Note Worthy

A publication of The Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin) Website: musicclubaustin.org

January 20, 2016



President's
Message
Marcia Edwards

Many thanks to our Hospitality Committee for a delightful holiday coffee in December: Chair Carolyn McColloch, Deborah Cavin (Guyle helped too), Anita Edwards, Suzy Gallagher, Gloria Hooper, Marie White, and Catherine van Zanten. Thank you, Anita and Ted Edwards, for welcoming everyone to the meeting, and to Kit Thompson for keeping our stage organized.

Thanks also to Carol Brannon, who organized several caroling outings for interested members in December. Carol's report appears below in Member News.

A special thank you to Treasurer Katharine Shields for her meticulous and careful guardianship of WMMC funds and for her many years of service to the club.

In conjunction with the ongoing membership drive, here is an opportunity to share your thoughts about the importance of WMMC in your life. What do you tell your friends about our club? What's in it for you? Send your comments via email to Newsletter Editor Marie White mariewhite@austin.rr.com, and we will publish them in a future newsletter. We appreciate the input from Mariam McFalls, who let us

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WMMC Member Highlight Carlie Sue Hunter Burdett

Carlie was born in 1946 in Baird, Texas to newspaper owners Marvin and Mayme Hunter. Music was an important part of their lives, she says. "We sang in church and sang in the car, and my dad whistled and played the harmonica. At our church, we sang in a cappella four-part harmony, so we had to listen to one



another to tune our voices. I didn't realize then how important that early ear training was, or how it prepared my mind for composition. My sister Dolores had a lovely alto voice, so I wanted to sing just like she did. But, alas, I would never be an alto. In junior high, the choir director wisely placed me at second soprano, where I've remained ever since. Even so, I still remember the alto line to many of those old hymns."

When Carlie was two years old, they inherited her grandmother's piano, which arrived with an odd little squeak – a live mouse inside! Carlie was soon picking out tunes by ear. When the family moved to Grand Prairie, Carlie began piano lessons in the 2nd grade. She played in the Guild Auditions and Dallas Music Teachers' events. When she was in the 8th grade they moved to Kerrville, where she continued piano lessons and had fun playing at teen parties. In 1964, Carlie headed to Abilene Christian University as a math major. When she added Freshman Music Theory, the light came on! That summer, she transferred to U.T. Austin as a music major.

In 1966, she married the love of her life, law student Tom Burdett. Their one year as full-time students was "the most fun of all." For the next 37 years, they made their home in the Texas Panhandle, where they were blessed with three children. In Hereford, and later Amarillo, while Tom practiced law and became a civic leader, Carlie taught piano, served as president of Hereford Music Study Club and as treasurer for MacDowell Music Study Club, sang the soprano solos in the *Messiah*, sang with Amarillo Civic Chorus, wrote and arranged music for their church (including three complete children's musicals), and in 1984 completed her Bachelor of Music degree from WTAMU in Composition, with honors. In 1987, Carlie developed a rare kidney disease. She gives thanks to God, her family, and Scott & White for giving her 15 more years of health. Then, on April 29th, 2003, after three months on dialysis, Tom gave Carlie his left kidney during simultaneous surgeries at Baylor Hospital in Dallas.

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About the Performers

Carlie Burdett and Carla Johnson will be performing one of the written works of Karle Wilson Baker (1878-1960) at this meeting. The following is a brief biographical paragraph about the writer.

Karle Wilson Baker was poet, English teacher at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas, wife and mother. She was the first woman to be a member of the Texas Institute of Letters. While very well known during her lifetime, her poetry had sunk into oblivion until her biography and collected works were published a few years ago. Now her poetry is more readily available online and in book stores, and she is being once again recognized as an important writer. Her poems speak to the modern woman in an uncanny way.

