

Note Worthy

A publication of the Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin)

November 2015



President's Message

Marcia Edwards

On the day of our next meeting, November 4, my husband and I will be trekking along the Inca Trail in Peru. Felicity Coltman, one of our 1st Vice-Presidents, has graciously agreed to serve as chair in my absence. Please note that this will be the only edition of *Note Worthy* for the month of November. It contains the bios of performers appearing on both Nov. 4 and Nov. 18.

Do you like a challenge? TFMC is offering a \$500 prize for the club that recruits the most new members before March 1, 2016. There are also lesser monetary prizes for 2nd and 3rd place. Now is the time to encourage your friends and acquaintances who are musicians and/or music lovers to join WMMC. They will have opportunities to perform, to share the joys of having live music in their lives, and to support the growth of young musicians. Let's make WMMC the winner!

On Nov. 18, we are expecting 8 – 10 visitors from the Decora Study Club in Victoria, Texas, to attend our program. This is one of the Texas Federated Women's Clubs. I know that you will go out of your way to welcome these ladies from Victoria.

Continued on Page 3

WMMC Member Highlight

Ashley Clair Eledge

(WMMC member since 1987)

- Born Sydney, Florida, October 31, 1924.
- Spent 19 years on the farm.
- Watched airplanes flying overhead while picking strawberries.
- Read books about pilots and wanted to be a pilot.
- Made model airplanes with propellers that worked in the wind.
- After work, my dad (a Baptist minister) would play the guitar and sing country and church songs. We kids and Mom would sing along. Mom played the piano.
- I would hunt and fish for food.
- Moved to Virginia, worked as a time checker, and attended high school.
- One day the Army Air Force gave pilot exams in Richmond. I passed and entered pilot training.
- 1943 – 1945, pilot training primary, basic and advanced.
- Graduated May 1945.
- Scheduled to fly combat in P-51s overseas.
- War in Europe ended and AAF cancelled my deployment. I checked out returning pilots in T-6 aircraft.
- After a year (1946) went home but kept reserve status.
- Flew updated Air Force aircraft during weekend exercises.
- Bachelor of Science, American Technological University, Killeen, TX
- 22 military honors, awards and acts of recognition including Distinguished Service membership.
- 101 jet fighter combat reconnaissance missions.
- WMMC Distinguished Service Member, 2001.
- I love the WMMC.

How I Met the Love of My Life

As a commercial pilot, I obtained a Commercial Flight Instructor rating at a local airport. I was hired as a flight instructor. One of my students befriended me. One day he said that his baby sister was coming to visit him and his new wife. Since I had a car, he asked if I would give them a ride to a movie and babysit his little sister. I reluctantly said yes. When I went to pick them up, his baby sister was no baby but rather a beautiful grown lady. She was so beautiful that I could hardly speak. We began dating. When she went home to



Continued on Page 3

About the Performers for November 4th



Sheryl Goodnight, flute

Sheryl has been a musician since childhood. At Temple High School she played with the All State Orchestra, and All Region and Area Bands and Orchestra. She received Outstanding Performer Awards at solo and ensemble contests. Sheryl holds a degree in piano performance from UT and a Performance Certificate in Flute. She is the Principle Flutist with the Temple Symphony Orchestra, and she teaches flute for Temple College and Mary Hardin Baylor. She also has a private studio in her home. She has presented recitals and clinics throughout Texas and often appears as soloist. Sheryl enjoys spending time with her dachshund Sassi, visiting with family and friends, doing aerobics, and working on her talking computer.

Dr. Stephen Burnaman, piano

Dr. Stephen Burnaman serves on the faculty of Houston Tilletson University in Austin, where he is Department Chairman of the Arts and Humanities. He teaches piano, theory, and music history. Also, he is organist for Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin. He has a private studio.

Felicity Coltman, piano

Felicity is Founder and Artistic Director Emeritus of the Austin Chamber Music Center. Born in South Africa, she holds diplomas from the Royal Schools of Music and Trinity College of Music in London, the University of South Africa, and a degree from the University of Kansas. Felicity received the Gruber Award for Excellence in Chamber Music Teaching from Chamber Music America and the B. Iden Payne Performing Arts Award. In 2004 she was inducted into the Austin Arts Hall of Fame. For many years, Felicity has taught piano, theory and chamber music to students of all ages. Today she remains active as teacher, performer, judge, and consultant. She is also a certified yoga teacher.

Katharine Shields, soprano

Katharine has performed in recitals, revues, opera, and Gilbert & Sullivan operettas in Boston and Austin. She has done Hit Parade Reviews with Carol Kooock and Jerry Conn, and programs singing George Gershwin and Cole Porter. In addition to performing for the Wednesday Morning Music Club, she enjoys singing in the University Methodist Church Choir and Chorus Austin. She volunteers for the Settlement Club and the Austin Opera Guild.

