

Golden Anniversary (1991-1995)

The years of 1991 to 1995 marked a time of celebration and includes The Band's 50th Anniversary and its first tour to Moscow, Russia to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of V-E Day. Captain Amy Mills would break through the glass ceiling by becoming the first woman Commander and Conductor of a premier service band. The Band instituted three new competitions designed to promote new Symphonic and Jazz compositions and to serve as an outreach program between The USAF Band and the civilian music community. These awards included:

- 1993, "Colonel Arnard D. Gabriel Award," designed to encourage composers to write new compositions for symphonic band.
- 1994, "Colonel George S. Howard Young Artist Competition," for high school band instrumentalists.
- 1995, "Sammy Nestico Award for a New Jazz Composition," named after former director of the Airmen of Note and famed jazz arranger/composer/orchestrator Sammy Nestico; this competition is a call for unpublished works for jazz ensemble.

However, the biggest celebration of all was the preparations for moving out of the six WWII buildings The Band had clearly out grown. Some of the old timers still reminisce about the original purposes of these buildings.

Building 421 was built in 1941 as a bowling alley; in 1991, The Band used 421 as a storage area for Technical Support, Supply, and as work areas for the band's stage managers and High Flight.

Building 422 was built in 1941 as a morgue; in 1991, The Band used it as the Command Section, Administrative work areas, and Operations.

Building 423 was built in 1941 as a base theater; in 1991, this building served as The Band's main rehearsal studio and was shared by three performing units. This building also included office work areas for the Diplomats, the Airmen of Note, and served as a storage area for the Concert Band and Singing Sergeants.

Building 424 (a two story building) was built in 1943 for educational and chapel activities; in 1991, the first floor was used as The Band's publicity work area and the upstairs section included a shared rehearsal and office area for the USAF Strings and the Ceremonial Brass.

Building 425 (also a two story building) was built in 1943 as a barracks; in 1991, the band used the first floor to house the audio and lighting support activities and the second floor as a rehearsal/office area for the Singing Sergeants.

Building 54 was built in 1953 to house the Band's library.

As part of the 50th Anniversary celebrations, The Band commissioned several new works, produced a special 50th Anniversary compact disc, and took new group photos.

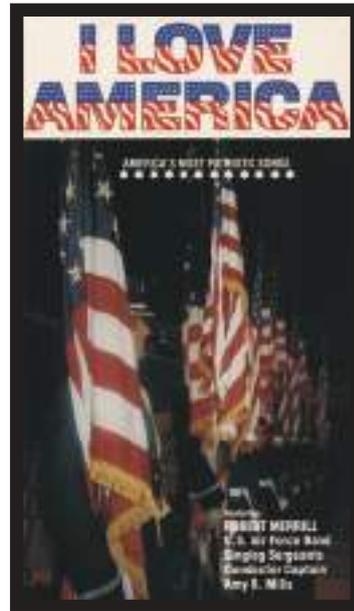
Inauguration: 1993, Inauguration for the 42nd President of the United States of America, William Jefferson Clinton

Originally formed in 1983 from within the Singing Sergeants, The Camerata Singers performed a cappella music ranging from 16th through the 20th centuries, including madrigals, motets, masses and popular and folk music. They were featured at the North and South Carolina ACDA convention in Charlotte, NC in July 1991.



The Band's popular music combo (previously known as Mach One and then Spectrum) was enhanced by adding several vocalists to form a costumed and choreographed show group named High Flight.

February 10, 1991, Capt Mills conducting former Metropolitan Opera baritone soloist, Robert Merrill at a Guest Artist Series concert at DAR, Constitution Hall.



In 1991, Captain Amy Mills was the first woman to assume command as Commander and Conductor of a premier service band.

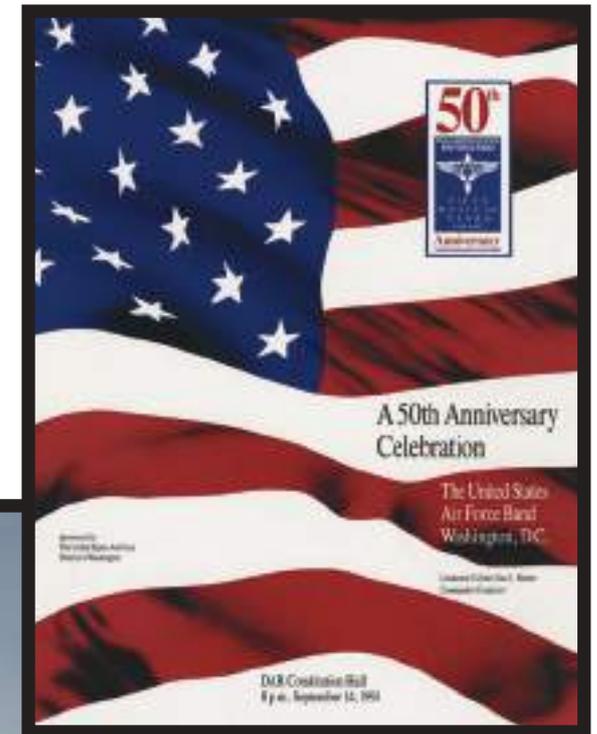


1992 - The USAF Concert Band



CMSgt Alan W. Sine, the band's fourth Drum Major (1992 to 1998)

50th Anniversary of The USAF Band Program



1992 - The Ceremonial Brass at The Lincoln Memorial, Capt Steven Grimo, director



1992 - The Singing Sergeants at the Jefferson Memorial



1992 - The Diplomats



1992 - The Airmen of Note at the National Air and Space Museum



1992 - The USAF Strolling Strings

Origins of The USAF Band's Rhonda E. Smith Award

“When Rhonda Eliza Smith was four years old, her parents brought her to a recital to help her decide what musical instrument she would learn. She sat and listened intently, her small legs not yet reaching the floor, and when the harpist began to play, she turned to her mother, a violinist, and nodded her head. She had made her decision.”

Her mother Irene remembers that moment vividly, the beginning of a musical career that would have her become one of the world's premier harpists. Senior Master Sergeant Rhonda Smith was the harpist with The United States Air Force Band from 1977 to 1993. Before joining The Band, she earned a bachelor's and master's degree from The Juilliard School.

Rhonda was often featured as a soloist with the Concert Band and Symphony Orchestra, and as solo harpist at high-level protocol functions. Her ability to charm her audience bridged language and cultural gaps making her of special value to the improvement of international relationships.

Her finest hour came after she was diagnosed with a brain tumor. In June 1991, after undergoing surgery and 38 radiation treatments, she was one of four internationally performing artists featured at the American Harp Society's convention in Fairfax, VA. The concert was held at George Mason University and featured The United States Air Force Orchestra complimented with strings from “The President's Own” United States Marine Band and was conducted by Captain Kevin Smith. The last performer on the program, Rhonda memorized and flawlessly performed Alberto Ginastera's Concerto for Harp and Orchestra, one of the lengthiest and most difficult works in the harp repertoire. Her brilliant performance inspired the audience and drew a thunderous standing ovation. “It was the performance of her life,” Irene Smith says, “It showed the special kind of person she was.”

After serving more than 16 years, Rhonda was medically retired in February 1993. The following month she passed away. Former Air Force Band commander Lt Col Alan Bonner said this about SMSgt Smith's distinguished service: “Rhonda has been blessed with truly exceptional talents. During her entire career with The United States Air Force Band, she captivated audiences. When you heard Rhonda perform, you knew you had been graced with the soul of a true artist. She has always been a great lady – and a great friend.”

In 1996, The Rhonda E. Smith Award was created to honor The United States Air Force Band's most deserving airmen. It is presented annually to the Band's Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

Since 1945, The USAF Band has only had six harpists. Rhonda has the distinction of being the first woman harpist to be hired by the band.

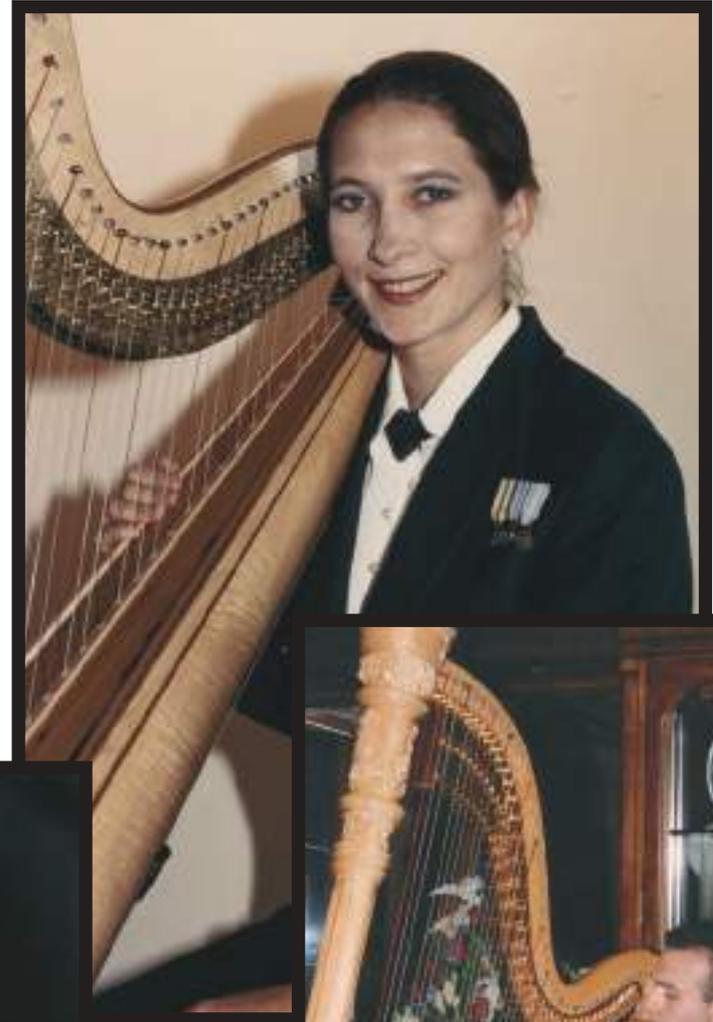
Rhonda E. Smith (1977-1993)



Robert W. Barlow (1954 -1955)



Harold R. Hirsch (1945 - 1959)



Philip M. Young (1954-1964)



Lawrence T. Odom (1962-1978)



Eric D. Sabatino (1994-2015)



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 12, 1993

Dear Lieutenant Colonel Bonner,

As Barbara and I finish out our days in the White House, I write to thank you and all in the Air Force Band for the many occasions where you have performed for us. The Band and the Singing Sergeants have been magnificent. There have been many occasions -- formal and informal, happy and sad -- where they have brightened the lives of so many people.

Will you please thank every single member, past and present, who did so much to make our functions run with great zest and great style; and who in so many ways were so kind to me, to Barbara, and to all in our family. We will always be grateful and we will never forget.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant Colonel Allan L. Bonner,
U.S. Air Force
Commander and Conductor
The U.S. Air Force Band
Bolling Air Force Base
Washington, D.C. 20332

A letter from President George H. W. Bush. President Bush and First Lady Barbara were extremely appreciative of The USAF Band and were among its greatest supporters.



In addition to the creation of the Rhonda Smith Award, The Band created three other awards designed to stimulate interaction between The USAF and the American public educational system, to include high schools, colleges and universities.



1993 - The Singing Sergeants pose in front of an historic mural at the Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC.

THE 52ND PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL

 AN AMERICAN REUNION
PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL PARADE



PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
& VICE PRESIDENT ALBERT GORE, JR.
WASHINGTON D.C. ★ JANUARY 20, 1993

SMSgt Christopher Moehlencamp, principal cellist and assistant librarian of The USAF Band, provides the following unique perspective on one of the most significant Presidential Support events the Strolling Strings ever participated in at the White House.

