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The Official Newsletter of...  
**The United States Air Force  
Musicians'  
Alumni Association**

## FMAFB E-Mail List folds into USAFMAA

by Danny Hamilton

Back in 1998, **Larry Lohnes** and I decided that our group (then called the "Retired Air Force Musicians") should have an easy way to reconnect with old band buddies with whom contact had been lost. The RAFM Reunion was held in Colorado Springs that year, so we posted a sheet of typing paper in the hospital-ity room for those members who wanted to add their names and email addresses to a newly created email list for our group's use. By the last day of that reunion, the sheet of paper had approximately 30 names and email addresses scribbled on it. From those humble beginnings, our email list membership has grown to over 500 people, with more joining each month.

As Larry was still a "working guy" and I was fully retired and my time was my own, I took over the everyday maintenance of the email list, adding new members, removing email addresses that were no longer valid and sending out "urgent" messages whenever one of our members became seriously ill or passed away, so friends could respond quickly to those events. My task as USAFMAA email list manager is strictly a volunteer duty.

When our RAFM group was merged with the USAF Band Directors and Superintendents Society at the 2000 Reunion in Myrtle Beach, this new group was named the United States Air Force Musicians' Alumni Association (USAFMAA).

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## In Profile: Tom Severino

by Harry Vulgamore

Tony Bennett plays in the background as I visit Tom Severino at his home in Aurora, Colorado. There are pictures and little sculptures of basses throughout the house as well as landscapes and memorabilia from Newfoundland. I first met Tom there in 1957 at Pepperell Air Force Base.

Tom was born in 1933 in Hartford, Connecticut, one of three children. His father, Gene played in the New Haven and Yale Symphonies and was Associate Principal Bass of the Hartford Symphony for over 20 years.

Tom started his musical studies on piano and clarinet in elementary school, but didn't really get serious until junior high when he studied bass with his father. In high school he was principal bassist in Hartford's All-City Orchestra, quite an honor for an area that size.

He graduated from Bulkeley High School in 1952. After high school he gigged around Hartford for a short time backing **Polly Bergen** and playing with the **Carmen Cavallero Orchestra**. Both he and his dad played the Bond Hotel with the **Landerman Brothers Orchestra**. Although he earned a music scholarship to Hartt College, he feared the draft and auditioned for the Air Force band program, enlisting in February, 1953.

His initial assignment was the 730th AF Band at Westover AFB, Massachusetts. This was a short assignment but he does remember making friends with **Roger Simms**, **Walt Sensing** and **Charlie Saloio**. Tom stayed for about a year when an assignment to Libya came in. This wasn't what he wanted, so he requested somewhere else, anywhere else!

In 1954, Tom was transferred to the 596th AF Band at Pepperell AFB, St. John's Newfoundland. "I went up there to meet Joan," he quips. At a Service Club dance, he was playing, she was dancing, and that was the start of their long relationship.

This was more like it. A 20-piece dance band, working almost exclusively at night and having his own combo. As you know, wars bring great musicians into our field. Korea was no different and this band had more than its share of talent. The Oscar winner **John Williams** of "Star Wars" fame was the arranger, trombone and piano player here. **Billy White** from the Duke Ellington Orchestra was another arranger and the band's lead alto player. The band commander was **CWO Leonard Burt** and **Frank Bemis** was the First Sergeant. Tom remembers many friends from this band. **Jerry Cooper**, **Buddy Pennington**, **Micky Fahn**,



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## E-Mail List (Continued from page 1)

The email list gained many new members from the old USAF Band Directors and Superintendents Society after this merger. I wanted to continue to call the email list the "RAFM Email List," but was finally convinced that a name change was in order, as not all of our members were "retired" Air Force musicians. A compromise was made and our President, Lou Kriebel, suggested the name that was used until March, 2003: the "Former Member of an Air Force Band" (FMAFB) Email List. These different names for the same old email list has caused quite a bit of confusion among our members. To help alleviate that confusion, the email list is now called the USAFMAA Email List. It continues to be a FREE service to all eligible members. **(Editor's note: Many thanks are due Danny for all the hard work and volunteer hours put into this unique service.)**

## Severino in Profile

(continued from Page 1)

**Verlin Frickel, Ralph Walker, Marty Mezin, A.J. "Mittens" Murphy, John Schliesmann and Joe Miller** who later became his best man when he wed Joan in 1955.