Carol Kooock, piano

Carol studied at the Houston Conservatory of Music and at UT, where her principal instrument was oboe. She has enjoyed playing piano for fun with bands, melodrama, and parties and accompanying cabaret singers.

Richard Kilmer, violin

Richard began violin lessons with his mother at age four, in Tulsa, OK. After achieving the Artist Diploma at the Eastman School of Music, he moved to Brussels to study with Arthur Grumiaux at the Royal Conservatory, and with Szymon Goldberg in Amsterdam where he performed in the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra. Richard lived in Amsterdam for fifteen years and performed worldwide with the famed Amati Quartet and the Mendelssohn Trio. Also he appeared as soloist with Orquesta Sinfonica del Estado de Michoacan (Mexico) and Sinfonica Nacional de El Salvador. He is currently Principal Second Violin with the Austin Symphony and maintains a busy teaching schedule of private students and chamber music ensembles.

Jeanne Sasaki, piano

Jeanne is a Collaborative Pianist and Vocal Coach. She maintains a private studio in Austin, performing, coaching and teaching solo singers and instrumentalists. She served as Music Lecturer and Staff Accompanist at U. T. 2006-2014. Other professional engagements include performing/coaching/collaborative piano instruction at Taos Opera Institute, One Ounce Opera (Austin), Butler Opera Center (Austin), and Four Corners Opera (Durango, CO). She has recorded with her husband Ray Sasaki, trumpet, and performed at the International Trumpet Guild Conference, the National Trumpet Competition, and Music Teachers National Association Competition. Ms. Sasaki earned music degrees from Eastman School of Music and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Angelica Lopez, piano

Angelica grew up in the Rio Grande Valley where she asked for and received the gift of piano lessons for her 8th birthday. Music-making permeated her life as she continued piano lessons, played French horn in high school band, served as an organist at her church, and accompanied fellow students for high school assemblies and UIL events. She moved to Austin to study in the Music Department at The University and fell in love with both the City of Austin and the concert-scene. Angelica and her husband, Chuck, were able to permanently relocate to Austin in 1983, and one of the first things she did was to join the Wednesday Morning Music Club. She has been a Suzuki piano teacher since 1985 when she enrolled in Suzuki teacher training.

Continued on Page 2

About the Performers for November 4th (continued from page 2)

Betty Mallard, piano

Dr. Betty Mallard is an Associate Professor Emeritus of the Butler School of Music Keyboard Division where she was a faculty member for 31 years and served as Chair of the Keyboard Division for 7 years. Betty holds degrees in piano performance, a BM and a DMA degree from The University of Texas and an MM from USC. She retired from UT in the fall of 2011. She soon found life without teaching quite pointless. Now she enjoys teaching children and adults of all ages at her home, and she performs whenever the opportunity presents itself. She most recently is enjoying performing four-hand piano music with Dr. Angelica Lopez, a member of WMMC.

Madeline McCauley, Choral Director

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.

Carolyn McColloch, piano

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

Please be sure to check our website musicclubaustin.org for updates on club activities. Webmaster Pat Yingst especially enjoys presenting new photos of club members and guests. The website gives you opportunities to appreciate the wonderful work of our club photographer, Ashley Eledge. Thank you, Ashley, for your great photos and loyalty to WMMC!

Sincere thanks go to Sarah Harriman and her House Committee volunteers--Carol Brannon, Suzy Gallagher, and Nan Hampton--who set up our meeting space and greeted all who attended on October 14. Many thanks also to Kit Thompson, our dependable stage manager.

Thought for the Day

"The only escapes from the miseries of life are music and cats..."

— Albert Schweitzer

Ashley Clair Eledge (continued from page 1)

Erwin, TN, I would fly down and land in a field across the railroad track and street from their home. Marjorie's parents liked me, and her mother would bake a coconut cake and have it ready should I fly in. I went fishing with Marjorie's dad. One day, I asked Marjorie if she would go anywhere in the world with me. She immediately answered, "Yes!" That gave me the confidence to propose and again she said, "Yes." We got married in her favorite church in Erwin. Then we returned to Newport News, VA. I kept my flight instructor and airport management jobs. When the Air Force called me to active duty, I started to put some reality to the first serious question that I had asked Marjorie about marriage. The Air Force wanted me to train to become a photo jet reconnaissance pilot and go to Korea. The wild story we generated before marriage then began so "Off we went into the wild blue yonder."

Marjorie was with me from jet fighter pilot to reconnaissance pilot to State of Texas Emergency and Flood Plain Management in Austin, TX. We traveled the world. Marjorie introduced me to music with the Austin Symphony and The Wednesday Morning Music Club. A clarinet major in college, she taught our two children to play and march in high school and college band.

