



"Sound Off"

Website = <http://armm.us>

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The Association of Retired Military Musicians

June 2008



Full Speed Ahead!

Plans are still going full speed ahead for the reunion. The entertainment has been booked and other activities are still in the planning process. We are looking at having a short graveside memorial service for Doug Curlee who passed away earlier. We can also incorporate this to include all members who have passed on. I would like to have one of our members play Taps so please let me know who will do it. If two members volunteer we will do Echo Taps. I will ask Iggy to take charge of the service.

The Tennessee Army National Guard Band will once again perform for us on Friday. The first half of the program will be theirs and we have been invited to sit in for the second half. Maj. Perry has asked me to get some input of what musical numbers you would like to play. I suggested to him we do Bugler's Holiday with our members and see who is still standing at the end. The

Guard combo will also be playing for the dinner dance. Attire for the dance will be casual. So far I have 25 members who have paid their reunion fee and I checked at the Holiday Inn and there have been 22 rooms reserved. Now is the time to get the ball rolling and get your rooms reserved and you reunion fees to me. I will give Randy a final headcount on 1 Sep. Members who send their money after that take a chance of getting the short end of the stick on the dinner. Once again the hotel number is 270-886-4413 and you can contact Randy Barlow or Beverly McIntosh if there are any problems with reservations.

Polo shirt sales: The emblem has been made and I will be ordering the shirts on 23 May. The sizes will range from Medium to XXXL. We will have shirts with and without pockets. The colors will be black, white, sand, and grey. All will have contrasting collar and trim. The tentative prices for the no pocket shirts will be \$20.00 for Med thru XL, \$21.00 for XXL, and \$23.00 for XXXL. Anything bigger than that will have to be special ordered through Omar the Tentmaker (joke). The shirts with pockets will be \$2.00 more for each size. The S&H will be \$5.00. This is a guess so I hope to keep it close. If it is a little less then the change will go into the treasury.

Please call me if you want to order a shirt/shirts but do not call until after 15 Jun. If you are going to be at the reunion I would prefer you wait until you get there to get a shirt. I did not order any hats because I didn't know how well they would go. I do know we can get them for about \$15.00 (plus or minus). Let me know if you want one and we can go from there. If you want one and are going to be at the reunion we can pay for them now. open to suggestions as what other activities you would like.

**Mike Noland
Entertainment Chairman
2008 ARMM Reunion**



POINT OF CONTACT:

Randy Barlow or Beverly McIntosh

LOCATION:

Holiday Inn Hopkinsville
2910 Ft. Campbell Blvd.
Hopkinsville, KY 42240
(270) 886-4413
(800) 465-4329

DATES:

Thursday, 11 September 2008 through
Sunday, 14 September 2008

WEBSITE:

Holiday Inn Hopkinsville

You can email me at:

waldhorn4@bellsouth.net

**Mike Noland
Entertainment Chairperson**



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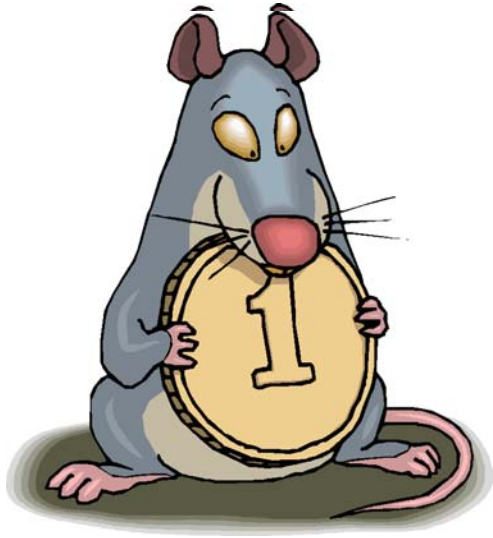
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From the Head Rat

SUMMER'S HERE

Will we see you in Hopkinsville this September? Have you made your reservations and sent your hospitality money to Mike? If not, what are you waiting on? I suspect there are many of us (myself included) who haven't called the hotel yet. Don't wait too long and miss out on what promises to be a great reunion.

What about the 2009 ARMM Reunion? I am aware of one possible location for 2009. If you are interested in hosting the reunion in your hometown, let Mike, Hank, Mike, or me know soon. We can advise you on what steps you need to take so you can make a presentation at this year's reunion.