**Marty Mezin** and Tom used to car-pool to dance jobs in Tom's little VW Bug. "The two of us would cram my alto sax, bass clarinet, Bb clarinet, baritone sax and Tom's giant upright bass into the car and take off." **John Schliesmann** e-mailed to tell me that **Mittens Murphy** always called Tom "Sam." He didn't know why but everybody in their group, "The Quidi Vidi Quintette" called him by that name. So whenever this unit performed, Tom was always "Sam." He adds, "Tom had one of the first Volkswagens in Newfoundland and since he couldn't get a trade-in for his '48 Chrysler, he sold it to our drummer **Brian Sauter** and me for \$200. Brian wrecked it not long after."

This band was deactivated in 1958 and Tom, Joan and daughter Dawn were transferred to the 504th AF Band at Richards-Gebaur AFB, near Kansas City, Missouri. This was another short assignment but he recalls TDY's to



Left to right: Mark Azzolina, Jimmy Ryan, Bill Barbier, Tom Severino, Ken Violette. Circa: 1960. The NORAD Band.

remote radar sites. Seems like they only went there in the dead of winter when it was 40 below. **CWO Hiram Allen** was the director of the band with **Bob Hilton, Frank McClaffin, "Buck" Buchtel, Dave Napier, Darrell Reed and Bob Kundrick**. Whatever happened to **Joe Ditunno**?

In 1959 **Major Mark Azzolina** was forming the NORAD Band in Colorado Springs and took the best musicians from the Richards-Gebaur Band. Others came from Stewart AFB in New York and some from the Hamilton Band in California.

The NORAD was a multi-service group with members of the Air Force, US Army, Navy and the Royal Canadian Air Force. Under **Azzolino** and his deputies, Air Force **CWO Loy Ebersole** and Army **CWO Ed Bearman**, this band became a primo unit with a heavy performance load. Tom remembers playing several national TV shows such as The Bell Telephone Hour, Dinah Shore Show and the Steve Allen Show. He played in all the musical groups at NORAD, marching band (tuba), concert band, numerous combos and the "Commanders" when principal bassist **Tom Pomeroy** was unavailable. "I really enjoyed the recording sessions at Capital," he says. NORAD hired major studio musicians (ringers), when **Major Azzolina** thought it necessary and Tom particularly enjoyed working with **Verle Mills**, the talented harpist.

He honed his jazz skills in jam sessions at the famed Alpine Jazz Bar in Pueblo, Colorado. He recalls playing with **Al Green, Bill Prince, Bob Jenkins, Bobby Shew, Phil Wilson and Paul Fontaine**.

Tom remembers Canadians **George Kwasniak, Bobby Herriot, Ken Graydon and Lionel Parent**. There were superb musicians in this band during the Vietnam era: **Ray DeWitt, Bill Barbier, Art Wiggins, Nick Rossi, and Bruce Bellinger** to mention a few.

In 1964 Tom was transferred to the band at Clark AFB in the Phillipines. He became reacquainted with old friends **Marty Mezin and Dale Nelson**. This band was under the direction of **CWO Jim McMillen**, who comments: "Tom is an excellent musician and an outstanding gentleman. I was proud and fortunate to have him as a member of my organization." Tom tells me that during a TDY to Vietnam, he could hear gunfire popping in the jungle while they played a base parade.

After the Phillipines Tom was transferred back to Denver and became a member of the Lowry AFB Band, the original "Band of the Rockies." The commanders' were **CWO Guy C. Powell** and **Lt. Col. (Ret) Loren Johnson**. Johnson also lives in Colorado, plays occasionally with Tom and says, "He stills plays great and looks as young as he did in 1970...almost." As NCOIC of the library Tom had two young Airman as his assistants: **James Bankhead** and **Alan Bonner**. "Of course, they did all the work" he adds. Tom met **George and Joyce Wilson** in the Lowry Band and they still hang out together. In Denver he discovered his skill in real estate. He bought a duplex as a rental, eventually owning more, buying and selling as the market dictated. Tom played bass in the major hotels in Denver with prominent musicians such as, "**Peanuts**" **Hucko, Al Alberts, Ike Cole and Dean Bushnell**.

