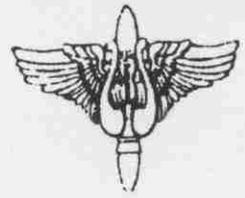




# CODA



THE RETIRED USAF BAND DIRECTORS & SUPERINTENDENTS SOCIETY • FOUNDED 1980

October, November, December, 1999

E-mail address: [TheCoda@Juno.com](mailto:TheCoda@Juno.com)

VOL. XIX No 4

*The Staff of the Retired USAF Band Directors  
and Superintendents Society  
wish all of our members and their families a*



*Happy  
Holiday Season!*

## The President's Column

By Louis C. Kriebel

Twelve years ago it was decided to add to our society SMS's (E-8) and CMS's (E-9). These gentlemen, in many cases, would run the band during PCS moves of many of our band directors. Their experience and expertise has greatly enhanced our society.

**Dick Thurston**, who was our treasurer for a short period, went to work for Southern Music in San Antonio, Texas. In addition, he was elected secretary for the American Bandmasters Association. These duties forced Dick to resign from our society as a staff member, time would not permit him to do justice to each position.

**Herman Vincent** assumed his duties.

In order to get more of our members involved and share the work load, we asked **Pat Veltre** to be our Distribution Manager. Pat mails a copy of the CODA to each member on our roster and sees that new members receive a copy when they are added to our roster. Recently, **Ken Schin-stine** has joined our staff as Assistant Editor and Publisher of the CODA. These additions have been a tremendous help to Vince and myself in sharing the work load. This is all a "labor of love" by each one of us. Your dues pay for supplies and postage. No staff member receives any remuneration.

We do ask that you send in items of interest by surface mail. Also, I would once again like to bring to your attention that those present members who own or have access to a computer with a modem and e-mail can send a few lines to:

**THECODA@juno.com**. Include anything you would like to see in the next CODA. We look forward to your support and correspondence.

## Personals...

From **Joe Henderson (Salberson1@Juno.com)** via e-mail: Everything is going great here at "Eagle Landing." I am finally able to get back out in the woods and cut down some dead trees. I had a complete knee replacement in March and had to take it easy for awhile. Regards to everyone!

(Personals continued on page 3)

## CWO's to 1st. Lieutenant - 1952

Colonel George S. Howard, Chief of USAF Bands and Music, and Director of the



USAF Band swears in the first commissioned officer band directors outside of directors of the major military bands. Pictured here are: (left to right) Col. George S. Howard, Lt. Victor Molzer, Lt. John Yesulaitis, and Lt. Bob Landers.

## Never Judge an Airman by Its Cover by Chuck Gardner

It was a cold rainy February morning during 1958 at Lackland AFB. I was in my third week of basic training and my duty that morning was to perform as pianist for a choir at one of the base chapels. I walked to the chapel from my barracks and properly hung my raincoat on a coat rack at the chapel entrance. After the service I took my raincoat from the coat rack and proceeded back to my barracks.

As I walked in the rain a burley looking MSgt. approached me and saluted with a hearty, "Good morning, Sir." Of course, I didn't return the salute because I was a lowly Airman Basic. My bewilderment was obvious to the MSgt. as he held his salute and I stood there dumbfounded. Then, I slowly moved my eyes toward my shoulders and saw these glowing oak leaves. I remembered from a class the previous week that these gold leaves meant **MAJOR!** I ran with all my might back to the chapel to retrieve "my" raincoat leaving the MSgt. holding his salute in the background.

**Lesson learned:** All Air Force raincoats look alike except for one **MAJOR** difference.

**Change of Address:** **Floyd Werle**, 5504 Aldrich Lane, Springfield, VA 22151. Telephone: (703) 941-5276.

## I Remember...

By Dick Daugherty

\* Playing "Tattoo" and "Taps" at a darkened Air Force Academy. It was almost a spiritual experience!

