Welcome to the first edition of Notable Notes, the (hopefully) monthly newsletter version of KeyNotes.

We are putting the effort into a monthly newsletter so that YOU can participate more often and so that news about our Federation is always as up to date as possible when we read it.

We do need contributors, however, to make this idea work. Anyone can contribute! If you have any ideas, just email the editor, Leon Karahalis, at leonk@bellsouth.net or any of your local Federation officers. Please have all contributions submitted 2 full weeks ahead.

Here are some thoughts for you to respond to:

♫ Have you visited choirs from other Metropolises?
♫ How do you react to the music?
♫ Do you have churches in your area that are not active in the Federation or do not have an established choir?
♫ Do you make an effort to know what the Psalti is singing and why?
♫ Do your Psaltai join you in the choir?
♫ Do you join the Psaltai when the choir is not active?
♫ Are you satisfied with the music that we generally chant or would you like more or less challenging work?
♫ Are you active in Pan-Orthodox visitation (i.e., do you visit, sing with, share fellowship with, invite or attend Sunday of Orthodoxy with Orthodox churches of other jurisdictions)?
♫ Do you have ideas for small parishes getting active?
♫ Do you have ideas for inactive parishes taking part?
♫ Do you have ideas for small parishes getting their children active?
♫ Does your church normally hold Orthros and Vespers?
♫ Do you have unusual resources like Orthros music in Western notation? In English?
♫ How about Vespers?

Seasonal Events

Editor’s Note: Christmas being a universal celebration of the birth of Our Savior, I thought I would include an example of the musical schedule from one of our most active “northern” parishes. It would be enriching to get more traditionally Orthodox hymns/carols together in addition to the western European ones. Don’t forget that our Slavic brethren have a wealth of music from such composers as Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Borodin, and others.

Star of the Month

Celeste Zoe Andrews Alexander, a native of Charlotte, is the Youth Choir Director of Saint Romanos Youth Choir at Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta. Coming from the very gifted family that gave us Mary Alice Kayes (sister) and Mary Ellen Evdemon (cousin), Celeste holds a bachelor’s degree in Music Education from UNC and a Master’s degree in Occupational Therapy from Brenau University in Gainesville, Georgia. The Youth Choir is open to children in grades K-5, learning hymns from the Divine Liturgy in both Greek and English. The children chant the Liturgy about three times during the school year, participating in the Christmas pageant, Heretismoi services, Saturday of Lazarus service, among others. A more complete article on Celeste’s career can be found in this month’s Youth Music Connection, which is a publication of the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, from which this blurb was extracted. That’s our girl!

Editors Note: Epiphany and Theophany are celebrated in all regions of Orthodox, oftentimes more important than Christmas. Sometimes in swimming pools, sometimes breaking ice to dive for the Cross and always in Tarpon Springs. Other parishes in our Metropolis celebrate following January 6 so that His Eminence can join in the celebration. Please contact your local parish for details about a celebration close to home if you cannot attend the Tarpon Springs or West Palm Beach celebrations. The West Palm Beach celebration has been occurring for 9 or 10 years now and we encourage all choir members of all jurisdictions of Orthodoxy to join us, practice with us and pray the Divine Liturgy at St. Catherine’s on the Saturday after January 6 which this year will be January 13, under the musical direction of Jackson King of St. George’s Antiochian Orthodox Church in Coral Gables, Florida. We hope to welcome you to South Florida’s greater Orthodox Community.
HERE ARE SOME QUICK NOTES FROM THE SUMMER:

2006’s recipients of the Athenagoras award were Stanley M. Evdemon of St. John the Baptist Church in Tampa, FL; Dr. Z. JoAnna Hill of St. Nicholas Cathedral, Tarpon Springs, FL and Joanne H. Kambouris of Holy Trinity Church, Clearwater, FL.

Scholarship 100 -- Ms. Emily Shepherd of the Dormition of the Theotokos, Greensboro, NC, Mr. Christos Mylonas of Holy Trinity, Clearwater, FL and Ms. Nichole Maria Rallis of St. Nicholas Church, Wilmington, NC were presented scholarships at the Grand Banquet in Orlando by Mrs. Lucy Zapzas, Scholarship Co-Chairman at the 2006 Choir Conference. Congratulations!

ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE AND METROPOLIS: UPCOMING EVENTS

Choral Competition, part of the Hellenic Dance Festival — Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. Clearwater, Florida, February 3, 2007. For more information you can email Joanne at jkambour@knology.net.

I hope this Notable Notes format for Keynotes will motivate one and all to take a more active role in our Federation.

You can reach any of the officers at the following emails or phone numbers:

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<td>volunteer now!!)</td>
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Standing Committees

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CHOIR/CHANTER
SURVEY
2007

Church name ___________________________________________________________ Email ________________________

Church address ________________________________________________________________________ phone ______________ fax ______________

____________________________________________________________ phone ______________ fax ______________

Director(s) _________________________________________________

Organist(s) _________________________________________________

Chanter(s) _________________________________________________

Priest(s) ____________________________________________________

CHOIR ORGANIZATION:
President ________________________ _____
Vice President _________________________
Secretary ______________________________
Treasurer ______________________________
Librarian ______________________________
Choir treasury? _____ yes _____ no

CHOIR CONTACT:
address ___________________________________________________

phone _______________________ email ____________________

( Please note preferred method of contact by * )

CHANTER CONTACT:
address ___________________________________________________

phone _______________________ email ____________________

( Please note preferred method of contact by * )

List major fund-raising activities:

SHOPPING CAPSULES?

PARTICIPATION BY CHOIR (C) / ORGANIST (O) /
CHANTER (CH) / YOUTH (Y): (mark all that apply )

National Church Music Sunday in October_________________________

and how it is observed _______________________________________

LITURGICAL MUSIC: ( Please indicate usage by number 1=most used, 2=sometimes, 3=not used )

Anastasiou _____ Gallos _____ Maragos _____ Raptis _____
Bogdanos _____ Kypros _____ Pappas _____ Roubanis _____
Desby _____ Lawrence _____ Petrovich _____ Sakellarides _____
Other__________________

Composite of ________________________________________________

CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTES (CMI), co-sponsored by the National Forum and the SFGOCM, are held twice a year: spring and the day
preceding the choir conference. Would your choir/chanter be interested? _____ yes _____ no

“KEYNOTES” is now available online at www.SFGOCM.org.
Would your choir still require paper copies by mail? ______: and if so, how many?

Please mail completed form to:
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Please submit your members’ email addresses directly to Editor, Leon Karahalis, at LeonK@bellsouth.net, to receive “Keynotes” and other SFGOCM publications online.