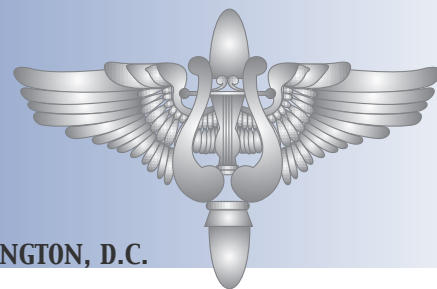


Cadenza

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BAND ★ WASHINGTON, D.C.



“Deck the Festive Halls” with The Air Force Band at Constitution Hall

By Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Kirkland

The United States Air Force Band proudly presents its 2005 holiday concert series, “Deck the Festive Halls.” Featuring the Concert Band and Singing Sergeants, the program will usher in the holiday season. There will also be an appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus, and a traditional audience sing-along.



The Concert Band and Singing Sergeants during the recent *Christmas in August* concert on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

Performance times and dates are:

Friday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 4 at 3 p.m.

This year, tickets are not required for the evening performances. Free tickets to the matinees will be available for pick-up on November 5, 10, 15, and 17 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Constitution Hall box office located at C and 18th Streets NW in Washington, DC. Unclaimed seats will be released fifteen minutes prior to each performance, so non-ticket-holders are encouraged to attend. For further information, please call our 24-hour concert line at 202-767-5658, or visit our website, www.USAFBand.com.

November/December
2005

Holiday Jazz and Patriotic Pizzazz

Band Will Release Three New CDs

By Master Sgt. Bob Thurston

The U.S. Air Force Band will soon release three new recordings.

A Holiday Note from Home, The Airmen of Note's newest recording, is dedicated to our the deployed Airmen, and features 13 popular tunes including the spiritual *Go Tell It On the Mountain*, *The Christmas Waltz*, the Kwanzaa-inspired *Imani* and *You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch*. All of the music was arranged by members of the Airmen of Note and the U.S. Air Force Band arranging staff.

Another troop-support project, *Home of the Brave*, is a collection of patriotic and inspirational music performed by six of The Band's eight ensembles. In addition to such traditional favorites as *God Bless America*, *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* and *America the Beautiful*, the CD will include more modern musical takes, such as John Williams' *Hymn to the Fallen* from the motion picture *Saving Private Ryan*.

A special highlight is Master Sgt. John Bliss's powerful original composition *Birds of Thunder*, inspired by the daring pilots of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds.

Home of the Brave features the U.S. Air Force Ceremonial Brass, Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band, Singing Sergeants and Max Impact.

Also in December, the Air Force Concert Band will release *American Treasures*, featuring six classics from the standard band repertoire, all by American composers. Selections include Vittorio Giannini's *Symphony No. 3*, Robert Russell Bennett's *Suite of Old American Dances* and William Schuman's *American Hymn*. (Patriotic Pizzazz on page 4)



MSGts Kevin Burns, Brian MacDonald and Richard Sigler at the recording session for the Note CD, *A Holiday Note from Home*.

★ AMERICA'S INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL AMBASSADORS ★
Colonel Dennis M. Layendecker, Commander and Music Director

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

At long last the heat of summer has broken, and we are full-swing into a busy fall. We've enjoyed a successful Jazz Heritage Series thus far and are leaning forward for our holiday DAR Constitution Hall series. I encourage you to come see our final JHS concert Nov. 12, with vocalist Tierney Sutton. My appreciation and thanks go out to all the members who worked so hard to make these events possible, especially Chief Master Sgt. Dudley Hinote, Master Sgt. Shani Prewitt, and Senior Master Sgt. Betsy Campeau and her Public Affairs team.

I would also like to welcome the two newest members of our USAF Band family, Capt. Michael Willen and Senior Master Sgt. Ishraph Mohammed. Capt. Willen has jumped into the roles and duties of the squadron section commander. He is a brilliant young officer who has spent these past couple of years doing great work as the deputy commander of The United States Air Force Academy Band, Peterson AFB, Colo. Senior Master Sgt. "Ish" Mohammed is our new First Sergeant. He comes to us with a wealth of experience from across our Air Force, including deployments as a "first shirt" for our forces in Iraq. I am truly delighted to welcome both of these fine men and look forward to working with them.



