

fanfare

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NATIONAL TOURS
PROTOCOL DUTIES
SPOTLIGHT ON MUCS PETE CZEKAJ



THE UNITED STATES
NAVY BAND
WASHINGTON, D.C.



2012-2015

AMERICA'S
NAVY



A Message from the Commanding Officer

Happy new year to all of you! It seems like it was only yesterday that we were celebrating the beginning of 2012, yet here we are welcoming 2013. This past year has been another great one for your Navy Band. We've been busier than ever, with more than 1,700 performances. Our 2012 highlights included four national tours; Navy Weeks in Baltimore, Boston and Nashville; and appearances on NBC, PBS and Fox News. In addition, we welcomed 10 new musicians and promoted 15 members of the band.

We have a lot of exciting things coming up. This month we'll be holding our 36th International Saxophone Symposium. Later in January, we'll be participating in the presidential inauguration, including fielding a 99-piece ceremonial band for the inaugural parade. This will be my first inauguration and I'm really looking forward to it. In February and March, the Concert Band and Sea Chanters depart on their national concert tours to the western United States. Please check out their full tour schedules at:

http://www.navyband.navy.mil/National_Tour.shtml and click on "Upcoming Tours."



Our first class petty officers will be taking the rating exam for chief petty officer this month. It's a grueling exam, and we all wish them the best of luck!

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

fanfare

Volume 34 Number 1
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Front Cover: Members of the Navy Band Windjammers woodwind quintet pose with Vice President and Mrs. Biden after a protocol job at the vice president's residence.

U.S. Navy file photo

CONCERT BAND

The Navy band is a treasure. What a fabulous way to both showcase and serve our country. Kudos to all involved.

Mary – Washington

Protocol jobs: the Navy Band you don't see

By Master Chief Musician Aaron Porter

Most of our audience is aware that beyond public performances we have a busy schedule of military ceremonies such as funerals at Arlington Cemetery and other events for high-level military and civilian dignitaries. However, there is a high priority and very important part of our mission which takes place behind the scenes that most people don't know about. We call these "protocol jobs." What exactly does that mean? For example, the chief of naval operations (CNO) or secretary of defense might host a foreign counterpart for a few days of meetings and discussions. While the bulk of these conversations are related to improving military and diplomatic relations, the host often invites the visitors to his or her residence for dinner and some entertainment. When called upon to provide entertainment for an event of this kind, a small group can provide background music before dinner or a more involved performance tailored to the musical tastes of the guest.

Protocol engagements are performed by small ensembles and vocalists from the Sea Chanters. Ensembles like the woodwind quintet, clarinet

quartet, harp-flute duo and brass quintet and quartet are often featured. Country Current is also a big favorite, as are solo guitarists Musician 1st Class Joe Friedman and Chief Musicians Kenny Carr and Gary Malvaso.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said, "Music is the universal language of mankind." Beyond the entertainment these performances provide, they play an enormous part in fostering goodwill, diplomacy and improving foreign relations. The band members know ahead of time the nationality of the guests, and they often perform songs in their language or music that is evocative of their country. Many members have returned from these jobs with great stories about the heartfelt, genuine emotions their performances have imparted to the hosts and guests.

One notable example of this occurred when a group of four vocalists and the rhythm section from the Sea Chanters performed this summer at Tingey House, CNO Adm. Jonathan Greenert's residence at the Washington Navy

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An inside look at tour operations

By Musician 1st Class Adam K. Grimm

For almost 90 years, the Navy Band has traveled across the United States, performing concerts from sea to shining sea. For the first 60 years, the Navy Band had a civilian tour director. Since 1986, however, the band's national tours have been planned and organized by a member of the command.

Senior Chief Musician Matt Neff became the Navy Band's fourth national tour director in 2010. The tour operations office was created by Master Chief Musician John Haderly in 1985, following a change in funding for national tours. Following Haderly, Master Chief Musicians Art Swanson and Bob Snider headed the office.

As Neff can tell you, it's a busy office. In 2012, the office planned four tours, with 76 concerts in 20 states. Busses, vans and trucks covered 11,240 miles. Neff relies on a staff of 15 musicians to help plan, organize and execute each tour.

Ideally, the planning for each tour starts a year before each group hits the road. "Though sometimes," Neff

says, "we have to wait until money is cleared and we have a budget." It all begins with a mass mailing of letters and emails to past sponsors and contacts in the region that the group will be touring. As the responses come in, the tour managers will start to assemble possible routes. Once a route takes shape, they'll make calls to previous sponsors to fill in the holes.

