



Dedicated to Music Appreciation, Education, Performance—Today & Tomorrow

February 2008

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President's Note

The 2008 year has begun with a bang—or should I say a HoNk*SquEak* ScRaTcH* BOOM! The Guild was out in fine force on January 12th, supporting the Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale's (RSOC) 12th year of HSSB, which provides hands-on musical experience for aspiring young musicians. Special kudos for the wonderful support from SEMYO, who regaled the attendees with a live rehearsal of their elegant Symphonic Winds Ensemble led by Guild member, Janine Yanisch, and to members of SEMSA who provided an energetic mini-violin concert as they sashayed down the hall, led by Guild member and "Pied Piper", Linda Thompson.

The Rochester Music Guild's mission to promote music appreciation, education, and performance is clearly evidenced in a number of activities. In addition to our volunteer support at the Civic Center HSSB event, the Guild has approved a grant to financially support the RSOC's "Sounds of the Symphony" program that will bring HSSB directly into area school classrooms. Our commitment to youth and education can also be seen in our co-sponsorship of the *Young Musicians Recital Series*. And, perhaps one of our most notable and cherished contributions to young performers is our Annual Music Guild Scholarship Competition, which will be well underway as this issue of *Bravo!* goes to print. Many thanks to Scholarship Co-Chairs, Jackie James and Chris Parisi, for all of their hard work and creative input in making this a very special event. Please join us February

17th at the 1st Presbyterian Church when we salute our youth at the Scholarship Winners' Recital.

The Guild's mission is further carried out by its active presence at all of the RSOC's concerts and in our community fundraising events. Special thanks to retiring Usher Chair, Faye Waldo, for her many years of service, and thanks to Nancy Slocumb for making such a smooth transition into this position. And kudos to Herberger's Chair, Gay Segar, for an outstanding Fall Community Day Sale, with special anticipation of a strong Spring event that will be held March 1st. Naomi Atrubin did a fine job with our Barnes and Noble Bookfair in November, and as the snow is quickly piling up outside, I'm sure we all look forward to the leadership of Carla Nelson and Barbara Eakins as they gear up for our Garden of Note fundraiser.

Music appreciation, education, and performance have truly been embodied in this year's *Lunch & Learn* series. From the highly informative and enchanting pre-concert talks by Maestro Lantz, to the masterful performances of cellist Paul Vance and pianist Deanne Mohr, to the educational and enlightening focus on music therapy by harpist Sister Mary Jo Baldus, Lunch & Learn Chair Jeff Webster has provided us with a unique potpourri of musical treats. (If you missed the first L&L of the year, you can hear excerpts of Maestro Lantz's presentation on our website!) Thanks to the outstanding work of Webmaster Rick Kiscaden and Newsletter Editor Joyce Lewis, the dates for upcoming musical, social, and fundraising events are all available on our website (rochestermusicguild.org), in our directory, and of course, in our *Bravo!*

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Upcoming Events

February 2, 2008
Scholarship Competition
First Presbyterian Church

February 2, 2008
RSOC Concert
Young at Heart
Mayo Civic Center
7:30 p.m.

February 11, 2008
Lunch & Learn
Maestro Jere Lantz
Charter House—11:30 a.m.

February 17, 2008
Scholarship Winners' Recital
First Presbyterian Church
2:00 p.m.

February 23, 2008
RSOC Concert
Russian Mystery
Autumn Ridge Church
7:30 p.m.

March 1, 2008
Herberger's Community Day

March 24, 2008
Lunch & Learn
Pianist Deanne Mohr
Zumbro Lutheran Church
11:30 a.m.

March 29, 2008
RSOC Concert
To Heaven with Mozart
Mayo Civic Center
7:30 p.m.

April 2 - June 1, 2008
Garden of Note Sale

April 12-13, 2008
RSOC Radiothon at KNXR

April 14, 2008
Lunch & Learn
Harpist Mary Jo Baldus
Zumbro Lutheran Church
11:30 a.m.

April 26, 2008
RSOC Concert
Guitarissimo
Mayo Civic Center
7:30 p.m.

