

# THE QUARTER NOTE

## Marine Corps Band New Orleans



### FROM THE BAND

Welcome to the very first issue of the Marine Corps Band New Orleans' newsletter, The Quarter Note. We are excited to launch this quarterly newsletter and hope this publication will allow all of our fans to get to know the members of the band as well as keeping you up to date when and where you can see the band perform.

We have had a great time performing for people both at home in New Orleans and around the country. Now we would like to hear from you; if you have any comments or stories you would like to share with us please contact us at [marinecorpsbandnola@usmc.mil](mailto:marinecorpsbandnola@usmc.mil). Also, feel free to share this email address and newsletter with your friends and family.

### April 1-June 30

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## Fiesta Festival, San Antonio, Texas

Since 1891 the citizens of San Antonio have honored the heroes of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto with the Battle of Flowers, celebrating their sacrifice and the peace they achieved. The Battle of Flowers was an immediate success.

Within a few years more events were taking place on or near April 21; a carnival, balls and coronations of “royalty.” The Fiesta tradition was born, a weeklong celebration of Texas history.

The Marine Corps Band New Orleans concert band performed “Marines at the

Alamo.” The concert in front of the historic Alamo featured a collection of music with Latin influence. As a treat to the crowd, the concert ended with traditional New Orleans jazz selections, adding a Mardi Gras twist to the Fiesta.

The Marines also appeared in the Battle of Flowers parade and the Fiesta Flambeau parade. The crowds rose to their feet as the Marines marched through the city of San Antonio as the sound of New Orleans jazz filled their ears.



*Marine Corps Band New Orleans Concert Band performs in front of The Alamo in San Antonio Texas.*

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## Navy Week 1812



*Marine Corps Band New Orleans ceremonial band performs aboard the U.S.S. Wasp*

This year between April 17 and 23 the Marine Corps Band New Orleans participated in the 1812 Navy Week. This year’s Navy Week in New Orleans kicked off a three-year national celebration commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the War of 1812.

The Battle of New Orleans occurred on January 8, 1815 and was the final battle of the War of 1812. This battle was fought several days after peace had been declared. The peace negotiations were in Paris, France and the news had not yet reached the States. This battle was significant in that it was a major American victory over the British army that included regiments that had successfully

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## Sturgis Falls Celebration Cedar Falls, Iowa

From June 21<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> the Marine Corps Band New Orleans participated in the Sturgis Falls celebration in Cedar Falls, Iowa. The Sturgis Falls celebration grew out of the 1976 Cedar Falls bicentennial celebration. It is named after William Sturgis, who founded the community of Sturgis Falls in 1845 when he settled there with his family. During this celebration the Marine Corps Band New Orleans performed patriotic music as well as New Orleans style music as to honor the Mardi Gras theme of the festival.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June the Marine Corps Band New Orleans Marching Band stepped off to lead the Sturgis Falls parade bringing Mardi Gras to the streets of Cedar Falls. After the parade the Marine Corps Band New Orleans

Brass Band stepped on stage to entertain all in attendance at the celebration at Overman park. Their repertoire included such crowd-pleasing classics as “When the Saints Go Marching In” and “Bourbon Street Parade” as well as modern staples like “Brooklyn” by the Youngblood Brass Band and “Voodoo Groove” by the Dirty Dozen Brass Band.

To close out the day’s festivities as well as the Marine’s contribution to the celebration, the Marine Corps Band New Orleans Concert Band provided a patriotic concert in the Overman Park band shell.

Marine Corps bands have been attending the Sturgis Falls festival for over ten years. We are proud to have been able to continue this tradition with our first visit to Cedar Falls.

## Navy Week

defended against Napoleon in Europe.

The ships that sailed through the city include the Coast Guard's tall ship Eagle, Great Britain's HMS Montrose, the USS Mitscher, France's FS Germinal, the USS De Wert, Canada's HMCS St. Johns, the USS Wasp, Ecuador's tall ship Guayas and Indonesia's tall ship Dewaruci.