Tom's last tour was from 1971 to 1974 in the 505th AF Band at Chanute AFB near Rantoul, Illinois. He did some moonlighting, playing for the **Platters** and in the **Guy Lombardo Orchestra** under **Al Pearson**. He was looking forward to retirement and moving back to Denver.

(Continued on page 3)

**Plan now for the USAFMAA Reunion 2004 in St. Louis, MO**



## Notes from Public Affairs: Bands Division

### Air Force Band Career Field Update

by Lt Col Mark Peterson

As I sat down to write this, I thought I'd give you an update on some personnel changes in the AF Band Program that will happen over the next couple of months.

First, we've got some band officers on the move this summer. Maj. Kelly Bledsoe, currently the commander of the USAF Heartland of America Band at Offutt will move out of the band career field and into an ROTC teaching job in Ohio. Although we're very sorry to see Kelly go, we know he'll do a great job preparing young people to become Air Force officers.

Replacing Kelly is Major Phil Waite, who for the past two years has been at Maxwell AFB. He spent the first year there as a student in Air Command and Staff College, the first band officer to attend in residence since Col. Denny Layendecker in the early 90's. He stayed on at Maxwell for a second year at the request of the ACSC Commandant as the executive officer. He's anxious to get back to a band job and is due to report to Offutt by the end of July.

Capt. Keith Bland, currently commander of the USAF Band of the Pacific-Asia at Yokota AB, Japan has been accepted into a career broadening position as an ROTC instructor at the University of Kansas. He's at the right point in his career to do this and will return to a band position after three years, Keith is due to arrive in Lawrence to start his new job by the end of July.

Replacing Keith is Capt. Dan Price. Dan has most recently been the deputy commander of the USAF Heartland of America Band. Prior to that assignment, he joined the Air Force as the director of the Singing Sergeants. This will be Dan's first command assignment.

On the enlisted side, we've also got a couple of moves. First, SMSgt. Jerry Soukup has decided to retire from the USAF Band of the Pacific at Elmendorf AFB and stay in Alaska. Jerry has remained at this "hardship" assignment in Alaska for almost 21 years. You can tell he was enjoying it. Our program will miss Jerry a great deal, but he's planning to stay in Anchorage and would probably be able to help you with hunting or fishing plans if you happen to visit Alaska.

Replacing Jerry is SMSgt. Dave Long. Dave is currently assigned to the USAFE Band in Germany and will report to Anchorage this summer. Also, SMSgt. Fred Brunz will depart Lackland for Germany as the Superintendent while SMSgt. Benny Pelphrey will move up from Superintendent to Manager at Lackland.

Finally, CMSgt. Hans Marlette, band manager of the USAF Band of Flight at Wright Patterson AFB has been granted a high year of tenure extension. Instead of retiring this summer with 30 years in service, he'll be with us until the summer of 2004, which is great news for our program and especially for Lt. Col. Alan Sierichs and the Band of Flight.

Speaking of the Band of Flight, this year celebrates the centennial of manned flight and several of our bands are preparing special programs. The Band of Flight, located in Dayton, Ohio, the home of the Wright brothers, has commissioned a number of works to help celebrate this occasion. Several performances are scheduled at the USAF Museum and other locations around the state, to include a joint performance with the Dayton Symphony. If that was not enough, the state of Ohio is celebrating its bicentennial this year, so this band will be kept very busy.

The USAF Band is preparing an original Broadway style musical show that will commemorate the centennial of flight titled *Born of a Dream*. It will tell the story of the development of flight through the use of original music and a cast made up of band members and others assigned to Bolling AFB. It should be an exciting production when it premieres later this year.

