



# Sound Off!

MONDAY 15/08/2022

WWW.MILITARYMUSICIANS.ORG

**AMM BOARD**

- PRESIDENT - DAVID SMITH
- VICE PRESIDENT - CAROL M. HERON
- TREASURER - JEFF GOTTWIG
- SECRETARY - TOM ZALE

**SERVING AMM**

- DAVE & KAY SMITH - REUNION HOSTS
- DENNIS LOWE - CHAPLAIN
- KAY SMITH - LIBRARIAN
- KATHY SCHIAFONE - HISTORIAN
- ED BEJARANA - WEBMASTER
- MARK EDWARDS - SOUND OFF! EDITOR

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I HOPE YOU ARE ENJOYING A GLORIOUS RETURN OF SPRING LIKE WE ARE IN THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS OF NORTH CAROLINA! I, LIKE MANY OF YOU, PERFORMED ON EASTER SUNDAY. IT REMINDED ME OF THE IMPORTANCE OF LIVE MUSIC IN THE LIVES OF OUR COMMUNITIES. WHETHER IT IS AT A HOUSE OF WORSHIP, A LOCAL PUB, A PARADE DOWN MAIN STREET OR A CONCERT AT A MUNICIPAL PARK, MUSIC PLAYS A CRITICAL PART IN THE QUALITY OF EVERYONE'S LIFE.



[READ MORE HERE](#)

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT REUNION 2026**

**HAVE YOU SUBMITTED YOUR INFORMATION AND PAYMENT FOR OUR 40<sup>TH</sup> REUNION? IF NOT, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?**

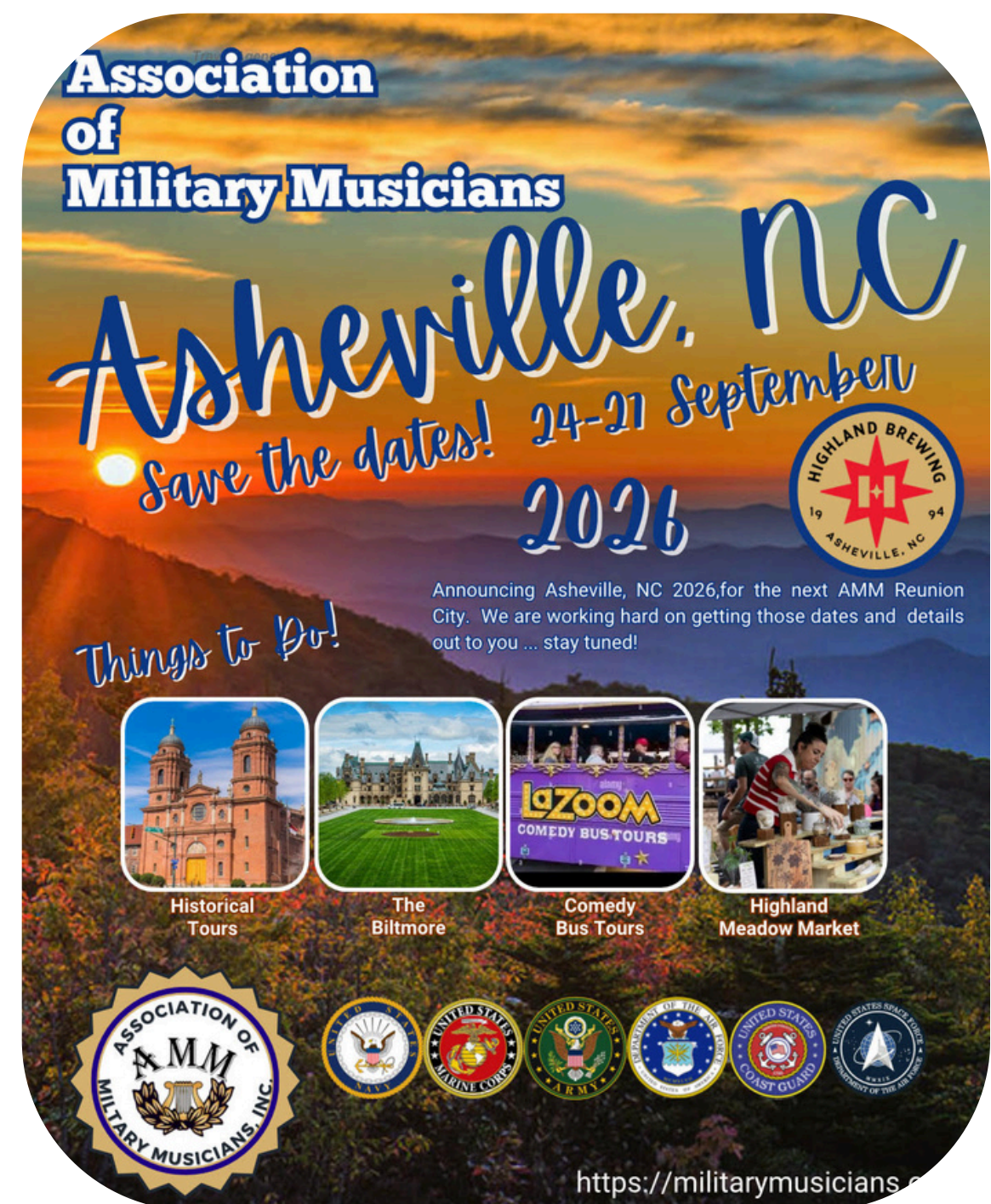
**OUR 40TH ASSOCIATION OF MILITARY MUSICIANS REUNION IS TAKING PLACE SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2026 IN BEAUTIFUL ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA! WE HAVE INFO ON ACCOMMODATIONS, PERFORMANCES, AND MORE!**

