



# NEWSLETTER

## President's Message

*48  
years!  
A ♪-able  
Achievement*

Once again the year has rotated 'round (more quickly, it seems with each passing year) and we find ourselves in this beautiful season of remembering our blessings and giving thanks for all the great good that is ours to enjoy. Most of us have had an abundance of opportunities for realizing our dreams and engaging in the activities that are meaningful and fulfilling for us. But in today's society, we see more and more evidence of shattered dreams and dissolving opportunities. Since each of us is engaged in music in one form or another, it is disturbing

to see young people being deprived of the rich experiences we have had through various public school music programs. It is disturbing to see many prestigious, venerable music institutions struggling to survive. So, at this time of gratitude for blessings, let's earnestly seek ways of blessing others, of providing others with honest reasons for expressing thanks. Of course, what I am referring to is the need to do all we can to nurture, provide for, and contribute to classical music education.

This brings up the subject announced elsewhere in this newsletter about the amazing opportunity provided by **Peet's Coffee** in **Rolling Hills Plaza**. During **the week of Dec. 18 to 24**, we urge as many people as possible to visit Peet's and place a donation in the collection box. **Peet's Coffee selected our Mu Phi Chapter as this year's beneficiary of its philanthropy community outreach and will match the total donations up to \$10,000.** Please encourage your friends, family, colleagues, students, everyone who cares about classical music to make a donation. **Amounts of any size are welcome.** No checks, please, but credit and debit cards and cash all work. If you go on Dec. 24, coffee is free.

Our chapter is the perfect vehicle for receiving these donations, since all the monies collected, and that matched by Peet's Coffee, will go directly to public school music programs, scholarships and grants. The funds we need for our own operating expenses are acquired through our dues. So please assure the people whom you encourage to participate in this fund raiser that every penny they donate will be given to music education.

We all are acutely aware of the cutbacks in school music programs. We are equally aware of the great benefits children derive from music education. We know of the studies which have conclusively proven that music education enhances students' academic achievements and social acceptance among their peers. Let us, during this wonderful season of gratitude and joy, support this fund raising project and provide a little of what has so blessed and enriched our own lives.

Gratefully yours,  
Darlene

**CALENDAR**

**DECEMBER 3 – 3 PM  
YOUNG PERFORMERS  
SHOWCASE**

**Kristal Basua, Chairperson**

At Home of Annette Smith

Hostesses are:

Teddy Greenwald and Jin Yoo

**DECEMBER 12 – 10 AM  
Board Meeting**

**DECEMBER 18 – 24  
Peet's Coffee  
At Rolling Hills Plaza**

**JANUARY 7 – 5 PM  
Musical Mosaic Mailing Party  
At Home of Pat Harpole**

***Patrons Dues***

The Palos Verdes/South Bay Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon welcomes patron dues at this time. Patricia Arand will soon be mailing a request for dues along with a copy of our new Patrons Brochure.

Suggested Patron's Annual Donation:

- \$25.00 ----- Friend
- \$50.00 ----- Silver
- \$100.00 ----- Gold
- \$100.00 plus – Platinum

Donations of \$50.00 or more will receive a donation receipt for tax reporting.

Patrons' donations are contributed entirely to the Scholarship Fund.

Make your donation check to Mu Phi Epsilon

Mail to: David Champion, treasurer  
229 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Manhattan Beach CA 90266

**The Fall issue of "The Triangle" is now available online. There's a great article by Lenita on page 11.**

**<http://muphiepsilon.org/publications/thetrianglejournal.html>**

♪ Please contact International President Rosemary Ames if you're interested in working on the International Convention and/or having any ideas.

♪ ***Please send your Harmony Campaign contributions to the International Executive Office.***

**PICTURE FROM FOUNDERS DAY**



Our honorees Pearl Kim, Helen Freeborn, June Lusk Nelson, and Lenita McCallum. Not present were: Linnea Eades, Mary Feyk, Barber Hammer, Florine Lambert, Virginia Mendenhall, Joanne Satterburg, and Frances Steiner.