In closing, I'd like to ask for your help. As you see young, talented musicians around the country, take the opportunity to talk to them about our Air Force bands. We're always looking for instrumentalists, vocalists and conductors. Right now, we're particularly short of keyboard, guitar and percussion. Your experience in the program and personal contact will go a long way in attracting musicians to us. If you talk with someone who wants more information, please have them call us at 703-695-0019 or check out our web site, [www.af.mil/band/](http://www.af.mil/band/).

Our offices will move back into the Pentagon later this month after about 31/2 years in Arlington. Our mailing address will remain the same as will e-mail, but the phone numbers will probably change. I'll include them in the next CODA. As always, I welcome your comments and questions. (Lt. Col. Peterson is the chief of Bands Division and a contributing writer for the CODA. He will provide information from Bands Division. His e-mail address is: [markpusafb@aol.com](mailto:markpusafb@aol.com))

## Notice!

### "Notes From Our Members"

This column is very important to our readership and we welcome your contribution to it. We want to hear from you. Please send your notes to: CODA, c/o Ken Schinstine, 3006 Chelton Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-1059 or e-mail to: [schinstine@adelphia.net](mailto:schinstine@adelphia.net)

Additional "Membership Directories" are available for:  
**USAFMAA Members - \$4.00**  
**Non-members - \$7.00**

## Severino in Profile

(continued from page 2)

Tom retired in 1974. He enjoyed Colorado from previous tours and wanted to be closer to his investments. Tom worked briefly at Wards and Sears, but soon left to become a full time musician and investor. His wife Joan worked as a middle school secretary for the Aurora Public Schools and retired after 22 years.

At 69, Tom has the same sparkle in his eye. He still enjoys playing and works casual jobs once or twice a week. Tom and his wife of 48 years live adjacent to the fourth tee in a beautiful resort community. He enjoys golf, charting investments and attending real estate seminars. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and volunteers at his church, playing every 7 a.m. Sunday mass "even if I've worked the night before."

**WRITERS NOTE:** The benefits of doing these articles are that I talk with old friends and acquaintances from my own past. I hadn't had contact with Marty Mezin, John Schliesmann or Verlin Frickel for over 45 years. We were in the band in Newfoundland in the 50's. Mezin and Schliesmann corresponded via email rekindling memories of "The Rock" (Newfoundland). While visiting my son in Seattle in February of 2003, I met Verlin Frickel for dinner, viewed old photos, told some "war stories" and had a marvelous time. I enjoyed meeting his wife Pat, and hearing about life after his musical career.

Harry Vulgamore is a contributing writer for the CODA and will write about musicians that have served in the field. His email address is: [chvulgamore@adelphia.net](mailto:chvulgamore@adelphia.net)



# Spotlight on Bob Navarra

by Harry H. Gleeson

While all musicians complain about perceived injustices, it takes a special person to actually stand up and do something about it. Bob Navarra is one of those very special individuals.

His early days in the band gave no hint of what was to come. A native of Hempstead, NY, Bob earned his degree from Penn State University. Following graduation, he joined what was then the Headquarters Command Band, which eventually evolved into today's Ceremonial Brass. The HeadCom Band merged with the USAF Band Squadron in 1964, and Bob became French horn section leader of the Ceremonial Unit until his retirement in 1984.

Among the highlights in Bob's career, performing for JFK's Inauguration and for his funeral 1,000 short days later, flying to the island of Jamaica in 1963 to play for the Independence Ceremonies (from Great Britain), performing for seven U.S. Presidents - Eisenhower to Reagan, five trips (1958-1973) with the Airmen of Note as an additional piano player to provide entertainment for Operation Corona at Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico, and I believe I was the first bandsman to spend an entire career, from initial enlistment to retirement (as an E-8) in the HeadCom and Ceremonial Bands."

"In 1974, fellow combo piano players Tom Lee (US Marine Band), Bob Smith (US Army Band) and I decided to question a discriminatory practice that was on the books (in fact included in Title 10 of the US Code) that prohibited members of major service bands from 'competing with local civilian musicians.'"

"The four year process involved dozens of meetings on Capitol Hill with our representatives testifying before the House Armed Forces Committee as expert witnesses, meetings with lobbyists from veteran's organizations as well as meetings with President Sam Jack Kaufman and other officials of Local #161-710 of the American

Federation of Musicians (AFM) who were bitterly opposed to any change in policy."