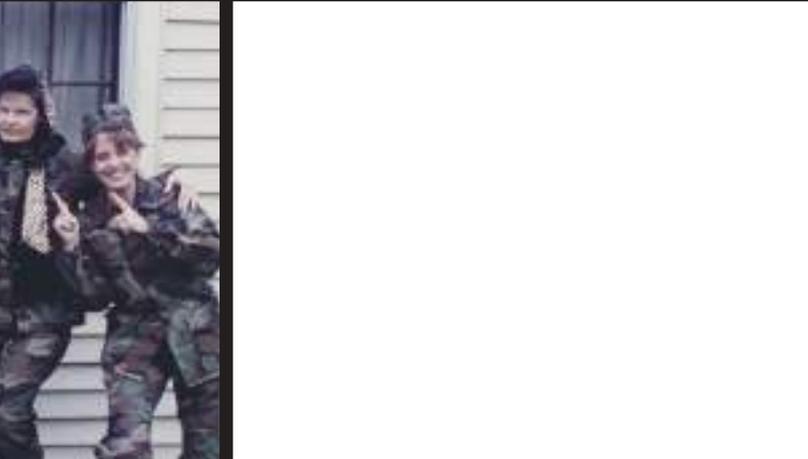
“This photo was taken at a White House dinner celebrating the signing of the Oslo Accords on September 13, 1993. The signing earlier in the day is best remembered by the well-known handshake between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat with President Clinton between the two men.

At the dinner were President Clinton and three former presidents Carter, Ford and Bush plus six Secretaries of State and other dignitaries who had worked for peace in the Middle East.

The photo was taken through a doorway looking into the dining room. I recognize the event because it is the same doorway from where I was performing. Typically, the cellists set up in two doorways on opposite sides of the room. The Strings had performed at several White House events during that summer, but for obvious reasons, this night is especially memorable. I had never seen Ford or Carter in person before, and here they both were just a few feet away!

After the dinner, the Strings lined up in the White House foyer and performed as the guests departed. To make the evening even more memorable, at the end, President Clinton and President Carter (who was staying overnight at the White House) thanked us and chatted with us briefly. I remember Carter mentioning his time as President, when his daughter Amy took violin lessons.”





The Band's Command and Support Staff ready to assist with the demolition of the six World War II-era buildings.



"Laying claim to Hangar II" – The USAF Band rehearses in Historic Hangar II in keeping with the adage "possession is nine-tenths of the law."



1994 - During the cold winter months of January and February at Andrews Air Force Base, MD, The USAF Band was featured in the motion picture *Clear and Present Danger*, starring Harrison Ford.



Full Score
Duration 3:00

As played by The USAF Band in the motion picture "Clear and Present Danger"

3

GOIN' HOME

Based on Largo from *The New World Symphony*

ANTONIN DVORAK
Arr. by Jari A. Villanueva

Andante sostenuto

Flute/Piccolo
Oboe
B♭ Clarinet 1
B♭ Bass Clarinet
Bassoon
E♭ Alto Saxophone
B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Andante sostenuto 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

B♭ Trumpet
F Horn
Trumpbone
Euphonium
Tuba
Timpani

MSgt Jari Villanueva's arrangement for "Goin' Home" has become a staple for honoring our nation's fallen whether it be at Arlington National Cemetery or during times of national tragedy. The Band's feature role during *Clear and Present Danger* brought the music to the attention of First Lady's Nancy Reagan and Betty Ford, both of whom would remember its consoling strains and would request it "by name" in the future.



1995 - Victory in Europe Day, generally known as V-E Day, was the public holiday celebrated on May 8, 1945 to mark the formal acceptance by the Allies of World War II of Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces. Major Mark Peterson, the first USAF Band Commander and Conductor to be frocked, led the USAF Band during this historic tour to Russia.





April 20, 1999 - The Band and Singing Sergeants take time for a photo op at Orchestra Hall, Chicago, Illinois

Fanfare for a New Era (1995-2002)

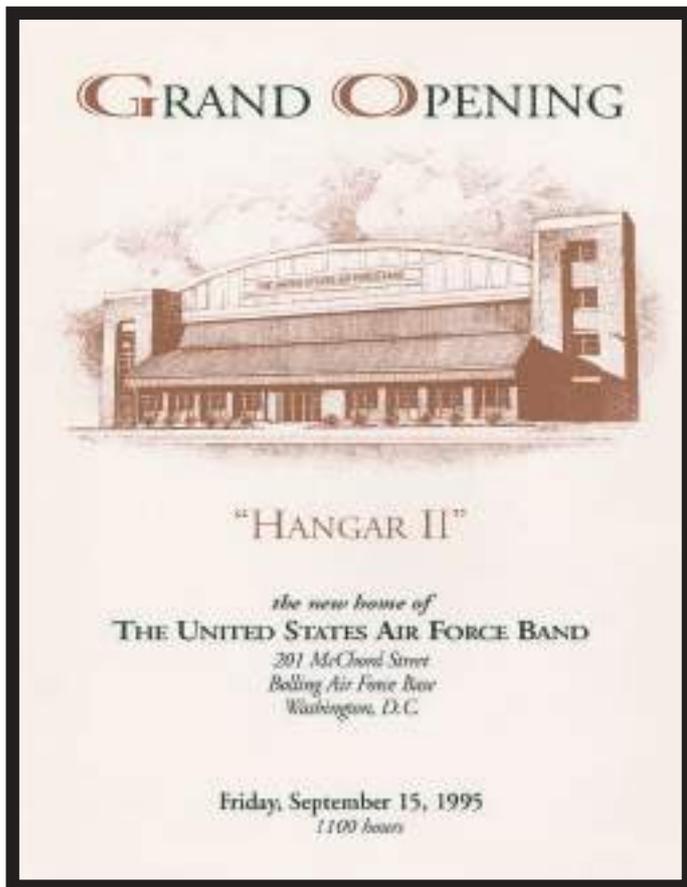
In 1995, Hangar II with its rich history of being the home to some of our nation's most historic aircraft and legendary pilots during World War II, proved to be the perfect home for The United States Air Force Band. After serving multiple purposes including a decade or so of being the Base Commissary, the historic hangar was transformed into a living, breathing museum filled with Airmen Musicians capable of reproducing the nostalgic melodies once heard back during the War Years. In fact, The Band's new home is the same location where the Major Glenn Miller Army Air Forces Band delivered its final performance, with its final radio broadcast taking place in nearby Jimmy Stewart Theater.

One of the most significant achievements during this time frame was the recording and release of an unprecedented 42 compact discs produced and distributed worldwide. These recordings represent the vast and diverse holdings of The Werle Library and continue to serve as the hallmark of one of our nation's premier service bands at its very best.

Another notable achievement during this period was the commissioning of over 70 new works for concert band including original compositions by: Jack Stamp, Philip Sparke, Ira Hearshen, Samuel Adler, Libby Larson, James Barnes, W. Francis McBeth, Bruce Broughton, Timothy Marr, Jeff Jarvis, Dana Wilson, and Peter Graham; along with new transcriptions by Lawrence Odom and Kenneth Singleton.

- 1995, The Band moves into its new home in Historic Hangar II and welcomed its new Commander and Conductor, Colonel Lowell E. Graham
- 1995, Three new compositions were premiered at the Virginia Music Educators Association concert
- 1995, The Concert Band received rave reviews for its performance during the 49th Annual Mid West Band and Orchestra Clinic
- 1996, Four new compositions premiered at the Florida Music Educators Association
- 1996, Guest Artist Series increased to a total of eight per year
- 1996, "The Chief's Own" was added to the end of The Band's existing title, "American's International Music Ambassadors"
- 1996, Annual fall and spring tour length increased to three weeks, alternating three different programs per tour
- 1996, The USAF Symphony Orchestra performs a "A Duke Ellington Portrait" concert at historic Lincoln Theater in DC
- 1996, A return to the tradition of performing 4th of July concerts at the National Air and Space Museum
- 1996, Holiday concert venues expanded to include Avery Fisher Hall in New York and the Meyerhoff in Baltimore, MD
- 1997, The Concert Band performs at the Illinois Music Educator's Association
- 1997, The Band performs for the AF 50th Anniversary Celebrations in Las Vegas, NV and Washington, DC
- 1997, The combined Airmen of Note and Ceremonial Brass were sent on an international tour to Sweden and Norway
- 1997, Holiday concert venue expanded to include Richmond, VA
- 1998, High Flight sent on an international tour to Bosnia
- 1999, The Airmen of Note and Strings take "The recreated Glenn Miller Army Air Forces Orchestra" on an international tour of Europe
- 1999, The USAF Symphony Orchestra celebrated the Centennial of Duke Ellington at the Mid West Band and Orchestra Clinic
- 2000, The AF Strings sent on an international tour of Asia
- 2002, The Concert Band performs at the prestigious American Bandmasters Association conference in Wichita, Kansas

Inaugurations: 1997, Second inauguration for the 42nd President of the United States of America, William Jefferson Clinton
2001, Inauguration for the 43rd President of the United States of America, George Walker Bush



On September 15, 1995, Colonel Lowell E. Graham became the Commander and Conductor of The USAF Band. The change-of-command ceremony took place on the same day as the official grand opening/open house of the new Band building, Hangar II.



Ribbon cutting ceremony was held by Colonel Bob Hill (11 Operations Group/Commander), Lt Col Keith Lance (USAF Band/Commander), and with Colonel Steven Roser (11 Wing/Commander) cutting the ribbon.



As part of the official grand opening, Alice Price was instrumental in helping The Band procure one of the most historic World War II oil paintings in the Air Force Art Collection, "O'er the Ramparts We Watch" by American artist Jes Wilhelm Schlaikjer. The painting was chosen because of its WWII connection, the Band's beginning, and its Star-Spangled Banner theme.



For her ten years of continuous volunteer service to The USAF Band and the Bolling community, Alice Price (retired supervisor of the Air Force Art Program) was recognized as a "Bolling Icon" and an honorary member of The USAF Band.



In 1996, The Band commissioned artist Nilo Santiago to paint another Star-Spangled Banner themed oil on canvas painting. This time the theme would be a depiction the various performing units of The USAF Band, entitled "Oh, Say Can You See by the Dawn's Early Light."



*CMSgt Edward J. Teleky, the band's fifth
Drum Major (1998 to 2013)*





THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 23, 1994



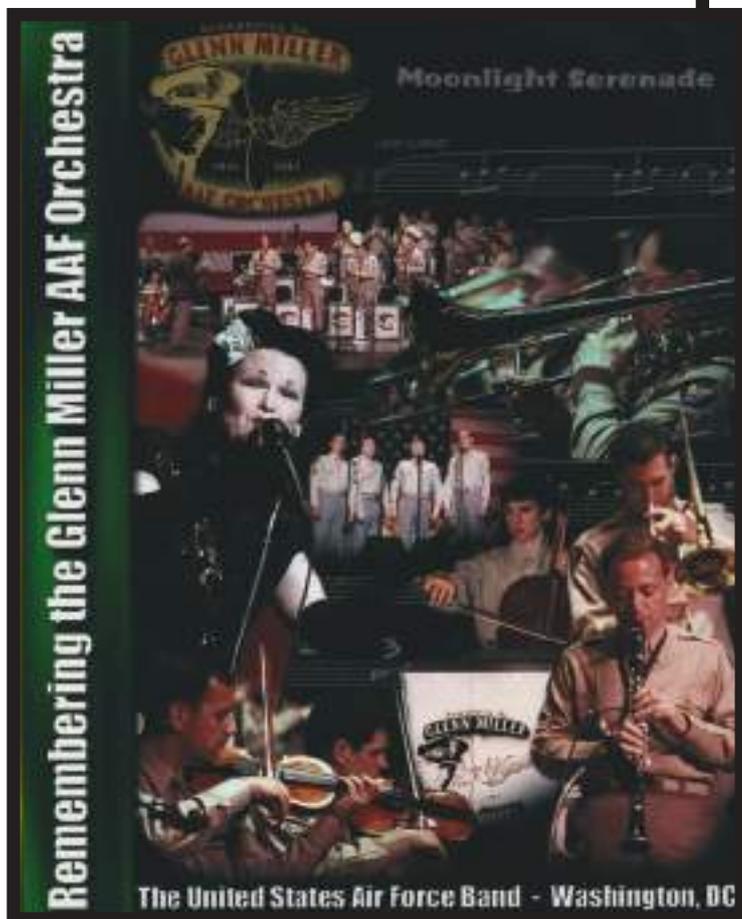
Greetings to everyone gathered in our nation's capital to pay tribute to Major Alton Glenn Miller.