The Marine Corps Band New Orleans greeted the ships with our Ceremonial Band and Brass Band, welcoming them to New Orleans and entertaining the spectators. Though it rained the opening day of the week, Marine Corps Band New Orleans Ceremonial Band still went down to the Riverwalk to perform to the delight of the shoppers and spectators. For the remainder of the week the band and the ships had blue skies and calm waters. The Ceremonial Band played alongside several ships that were opened to the public and even performed aboard the U.S.S. Wasp.

The Marine Corps Band New Orleans Brass Band drew crowds, as always, as they performed along the riverside and at the Warf. The unique New Orleans style brass band sound even drew the attention of the crews of the visiting ships as several officers and sailors from Ecuador and Britain stopped to enjoy the music and interact with the Marines.

## Fiesta San Antonio

Marine Corps Band New Orleans has participated in the San Antonio Fiesta many times in the past and the celebration has become a favorite among the bandsmen. "The crowd seemed to love us. Most of the parade you couldn't hear yourself think because of all the yelling and cheering," said SSgt Matthew Heen of his first visit to Fiesta San Antonio. "I can't wait to do it again next year!"

## MUSICAL NOTES

### Upcoming Performances

The band will be in the following cities to commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812. For more information visit us on [Facebook](#) and click on 'Events'

Milwaukee, WI Aug 6-13

Chicago, IL Aug 15-20

Toledo, OH Aug 23-27

Cleveland, OH Aug 29- Sept 3

Detroit, MI Sept 4-10

Buffalo, NY Sept 11-17

### Band News

#### Promotions

On June 1<sup>st</sup> Adam Atkins was promoted to Sergeant

#### Hails

Since April 1<sup>st</sup> LCpl Christopher Key trombone, LCpl Michael Prater piano, LCpl Christopher Rodriguez clarinet, and LCpl Kinsey Spurr flute have joined the band.

The band also welcomed Master Sergeant William Call as he assumes the duties of the Bandmaster for Marine Corps Band New Orleans.

#### Farewells

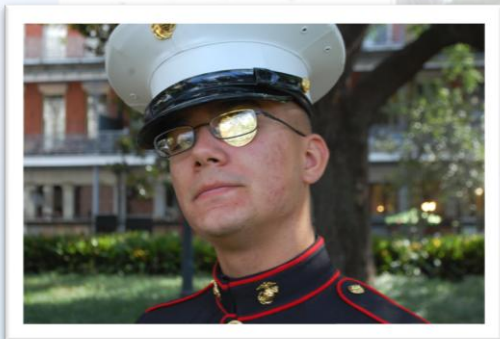
Since April 1<sup>st</sup> the band has said goodbye to Sgt Joseph Kratzke, Sgt Timothy Hamilton, and Sgt Meredith Leftlet. We wish them well as they begin their life in the civilian world.

We also said goodbye to Sgt Jason Russell and Sgt Morgan Bounds as they began a new chapter of their Marine Corps life. Sgt Russell left for the Paris Island Band and Sgt Bounds left for the San Diageo band.

On June 1<sup>st</sup> Bandmaster MSgt Kevin Hunter retired after 26 years. He received the Meritorious Service Medal upon his retirement.

#### Other News

On March 7<sup>th</sup> Sgt King had a baby boy. He is named Peyton King.



### Meet the Band

*Cpl John Otero*

*Flute/Piccolo*

**HOMETOWN:** Elmira, NY

**JOINED THE BAND:** May 2011

**PET:** 2 Cats, Smokey and Skeeter

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** The Hangover

**FAVORITE FOOD:** Spaghetti

**HOBBIES:** Soccer

**PET PEEVE:** Bad Hygiene

**FAVORITE PIECE OF MUSIC:** The Marriage of Figaro

*Marine Corps Band New Orleans*

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