"It was done with full concurrence of our respective commanders and SAFOI Bands Branch. The outcome was that the AFM voted to change their policy and DOD reinterpreted Title 10 so service musicians are now permitted to hold active membership in the AFM and work off base."

"On the day we were to be sworn in as a group, I insisted that Sam Jack Kaufman swear me in privately in his office. He complied with clenched teeth and a forced smile."

"But it is even more interesting to note that after Tom Lee retired from the US Marine Band, he was elected and served several terms as secretary of the DC local AFM, and is now the International President of the AFM headquartered in New York City!"

The four years of battle to gain union acceptance for military musicians was not without its scary moments, however. When Bob, Tom Lee and Bob Smith were called to testify before members of Congress, General Jerry Dalton (at that time Director of SAFOI) saw Bob's name listed in the Congressional Record as an expert witness.

"He called Colonel Gabriel demanding my court-martial. Gabe called me and said, 'The bad news is that General Dalton wants me to court martial you. The good news is that the legal office called me and there are six lawyers who want to defend you.' General Dalton backed off."

In 1986, Bob was diagnosed with cancer of the larynx, resulting in a total laryngectomy, and he now speaks by means of a voice prosthesis. He and his wife of 41 years, Carol, have three children and five grandchildren. In 1997 they "bought some land and built a home in the country, about 40 miles south of the city."

"I still play occasional combo jobs and substitute on organ at six different area churches in the southern Maryland area. We both do volunteer work in the community, Carol at our granddaughters' school and me at Malcolm Grow Medical Center where I had my surgery."

While he doesn't look upon himself as one, in the 62-year history of The



**SMSgt. Robert Navarra**  
USAF Band, Washington, DC

United States Air Force Band, Bob Navarra stands tall as one of the band's true heroes.

Harry Gleeson, VP of the USAFMAA, is a contributing writer for the CODA. His e-mail address is: HGLEESON@aol.com

## USAFMAA Member Spends 42 Years in Military Bands

by Harry Vulgamore

Michael Namisnak tells us he has spent over half his life in military bands, from 1940 until his retirement in 1982. He was born May 10, 1921 in Chisholm, Minnesota and moved to Auburn, NY at four so he considers himself a New Yorker at heart. His parents were both Russian born Austrians, his father a violinist and his mother a vocalist. His twin brother Stephan was a percussionist with the Stan Kenton orchestra. After high school, Michael auditioned for the Army band program, enlisting in 1940. He specialized in clarinet and sax, but also did some drum majoring. Michael's son and grandson are also clarinetists. Nadya, his wife of many years died in 1992.

His first assignment was with the First Infantry Division Band at Ft. Niagara, New York. Following two other stateside assignments, he was sent overseas in World War II. He spent the war years traveling by truck,

(Continued on page 5)



**Namismak** (Continued from page 4)

performing in the Middle and Eastern Theater of operations and picking up four bronze stars along the way. In Italy he remembers playing under **Andre Kostelanetz** and his wife **Lily Pons**. "I can still feel the chills up and down my spine the way the band responded under Maestro Kostelanetz's baton."

After the war he served in reserve bands finally retiring in 1982 from the 552nd Air National Guard Band in Roslyn, NY. For many years he was a police officer with the New York City Housing Authority, retiring in 1972. He is a member of the American Federation of Musicians local 802 and continued to play in dance/concert bands in Long Island until recently.

**"Good Memories"**

Of all the commanders I served under, Ernie Greer had great talent as a conductor and was a favorite of mine. When we finished a concert, we knew the audience had enjoyed it and that the band was good. We went home feeling good. Red Johnson had a totally different feel for the music but accomplished the same goal.

During my 20 years, I performed with a lot of great trumpet players, but I think Charlie Saloio was probably the best. He had the range, the technical ability and feeling to play anything he wanted to.