May 3, 2008
Guild Annual Luncheon
Zumbro Lutheran Church

The myriad of activities mentioned above are all made possible through your generous support. By becoming a Guild member and by patronizing such events as Community Days, Garden of Note, or our Barnes and Noble Bookfair, you help all of us on the board achieve our organizational goals. As President of the Guild, I would love to encourage you to sample all that we have to offer—whether it's in attending a *Lunch & Learn* program, or Young Musicians or Scholarship Winners' Recital, or a membership social like the one held in my home last October, or by coming to this year's Annual Meeting. Feel free to become an usher, or to volunteer at *Radiothon*, HSSB, the Guild's Scholarship Competition, or at one of our fundraising events. And, invite a friend to join you so that you can spread the word about Guild. This is, after all, your organization, so I invite you to embrace it!

One final note: The Rochester Music Guild Board is a hard-working group and is made up of many more individuals who deserve recognition for their efforts. However, I decided it was time to save something to write about in our spring issue! Until then, stay warm!

Marilyn Riederer, President

Our Youth Perform

If you enjoy listening to the young musical talent in our area, there are plenty of opportunities left this year to support our young musicians!

The Young Musicians of Southeastern Minnesota recital series for teenage classical musicians has two recitals coming up soon: **February 15, 2008** and **March 7, 2008**. Both will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church at 7:00 p.m.

In addition, the Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras (SEMYO) has three concerts remaining in the year. The Chamber Strings, Symphonic Winds, and Philharmonic ensembles will perform at 2:00 p.m. on **March 2, 2008** at the Byron Middle School Performing Arts Center, located at 601 4th Street NW in Byron. The same ensembles will perform again on **May 11, 2008**, at Century High School at 2:00 p.m. And at 4:00 p.m. on the same date, the SEMYO Concert Orchestra will perform at Century High School.

Joyce Lewis, Publications Chair



**Herberger's
Community Day
Saturday, March 1, 2008**

Double your money and help fund music education and scholarships !

Herberger's Community Day Sale provides a great opportunity to support music in Rochester while also shopping for gifts for family and friends, or for yourself.

By purchasing a \$5.00 coupon booklet for Herberger's Community Day on March 1st, you will receive a coupon for **\$10.00** off an item priced at \$10.00 or more. In addition to the \$10.00 coupon, there are **8** additional coupons for 20% off. All coupons are good on most regular priced and sale items.

And the best part is that every penny of your \$5.00 donation goes *directly* to the Guild. Thanks to your generosity, RMG received over \$2600.00 from this program in 2007, which enabled us to provide funds to the Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale as well as to finance music scholarships.

Not available on March 1st? Herberger's graciously allows pre-sales for the four days preceding Community Day. The shopper selects the desired merchandise and leaves those purchases along with credit card information at one of the "At Your Service" desks. The merchandise is rung up as a sale on March 1st and can then be picked up anytime over the next few days following the sale.

To buy booklets in advance or to pick up several to sell, please contact Gay Segar (288-3158) or any RMG Board member. Please consider either purchasing a booklet or making a donation of \$5.00 to support RMG's mission. If we sell over 50 booklets, Herberger's provides a generous cash bonus. We appreciate your help as we attempt to meet this goal!

Mailing address:

Rochester Music Guild
PO Box 5802
Rochester MN 55903

Gay Segar, Member-at-Large

2008 Young Musicians Scholarship Competition Saturday, February 2

On Saturday, 50 students will come to First Presbyterian Church in Rochester for the Rochester Music Guild's 2008 Young Musicians Scholarship Competition. The 44th annual competition, which this year has been reorganized and moved to a new venue, is an opportunity for talented area musicians in grades 8 through 12 to compete for scholarships totalling nearly \$5000 in four divisions:

Carter Douglas Memorial PIANO Master Class Division

Georgia Daniel Memorial STRINGS Division

Sally Duffy Memorial VOICE Division

Carl Schroedel Memorial WINDS Division

The four divisions are named for noted Rochester musicians who spent much of their lives involved in music – performing, teaching, and promoting music and the arts in our community.