Once the route is firmly established, usually six months before tour, the tour managers begin working on more closely with sponsors, in addition to booking hotels



MUC Emily Dickson introduces a young patron to her harp after a U.S. Navy Concert Band concert in Zanesville, Ohio. (U.S. Navy Photo by Musician 1st Class Shana Catandella/Released)

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COUNTRY CURRENT

I had never heard of Country Current but I would definitely love to see them again. The members were a pleasure to watch and listen to. Thank you for such a wonderful concert and a wonderful memory to look back on and likewise look forward to seeing again.

Ann-Marie – Ocean Bluff, Mass.



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. For the most up-to-date information, please check our online performance calendar at: www.navyband.navy.mil

JANUARY CONCERT BAND

FRIDAY, JAN. 4, 8 P.M.
INTERNATIONAL SAXOPHONE
SYMPOSIUM

George Mason University
Center for the Arts
Fairfax, Va.

FRIDAY, JAN. 11, 7:30 P.M.
South County High School
8501 Silverbrook Road
Lorton, Va.

FRIDAY, JAN. 25, 7:30 P.M.
Clarksburg High School
22500 Wims Road
Clarksburg, Md.

SEA CHANTERS
SATURDAY, JAN. 26, 7 P.M.

Colonial Forge High School
550 Courthouse Road
Stafford, Va.

COMMODORES
SATURDAY, JAN. 5, 8 P.M.
INTERNATIONAL SAXOPHONE
SYMPOSIUM

George Mason University
Center for the Arts
Fairfax, Va.

COUNTRY CURRENT
SATURDAY, JAN. 26, 7 P.M.
Patuxent High School
12485 Southern Connector Blvd.
Lusby, Md.

BRASS QUINTET
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30, 7 P.M.
TUBA-EUPHONIUM WORKSHOP

Brucker Hall
Ft. Myer, Va.

FEBRUARY
SEA CHANTERS
SUNDAY, FEB. 17, 2 P.M.

Handley High School
Patsy Cline Theater
425 Handley Blvd.
Winchester, Va.

COMMODORES
SATURDAY, FEB. 16, 11 A.M.
Amy DuPont Music Building
University of Delaware
Amstel Ave. and Orchard Road
Newark, Del.

BRASS QUARTET
SATURDAY, FEB. 2, 7 P.M.
Westminster at Lake Ridge Center
12191 Clipper Drive
Woodbridge, Va.

WINDJAMMERS
FRIDAY, FEB. 8, 8 P.M.
Old Town Hall
3999 University Drive
Fairfax, Va.

CONCERT BAND TOUR
The Concert Band will depart
Feb. 12 on a 18-day national
concert tour through California,

Colorado, Oregon, Nevada, Utah
and Washington. The following
is a list of tour performances. For
more information visit http://www.navyband.navy.mil/tour_concert_band.shtml.

TUESDAY, FEB. 12, 7 P.M.
Rogers High School Gymnasium
12801 86th Ave. East
Puyallup, Wash.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13, 7:30 P.M.
Everett Civic Auditorium
2416 Colby Ave.
Everett, Wash.

THURSDAY, FEB. 14, 7:30 P.M.
Skyview High School Auditorium
1300 NW 139th St.
Vancouver, Wash.

FRIDAY, FEB. 15, 7:30 P.M.
Willamette University
Smith Auditorium
900 State St.
Salem, Ore.

SATURDAY, FEB. 16, 7:30 P.M.
Umpqua Community
College Auditorium
1140 Umpqua College Road
Roseburg, Ore.

SUNDAY, FEB. 17, 3 P.M.
Redding Civic Auditorium
700 Auditorium Dr.
Redding, Calif.

COMMODORES

I knew that I was hearing some of the best musicians in the nation. You are a bright spot in our lives and serve as excellent examples of inspiration, discipline, and creativity.

Pamela – Asheville, N.C.

MONDAY, FEB. 18, 7:30 P.M.

National Steinbeck Center
Sherwood Concert Hall
940 N. Main St.
Salinas, Calif.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20, 6:30 P.M.

Oxnard Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way
Oxnard, Calif.

THURSDAY, FEB. 21, 7 P.M.

Vista Murrieta High School
28251 Clinton Keith Road
Murrieta, Calif.

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

Orange Coast College
Robert B. Moore Theater
2701 Fairview Road
Costa Mesa, Calif.

SATURDAY, FEB. 23, 11 A.M.

Disneyland
1313 S. Harbor Blvd.
Anaheim, Calif.

SUNDAY, FEB. 24, 2 P.M.

UNLV Performing Arts Center
4505 S. Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, Nev.

TUESDAY, FEB. 26, 7:30 P.M.

The Heritage Theater
105 North 100 East
Cedar City, Utah

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27, 7:30 P.M.

