



# Notable Notes

The Electronic Newsletter of the Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians —April 2009

click on <http://www.sfgocm.org/news>

## In order for this monthly newsletter to reach everyone, we need your help with news articles, essays, observations or anything else of import to our Federation

### New Photo and Video Feature

If you have any pictures or videos, please send them on to [leonk@bellsouth.net](mailto:leonk@bellsouth.net) and I'll upload them onto the site. To view them, please visit it by clicking on [this link to our photo site](#). Your choir can have its own album as can any special events simply by letting Leon Karahalis know. Please full advantage of this site!



### *Profiles From the Loft*

**Howard Cramer, Ph.D. Professor Emeritus, Tenor**

Howard was born into a musical family, so it would be obvious that he would follow it throughout his long lifetime. He has played every instrument that might provide a challenge and fill his needs at the time. He played in Big Bands, in the U.S. Army Bands, Club Gigs

and for pleasure. Since his marriage to Themis (Poulos), Howard has contributed by volunteering to many organizations and in the various offices of the Metropolis. Howard not only plays double bass in the Atlanta Community Orchestra, directed by Peter Zervakos, but also sings tenor in the Cathedral Choir and the Men's Choir. We are honored to have such a gentleman in our midst. Thank you, Howard, for sharing your God-given musical talents. BRAVO!

Always His Servant,

**Rosemary Kromidas Hendrix,**



### *Sunday of Orthodoxy*

.St. Sophia was honored to host the 2009 Sunday of Orthodoxy. Mary Alice Kays directed a group of about 30 or so singers from the OCA and Antiochian branches of our Church. A difference was that we had the vesper service in conjunction with a mini-retreat on Saturday. Russian chant was featured and we were thrilled to have a real live tenor! Zoran Polic, a Serbian national who attends Christ the Savior OCA cathedral here in Miami, delighted us all by gently, clearly, brightly, steadily singing notes that I thought only dogs could hear. Beautiful plain, if polyphonic, chant was presented throughout.



### *CMI held at St. Sophia in Miami on March 28, 2009*

St. Sofia Cathedral in Miami hosted another CMI featuring Professor Rodney Eichenberger. Professor Eichenberger has such a wealth of knowledge that he never gives the same presentation twice. In fact, he has weeks and weeks worth of it. Here are some comments:

We opened our CMI to other jurisdictions in addition to our SFGOCM members, even sharing the event with a representative of Rome.

**Jackson King**, choir director at St. George Antiochian in Coral Gables, was so taken by the lecture that he went online to [RodneyEichenberger.com](http://RodneyEichenberger.com) and bought the two CDs that Professor Eichenberger has prepared.

**Elaine Lailas** said "I know you had to drag some of us kicking and screaming", but thank you for insisting that we attend. Saturday's workshop was most effective, enlightening, entertaining, educational, and truly inspirational. The workshop leader proved to be the perfect choice for a Saturday when most people have other things to do. The workshop was truly worthwhile for every choir member whether a beginner or a seasoned choir member trained in choral music from a youngster. I would say that as a participant, I was enthusiastic (another "E") about the entire day."

"He is amazing!" from Elaine's sister **Nancy Poulos**.

**Liz Rutherford**, a choir member at St. Louis Catholic Church, said that she was so charged up that she was going to suggest to her choir's director that she direct rehearsals.

**Mary Ellen and Stan Evdemon** said "This past weekend, MaryEllen and I had the privilege of attending a CMI workshop hosted by the Miami Choir. Guest speaker was Rodney Eichenberger, renown choral conductor and lecturer. At first we were apprehensive about attending since we both are not choral directors, just singers. In addition, we both felt that perhaps 8 hours of a lecture would definitely make us drowsy and bored. However, once we arrived for the lecture and heard Dr. Eichenberger our interest and attention kept us going through the whole day without a feeling of ennui. Not only was it interesting and very informative, but also very entertaining. We learned how to better maintain a proper pitch, posture, and other vocal problems. Dr. Eichenberger kept us entertained with his anecdotes throughout the day, and, when the session ended, we felt energized enough to go on further. We would highly recommend that more choir members attempt to attend any of Dr. Eichenberger's lectures. It will be a lesson that should benefit your singing groups, and an experience that will be memorable for a long time to come. Great job, Miami, for allowing us to attend, and being a terrific host.