Carter Douglas was a gifted young pianist whose developing talent touched many in our community in her short life.



Georgia Daniel worked for over 22 years in the Rochester Public Schools, teaching students and directing school orchestras.



Sally Duffy, a two-time President of the Rochester Music Guild, sang with the Rochester Symphony Orchestra Chorale and had a passion for music and the arts.



Carl Schroedel, who served on both the Rochester Music Guild Board and the Rochester Orchestra and Chorale Board, was a performer himself as well as a dedicated supporter of the arts.

The scholarships are funded from memorial funds established in their names, from Rochester Music Guild monies, and from the Judy and Jim Sloan Foundation.

In this year's competition, we are pleased to have four very distinguished judges:

Kent McWilliams - Associate Professor of Music at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

An award winner at competitions in Canada and Portugal, McWilliams has enjoyed a successful performing career, having performed in over a dozen countries. Currently, McWilliams performs and records chamber music as a member of the Meridian Trio and conducts performance and pedagogy workshops across North America. The Guild will be utilizing his teaching skills in the piano division's new master class format as he will work with each student following his or her performance in an open audition setting.

Celine Leathead - First violinist in the Minnesota Orchestra and faculty member at the Fine Arts Interdisciplinary Resource School in Crystal, Minnesota.

A native of Montreal, Canada, Ms. Leathead has performed chamber works by Beethoven, Dvorák and Mozart at Sommerfest concerts, and played the Brahms Piano Quintet with Emanuel Ax in 1996. Before joining the Minnesota Orchestra in 1994, she was a member of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and associate concertmaster of the Alabama Symphony.

Mary Martz - Instructor in Music at St. Olaf College.

Ms. Martz has an extensive performance background in opera theatre with the Minnesota Opera, Minnesota Opera Touring Company, other regional companies, oratorio, recitals, and many years of classroom and private voice instruction.

Dana Maeda - Instructor in Music at St. Olaf College.

Ms. Maeda performs with our own Rochester Symphony Orchestra as well as the Dolce Wind Quintet and WindWorks Woodwind Quintet. She is active as a free-lance performer in the Twin Cities area and has previously served on the faculty of Bethel University and Crown College.

Jackie James and Chris Parisi, Scholarship Co-Chairs

Scholarship Winners Recital

Sunday, February 17, 2008

2:00 pm

(Please note new location this year)

First Presbyterian Church

512 Third Street SW

Rochester



We invite you to join us on the 17th to hear the winners of this year's scholarship competition as they showcase their musical talents. A reception to greet the students will follow the recital and awards presentation.

Jackie James and Chris Parisi, Scholarship Co-Chairs

Thank You, Members!

We want to thank the members of Rochester Music Guild for their many contributions. These contributions support our goals of music appreciation, education and performance in the Lunch & Learn Series, the Guild's Young Musicians Scholarship Competition, HoNk*SqUeAk*ScRaTcH*BoOm, the Young Musicians of Southeastern Minnesota Recitals, and the Rochester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale concerts.

None of this would be possible without your generosity!

In mid-November, a *Directory* was sent to 191 members. Since that time, we have added 10 more members. Please welcome these new or renewing members and add their names to your *2007-2008 Rochester Music Guild Directory*:

Bonde, Denise and Gerald
1441 Westhill Drive SW
Rochester, MN 55902
281-2890
gerald.bonde@att.net

Caskey, Kay
2645 Riverside Lane NE
Rochester, MN 55906
289-3158

Daube, Jasper and Cynthia
1130 6th Street SW
Rochester, MN 55902
288-7135

Hollins, Delcome
211 Second Street NW, #1004
Rochester, MN 55901
292-9433

Petit, Ann and Larry
Petit Music
2765 Commerce Drive NW
Rochester, MN 55901
251-7889
ann@petitmusic.com

Schutt, M.D., Ann H.
600 Fourth Street SW, #105
Rochester, MN 55902
288-8488

Taylor, Jennifer
402 31st Street NE, #117
Rochester, MN 55906
287-8505
taylor.jennifer@fpcrochester

DeAnn Spencer, Membership Chair

IBM Equipment "On Demand"

Are you a current or former IBM employee who volunteers for RSOC functions? IBM volunteers who donate at least 40 hours using the online tools become eligible for community grants. In 2005, community organizations and schools where IBM employees and retirees volunteer received more than \$2 million in IBM technology through the program.