College of Eastern Utah
Bunnell-Dmitrich Athletic Center
451 East 400 North
Price, Utah

THURSDAY, FEB. 28, 7:30 P.M.

Grand Junction High School
Auditorium
1400 North 5th St.
Grand Junction, Colo.

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 will depart Feb. 25 on a 20-day national concert tour through Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri and Texas. The following is a partial list of tour performances. For more information visit http://www.navyband.navy.mil/tour_sea_chanters.shtml.

MONDAY, FEB. 25, 4 P.M.

Disneyland
1313 S. Harbor Blvd.
Anaheim, Calif.

TUESDAY, FEB. 26, 6:30 P.M.

Sunrise Park
Palm Springs, Calif.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27, 7 P.M.

Beardsley Park
12501 W. Beardsley Rd.
Sun City West, Ariz.

THURSDAY, FEB. 28, 7:30 P.M.

Prescott High School
Ruth Street Theater
1050 N. Ruth St.
Prescott, Ariz.

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 PM

Mitchell High School
1205 Potter Drive
Colorado Springs, Colo.

THURSDAY, MAR. 7, 7:30 PM

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.

CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

My deal with the U.S. Navy is, you play and I'll listen! Wonderful chamber music concert tonight at the Alexandria Masonic Memorial... four saxophone sound SO cool...! Thank you!

Wesley – Facebook

Protocol continued...

Yard. The guest of honor was Adm. Júlio Soares de Moura Neto, commander of the Brazilian navy. Quite by chance, the newest member of the Sea Chanters, Musician 1st Class Dennys Moura, is fluent in Portuguese. According to the after-action report, "MU1 Moura (first time at the CNO's residence) introduced the group in Portuguese and from that moment the crowd was completely engaged. The admiral and Mrs. Greenert spent at least 20 minutes speaking with the musicians about how much they appreciated us and the job that we do. When talking about programming Mrs. Greenert told us that she trusts us completely; we always surpass her expectations and surprise her. Tonight was a total success for the Navy Band." To top it off, Moura also sang a solo in Portuguese.

In December, eight vocalists from the Sea Chanters performed at holiday parties hosted by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin Dempsey. The after-action-report states: "We performed during the last 15 minutes of each party before a captive audience. The program included "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," "The Christmas Song," "Let It Snow" and "Silent

National tours continued...

and working out exact travel routes.

About six to eight weeks before tour, the tour managers advance the entire tour. They drive the route to make sure that the roads can accommodate busses and trucks; they visit each venue to double-check equipment access and stage dimensions; they meet with hotels to make sure they are ready to house the band; and finally, they sometimes conduct interviews on local news media to promote the band and the Navy.

One big difference in the tour operations office today is that, unlike his predecessors, Neff is still a full-time performer in the band (the Commodores). He credits this with the technological changes that have taken place in the last 10 years. "We used to communicate via fax and typewriter, but now we can conduct a lot of business over email," Neff says. He also credits his two assistant tour operations chiefs, Senior Chief Musician Steve Williams and Chief Musician Eric Lopez, with taking care of a lot of the correspondence and handling details with the tour managers. Neff continues, "My role is to keep track of deadlines, timelines and budgets."

Night." The prepared encore was "Christmas in Killarney" with General Dempsey singing lead. General Dempsey and his wife were extremely complimentary. He publicly praised our talents and gift of music. He stated, "Your phenomenal artistry is a gift to us that lets us forget about our troubles even for a few moments, and that's the point."

As this edition went to print, the Navy Band has performed a total of 76 protocol jobs in 2012 for hosts such as the CNO, vice president, secretaries of the Navy and defense, chairman and vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, State Department, Defense Intelligence Agency, master chief petty officer of the Navy and Foreign Liaison Office.

These performances are not public and are not listed on our calendar. Performed without advertisement and out of the public spotlight, they are nonetheless one of our top priorities. They are an important part in helping our civilian and military leaders promote international partnership, teamwork, goodwill and diplomacy. They showcase American diversity and culture and the talented, professional musicians in your United States Navy Band. Protocol jobs are the Navy Band you don't see. *ff*



The marquee outside the Palace Theater in Marion, Ohio, announces a sold out concert by the U.S. Navy Band Sea Chanters chorus as the crowd extends around the block. The Sea Chanters performed at the Palace Theater in Marion for the second of their 18 tour performances across the Midwest. (U.S. Navy Photo by Musician 1st Class Casey Elliott/Released)

One change that Neff fears is the disappearance of small newspapers and banks. "They have traditionally been very reliable sponsors, but it seems like a lot of these local resources aren't there as much anymore."

