

DEPARTMENT OF THE
NAVY
United States Naval Academy
121 Blake Road
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GIFTED LEADERSHIP

This year we have a complete change of leadership in "The Navy's Oldest and Finest Band." We'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you, our patrons, to our new Leader and Conductor, **Lieutenant Commander John Michael Alverson, USN** and Assistant Leader and Associate Conductor, **Ensign Michael S. Grant, USN**. Please make them feel at home!

Lieutenant Commander "Mike" Alverson, a native of Etowah, TN, earned a bachelors degree in Music Education from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. He enlisted in the Navy in April of 1971, and after graduating Personnelman "A" School, deployed aboard the USS CHUKAWAN (AO-100). He received a lateral conversion to the Musician rating and was assigned as a vocalist with The United States Navy Band, Washington, DC.

His following tours of duty included vocalist at Navy Band Orlando, FL; vocal instructor at the School of Music, Little Creek, VA; Director of the School of Music Chorus; and Editor of the Navy Music Program's newsletter, "Ledger Lines." After completing the Intermediate and Enlisted Bandleaders courses, LCDR Alverson reported to the Bureau of Naval Personnel as Detailer and Manpower Resource Analyst. In May of 1983, while serving with Navy Band Newport, RI, he was commissioned an Ensign and assigned to The United States Naval Academy Band.

LCDR Alverson's subsequent assignments included Director of Navy Band Charleston, RI, and U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, Pearl Harbor, HI, and as Director of Training, and then Executive Officer of the School of Music. His bands have entertained audiences from Puerto Rico to Iceland, and Australia to India. Most recently, as Director, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Band, LCDR Alverson conducted the band during events commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion in England, France, and on board the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN-73). Additionally, LCDR Alverson led the band through a tour of Ireland in support of the USS JOHN F. KENNEDY'S (CVN-67) visit to Ireland, the first carrier to visit an Irish port, as well as in Canada as the United States representative to the Nova Scotia Tattoo. LCDR Alverson, is accompanied by his wife, Dana, and son Derek.

Born in 1957 and raised in Middlebury, VT, Ensign Michael S. Grant, enlisted in the Navy in 1977. After graduation from RTC Great Lakes, and completing Musician "A" School, he served as a trumpet instrumentalist in the Sixth Fleet Navy Band in Naples, Italy. It was here that he advanced to Third Class Petty Officer and earned his first Overseas Ribbon. Following this tour he became a member of Navy Band New Orleans, LA, where he earned a Good Conduct Medal and was awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation.

In 1981, he left the Navy to further his education at Berklee College of Music in Boston, where he earned a Bachelor of Music Degree in Arranging, graduating Magna Cum Laude. After graduation, he returned to the Navy, this time as a member of Navy Band Great Lakes. In addition to his work as a trumpet instrumentalist and Administrative Assistant, he served as drum major for the weekly recruit graduations and as a ceremonial conductor. Subsequent tours include the School of Music in Little Creek, VA, for the Intermediate and the Enlisted Bandleader Courses; Assistant Director, Navy Band Guam, where he attained the rank of First Class Petty Officer; and Recruit Training

United States Naval Academy Band

DIRECTOR

LCDR J. Michael Alverson

ASST. DIRECTOR

ENS Michael S. Grant

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

MUCM Gary R. Wolfe

OPERATIONS

MUC Rob Wernitz

ADMINISTRATION

MUC Ken Shrum

SUPPLY

MUCS Richard Chappell

LIBRARIAN

MUC James Bean

SPECIAL PROJECTS

AUDITION SUPERVISOR

MUCS Kathy Callahan

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MUCM Jim Cunningham

Command San Diego, CA, as a Company Commander and Director of the Recruit Training Command Drum and Bugle Corps. During his tenure there he trained over 1000 recruit musicians for the weekly recruit graduations. Upon the closure of RTC San Diego, he transferred to Navy Band San Diego, where he earned the rank of Chief Musician. Chief Grant served as Administrative Assistant, Command Career Counselor, ceremonial conductor, trumpet instrumentalist, Pass Liaison Representative and as leader for Navy Band San Diego's Show Band "Nautilus." As a member of Navy Band San Diego, he earned a second Meritorious Unit Commendation, a fourth Good Conduct Medal, two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and a Master of Arts degree in Management. In 1997, Chief Grant was selected to become a Navy Bandmaster and was commissioned an Ensign on May 1st, 1998. Ensign Grant is married to the former Melanie Blackmer of Middlebury, VT, and has three children, Ashley, 11, Stephen, 10, and Bethany, 4.