Suzy Gallagher, soprano

I have a degree in Secondary Education with credentials in Math, English, and Speech from Loyola in New Orleans. Later I added Library Science certification and finally a Master's degree in Computer Science from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. I came to Austin in 1988 to teach Computer Science at U.T. Twelve years later I left U.T. In the meantime my husband, Kit Thompson, and I had opened our own business and worked together every day. We retired in 2007. Finally life began for us. We joined WMMC in 2008 and have been singing our way through life ever since.

Greta Gutman, piano

I was born in Nova Scotia, Canada, where I started piano lessons at age 5 and played throughout my childhood. I graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois with a degree in Sociology, still studying piano each semester. I arrived in Austin in 1984 with a husband, three children, and not much time for music. Gradually however, that changed. I accompanied the Austin Lite Opera Ensemble, which performed opera, Broadway and popular standards. I continue to accompany soloists and ensembles, often performing for senior groups and nursing homes, and I play for services at Congregation Beth Israel. Several years ago I started an integrated chorus for folks with special needs and their singing buddies. "We Are the Chorus" has been adopted by the Armstrong Music School, and has grown to as many as seventy members. WMMC has added much to my life, both musically and socially. Thank you!

Karol Ann Badgett, piano

Karol Ann Badgett's portfolio contains compositions for solo piano, choir, voice and piano, instrumental works, chamber music, and orchestra. She is now a featured composer with Alpha Major Publishing of Houston, Texas. Their Collaborative Series currently includes duets for one piano, four hands and violin ensembles for two and three violins with piano accompaniment. She is a recipient of a doctorate in composition from The Butler School of Music at U.T. She has a Master's of Music in composition from U.T. in addition to degrees in piano performance from Texas State University and piano pedagogy from U.T. She now has a private studio and teaches piano, composition, and theory. She loves bringing her diverse experience to students of all ages, especially young students learning about all sorts of new music for the first time.

Carla Johnson, soprano

Carla Johnson grew up in Lubbock and attended Texas Tech University where she sang in the Tech Choir and Madrigal group. After receiving her Bachelor's in Music and her Master's in Elementary Education, she taught music in Florida. After moving back to Lubbock, Carla was involved in many organizations. She is a Past President of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs, TFMC District I, and Lubbock Music Club. Carla joined the WMMC in 2006 when she moved to Austin with her husband Phil, who is a Justice on the Texas Supreme Court.

Nan Hampton, piano

Nan Hampton has lived in Austin since 1955 when she came to attend U.T. In 1958 she married Loyd Hampton, received her BA in Liberal Arts (Plan II) and settled down to raise two children, Lisa and Donald. She returned to U.T. to study zoology—ultimately receiving a Ph.D. in zoology followed by a Master's in Library and Information Science. She taught undergraduate genetics labs at U.T. for 11 years and upon retirement in 2002 took up piano lessons with Kathryn Mishell. Nan has served on the board of Salon Concerts, Inc. for more than 10 years. She volunteers at Learning Ally (formerly Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic) and at the Wildflower Center answering questions on their website as one of their Mr. Smarty Plants. Besides music her other great love is travel—Tanzania, Antarctica, the North Pole, Mongolia, Galapagos Islands and more.

Lisa Shirah-Hiers, piano

Lisa holds a Master's Degree in Music Composition from U.T. (1992) and a Bachelor's in Theory/Composition from Lawrence University, Appleton, WI (summa cum laude 1988). She teaches piano, theory and composition privately and publishes two blogs: My restless Muse, (http://my restlessmuse.blogspot.com/) focusing on the creative life, and Worthy of Note, (http://shirahpianostudio.com/worthy-of-note.html) with pieces particular to teaching and music. Her students consistently receive high scores and prizes in piano, composition and theory on various exams and competitions through ADMTA, TMTA, MTNA, TFMC and Austin Symphony Orchestra. She was nominated ADMTA Teacher for the Year in 2014-15.

