

TIMES SIGNATURE

Opus I Music Society

February 2021

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KAREN'S KORNER



Valentine's Day has quite a history, of which I won't get into in this column, but I will touch on the romantic aspect of that history!

According to Wikipedia, the day became associated with romantic love in the 14th and 15th centuries when notions of courtly love flourished, apparently by association with the "lovebirds" of early spring. In 18th-century England, it grew into an occasion in which couples expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards. [9] In Italy, Saint Valentine's Keys are given to lovers "as a romantic symbol and an invitation to unlock the giver's heart" . How sweet!

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

Karen

*Happy
Valentine's Day!* 

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Opus I News

What can I say? Only that I hope and pray you are all staying safe, healthy and sane (as one friend suggested!) I trust music has been soothing ointment and calming medicine for all of us during these long days of isolation and restrictions, but daylight is getting longer, vaccines are being administered, and we still have each other and our Opus I meetings!! Count your blessings!

Since we found that 'live' presentations sometimes meet with poor quality sound, we will trust our VOICES to bring JOY and INTEREST at our February meeting. Have you found a poem, hymn, ode, (or joke), to share that Monday?

We will have a special treat from our own Jessica Wood who is the PFMC Chair of Junior Music in Poetry (and artwork). That in itself will be a blessing; don't miss it!

As always, I am here for any of your concerns or suggestions for our club and the Federation. Feel free to e-mail or call (between 10 and 10, please). pfmcRAM@hotmail.com or 724-772-1063.

Blessings,
Ruth Ann



FEBRUARY MEETING INFORMATION!



The Music of Poetry



This month's program is truly a member participation event! We will be sharing our favorite poetry with each other. So, come armed with your favorite poem to share!

Meeting information:

Date: February 8, 2021

Time: 9:45 AM

Here is the link to join the Opus I meeting via Zoom on February 8, 2021 at 9:45 AM. Tatiana Sinelnikova will be our Zoom host.

Just Click on the link:

https://harvard.zoom.us/j/99521948766?pwd=amd0WC9Zdi94TGJRaDVPVXFwaUFRQT09&fbclid=IwAR1utMEGslBFb61hQIHjNhiCoLL1xwe0mruNPXHOava_YE4koyzCC9s1C6Q#success

Many thanks to Tatiana Mester and Tatiana Sinelnikova for providing us with this platform to meet!



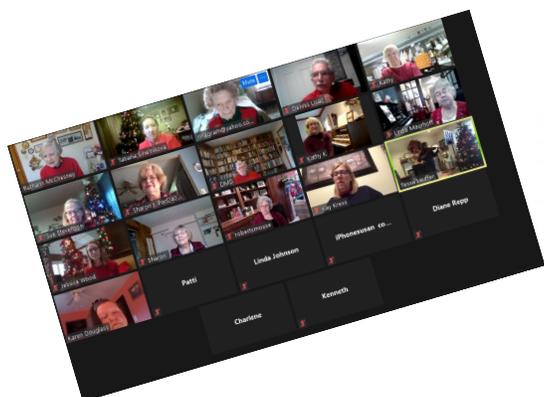
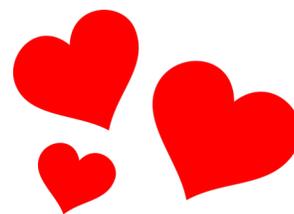
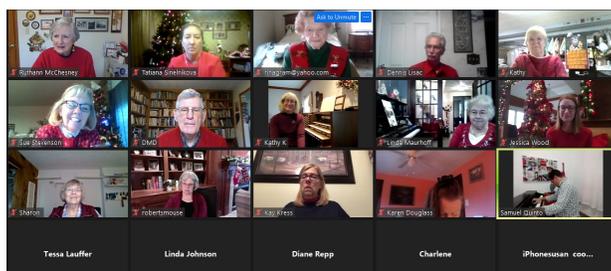
We will see you there!

MEMORIES OF OUR DECEMBER MEETING

Our program included Kathy Kemerer on organ, Dennis Lisac who read us the story behind "Silent Night", and even Samuel Quinto who greeted us and played for us from his home in Brazil!! We had to make some adjustments (which isn't unusual during this pandemic) and Sharon Meeker ended up reading the words to "What Child is This" since Gladys was not able to join us. Then we had a special treat hearing one of Jessica's students, Tessa Leuffer play "Christmas Serenade" medley on violin! Sue Stevenson read us a story, (she has SO many talents), Linda M. arranged for Camden and Paityn Armstrong to play a piano duet from their home and "Jingle Bell Sleigh Ride" was great!