This commemoration is a fitting testament to Glenn Miller's many years of devoted service to our Armed Forces and to our country. The music of the Glenn Miller Army Air Forces Orchestra carried hope and inspiration to all who had the opportunity to experience it. Bringing happiness and boosting the morale of our troops, he made a real difference in the lives of people all around the world.

Glenn Miller exemplified the spirit of caring that is such an important part of the American character, and I am proud to salute him for his myriad achievements. His memory will continue to be celebrated for years to come, and his music will live forever in the hearts of millions.

Best wishes for a truly memorable concert.

Bill Clinton



The United States Air Force Band - Washington, DC



In 1999, Colonel Lowell E. Graham, SMSgt Bobbie McCleary, the Airmen of Note, the Air Force Strings, and the Crew Chiefs led by SMSgt David Nokes, took the highly successful Recreated Glenn Miller Army Air Forces Orchestra on tour in Europe.



"Do you have a spare saxophone?" – President William Jefferson Clinton



June 25, 2000 - President Clinton takes time to visit and congratulate The Band following its Korean War 50th Anniversary Commemoration performance.



The Andrews Sisters Trio featuring L to R, MSgt Patricia Fanara, TSgt Kelly Egan McDonough, and SMSgt Donna Abaira performing some of the best loved songs made so popular by Patti, Maxene, and LeVerne, including Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree, Rum and Coca Cola, and Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.



From 1995 to 2002, The USAF Band recorded and produced an unprecedented 42 compact discs. These recordings are recognized by music educators and audiophiles the world over as the finest recordings ever released by a military band and are reflective of the excellence and high standards displayed by all USAF Airmen.

Russian Expressions



Signatures

Arnold Schoenberg

Jack L. Longo

Howard Hanson

Howard Hanson

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Paul Hindemith



THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE CONCERT BAND—WASHINGTON, D.C.
Colonel Lowell E. Graham, Commander/Conductor



THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE CONCERT BAND—WASHINGTON, D.C.
Colonel Lowell E. Graham, Commander/Conductor

"What is Past is Prologue" (2002-2009)

From 2002 to 2009, The Band would find itself taking some time to look back into its glorious past, not just with an Air Force lens, but with a lens focused on its own illustrious history. Up until this time, The Band was extremely busy following the highly successful paradigm established by Colonel Gabriel back in 1984, which included: the Band's daily support for its Congressionally mandated mission at Arlington National Cemetery, Presidential and DV support, two national tours per year, 4-6 Guest Artist Series performances per year, annual conventions (Mid West Band and Orchestra performances, American Bandmasters Association concerts, and/or state conventions including TMEA, FMEA, etc.), occasional international tours, recordings, radio broadcasts, the Summer Concert Series, annual holiday concerts, and parades.

As The Band looked back in time to 1944, they discovered General Henry "Hap" Arnold had endorsed and committed 300 airmen to the production of a Broadway play with music, entitled *Winged Victory*. The Broadway production was so successful that it went on the road and ended up in California where it was made into a 20th Century Fox movie. In 2002, The Band's Commander and Conductor, Colonel Dennis Layendecker decided to break with tradition and embark on a similar project. The USAF Band would write and produce the first original Broadway-style musical by a premier service band, featuring an all Airmen cast of actors, musicians, scriptwriters, composers, and production team. This squadron-wide effort resulted in the creation of "*Born of a Dream*" which premiered in Washington's famed National Theater and in Los Angeles, California's Kodak Theatre in 2003.

During this same time, Colonel Arnald D. Gabriel had donated his collection of photos, personal papers, and artifacts to The Band. As the Band's library staff organized the collection, the exact details of Colonel Gabriel's heroic actions during World War II came to light. Like most veterans of World War II, he didn't talk very much about what he did during the war, always preferring to stay focused on the present and future. This was the spark that inspired The Band to research and "plaster the walls" of Hangar II with its brilliant history.

In addition, The Band honored two of its most distinguished alumni via the Air Force's memorialization program. The USAF Band's library, filled with thousands of original manuscripts dating back to 1941 and containing over 100,000 titles of sheet music, was dedicated in honor of CMSgt Floyd E. Werle. The Band's rehearsal hall, equipped with the most technologically advanced V-Room concert hall simulator, was dedicated in honor of Colonel Arnald D. Gabriel.

Like its beginning, The Band would find itself deeply involved in supporting the Global War on Terrorism. Members and various units of The Band deployed seven times to the Middle East "bringing a touch of home" to the forward deployed servicemen and women. Finally, The Band kept the American Public informed via internet broadcasts, compact discs, DVDs, ceremonies, and concerts highlighting the excellence of Airmen serving at home and abroad.

Inaugurations: 2005, Second inauguration for the 43rd President of the United States of America, George Walker Bush
2009, Inauguration for the 44th President of the United States, Barack Hussein Obama II

State Funerals: 2004, State Funeral in Honor of President Ronald Wilson Reagan
2006, State Funeral in Honor of President Gerald Rudolph Ford Jr.



Concert Band and Singing Sergeants at The Mormon Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, UT



Cast Photo of "Born of a Dream" taken at the National Theatre, Washington, DC



*The Born of a Dream, Dream Team and winner of the 11 OG Team of the Year Award
 Composers: SMSgt Larry MacTaggart, MSgts Bob Thurston, John Bliss, and Alan Baylock
 Copyists: CMSgt Jeanne Gartner and MSgt Jari Villanueva,
 Librarians: SMSgt Joe Tersero, SMSgt Chris Moehlenkamp, TSgts Ann Seaton and Eric Sullivan
 Production Manager: TSgt Jebodiah Eaton
 Copier: HAL II*



Captain Brookley's daughter visits base

Brookley Avenue on Bolling is named in honor of Capt. Wendell H. Brookley. His daughter, grandchildren and others gather on base on the street named for him to pay respects. *Page 10*

National Kids Day observed on base

11th Services Division and the youth center help base children and parents come together for family fun, games and music. *Pages 14-15*



VOL. 62, No. 31

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

AUGUST 6, 2004

Band wins AFA award for 2004

By Capt. Elizabeth Ortiz
11th Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Association has awarded the U.S. Air Force Band here a citation of honor for the "most outstanding contribution to national defense" as part of the association's annual national aerospace awards.

"We can never thank the men and women who serve in our military enough," said John Politi, the AFA chairman of the board. "In today's global war on terrorism, they make great sacrifices to help and defend the freedoms we enjoy."

The Band was honored for creating and performing "Born of a Dream," the first-ever Broadway-style musical production by a military band. The original musical, which the Band performed several times at the National Theatre in Washington and the Kodak Theatre in Los Angeles last year, depicted the inventiveness and vision of Orville and Wilbur Wright's monumental achievement of powered flight.

"In every aspect of this project, from its conception and creation to its precise execution, you can find countless examples of how a group of individuals came together to create something vastly better than anyone

of them could have alone," said Senior Master Sgt. Larry MacTaggart, one of the music arrangers for "Born of a Dream."

Vividly portraying aviation heroes, the Band conveyed America's aerospace dominance and showcased pride and patriotism through the power of music.

"Many people don't realize the extent of our professionalism as the Band," said Master Sgt. Phylliss Carpenter, the new Band first sergeant. She received a DVD of the musical in a care package while deployed to Iraq recently and shared it with her deployed comrades [including several coalition members].

"Capturing the dream of aerospace power in this production and sharing it in the austere environment of Iraq was the epitome of our Air Force's historical influence and impact on the world," she added.

Overall, "Born of a Dream" incorporated more than 180 Band members in music production, arranging, audio engineering, script writing, acting, choreography, staging, operations, supply and public affairs.

Eleven other individuals, teams and units were also awarded citations of honor, including the 352nd Special



Photo by Airman 1st Class Alex Sabokoff

(Left to right) Tech. Sgt. Steve Wilson, Master Sgt. Anne Seaton, Master Sgt. Angela Williams and Master Sgt. Matthew Ascione perform on stage during a musical number remembering the Berlin Airlift in the first ever Broadway style musical production by a military band, "Born of a Dream," November 2003. Frau Irma Feldon (Seaton) runs the Berliner Bakery in the fictitious town of Wrightsville and was a child in Germany during the airlift.

Operations Group, RAF Mildenhall, England; and the 18th Air Support Operations Group, Pope AFB, N.C. The awards will be presented next month during the AFA national convention at the Marriott

Wardman Park Hotel in Washington.

"We at the U.S. Air Force Band are both deeply honored and grateful to the Air Force Association for this citation of honor," said Col. Dennis

Layendecker, the Band's commander and musical director. "Various agencies throughout the 11th Wing provided tremendous support for 'Born of a Dream.' We simply could not have done it without them." —



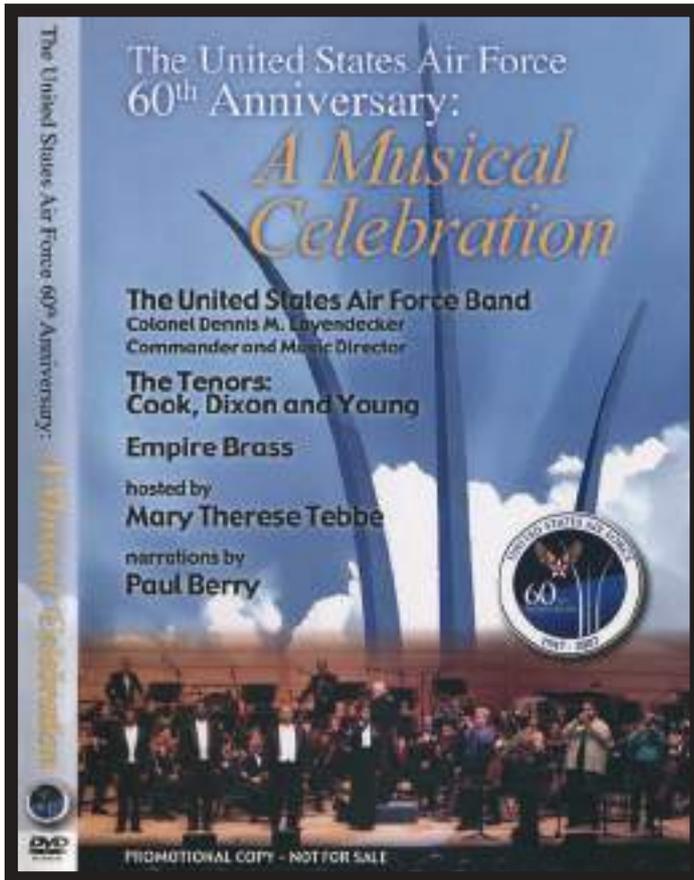
2004 - The Strolling Strings celebrate their 50th Anniversary.



The Band unveiled its newest Ceremonial Uniform during the 2005 Presidential inauguration.

Following their performance at the White House in 2005, President George W. Bush, invited the USAF String Quartet for a group photo; this is the first known "photo bomb" by the first dog, a Scottish Terrier by the name of Barney.

