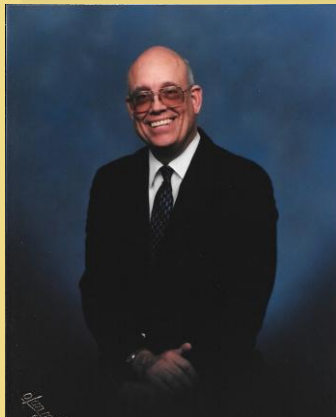


Note Worthy

A publication of The Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin) Website: musicclubaustin.org April 20, 2016



WMMC Member Highlight

Russell Gregory

Born in San Antonio, Texas, I moved to Austin at age 1 1/2 years old! Three younger sisters were born: Peggy, Carolyn, and Mollie. We all attended Wooldridge, UJH, O'Henry Junior High, and Austin High School. All four of us went to the University of Texas and received degrees in music. My degree was in Sacred Music with emphasis on organ and choir.

While at the University, I became more interested and involved in singing. I did Koko in a sophomore-year production of *The Mikado*, the son in *Riders to the Sea*, the uncle in *The Jumping Frog of Calaveras County* by Lucas Foss, and the title role in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*.

As a graduation gift, I attended a choral workshop in San Diego conducted by my hero Robert Shaw. We did scenes from Boris, Mussorgsky, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*, and Bach's *B Minor Mass*. What a gas!

In 1957, I married Kay Kerbow, and we spent the next 2 1/2 years in the Air Force. I returned to Austin to become involved in the life insurance business with The Prudential.

The business grew to be successful—not an option as we had four children to house, feed, clothe, and educate. But during that span of years, I had the good fortune to meet Dr. Morris Beachy, UT's choral man. Together we founded the Austin Choral Union and performed many wonderful concerts here and abroad (6 tours to Europe). I also remained active in UT's Opera Workshop with roles in *The Bridge* by Martinu, *Bartered Bride* by Smetana, and *Der Rosenkavalier* by Strauss.

Perhaps my most satisfying oratorio singing was with First Presbyterian Church, Houston, in the title role of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

Along the way, I have been fortunate to sing many performances of *The Messiah*, Haydn's *Creation*, the Brahms *Requiem*, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, and Vaughan Williams' *Hodie*. I participated in the Austin Symphony's first presentation of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Subsequently, I have done many more *Amahls*, the very best involving two grandsons and a son-in-law—providing three generations on the stage at one time. TERRIFIC!!!

More recently, I have participated in roles with the Austin Gilbert and Sullivan Society including *The Mikado*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Gondoliers*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Ruddigor*, *Iolanthe*, *Yeoman of the Guard*, *Patience*, *Princess Ida*, and the *Sorcerer*. Lately, I have undertaken the delightful works of that more contemporary British duo, Flanders and Swann.

While music/singing has been a life-long joy, my greatest pleasure is derived from a wonderful wife, four spectacular children, eleven grandchildren, and, yes, 1 2/3 great-grandchildren!!!!!!



Dear Friends of Opera in the Ozarks, Congratulations! Opera in the Ozarks really did exceed its "2016 ArkansasGives Goal" and raised \$30,446.00 last Thursday. So here's a big shout out to you all! Thank you so much for your interest and support, for spreading the news and for making that amazing success possible.

Carole Langley, President
IPFAC Governing Board of Directors



President's Message and Members News

Marcia Edwards

It is a pleasure to announce that the Texas State University Opera Theatre has commissioned a new opera that will premiere April 28 – May 1 at the Patti Strickel Harrison Theatre in the Performing Arts Center in San Marcos. Illustrious American composer Henry Mollicone and 1960 Pulitzer Prize winning lyricist Sheldon Harnick—writer of the Tony and Academy Award winning *Fiddler on the Roof*—collaborated on *Lady Bird: First Lady of the Land*. Sam Mungo, TSU Opera Department Director, and several singers from the TSU Music Department, will be our guests for the WMMC program on April 20. We will hear selections from this new one-act opera based on the life of Lady Bird Johnson.

Kudos to the many WMMC members who helped make the 101st TFMC State Convention (March 31 – April 2) so successful!

Carla Johnson and **Carolyn McColloch** served as the Convention Co-Chairs, a big job with lots of responsibilities.

Lee Meyer was brave enough to loan her piano for the musical performances. She also picked up the 2015 NFMC Young Artist, Christie Conover, from the airport on Wednesday and provided her transportation to an opera audition and to a rehearsal at St. Edward's prior to the performance Friday evening.

Bill Yick provided tuning for Lee's piano once it had arrived at the Holiday Inn.

