

TIMES SIGNATURE

Opus I Music Society

September 2020

OPUS I LEADERSHIP

Ruth Ann McChesney
President
724-772-1063
pfmcram@hotmail.com

Kathy Kemerer
Vice President
Federation Secretary
724-865-2548
nedivemf30@
embarqmail.com

Linda Maurhoff
Treasurer
724-625-1761
pfmcpres203@hotmail.com

Kathy Csellar
Recording Secretary
724-443-0237
kcsellar@consolidated.net

Karen Douglass
Newsletter Editor
724-612-5678
karenjdouglass@gmail.com



KAREN'S KORNER

The beginning of the Fall Season is here and the show must go on! And it is!

Our world still hasn't returned to normal however, we are all hopeful that the end to this pandemic is coming. In the mean time, we have found ways to cope and continue on with the business of Opus I.

Although we will not have a meeting in September, we will be having a virtual meeting in October when Kathy Kemerer will present part III of Music in the White House.

Also, you all are invited to the virtual PFMC Convention/Board Meeting when we honor Linda Maurhoff for her service to the Federation.

The show is going on with everyone's safety in mind!

And as always, *"Let There Be Music!"*

Karen



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Opus I News

To my dear Opus I Music Society members and friends,

Things are so uncertain (in all of our lives) that it's hard to share Opus I plans for the future. See elsewhere in the newsletter for program plans coming up! Since we can't meet together at meetings, we decided to contact as many of you as possible to get lots of "Member News", so we feel as connected as possible. I do hope you enjoy this issue of the "Times Signature", (in place of a Sept. meeting).

Our founder and past president (four times), Linda Maurhoff, will be leaving office as President of PFMC on Sept. 18th, and we couldn't be more proud of her leadership the last 4 years. Certainly the new Junior Competition is high on the list of her accomplishments and in spite of the pandemic, was still a success this year! It will only be better when we can have a central competition site and we look forward to hearing these talented students at future conventions. Besides this competition, Linda continued to work hard to keep PFMC alive and well, "Building our future, by remembering our past". That theme was appropriate since PFMC celebrated 100 years in 2016 when she took office. Do plan to join the virtual convention on Friday, Sept. 18th. The link will be sent out when it is available. (Bonus - our Opus I member, Samuel Quinto, will be bringing greetings from Brazil!)

What can I say to encourage you during these difficult times except that we need to keep in touch with each other, and we need to keep music in our lives. It's one of the greatest gifts ever given to us. Whether you practice your instrument, teach music, listen to the radio, play CD's, or sing in the shower.... Find some way to let music bless your life!

Until we meet again... remember, I care.
Ruth Ann



IT'S TIME TO HONOR LINDA!



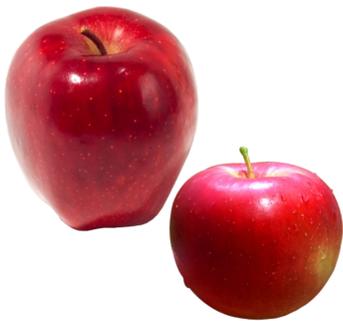
YOU ARE INVITED!



Linda Maurhoff has been our PFMC President for the past four years and her term is ending at the September Convention/Board Meeting. She has served PFMC not only the past four years but many years prior and PFMC will thrive and move into the future because of her dedication and service.

There is a PFMC Convention/Board Meeting on Friday, September 18, 2020 at 9:15 AM and I'd like everyone here at Opus I to attend this meeting to support and honor Linda.

The meeting information is as follows:



Date:

Friday, September 18, 2020

Time:

9:15 AM - 12:00 PM

Host:

Go To Meeting

The Link:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/834523717>

You may copy and past this link into your browser on your laptop, tablet, or smartphone

SEPTEMBER MEETING INFORMATION!



**CANCELED
DUE TO
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

OCTOBER MEETING INFORMATION!

Our Course of Study Program Continues With...

Music at the White House, Part III (1901 - 1961)

Presented by

Kathy Kemerer



The October online meeting of Opus I will include the third part of our series based on Elise K. Kirk's book "Music at the White House: A History of the American Spirit." Beginning with Theodore Roosevelt and concluding with Dwight D. Eisenhower, we'll hear of the "keyboard with the voice of a mosquito," the president who rehearsed with the Marine Band, the first lady who said "Music, when it is great, belongs to the world," and the president who proclaimed (after seeing Wagner's opera "Parsifal") "I haven't recovered from that siege of grand opera yet." Did you know that one U.S. president received the Great Golden Mozart Medal of the city of Salzburg? Did you know that one president had a unique collection of autographed manuscripts, including two books of Schubert songs, first editions with composer's signature? Join us to learn more!