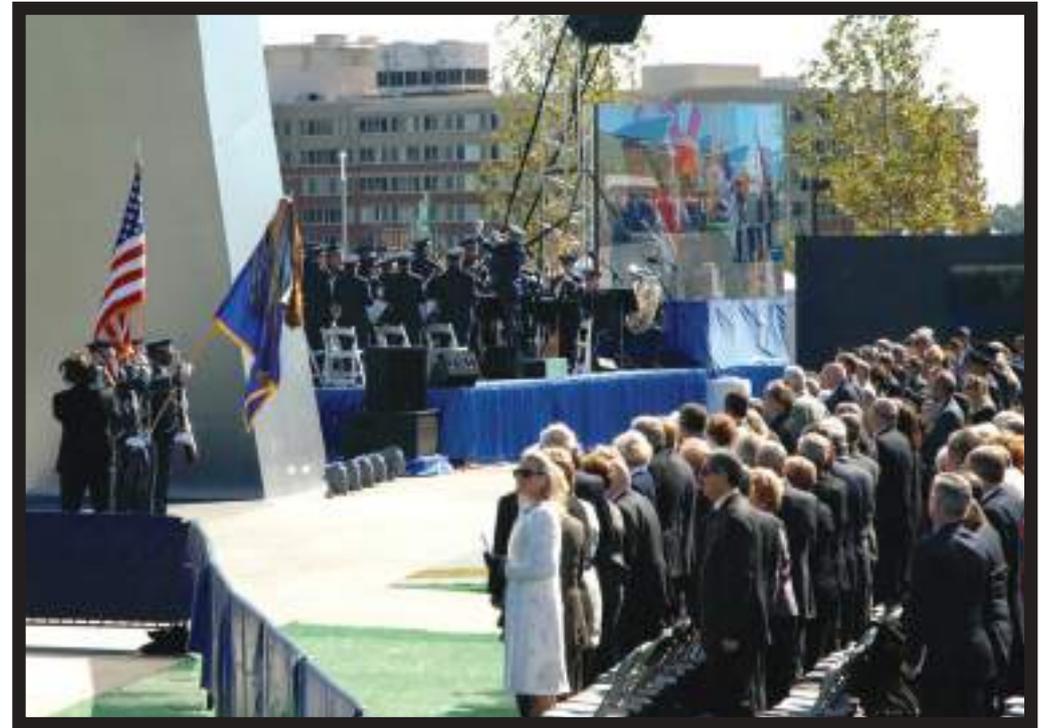




In 2006, Colonel Dennis Layendecker presented Michael W. Wynne, the 21st Secretary of the AF, with a composition written by American composer James Barnes. The piece is "dedicated to all the men and women of the USAF (in celebration of the USAF's 60th Anniversary)."

"USAF's 60th Anniversary: A Musical Celebration" was the first Maryland Public Television broadcast presented live at "The Music Center at Strathmore." Featured on this performance were The Tenors: Cook, Dixon and Young singing Giuseppe Verdi's Brindisi from "La traviata" as they offered a toast to the United States Air Force.

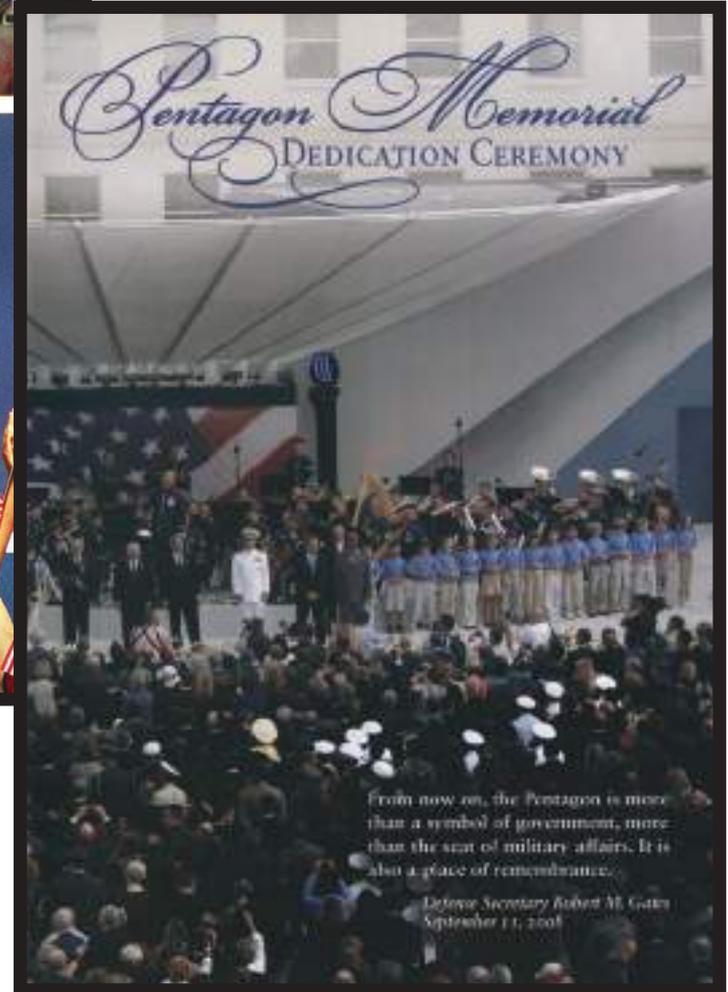




On October 14 and 21, 2006 The United States Air Force Memorial was officially presented to the nation with music provided by The USAF Band and the Airmen of Note.



2008 - In celebration of the 9/11 Pentagon Reconstruction Project in a ceremony hosted by President George W. Bush, MSgt Shani Prewitt infused patriotism and pride with her rendition of Wynonna's hit song, "Freedom."

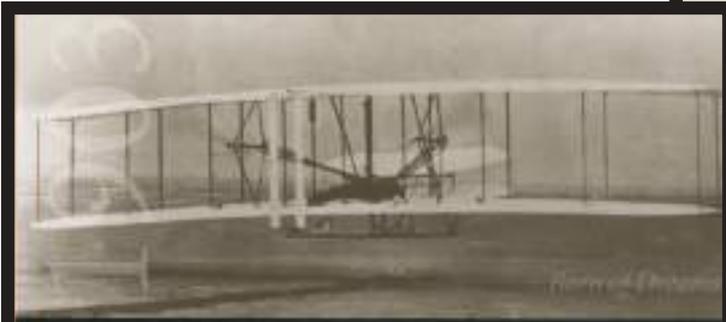






President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura absolutely loved the Singing Sergeants; it was during one of many White House performances that President Bush would introduce them as, "The Mighty Singing Sergeants."





The United States Air Force
Centennial of Flight Tattoo



Hosted by Air Force Chief of Staff General John P. Jumper

Headquarters Air Force And The 119th Wing Present

**The United States Air Force Tattoo:
 Commitment to Freedom**



**October 5, 2004
 7 p.m.
 Ceremonial Lawn
 Bolling Air Force Base
 Washington, D.C.**





United States Air Force Tattoo

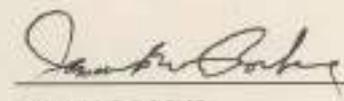
• *Commitment to Freedom* •
 5 October 2004

*Certificate of Recognition presented to
USAF Band*

*for your outstanding support in organizing
 and presenting this spectacular event.*



