

# Note Worthy

A publication of The Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin) Website: [musicclubaustin.org](http://musicclubaustin.org) March 1, 2017



## Member Highlight – Martha Cook

Martha Cook has been a member of The Wednesday Morning Music Club since 2001. She has served the club as Recording Secretary, Historian, a member of the Wilcox, Maurer, Rudd and Putter High School Awards committee and chair of the Nominating Committee.

She grew up in east Texas near Kilgore but graduated from Andrews High School in far west Texas when her father was transferred for his oil field job.

Martha studied piano, sang in school and church choirs. She was a French horn player in her high school bands. Upon graduation, she was offered a vocal scholarship at Texas Tech University, as well as a French horn/band scholarship at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches. She decided to accept the SFA offer and enrolled as a music major.

On campus, she also worked in the band department office. One of her jobs was to dole out meal money cash to each member when the band was traveling on concert tours or to football games. Martha dealt out two one dollar bills to each player at mealtime, and then checked the name off her list. Her popularity with the players soared at these times! (In those bygone days, two dollars a meal meant that the frugal musician could eat well and still have some change jingling in pocket or purse.)

Martha met her husband-to-be Carter at SFA. He was a freshman trombone player in the band. They were married as undergraduates.

Carter and Martha's children, Jud and Gayle, have continued as active musicians. Both of them met their spouses in their respective college bands. Jud, a retired U.S. Army colonel, plays trombone in a concert band, performs with two "big band" dance orchestras and is part of a church ensemble. Gayle rings in the handbell ensemble Cast of Bronze conducted by her husband. Cast of Bronze has been featured several times with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and makes an annual multi-state tour.

Martha and Carter have six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Martha has continued to sing. She is a student of Katherine Altobello's vocal studio. Martha was a charter member of the Houston Oratorio Society. She sang for many seasons with the Austin Choral Union and for the past eight years with the St. Edwards University Masterwork Singers.

In the 1970s, she returned to college to earn a degree in Health Information Management at Texas State University. She worked fifteen years as Director of Medical Records at the Austin Diagnostic Clinic.



## President's Message

*Marcia Edwards*

Congratulations to our newly elected officers and Nominating Committee members for 2017 – 2019. These officers will assume their duties on July 1.

President Janie Keys

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Presidents Nan Hampton and Angelica Lopez

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Barbara Buttrey

Treasurer Katharine Shields

Recording Secretary Virginia Kniesner

Corresponding Secretary Marianne Weiss Kim

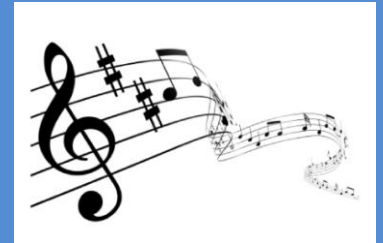
Historian Beth Moreno

Parliamentarian Angela Smith

Nominating Committee: Chair Carol Brannon, Carlie Burdett, Marcia Edwards, Sarah Harriman, and Mary Parse

Members and guests are welcome to join us for the Bonnie Cummins Fielder Grant contest, which will be held on Wednesday, March 15, at 1 PM in our regular performance space. Five vocalists between the ages of 22 to 32 have been invited to sing for this competition and our judges and selection committee members will award as much as \$12,000.

Thanks to the Orientation Committee, chaired by Maxine Gomes, for the informative new member orientation meeting held on Feb. 15. The new members attending were George Edwards, Christine Hallock, Rosemary Palmerton and Jolene Webster.



## Thought for the day

**Will Rogers on Growing Older** (thanks to Bill Yick):

1. Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.
2. The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.
3. Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.
4. When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.
5. I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.
6. One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.
7. One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.
8. Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.
9. Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf.
10. If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you are old.

## About the Performers



### Janie Keys, piano

I have two degrees, both from the University of Texas: a BA in French and a MM in Piano Pedagogy (studying with Nancy Garrett.) Even though my degree in music was decades ago, I'm still studying the piano. My current teacher is Sheila Paige (see [pianowellnessseminar.com](http://pianowellnessseminar.com).) I love all my Suzuki trained students, especially my two 4 year olds.

### Phyllis Noonan, piano

Phyllis received her bachelor's degree from the University of Texas. Phyllis has been performing here in Austin for almost 30 years. She has accompanied singers and instrumentalists in secular and religious programs and weddings for many years. Organ is the second instrument she has experience in, having played at 5 different churches over the years. She also taught private piano lessons for 30 years.

### Kay Race, piano

Katherine was born and raised in Chicago. While in Chicago she was a pianist at the American Conservatory of Music. She met her husband right after he finished serving his 4<sup>th</sup> year in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. They met at the University of Colorado where Kay was a freshman. They both practiced the piano constantly and when not playing music enjoyed hiking in the mountains. After their marriage in 1949 they continued their musical lives together until Kay's husband died in 1999. Kay still practices and enjoys musical activities. She lives in Austin at a retirement home.