**Spotlight on Helen Freeborn**

Helen Freeborn is one of the newer members of the PalosVerdes/South Bay Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon, although she is certainly not a new member to Mu Phi Epsilon. She has the distinction of being one of the 60 year members, and was twice the President of the Long Beach Chapter before it became inactive. Her relationship with the Palos Verdes/South Bay Chapter goes back to the very beginning, when, as the President of the Long Beach Chapter, she was the Installing officer for the new Palos Verdes Mu Phi Epsilon chapter.

Helen’s love for music began as a child growing up in Long Beach. Her two older sisters played the violin, so when it came time for her to begin studying music, she chose the cello in order to form a trio with her sisters. They performed as the “Graham Trio.” Helen’s Mother directed the orchestra at church, and the three girls had many opportunities to perform at church and around Long Beach.

When Helen was in Seventh Grade, a new music teacher, Fred Ohlandorf , came to Long Beach and began an outstanding String Program in the junior high school. He also formed the All City Junior High Orchestra, of which she was a member. He had some involvement in Interlochen before he came to California, and wanted to start a camp that would be similar. Helen was able to go to the first Arrowbear Music Camp and continued to go every summer until she finished high school. Mr. Ohlandorf continued to influence Helen and her future. He recommended an outstanding cello teacher, Eileen Kelly, who had studied with Dudley Powers at Northwestern. The two of them, Mr. Ohlandorf and Ms. Kelly, encouraged Helen to attend Northwestern. Although she didn’t have the money, they were able to help her get a partial scholarship, and encouraged her to spend one year at Long Beach City College to get some of her academic classes.

During junior high school and high school, Helen and her sisters were in the Women’s Symphony in Long Beach. Then Helen also played with the Long Beach Philharmonic during high school and Long Beach City College. The Southern California High School Festival Orchestra, of which Helen was principal cellist, traveled to Salt Lake City and had the opportunity to play at the Mormon Temple. She also played with the Pasadena



Symphony during this same time.

Going to Northwestern to study with Dudley Powers was a terrifying experience for a young girl to be so far from home not knowing anyone, but she quickly got to know people in the “Self Help” dormitory and through the Wesley Foundation. It

Was at the Wesley Foundation that she met her husband. They were married during Spring Break before she graduated from Northwestern even though he was trying to finish school at the University of Illinois before he was drafted into the Korean War.

After doing several different jobs Helen found a music teaching job at a resort in Illinois, teaching K-8 students. When her husband finished boot camp, she moved with him wherever he was stationed, and found jobs as a music teacher and/or playing in local orchestras. When she had her children – three, nineteen months apart – she quit teaching for a while to take care of them. By this time they had moved back to Long Beach, and Helen was able to play with the Long Beach Symphony. In those days it was strictly volunteer with no pay. She continued playing with them for many years. This was the time when she helped start the Long Beach Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon.

Helen continued teaching music in school, teaching privately, and playing in orchestras until her hearing loss caused too much difficulty. She went through some tough times until she found a good hearing specialist who was able to help her. She still has her cello (which she may donate to a school), but is unable to play anymore.

But, that’s not the end of her story. When her children were little, she had taken some classes in cake decorating. She had always enjoyed making cakes for her children and her friends. After she retired from teaching, she taught Wilton decorating classes for another 25 years. She finally retired from teaching for Wilton two years ago, but continues to make special cakes for Mu Phi Epsilon events. Palos Verdes/South Bay Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon is certainly blessed to have Helen Freeborn in our Chapter.