\* **Bill LaBrutta** and I playing golf in Appleton, MN. He was amazed at how well I played. (Not realizing that I knew every blade of grass on that course!)

\* **Joe Henderson** twirling and throwing the mace into the air during the Third Air Force Band's marching routines. Most of the time he caught it!

\* Debating with **Colonel Howard**, as a high school graduate, whether I was qualified to be an Air Force Band Director. (He won!)

\* How impressed I was that **Louise Maciejewski** and her daughter drove the ALCAN Highway towing a trailer!

\* **Dick and Iris Thurston** taking the time to show me Hawaii.

\* **Bob Turner** preparing me for the "7 Level Exam."

\* **Hal Reeves** (who was from LA) calling me person to person while I was on leave in Appleton, MN. The operator told him that I was not at my dad's apartment but that she would try my sister's house. Hal couldn't believe it!

\* Trying to design a distinctive uniform for field bands. I started out in my shorts in the pentagon and in every General's office, something was added. I ended up looking like a doorman at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel!

**From Herman & Marilyn Vincent**

Back in the 1950's, I had put together a small contingent of the USAFE Band to accompany Johnny Ray on a USO tour. We flew to Athens for an all night rehearsal, then flew and performed in Crete, Adana, Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey, then flew back to Athens. It was a whirlwind tour, but we did get to see the sights in Athens and Istanbul.

I promised Marilyn and my daughter Mary Anne that some day I would take them to see the ancient cities of Athens and Istanbul, so we booked a Cruise-tour to do just that. On September 22nd we started out. We got as

far as New York, and while waiting in the terminal at JFK for the overseas flight, my old body decided that this was the time to dispel a kidney stone!

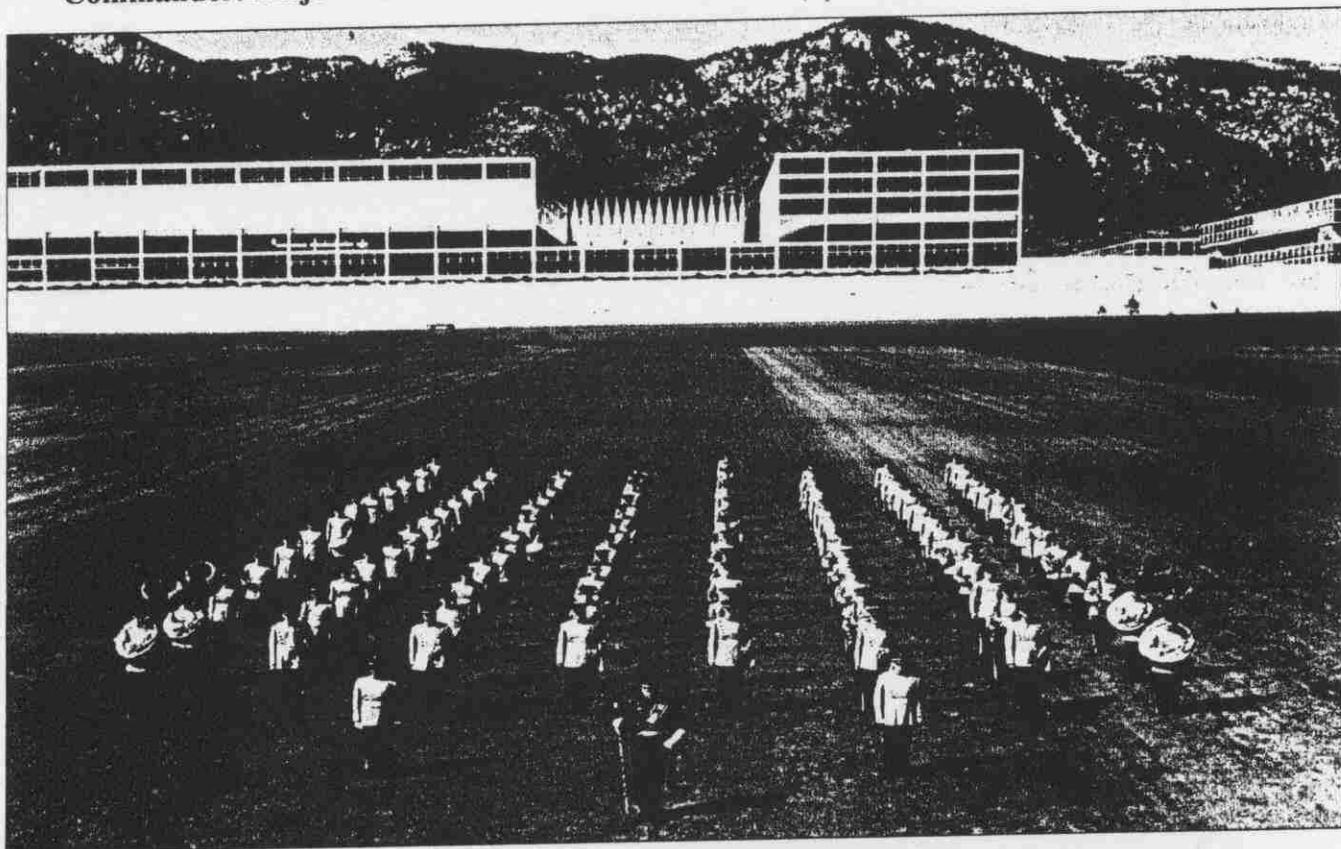
We ended up spending the night in the emergency room at a hospital in Queens, New York and flew home the next day. I rescheduled the trip for Nov 4th.....to be continued.

