements of tunes for all the Navy Band units, but original pieces as well. Unfortunately, we must say farewell to the band's Chief Arranger, Senior Chief Musician Bryan Kidd. MUCS Kidd has contributed many wonderful arrangements and original compositions to the Navy Band throughout his long and distinguished career. As you can tell from his plans though, he won't be at a loss for what to do. We will miss his sharp wit and many talents and wish him fair winds and following seas.

MUCS Bryan Kidd

background...I'm from Waynesboro, Virginia and my wife Rochelle is from the Bronx. Rochelle plays cello, our daughter, Jennifer, plays the viola, piano and vibraphone, and our son, Benjamin, a third year electrical engineering major at the University of Virginia, plays string bass and violin. Both kids have played in the jazz bands I've been teaching in my off-duty time for the last six years. My parents, Bill and Anne Kidd, are also musical. Dad played drums in his college dance band, "Cap' Kidd and His Buccaneers" (that's where we got the idea for the pirate band's name for the last few Navy Band Lollipops Concerts). My mother taught piano and was my first music teacher when I was eight.

education...Jim Lunceford, a legend among Virginia's band

Visit us on the web at www.navyband.navy.mil

Contact Information

Public Affairs Office
The United States Navy Band
617 Warrington Ave., S.E.
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5054

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www.navyband.navy.mil