I finally got bored sitting at home and returned to work in mid-April. I went back to the Adjutant General School and the Soldier Support Institute at Fort Jackson. This is where I was working when I retired. It is nice to see many friends and contribute to the ongoing war on terrorism. I am a Human Resources Administrative Specialist handling the AG School budget, special projects, and other administrative duties. Unfortunately, the days are long – not many eight hours days. I have notified the

other officers of ARMM that I will not seek or accept a nomination as your President if it is offered. I feel it is time for a new voice and direction. The job as President is easy – much easier than being the Secretary or Treasurer. I respond to some emails and take a few phone calls. The biggest part of the job is preparing the agenda for the business meeting and conducting the meeting. ARMM needs you to step up and lead the organization. It has been an honor to serve as your President for nearly three years. I thank-you for your confidence in me.

Dave Ratliff
ARMM President

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 22 May 2008 we have \$6353.80 in our account.

As you well know, our 2009 dues are due in September. Once again I am asking that you pay early, if you can, to avoid a mad rush at the reunion. I requested this last year and it worked out quite well. I will have a minimum of time to collect dues this year due to the hosting duties and the selling of the new polo shirts. Hope to hear from many of you soon.

Mike Noland
Treasurer



Pick Up The Pace

ARMY BANDS UPDATE

CW5 JEANNE PACE
ARMY BANDS PROPONENCY OFFICER
FT JACKSON, SC

The Army Band Leader Training (ABLT) held in Williamsburg this year, was a great success (read more below). The venue change at the last minute did not seem to phase MAJ Keene and SGM Joyner and their staff. As part of the activities. SGM Joyner's retirement ceremony and reception was conducted. A change of responsibility ceremony was incorporated into the ceremony, during which CSM Camarda assumed his position as the Commandant of the NCO Academy and CSM for the ASOM. This was an historic event: the first centrally selected CSM of the band program.

We welcome a new band to the inventory: the recently authorized 721st Army Band, Guam National Guard. Their Command Chief Warrant Officer and the prospective Bandmaster made the twenty (plus) hour trip to attend ABLT, but they both commented that the experience was well worth the trip.

We also welcome and congratulate four new officers to our ranks. Three warrant officers graduated 22 May from Fort Rucker, WO1 Bauer, WO1 Moore, and WO1 Newby. 1LT Ralls, a former active duty bandsman, currently serving as an AG officer in the National Guard, will join the WO1s in the redesigned and consolidated officer basic course beginning 8 June at the school of music.

Congratulations go out to the following Warrant Officers selected for promotion: TO CW4: Brazier (Korea), Hester (Alaska), Morse (USMAB); TO CW3: Hager (101st), Vail (Germany). The following Soldier/Musicians were selected for MSG this year: Luxon, Dana; Kruczek, James; Basora, Eric; Chambers,



Gunnar; Stradley, John; Baxter, Steven; Berger, John; and Herrington, Cornell.

Bands continue to provide incredible support to Soldiers and Families; both in deployed status and at home station.

Army musicians worldwide gather for training(Excerpts)

*By Monica Miller, Command Information Officer
Fort Eustis, PAO*

April 9 through 13, approximately 350 warrior musicians from Army bands around the world gathered at the Williamsburg Marriott Hotel for the 2008 Army Band Leader Training hosted by The Army School of Music. The theme for this year's training was 'Relevant and Ready;' an appropriate message for the changing environment Army bands perform in today.

"Our program is in a lot of transition right now," said Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Camarda, the incoming command sergeant major for The Army School of Music. "There are a lot of challenges we're facing as we try to develop a program that meets the needs for our bands and Soldiers out there."

Camarda was instated during a change of responsibility ceremony Saturday at the 2008 ABLT that relinquished duty from Sgt. Maj. Joel Joyner. Camarda was formerly the sergeant major for the Army European Command Band and Chorus, and Joyner is retiring after 30 years of service. As he comes into his new position, Camarda said he hopes to gain valuable feedback and insight from the Army Band Steering Group to develop requirements for The Army School of Music's mission of training warrior musicians for combat and peacetime.