**Ken and Margaret Schinstine**, recently spent a weekend in Santa Fe, New Mexico. They enjoyed Indian Market and attended the world famous Santa Fe Opera. George Bizet's Carmen was performed magnificently in the new semi-open-air theater.

**Taps...Dr. Garry C. Jerome**, (Newport News, VA.) Dr. Jerome, 67, died on Saturday, Oct. 23, 1999, at his home after a courageous battle with cancer. Born and raised in Bend, Ore., he was a Peninsula resident for the past 12 years. Dr. Jerome retired in 1977 as a command sergeant in the U.S. Air Force with 22 years service and had been highly respected as chairman of the aviation department at Hampton University for the past 10 years. He was known for his knowledge and thoroughness in music, piano performance, New testament Greek and Theology. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; one son, James Jerome and wife April, of Hampton; and one daughter, Sharon Hertzler and husband, John, of Newport News.

## Memories...The U.S.A.F. Academy Marching Band – Circa 1965

Commander: Major Herman G. Vincent ... Deputy Commander: CWO Henry R. Uhlamd



The United States Air Force Academy Band is pictured here in their Parade Dress Uniforms. These uniforms were designed as a compliment to those worn by the Cadet Wing which consisted of white pants and dark blue coats. The Marching Band performed at all Cadet marching functions including Wing Parades, Noon Meal Formations, Falcon Football Games and other military and athletic functions.

Other musical contingents supported the social functions such as the Graduation Ball, the Ring Dance, and other special gatherings. Another component of the band was the USAFA (enlisted) Drum & Bugle Corps. Many times the two components were combined for important marching engagements such as the Sugar Bowl and Cotton Bowl Parades. The sound was a unique one and produced arguably the best and certainly the loudest marching band in the world!

**The CODA**  
**has an new**  
**e-mail address:**  
**TheCoda@Juno.com**

Please use this e-mail address to communicate your message to be printed in the personals column of the CODA. It's free, easy to do, and will help keep us in touch with one another.