Please document your volunteer hours in IBM's "On Demand Community" program, to help the Rochester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale earn donated equipment from IBM. For questions about participation in this program, please contact the RSOC office at 286-8742, or your IBM employee representative.

Laurie Mona, RSOC Marketing Director

Garden of Note Benefit

In spite of the cold and snowy weather we've had recently, we promise Spring is on the way! As you plan and prepare for your spring plantings, remember to plan to take advantage of our annual Garden of Note sale. We will once again give you an opportunity to support our music scholarship program and our pledge to the Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale by using our Garden of Note vouchers for all your prom, graduation and spring planting needs.

The vouchers cost \$25 each and are redeemable anytime before the expiration date shown on the voucher for \$25 worth of merchandise at either Sargent's location. The Rochester Music Guild makes 20% on each voucher sold. The funds are used to provide music scholarships for Rochester students and to underwrite one of the Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale concerts. This is a win win situation for everyone involved! You get full value for your flower dollars, the Guild makes money to fund student music scholarships, and the community has the opportunity to enjoy a great concert.

Vouchers will be available from Carla Nelson (281-0162 or CarlaNelson@CarlaNelson.org) or from Barbara Eakins (288-8700 or eakinsbf@aol.com) or from volunteer RMG sellers.

Carla Nelson and Barbara Eakins, Co-Chairs

**Cathy Arhelger CD Sales
Benefit Rochester Music Guild**

Local recording artist Cathy Arhelger is selling her CD, "Rejoice! A Treasury of Christmas Carols for Flute and Piano" as a fundraiser for the Rochester Music Guild.

To hear samples online, go to Cathy's web site fluteinstructor.com and click on **Buy Amazon**.

To purchase a CD, call Cathy at 507-281-6371, or you may order "Rejoice!" by mail: send a check for \$19 (payable to *Cathy Arhelger Flute Studio*) to 5723 45th Avenue NW, Rochester, MN 55901 (includes tax and shipping). Be sure to enclose your return address and mention the Guild fund-raiser. The Rochester Music Guild will receive \$5.00 per disc.

**Rochester Music Guild
Annual Luncheon Meeting**

You are invited to the forty-fourth annual luncheon meeting of the Rochester Music Guild on Saturday, May 3, 2008, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The luncheon will be held at Zumbro Lutheran Church, 624 3rd Avenue SW.

You will have an opportunity not only to hear a mini-recital by the 2008 RMG scholarship winners, but also to help determine the direction of our group. The cost is \$10.00 per person.

Please reply by April 28th to Sue Spackman at 288-7879, or to momspackman@hotmail.com.

Sue Spackman, President-Elect

HoNk*SQuEAk*ScRaTcH*BOOM!

On Saturday, January 12, the sounds of "Honk, Squeak, Scratch, Boom" resounded throughout the Mayo Civic Center. The members and board of the Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale assisted 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students as they tried out several musical instruments.

This was the 12th annual event for this program, which is designed to help students experience the feel and sounds of musical instruments through mini-music lessons. Professional musicians were on hand with instruments such as brass, woodwinds, strings, and percussion.

Tom Miller, our RSOC contact person for the event, commented "almost 350 kids took an average of over 6 lessons each, and 2200 lessons in a single day is a LOT of educational opportunity for the musicians of tomorrow. This would not have happened without the excellent help from the members of the Guild. We are most grateful for that."