Sue Breuer escorted NFMC President Michael Edwards, introduced him several times, and provided transportation for him.

Beth Moreno collected items from our club for the silent auction, organized and priced them (with help from **Pat Yingst** and **Marcia Edwards**), and helped set up the auction at the convention.

These club members donated items for door prizes and for the silent auction and book sale, which brought in over \$1300, possibly a record, for Opera in the Ozarks: **Kathryn Govier, Bill and Laresa Yick, Pat Yingst, Beth Moreno, George Edwards, Marianne Kim, Ashley Eledge family, Marcia Edwards, Marie White, Mary Takvam, Virginia Kniesner, Carol Brannon, and Katharine Shields**. A number of our members also shopped the silent auction and book sale.

Virginia Kniesner helped put together gift bags for visiting dignitaries.

Maxine Gomes played 3 lovely piano pieces for a music interlude on Thursday afternoon.

Carolyn McColloch organized a wonderful music program for Thursday evening after dinner with primarily WMMC members performing. These included **Mary Takvam**, soprano with **Greta Gutman**, piano; **Angelica Lopez** and **Betty Mallard** playing a piano duet; **Angela Smith** on steel pan with 3 guests; **Martha MacDonald**, clarinet, and **Felicity Coltman**, piano; **Russell Gregory**, baritone, accompanied by **Carolyn McColloch**, piano.

Carlie Burdett planned and conducted the Memorial Service, including live bluebonnet plants as gifts for the friends and family of TFMC members who have passed away during the last year.

Carol Brannon, Virginia Kniesner, Beth Moreno, and Marcia Edwards worked shifts at the registration table.

During the business sessions, a number of our members presented reports: **Carolyn McColloch, Carlie Burdett, Phyllis Noonan, Lee Meyer** and **Sue Breuer**.

Marie White created the table decorations for the Friday evening banquet with help from **Mary Takvam, Martha Cook, Virginia Kniesner, Carolyn McColloch** and others. Marie also organized getting the decorations set up Friday evening.

Ken Takvam delivered the invocation that he wrote for the Friday night banquet, and **Marcia Edwards** was Mistress of Ceremonies.

Kathryn Govier, Beth Moreno, Carol Brannon, Marianne Kim, Phyllis Noonan, Katharine Shields, and Virginia Kniesner served as our table hosts for the Friday evening banquet. Additional club attendees at the banquet included **Marie White** with her husband Brian Green, **Bill and Laresa Yick, Martha Cook** and her husband Carter, **Edith Knauer** and her grandson Dillon, **Mary Lou Connelly** and her husband Webb.

President's Message and Member News (continued from page 2)

One of the highlights of the evening was the announcement by TFMC President Lynn McNew that **Carla Johnson** was being honored with the TFMC Distinguished Service Award. Carla was accompanied by her husband Supreme Court Justice Phil Johnson and their son Carl from New York City.

The Silver Strings Orchestra played before and during dinner Friday night. Their music had attendees singing along and dancing. Accompanied by **Carolyn McColloch** on piano, the group included WMMC members **Jean McDermott, Angela Smith, Catherine van Zanten, Billy Corsbie, and Katie Kerwin.**

Madeline McCauley directed the TFMC Festival Chorus on Saturday morning. **Carolyn McColloch** accompanied. WMMC members who sang include **Mary Takvam, Greta Gutman, Phyllis Noonan, Nancy Brady, Katharine Shields, Carla Johnson, Marianne Kim, Carlie Burdett, Lee Frank, Marvin Frank, Bill Yick, and Russell Gregory.**

Madeline McCauley also sang "The Lord's Prayer" a cappella to close the convention.

About the Performers



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 Koock 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.

Mary Parse, piano

Mary 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.

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.

Marcia Edwards, piano

A farm girl from central Illinois, I began piano lessons in 2nd grade and have enjoyed music in my life ever since. My education includes a B.A. in French from the University of Illinois, an M.A. in Teaching English as a Second language from UCLA, and a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Texas, Austin. My husband (a retired pediatrician) and I have been Austin residents since 1983, and our 2 children were born and raised here. They both studied piano with Felicity Coltman. I'm grateful to Felicity for her music lessons and for introducing me to Kathryn Govier, who's now my regular duet partner.

Annette Eicker, cello

Annette Eicker was born in Chapel Hill, NC, but was raised in Germany. She studied cello in Dortmund where she received her degree in Music Pedagogy and an Orchestral Performance Diploma. She held a principal cello position in the Luneburg Symphony Orchestra for three years and then moved on to Freiburg where she was a member of their Philharmonic Orchestra for 17 years. In 2007 she came to Austin on a sabbatical year and decided to stay. Today she has a busy teaching studio in Cedar Park with her husband Andrew Grainger and performs with local orchestras and chamber groups.