### 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.

### Brian Grothues, piano

Brian is a pianist and teacher in Austin, Texas with over 35 students. He pursued music at the University of North Texas in Denton earning his Bachelor's degree Cum Laude. In 2008, Brian completed the Master's Degree in Piano Literature and Pedagogy from the University of Texas under the guidance of celebrated pianists Gregory Allen and Sophia Gilmsen. He has studied piano and music history in Vienna, Austria as a member of the IES study abroad program. Brian has collaborated with a multitude of instrumentalists and vocalists in concert, and he plays in a Queen tribute band called Magnifico.



## Event Calendar

---

### Austin Philharmonic Orchestra – [austinphilharmonic.org](http://austinphilharmonic.org)

*Winter Concert*, Dr. David Oertel, Music Director. Gustav Holst: The Planets, Uranus VI and Venus II; Antonin Dvorak: Romance for Solo Violin, featuring Victoria Athmann; Johannes Brahms: Academic Festival Overture.

**Mar. 1 – 8:00 PM** – Congregation Beth Israel, 3901 Shoal Creek Blvd.

### Gilbert and Sullivan Society – [gilbertsullivan.org](http://gilbertsullivan.org)

*Cox and Box*. This is Arthur Sullivan's first comic opera. Sullivan cut his comic-operatic teeth on "Cox and Box" several years before he was introduced to W. S. Gilbert, and enlivened F. C. Burnand's libretto with operatic parodies, a send up of Victorian drawing-room songs, and other memorable musical nonsense. It makes clear that the young musician's destiny was in composing for the comic-operatic stage.

**Mar. 4 – 7:30 PM** - Worley Barton Theatre at Brentwood Christian Christian School, 11908 N. Lamar

**Mar. 5 - 3:00 PM** - Worley Barton Theatre at Brentwood Christian Christian School, 11908 N. Lamar

### La Follia Austin Baroque – [lafollia.org](http://lafollia.org)

Chamber music on period instruments with music by Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven. Featured is Beethoven's Piano Quartet, Op. 16 with Anton Nel on pianoforte; Stephen Redfield, violin; Marcus McGoff, flute; Bruce Williams, viola; and Katie Reitman, cello.

**Mar. 4 – 8:00 PM** – First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Drive

**Mar. 5 – 3:00 PM** – First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Drive

### Georgetown Symphony Society – [gsstx.org](http://gsstx.org)

*Cowboys and a Texan*. The Temple Symphony Orchestra conducted by Thomas Fairlie presents a Family Pops Concert. Performer will be Mike Middleton, accordion champion.

**Mar. 5 – 4:00 PM** – Klett Center for the Performing Arts at Georgetown High School, 2211 N. Austin Ave., Georgetown

### Salon Concerts – [salonconcerts.org](http://salonconcerts.org)

*Third Concert of the Season*. Performances of music by Burgmuller: Duo in E flat, Op. 15 for clarinet and piano; French songs accompanied by the silent film *Le Reveleateur*: Beau Soir and Trio Chasons de Bilitis by Debussy, Claire de Lune and Mandoline by Fauré; a new work for clarinet, cello and piano by Kathryn Mishell; Counting Duets (1,3,5) by Tom Johnson; Clarinet Trio in D minor, Op. 3 by Alexander von Zemlinsky. Performers will be Liz Cass, soprano; Stephen Girko, clarinet; Douglas Harvey, cello; Rick Rowley, piano and Kathryn Mishell, piano.

**Mar. 5 – 4:30 PM** - directions emailed to ticketholders one week before event.

**Mar. 6 – 7:30 PM** - directions emailed to ticketholders one week before event.

### Ensemble VIII – [ensembleviii.org](http://ensembleviii.org)

*Sacred Shadows* – *Victoria's Tenebrae Responsories*. Translated as "shadows" due to the gradual extinguishing of all candles throughout the service, Tenebrae is celebrated on each of the three days of Holy Week that precede Easter—Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. These most poignant services of the church year feature contemplative readings paired with related musical responses. Spanish composer Tomás Luis de Victoria's setting of the Tenebrae Responsories is a true masterpiece of extraordinary depth and beauty.

**Mar. 9 – 7:30 PM** – Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, 7127 Bee Cave Rd.

**Mar. 10 – 7:30 PM** – St. Louis Catholic Church Chapel, 7601 Burnet Rd.

### Austin Baroque Ensemble – [austinbaroqueorchestra.org](http://austinbaroqueorchestra.org)

*Passion according to St. John* by J. S. Bach. Bach composed the St. John Passion for Good Friday services in Leipzig in 1724, and it remains a testament to his brilliant genius and emotional depth. Though more intimate than the St. Matthew Passion, this setting of the story of Christ's death is no less moving. Austin's first period-instrument performance of the Passion in a number of years will feature several of ABO's talented vocal and instrumental soloists in a Lenten concert, the ensemble's first presentation of this monumental work

**Mar. 18 – 7:30 PM** – Redeemer Presbyterian Church, 2111 Alexander Ave.