As always, members of the Rochester Music Guild helped in both the morning and afternoon sessions. Thank you to all the volunteers: Amy and Steve Adamson, Cathy Arhelger, Catherine Benson, Jean Gutschenritter, Nancy Kampmeier, Phyllis Layton, Marilyn Riederer, Bob Sande, Carol Schroedel, Judy and Jim Sloan, Sue Spackman, Byron Stadvold, Linda Thompson, Ruth Van Vugt, Pauline Walle, Sarabeth Watson, and Janine Yanisch. And a special thank you to volunteer Esther Pfeifer, who recruits retired teachers every year to help as additional volunteers. Helping out again this year were retired teachers Pat Friederichs, Marlys Ostby, Norma Randby, Karen Reopelle, Barb Seydel, and Libby Witzeman. New volunteers this year were retired teachers Colleen Arnold, Sandra Knopp, and Joanne Schenck. Thanks to those teachers, who felt that this was an excellent program for our schools.

All of our volunteers have provided a wonderful experience for our young people, who will be the foundation of the future music programs in our Rochester community.

Marilyn Riederer, President

RSOC Pre-Concert Events

Pre-concert receptions are held before each RSOC concert beginning at 6 p.m. Come and enjoy a cash bar plus gourmet appetizers courtesy of Somerby Golf Community. Jere Lantz will provide an insider's view to the performance at 6:50 p.m.

No reservations are needed. There is no charge for the reception, but RSOC asks that you consider making a donation. These donations will be contributed in their entirety to a charity announced in advance of each pre-concert reception.

Donations given at the "Young at Heart" pre-concert reception will go to the *Go Red for Women* charity of the American Heart Association. Charities that will benefit from future pre-concert receptions will be announced prior to each concert on the RSOC website rochestersymphony.org.

RSOC thanks sponsors Mayo Civic Center and Somerby Golf Community for their generous support of this event.

New this year is *Symphony 101*, a fun new interactive event designed for first-time orchestra concert-goers. At 5:00 p.m. on February 2, participants will gather for wine and gourmet appetizers in the luxurious 26th floor Penthouse Suite of the Bridgestreet Broadway Plaza, and learn insider's tips to getting the most out of the concert experience as well as a private lecture by RSOC Music Director and Conductor Jere Lantz, with his always entertaining insights into the evening's concert program.

They will enjoy the concert together in a special block of prime seating, and take home a special goody bag of treats. They'll also be entered in grand prize drawings for a pair of RSOC 2008-09 season tickets or a free night's stay for six in a luxurious two-room suite at the Bridgestreet Broadway Plaza.

The cost is \$40 per person, and includes the concert ticket (\$25 value). As space is limited, this event may well be sold out by the time you receive this newsletter.

To find out if any seats are still available, call (507) 28-MUSIC or stop into the RSOC box office at 400 S Broadway, Suite 100, Rochester. RSOC will also be taking a waiting list of names for future events.

Laurie Mona, RSOC Marketing Director



RSOC Aspiring Conductor Contest Candidates Will Be Announced

The second annual "Aspiring Conductor" contest will kick off with the announcement of five candidates from our community at the February 2 Rochester Symphony Orchestra Chorale concert. Five "aspiring conductors" will compete for the chance to conduct the Symphony Orchestra and Chorale at the April 26 "Guitarissimo" concert.

Each dollar raised by a contestant constitutes one vote. The contestant with the most "votes" will earn the opportunity to conduct at the April 26 concert. Last year the contest raised nearly \$20,000. The winner, Carla Nelson from Olmsted Financial Group, conducted a piece at the spring concert.

The RSOC Aspiring Conductor contest is a concept used in other cities around the country. The La Crosse Symphony Orchestra and Chorale *Conductor Wannabe* contest has been very successful.

Be sure to support the candidate of your choice. Contribution envelopes will be available from the candidates, at the concerts, or at the RSOC office at 400 South Broadway. You may also "vote" by credit card by calling the RSOC office at 286-8742.

Sharon Schmoll and Amy Adamson
RSOC Aspiring Conductor Contest Co-Chairs

**Lunch & Learn
Spring Programs**

We hope that you will find the time to come to these programs that are truly fun and informative. They are free and open to all and you will learn things about music that will enrich your life and the lives of those around you. Do take part and bring friends. Lunch & Learn programs are held at Zumbro Lutheran Church and at Charter House.

