



From Your Music Director

Congratulations, choir, on an excellent job of singing at the Winter Concert. It was also gratifying to have such a good audience and nice "space" for making music. Thank you, St. Stephen's.

For our Spring Concert we will continue with our theme of **Time Honored** with a **Part II**. We will begin to prepare our spring repertoire for three major appearances: **Medieval Faire** (date t.b.a.), **Spring Concert** (when our 2009 Poetry Contest Winners will be presented), and a **Kemp Concert** (Sunday, May 17th).

Our choir has been invited to participate in the **Kemp Concert Series** with the Choir of First Unitarian Church and the Sanctuary Singers of First Presbyterian Church of Oklahoma City. The **Kemp Concerts**, held at First Presbyterian Church (NW 25th and Western) are free and open to the public. This May 17th concert, conducted by your Director and by Boyd Fees, will be at 7:00 p.m., with a combined rehearsal beginning that day at 4:00 p.m. Please put these dates on your calendar as we get ready to sing into spring.

Beverly McLarry

Music Director and Composer-in-Residence

WHO IS IT?!



Based on information this choir member provided for his or her *InChoirer* interview, he/she is a jazz fan, a season ticket holder of both OU football and basketball games, and was the winner of the 1986 Japan Cultural Translation Prize (among many other awards!). Growing up in Kansas, this member received a Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin following service during WWII. Grandpa Charley would be proud!

So, who is it?!

Answer found elsewhere in the newsletter!



Notes From Our President

Welcome back for our Spring Semester, 2009. I look forward to another great season.

We have a particularly notable opportunity to participate with the First Presbyterian Church Choir in OKC on Sunday, May 17th in their Kemp Concert Series. That will be a couple of weeks after our own spring concert. Please mark your calendars and make it a priority to participate if you can at all. It will be a great chance to get better known to a wider audience.

I want to extend special thanks to our committee chairs and officers for their great work last semester. In particular, we've had a new member take over with our website – many thanks to Susannah Livingood for jumping in and helping out. NCCS only exists because of active participation like this from our membership.

While I'm thinking about what it takes to keep us going, I'd like to remind everyone how we operate. We are a member run organization. We were founded not by a music director, but by a group of local citizens in Norman who wanted an independent outlet for choral music in the community. Our board is composed of actual participating members. Many, indeed most, non-profit organizations have an external board drawn from community and business leaders. In that model the board primarily is involved in fundraising and only oversight of the management of the organization itself. This approach means that paid employees and volunteers run the day-to-day operations of the organization, but are not the majority of the board. In our organization the board is the volunteer members who are active in running our group, planning the concerts, fund raising, and whatever else is needed. So far this has kept our operational costs low, allowing us to enjoy participating with minimal dues and

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The high note is not the only thing.

Placido Domingo

Dates To Remember!

- | | |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January 19 | First rehearsal of the spring semester |
| April 4 | Medieval Faire performance (tentative date, time TBA) |
| May 2 | Spring Concert tech rehearsal |
| May 3 | Spring Concert |
| May 17 | Kemp Concert, First Presbyterian Church, OKC (4:00 combined rehearsal, 7:00 performance) |





Must See January Events!

Tuesday, January 20th
 Sutton Concert Series presents trombonist Irv Wagner in the OU Sharp Concert Hall. Info. at (405) 325-4101.

Thursday, January 22nd – Wednesday, April 15th
Seeing Other People; Contemporary Portraits By 12 Oklahoma Artists opens in downtown OKC's Invited Artist Gallery. Info. at (405) 235-3500.

Friday, January 23rd
 Norton Visiting Artist Series presents violinist Martha Walvoord in the OU Catlett Music Center. Info. at (405) 325-4101.

Tuesday, January 27th
 Brightmusic Chamber Ensemble concert, featuring pianist Sylvia Wang. Info. at www.okcbrightmusic.com.
 The musical *The Color Purple* performed at the OKC Civic Center Music Hall (runs through Feb. 1st). Info. at celebrityattractions.com.

Saturday, January 31st
 Oklahoma Composers Concert held at Sondermusic in Norman. Info. at sondermusic.com.

2008-2009 Board of Directors

- President: *David Warren*
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WHO IS IT?!

Sidney Brown, bass

Notes continued.....

fund-raising. In the current economy we may need to rethink our fund raising. For instance, some choral groups charge much higher dues. My first reaction is that's not what we are about, but it is something we may need to consider.

In my email I listed the current committees and officers of the group. We will be looking to replace some committee heads and board members for next year. Please consider where you may be able to help out – we especially need a new king/queen of the garage sale. We need to set up an electronic communication committee to expand on what and how we do our website, member lists, etc. I think there are opportunities to make better use of these for fund raising, communicating with our members and the public, and other outreach efforts. Please talk to me or one of the committee chairs/officers about where you may be able to help.

Again, a hearty welcome back for our Spring 2009 season!

David Warren, NCCS President



- JAN. 1 (1953) Hank Williams, Sr. born in Mount Olive, Alabama
- JAN. 3 (2004) Casey Kasem delivers his last *American Top 40* broadcast, a format he invented
- JAN. 5 (1941) The first FM radio station goes on the air (W1XOJ, Boston)
- JAN. 8 (1935) Elvis Presley born in Tupelo, Mississippi
- JAN. 9 (1941) Folk singer Joan Baez born in Staten Island, New York
- JAN. 10 (1945) Rod Stewart born in Glasgow, Scotland
- JAN. 13 (1947) David Bowie born in London
- JAN. 13 (1864) The "Father of American Music" songwriter Stephen Foster born in Pittsburgh, PA
- JAN. 16 (1934) Mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne born in Bradford, Pennsylvania
- JAN. 21 (2002) Singer Peggy Lee dies in Westwood, California
- JAN. 22 (1889) Columbia Phonograph Co., parent company of Columbia Records, is formed
- JAN. 26 (1970) Simon & Garfunkel release their last and most popular album, *Bridge Over Troubled Water*
- JAN. 31 (1797) Franz Schubert born in Vienna