**[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILED INFO](#)**

## NOTES FROM VICE PRESIDENT CAROL HERON

HOWDY FOLKS! WE ARE IN FULL SWING OF MAKING THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REUNION! MY MESSAGE TO YOU IS, PLEASE SHARE THE FLYER YOU SEE HERE WITH ALL YOUR MILITARY FRIENDS AND WEBSITES! LET'S GET THE WORD OUT. I URGE EACH OF YOU TO SHARE THIS E-FLYER ON THREE WEBSITES! LET ME KNOW HOW IT GOES!

[READ MORE HERE](#)



**ANNOUNCEMENT:** WE'RE BEGINNING TO WORK ON DETAILS FOR THE REUNION PERFORMANCE AND HAVE A CONCEPT WE'RE EXPLORING...

PART OF OUR LIVES AS MILITARY MUSICIANS WAS ADAPTING TO PLAY IN VARIOUS STYLES. WE WERE THINKING WE COULD HAVE A "SHOWCASE" WITH CONCERT BAND, BIG JAZZ BAND, OOMPA BAND AND CLASSIC ROCK BAND. THERE WOULD BE LOTS OF BENEFITS FOR OUR AUDIENCE AND TO US, AS PERFORMERS.

IN ORDER TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN, WE HAVE TO BE PROACTIVE AND ORGANIZED. PLEASE EMAIL DAVE SMITH DIRECTLY AT [DAVIDSMITH02B@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DAVIDSMITH02B@GMAIL.COM) OR WAYNE HOEY AT [WAYNEHOEY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WAYNEHOEY@GMAIL.COM) IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO COME TO THE REUNION AND PLAY ELECTRIC BASS, ELECTRIC GUITAR AND/OR SING. ALSO, IF YOU ARE DRIVING AND CAN PROVIDE YOUR OWN INSTRUMENT AND AMP, LET US KNOW THAT, TOO.

SOME OF THE CLASSIC ROCK TUNES WE'RE THINKING ABOUT INCLUDE: JOHNNY B GOODE, LOUIE ,LOUIE, MUSTANG SALLY, ROLLIN' ON THE RIVER, OLD TIME ROCK AND ROLL, ETC. IF YOU HAVE CHARTS FOR THIS TYPE OF MUSIC, LET US KNOW THAT, TOO.

PLEASE LET DAVE OR WAYNE KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!



## REMINDER

**IF YOU HAVEN'T RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP, YOU'LL NEED TO DO THAT TO ATTEND REUNION 2026. WE HAVE SEVERAL WAYS FOR YOU TO PAY AND OFFER YEARLY AND LIFETIME OPTIONS. JUST CLICK THE BELOW LINK FOR ALL THE INFORMATION.**

**[DUES & MEMBERSHIP INFO HERE](#)**

### TREASURER'S REPORT – APRIL 2026

AS OF APRIL 3, 2026, WE HAVE \$18,331 IN THE AMM CHECKING ACCOUNT. THE CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE REFLECTS THE 2025 REUNION HOSPITALITY FEE AND T-SHIRT COSTS FOR A TOTAL OF \$4980.00, AND INCOMING REGISTRATION FEES FOR THE 2026 REUNION.

