

# Note Worthy

A publication of the Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin)

March 4, 2015



## WMMC Member Highlight

Edith Cripe Knauer

My musical path began in a small Indiana town (Kendallville) with piano instruction at age 5, cello study at age 9, and a paid pipe organ church position at age 10. While in high school, I was first cellist in the Ft. Wayne Symphony.

Our school's music teacher was an Oberlin College graduate and influenced my attending Oberlin Conservatory (1944-48). There I was a piano major and cello minor. As a senior at Oberlin I was hired to teach cello and piano one day a week at Ashland College.

In June 1948 I married Tom Knauer (a WWII veteran) and thereupon attended Indiana University where I earned a Master of Music degree in performing piano. I taught 12 hour semesters on an assistantship, performed extensively throughout Indiana and the Chicago area with the piano students of Walter Robert, and toured (70 concerts?) with the renowned Men's Glee Club, who sang a cappella. My piano solos and a singer's Brahms' Rhapsody gave variety to the group, directed by famous George Krueger.

Upon achieving this graduate degree, I was hired to be on the piano faculty of North Texas State University where 4 members of the piano faculty were strong string players. We were required to perform on many tours in Texas wherein orchestra was "enhanced" with our abilities.

My husband joined an oil company after graduating from North Texas and our trek now included Wharton, Liberty, and Conroe. I used my musical training wherever we lived. And next, was Houston. (Jenny and Greg were born in Liberty and Conroe.)

In Houston I was an organist in a Methodist Church, active in piano performing such as a yearly concert for the Junior League, a member of Houston Symphony Board, and a performing member of the prestigious Tuesday Music Club. At the auditions for this club's membership, a group of young mothers formed a monthly get-together to perform for each other.

Tom assumed an oil position in Venezuela and we lived there 19 years. (Susan and Kirk were born in Venezuela.) I performed in Noches Musicales, served as organist choirmaster in the wonderful Maracaibo

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## President's Message

Carolyn McColloch



An enthusiastic group of new members sat down to listen to officers and chairmen present an orientation after the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting at the TFWC building. Chairman Martha MacDonald organized the meeting. The new members attending were Marie White, member since May 2014; Bill Yick and Elizabeth Lerner, members since December 2014; and Ted Edwards and Pat Yingst, who were voted in that same day. Committee members Barbara Buttrey, Felicity Coltman, Gloria Hooper and Marianne Kim brought snacks and drinks to share while information was presented by your president, NFMC historian Sue Breuer, yearbook chairman Gloria Hooper, past president Barbara Buttrey and others. The new members expressed much interest in the club and their questions and comments indicate they bring valuable talents to our club. Welcome, Marie, Bill, Elizabeth, Ted and Pat. Also, welcome to new members Connie Esau and Robert Lemens who were unable to attend.



*Texas Federated Music Clubs  
Centennial Celebration  
will be held at the March  
Convention in Brownwood!*

*To honor this centennial, WMMC will be selling  
beautiful commemoration pins at the next several  
meetings for \$10.*

*"TFMC 100 YEARS 1915-2015 BROWNWOOD"*

Ecumenical Church, and was active musically. Then life changed when an auto accident resulted in two fractures in my 5<sup>th</sup> cervical vertebra. The result was impaired brain to right hand functions and I was told I would never perform again.

At the urging of a friend I now invested my musical energies in a deaf school. It was a period of learning about vibrations, lip reading, etc. and using music as an achievement for deaf children in Maracaibo, Venezuela.

We were transferred to Indonesia, where I volunteered to work with Ruth Bardach, a Carl Orff therapy specialist, who used her own instruments (from Vienna) to work with handicapped students. During the 8 years in Indonesia I started music in deaf schools and volunteered on the AWA outreach committee which gave huge amounts of money to charities. After I spent 3 ½ years without playing piano, Mrs. Bardach coerced me into resumed performances, both with her at 2 pianos and as soloist. I then assumed organist-choirmaster position at the Anglican Church, played in a woman's gamelan ensemble (Singers), and began the first charity events in Jakarta in Indonesia. I accomplished starting music in deaf schools in Indonesia.

In 1986, Tom's failing health forced us to return to the U.S. where we became Austinites, living in Lakeway. There I have been active on various cultural and artistic committees.

I joined WMMC immediately after our August move (1985) and performed a Brahms piano selection and directed the new Angklung ensemble on the Christmas program! I've performed piano selections for many years, directed the angklung group, served as WMMC president from 1991 – 1993, and garnered other recognitions. During my term as president, we were awarded the P. Schramm award for best American music program in the U.S. I became a WMMC Distinguished Service Member in 2005, and I am proud to be a NFMC Life Member.

I finish this article with the beautiful biblical word "Selah" - a pause. I count my blessings.

