

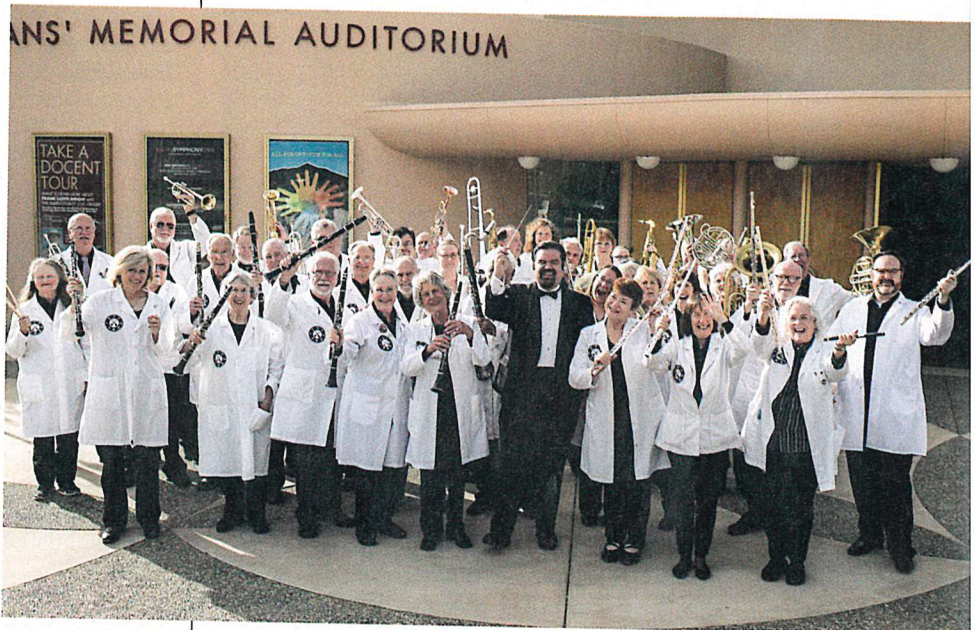
## HOLIDAY SPOTLIGHT

# The Sewer Band

### What's the history of the Sewer Band and how did it begin?

When Dixie School District music teacher Joseph S. Curatilo acquired an Air Force band music library at a government surplus auction, he quickly rounded up a half-dozen amateur musician friends to read through the music. They had so much fun, they decided they should form a permanent instrumental group... definitely a band - not an orchestra - since none of them were string players.

Their next decision was what to call themselves, knowing, of course, that a real band needs a proper name. After considerable debate, one of the players suggested a solution for a name that connected them all in spite of their diverse backgrounds; all of their homes were within the boundaries of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District. They loved it! Also, as one of the original seven was in a wheelchair and unable to march so "Non-Marching" was added.



### Why is it called "The Sewer Band"?

Who can pronounce Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District Non-Marching Band on a regular basis and still have enough air left to speak or blow a horn? And how could it all fit on a billboard? A nickname was bound to happen sooner or later. When, no one is quite sure, but today this beloved Marin institution is also affectionately known as simply... The Sewer Band.

### What's with the Lab Coats?

During their initial meeting, the original seven had not discussed a band uniform except to agree that they should all strongly resist the temptation to perform in funny hats!

The band was growing and, as they were rounding the end of their first year, they now needed a way to make the band recognizable; so, they initiated a band contest.

Dr. Tom Scott Strathairn, a founding member of Marin General Hospital submitted the winning logo consisting of a crossed mop and plunger. He wasn't a band member but was married to one of the earliest members of the band. His entry included a sketch of the logo and suggested that the logo be black and sewn on a white lab coat.

### How many years have you been performing at the Marin Center?

Thirty-one years! The band's been presenting their free annual concert at the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium since 1987. This past May we celebrated our 60th Anniversary!

We hope you will join us on Monday, Dec 17th for our holiday concert!

We're always looking for new friends to join our musical ranks! Contact us at [thesewerband.com](http://thesewerband.com).

**ZIO ZIEGLER**  
THE FOURTH WALL

SEPTEMBER 22 - NOVEMBER 11  
Presented by Carson Wealth

**MARIN MOCA** 500 Palm Dr. Novato, 94949 [marinmoca.org](http://marinmoca.org)