Throughout the five-day training event, leaders attended a variety of sessions from specific instrument clinics to questions-and-answers with Army School of Music and Army Band non-commissioned officers. Participants were able to hear from guest speakers such as Maj. Gen. Mitchell Stevenson, commanding general of Army Combined Arms Support Command, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Phillips, deputy chief of Army Public Affairs, Dr. James Jordan, a professor of music at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, and Dr. Thomas Barnett, a strategic planner and the senior managing director at Enterra Solutions, LLC. Special performances included jam sessions from various Army Band components and The Salsa Band from the 248th Army Band of the Puerto Rico National Guard. "I hope that everyone will be able to take away valuable training and knowledge that will help them improve the entire Army Band field's ability to support the Army in the most effective way possible," said Peña about his and his staff's planning of the event.

The guest speakers and various sessions were geared toward better providing the ABLT attendees insight into how warrior musicians play into the overall structure of the Army. During his presentation, Phillips, reading an e-mail from Maj. Gen. Anthony Cucolo III, chief of Army Public Affairs, said that for many Americans the Army Band may be their only connection with Soldiers. Stevenson related stories of how Army bands always encouraged Soldiers to continue the battle.

"As leaders, we must take an active role in bringing in the people who can accomplish the mission of Army bands: to promote music throughout the spectrum of military operations, to instill in our forces the will to fight and win, to foster the support of our allies, and to promote national interests at home and abroad," said Keene.

Historic Firsts for the Screaming Eagle Band

*By 1SG Nicholson
101st Abn Div (AASLT) Band*

The 101st Abn Div (AASLT) Band's brass quintet, "Valves of Fury," made history last week by performing at a ribbon cutting ceremony for a local school. What's so historic, you might ask? The simple fact that the group conducted a patrol to the site through a neighboring Afghan village and is believed to be the first American military band in Afghanistan to perform for the local populace outside of a military installation.

The mission took shape with a WARNO the night prior, some quick rehearsals (both musical and tactical), equipment prep, and a few hours rest. They were back at it early the next morning with PCCs/PCIs, mission briefs, and more immediate action drills. The patrol began at 0900 and all personnel and sensitive items were back inside the wire by 1300, mission complete. Unfortunately the quintet missed PT that morning, but the 1SG has plans to make it up to them.

While weighted down with over 50 pounds of IOTV and protective gear and under a sweltering sun, the sturdy Air Assault Bandsmen entertained a crowd of approximately 200 local elders, villagers, and youngsters. The group chose to perform an eclectic mix of tunes, ranging from traditional military marches and jazz standards to Hang on Sloop and the theme from The A-Team (always a crowd pleaser). Many of the children were shy at first, but quickly warmed to the group and soon crowded around to see and hear what would happen next.

The Screaming Eagle Band plans to continue its strategic outreach and information operations campaign, playing for the Afghan people whenever possible and working with Provincial Reconstruction and Civil Affairs Teams to help bridge the gap between our two cultures. Air Assault!

Saturday's Rangers Game to feature National Anthem Live via Satellite from Military Base in Iraq

*By MLB.com
Texas Rangers*

ARLINGTON -- The Texas Rangers announced today several events surrounding the return of the annual Lone Star Series to Arlington. In addition to this weekend being the first time that two African-American managers with Texas teams have faced each other, the Rangers will feature a one-of-a-kind national anthem on Saturday.

On Saturday, the National Anthem will be played and sung live via satellite from Baghdad, Iraq by soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division Band, based at Ft. Hood, Texas. It will be the first time the Rangers have ever had the national anthem performed via satellite, one of a limited number of satellite performances ever for a Major League Baseball game. In honor of Armed Forces Day, the game will be broadcast on the Armed Forces Network AFN to military service members around the world, as well as on Fox FSN-Southwest.

Game time is Saturday, May 17, 2008 at 6:05p.m. Major General Hammond of the 4th Infantry Division based at Ft. Hood, TX will address the ballpark crowd live via satellite prior to the game. As soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division unfurl the oversized American Flag on the field, soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division Band will play the National Anthem live from Baghdad, Iraq.

US Army Arrives in China

*By Army News Service
Army News Service May 02, 2008*

SHANGHAI, China - More than 40 members of 8th U.S. Army arrived in Shanghai, China Tuesday. It was the largest group of U.S. military to enter the country in recent history. China invited the 8th United States Army Band, part of the 8th U.S. Army based in Korea to participate in of the 2008 Shanghai Spring International Music Festival which ends May 3.