MU PHI MEMORIES FOR FOUNDERS DAY MEETING ON NOV. 6, 2011  
 BY LINNEA EADES

**MUSIC, FRIENDS, AND HARMONY THRIVED THROUGH THE YEARS.**

**UNDERSTANDING COMPOSITIONS BROUGHT LAUGHTER AND TEARS.**

**PRIVILEGE WAS PLAYING AT THE GUSTLIN'S IN FREEMONT PLACE.**

**HARMONIZING HELPED SINGING THE TRIANGLE SONG WITHOUT BASS.**

**IMPROVIZING & JAMMING WAS HUMBLING-BRING INSTRUMENT & CASE.**

**ENJOYING MUSICAL PROGRAMS WAS INPORTANT-HELD IN HOME - NIFTY**

**PHI NU CHAPTER AT UCLA IS WHERE I BEGAN IN FEBRUARY OF 1960.**

**SUMPTUOUS FOOD & DESSERTS WERE AT EVERY MEETING & RECEPTION.**

**INSPIRATIONAL WORDS & MUSIC WERE NORMAL, NEVER THE EXCEPTION.**

**LOVE OF MUSIC, FRIENDS, AND HARMONY UNTIED ALL AND SOME.**

**OUR SORORITY BECAME A FRATERNITY, THEN INCLUDED EVERYONE.**

**NEW MUSIC WAS CHALLENGING AND SOMETIMES HARD TO HUM.**

**PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITIES INCLUDED MAILING MUSIC TO THE  
 PHILIPPINES AND PLAYING AT THE VA HOSPITAL.**

**HELPING THROUGH MUSIC THERAPY BECAME A PROJECT VITAL.**

**INSPIRING EACH OTHER TO ALWAYS DO OUR BEST WAS HOW WE WERE  
 SUPPORTIVE WITHOUT BEING CRITICAL.**

**NEVER HAVE I BEEN MORE PROUD TO BELONG TO A GROUP LIKE THIS.**

**UNITED IN MUSIC & MUSICAL CAUSES CAN CREATE A STATE OF BLISS.**

**THIS POEM IS MY TRIBUTE TO MU PHI EPSILON.  
 PERHAPS IT WILL BE IN OUR SCRABOOK, EVEN WHEN I'M GONE.**

*MEMBER NEWS*

**Barbara Hammer** has been in the convalescent home for 6 months. For those interested in sending a card, her address is 2420 Rockefeller Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 310-376-2879

**Ramona Gifford** is volunteering at Angel's Gate continuation high school in San Pedro. She needs some music stands (student), percussion instruments, guitars, keyboards, flash cards, beginning piano books for teenagers, etc. The students are working at their own pace and receiving credit for the course. 310-377-7711 or [monagee@cox.net](mailto:monagee@cox.net)

**Workers for 50th Year Anniversary Celebration**

To help plan our chapter's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we invite you to be a part of the excitement. Please let Pat Maki or Ramona Gifford know whether you would like to contribute to this event.



Chapter member **Leslie Sharp** (also known as Nerme) has just completed a jazz album entitled "Dancing on the Wide-Eyed Edge," now available for download from her website: [blazinleslie.com](http://blazinleslie.com). In less than a month, it will go into duplication and be available in hard copy as well, with art work and liner notes. Leslie has received enthusiastic responses so far and she has fans and clients eagerly awaiting a hard copy with amenities. "The warmth, diversity of style, freshness, creativity and virtuosity contained in this album, is something to be experienced," to quote a close acquaintance, writer and connoisseur of jazz. Because of Ms. Sharp's dedication to furthering the education of music, she is donating \$1 to Mu Phi Epsilon for every electronic download as well as for every hard copy sold. More details are described on the website.

Leslie also facilitates an ongoing jazz series at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Hawthorne. Except for December during which there will be no performance, the concerts are held in the early evening, 6pm to 7pm, on the third Saturday of each month. November's concert featured Brazilian jazz guitarist Roberto Montero, [robertomontero.com](http://robertomontero.com), who played Brazilian and American Jazz Standards. Free will donations are accepted after each performance, and all monies go to the performer of that evening. Leslie's web site will be updated monthly to show who will be performing in the Jazz Series.