

Celebrating SIXTY-TWO YEARS of making a Joyful Noise



Spring 2010 Volume 62 Issue 1

*From Director, Mary Anne Sharp*

Dear Patrons,

Welcome to our 62<sup>nd</sup> year of performing choral music for the Decatur community! We have a great concert lined up for you on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M. in our usual venue – First Baptist Church of Decatur.

We always are grateful to First Baptist for providing us a wonderful place in which to present our music. You might like to know that the City of Decatur, consulting firms, and various Arts groups (including the DCC) are working on acquiring a performing arts center for the City. Up until now there has been almost no place for the Chorus and other groups to perform other than our churches. This is an ongoing project and will take some time to complete.

In our May concert we will be saluting Georgia's own Johnny Mercer – celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth in Savannah. We will also be saluting our Armed Forces, since the day before our concert, May 15<sup>th</sup> is Armed Forces Day.

The Chorus will be traveling to Savannah over Memorial Day weekend to present a salute to Johnny Mercer in his hometown. The concert will be on Ellis Square, next to a recently erected statue of Mercer. If you can't join us in Savannah, we will be singing most of that music at a preview concert at Lawrenceville Road United Methodist Church on Sunday, May 2, 7:00 PM.

For several years now the Chorus has presented the Mary Clark Community Arts Award to an individual who has supported and promoted the Arts in DeKalb County. This award is named for the Founder and Director Emeritus of the Chorus, Mary Clark. This year's recipient is Mary Lee "Ma" Sharp, my mother. I'm very proud and pleased that the Executive Board of the

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*From Director, Mary Anne Sharp...Continued from front page*

Chorus has chosen her to receive this honor. Mary Lee is a Charter Member and first Accompanist of the Chorus, and she has made many other contributions to the arts in DeKalb County. She taught piano lessons; served as choir director and/or organist in 5 DeKalb County churches; and at age 100 had a one-woman art display of her oil paintings, sponsored by the DeKalb Council for the Arts. She will be 106 years old when she receives this award at our Annual Spring Concert, May 16, 2010.

We continue to thank you for your support and loyal attendance at our concerts. It is because of you that we are able to continue our commitment of bringing fine choral music to the community.

*Mary Anne Sharp*

Director

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*From Presidents, Walt and Alcie Thornton*

Dear Friends of the Chorus,

Imagine our surprise when visiting someone in a rehab facility recently to have one of our patrons, who we have never met, come across the hall and ask, "Do you sing with the Decatur Civic Chorus?" She explained that she had been attending our concerts for quite some time and mentioned several of our members that she knows or has known.

The truth is that our patrons are everywhere and we wish we could personally meet all of you. Thank you so much for being a part of the music that we love to sing. A performance is nothing without the people who listen and enjoy it.

Our membership is made up of all sorts of people with varied backgrounds, careers, experiences and opportunities. We are a family, each of whom brings something special to the group. The feeling of camaraderie is so strong that several of our members drive quite a distance each week to participate. Those of you who support us with your presence and your gifts are a huge part of our ability to be who we are and do what we do. We are most grateful to you.

We have welcomed several new members into our group again this year. For those of you who might like to sing with us, auditions will be held in late August or early September.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to our director, Mary Anne Sharp; our accompanist, Evelyn Arnn; our executive board; our hard working members; and of course, our patrons.

With gratitude to all of you for all you do,

*Walter and Alcie Thornton*

Co-Presidents, Decatur Civic Chorus 2009-2010

*From Patron Chair, Nancy Van Wyk*

Springtime Greetings to Our Sponsors and Patrons,

It is hard to know where to begin. Each time I compose a letter to you I feel as if I am writing to friends. It has been great fun for me to get to know all of you, if not personally, then by your name on our mailing list.

Your continued support through the years, both verbal and financial, is so very much appreciated. We are amazed and humbled by your loyalty through "tough times."

The Sponsors and Patrons of the DCC are very special people. We depend on your generosity to assist us in meeting the financial obligations of the Chorus. We again ask you to support the DCC with your attendance at our concerts and your contributions. Any amount will be welcome.

You may designate your contribution In Honor Of or In Memory Of a special person in your life. As time permits, these special contributions will be noted in the Spring Concert Program. Any contributions made after the program has gone to print will be included in the next concert program.

Please accept our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your support and commitment.