Twenty-two bands from all over China, South Korea, Malaysia, Japan and Australia also participated in the event. The purpose of the festival is to foster understanding of different cultures through the performance of music.

April 30 the band participated in a parade through Shanghai for the opening ceremony. Crowds of people stood along the route and waved flags and cheered when the band marched by. "It was a very positive- there were a lot of smiles and there was a good bit of cheering," said Sgt.Maj. Mark Eister, Sergeant Major for the 8th Army Band.

For some of the Soldiers who accompanied the band on the trip, it was the first for them to see the 8th Army Band as well. "That was my first time to see the band walking through the streets. I was very proud of them. It allowed the Army to get closer to the civilians through music," said Spc. Jae Jung, logistic supply, Headquarters Company, 2nd Infantry Division, who is one of the 10 support personnel accompanying the band. Friday the band will be playing a concert at Zhengda Stadium at Fudan University.

USMA Musician, Touched by Terminal Illness, Helps Others

*By SFC Eric Miller
U.S. Military Academy Band at West Point*

As a musician in the U.S. Military Academy Band, Sgt. 1st Class Deric Milligan has shared his talents with members of the West Point community for the past eight years. During his tenure in the Hellcats, Deric has sounded

Taps at hundreds of military funerals and has performed in a multitude of concerts, a craft in which he takes great pride. However, recently touched by his wife's terminal illness, Deric has showcased his talents in a different arena, now as the Executive Director of an organization dubbed Inheritance of Hope.

After being diagnosed with a rare terminal liver cancer five years ago, Deric's wife, Kristen, searched for children's literature to minister to her three children, Ashlea, Luke, and Rebecca. Deric and Kristen searched for resources that would open a dialogue about terminal illness in an age appropriate and hopeful manner. Unable to find anything that met their needs, Kristen decided to write her own. The result was "A Train's Rust, A Toy Maker's Love," a book that depicts a family of trains and their realization that their perfect life has been derailed, as the mother train begins to rust.

Kristen originally wrote the book solely for her children; however, Deric and Kristen felt compelled to help other families facing the tragic reality of terminal illness. Two books later and following the development of an online support community, Inheritance of Hope, a 501c3

non-profit corporation was born. The mission of Inheritance of Hope is to increase well-being and to help overcome despair in the lives of children and families with a parent diagnosed with a terminal illness.

According to Deric, who holds a Bachelor of Music from Northwestern and a Master of Music from University of Michigan, the thought of filing for non-profit status resulted from his current studies as an MBA candidate at NYU's Stern School of Business. Ultimately, through Inheritance of Hope's superior literature, life-changing family events, and individual and group support, he and Kristen plan to share their experience with terminal illness to successfully provide direct benefits for other children and a proactive, therapeutic focus for their parents.

Currently, Inheritance of Hope is accepting applications for its inaugural, all expenses-paid, summer family event, which is scheduled to be held August 7-10, 2008. For information regarding the event, speaking engagement opportunities, donation information, or to purchase Kristen's books, please visit their website at www.inheritanceofhope.org.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL OR APPLICATION

Name: _____ Today's Date: _____
 Address: _____ Spouse Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Phone: (_____) _____ Status: Retired _____ Active _____ Former _____
 Email address: _____

I do _____ do not _____ wish my data to be included in any published roster.

Please complete this application and return it along with your check for \$15.00 made payable to ARMM to:



Association of Retired Military Musicians
 Mike Noland, Treasurer
 402 Andrew Drive
 Clarksville, Tennessee 37042
 (931) 552-9877

REUNION ATTENDANCE FORM

Member Name: _____ @ \$50.00 = _____

Spouse or Friend: _____ @\$50.00 = _____

Children or Others: _____ @\$50.00 = _____

Total Remittance: _____

Beverage Preference: _____ Beer Preference: _____ Wine Preference: _____

Liquor Preference: _____ Things I would like to do in Hopkinsville: _____

Please complete this application and return it along with your check made payable to Mike Noland and mail to:



Association of Retired Military Musicians

Mike Noland, Entertainment Chairperson

402 Andrew Drive

Clarksville, TN 37042

(931) 552-9877



ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED MILITARY MUSICIANS

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