

# **MORE INFORMATION ON THE BAND AND THE CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM PROGRAM**

## **208th Army Band, Concord, North Carolina**

The 208th Army Band's history began in 1956, when the band was activated as the 108th Division Band. In 1988 the personnel, strength was increased from 29 to 41 personnel and the band was designated a separate unit under the 108th Division Headquarters. In the spring of 2000, the band was deployed to El Salvador as part of Operation New Horizons, Task Force Santa Fe, to provide musical support for morale and to support international community relations. As part of the restructuring of the Army Reserve, in October 2008, the band was re-designated as the 208th Army Band as a separate unit under the 81st Regional Readiness Command and relocated to Concord, North Carolina. The primary mission of the band is to promote the esprit de corps of our fighting forces, and to serve as a goodwill ambassador throughout North and South Carolina. Whether it is a military function or a civilian performance, the 208th Army Band is prepared to provide concert music, military marches, various ensembles or a jazz combo. The band has performed recently at Disney World and Disney's Epcot and has been a participant for Veterans Day appreciations at Carolina Panthers football pre-game shows, and has performed at the Coca-Cola 600 at Lowe's Motor Speedway.

### **The band will be performing:**

**The Avenger March.....Karl L. King**  
**A Nation's Prayer .....Arr. James Ployhar**  
**Mt. Everest..... Rossano Galante**  
**Fantasy on an African-American Spiritual..... Arr. Bruce Preuninger**  
**God Bless America ..... Irving Berlin**  
**For Our Heroes.....Alan Lee Silva**  
**America, The Beautiful.....Arr. Carmen Dragon**  
**Armed Forces Salute**  
**Stars and Stripes Forever .....John Philip Sousa**

## **CW3 Timothy J. Lyden, Commander/Bandmaster**

Chief Warrant Officer Three Timothy J. Lyden was born in Farrell, Pennsylvania. He earned his Bachelor of Music Degree in Education from Youngstown State University. He completed his Masters of Education Degree in Administration from Capella University in St. Paul, Minnesota. Mr. Lyden entered active duty in the Army in June 1985. His assignments include the Eighth United States Army Band, Seoul, South Korea, and the 282nd Army Band, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, where he was assigned as a trumpet player. After 11 years of active service, then Sergeant First Class Lyden joined the 208th Army Band in November 1996. Mr. Lyden graduated from the Warrant Officer Candidate School, Fort Rucker, Alabama, in August 1997. Mr. Lyden's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Good Conduct Medal. In his civilian life, Mr. Lyden is the Principal of Prosperity-Rikard Elementary School, Newberry County Schools, in Prosperity, South Carolina. He and his wife Katherina reside in Chapin.