JOHN P. JUMPER, General, USAF
 Chief of Staff



JAMES G. ROCHE
 Secretary of the Air Force



State Funeral in Honor of President Ronald Wilson Reagan





State Funeral in Honor of President Gerald R. Ford



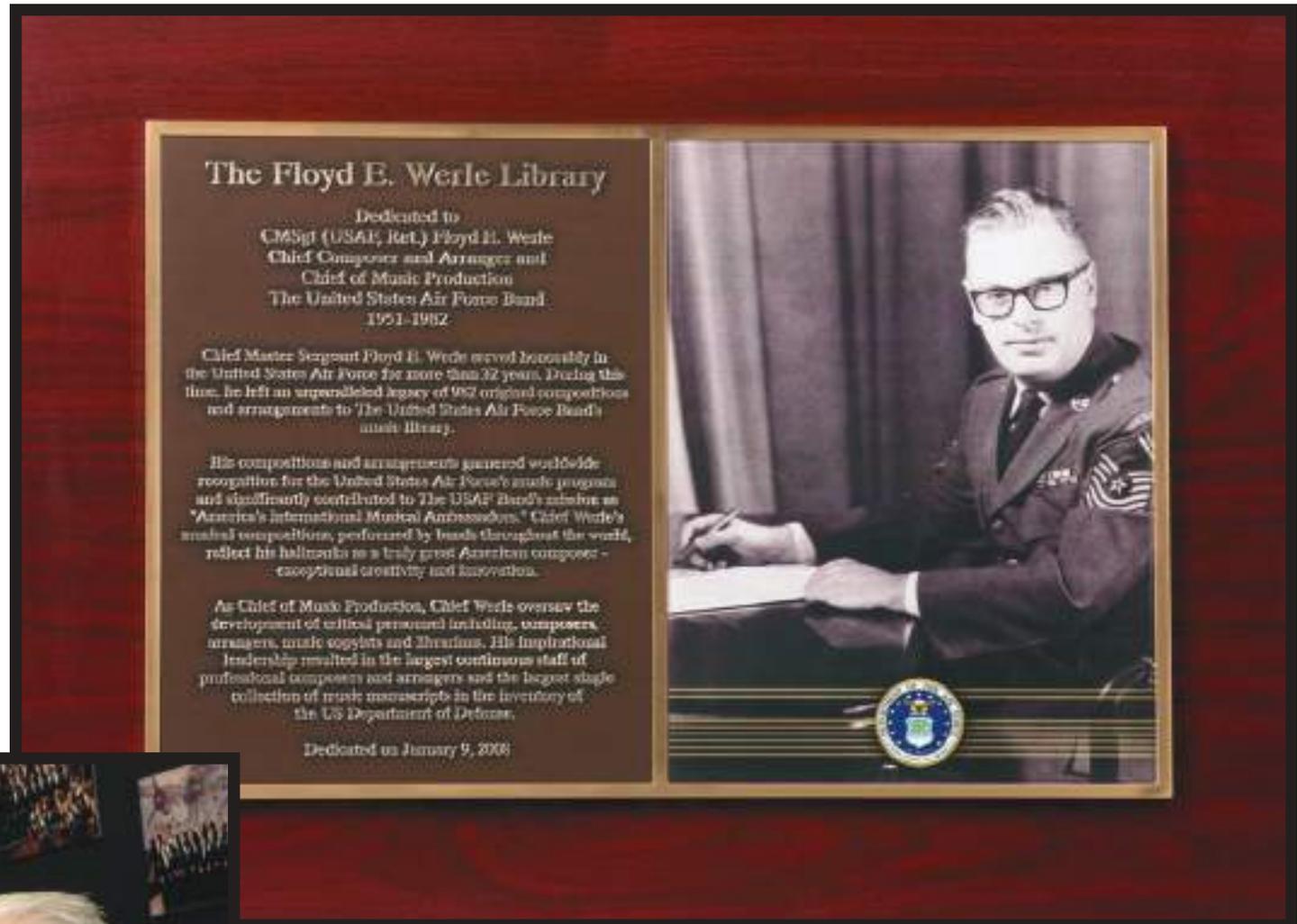


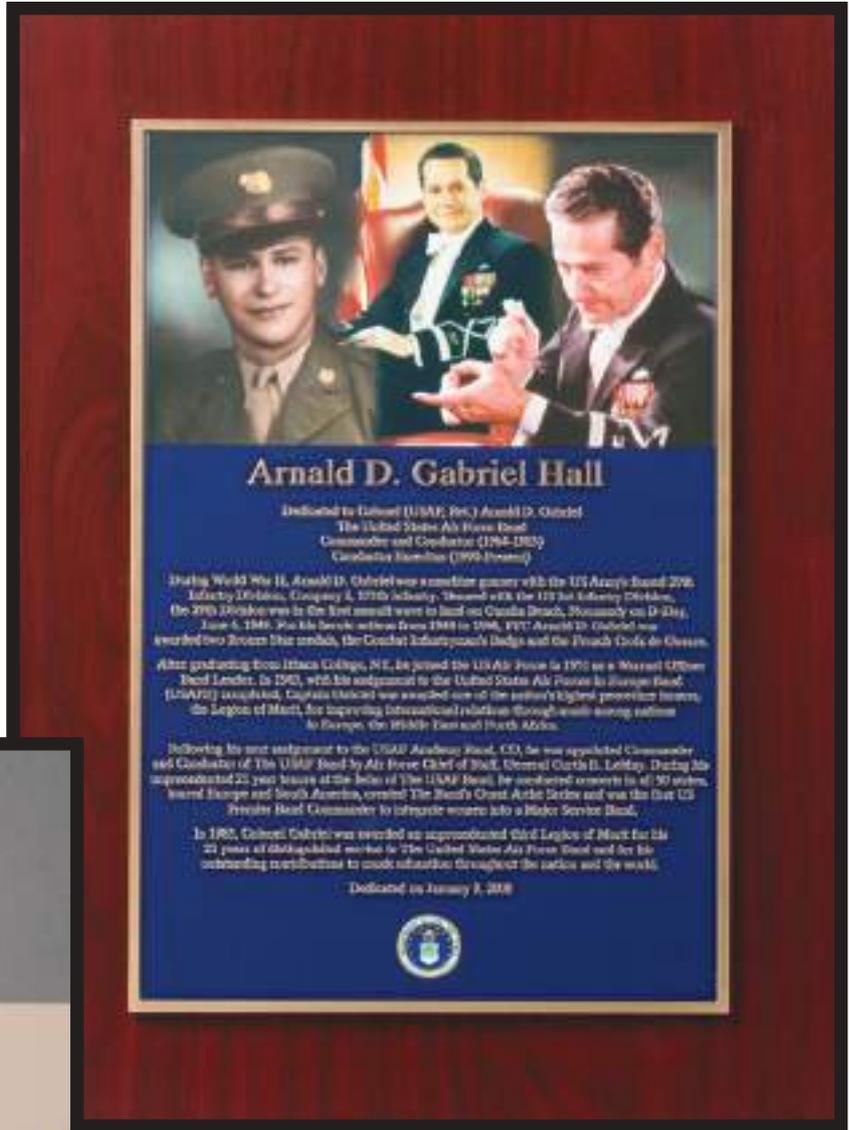
The Ceremonial Brass supports arrival and departure ceremonies in honor of foreign dignitaries at Andrews Air Force Base, MD, the White House and the Pentagon. Pictured here during a 2006 Japanese DV Arrival Ceremony at Andrews AFB, MD.



During Presidential Inaugurations and State Funerals, a 99-piece band is formed from the Ceremonial Brass and Concert Band. CMSgt Edward Teleky leads The Band during a January morning rain in preparation for the Inauguration of President-elect Barak Obama. The practice took place on the Andrews Air Force Base, flightline January 7, 2009. (US Air Force photo/MSgt Cecilio M. Ricardo)

2008 - Library dedication ceremony in Honor of CMSgt Floyd E. Werle





2008 - Hall dedication ceremony in Honor of Colonel Arnald D. Gabriel

Off We Go! (2009-2012)

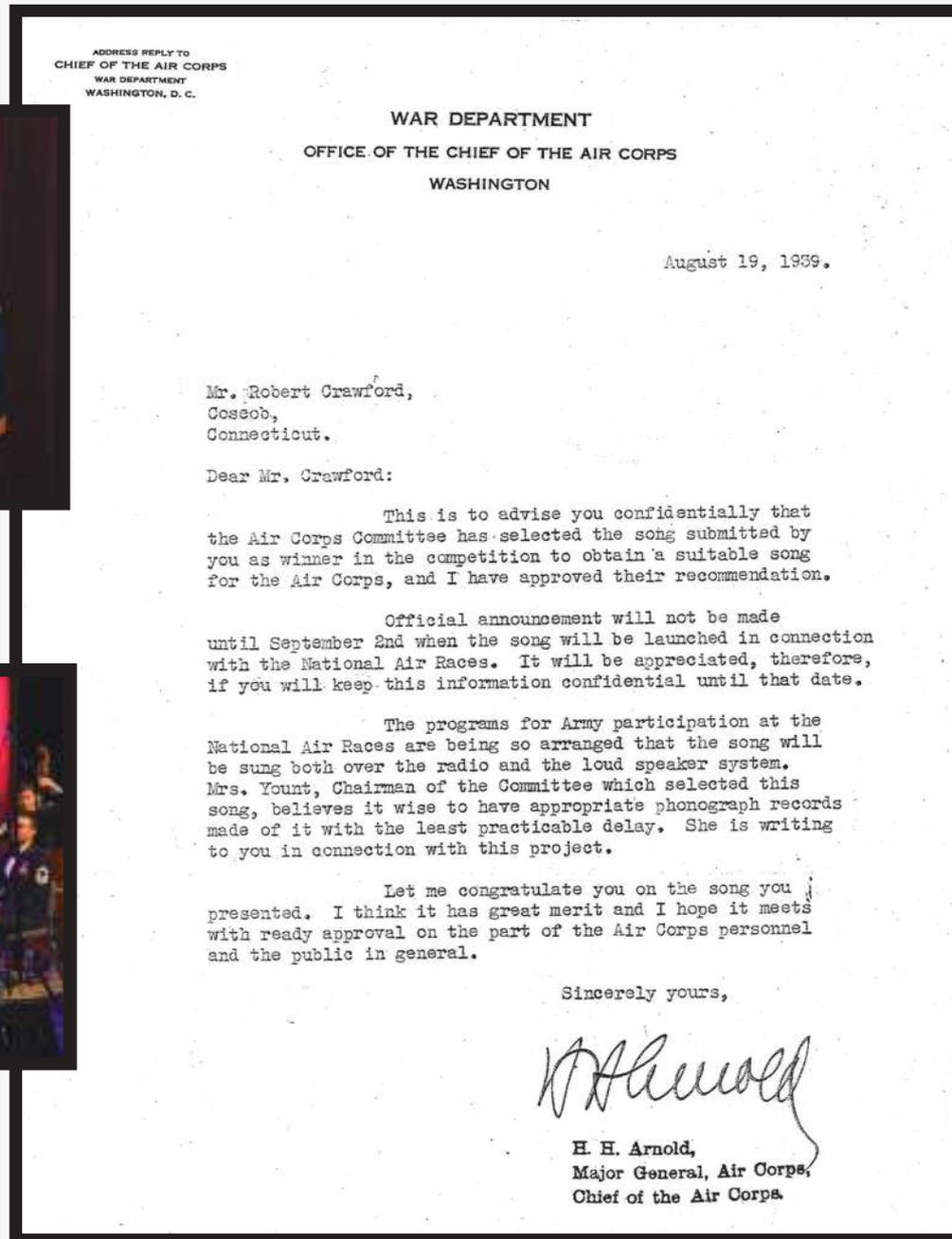
Lt Col Alan Sierichs served as the Commander and Conductor of The USAF Band from June 1, 2009 to May 31, 2010. Among The Band's many accomplishments was a tribute to Robert M. Crawford and The US Air Force song.



Change of Command Ceremony from Colonel Dennis M. Layendecker to Lt Col Alan Sierichs



American Idol contestant and USAF Band Guest Artist, Melinda Doolittle and The Band electrifying the audience on February 21, 2010 at DAR Constitution Hall.



"Off We Go!" is a medley arranged by retired AF Band member CMSgt Mike Davis. This narrated medley represents a culmination of events started under Colonel Dennis M. Layendecker and CMSgt Joe Tersero to bring the history of The USAF Band and AF music to light. What better place to start than with "The US Air Force" song itself (composed in 1939, it predates The AAF Band). Here are just a few items gathered to celebrate the song which unites all Airmen, under the direction of Lt Col Alan Sierichs.



Robert Crawford family photo (courtesy of Ronald Leroy Crawford)



Ron Crawford, an award winning Broadway, television, and film actor, and one of Robert Crawford's four sons, provides the narration for "Off We Go" in Gabriel Hall.

Crawford's original manuscript was carried aboard Apollo 15, July 26-August 7, 1971. Note the autographs at the bottom by the all-air force crew, Dave Scott, Al Worden, and Jim Irwin. (courtesy, The National Museum of The USAF)

A photograph of a handwritten musical manuscript on aged paper. The title at the top reads "NOTHING 'LL STOP THE AIR CORPS NOW." The manuscript consists of several systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. At the bottom of the page, there are three autographs in red ink, followed by the date "18 DECEMBER 1971". Below the autographs, the text "CARRIED ABOARD APOLLO 15, JULY 26-AUGUST 7, 1971" is printed in a bold, sans-serif font.



After a long day of recording the voice tracks to the music, The Band's Tech Support Team takes a break, from L to R MSgt John Bliss, MSgt Loren Zimmer, Ron Crawford, CMSgt Barbara Taylor (Producer of the "Off We Go!" compact disc) and TSgt Jim DeVaughn.

During a June 1, 2010 ceremony, a change of command ceremony was held in Gabriel Hall transferring command to Colonel A. Phillip Waite who held the position from June 1, 2010 to January 10, 2012.



For the first time in The Band's history, a photo of the entire organization was made on a concert stage, at the 1,976-seat Music Center at Strathmore Concert Hall, located in North Bethesda, MD.



From January 11 through 24, 2012, The USAF Ceremonial Brass embarked on a historic milestone: their first-ever stateside Community Relations tour. Visiting ten cities in central Florida, this tour gave the public the unprecedented opportunity to see one of the nation's premier ceremonial ensembles up close and personal. The theme of the tour, "American Song and Cinema," featured music from stage and screen, along with patriotic works ranging from classical to swing. The "Brass" showed off their versatility, precision ensemble work and amazing soloists and featured the world premiere of an exciting work commissioned by The USAF Band in honor of the Tuskegee Airmen, Bruce Yurko's "Red Tail Skirmish."

Innovations (2012-2016)

If there had to be one word to describe The Band during the years of 2012 to 2016, the word would be Innovations. During a time of austere budget constraints coupled with the unpredictability of sequestration, The Band had to come up with new ideas and methodologies to carry on its mission. Innovation was key to coming up with better, more cost effective solutions in order to meet new requirements, unarticulated needs, and ever changing mission directives. Colonel Lang and The Band brilliantly accomplished this by tapping into the tremendous brain power and diverse skillsets which have always existed in this truly unique and highly educated squadron.

The first of these innovations had already been setup in 2011; however, instead of just performing in a single event, The Band added several mini-missions throughout the day, extending the outreach and capitalizing on the use of limited funds. The Band and Honor Guard made history when they set foot in New York City for the largest deployment of 11th Operations Group assets as part of the 2012 Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The 200-person formation marched in front of a live audience of more than three million and a televised audience of 55 million viewers for the 86th annual event. Following the 2.65-mile march through the city streets, The Band performed a patriotic tribute entitled, "This is My Country," conducted by Air Force Band Commander Col Larry Lang, on the NBC main stage in Herald Square.