MEMORIES OF OUR MARCH MEETING!



We began the program with President Andrew Johnson's term and ended with William McKinley. This period includes the Reconstruction of the South to the beginning of the "modern presidency." Kathy played period recordings of some of the presidents' favorites including "Silver Threads Among the Gold," "The Last Rose of Summer," "Robin Adair," "Angels Ever Bright and Fair" (Handel), and "The Last Hope" (Gottschalk). This was a time of John Philip Sousa, Gilbert and Sullivan, the banjo playing craze, the band craze, and the programming of descriptive music that carried one to far away places, like "A Trip to Manhattan Beach" ('complete with daybreak, boat rides, gambling, dancing sea nymphs, fireworks, and an exhausted "Home, Sweet Home."').' Kathy ended the program with the playing of John Philip Sousa's "Presidential Polonaise" that was written to replace "Hail to the Chief." It failed to catch on, possibly due to its length and dance-like sound instead of the strong martial sound popularly linked to the president.

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS!



Boscov's
really
FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS
better than ever!



2 BIG DAYS

OCTOBER 14TH & 15TH, 2020 - 9AM TO 9PM
NO SHOPPING PASS TO PURCHASE, EVERYONE IS INVITED!

YOU GET
20% OFF
OUR LOWEST SALE PRICES
We'll take an extra 20% off at the register on almost everything you purchase.
*10% discount items and exclusions apply. See below.

WE GIVE
5% BACK
TO A NON-PROFIT OF YOUR CHOICE
We'll donate 5% of your total purchase price to your participating non-profit

SELECT YOUR CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT
from the list of pre-registered organizations when you make your purchase.

20% off the following departments:
Ladies Apparel and Accessories, Handbags, Ladies, Mens and Childrens Shoes, Mens and Ladies Athletic Footwear, Mens Apparel and Accessories, Ladies and Mens Coats, Lingerie, Robes, Sleepwear, Bras and Panties, Childrens Apparel, Girls and Boys Apparel, Juniors Apparel, Young Mens Apparel, Candy and Cards, Trim-A-Home, Fine Jewelry, Bridge Jewelry, Fashion Jewelry, Watches, Cosmetics and Fragrances, Domestic, Luggage, Flatware, Dinnerware, Glassware, Curtains and Drapes, Lamps, Oriental Rugs, Mattresses, Home Decor, Pet Gifts, As Seen on TV and Boscov's Salon Products

10% off the following departments:
Small Appliances, Vacuum Cleaners, Heaters, Ready-To-Assemble Furniture, Toys, Juvenile Products, PPE Products, Housewares, Furniture and Recliners and Boscov's Optical

*We cannot offer a discount on the following: Travel Center, Eye Exams, Tempur-Pedic, Stearns & Foster, Vionic, Sperry, adidas, Nike, Levi's, Champion, Fine Jewelry Clearance, Salon Services, Boscov's Restaurants, Boscov's Hearing Center, Gift Cards, Layaway Payments and Payments on your account. Cannot be combined with any other discount, certificate or redeemed for prior sales. No adjustments to prior purchases. Not eligible for exchanges or refunds.



MEMBER NEWS!



Daryl and Kathy Kemerer

We all have found different things to do during this pandemic to substitute for being "out and about." Apart from cleaning every closet and cupboard in the house and also cleaning the garage we've been spending time with music. Daryl rewrote the ending of a Christmas anthem he had written years ago and in the good weather he has enjoyed driving an antique car on the local back roads, sharing smiles and waves with folks outside. I have been practicing four Leo Sowerby organ works in preparation for a recital commemorating the 125th anniversary of his birth. I'm hoping to do this "virtual" concert in November. Search Leo Sowerby's "Pageant" on YouTube and you'll see how I've managed to lose a few pounds :-)

Joan Eisenreich

I am doing fine.....teaching online as well as in person lessons with safety guidelines in place. My saving grace during the summer has been playing lots of pickleball.....exercise, sunshine and a chance to be with other people.

Mary Jo Harris

God has been good to Todd and I during the pandemic. Lots of texting with our daughter in Maine. Todd has become quite a chef so I have been spoiled! I did a Zoom Bible study and it was interesting. We believe that God has a plan and we trust Him.

Suzanne Altman

She is not a current member but she sends her greetings and says she's enjoying music on the radio and outside church in a pavilion, but misses singing in her choir.