ALUMNI

Thank you to all the USNA Band Alumni who made our annual Alumni Concert a success. We look forward each year to seeing old friends, making new friends, sharing stories, and especially making great music. Whether you came to play or just listen and socialize, you made everyone's night!!!

CONCERT BAND

MUCM Ralph Gambone - conductor

Reeds

CDR Ray Ascione

MUC Bill Healy

MUC Tony Kurdilla

MU1 Carl Alexander

Trumpet

MUCM Dick Sowell

MUC Bob Cady

MU1 Max Glatfelter

MUC Dick Bonnefant - percussion

MU1 Butch Jeffcoat - euphonium

MU1 Gayle Baker - vocal

NEXT WAVE**Leader**

LCDR John Fluck

Trumpets

MUCM Larry Callahan

MUCM "Bunny" Carfagno

MUCM Mac McClueb

MUCS Randy Martell

MU1 Tommy Porello

MU2 Al Yager

Trombones

MUC Jim Wyckoff

MU1 Butch Jeffcoat

MU2 Patricia Zweibel

Saxophones

MUCS Henning Hoehne

MUC Ron Diehl

MUC Tommy Senesi

MUC Tony Kurdilla

MU1 Dick Dresser

Piano

MUC Warren Kellerhouse

Bass

MUC Bob "Rabbit" Simmons

Drums

MUC Dick Bonnefant

MUC Joe Minieri

MU1 Jerry Zadera

IN THE AUDIENCE

LCDR Mike Alverson

CWO4 Lou Berner

MUCM Phil Austin

MUCM Ron Cohen

MUCM Hugh Feruson

MUCM Paul Geitzenhauer

MUCS Dick Glass

MUC Gordon Beckwith

MUC Don Evans

MUC Vince Gerrior

**COMMANDER'S COLUMN**

Dear Patron:

It is with immense emotion that I write this final column to you. On August 12, 1998, I departed Naval Academy Band to relieve LCDR John Pastin, USN as the Officer in Charge/Leader of The United States Navy Band, Washington, DC.

Assuming leadership of our Navy's premier musical organization is the fulfillment of a career goal I set over twenty years ago and one that I feel proud and fortunate to have achieved. I am very excited about my new assignment and I'm looking forward to once again working with the outstanding men and women of "The World's Finest." However, my association with Naval Academy Band goes back to my early beginnings when my father was first stationed here in 1948. I became a member of the band in 1969 and the only reason I left was to work towards a commission as a Bandmaster, so I could return one day to lead the Band. After 22 years that dream was realized when I assumed leadership of "The Navy's Oldest and Finest Band" on August 12, 1996.

My tour here has been everything I thought it would be; except longer! Our musicians are not only some of the finest in the country, they are terrific people as well and I have thoroughly enjoyed working and making music with them. I will miss them greatly. The Naval Academy chain of command, from the Superintendent on down, has been equally terrific and supportive. My appreciation must also go out to the City of Annapolis, Mayor Johnson, and former Mayor Hopkins for their unparalleled support. Finally, to you, our patrons. As I have said in the past, you are the very best patrons I have ever known. Your support of our concert and recital series has been overwhelming. It has been my pleasure to perform for you. You have given all of us a great deal of personal satisfaction and feeling of accomplishment.

Your new Leader is LCDR Mike Alverson, USN. He comes to the band from Norfolk, VA, where he served as the Director of the Atlantic Fleet Band. During his long career he has served in many capacities as a band leader, administrator and educator. He is very personable and a quintessential "officer and gentleman." His first concert with the band will be our Navy Day Concert on October 9, 1998, in Alumni Hall, with the USNA Glee Club.

On behalf of the members of Naval Academy Band I thank you for your continued support. Please come out and meet the new Leader and hear *your* United States Naval Academy Band this fall.

Sincerely,

R. M. GAMBONE
Director

Biography**Musician Second Class E. Adams Tillet, Jr.
French Horn Instrumentalist**

Musician Second Class Adam Tillet, a native of Norfolk, Virginia, graduated from Norview High School in 1982. He attended Old Dominion University from 1982-1985 and earned his Bachelor of Music degree in French horn performance from the Peabody Conservatory in 1988. He earned a Master of Music degree in French horn performance from Northwestern University in 1989.