**Edith Mitchell** had this to say: As advertised I found the CMI workshop in Miami to be informative for both directors and members of the choir.

Dr. Eichenberger put us quickly at ease with his mild mannered down to earth delivery. As an instructor I found him to be very entertaining as well as knowledgeable in the general behavior of choir members.

Thank you to the community of Miami for your warm hospitality and especially to head chef Leon who donated the luncheon we enjoyed.

The board met while almost everyone else was attending the lecture. **Leon Karahalis** made his humble attempt at shrimp and scallops in ginger, garlic and tahini served on pasta with a salad. Afterwards, the Board shared a delicious dinner at Margaret Sarafoglu's home with Professor Eichenberger, who joined **Rocky Kays** and **Lucy Zapsas** at tavli.

### **Notable Links to Scholarship 100 and Athenagoras Awards Forms**

[Click here to link to the Patriarch Athenagoras Awards Forms and Guidelines PDF](#) There is also a form attached to this page as well as a letter from Stan Evdemon regarding same.

[Click here for the Scholarship 100 Application form!](#)



# Notable Notes

is a publication of the Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians,  
**Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta** — all rights reserved



**Metropolis of Atlanta  
Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox  
Choirs and Musicians  
Patriarch Athenagoras I Award**

Spring 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The time has come once again to consider who among your choir members should be recognized for their dedication to the Music Ministry of our Church. The Patriarch Athenagoras I Award was initiated by the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians and established in 1996 as a means of giving national recognition to meritorious individuals whose contributions to the Music Ministry of the Church are worthy of distinction.

Each year at the conclusion of our choir conferences three individuals are recognized for their meritorious service. Each recipient shall have significantly contributed talents and/ or service to the development and perpetuation of the Greek Orthodox Church Choirs and Musicians of the Atlanta Metropolis.

The **deadline** for 2008 nominations is **May 29, 2009**. The nomination form and biographical data cover sheet are available in this issue of *Keynotes* and on the Federation web site: [www.sfgocm.org](http://www.sfgocm.org). Guidelines are available on the Federation website or by request. A letter with the nomination form and biographical data cover sheet should be mailed to:

Stanley Evdemon  
Athenagoras Award  
9216 Estate Cove Circle  
Riverview, Florida 33578  
[stan.evde@verizon.net](mailto:stan.evde@verizon.net)

Nominations for this prestigious award should be received by our Athenagoras Award Committee no later than the deadline date in order to be considered as an eligible candidate. Late nominations will be placed on file and reviewed by the committee in 2010.

We look forward to receiving your nomination and seeing you in Winston Salem, North Carolina!

Yours in His Service,

***Stanley Evdemon***

Stanley Evdemon  
Chairman, Athenagoras Award

**Metropolis of Atlanta**  
**Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians**  
**Patriarch Athenagoras I Award**  
**NOMINATION FORM**

---

---

In order to send committee members copies of the nominations to review, all nominations must  
be post-marked  
*NO LATER THAN MAY 29, 2009*

The nomination form must be signed by the director of the local OR the parish priest.

_____ Nominee	_____ Category
_____ Parish of Nominating Choir	_____ Phone
_____ City/State	_____ Zip Code
_____ Name of Contact Person submitting Nomination	_____ Phone
_____ Address	_____ FAX number
_____ City/ <u>State</u>	_____ Zip Code
_____ Choir <u>Director</u> or Parish Priest Signature	

Send completed material including Biographical Data Cover Sheet

1. Regional Contributions
2. Local Contributions
3. Federation Activities
4. Special Achievements/ Awards /Contributions

To: Stanley Evdemon  
Athenagoras Award  
9216 Estate Cove Circle  
Riverview, Florida 33578

**Metropolis of Atlanta  
Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians  
Patriarch Athenagoras I Award  
Stanley Evdemon, Chairman**

Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians  
and the  
National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

**PATRIARCH ATHENAGORAS MEDAL  
FOR METROPOLITAN SERVICE**

**Metropolis of Atlanta  
Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians  
Patriarch Athenagoras I Award**

---

---

**NOMINEE'S BIOGRAPHICAL DATA COVER SHEET**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Nominee**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Category**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**City/State**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Zip Code**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parish**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**City/State**