The best trap drummer that I have seen was Chet Fillozof. He could do it all. The best Front Man that I knew was "Diamond Jim" Wallace. He could handle an audience and bring the best out of the Big Band. Dave Davies had much of the same ability. The best band location for me was McChord AFB in Tacoma. Unbelievably beautiful area and a perfect situation for an AF Band. I experienced the most TDY's at Offutt and at Wiesbaden. My longest assignment was 5 years at Scott while I only lasted 13 months at McChord.

Out of my 20 years I spent 9 overseas. We never lived in a location that we did not like. Out of the thousands of bandsmen that we knew while in the Air Force, we only met one that we didn't like - and I will not tell you who that was. We loved every minute of our Air Force life. Signed, Gerald K. Powell.

**Taps...** *Truman Crawford  
Bert Francis  
Herb Kissinger  
Joseph Losh  
Jack Mayberry*

**I Remember...**

*by Dick Daugherty*

+ Serving as the liaison officer between Offutt AFB and SAC during a few "Broken Arrow" simulations of an emergency involving a nuclear weapon carried aboard an aircraft. My job was to provide base support for the crews (my son claims this involved serving coffee) but, on one occasion, I actually had to send map coordinates of a simulated crash to the entire Strategic Air Command. I was scared but it was not as bad as playing the opening note to "Rienzi Overture!"

+ Being given my last task by Mel Huyett just before I retired. It was to rewrite AFR 190-21, the Air Force Regulation governing the use of bands at that time. I poured my heart and 20 years of experience into that draft and sent it on. I think it was published about five years later after a zillion changes.

+ Ordering a fully equipped 1960 Nash Rambler wagon in England to be picked up in the States. We were very concerned about the cost and wondered if we could possibly manage \$2,575.45.

+ Meeting persistent presidential candidate **Harold Stassen** in Runnymede, England. We had a nice conversation but I was afraid to tell him I, too, was from Minnesota. I would still be filing absentee ballots!

+ Being summoned to the Teddington, Middlesex police station in the middle of the night because one of the bandsmen had "borrowed" an "elephant's foot" ashtray from a pub. He said he wanted to put it in a buddy's bunk bed as a joke. Thank heaven the elephant wasn't attached!

+ The Nomad's, a singing group comprised of SAC Band members. They were Brian Beck, Larry Lohnes, Jack Ryan and Don Sunday. It was a very professional quartet!

**Please fill out the enclosed 2004 Reunion Questionnaire and mail it to: Ed Mohan, 1804 Veranda Dr., West Columbia, TX 77486-9657**

**Notes from our Members!**

**From Barry Stauffer**

I really enjoy reading the issues of CODA. The newsletter is great and has become a way of reminding me of the good times and friendships that were made while in the Air Force. I'm still playing clarinet and sax in the Lyric Band of Hanover, PA and with other groups in the local area. I hope to see all of you in St. Louis!

**From Vic Datanagan**

I would like to know the location of **CMSgt. Ron Hauer**. He is a trumpeter and was a good friend of mine until loosing track of him. Please send any information to me at 192 Whittier Street, Daly City, CA 94014-1372.