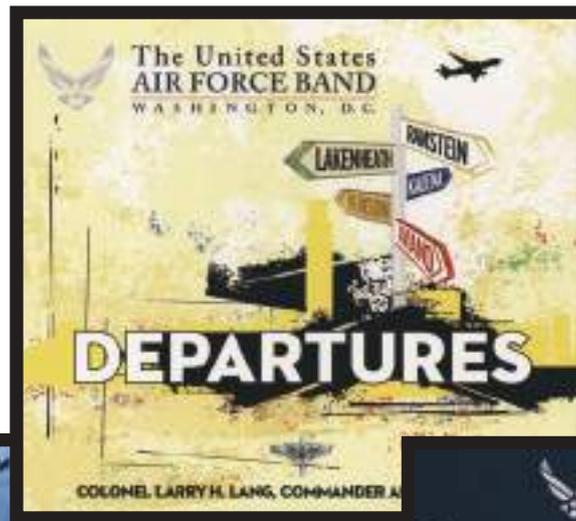
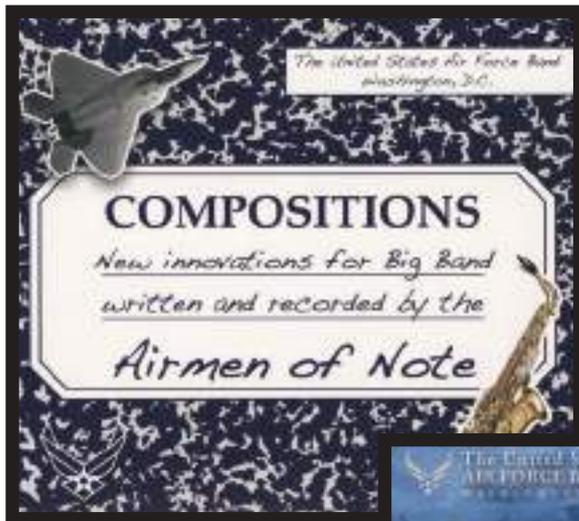
The Band's second innovative triumph included the first ever "Flash Mob" by a premier service band in 2013; this was followed by two more Flash Mobs in 2014 and 2015. In fact, the 2015 "Flashback" celebrated three simultaneous events including The Band's annual holiday show, the celebration of the service and sacrifices of our nation's World War II veterans, and the commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of the end of the World War II. The innovative music used during all three Flash Mobs was written by The Band's Chief Composer and Arranger, SMSgt Robert Thurston. The total reach of all three events to date has been an astounding 45,000,000 "hits" via DoD servers, YouTube and other media outlets. These videos alone have ensured The Band's mission as "America's International Musical Ambassadors" will continue for years to come.

The Advancing Innovation Through Music Program (AIM) was launched in 2013 and has proven to be one of the most successful new initiatives. This program was created to meet the Secretary of Defense's national community outreach objectives. In 2015, AIM provided first-class music education and mentorship, reaching over 23,000 students and teachers at 116 events across the country.

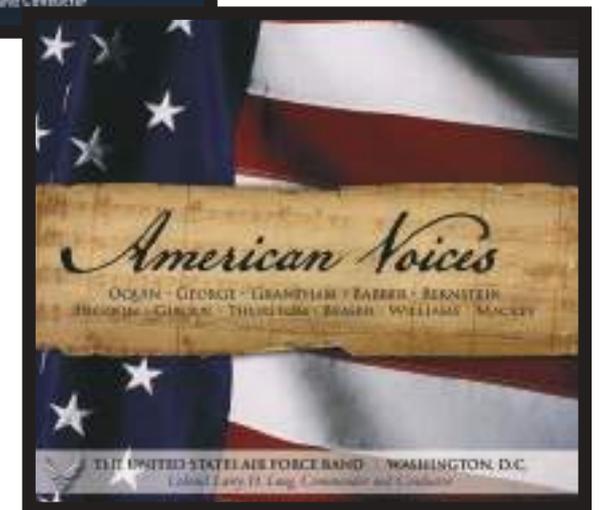
The Band's Washington DC premiere of John Luther Adams' "Sila: the Breath of the World" and participation in nationally and internationally televised events on a level never achieved before has continuously put The Band and the United States Air Force on a world stage; events which include NASCAR, the Super Bowl, Major League Baseball, NBC's Fourth of July broadcasts, the TODAY show, Maryland Public Television's Salute to Veterans broadcasts, and Armed Forces Network broadcasts.

The addition of American Idol contestant Nalani Quintello to Max Impact and that groups four original compositions broadcasted on YouTube has been a tremendous boost to the morale of service members and is reflective of the absolute dedication, drive, and teamwork which all Air Force Band members display on a daily basis. The education level and commitment of today's Airmen Musicians in The USAF Band has never been higher and their skill and tenacious work ethic is reminiscent of three of our most iconic Airmen Musicians: Colonel Arnard D. Gabriel, Major Glenn Alton Miller and Sgt John Williams.

Inauguration: 2013, Inauguration for the 44th President of the United States of America, Barack Hussein Obama II



Audio recordings would take on a different character and reflected a new direction for The Band with most recordings being released online followed by compact discs, as the budget allowed, including: *Compositions* (2012); *Air Force Blue* (2013); *Departures* (2014); *Openers!* (2014); *Celtic Aire As I Raved Out* (2014); *An American Dream* (2014); and *American Voices* (2015). Since 1941, The USAF Band has always been at the forefront of technology from live performances, radio broadcasts, Long Playing records, compact discs, to a new virtual performance stage broadcasted to computers, laptops, cell phones, iPhones, iPods and a vast array of other media devices.



The USAF Band and Honor Guard made history when they set foot in New York City for the largest deployment of 11th Operations Group assets as part of the 2012 Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The 200-person formation marched in front of a live audience of more than three million and a televised audience of 55 million viewers for the 86th annual event.





THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BAND

WASHINGTON, D. C.



COLONEL LARRY H. LANG
COMMANDER AND CONDUCTOR

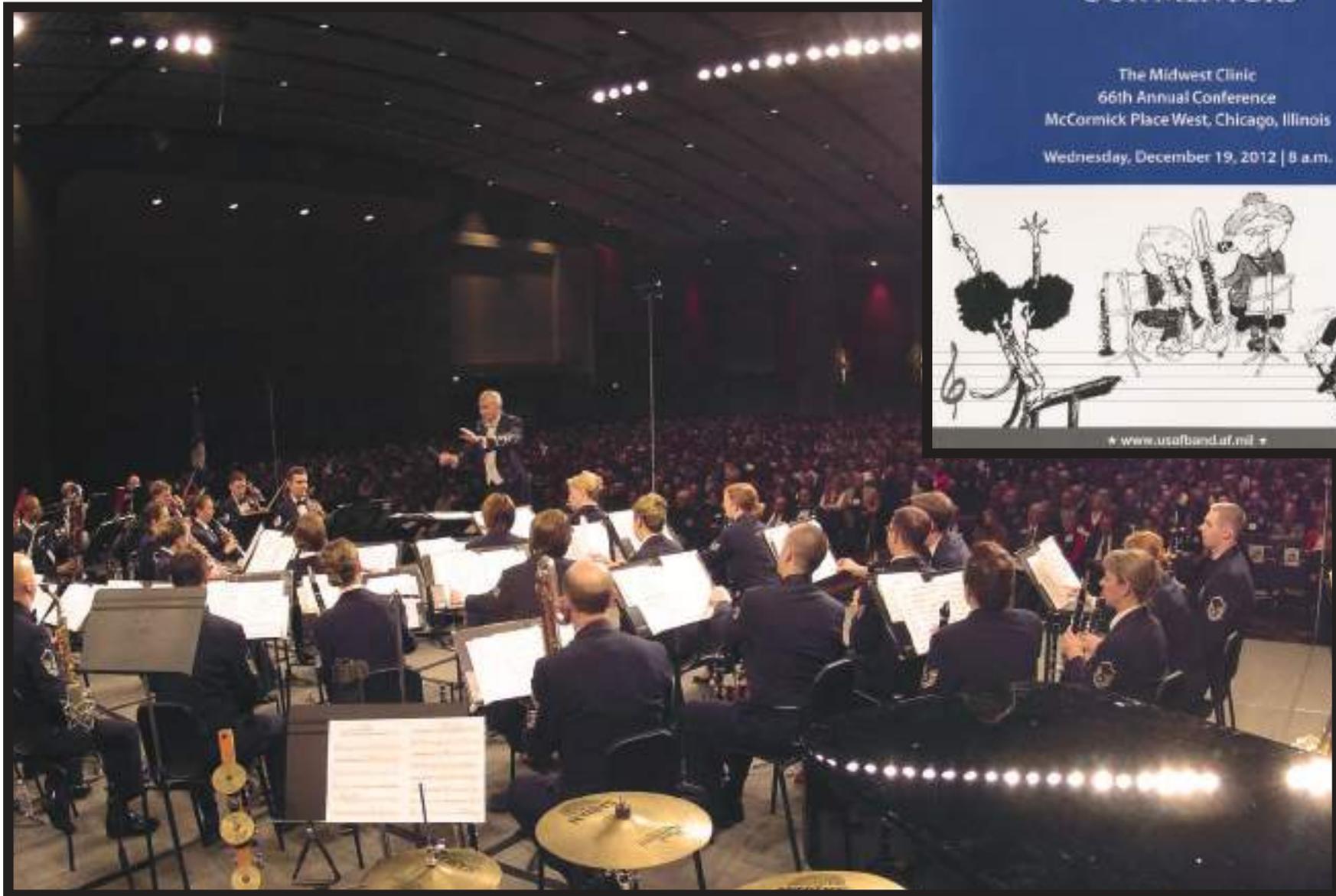


IN HONOR OF OUR MENTORS

THE MIDWEST CLINIC
66TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
McCORMICK PLACE WEST, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2012 | 5:30 P.M. AND 7:30 P.M.

★ www.usafband.af.mil ★



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

*Colonel Larry H. Long
Commander and Conductor*

IN HONOR OF OUR MENTORS

The Midwest Clinic
66th Annual Conference
McCormick Place West, Chicago, Illinois

Wednesday, December 19, 2012 | 8 a.m.



★ www.usafband.af.mil ★



The second inauguration of President Barack Obama



The Drum Major's uniform is often noted for its distinctiveness. The ornate sash worn across the chest is called a baldric. Embroidered with the Air Force Band's crest and the USAF's battle colors, it signifies the position as Drum Major of the USAF. The Drum Major wears a bearskin headpiece and carries a mace, which is used to signal commands to the musicians as they march in formation.







2013 - Starting with a single cellist on the floor of the National Air and Space Museum's "Milestones of Flight" gallery, and swelling to 120 musicians, The Band exhilarated museum visitors with its first-ever flash mob. The four-minute performance featured an original arrangement of "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring/Joy to the World," led by the band's commander and conductor, Col Larry H. Lang.

Disguised as a special holiday kick-off event, The Band surprised visitors at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, VA on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 with another innovative flash mob.



Members of The Band surprised commuters at DC's Union Station with a World War II "Holiday Flashback" on December 3, 2015.





2013 - SMSgt Thomas Scott Hinds served as the band's sixth Drum Major (2013 to 2015)

June 18, 2013 - The USAF Band reconnected with its glorious past by welcoming TSgt Adam Tianello, the first bagpiper to join The Band in over four decades, rekindling a tradition of piping which dates back to 1949. In March of 2015, he performed for President Barack Obama at the White House during a "Celebration of Ireland" ceremony honoring the Prime Minister of Ireland.



The Washington DC premiere of John Luther Adams' "Sila: The Breath of the World" was given in three locations by The USAF Band and the Washington Performing Arts Society. John is a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and is known worldwide for his cutting-edge, nature-inspired compositions. "Sila" was inspired by an Inuit concept which translates to "the spirit that animates the world."





Saturday, May 16, 2015 - National Museum of American History, audience members were fascinated with John Luther Adams' Sila. The performance is highly innovative in its musical concept and the experience it creates for listeners. The composition relies on audience involvement, asking audience members to literally walk amongst the musicians as they create a soundscape that eventually envelops everyone present. This unique experience allowed The USAF Band to connect with and inspire their audiences in new and exciting ways.