Pat Hone

I don't know that I have been doing other than the usual stuff. It has been hard for the teenagers in the family and hard on my 80 year old mother in law who has had her senior citizen lunches canceled. We have had a great garden this year; raised several batches of meat chicks for the freezer and 3 lambs. We have had time to start seeds from scratch. We attended a covid wedding in Ohio for my niece. I have a new grandson in Kentucky and we have been to visit several times. These little ones are a blessing.

Kathy Csellar

My life is pretty much the same except for wearing a mask to the grocery store and when customers come! Brides and bridesmaids still bring their dresses, mothers of the bride still bring their dresses and I even had a couple of fathers of the bride with suits to alter. I get grandkids to play with a couple days a week. I have been playing at St. Thomas church along with the piano player for the livestream of Sunday services.



Joyce Gindlesperger

I'm doing fine and am more busy than pre-pandemic. Even though church choir is halted and also my Chorale, I've been coming up with new ways to provide music for our worship services. I've been having ensemble groups play for bell choir and arranging for vocal quartets, duets, soloists and instrumentals. Teaching has either been done via Skype or outdoors on our porch and I have been blessed to actually see most of my kids in person all summer.

My son and his family moved to Knoxville, TN. I was quite devastated but decided I'd just have to make the drive at least every 6-8 weeks. I can't stand not seeing my babies. My son has two boys, with a little girl coming for Christmas! My oldest daughter in Beaver just gave us another precious grandson in July. Spending time with family is really my joy during this terrible, trying time. I miss you all and look forward to the day we can be together once again.

Ruth Ann McChesney

Charlie and I have been very cautious about being exposed to the virus and are healthy and thankful. We decided to spend the summer at home in Mars instead of at my lakehouse in Chautauqua and it's been fun to eat dinner on our patio in the woods! Music involvement has mostly been Zoom meetings for NFMC's NE Region as well as the national Executive Committee. WQED-FM keeps me enjoying good music, I'm practicing the piano from lesson books 65 years old, and do lots of jigsaw puzzles! Keep the second Mondays of the months 'reserved' for future Opus I meetings - somehow!! Miss you.

Samuel Quinto

We can be very proud of our International Member, Samuel from San Paulo, Brazil. He and his wife, Larissa, have two little girls - Elis and Eva. He will be bringing greetings to the PMFC virtual convention on Sept. 18th. He wrote on 8/28: "I have great news. The university awarded 3 teachers for excellence in digital education in this pandemic period. I was one of the winners last night! We are more than 1800 professors! It was a beautiful tribute! Glory to God." Congratulations, Samuel.

Nancy Johnson

Per phone, Nancy shared that mobility is her biggest problem, especially getting up and down from chairs. She's ordered a stair-lift for her basement steps! BUT... she keeps busy teaching piano to her 3 students, (down from the 49 she once taught), there in her home and her family comes to visit, which means a lot. She is proud to say she has 4 grandchildren in college now!

Dennis Lisac

Dennis responded to RA's request for ". . . what you have found to be helpful during this pandemic" by writing two stories of immigrants he met lately. He wrote: "The two stories were helpful to me because I experienced first hand, the love and appreciation for our country from foreigners that many who live here do not have." Since his stories are quite political, they are not included here but I'm sure he would be more than willing to share them with you personally if you request them at: fitter1968@yahoo.com.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER!



Your Dues Are Due Now!

Hello Opus I Friends,

I am sure you are more than ready to get out and about again. We all look forward to a return of the "good old days"!

It's time to pay your Opus I dues. Please make check payable to Opus I Music Society in the amount of \$35 and mail to:

Linda Maurhoff
203 Downieville Rd
Valencia, PA 16059

Remember: Opus I has a new option for couples - \$50 for husband and wife or your partner in life!

I ask a HUGE favor: Please send your check now so I don't have to send and resend emails over the next month. That takes extra time that is sometimes hard to find. I Appreciate your cooperation.

Looking forward to seeing each of you virtually, sometime soon!

Take care and stay healthy!

Linda Maurhoff, Opus I Treasurer



MARK YOUR CALENDAR !

September 14, 2020

No meeting due to the pandemic quarantine.

September 18, 2020

PFMC Board Meeting (to be held virtually)



October 12, 2020

A Course of Study Program

Music in the White House

Part III: 1901-1961

Presented by: Kathy Kemerer and Friends

Location: Will be presented virtually ... more info to come!

Program: 10:00 AM