Irene Travis, piano

Irene Travis grew up in Austin, where she studied piano with Lota Spell and Verna Harder and violin in the U.T. String Project. She majored in music history at Mills College but did not pursue a music career. After her children were grown, she played violin in community orchestras in the Washington, D.C., area and studied violin with Joel Berman. In 2012 she began playing piano duets with Nan Hampton and recently began studying piano with Felicity Coltman.

Carlie Sue Hunter Burdett

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In 2004, the Burdetts moved to Georgetown. Now, more than twelve years post-transplant, they are members of The Worship Place, where the choir has sung several of Carlie's anthems, including one entitled, "The Worship Place." Carlie serves as Chaplain and Sacred Music Chairman for Texas Federation of Music Clubs. Her music and lyrics have earned several awards. Her book/music CD *Music for Bird Lovers*, along with numerous other pieces, is available on her website: http://www.carlieburdettmusic.com.

The Burdetts love to spend time with their children and their five wonderful grandchildren. In June, they celebrate their 50th Anniversary. With the blessing of health and time, they seek to pass along the kindness that they have received.

President's message

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know that as past president of Gulf Coast Music Association she posed a similar question to their members. You can read the replies on the GCMA website: http://gulfcoastmusicteachers.org/What%27s-in-it-for-Me-.php.

The Opera in the Ozarks has announced its 2016 summer repertoire, featuring three dramas and a comedy. The season opens with Mozart's dark comedy *Don Giovanni*. The second production will be a sparkling comedy from Benjamin Britten—*Albert Herring*. The season will close with a double bill of two short Italian classics: Puccini's *Il Tabarro* (*The Cloak*) and Leoncavallo's *I Pagliacci* (*The Clowns*). A group from WMMC traditionally attends the performances the final three nights of the season. We would love to have you join us (July 13 – 15, 2016)!

I hope that you will plan to attend the TFMC Centennial Convention being held in Austin at the TownLake Holiday Inn, March 31 – April 2. As a member of District 6, WMMC will share host responsibilities with Boerne Crownridge Music Club, Gonzales Music Study Club, New Braunfels Music Study Club, San Antonio Etude Music Club, and San Antonio Dreams Fulfilled Music Club.

Thought for the Day: "If you send up a weather vane or put your thumb up in the air every time you want to do something different, to find out what people are going to think about it, you're going to limit yourself. That's a very strange way to live." Jessye Norman, American Grammy award-winning opera singer

WMMC Member News

In December, several members of our club visited local nursing homes to sing Christmas carols to and with the residents. Suzy Gallagher, Kit Thompson, Katharine Shields, Michelle d'Arcy, Billy Corsbie, Marcia Edwards (who also accompanied on piano), Stephen Falk, Carol Brannon, and new member Nancy Brady sang at the (Burnet) Austin Retirement + Nursing Center, Southwood Care Center, Stonebriar Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, and the Summit at Westlake's Assisted Living section. All had a good time, were well received, and were invited back.

Bonus Thought for the Day

A painter paints pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence. ~Leopold Stokowski

Calendar of Events

<u>The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD</u>, in select local theaters. *The Pearl Fishers* by Bizet.

Jan. 16 12:55 PM http://www.metopera.org/Season/In-Cinemas/Theater-Finder/

<u>Austin Chamber Music</u>, First Unitarian Church, 4700 Grover Ave., *The Late Show*, Beethoven Sonata for Piano in E Major, Op. 109 and World Premiere of Graham Reynolds "*In the Face of Trouble*" for Solo Piano and Live Processing, Michelle Schumann, piano.

Jan. 16 7:30 PM http://austinchambermusic.org

<u>Miro Quartet</u>. UT Butler School of Music, Bates Recital Hall, Beethoven's String Quartet in F Major, Op. 59, No. 1; Chaussen, Concerto for Violin, Piano and String Quartet, Op. 21, Sandy Yamamoto, violin and Colette Valentine, piano.