With sadness I wish to share with all of you news I received by e-mail in mid-September. Our music world lost a great ally and friend on September 17. Dr. Alfred Reed contributed over 50 years of wonderful music to all of us. In my personal experience he was an extraordinarily kind man with a very generous spirit. He was always very supportive to me personally. Dr. Reed was the former broadcast production director and associate conductor of the 529th Army Air Corps Band. Our thoughts are with his family and our eternal gratitude rests with him.

These last months have seen much pain in our country including the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the displacement of thousands from their homes, the anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001 - all events that remind us how fragile life really is, and how important it is to be grateful for the freedoms we enjoy. As the beauty of autumn unfolds around us, we remember with you in thanksgiving just how much we truly enjoy and how blessed we are as a great nation. Many of our brothers and sisters in uniform will spend the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday defending our freedom and all of those blessings far away from their families, friends and the comforts of home. Please keep them in your kindest thoughts throughout this season as they continue their vitally important missions with the spirit captured in the timeless thoughts of President Abraham Lincoln:

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan - to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

Very Respectfully,

The United States Air Force Band is wholeheartedly committed to reflecting the diversity of our great nation. We actively encourage individuals from all cultural and ethnic backgrounds to learn about our organization and seek positions with "America's International Musical Ambassadors."

Band Members Refine Performance Skills in Workshops

Most members of the U.S. Air Force Band have music degrees or the equivalent professional experience, but now and then it's helpful to revisit the basics or to expand horizons. Many members take advantage of training opportunities through lessons and seminars with respected conductors, performers and music scholars. Three recent workshops gave Band members across the squadron the chance to refine their musical knowledge and improve the performance of their primary Air Force duties.

The Singing Sergeants and the arranging staff spent three days in September with Dr. Mack Wilberg, associate conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in Salt Lake City, Utah. Dr. Wilberg, a prolific composer and arranger of choral music, conducted the Singing Sergeants on a September 17 concert featuring several of his own arrangements.



Dr. Mack Wilberg coaches arranger TSGT Tadd Russo as part of a September master class.

He also spent some time with the Band's staff of composer-arrangers, discussing the art of creating original music and making existing music sound fresh and new.

For Tech. Sgt. Tadd Russo, arranger for the Singing Sergeants, it was the second time meeting Dr. Wilberg. The first was when Sgt. Russo was a high school student. He told Dr. Wilberg then that he wanted to be an arranger.

"It was great to meet him again eleven years later, with a better perspective to more directly appreciate his talent and knowledge," Sgt. Russo said.

Also in September, several Band members attended a session on communication and public speaking led by Batt Johnson, a veteran radio and television broadcaster and award-winning actor. Meanwhile, instrumentalists spent an afternoon with Dr. Milt Stevens, principal trombonist with the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C. Dr. Stevens discussed the finer points of intonation in a talk titled "Tune It, or Die!" Additionally, the Concert Band percussion section hosted a three-day clinic with Dr. Thomas Siwe, professor emeritus of percussion at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Siwe discussed modern and historical music for percussion, and coached soloists and ensembles. His audience included Concert Band and Ceremonial Brass percussionists, arrangers, retired percussionists and curious band members.

"Everyone really enjoyed it," said principal timpanist Master Sgt. Erica Montgomery, who studied with Dr. Siwe in college. "Folks tend to take away different things – which is part of the beauty of it."

Clinician's Corner

If You Can Hear It, You Can Do It

By Tech. Sgt. Jay Heltzer

Bass Trombonist, Ceremonial Brass

Sometimes learning is all about listening.

Perhaps, from the first time you made a musical sound, you developed a curiosity about your instrument or voice and wondered, "What am I really capable of doing with this?" Listening to recordings and live performances – not only in your area of study, but in other styles of music, allows you to hear how it's done, and can amaze you with what you may have thought was impossible.

As you listen, you may wonder: "How do they do that?" "What can I do to sound like that?"

You can start by exploring the thousands of recordings available from music stores, libraries, the Internet, friends and family. Whether it's one of dozens of performances of a Mozart concerto, an obscure solo piece or anything in between, hearing a professional play can be quite enlightening. Ask a teacher or someone else who plays your instrument for listening suggestions. Search the Internet for recordings of your instrument and see what comes up.