Petty Officer Tillet's teachers include David Bakkegard, principal horn with the Baltimore Symphony, and Dale Clevenger, principal horn with the Chicago Symphony. He has also studied with notables such as world renown horn soloist Barry Tuckwell, Howard Howard, principal horn with the New York Metropolitan Opera and Rudolph Vrbsky, principal oboe with the National Symphony. He has performed with the Baltimore Opera Orchestra, Goucher Chamber Symphony, Peabody Horn Quartet, Roanoke Symphony, Virginia Opera Orchestra, and the Virginia Symphony and is a former faculty member of Baltimore School for the Arts and Essex Community College.

Petty Officer Tillet auditioned for and was accepted by Naval Academy Band as a horn instrumentalist and, after recruit training, reported for duty in 1991. He performs with the concert band, wind octet, various recital ensembles as well as ceremonial and marching bands. He has also appeared as a featured soloist with the concert band and supervises one of the concert band stage crews. His versatility, musicianship, and positive attitude contribute greatly to the organization and led to his choice as USNA Band Sailor of the Quarter. His personal decorations include the Navy Good Conduct Medal (2 awards), 2 Meritorious Unit Commendations, and the National Defense Medal.

In addition to his ongoing study of music, Adam finds time to enjoy carpentry (he built his own home!), and quality time with his wife Jennifer and children, Olivia, Josiah and Emily.

**MOVING?**

The United States Naval Academy Band has friends all over the world. If you are planning to move and would like to take Serenade with you, please mail us your new address along with the old (as it appears on the mailing label now).

Because Serenade is a tri-annual publication, your forwarding time with the US Post Office may expire before the next issue comes your way.

—MUCM Jim Cunningham

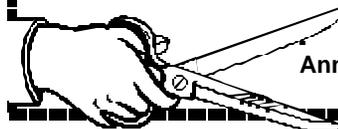
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Program Notes

September 11

A recital featuring MUCS James "Butch" Rodak, saxophone and MU2 Joel Borelli, trombone. MU2 Borelli's selections include an original work by MU2 Joe Heberer entitled "Rhapsody for Trombone and Piano," Bernstein's "Lonely Town," and an aria from "The Magic Flute." MUCS Rodak will be joined by his wife and USNA Band alumnus, Susan Rodak on clarinet and their daughter, Sarah Rodak, a promising young dancer. They will perform "Sarah's Dance #1" by MUCS Rodak, and "Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Saxophone and Piano" by Max Bruch.

October 9

The USNA Concert Band and Glee Club celebrate the 223rd Navy Birthday in Alumni Hall. The first concert conducted by our new leader, LCDR Mike Alverson. 8:00 p.m. in Alumni Hall.

October 16

A recital featuring MU2 Joe McCarthy on percussion. An evening of solo, duo, trio, and quartet music by Corea, Manieri, Haughton, and more.

October 23

A musical salute to the UN in celebration of United Nations Day. Special guests in the audience include foreign Naval Officers and Midshipmen stationed at USNA.

October 30

This concert features USNA Band's Wind Octet, a special ensemble appearing only once a year. Conducted by MU1 Richard Diefenderfer, they will perform a full performance of Dvorak's Serenade for 10 Wind Instruments, Cello, and Double-Bass in D minor, Op. 44, and Serenade in E=, Op. 7 by Richard Strauss.

November 6

A musical salute to America's past and present servicemen in honor of Veteran's Day. The program will feature the full Concert Band, conducted by LCDR Alverson, performing patriotic favorites.

November 13

Contemporary jazz featuring "The Superintendent's Combo." Selections include "Three Views of a Secret" by Jaco Pastorius, "If You Only Knew" by "Flim and the BBs," "Evensay" and "River Waltz" by "The Yellowjackets" as well as some well known jazz standards.

November 20

A recital featuring the Naval Academy's Clarinet & Tuba Quartets. These highly respected quartets keep an active performance schedule, including concerts and clinics nationwide. For an evening of virtuosic chamber music, join us in Mahan Hall at 8:00 p.m.