The Concert Band leaves on their tour of the West coast on Feb. 12, and the Sea Chanters start their tour of the same area on Feb. 25. *ff*

COMMODORES

A huge thank you to you guys for coming out to the University of Memphis last night!!! Y'all were awesome!!

Neal – Facebook

Spotlight on... MUCS Pete Czekaj

by Senior Chief Musician Juan Vazquez

As musicians, we all strive for a great performance. That would not be possible without great sound. Senior Chief Musician Pete Czekaj, audio/visual unit leader and his excellent staff provide that on a daily basis.

Tell us a little about yourself.

I was born in Niagara Falls, N.Y., but grew up in Lockport. At the age of 10 I began playing the trumpet, but I really didn't become serious until five years later. I began studying with Brian Lewis, who now teaches at the Berklee School of Music in Boston, then later with Wayne Linehan, who now performs with the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra. I continued my studies at the State University of New York (SUNY) in Buffalo receiving a bachelor's degree in music performance. I also attended the summer program at the Brevard Music Center during my last two years at SUNY.

As a youngster, I was always interested in audio, sound and electronics. I played with the Radio Shack electronics kits and our home stereo. At the age of 15 I built my first set of speakers. They were okay, but I knew I could do better. This was the beginning of my long journey into audio engineering

What was the deciding factor to put the trumpet down and become a full-time audio engineer?

When I first joined the Navy as a trumpet player I had no idea that serving as a full-time audio engineer was even a possibility. After reporting to my first duty station in Naples, Italy, I soon learned that my audio skills were needed. The band had just received a new sound mixer and no one knew how to use some of its functions. I soon was running sound and training others how to mix. The only problem was that I also had to play the trumpet and sometimes sing. Knowing that this was not going to work, I proposed having full-time sound personnel for all of the Navy's fleet bands. In 1996, with the help of two of the audio engineers from the Navy Band in Washington, we held our first audio training course for the fleet. At this time I was informed of openings in the Navy Band and was "ordered" to audition. This

was really what I had wanted for a long time and I made the choice to put the trumpet in the case. But that didn't last and after 8 years the bug bit me so I pulled out the trumpet and started practicing again. Lucky for me, the band had a need for extra trumpet players and I volunteered my services. Now I get plenty of time to play again to satisfy my needs.



MUCS Pete Czekaj

Describe your role as the audio/visual unit leader.

As the audio/visual unit leader, I mostly "put out fires." The engineers that I have working for me are fantastic at their jobs and handle all of the audio needs for their assigned group. They choose each piece of equipment needed, from the microphones, speakers, mixers and extra electronics to the cables and connectors. They set it up, operate it, tear it down and do it all over again for each performance. The real work comes when we have a situation where sound equipment is provided at a venue. The major part of my day is taken up with digitally transferring and archiving all the analog tape recordings in our library. I've been at this for five years and am more than two-thirds finished. The performance tapes are from 1949 through 1990. Currently I am transferring performances from 1976. Once this project is complete, the music will be available for band members to reference and hear just how former members performed certain works. The project is very time consuming but an important resource to have.

Describe a typical day.

My day usually starts at 0700 (7 a.m. for the non-military folks). I'll begin my morning by practicing the trumpet for an hour. From there it's time to check up on unit requests, email and any audio needs for the command. I'll then fire up the archive computer system and get a few recordings going; usually preparing a tape transfer or burning discs. If I'm lucky I can get a few

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

COMMODORES

@usnavyband Commodores may be the best Big Band anywhere...Christmas music swingin' like the Basie band. Taping #NationalChristmasTree for PBS

@bscanlanCSPAN - Twitter

fanfare

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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Spotlight continued...

solid hours in before something comes up and I have to put on one of my other hats. Collaterally, I serve as the inventory control manager, applications programmer and key control officer.

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

I used to spend all my free time with my dog, but this past October she passed away. So, I am currently looking for new hobbies. I do spend my vacation time traveling to Singapore to be with my husband. (We finally got married this past January.) The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) does not allow me to sponsor him for a green card or citizenship, and we don't share any of the benefits other married couples get in the military like medical and dental, life insurance, commissary privileges and such. Things are looking up and I feel DOMA will eventually be repealed and the Uniting American Families Act will be passed. I'm grateful for the support of everyone here at my Navy Band family.

Other than that I collect single malt scotch. *ff*



Fair winds and following seas to...

MUC E. Daryl Duff
vocalist with the Sea Chanters who retired after 23 years of service. He was awarded the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal in recognition of his service.



Chief of the Quarter
MUC Greta Loggins



Sailor of the Quarter
MU1 Lera League

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