## Welcome to New Active Members

Craig Casper, cello  
2404 Cat Mountain 78731  
512-349-2294  
[traviscasper@att.net](mailto:traviscasper@att.net)

Dr. Ted Edwards, baritone/bass  
#12 Hillside Court 78746  
512-478-2481  
[anitaandted@tededwards.com](mailto:anitaandted@tededwards.com)

Pat Yingst, flute, piano  
3901 Bowhill Drive 78731  
512-459-6332  
[patyingst@gmail.com](mailto:patyingst@gmail.com)

## Thank You

Our sincere thanks go to all who participated in the February 18th program. We also wish to acknowledge the volunteers from the Courtesy Committee: Virginia Kniesner, Kay Mueller, Judy Trejo. Thanks for all your work.

## Kudos

On February 10, 2015, with Carlie Burdett in attendance, the Carthage Music Club presented Carlie's compositions for their American Women Composer's program. Fourteen members and two students performed from Meditations and Musings, Music for Bird Lovers, Echoes, I Met the Master, Adagio Peace Medley and We, the People.

## Condolences

Longtime member and WMMC President Marie Scheel passed away quietly Saturday afternoon, February 21st, 2015. Marie joined WMMC in 1949 and was president from 1958 to 1960. At the October 4th, 2013 luncheon, we sang happy 99th birthday to her. She now is singing with the angels.

Marie was a singer and choir director and she and her husband were deeply involved in teaching children music in AISD. She was an elementary school music teacher and Weldon or "Dutch" was a high school band director. However, they never had children of their own. After she retired from teaching she was an active member of the music club, attending regularly and enjoying the camaraderie and projects of the club.

She served as Ninth District President and had a very gentle, but persuasive way of involving others in Federation activities. To know her was to love her.

### **Karen Haverlah, organ**

Karen has been the organist for Triumphant Love Lutheran Church since 1996. She graduated from Texas Lutheran University and earned a master's from the University of Houston. She has taught piano at TLU. Karen has been the organist at various churches since high school. She was Synod organist twice, playing the tracker organ at Texas Lutheran. Karen is in her 23rd year as full time faculty at St. Stephen's Episcopal School, assisting in the teaching of three choirs, accompanying instrumentalists, playing for weekday chapel, and teaching private piano, all levels. Karen has sung in the Conspirare Symphonic Choir. She attends in-state and out-of-state music workshops every summer.

### **Madeline McCauley, soprano**

As church music was a part of Madeline Patrice McCauley's heritage, she performed her first voice recital at age six. In high school, Madeline received awards at district, regional and state levels. Her repertoire includes 25 original compositions and three sacred theatrical plays. In 1999 she launched private piano lessons to group settings. Her mission is "to prepare musicians for worship and to be ready to serve." Madeline continues studies at Texas State University and as a church musician. As the culmination of her career, she founded a music school and choral ensemble, The Madeline McCauley Heritage Chorale. This group performed spirituals during the stage play "Sisters Under the Skin," by author and playwright Paulette McDougal, who introduced her to the WMMC. Madeline was later invited to reorganize the WMMC Chorus as Director.

### **Maxine Gomes, piano**

Maxine Gomes earned piano performance degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and New York University where she received her Ph.D. She pursued a dual career in New York for many years as a music teacher and solo pianist giving numerous recitals and FM radio broadcasts on Long Island and New York City. After earning a Professional Diploma in Administration, Maxine took a hiatus from music and had a career in school administration on Long Island, New York. Maxine, again, is enjoying performing in the metropolitan Austin area.

### **Katharine Shields, soprano**

Katharine Shields has performed recitals, opera, and Gilbert and Sullivan in Boston and Austin. In addition to WMMC she volunteers for Austin Opera and the Settlement Club.

### **Mary Parse, piano**

Mary Parse began playing hymns for Sunday school in the fourth grade, and she was full-time organist at her church from eighth grade through high school. During undergraduate school at Austin College, she was the pianist for the vocal studio and the college choir. She has continued to play for churches, singers and instrumentalists ever since, and she loves collaborative music-making.

### **Kathy Renfro**

Kathy Renfro was raised in Austin, TX. She attended Southwest Texas State University, now Texas State, where she studied vocal music and elementary education. Kathy taught elementary school for 32 years and recently retired last May. She attends Faith Presbyterian Church and sings in the church choir.

### **Billy Corsbie, violin**

Born and raised in Waco, Texas, I studied piano with my mother very early and sang in the church choir. I moved to Austin for law school in 1969 and have been a faithful listener to KMFA ever since. I started fiddling with my paternal grandfather's violin about that same time and joined a local orchestra a few years later. I played guitar in a dance band in high school. Advice for young students: enjoy your music as the blessing it is.