Jan. 22 7:30 PM http://music.utexas.edu

<u>Austin Opera</u>, the Long Center, Floyd's "Of Mice and Men," a city-wide project done in partnership with local cultural organizations, with each partner event providing a different perspective on Steinbeck's classic work, exploring its relevance today, culminating with the scheduled performances.

Jan. 23 and Jan. 28 7:30 PM

Jan. 31 3 PM http://austinopera.org

Balcones Community Orchestra, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Steck at Mesa Drive,

Eric Bittner, trumpet and Cy Young, composer, "*The Children's Crusade*" for soprano, children's choir and orchestra – World Premiere.

Jan. 24 4 PM http://bcorchestra.net

Salon Concerts. private homes, for tickets, contact salonconcerts.org. Marianne Gedigian, flute, Nathan Williams, clarinet and Colette Valentine, piano.

Jan. 24 4:30 PM private home

Jan. 25 7:30 PM private home http://salonconcerts.org

Rick Rowley, piano, UT Butler School of Music, Bates Recital Hall, Bach's English Suite in e minor, Schumann's Symphonic Etudes, Op. 13, and selected works by Debussy and Lyapunov.

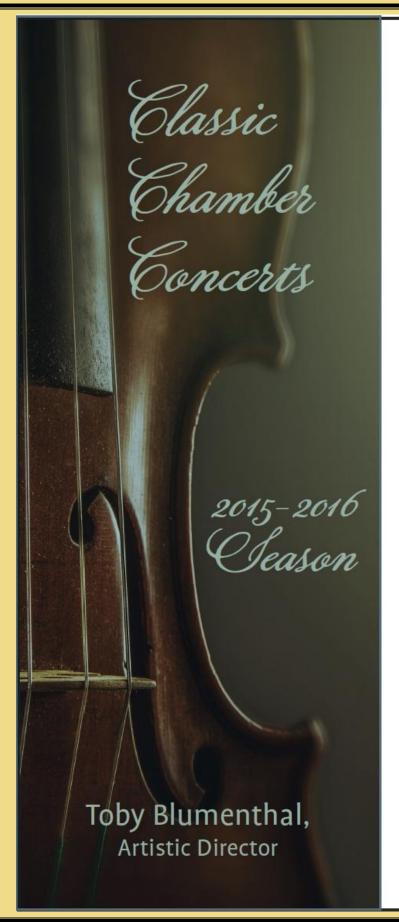
Jan. 29 7:30 PM http://music.utexas.edu

<u>The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD</u>, in select local theaters. *Turandot* by Puccini.

Jan. 30 12:55 PM http://www.metopera.org/Season/In-Cinemas/Theater-Finder/

<u>Classic Chamber Concerts</u>, Round Rock Presbyterian Church, 4010 Sam Bass Rd., Round Rock. Mozart's Piano Quartet in E flat Major, K. 452, Turina's Piano Quartet, Schumann's Piano Quartet in E flat Major, Op. 47. Ashley Cooper, violin, Bruce Williams, viola, Douglas Harvey, cello, Toby Blumenthal, piano.

Jan. 30 7:30 PM http://gtownfestival.org



Classic Chamber Concerts

2015-2016 SEASON

FIRST CONCERT

Sunday, November 8, 2015 4:00 pm

Georgetown Public Library 402 W. Eighth Street, Georgetown, TX



ARTISTS

Adrienne Inglis, flute Anna Park, cello Toby Blumenthal, piano



PROGRAM

Johann Sebastion Bach, Partita in c minor for flute and piano

Ludwig van Beethoven, Twelve Variations on a Theme from Handel's Judas Maccabäus

Sergei Prokofiev, Sonata in D Major for flute and piano

Nino Rota, Cinque Pezzi Facili for flute and piano

> Bohuslav Martinu, Trio for flute, cello, and piano

Concert Tickets \$25.00 (student under age 18, \$10.00)

For More Information 512-639-0433 gtownfestival.org