2015 - SMSgt Daniel Valadie is the band's seventh Drum Major (2015 - present)



MSgt Jim DeVaughn and MSgt Loren Zimmer received numerous regional Emmy Awards for their work (category "Excellence in Audio") for The Band's Maryland Public Television broadcasts, "America's Veterans - A Musical Tribute."



For the first time in its history, The USAF Band won the 11 Wing's Squadron of the Year Award.



John Williams, preeminent American composer of the late 20th and early 21st centuries is a true visionary of motion picture music. With humble beginnings, this iconic composer won his first award for a soundtrack while serving in the United States Air Force Band, while stationed at Pepperrell AFB, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada. His, 22-minute underscore for a Newfoundland travelogue entitled "You Are Welcome" was selected as "one of the outstanding travelogues for 1954" during a premiere showing in New York City.

In the August 27, 1954 edition of *The Beacon* (base newspaper for March AFB, CA) the following prediction was made: "Someday the words 'Music by Johnny Williams' will flash on your local theater screen. When this statement appears you will recall when Johnny was A/1c John Williams, AF 15526541, 523 Air Force Band, March Air Force Base."

Airmen Composes Way To Movie Musical Career

By PAUL GALLERWAY

Someday the words "Music by Johnny Williams" will flash on your local theater screen. When this statement appears you will recall when Johnny was A/1c John Williams, AF 15526541, 523 Air Force Band, March Air Force Base.

Recently assigned to the 523d AF Band from Newfoundland, Johnny's capabilities and experience, consisting of composing and arranging background music for a 22 minute travelogue, appearing on accompanied with top Hollywood personalities and "jamming" with jazz groups, add up to surely a lifetime of musical achievement, estimated into his 22 years.

Born in Flushing, N. Y., Johnny started his musical career at the early age of nine with the steel organ and organist keeping him glued to the piano bench while his talents were not playing baseball. Additional studies in harmony, theory and composition at UCLA and advanced private piano studies with Robert Van Slyke of the MGM studio staff were gained starting during 1947 when his father, a percussionist at Columbia Studios, moved the family to North Hollywood.

With the lapse of the life of the studio musician and the entrance of Irving Berlin into the "music-business" land of motion pictures influencing him during his high school days at North Hollywood High, the serious pursuit of a musical career began to take shape. At this time he was leader and a featured member of the North Hollywood High Dance Band, composed mostly of students whose fathers were active in the movie music field. The band was featured in numerous radio broadcasts and a writing in *Time Magazine* (Dec. 1943), and produced several musicians who have gone on to greater fame as members of the United States Air Force Orchestra at Bolling Field, Washington, D. C., and the West Point Band.

While Ensign in 1941 and Johnny was assigned after basic to the 75th AF Band, Tucson, Arizona. In March 1942 he was reassigned to the 523d AF Band, Pepperrell Air Force Base, St. John's, Newfoundland.

During his stay at Pepperrell he was able to put his training to use with special arrangements penned for the South France Band and Newfoundland folk songs re-arranged for the concert local sporting the many experiences of the Pepperrell Band. His greatest accomplishments during this period was the composing, arranging, directing and playing of a 22 minute film background score for a Newfoundland travelogue entitled "You Are Welcome."

The success of this accomplishment was reflected in the film being selected as "one of the outstanding travelogues for 1954" during a premiere showing in New York City. The score was unique in that it utilized themes from Newfoundland folk songs for local color. In addition, the fact that the recording sessions, composed of musicians of the 523d AF Band, was limited to 10 pieces and lacked the over-orchestrated delay to call upon his former leading to solo piano accompaniment of the United States orchestras and soloists serving to give the overall effect of a large orchestra.

Since his arrival at March AF Base, Johnny has been busy playing with the home band at the Service Club dances and appearing as arranger with the Eugene Living Relief Group. Living a well known in the dance field having just finished the choreography for the movie of the life of Alvin Karpis in addition to work on other Hollywood productions. With this heavy schedule Johnny still finds time to produce arrangements for the new Palo Alto orchestra.

With backstage for costing his way in January 1955, Johnny plans to continue his studies at UCLA with a goal of writing and playing for motion pictures. If his advancement continues to be as rapid as it has been in this path, soon the words "Music by Johnny Williams" will flash on the local screen and tell the realization of the goal of a famous March airman.

First remark: "The chief has hair eyes."
Second remark: "I told you so to get that 22nd award."

From the Paramount and DreamWorks Motion Picture SAVING PRIVATE RYAN
HYMN TO THE FALLEN
JOHN WILLIAMS

Reverently (♩ = 66)

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Premier Airmen of the United States Air Force past and present: As part of The Band's 75th Anniversary celebration, former Air Force Sgt John Williams and Colonel Larry Lang met to talk about their unique Air Force experiences.



The 2015 Secretary of the Air Force Award for Original Composition was given to Max Impact for "American Airman" written by SMSgt Matthew Ascione and TSgt Nalani Quintello. Max Impact is the premier rock band of The United States Air Force Band. This six-piece band performs classic and current rock and country hits, as well as patriotic favorites and original music. Through national tours, local performances and digital audio and video recordings, Max Impact showcases Air Force excellence to millions each year. To date, they have had four hit videos including American Airman, Locked and Loaded, Stand, and Send Me.

The US Air Force Band's Deployment Mission

Our primary goals include boosting troop morale and building positive relationships with host nation communities through targeted outreach missions as part of the AFCENT Band.

While deployed, Band members are based at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. These dynamic Airmen Musicians perform in small groups throughout US Central Command's area of responsibility, utilizing a wide variety of musical styles to appeal to audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Deliberately employed strengthening relationships with international audiences, Airmen Musicians use the power of music to inspire immediate, positive and long-lasting impressions of the US Air Force and the United States of America.

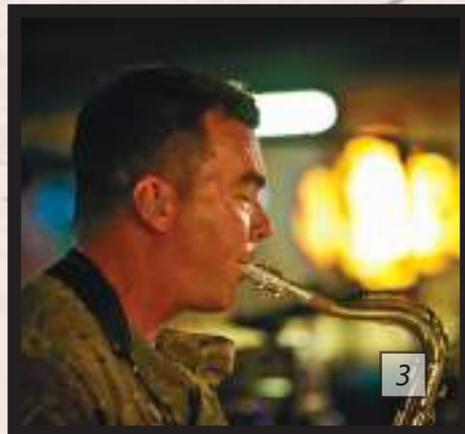


Troop Morale

Boosting the morale of the US and Joint Coalition Forces is a top priority of deployed Airmen Musicians. They offer something unique and intangible – a touch of home – to military members who are far away from family and friends.



1. *Members of Vector perform for deployed service members at the Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan.*
2. *Nighthawk uses music to uplift morale and salute Special Ops troops.*
3. *MSgt Jake McCray improvises a sizzling sax solo during a hot desert evening.*
4. *Vocalist TSgt Paige Wroble and Vector share a musical “slice of home” with the troops to brighten their spirits.*
5. *Nighthawk raises the roof and entertains troops at “fight night” in Bagram, Afghanistan.*



Music Opens Doors

Air Force Bands use the international language of music to instill a positive impression of the United States to new generations; their eyes light up in excitement, especially if it is the first time they have seen US military members.



1. *Bassist MSgt David Foster connects and engages with young Afghans.*
2. *Children from the English School of Kuwait enthusiastically join members of Vector for an impromptu jam session.*
3. *The dance and joy of the children at a Celtic Aire concert is infectious.*
4. *SMSgt Ryan Carson builds relationships with the children at the Bishkek School for the Deaf in Kyrgyzstan. They are captivated and thrilled as barriers are broken.*
5. *Vocalist TSgt Daniel Anderson and Nighthawk entertain students at the Mesaieed International Primary School in Qatar, setting a positive impression for a new generation.*



Building Relationships

Air Force Bands act as diplomatic ambassadors in building community relationships. Interaction promotes a spirit of cooperation, friendship, creativity and peace. The musicians help foster feelings of harmony and good will between nations, one note at a time.



1. *Community spirit and partnership on display during a performance by Celtic Aire in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.*
2. *An enthusiastic Kyrgyzstani diplomat enjoys a concert with 300 other international audience members.*
3. *The common consensus among the students during a performance at the Music School Bishkek was "We love Americans and especially American Music!"*
4. *TSgt Jonathan McPherson plays keyboard on the street, captivating the people of the Republic of Djibouti, Africa.*
5. *The greatest evidence of the power of music across nationalities is approval through smiles and applause.*



The Advancing Innovation Through Music Program (AIM) was launched in 2013 under the guidance of Colonel Larry H. Lang, Commander and Conductor of The United States Air Force Band, Washington DC. The program was created to meet the Secretary of Defense's national community outreach objectives. Due to the program's overwhelming success, the AIM program continues to broaden its reach through local educational partnerships and in response to increased demands from educators across the country. In 2015, AIM provided first-class music education and mentorship, reaching over 23,000 students and teachers at 116 events across the country.

TSgt Dave Balandrin, hornist, inspires an enthusiastic young middle school musician, Gabriel Hall, March 26, 2015.



MSgt John Romano's impeccable bass clarinet playing fosters musical excellence for students, Elko High School, Elko, NV, March 3, 2015.



SMSGt Eric Sabatino, harpist, demonstrates fingering technique to an aspiring harpist, Utah State University, February 26, 2015.



SMSGt Kevin Burns, trumpeter and member of the Airmen of Note, provides encouragement to students at Cunningham Park Elementary School in Vienna, VA, May 12, 2015.



Designed to build positive relationships and partnerships with educational communities, the AIM program strives to advance educational goals of institutions at all levels by providing tailor-made clinics and performances, thus providing students with an opportunity to work side-by-side with America's premier Airman musicians.



As a direct result of the AIM Program, The USAF Band was in 2015 named "Community Partner of the Year" by the BRIDGES music program, a community effort based at Cunningham Park Elementary School in Vienna, VA, that brings music to underprivileged children. Eleven Airmen Musicians volunteered their time and musical expertise to the BRIDGES program by coaching weekly after school sessions.



The USAF Band's Diamond Anniversary Celebration (1941 - 2016)

To all the men and women of The USAF Band, past, present and future,

On the occasion of The United States Air Force Band's Diamond Anniversary, I offer my sincere congratulations to all who have served so distinctly and honorably in this prestigious organization. I have always been grateful to hear The Band referred to as, "The house that Gabe built." However, the real credit belongs to all of us. Together we created a premier band that has been second to none and has always been at the forefront of creativity and innovation.

Your dedication, preeminent musical talent, and tenacious hard work has ensured The Band's place in history as one of our nation's most prized military bands. I am truly thankful for each and everyone of you and what you have done to ensure a lasting legacy for this great organization.

I would also like to congratulate all of the current members who worked so hard to make this event so memorable, especially for making Historic Hangar II the showcase of Air Force excellence, both visually and musically. Finally, on behalf of the alumni, I would like to thank Colonel Larry Lang and his officer staff, the enlisted musicians (past and present), and the entire support staff (past and present) for making this the absolute finest reunion in The Band's history.