If you think what you hear on a recording is impressive, wait until you hear someone perform it live. Most cities have multiple venues for live music: concert halls, jazz clubs, churches, parks, libraries, shopping centers, restaurants ... the list goes on. And while you are listening to an exciting performance, you may discover that watching the musicians can be just as inspirational. Notice stage presence, posture, breathing, communication – it's all part of the process.

Once actively listening to artists who play your instrument, branch out. If you are a brass player, listen to a singer. If you are a singer, listen to a drummer. If you play double bass, listen to a high woodwind. You never know where your next inspiration will come from.

As long as you keep listening, you will never stop learning.



Tech. Sgt. Jay Heltzer, Bass Trombonist, Ceremonial Brass

Ensemble News

After spectacular shows in September and October with clarinetist Eddie Daniels and guitarist Pat Martino, the **Airmen of Note** will bring the 2005 Jazz Heritage Series to a close Nov. 12 with a concert featuring sensational jazz vocalist **Tierney Sutton**. This free concert begins at 8 p.m. at George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st Street NW.



Jazz Vocalist Tierney Sutton will perform with the Airmen of Note on Nov. 12 at Lisner Auditorium.

Look for the Note as they tour through Maine and New Hampshire in November. Check the calendar on Page 6 for dates and locations near you and be sure to visit our website, www.USAFBand.com, for updates.

September was a momentous month for the United States Air Force and the entire U.S. military, with the retirements of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff **Gen. Richard Myers** and Air Force Chief of Staff **Gen. John Jumper**. As these important transitions took place, The U.S. Air Force Band was there providing ceremonial support. The **Ceremonial Brass** played Sept. 30 for the ceremony honoring Gen. Myers and transferring his command to Marine **Gen. Peter Pace**. **President Bush**, **Vice President Cheney** and **Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld** led the official party for the ceremony, which took place at Fort Myer, Va. Earlier in September, the Brass participated in an enlisted tribute to Gen. Myers. **Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald Murray** led the ceremony, which was held at the Pentagon. The Ceremonial Brass also played on the flight line at Andrews Air Force Base on Sept. 2 as Gen. Jumper relinquished his command to **Gen. T. Michael Moseley**. The Brass saluted Gen. Jumper with **Master Sgt. Kent Baker's** arrangement of *God Bless America*. Members of the **Air Force Strings**, **Concert Band** and **Airmen of Note** also gave a special performance for Gen. Jumper, featuring selections from two original Broadway-style shows produced entirely by Air Force musicians under Gen. Jumper's command: *A Triumph of Spirit*, composed for the 50th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift in 1998; and *Born of a Dream*, written for the centennial of flight in 2003. **Silver Wings** also performed for events surrounding the two changes of command.

In September, Capt. Matthew Reese led the **Ceremonial Brass** in a nationally televised Armed Forces Full Honor Review at the Pentagon. This was part of a day-long tribute to the 1,817 prisoners of war and service members missing in action from the Vietnam War to the present. In October the **Concert**

Patriotic Pizzazz (Continued from page 1)

Librarians and music educators may obtain these and other recordings of the Air Force Band by addressing a request on official letterhead to The USAF Band, Office of Public Affairs, 201 McChord Street, Bolling AFB, DC 20032-0202. We cannot accommodate requests from individuals. For more information and a list of available recordings, visit our Web site, www.USAFBand.com, and select "Recordings" from the Main Menu.

Band and Singing Sergeants embarked on a 14-day tour of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. Tour soloists **Senior Master Sgt. Bill Marr** (saxophone), **Tech. Sgt. David Sisk** (trombone), **Tech.**



The Ceremonial Brass at the Armed Forces Full Honor Review.

Sgt. Nydia Noriega (soprano) and **Master Sg. Ryan Dolan** (baritone) thrilled audiences with their virtuosic performances. **The Singing Sergeants** visited the White House in September to entertain the president, first lady and a number of golfers competing in the President's Cup. The event was attended by Tiger Woods and Jack Nicklaus, among others.