November 22

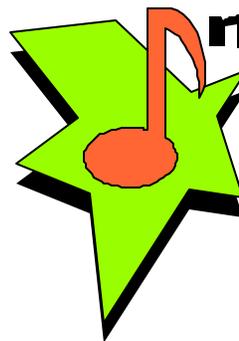
A special recital in conjunction with the "Free State Organ Society," a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration, of theater pipe organs in Maryland. The program features MU2 John Babcock, trumpet; Mr Monte Maxwell, Naval Academy Organist; and the excellent acoustics of the Naval Academy Chapel.

December 11

Our annual "musical gift to Annapolis," features traditional holiday favorites to help put you in the "spirit." Full concert band arrangements conducted by the Naval Academy Bands Assistant Leader, ENS Michael S. Grant, at 8:00 p.m. in Mahan Hall.

December 12

Our Children's Matinee, a favorite for kids of all ages promises many surprises including a visitor from the North Pole. Join the fun at 1:00 p.m. in Mitscher Hall.



noteworthy events

CONGRATULATIONS
to our newest Chief Petty Officer
MUC Alexandra R. Chappell



NAVY/MARINE CORPS MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

CDR Ralph M. Gambone
MUCM Donald Carter

NAVY/MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

MU1 Robert Vuono, 5th award
MU1 Dan Drew
MU2 Dan Orban

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER OF COMMENDATION

MU2 Amy K. Jarjoura
MU2 Richie Smith

NAVAL ACADEMY BAND SAILOR OF THE QUARTER

MU2 E. Adam Tillett, 2nd quarter 1998

NAVY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MU2 Erik Swanson



EXPERT PISTOL

MU2 Todd Nix
MU2 Pat Sarracco
MU2 Karl Schultz
MU2 Jarrod Williams



DISTINGUISHED PISTOL MARKSMAN

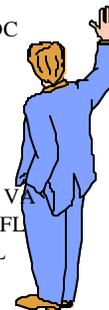
MUCS Kathy Callahan

A FOND FAREWELL TO:

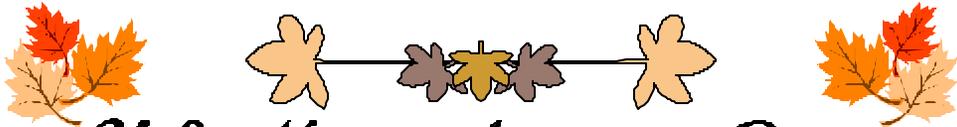
CDR Ralph M. Gambone to Leader, U.S. Navy Band, Washington, DC
MU1 Bruce McDonald to School of Music, Norfolk, VA
MU2 Dan Orban to U.S. Marine Band, Washington, DC
MU2 John Parsons to U.S. Navy Band, Washington, DC

WELCOME ABOARD TO:

LCDR J. Michael Alverson from Leader, Atlantic Fleet Band, Norfolk, VA
MU2 Michael D. Acosta from Navy Band Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL
MU2 John B. Duley from Navy Band Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL
MU2 Joseph E. Heberer from School of Music, Norfolk, VA



Visit us on the World Wide Web at:
<http://www.nadn.navy.mil/USNABand>



U.S. Naval Academy Band Fall Concert Series 1998

October 9
Alumni Hall

Navy Day

October 23

United Nations Day

November 6

Salute To Veterans

December 11
Mahan Hall

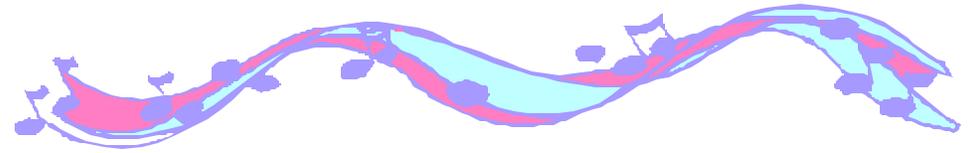
Holiday By The Bay

December 12
1:00 P.M.

Children's Matinee



All Naval Academy Band concerts begin at 8:00pm in Mitscher Hall
(except where noted) and are free and open to the public.
For concert information call (410) 293-0263.



United States Naval Academy Band Chamber Music Series 1998

September 11

Rhapsodies, Songs, & A Spritely Dancer

October 16

1234 !

October 30

Wind Octet

November 13

Three Views of a Secret

November 20

Mahan Hall

Ebony & Bronze

November 22

USNA Main Chapel

Trumpet & Organ



All Naval Academy Band concerts begin at 8:00pm in Mitscher Hall
(except where noted) and are free and open to the public.
For concert information call (410) 293-0263.