In the 1980s, then President Lee Meyer asked Marjorie to join the WMMC. Lee encouraged me to take some photographs, and thus began my 30+ years as club photographer.



About the Performers for Nov. 18th

Katharine Shields, soprano

Katharine Shields has performed in recitals, revues, opera, and Gilbert & Sullivan operettas in Boston and Austin. She has done Hit Parade Reviews with Carol Knoock and Jerry Conn, and programs with George Gershwin and Cole Porter. In addition to the Wednesday Morning Music Club, she enjoys singing in the University Methodist Church Choir and Chorus Austin. She volunteers for the Settlement Club and the Austin Opera Guild.

Gregory Shields, violin

Greg Shields was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Nebraska and Kansas. His professional career was in astronomy and he remains active in research. He started violin at age eight and has played in a variety of school and community orchestras and musical productions. He met his wife Katharine, also a member of WMMC, in a 1973 production of *Gondoliers* by the Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert & Sullivan Players. He currently plays in the Balcones Community Orchestra and studies fiddle with Ruby Jane Smith at the Armstrong Community Music School.

Carol Knoock, piano

Carol Knoock studied at the Houston Conservatory of Music and at UT, where her principal instrument was oboe. She has enjoyed playing piano for fun with bands, melodrama, and parties and accompanying cabaret singers.

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 the University of Texas. Twelve years later I left UT. 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.

Kit Thompson, tenor

Kit Thompson was born in Wink, Texas, grew up in Midland, and first came to Austin in 1959 to attend The University. He dropped out fairly quickly. After learning better, he returned to UT in 1964, graduating in 1968 with a Bachelor's in Anthropology and minor in Geology. He has remained in Austin since, working in sales, photography, manufacturing and banking. A lifelong interest in music began to blossom in 2007 with retirement, when he joined the Dell Tones (JCC) and WMMC, and began learning to sing. He eagerly continues to progress, with much yet to learn. He thanks all of you for your support and encouragement.

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!

Russell Gregory, bass

Russell is a life-long Austinite, has performed throughout the region and is well known for his memorable characterizations of many leading Gilbert & Sullivan roles (The Mikado, Sergeant of Police, Sir Joseph Porter, etc.) He has sung extensively in all major Texas cities and has appeared in *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Riders to the Sea*, Gianni Schicchi, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *The Mikado*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and *The Gondoliers*, among others. Among his happiest memories on stage are his appearance in December 2002 and January 2006 singing with his son-in-law and grandsons – 3 generations on stage together – in *Amahl* and the *Night Visitors*.

Carolyn McColloch, piano

Carolyn gave her first solo piano recital at age 11. She performed solos and accompanied choirs, musicales, singers, and even ballet classes through high school. She received a Preparatory Degree from Mason College of Music the same year as high school graduation, performing her graduation solo recital. Carolyn founded the Kingwood-Humble Music Teachers Association with a 10-piano program. She taught, judged, accompanied and performed for many years, encouraged by her husband. Now she is playing sing-alongs and performing with the Silver Strings Orchestra.

About the Performers for Nov. 18th (continued from page 4)

Peggy Brunner, mezzo-soprano

My first visits to the WMMC were as a child with my mother, Margaret Gregory. I continued to visit over the years as I earned my Bachelor and Master's degrees in Vocal Music at the UT School of Music, then went on to teach voice, first at Huston-Tillotson College and then, for the next 45 years, at Texas State Univ. in San Marcos. I have one son, married, living in Houston with his wife and 4 beautiful daughters. I retired in 2013 and moved back to Austin, where my good brother Russell encouraged me to return to the WMMC, and it is my great pleasure to do so.

Charles Palmer, baritone

Charles is a native Austinite, former Peace Corps Volunteer and retired government employee. He holds a BA and MA degree from the University of Texas and a PhD in Latin American Geography from the University of Florida. He has lived for extended periods of time in Bolivia, Colombia, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Charles' musical experience includes singing in church choirs and in several civic choruses in Austin. He studies voice with Professor David Small of the University of Texas Butler school of Music and performs regularly with his pianist friend and colleague, Kathryn Govier, at retirement homes and similar venues in the Austin area.

Kathryn Govier, piano

I started music lessons at age 4 and "cut my eye-teeth on Bach." I was lucky to have a piano teacher who stressed the classics. I earned a Bachelor of Music, piano major (1971), and I've used my skills as accompanist and collaborator as well as soloist. I work with Charles Palmer through the Butler School of Music Outreach Program giving retirement home programs. My professional job was teacher of the handicapped. I spent 3 years in Marrakesh, Morocco, working with handicapped children as Peace Corps Volunteer (1987-1990). I love living in Austin with many wonderful cultural events to attend and participate in.