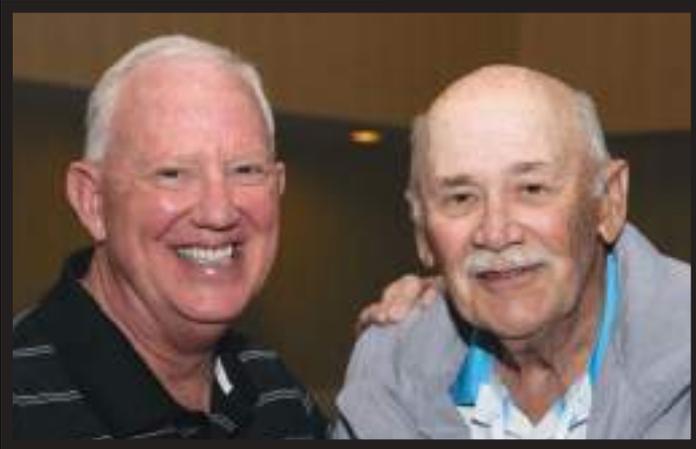

Colonel Arnold D. Gabriel (USAF, ret.)
Conductor Emeritus, The USAF Band

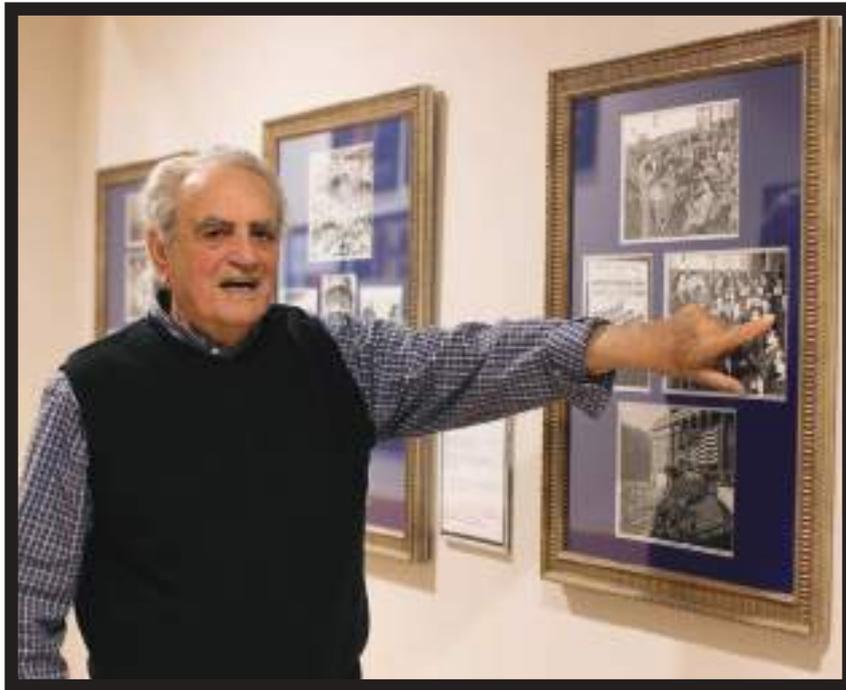


"75 Years of Musical Excellence" featuring selections recorded and conducted by 10 different commanders of The Band throughout its 75-year history. The Album Booklet and sound recordings are available from The Band's website: <http://www.usafband.af.mil/recordings>



"Icebreaker" - something done or said to help people to relax and begin talking at a meeting, party, etc." What better way to "break the ice" for The Band's Diamond Anniversary than with the Strolling Strings, past and present. The very ensemble used by the White House, Department of State, the Department of Defense, and the United States Air Force for this very purpose since 1954. These are just a few of the thousands of photos taken during this momentous occasion. For more photos and/or to leave comments about the reunion, please feel free to browse The Band's reunion Facebook page at: [75th Anniversary - The USAF Band, DC.](#)



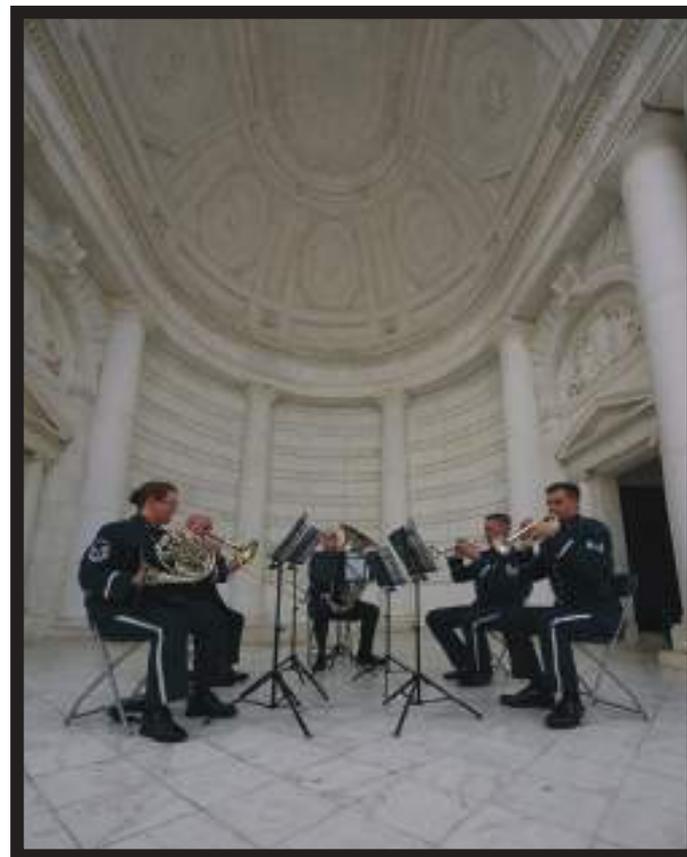


Mission prep photos in the newly decorated Historic Hangar II. A team of expert photographers were on board to document this historic event including rehearsals in the newly decorated Historic Hangar II and performances at the Air Force Memorial and the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. The photographers included: SMgt (ret.) Rob Mesite, CMSgt (ret.) Jan Duga, SMSgt Kevin Burns, Kathy Fallon, CMSgt Bob Kamholz, Jim Remington and Ron Hall. Additional photos were provided by Lou Coppola, Lainie DeMore, and Donna Lang.





Wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery in honor of Lt Col Alf Heiberg, the first conductor of The USAF Band. MSgt (Ret.) Jari Villanueva, recognized internationally as the foremost authority on the bugle call "Taps," delivers the eulogy; "Taps" was rendered by TSgt Karl Sweedy.





SMSgt Daniel Valadie, the band's seventh Drum Major, and Colonel Larry Lang, current commander and conductor of The USAF Band pay tribute to Lt Col Alf Heiberg.



Dr. Craig Jessop inspires The Band during a rehearsal of William Steffe's, The Battle Hymn of the Republic.



Mission prep at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall, George Mason University, in Fairfax, VA



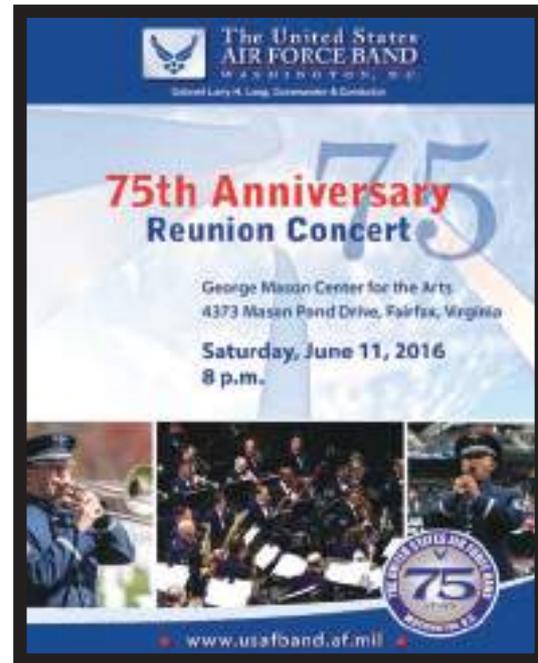
Present and past euphoniumists rehearsing Karl King's Melody Shop.



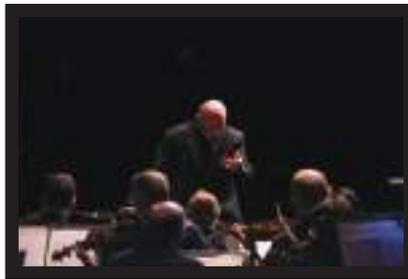
The Airmen of Note and friends, comprised of smaller pop ensembles of The Band, thrill a capacity audience at the Air Force Memorial on June 10, 2016.







Deborah Lee James, the 23rd Secretary of the Air Force and Colonel Larry Lang presented the opening remarks to kick off the final performance on Saturday, June 11, 2016. The concert moderators were Major Matthew Henry and Captain Haley Armstrong.



The U. S. Air Force Band 75th Anniversary Reunion Concert

CONDUCTORS

				
COL. (RET.) ARNOLD D. GABRIEL	LT. COL. (RET.) AMY R. MILLS	LT. COL. (RET.) MARK R. PETERSON	COL. (RET.) LOWELL E. GRAHAM	COL. (RET.) DENNIS M. LAYENDECKER
				
LT. COL. (RET.) ALAN C. SERICHS	COL. LARRY H. LANG	COL. (RET.) H. BRUCE GREIS	LT. COL. (RET.) PHILIP CARL CHEWLLARD	LT. COL. (RET.) CRAIG D. JESSOP



Former Airman, John Williams makes a cameo appearance to congratulate The USAF Band on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary.



The Singing Sergeants were featured in High Flight by SMSgt (Ret.) Robert Thurston, an a cappella version of Freedom Song, by Betsy Listenfelt (arr. by MSgt Ben Parks), with the alumni on William Steffe's The Battle Hymn of the Republic and finally, The US Air Force song by Robert Crawford.



Colonel Lang congratulates MSgt Kent Baker for the world premiere of his composition 75/29/30, featuring the Ceremonial Brass.



CMSgt (Ret.) Brian Bowman, one of the greatest euphonium players in the world, performs Sigmund Romberg's Serenade from the Student Prince.





Secretary James takes time to congratulate The Band's leadership for its 75 years of successfully honoring, inspiring and making a positive impact on The United States Air Force.



Lou Coppola, Col Gabriel, and Craig Jessop – just three of thousands of highly distinguished iconic musicians, who have served in The United States Air Force Band.



Following the concert, award winning composer John Mackey congratulates Col Lang and The USAF Band on the world premiere of his composition Liminal.



Pictured Left to Right, Col Jon T. Julian, 11th Operations Group Commander, Deborah Lee James, Secretary of the Air Force, Col Larry Lang, and Col Bradley Hoagland, 11th Wing Commander take time for a photo op following the conclusion of The United States Air Force Band's Diamond Anniversary celebration.

About the Authors

Harry H. Gleeson

Born and educated in Washington DC, Harry joined the US Air Force Singing Sergeants in 1959. During his 20-year career with The USAF Band he was in the chorus for nine years, served as the announcer for The Band, AF Orchestra and the chorus for 18 years and was The Band's Director of Information (PA) for 16 years. In "retirement" he was president of Music Services Corporation and the first national Announcer Coordinator for the US Figure Skating Association. Harry and his wife, Lainie DeMore, live in North Ridgeville, OH where he is writing a comprehensive history of America's International Musical Ambassadors, The United States Air Force Band and the Singing Sergeants.

Joe Tersero

A native son of the State of Texas, Joe Tersero auditioned for and was immediately accepted as the principal bassoonist for the 564th Tactical Air Command Band, Langley AFB, VA in 1984. In 1989, he was a "direct hire" to serve as The USAF Band's Chief Music Librarian, as well as the third and contrabassoonist. He served in this capacity for 21 years. On June 1st, 2010 he was selected as the The Band's Chief Enlisted Manager, the highest enlisted position in the USAF's premier band. After his retirement, he served as the Chief Music Librarian at the School of Music, George Mason University, in Fairfax, VA. In addition, he also served as Special Assistant to the Director of the National Museum of the Marine Corps, in Quantico, VA; where he was assigned to "The President's Own" United States Marine Band Library. Joe and his wife, Jennifer live in Waldorf, MD, where Joe continues to be a freelance musician.