Andrew Grainger, piano

Andrew Grainger hails from London, England. He earned his degrees in music, majoring in piano performance at Surrey University and earning his Master's in composition from Kingston University. He has lived in the US since 2000 working as a pianist, organist, composer and teacher. He met his wife, cellist Annette Eicker, in Austin in 2009, and they now live in Cedar Park where they enjoy a varied musical life. He divides his time between composing, performing and teaching.

Austin Classical Guitar, Yamundu Costa, guitar virtuoso.

Apr. 16 8 PM, AISD Performing Arts Center, 1500 Barbara Jordan Blvd.
<http://www.austinclassicalguitar.org>

Met Opera Live in HD: Roberto Devereux, Donizetti.

Apr. 16 11:55 AM, <http://www.metopera.org/Season/In-Cinemas/Theater-Finder/>
 Apr. 20 6:30 PM

Balcones Community Orchestra, Corelli: Concerto Grosso, Op. 6, No. 7 in D Major; J. S. Bach: Orchestra Suite No. 1 in C Major; Mozart: C minor Concerto, K. 491, Michelle Schumann, piano.

Apr. 17 4 PM, First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Dr., <http://www.bcorchestra.net>

Line Upon Line Percussion, *Lumen*, a site specific performance with Andrea Ariel Dance Theatre.

Apr. 21 - 24 8 PM, 323 Congress Ave. (the historic McKean-Eilers building).
<http://lineuponlinepercussion.org/>

Austin Opera, Gioachino Rossini: *The Barber of Seville*, featuring Jennifer Rivera, Troy Cook, Patrick Carfizzi, and Jamie Offenbach.

Apr. 23 & 28 7:30 PM, The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Dr., www.austinopera.org
 May 1 3:00 PM, The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Dr., www.austinopera.org

Lady Bird, an opera. Texas State University has commissioned an opera based on the life of Lady Bird Johnson, to be premiered April 28, 2016 by Texas State Opera Theatre and Texas State Symphony Orchestra. The work focuses on Lady Bird as a national figure during a tumultuous time in America, featuring her train trip through the Deep South riding down racism after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The composer is Henry Mollicone and librettist is Pulitzer Prize winner Sheldon Harnick, writer of the Tony and Academy Award winning *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Apr. 28, 29, 30 7:30 PM in Performing Arts Center's RECITAL HALL
 May 1 2:00 PM in Performing Arts Center's RECITAL HALL txstatepresents@txstate.edu

Ensemble VIII, *Voices in Celebration*, works by Palestrina, Byrd and Gibbons, excerpts from Josquin: **Missa de Beata Virgine**; Robert Parson: **Ave Maria**.

Apr. 29 7:30 PM, St. Louis Catholic Church Chapel, 7601 Burnet Rd., www.ensembleviii.org

Conspire, *Conspire Youth Choirs, Enchanted*.

Apr. 29 & 30 7:30, St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th St., <http://conspire.org>

Central Texas Medical Orchestra, Francesco Mastromatteo, soloist, Sara Hickman, guest artist. Concert benefitting National Alliance on Mental Health.

Apr. 30 7:30 PM, Westover Hills Church of Christ, 8332 Mesa Dr., <http://ctmorchestra.org>

Chorus Austin, *Southwest Voices*, featuring music from contemporary composers in Austin and neighboring regions. Winner and premier of the Young Composers Competition.

Apr. 30 8 PM, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, <http://gsstx.org/>
 May 1 4 PM, St. Paul Lutheran Church, <http://gsstx.org/>

Georgetown Symphony Orchestra, *Season Finale*. Temple Symphony Orchestra, Thomas Fairlie, conductor. Mozart: Overture to the *Impresario*; Piano Concerto No. 22 in E-flat Major, Kiyoshi Tamagawa, piano; *Coronation Mass*.

May 1 4 PM, Georgetown High School, Klett Center for the Performing Arts, 2211 N. Austin Ave.
<http://gsstx.org>

Thought for the Day: "Seriously being in a band, any band, is like being in a dysfunctional family of your choosing. It teaches you how to deal with various personalities, situations, think on your feet, play in any situation. You know, that whole 'show must go on' thing is real. The monitors are feeding back, the AC's gone off in the club in the heat of August, and your kick pedal is held together with duct tape, but by God you're playing, the crowd loves it, and that's what gets you up in the morning." Kopana Terry (quoted in [Women Drummers: A History from Rock and Jazz to Blues and Country](#) by our very own Angela Smith).