Lunch is an option at any of these programs and costs \$8.50. To reserve a lunch and let us know that you are coming, please call Esther Pfeifer at 507-282-5383.

February 11, 2008



Maestro Jere Lantz returns to Charter House on Monday, February 11. We are quite fortunate to have such a wonderful musician, conductor, and storyteller as Maestro Lantz.

Jere will weave a story of Russian Mystery for us that is sure to please. The Russians developed their own style of music in the 19th century that is simply distinctive of their culture. Many say it is a bit strange and Winston Churchill described it as "a riddle... wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma." It truly is.

Maestro Lantz will play some music and discuss four different Russian composers: Tchaikovsky, Borodin, Prokofiev, and Shostakovich.

The program will be at Charter House, Northview Room on the 3rd Floor. Soup & Salad Lunch is available at 11:30 a.m. with program at 12:15 p.m. Make lunch reservations with Esther Pfeifer (507-282-5383).

March 24, 2008



On March 24th, Lunch & Learn returns to Zumbro Lutheran Church and features Professor of Music and international pianist Deanne Mohr.

Dr. Mohr is a native of Canada. She received her bachelor's degree in music from the University of Regina (with great distinction). She earned her doctorate in Piano Performance from the University of Montreal.

Dr. Mohr has performed at the internationally renowned Banff Center for the Arts Summer Program. Dr. Mohr is an accomplished soloist. Featured recitals include The Montreal Debut Concert Series, which has been recorded for broadcast by Radio Canada, CBC, and soloist at the Banff Summer Festival. Dr. Mohr is currently Associate Professor at Winona State University where she directs the Piano Program.

Deanne will present a *Piano Recital: A Brief History and Personal Reflections*. She will perform works by Cesar Franck and Frank Martin. We hope that you will attend this fine program. It is a great chance to listen to one of the best pianists around.

Lunch will be served at Zumbro Lutheran Church at 11:15 a.m., with program to follow at 12:15 p.m. Make lunch reservations with Esther Pfeifer (507-282-5383).

April 21, 2008



The final Lunch & Learn of the season is again at Zumbro Lutheran Church and will feature Harpist Sister Mary Jo Baldus.

Sister Mary Jo uses the harp in her practice of Music Therapy. Music Therapy is an established health profession in which music is used by a qualified therapist such as Sister Mary Jo to effect positive changes in the psychological, physical, cognitive, or social functioning of individuals.

Sister Mary Jo will describe and demonstrate just what is Music Therapy, how it is used with a patient, and the probable beneficial effects of the treatment. In addition, Sister Mary Jo is a great musician and one that all will enjoy listening to. Do come and enjoy.

Lunch will be served at Zumbro Lutheran Church at 11:15 a.m., with program to follow at 12:15 p.m. Make lunch reservations with Esther Pfeifer (507-282-5383).

Jeff Webster, Lunch & Learn Chair



Board of Directors

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Meet RMG Board Member Jackie James

Better the second time around?



Jackie James first came onto the Rochester Music Guild board as Scholarship Chair back in the early '80s, during the exciting time when Jere Lantz first came to Rochester. Last year, after a 25-year hiatus, she returned to the board as Scholarship Co-Chair with Chris Parisi. Jackie and Chris have reorganized the scholarship awards (see their article on page 3) and moved the competition and

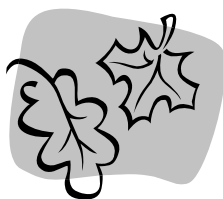
recital to a new venue this year -- First Presbyterian Church in downtown Rochester.

Jackie and Chris met some years ago when their children were active together in musical activities for Rochester youth. They have remained friends over the years, and teaming up as scholarship co-chairs in the fall of 2006 seemed a natural thing to do.

Jackie grew up in Wilmette, IL, one of Chicago's northern suburbs. She came to Minnesota to attend St. Olaf College in Northfield where she completed her nursing degree. She later moved to Rochester when she married her husband, Med, a radiologist at Mayo Clinic. They have two daughters, Sarah and Katie; and just this year, a new granddaughter, Greta.