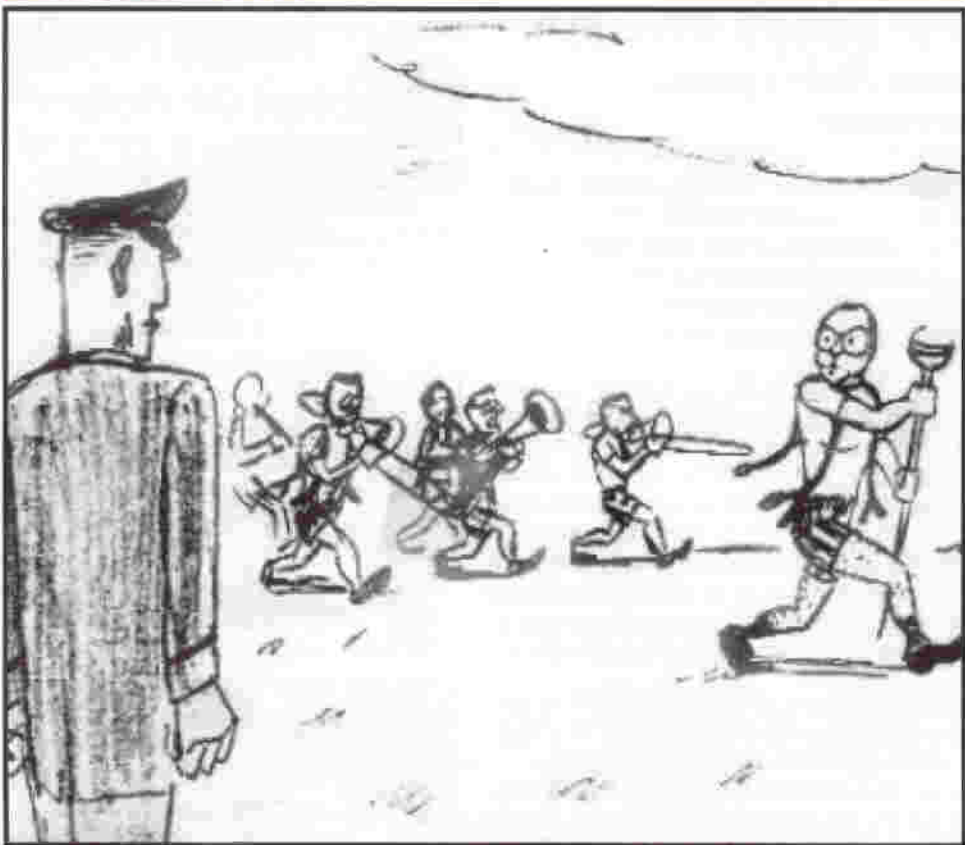
**From Kirk Barrett**

I was happy to learn about USAF-MAA and I want to be included. I served in the flute section of the USAF Band under Col. Howard and Arnald Gabriel. I've always felt honored to play in such a fine organization. Since leaving the band in 1969, I've worked as a psychotherapist (Marriage and Family Therapy) in private practice, and I teach psychology at a local college. I'm still playing flute and am a member of the Los Angeles Winds symphonic band. I'd love to hear from my old friends from the band. My address is: 13930 Hesby St., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.

**I Remember... continued**

+ The first time I was on live TV as an MC, announcer, conductor and narrator: I even sold my trumpet (much to everyone's relief) to get the money to buy a new uniform for the occasion. After the program, I congratulated myself and thought "a star is born!" Later, as I got out of my car in my driveway, one of the neighbors (without pausing in his raking) said, "I saw you on TV. Why did you keep looking down at the floor?"

Dick Daugherty is a contributing writer for the CODA. His e-mail address is: [WarriorBugler@wideopenwest.com](mailto:WarriorBugler@wideopenwest.com)



**'Slightly Breezy'** The fourth in a series of drawings depicting the early successes, disappointments, and frustrations of growing with the new Air Force Academy Band as created by Trombonist A/1C Vern Beebe. (circa 1958)

# CODA

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- Richard C. Deacon**, Party, I Remember
- Harry H. Gleeson**, Spotlight
- Harry Vulgamore**, Poems
- Lt Col Mark Peterson**, Notes From PAB

**NOTICE: About the enclosed 2004 Reunion Questionnaire:**  
**Please fill out and return to: Ed Mohan, Reunion Chairman. 1804 Veranda Dr., West Columbia, TX 77486-9657. The reunion committee needs your help to make this the "best ever" reunion!**

3006 Chelton Drive  
 Colorado Springs, CO  
 80909-1059



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**Questionnaire Form**  
**ST. LOUIS REUNION**  
**June 16-20, 2004**

As June 16, 2004 rapidly approaches, we are putting the finishing touches on what will truly be one of the best reunions ever. The reunion committee has continued to work very diligently to schedule the best available and the most interesting events. The riverboats are gearing up and historic St. Louis awaits our arrival. It is now time for us to schedule the things you want to see and do in the area. We ask that you indicate your preference for the following events. Please provide a number to indicate the importance of each event to you (**1 through 10, with 1 being most important**).