Lending a hand to our fellow military bands is a proud Air Force Band tradition. Recently, two members of the **Air Force Strings** spent three weeks traveling and performing with The U.S. Army Band's *Spirit of America* showcase. Kudos to **Master Sgts. Sharon Bingham Wolfolk** and **Alex Dean** for assisting "Pershing's Own." The Strings also traveled to Nashville, Tenn., for a recording session with the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve from Robins AFB, Ga. It was great to collaborate with our colleagues down south, and especially nice to see our former officer-in-charge, **Capt. Chad Steffey**, now commander

of the Robins Band. The result will be a fine holiday recording by the Robins band with country music stars Jamie O'Neal, Lee Greenwood and Roxie Dean.



Col. Layendecker with members of the Air Force Chamber Orchestra

In October the **Air Force Chamber Orchestra** gave a concert at Georgetown University's Gaston Hall, performing works by Beethoven, Wagner, Debussy and Haydn. Soloist **Tech. Sgt. Sandra Johnson** played the Mozart bassoon concerto brilliantly. The Chamber Orchestra's next performance will take place Jan. 15 at Bishop Ireton High School in Alexandria, Va.

Thanks to our Ensemble News contributors: Senior Master Sgt. Angela Burns, Master Sgt. Eric Sullivan, and Tech. Sgts. Julianna Arnold, Regina Coonrod, Doug Morgan, Brian Stiles and Luke Wedge.

Accordionist Squeezes into Air Force Strings

When Tech. Sgt. Frank Busso reported for duty with the U.S. Air Force Band on Sept. 2, he took on a job unlike any other in the Air Force: accordionist.

Sgt. Busso, 25, of Staten Island, N.Y., left an insurance job for six weeks of basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas.

"All of my instructors and the guys in my flight knew I was becoming the Air Force's only accordionist, and they got a kick out of it," he said.

Sgt. Busso, who also plays piano and trumpet, started on the accordion at age 5, learning from his father, an accordionist and music teacher. "Just hearing what he was doing got me interested and kept me interested," Sgt. Busso said. His sister also plays the accordion, as does an uncle on his mother's side.

"The accordion playing gene is definitely present in my family!" he said.

Sgt. Busso's selection capped a search as unusual as the job itself.

The Air Force Strings have used a full-time accordionist since the 1950s, and after the retirement of Chief Master Sgt. Bill Popp in 2002 left the slot vacant. For a time, a pianist was used as a substitute, but when the Strings recorded their 50th anniversary CD, they knew that when it comes to accordion, there is no substitute. Alumni accordionists signed on for the recording, sparking a renewed effort to recruit an active-duty player.

In July 2004 Air Force Strings director Chief Master Sgt. Jane Bockenek visited the convention of the American Accordionists Association in Quincy, Mass. While there, she interviewed some candidates and heard a few auditions.

The media picked up on Chief Bockenek's search while she was still in Boston, and her phone was soon ringing off the hook. "I was interviewed by CNN, the BBC, National Public Radio – it was incredible," she said. "The publicity was priceless."

The candidate pool was soon narrowed down to those who met the minimum military qualifications and could commit to a four-year enlistment. Among those invited to Bolling Air Force Base for a second-round audition, "Frank Busso was the one who was trained to be an ensemble player," Chief Bockenek said. "He was the one who could touch all the bases we needed."

Sgt. Busso's primary musical duty will be accompanying the Strolling Strings. He'll also perform solo and in small groups at protocol functions. He joins Sgt. Maj. Manuel Bobenreith of the U.S. Army Band as the military's only official accordionists.



TSgt Frank Busso, the newest member of the Air Force Strings.

Solo Chair

A Few Minutes With ...

Tech. Sgt. Regina Coonrod, Vocalist, Max Impact

Age: 26

Hometown: Sparta, Tenn.

Joined the Air Force: May 1999; joined The Air Force Band Sept. 2002

Previous Air Force assignments: Security Forces, Andrews AFB, Md.; performed with Tops In Blue in 2001

Education: Studied theater at Trevecca Nazarene University, Nashville, Tenn.; currently studying psychology at Univ. of Maryland University College



TSgt Regina Coonrod belts out a tune with Max Impact.

What do you enjoy most about being a member of the U.S. Air Force Band?
I enjoy being surrounded by and learning from some of the most talented musicians in the world. I'm also serving my country and doing what I love at the same time.