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**Katie Kerwin, guitar**

I have a Bachelor's of Music Performance degree on guitar from the University of Hartford, Hartt School of Music. For 25 years to the present, I have taught in my private studio on guitar, violin, and piano and at the central studio of the Childbloom Guitar Program. The blessing of working in performances on solo works, chamber music, and orchestra gives me great joy. I especially like to promote the use of classical guitar in chamber music.

**Martha Cook, soprano**

Martha Cook and Van Cliburn have something in common, the same hometown. Martha entered Stephen F. Austin State University with a scholarship playing French horn. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas State University. Her professional career was in healthcare administration. In her teens and early married years she was pianist or organist for various churches. Through the years she has sung in church choirs, Houston Oratorio Society, and Austin Choral Union. She currently sings with St. Edward's Masterworks Singers. Her recent voice coaches are Cynthia Dyre Moellenhoff and Katherine Altobello.

**Carolyn McColloch, piano**

Carolyn McColloch graduated with a Bachelor of Music Ed from West Virginia University with prior study at Mason College of Music in Charleston, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Univ. of Michigan Interlochen and graduate study. She continued her music study as she performed and taught in Okla. City, Denver, Midland, Kingwood, Houston and Katy. She loved teaching and now is performing and sharing her love of music!

**Marti Ahern, organ**

Marti has been a music professional for 31 years. She has been an accompanist, coach, collaborative artist, organist, private music educator and recording artist. She was appointed the Artistic Director of the Austin Chamber Ensemble in 2008 and is still currently their director and pianist. She has been the accompanist and a collaborative artist with the Gilbert and Sullivan society of Austin since 2008. She also owns MMD Studios where she offers piano, voice and organ lessons.



**The WMMC needs items for** a silent auction to be held March 19-21 at the annual convention. Proceeds will be to benefit TFMC and Opera in the Ozarks. Please bring top-quality items to our March meeting of WMMC and give them to Mary Lou Connelly. If you can't go, you can send your stuff. It's all for a very good cause.

## Calendar of Events

### Austin Symphony

performs music from some of your favorite fantasy films, Conductor Peter Bay. Admission \$12-\$54.

**February 27 8 PM** Dell Hall

### Salon Concerts, Inc.

String Quartet Op. 74, "Harp" and String Quartet Op. 95, "Serioso" composed by Ludwig van Beethoven. The Miró Quartet: Daniel Ching, violin; William Fedkenheuer, violin; John Largess, viola; Joshua Gindele, cello. Ticket sales at <http://salonconcerts.org/>.

**March 1 4:30 PM** Location given with ticket purchase

**March 2 7 PM** Location given with ticket purchase

### Philharmonic Orchestra

Spring into the season with a fun evening of music featuring an original composition from Kathryn Ellis in her final movement and world premier of "Texas" called "Fort Davis". The Austin Philharmonic has presented her complete work in movement by movement as available by the composer. This will be a final installment of the world premiere. Also on the program is Bizet's Symphony in C.

**March 2 8 PM** 3801 Shoal Creek Congregation Beth Israel in Austin, TX.

### WMMC

**March 4 10 AM** Triumphant Love Lutheran Church, 9508 Great Hills Trail, 78731

### Austin Chamber Ensemble

'Ladies Who Lunch'? Who are they? What do they do? Why do they do what they do? This interactive event will include selections from musical theater, opera, film, operetta and current art songs for voice and piano. Favorite ACE Artists (from Austin and Monroe, LA) include Claire Vangelisti & June Julian, sopranos; Katherine Altobello, mezzo-soprano; Jeffrey Jones-Ragona, tenor; Martha Mortensen Ahern & Richard Seiler, pianists. The evening will feature costumes, some staging and props depicting events in the lives of 'Ladies Who Lunch' with stage direction by Joshua Miller. Tickets may be purchased here: [www.ladieswholunch.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.ladieswholunch.brownpapertickets.com) \$20-25

**March 6 & 7 8 PM** First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Drive, Austin, TX.

### Chorus Austin

Covering nearly 500 years of musical history in one evening; from early Renaissance to modern masters - this concert has it all: From Palestrina to Part. Admission \$15-20

**March 7 8 – 10 PM** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa Drive.

**March 8 4-6 PM** St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3501 Red River Street.

### St. Edward's Masterworks Singers

will be performing one of the most exciting new Major Works in American Choral Music, "Requiem for the Living" by Dan Forrest accompanied by our St. Edward's Community Orchestra. Admission charged.

**March 8 7:30 PM** Mabee Ballrooms in the Ragsdale Center on St. Edward's campus.

**March 12 7:30 PM** St. Theresa Catholic Church, 4311 Small Dr. Austin, Texas 78731.