Thank you to all of these participants. And what an ending when Kathy C. brought back memories as she played her old tape of the Little Music Ensemble singing "Fruitcake"!

There were about 25 in attendance, including a number of women and friends from Life-Pointe Alliance church and other guests from Grove City to Irwin! Do invite your family and friends to join us Feb. 8th and see that they get the link!





MORE INFO FROM OUR NOVEMBER MEETING!



More info from our November meeting on Amy Beech

Kathy K. says "I found a date of 1925 for Canticle of the Sun. The ability to "see" colors when hearing music is synesthesia. Also, her honorary masters degree was from the University of New Hampshire."

And Ruth Ann mentions: "I found my chorale copy of Canticle of the Sun and see above the title it says "Dedicated to the Chautauqua Choir". Sue Stevenson found an article that mentions that Mrs. Beech very much enjoyed summer encampments, like Chautauqua Institution and the MacDowell Colony." That must be why she dedicated the piece to the Chautauqua choir!



FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS UPDATE!



Thank you to all who took part in Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends" fundraiser in October. We made \$33.34 which is very little compared to last year's almost \$500, but (as our Treasurer, Linda M, mentions) it's almost like a member's dues for one year... so we're thankful for even that.



MEMBER NEWS!



Caitlin Painter



Caitlin has been named the new Director of Alle Kiski Music Day Camp and is AKMDC's in-house photographer. In order for the camp to continue to get PFMC's FREE insurance, she needed to be a member of the Federation. SO... she is now a part of Opus I Music Society! Welcome, Caitlin.

She says: "I live in the city of Butler and I have 4 children, so life is busy. I am certified as an early childhood and elementary educator, as well as a reading specialist. I also was a dance major and teach this only at music camp each year. I grew up playing piano and singing. I was very involved in choirs and musicals when I was in school. I do not play that often now unfortunately, due to lack of a keyboard or piano. I love music, but in my house, sometimes the silence is appreciated.

I'm hoping to get my children involved with more music lessons when things calm down with COVID-19. I have a daughter who loves everything musical. I hope I'll be able to have them get more experiences soon.

My home address is 809 N. McKean St., Butler, PA 16001."



Craig Zinger:

Somehow we missed having Craig's "Winter Wonderland" in our December program. You really need to hear it. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/313854072406759/videos/422511389096231> (you must copy and paste this link to your browser) and listen!



Dorothy Meeder

Our thoughts and prayers are with member, Dorothy Meeder whose house was engulfed in smoke after an apparent explosion recently. Only a granddaughter was at home, and she was not hurt. Dorothy and her son were at work at the airport. If there is further information on how we can help, it will be made known ASAP.



AND MORE MEMBER NEWS!



Tatiana Sinelnikova

Congratulations to Tatiana Sinelnikova upon her high school graduation Jan. 21, 2021! She is continuing her studies through Harvard University and we know she will excel in all she does. How we remember her doing ballet pieces for us at recitals and programs, as well as piano solos and even the outstanding program on Stephen Foster. We wish you the very best, Tatiana!



NFMC

The NFMC 2021 convention that was to be held in June in Norfolk, VA has been cancelled. The Young Artist competition that is held at the same time has been voted to be done virtually. This will not be an easy task for the participants nor the judges but the NFMC Exec. Board voted to continue the competition since it is SO important to talented musicians. Who wants to lose the chance to win \$20,000!!



PFMC

Don't forget to enjoy the PFMC website at www.pfmc-music.org (you can paste this link into your browser).



AND DON'T FORGET!

Do invite your friends to join us on Feb. 8th - but be sure to forward the meeting link on page 3 to them!! 10am!!





MARK YOUR CALENDAR !



February 8, 2021

Music of Poetry: A Member Participation Meeting Through Sharing Favorite Poems

Presented by: Ruth Ann McChesney

Location: Will be presented virtually

Time: 9:45 AM

March 8, 2021

Focus on John Rutter: In Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of His Birth

Presented by: Kathy Csellar

Location: Will be presented virtually

Time: 9:45 AM

April 12, 2021

Having Fun With Hand Chimes

Presented by: Susan Cooper

Location: Will be presented virtually

Time: 9:45 AM

May (TBD) Honors Recital