Jackie is currently on the staff of the Honors Choirs of Southeast Minnesota, having previously served on its board in the late '90s. Throughout her life, she has always been involved in music in some way. She plays both piano and organ and helps out at her church at times. She has also watched and supported her girls as they participated in numerous musical activities – piano lessons, Honors Choirs, church choir and handbells, SEMYO, and even the Rochester Music Guild Scholarship Competition!

Joyce Lewis



Fall Membership Social

In the late afternoon on a beautiful autumn day, the Rochester Music Guild held an appreciation reception for its members at the beautiful home of Dr. Steven and Marilyn Riederer.

The RMG extends a special thank you to the Riederer family. All in attendance also remember how Steve Riederer entertained us on his grand piano with pieces from Schubert and Chopin. We all enjoyed the lovely music.

Thanks to the RMG board members who provided the delicious appetizers and sweets. It was a marvelous chance to meet and converse with other music lovers. Approximately twenty-five attended.

The Guild extends a special thanks to Glenn and Ella VanLaningham, Kay Weaver, and Marilyn Riederer for their organization of this event.

Majel Ann Hall, Past President

Meet RMG Board Member Chris Parisi



Christine Parisi, better known as "Chris" to all of us, was born in Herkimer, New York, the youngest of three children. Her parents were dairy farmers. As an active 4-H member, she participated in cooking, sewing, and gardening activities. Although she had no formal music training, her mother sang and her father played the guitar, at times among the cows since they believed

happy cows produced more milk. The cows also enjoyed music from the radio while they munched their oats.

Chris attended Allegheny College in Meadville, PA, and went on to get her Master of Social Work at Syracuse University. She met Joe while working at the University Hospital in Syracuse as a medical social worker where she was in a department for high risk maternity. She later worked in pediatric hematology during her ten years at the hospital.

Chris and Joe began their marriage 35 years ago in Syracuse, where son David was born. A year after his birth they moved to Washington, DC, where Joe served at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center as a neuropathologist. Thomas was born just 14 months after David. Both sons were trained in the Suzuki method, David on the piano and Thomas on violin. David continues to reside in Rochester, working at the Rochester Art Center. His avocation is music, percussion and keyboard with the Rochester Bagpipers, occasionally playing for weddings or other special events. Tom graduated with degrees both in violin and biology. He plays with the Rochester Symphony Orchestra when able, but spends much time in Arizona where he continues to take violin lessons.

From a family involved in volunteer services, it was a given that Chris would perform many volunteer services in the community. She has been a member on several boards, taught Sunday school classes, volunteered for the school system, and currently assists at St. Marys Hospital. For more than ten years she has served in various capacities for the Rochester Music Guild, currently as co-chair for the Scholarship Committee with Jackie James. Chris and Jackie met when Jackie's two girls and Chris' two boys were all participating in SEMYO and the Honors Choir.

Chris believes music has a very special and important place in our society. It is the glue binding much that we do – essential at weddings, graduations, funerals, sporting events, and all artistic functions. Chris would like to see as much public funding for music as for sports. While sheets of ice are important for both the young and old who play hockey, a new concert hall for the arts would be an equally important arena for a full appreciation of the musical arts of all types.

Chris wanted to add a special "Thanks" to the Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale, and the Allegro School of Dance for the outstanding performance in December of the *Nutcracker*. "*It was delightful*", stated Chris.

Glenn VanLaningham

Bravo!

Rochester Music Guild
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Bravo! is the official newsletter of the Rochester Music Guild.
It is published to inform members and friends about our activities,
which support and encourage music, music, music.

Our membership year runs from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008.
The Rochester Music Guild welcomes all people who love music!

Please note the following corrections to dates published in your *2007-2008 Rochester Music Guild Membership Directory*. These dates were either incorrect or not yet known at the time that the Membership Directory was published.

Herberger's Spring Community Day	March 1
RSOC Radiothon at KNXR	April 12-13
Guild Annual Luncheon	May 3

***Remember to check out our website
rochestermusicguild.org***

Webmaster: Rick Kiscaden

Sponsored by