If you have pictures or hard copy to contribute, please send them to:

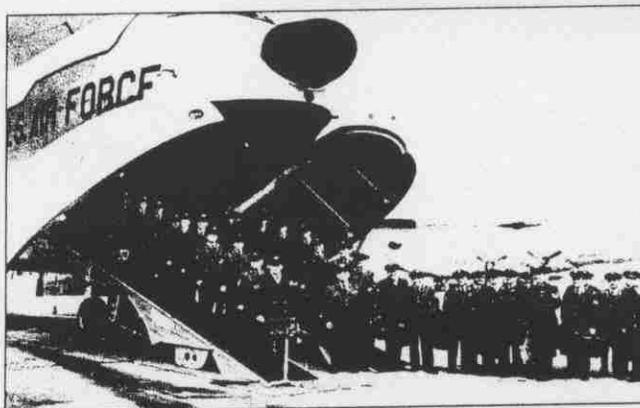
**Herman G. Vincent,**  
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 Lake Charles, LA 70605

Your materials, including pictures, will be returned to you soon after they are published.

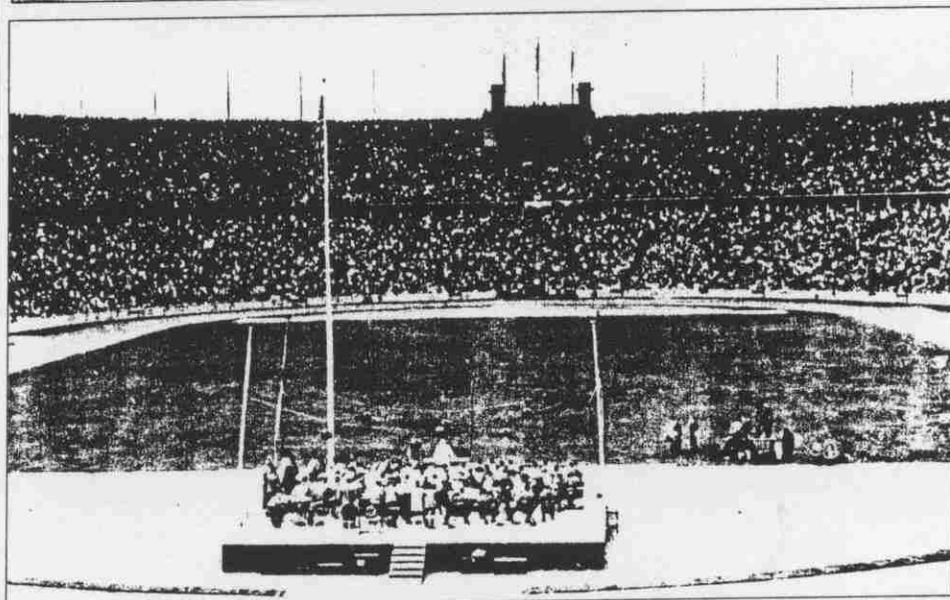
## Memories...

Pictured here with President John F. Kennedy is Captain Harry Meuser, and Conductors of the other major service bands presenting the president copies of

newly recorded albums made by the service bands. (Left to right) Marine Lt. Col. Albert Schopper, Navy Lt. Anthony Mitchell, Army Col. Hugh Curry and Air Force Captain Harry H. Meuser.



The "Old Man," with some of his men. Ninety members of the USAF Band and all their instruments arrive in one cargo plane for a concert at Robbins AFB, Georgia. Harry Meuser adds, "...and there was plenty of room left over."



USAF Band performing in the Olympic Stadium in Berlin, 1953. It was the first time the stadium opened since before World War II. Colonel George S. Howard arrived by helicopter complete with cape. The Master of Ceremonies was Harry Meuser, speaking in both German and English. A highlight of the evening was the playing of a German march. The band read the march by the light produced by every one in the stadium lighting matches. The audience roared their appreciation.

**Coda** is the unofficial publication of the  
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## Dues Notice!

Check your mail address label! It will show your dues date. If it says 1/1/99, then please send your check for \$10.00 payable to RAFBD Society, c/o Lou Kriebel, 5647 Rosewall Circle, Leesburg, FL 34748-8022