**Proposed Tour Events**

The St. Louis Arch \_\_\_\_

Tour of the Busch/Budweiser Brewery \_\_\_\_

Grants Farm \_\_\_\_

Riverboat Casinos \_\_\_\_

The Muny (A musical playhouse) \_\_\_\_

A Cardinal baseball game (if in town)

*(How much are you willing to pay for a ticket? \$15, \$20, or \$30. (please circle one))*

The Railroad Museum \_\_\_\_

Forest Park & The St. Louis Zoo (one of the best in the country) \_\_\_\_

The Bowlers Hall of Fame \_\_\_\_

The following are questions that require a yes or no answer. We ask these so that we can provide a cost effective and 'fun' reunion for the membership. Please circle one answer.

Will you participate in the golf tournament? Yes or No

Would you participate in a bowling tournament (9 pin no-tap)? Yes or No

Will you purchase a T-Shirt to be worn on T-Shirt day? Yes or No

Are you willing to pay for your T-Shirt(s) with your registration? Yes or No

Listing of Churches in the area for weekend services? Yes or No

Would you like a listing suggesting the 'best' places to eat? Yes or No

*(We would also provide an average cost of entrée)*

A tour of the band facilities at Scott AFB is already scheduled and confirmed. The CMS Edward A. Schirmer rehearsal facility is one of the best in the band career field, so you don't want to miss the opportunity to see it. The Band of Mid-America will be playing a concert at the shrine of 'Our Lady of the Snows' on Friday evening.



We are still accepting business card ads (\$25) and you have the opportunity to place your name on the Booster Club page of the printed program (\$10). Just send your name, bands you were in and the inclusive years, along with the requested fee to: **Jerry Powell, 5649 S. 84<sup>th</sup> E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74145-7916**. For additional information you may contact Jerry at [geraldkpowell@aol.com](mailto:geraldkpowell@aol.com) or Ed Mohan at [edmohan@txbs.net](mailto:edmohan@txbs.net). Clip and return the questionnaire with your indicated answers to: **Ed Mohan, 1804 Veranda Dr, West Columbia, TX 77486-9657**. Or you can construct an email message containing your preferences and email to [edmohan@txbs.net](mailto:edmohan@txbs.net).

Start planning your trip today. This will be a great reunion with lots of your friends attending. There is plenty of overflow hotel space within easy walking distance of our main hotel and there is RV space available at Scott AFB, just 6 miles away. Don't forget that there will be plenty of suggested places for you to visit on your own time. June is hot, hot, and hot! So come prepared for warm weather...

For those of you with internet access. We provide the following information as research material. Go online and browse these sites to help you make a more informed decision on the things you want to do.

Baseball Cardinals:

[http://st.louis.cardinals.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/index.jsp?c\\_id=stl](http://st.louis.cardinals.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/index.jsp?c_id=stl)

Brewery Tour: <http://www.budweiserstours.com/>

Forest Park: <http://st.louis.missouri.org/citygov/parks/forestpark/>

Arch: <http://www.nps.gov/jeff/index.htm>

Grant's Farm: <http://www.grantsfarm.com/>

Bowling Museum: <http://www.bowlingmuseum.com/>

St. Louis Art Museum: <http://www.slam.org/>

Zoo: <http://www.stlzoo.org/HOME.ASP>

The Muny: <http://www.muny.com/>

Casinos:

<http://www.argosycasinos.com/property/st.louis/st.louis.home.asp>

<http://www.casinoqueen.com/>

<http://www.harrahs.com/casinos/stl/index.html>

<http://presidentcasino.com/stlouis/>

Museum of Transportation: <http://www.museumoftransport.org>

Here is a good site for all St. Louis attractions:

<http://www.explorestlouis.com/visitors/index.asp>

An address to write too for brochures and more information:

**St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission**

**One Metropolitan Square**

**Suite 1100**

**St. Louis, Missouri 63102**

Telephone Numbers:

Main Office: (314) 421-1023

Toll-Free: (800) 916-8938

Visitor Information: (314) 421-0394

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Were you that band guy that always missed the best gig? Don't let that happen to you now. If you miss this gig, you're gonna miss a great one! Plan your vacation for 16-20 June 2004 and we'll see you in St. Louis.