Message from the Vice President, Margaret Sarafoglou

Choir directors — please fill out the choir/chanter survey attached at the end of this newsletter with your dues so that we can keep accurate records. If you have already sent your dues, please fill out the form and send it on to Margaret so that we can keep the records in good order.

Floridian Epiphany

Tarpon Springs has once again outdone itself at the talented hands of Dr. Z. Joanna Hill. After the wonderful success of the antiphonal choirs that St. Nicholas got together last year for His All Holiness, Patriarch Bartholomew, the 2007 Blessing of the Waters was again lifted to new heights by a choir of between 70 and 80 voices, augmented by over twenty dozen participants from the Metropolis of Chicago. The warm (very warm) and sunny day was another contrast to 2006 where the temperatures barely got into the 50s. On Saturday, the morning air hung hot, steaming people who lined the downtown streets, gathered on the grass and clustered around the cathedral. Humidity was so heavy that the choir robes and police uniforms drooped, everyone’s forehead beaded with sweat. The dove representing the Holy Spirit arose newly liberated from its confines by dove bearer and choir member Kalliope Cortessis, 16, and hovered above Their Eminences +Archbishop Demetrios and +Metropolitan Alexios then, a homing pigeon, it returned to its trainer in New Port Richey. “I’d always watch at the Epiphany when they let the dove go and got goose bumps,” said Kalliope, whose mother, Renee Katsaras, was the dove bearer in 1984. “I feel really special about joining my mom.”

St. John the Baptist Church in Tampa was blessed with a visit from Archbishop Demetrios the next day and the choir was again augmented by many of the Chicagoans as well as many from around Florida. The choir’s chanting was very much appreciated by our blessed +Archbishop, as he made a special effort to inform me.

St. Catherine’s in West Palm Beach had a record crowd staying for lunch on Saturday, January 12. Under the direction of Jackson King of St. George’s Antiochian Orthodox Church in Coral Gables, most of the active Greek choirs were heavily represented. There were a few folks from other jurisdiction singing as well. Unfortunately, His Eminence +Metropolitan Alexios had an urgent last minute emergency and could not preside, so it was a non-hierarchal liturgy officiated by priests of many of the jurisdictions of Orthodoxy. The choir and Jackson received many kudos from all corners. Keep this in mind for next year!

Good to know —

Mary Alice Kays brought to my attention that in the back of the weekly choir directors’ book which indicates the order of service and tone of the week are references to the accessibility of recordings of many of the liturgies that we regularly sing, but with each individual part brought out. In other words, and for example only, if you happen to have a singer who sings the soprano part only, this tool will enable that singer to separate his part from the rest (which is in the background) and thus learn his part.

Great source —

Click on New Byzantine resource site for links to discussions about the use of English and Greek in Byzantine music, and more.

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. Please contribute your writing skills and thoughts! If you have any ideas, just email the editor, Leon Karahalis, at leonk@bellsouth.net or to any of your local Federation officers. Please have all contributions submitted 2 full weeks before the first of the month that the publication is due to be published.

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 you 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?
**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 skambour@knology.net.

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**I hope this format for Notable Notes and 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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name of Officer</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>John Mitchell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:johnpm2@hotmail.com">johnpm2@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>(813) 962-0551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>Mary Zervos</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nzervos@aol.com">nzervos@aol.com</a></td>
<td>(843) 795-0081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Margaret Sarafoglu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarafoglu@bellsouth.net">sarafoglu@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>(305) 661-7548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Nick Mermigas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmermigas@bbandt.com">mmermigas@bbandt.com</a></td>
<td>(704) 954-1748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Kathy Chapekis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:MemoriesByKathy@aol.com">MemoriesByKathy@aol.com</a></td>
<td>(561) 994-2487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarian</td>
<td>Toula Chininis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tina@bellsouth.net">tina@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>(336) 288-7968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast District Conference Supervisor</td>
<td>Elia Nicholas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tnicolasthegreek@netscape.com">tnicolasthegreek@netscape.com</a></td>
<td>(919) 408 3285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal District Conference Supervisor</td>
<td>Mary Koutroulias</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marykwho@yahoo.com">marykwho@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>(864) 579-2517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central District Conference Supervisor</td>
<td>Kay Nastopoulos</td>
<td><a href="mailto:k.nastopoulos@mindspring.com">k.nastopoulos@mindspring.com</a></td>
<td>(770) 321-6393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Florida District Conference Supervisor</td>
<td>Jim Kouchalakos</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jkouch@bellsouth.net">jkouch@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>(407) 855-3022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampa Bay District Conference Supervisor</td>
<td>Marilyn Neyland</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mneyland@tampabay.rr.com">mneyland@tampabay.rr.com</a></td>
<td>(813) 996-6121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Florida District Conference Supervisor (and Keynotes Editor)</td>
<td>Leon Karahalis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:leonk@bellsouth.net">leonk@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>(305) 285-1410 (home)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Conference</td>
<td></td>
<td>(to be announced – volunteer now!!!)</td>
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**Standing Committees**

- **Patriarch Athenagoras I Award**
  - Dr. Z. JoAnna Hill
greek.girl@knology.net (727) 934-0140

- **Music Selection and Scholarship 100**
  - Dr. G. Philip Thevaos
yellowjacketgt@aol.com (704) 843-3266

- **Database Manager**
  - Darice Norton
daricenorton@comcast.net (843) 697-1966

- **Webmaster - sfgocm.org**
  - Dr. Charles W. Joiner
    - Joiner@mac.com (864) 254-0150
CHOIR/CHANTER
SURVEY
2007

Church name ____________________________________________________ Email ________________________
Church address _________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________ phone ______________ fax _____ ___________

Director(s) _________________________________________________

Organist(s) _________________________________________________ Registration fees budgeted by Parish?

Chanter(s) __________________________________________________ _____yes _ ____no ___________

Priest(s) ____________________________________________________

CHOIR CONTACT: ________________________________________________

address ________________________________________________________________

phone _______________________ email __________________ ( Please note preferred method of contact by * )

CHANTER CONTACT:

address ________________________________________________________________

phone _______________________ email __________________ ( Please note preferred method of contact by * )

Is chanting in Greek, English, both, or mix? _____________________

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

Vespers _______ Heretismi_________ Average singers per liturgy _______

Paraklesis_________ Paraklesis_________ Weddings_________ Organ usage % _______

Funerals_________ Other _____________ Greek usage % _______ English usage % ______

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 _____ Vrionides _____

Bogdanos _____ Kypros _____ Pappas _____ Roubanis _____ Zervos _____

Desby _____ Lawrence _____ Petrovich _____ Sakellarides _____ Zes _____

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/news.

Would your choir still require paper copies by mail ? _______: and if so, how many? ______________

Please mail completed form to:
MARGARET SARAFOGLU, SFGOCM VICE PRESIDENT
6201 SW 118TH STREET
MIAMI, FL 33156
sarafoglut@bellsouth.net