What is the best thing you've gotten out of being in the military?
There's a certain sense of pride I've gained wearing my uniform, as well as a discipline that carries over in all other aspects of my life.

What is the highlight of the Air Force career so far?
Getting into the Air Force Band! Chief Jay Jernigan (former leader of High Flight) saw me on tour with Tops In Blue and invited me to audition when the tour was done ... and here I am!

What do you plan to do after you leave the Air Force?
For now, I plan to go into the field of forensic psychology – and, of course, gig on the side.

What do you do in your off hours?
I enjoy reading, all outdoor activities and writing lyrics.

Who inspires you?
Oprah Winfrey. She is the epitome of the American dream. Starting from having absolutely nothing, she has built an empire with sheer will and determination. Only in America can we accomplish such things!

What's in your CD collection?
Everything from Brian McKnight to Eric Clapton, Norah Jones to Ella Fitzgerald, Jimi Hendrix to our very own Airmen of Note!

People might be surprised to know that you...
...would like to have a Harley Davidson motorcycle by the time I'm 40!

November

- 2 Air Force Band at Your Library Series, featuring High Flight. 4 p.m. Woodridge Neighborhood Library, 1801 Hamlin St, NE at 18th St., Washington, D.C.
- 3 Chamber Players Series, music for euphonium and percussion, featuring TSgts Danny Helseth and Randy Gorman. 8 p.m. John Addison Concert Hall, Harmony Hall Regional Center, 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, MD.
- 4 Chamber Players Series, music for brass quintet, featuring members of The U.S. Air Force Concert Band. 8 p.m. George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, VA.
- 10 Chamber Players Series, featuring The U.S. Air Force String Quartet. 8 p.m. John Addison Concert Hall, Harmony Hall Regional Center, 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, MD.
- 11 Chamber Players Series, music for brass quintet, featuring members of The U.S. Air Force Ceremonial Brass. 8 p.m. George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, VA.
- 12 Jazz Heritage Series, featuring The Airmen of Note with vocalist Tierney Sutton. 8 p.m. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st Street NW, Washington, D.C.
- 15 * The Airmen of Note on Tour, 7:30 p.m. Sheraton Ballroom Exhibition Center, 870 Williston Road, Burlington, VT. For tickets write to Airmen of Note Concert, ATTN: Lt Col Lloyd Goodrow, 158 FW 105 NCO Drive, Burlington, VT 05403. Limit 4 tickets per request.
- 16 * The Airmen of Note on Tour, 7:30 p.m. Capitol Center for the Arts Chubb Auditorium, 44 South Main Street, Concord, NH. For tickets, write to Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 South Main St, Concord, NH 03301. Limit 4 tickets per request
- 16 Air Force Band at Your Library Series, featuring chamber music. 4 p.m. South East D.C. Neighborhood Library, 403 7th St. SE at D St., Washington, D.C.
- 17 * The Airmen of Note on Tour, 7 p.m. Lewiston Middle Auditorium, 75 Central Ave, Lewiston, ME. For tickets write to Airmen of Note Concert, ATTN: Norma Gardner, Lewiston High School, 56 East Ave, Lewiston, ME 04240
- 18 * The Airmen of Note on Tour, 7:30 p.m. Peakes Auditorium, Bangor High School, 885 Broadway, Bangor, ME. For tickets write to Bangor High School Music Department, ATTN: Scott Burditt, 885 Broadway, Bangor, ME 04401. Limit 4 tickets per request.
- 18 Chamber Players Series, music for clarinet, featuring TSgt Jennifer Dashnaw. 8 p.m. George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, VA.
- 19 * The Airmen of Note on Tour, 7 p.m. Wieden Hall Gym, University of Maine at Presque Island, 181 Main Street, Presque Isle, ME. For tickets write to The Presque Isle Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 672, Presque Isle, ME 04769. Limit 4 tickets per request.
- 20 * The Airmen of Note on Tour, 3 p.m. Caribou Performing Arts Center, 308 Sweeden Street, Caribou, Maine. For tickets, please call the Caribou Chamber of Commerce & Industry at 1-800-722-7648. Limit 4 tickets per request.

