



## LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT BAND

By Dawn Anderson

Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Band

### A TRADITION OF SERVICE THROUGH MUSIC

As we head into summer, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department bands are gearing up for a plethora of gigs. We remain hopeful that the circumstances resulting in shut-downs and closures of so much of our life because of the coronavirus will have eased by then and we will be able to return to our regular lives. The joy of music is powerful, and your LASD Band hopes to bring that joy and happiness to the many audiences we are scheduled to reach in the months ahead.

Circumstances permitting, please look for us in the cities of Glendora (last year's concert pictured), Downey, Temple City and Diamond Bar, just to name a few places where we will be providing concert music for events or summer concert series. We are scheduled to perform again at the Reagan Library this year on the Fourth of July. Please come and visit this beautiful location in the city of Simi Valley with breathtaking views and beautiful sunsets while listening to patriotic

music with lyrics and sounds by Sylvia Boyd and Guy Boles.

On May 30, our Dixieland Band hopes to perform for the Elks Lodge in the city of Arcadia. For a small donation to the Elks Club at the door, you can enjoy a down-home Mardi Gras dinner, as well as some "kick off your shoes" Mardi Gras music by the LASD Dixieland Band. Dressing for the occasion is encouraged, and of course, Mardi Gras would not be complete without the traditional throwing of the beads. Please check our website, listed at the end of this article, for dates and times for all our public performances.

One of the most versatile musicians in our band is Chuck Herrbach, and I am delighted to highlight his musical career for your enjoyment. Chuck's life got off to a rocky start; he was born on the road somewhere between Yosemite and Madera, California. His mother and grandmother started the trek sometime after midnight with an old rebuilt car that broke down as they traveled to the hospital. They were able to flag down a kind gentleman who offered to take the now

three-member crew to the hospital in Madera. The car experienced two flat tires on the way, but somehow, they made it and everyone received the medical attention they so desperately needed. After that entrance into the world, Chuck was prepared for just about anything.

Chuck became interested in playing music after he attended a music appreciation class in the seventh grade in SoCal. He started out in beginning winds, hoping to learn the saxophone. His teacher, Mr. Zarlinga, just happened to have an extra clarinet in the band room, so Chuck began to learn clarinet on the school's instrument. But, not giving up on the sax, he borrowed a sax music book and began teaching himself on an old C-melody saxophone he had at home. Not long after that, still in seventh grade, he talked Mr. Zarlinga into letting him play the baritone sax that happened to reappear in the band room after a mysterious absence. Chuck then joined the dance band that rehearsed during lunch break, and in a few weeks, he was ready to perform for the lunch dances. About this same time, he was asked to join







the Los Caballero Youth Band. Chuck remembers that the next five years were filled with a lot of marching, both in parades and halftime shows. Maintaining his membership in all music classes offered from both of the high schools he attended, Chuck performed on all three instruments — the

clarinet and the alto and baritone sax — with both the concert band and orchestra. He transferred from Banning High School to the newly opened Carson High School and graduated from there while never missing an opportunity to perform.

With graduation from high school nearing, Chuck looked into joining the military and decided on the U.S. Navy to take advantage of their “kiddie cruise” program. If you joined before your 18th birthday, you would be able to finish your service before your 21st birthday. He auditioned in San Diego, passed and joined the U.S. Navy as a musician. Chuck served on three aircraft carriers

after basic training and attended the Navy School of Music. He spent 13 months at sea, mostly off the coast of Vietnam. After three years, three months and three days, Chuck was honorably discharged.

Out of the military, Chuck resumed his studies. He graduated from CSU Dominguez Hills,

earning a B.A. in music and behavioral sciences. Chuck became a professional musician, joining both the Local 47 and 7 unions. He gave private music lessons for Marshall Music Stores for about seven years while delivering aircraft freight containers as a heavyweight truck driver in the summers. Chuck then delivered U.S. mail from hubs to post offices all over SoCal, still performing and playing gigs during the evening and weekends. He did that for about 50 years and retired about six years ago. (Chuck is pictured [front row] backstage at Dorothy Chandelier Pavilion.)

Now Chuck performs in big bands, orchestras, show bands and community bands. He donates his time and expertise to the LASD Band when time allows. Chuck, we are grateful for your service and to your commitment to give back by performing with the LASD Band. Chuck’s mantra is “Enjoy the moments.” We do enjoy all the moments you spend with the LASD Band!

I hope you enjoy these glimpses into the lives of the extraordinary volunteer band members! Please call us for your Sheriff’s Department musical needs and events, such as retirements, celebrations or holiday/patriotic festivities. We are here for you!

*If you play an instrument or previously played an instrument, it may be time to dust it off and join the LASD Band. If you would like to have one of our bands perform for an event, either the dance band or concert band (subject to Department guidelines), please contact me at [Dawn.LASDBand@gmail.com](mailto:Dawn.LASDBand@gmail.com). Please visit our website, [LASDBand.org](http://LASDBand.org). ☆*