*Nancy R. Van Wyk*

Patron Chairman

**Diamond Sponsor-** \$2000 & above -- The sponsor's name will be printed in the concert program and on the sponsor board displayed at DCC concerts recognizing the individual(s) or company as a Diamond Sponsor. A letter of acknowledgment will be sent.

**Platinum Sponsor-** \$1,000 - \$1,999 -- The sponsor's name will be printed in the concert program and on the sponsor board displayed at DCC concerts recognizing the individual(s) or company as a Platinum Sponsor. A letter of acknowledgment will be sent.

**Gold Sponsor-** \$500 - \$999 -- The sponsor's name will be printed in the concert program and on the sponsor board displayed at DCC concerts recognizing the individual(s) or company as a Gold Sponsor. A letter of acknowledgment will be sent.

**Silver Sponsor -** \$200 - \$499 -- The sponsor's name will be printed in the concert program and on the sponsor board displayed at DCC concerts recognizing the individual(s) or company as a Silver Sponsor. A letter of acknowledgment will be sent.

**Bronze Sponsor -** \$100 - \$199 -- The sponsor's name will be printed in the concert program and a letter of acknowledgment will be sent.

**Patron –** up to \$99 -- The patron's name will be printed in the concert program and a letter of acknowledgment will be sent.

## Special Recognitions

### **In Memory of James H. Bentley**

By Alva O. Bentley

### **In Memory of**

### **Robert W. & Helen Biccum**

By Robert T. Biccum

### **In Memory of**

### **Jeanette & Francis Hamilton**

By Jim Hamilton

Susan Hamilton-Sellman

### **In Memory of**

### **Christopher Joseph Hobbs**

By his parents Joseph & Gwendolyn Hobbs  
his brother James R. Hobbs

### **In Memory of Sue Hooper**

By Barbara Disney

### **In Memory of Betty Mundy**

By Tom & Nell Mundy

### **In Memory of Jack H. Murrah**

By Laverne B. Murrah

### **In Memory of Bill Painter**

By Betty F. Painter

### **In Memory of Angelo Pitillo**

By Café' Lily

### **In Memory of my father & mother,**

### **Howard "Spud" & Pat Rasmussen**

By Alice Hozman

### **In Memory Pat & Spud Rasmussen**

By Patti Ireland

Pat Warthan

Mary Newcomer

### **In Memory of Spud Rasmussen**

By Barbara Disney

### **In Memory of Mary & Vinson Rosser**

By Annette Lovelady

### **In Memory of William J. Thomas**

By Thelma H. Thomas

### **In Memory of John Truelove**

By Barbara Truelove

### **In Memory of Linda Vincent**

By Steven Vincent

### **In Honor of Ed & Evelyn Arnn**

By Grace Holmes

William M. Jernigan

### **In Honor of Betty Baccus**

By Madge Watson

### **In Honor of my Great Grandson # 2,**

### **Caleb Michael Bruce-Stepp**

By Elizabeth Jones

### **In Honor of Peggy Clayton for her birthday**

By Randy Potter

### **In Honor of Cathryn Cook**

By Helen Palmour

### **In Honor of Porter Draughan**

### **In Honor of Barbara Giebelhaus**

By Julian Giebelhaus

Oliver Giebelhaus

Erich Grossman

Jill Grossman

### **In Honor of Kit Kammer**

By RADM W. O. Miller, USN Ret.

### **In Honor of Bill & Madeline Kouts**

By Nanette Kouts Waters

### **In Honor of Bill & Marcia Philips**

By Tommy & Heidi Couch

### **In Honor of Carolyn Robison**

By Bob & Emily White

Jane Williams

### **In Honor of Mary Lee Sharp**

By Barbara Gifford

### **In Honor of Dawn Thomas**

By Bob & Debbie Thomas

### **In Honor of Mary Anne Sharp**

By Martha Ann Highsmith

### **In Honor of Mary Lee Sharp**

By Martha Ann Highsmith

Dawn & Tom Rouse

### **In Honor of Dawn Thomas**

By Hilda Horowitz

### **In Honor of Walter & Alcie Thornton**

By Charlie & Wendy Cromwell

Tax Information: The Decatur Civic Chorus is a non-profit organization under section 501 (c) 3 of the IRS code.

Donations to the DCC may be deductible; please consult with your tax advisor. (The tax ID# is 58 1298703)

You may send your donations to the DCC at: **PO Box 1361, Decatur, GA 30031**

Also, you can learn more about the DCC at [www.decaturcivicchorus.org](http://www.decaturcivicchorus.org)