December

- 2 Concert Band and Singing Sergeants, "Deck the Festive Halls" Holiday Concert, 7:30 p.m. No tickets are required. DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D Street, Washington, D.C.
- 3 * Concert Band and Singing Sergeants, "Deck the Festive Halls" Holiday Concert, 3 p.m. Tickets will be available for pickup at the DAR Constitution Hall Box office on November 5, 10, 15 and 17 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Limit 6 tickets per request. DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D Street, Washington, D.C.
- 3 Concert Band and Singing Sergeants, "Deck the Festive Halls" Holiday Concert, 7:30 p.m. No tickets are required. DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D Street, Washington, D.C.
- 4 * Concert Band and Singing Sergeants, "Deck the Festive Halls" Holiday Concert, 3 p.m. Tickets will be available for pickup at the DAR Constitution Hall Box office on November 5, 10, 15 and 17 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Limit 6 tickets per request. DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D Street, Washington, D.C.
- 9 Chamber Players Series, featuring The U.S. Air Force Saxophone Quartet. 8 p.m. George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, VA.
- 10 Chamber Players Series, featuring The U.S. Air Force Woodwind Quintet. 1:30 p.m. Anderson House, 2118 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D.C.

* Denotes ticketed performances. Tickets are free, but required for admission.

All performances are free and open to the public. Performance times and locations are subject to change. For detailed information about performances in the Washington, D.C., area, please call the Concert Line, (202) 767-5658. More detailed information regarding The United States Air Force Band is available on the Internet at: www.USAFBand.com

Alumni Spotlight

By Chief Master Sergeant (Ret.) Harry Gleeson

Magic was in the air last August when three dozen former Singing Sergeants came together in San Jose, Calif., for a spectacular reunion concert. Participants ranged from an original member of the Army Air Forces Band Glee Club in 1942 to a retiree from the turn of the new century – and they were led by perhaps the most prominent former Singing Sergeant of all, LtCol (Ret.) Craig Jessop.

Currently the director of the world-renowned Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Jessop directed the Singing Sergeants from 1980 through 1987. He then commanded bands in Germany and Nebraska before leaving the Air Force to become associate conductor of the Mormon choir in 1995. His drive and enthusiasm, and his exceptional musical knowledge and brilliance as a choral conductor, have only grown over the years, molding him into one of America's leading choral director.

It might have seemed like an impossible dream to pull together a program with singers ranging from their 30s to their late 80s with only six rehearsals over three days. But Jessop took 31 singers and six instrumentalists and managed to make musical magic. The concert – held in San Jose's recently remodeled opera house, the California Theater – was a triumph.

One of the most enthusiastic participants was one of two living original members from the 1942 AAF Band Glee Club, Master Sgt. Ivan Genuchi from Colorado Springs, Colo. The audience gave an especially warm ovation when this marvelous musical pioneer was introduced in the first half following the performance of one of his arrangements. Ivan sang in the second tenor section for the entire performance.

Also on stage were two brilliant arrangers who shared keyboard duties – the legendary Chief Master Sgt. (Ret.) Floyd Werle of Oakland, Calif., whose arrangements were featured throughout the concert; and his successor, Senior Master Sgt. Bob Walters from Longmont, Colo., whose improvisational skills have only become more amazing over time. Chief Master Sgt.

(Ret.) Larry Odom, added both the special sound of the harp and his own amazing sartorial splendor.

The concert reflected the 63-year history of the Singing Sergeants. The first half featured only the men – the Singing Sergeants was, after all, a glee club from 1942 to 1973 –

singing arrangements by Werle, Walters, Genuchi and Tech. Sgt. Paul Kelly. The music was typical of that presented at high-level functions at the time.

The women opened the second half with a moving performance of "He's Gone Away." Chief Master Sgt. (Ret.) Daisy Jackson then brought the house down with a performance of Werle's "Battle Hymn of the Republic" arrangement as only she can perform it.

There was a lush setting of Jerome Kern's "The Way You Look Tonight" for a cappella chorus by former Singing Sergeant Mark Tarallo. The program ended with "Irving Berlin: The Man and His Music," a medley by another former chief arranger, Chief Master Sgt. (Ret.) Mike Davis.

And of course there was the patriotic encore, a medley of service songs. In introducing the medley, Jessop moved audience and performers alike with a spoken introduction that conveyed both his stirring pride in America and the honor he felt through having served in Air Force music.