WE HAVE 207 ACTIVE MEMBERS WITH 91 HOLDING LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP. WE HAVE ADDED 11 NEW MEMBERS SINCE JANUARY 1, 2026

SEPTEMBER WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!! GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT THE 2026 AMM REUNION IN ASHEVILLE, NC.

JEFF GOTTWIG  
AMM TREASURER



## IN MEMORIAM

SSG OSWALD TALMADGE HOBBS, FERGUS FALLS, MN, DIED 26 JANUARY 2026. HE WAS A TUBA PLAYER IN THE 33RD ARMY BAND, 26TH ARMY BAND, AND THE FORSCOM BAND.



### A PRAYER FOR FALLEN MILITARY MUSICIANS

*WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED THROUGH MUSIC,  
WHO GAVE THEIR TALENT AND THEIR TIME  
IN HONOR OF SOMETHING GREATER THAN THEMSELVES.  
THEIR NOTES LIFTED SPIRITS,  
MARKED MOMENTS OF SACRIFICE,  
AND BROUGHT PEOPLE TOGETHER WHEN IT MATTERED MOST.  
MAY THEIR LEGACY LIVE ON  
IN EVERY SONG OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE.  
WE HONOR THEM WITH GRATITUDE,  
AND WE CARRY THEIR MEMORY FORWARD.*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

**I WONDER HOW MANY OF YOU SHARE THIS THOUGHT.**

**PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING I HAVE IN MY LIFE, I OWE TO MAKING THE VERY WISE DECISION TO BECOME A MILITARY MUSICIAN.**

**GRANTED, I ONLY SERVED THREE YEARS (REGRETTABLY) BUT I THINK WE ALL GET TO A POINT IN OUR LIVES WHEN WE LOOK BACK, AND LOOK AT ALL WE HAVE, WITH A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR SERVING AND ALL THAT IT PROVIDED. WHETHER THREE YEARS OR THIRTY, WE ALL EARNED SO MANY BENEFITS - FROM PURCHASING HOMES WITHOUT NEEDING A DOWN PAYMENT, TO SOMETHING AS TRIVIAL AS GETTING A 10% DISCOUNT ON A MEMBERSHIP TO THE YMCA.**



**FOR ME, AFTER NINE YEARS ON THE ROAD PLAYING FULL-TIME, I USED MY GI BILL TO RETURN TO SCHOOL TO STUDY JOURNALISM. THAT LEAD TO 22+ YEARS AS A TELEVISION SPORTS ANCHOR AND NETWORK REPORTER FOR FOX SPORTS. I ALSO MET MY WIFE IN TELEVISION WHEN WE WERE WORKING AT THE SAME STATION. WE HAVE TWO BEAUTIFUL GIRLS, 27 & 21.**

**I'VE MADE LIFE-LONG FRIENDS FROM BOTH MUSIC SCHOOL AND MY BAND, THE NOW DECOMMISSIONED 7<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION BAND, FORT ORD, CA. (I CHOSE THAT BASE BECAUSE IT WAS IN MONTEREY, CA, HOME OF THE MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL.)**

**I PLAY IN TWO BANDS; A JAZZ QUARTET AND A COUNTRY/ROCK BAND. I'VE BEEN HIRED TO PLAY ON PEOPLE'S RECORDS. MY CHOPS ARE STILL PRETTY GOOD AND I CAN SIGHT READ FAIRLY WELL.**

**ALL OF THIS - EVERY SINGLE BIT OF IT - IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO BEING A MILITARY MUSICIAN.**

**AND I WOULDN'T CHANGE A THING!**



**AMM'S MISSION**

**THE ASSOCIATION OF MILITARY MUSICIANS IS A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION THAT STRIVES TO PRESERVE THE PROUD TRADITION OF MILITARY MUSIC. MILITARY MUSICAL ENSEMBLES DON'T JUST PLAY MARCHES AND CEREMONIAL MUSIC - TODAY'S AUDIENCE DEMANDS MUCH MORE THAN THAT, AND WITH PANACHE TO BOOT! MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ANY AND ALL WHO HAVE SERVED IN A MILITARY MUSICAL ORGANIZATION, WHETHER A BAND, ORCHESTRA, FIFE & DRUM CORPS, OR A VOCAL GROUP.**