WMMC Member News

Looking for Volunteers to share their love of singing.

Club members are planning to share the holiday cheer this December by singing Christmas carols, along with Hannukah songs, at nursing homes and senior centers around town. Carol Brannon is currently looking to find how many are interested in singing at times that fit in with their schedules. No one need feel committed to attending all the opportunities. At this time, we don't have dates from the facilities, but hope to get those later in October and November. We plan to sing a cappella; Carol will provide music and organize schedules. This should be simple and a lot of fun! Please use the sign-up sheet at our next meeting, or contact Carol by phone (512-215-9496) or email.

The Gift to Sing by James Weldon Johnson

Sometimes the mist overhangs my path,
And blackening clouds about me cling;
But, oh, I have a magic way
To turn the gloom to cheerful day—
I softly sing.

And if the way grows darker still,
Shadowed by Sorrow's somber wing,
With glad defiance in my throat,
I pierce the darkness with a note,
And sing, and sing.

I brood not over the broken past,
Nor dread whatever time may bring;
No nights are dark, no days are long,
While in my heart there swells a song,
And I can sing.

Calendar of Events

UT Butler Opera Center@ McCullough Theatre presents Hansel and Gretel

Nov. 1 4:00 PM

Kay Race, piano recital @ Harris Bell Hall at Westminster Manor, 3rd floor of Preston Building, 4100 Jackson St. She will perform Mozart's **Sonata K284** and **Kreisleriana Op. 16** by Schumann.

Nov. 5 7 PM

Austin Civic Orchestra @ Lake Travis Performing Arts Center, Megan Boutin performing Danish composer Launy Grøndahl's **Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra**, Peter Askim's **For a Star-Filled Night**, and Beethoven's **Fifth Symphony**.

Nov. 7 7:30 PM

Austin Opera @ The Long Center Dell Hall, Verdi's **Aida**, featuring Austin Opera Chorus and Austin Opera Symphony, sung in Italian with English translation projected above the stage.

Nov. 7 7:30 PM, Nov. 12 7:30 PM, Nov. 15 3:00 PM

Chorus Austin presenting "The Witching Hour," Hugo Distler's **Totentanz**, Rautavaara's **Lorca Suite**, works by Vaughan Williams, Bialosky, and Brahms. Chorus Austin's new Youth Chorus will also perform.

Nov. 7 8 PM @Covenant Presbyterian Church

Nov. 8 4 PM @St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Classic Chamber Concerts, Bach's **Partita in c minor**, Beethoven's **Twelve Variations on a Theme from Handel's Judas Maccabäus**, Prokofiev's **Sonata in D Major**, Rota's **Cinque Pezzi Facili**, and Martinu's **Trio for flute, cello, and piano**, featuring Adrienne Inglis, flute, Anna Park, cello and Toby Blumenthal, piano. Tickets \$25, \$10 students under 18. For more information about the Classic chamber concerts 2015-2016 season, go to gtownfestival.org.

Nov. 8 4 PM @ Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth Street.

Gilbert and Sullivan of Austin @Worley Barton Theater at Brentwood Christian School, 11908 N. Lamar presenting "Lady Jane's G&S Salon Concert", a special fall musicale.

Nov. 8 3:00 PM

Austin Chamber Music, featuring the award-winning Cavani Quartet performing Beethoven, Schulhoff, and Shostakovich.

Nov. 13 7:30 PM @ Private Residence

Nov. 14 7:30 PM @ the First Unitarian Church

Austin Classical Guitar Society@AISD Performing Arts Center, 1500 Barbara Jordan Blvd.

Nov. 14 8 PM Ekachai Jearakul

Central Texas Medical Orchestra @ St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 1500 N. Capital of Texas Hwy. Soloist Bryan Hall, Guest Artist Kiki Ebsen, benefiting People's Community Clinic. Pre-concert talk, "Growing up with Buddy Ebsen" by daughter, Kiki. From 6:30-7:15.

Nov. 14 7:30 PM

Round Rock Symphony@ Georgetown High School, Klett Center for the Performing Arts, 2211 N. Austin Ave.

Rossini's **Overture to William Tell**, Mozart's **Horn Concerto No. 2, K.417**, by Jacek Muzyk, French Horn, and Brahms' **Symphony No. 1 in C minor**.

Nov. 15 4:00 PM

Austin Symphony @ The Long Center Dell Hall, Conspirare Symphonic Choir performing works of Ravel & Poulenc in THE FRENCH CONNECTION featuring WMMC Honorary Member Mela Dailey.

Nov. 20 & 21 8 PM