It was undoubtedly an honor shared by every participant in this magnificent reunion.



Under the direction of LtCol (Ret.) Craig Jessop, several former members of the Singing Sergeants performed in a reunion concert in California.

Personnel Matters

Arrivals

Capt. Michael Willen, section commander
SMSgt Ishraph Mohammed, First Sergeant
TSgt Taylor Armstrong, Singing Sergeants
TSgt Frank Busso, Air Force Strings
TSgt Joseph Haughton, Singing Sergeants
TSgt Michael Mason, Silver Wings

Departures

SMSgt Patrick Shrieves, Concert Band, Retirement
MSgt Phyllis Carpenter, First Sergeant, Retirement
TSgt Jeffrey Castle, Ceremonial Brass, Change of Station
TSgt Steven C. Wilson, Singing Sergeants, Separation
TSgt Steven M. Wilson, Max Impact, Change of Station

In Memoriam

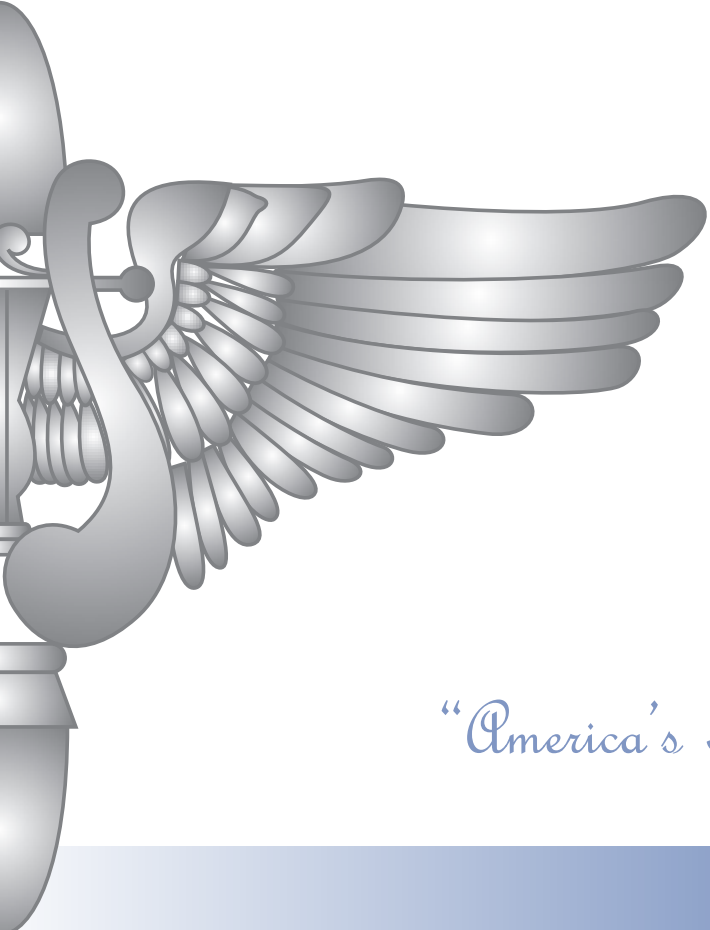
Thomas C. Williams Sr., former audio engineer for The U.S. Air Force Band, died October 4 at Malcolm Grow Medical Center, Andrews AFB, Md. He was buried October 14 at Arlington National Cemetery. The Air Force Band extends its deepest sympathies to his family.

Cadenza

Colonel Dennis M. Layendecker ~ Commander and Music Director
Senior Master Sergeant Elizabeth Campeau ~ Director of Public Affairs
Master Sergeant Robert Thurston ~ Editor in Chief
Technical Sergeants Andrew Cleaver & David Foster ~ Graphic Layout Editors
Senior Master Sergeant Robert Mesite & Technical Sergeant Andrew Cleaver ~ Photography
Bolling AFB Visual Information Support Center ~ Photography

FIRST CLASS
PRE-SORT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 3903
WASH DC

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BAND
201 MCCHORD STREET
BOLLING AFB DC 20032-0202
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



The United States Air Force Band Washington, D.C.

“America’s International Musical Ambassadors”