



SMONCT NOTES

Vol. X

May, 2009

No. 8

Presidential Notes

As the last month of my tenure as President arrives I find satisfaction in knowing that God was gracious to us and allowed us a great ministry year. So at the end of my term may I share some sentiments from my heart that were penned by Matthew Henry, which I trust will encourage and sustain you in the months ahead. Thank you for your allowing me to represent you this year – an honor I do not take lightly.

"If my opportunities as a Minister should be this year continued, I commit my studies, and ministerial labors at home and abroad, to the blessing of God; having afresh consecrated them all to His service and honor, earnestly desiring mercy of the Lord to be faithful and successful.

If I should be this year at any time tried with doubts concerning my duty, I commit myself to the divine conduct, with an unbiased desire, praying to know what God will have me to do, with a fixed resolution by His grace to follow His direction in the integrity of my heart.

If this year I should be disturbed or molested in the exercise of my ministry, if I should be silenced, or otherways suffer for well-doing, I commit the keeping of my soul to God as to a faithful Creator; depending upon Him to guide me in my call to suffer, and to make that clear, and to preserve me from perplexing snares; depending upon Him to support and comfort me under my sufferings, and to bring glory to Himself out of them, and then welcome His whole will."

(Philippians 3:14)

Neal Terwilliger

Larry Collins is our new President-Elect

Those of you who know me well know I'm never at a loss for words! But I have to say I was speechless at being elected President-elect. What a great privilege to serve this outstanding organization of dedicated men! Thank you for this honor. I consider many of you close friends and mentors. In fact, it was membership in this organization and encouragement from many of you that encouraged my return to ministry and has seen me through some difficult times. Our ministry to each other is almost as important as our ministry to our churches. I've seen us in action at our best - our concerts which are actually worship services; our overseas tours that are evangelism events; and prayers of support for each other. What an honor to be a part of this band of brothers.

Even now, I am beginning work on our annual SMONCT Retreat in August. Fortunately, I helped JK Weger two years ago and John Bell last year, so I'm familiar with how things work. Be sure to mark your calendars right now, and protect August 20-21. You won't want to miss this important gathering and preparation time. It's time to think now about who your roommate will be for the Retreat if you plan to stay in the motel. Last year, the motel filled up in about 48 hours! Rooms in the motel are doubles - two people to a room. Last year we had 13 singles - one person in a room. I surveyed many of the 30 who slept in the Lodge last year and most were there because there wasn't room for them in the motel. In order to maximize the use of the motel and to allow more people to stay there, we will hold any applications for singles until July 27 - 3 weeks before the Retreat. If there are still rooms available, then we will fill the singles. Fortunately we have more motel rooms available to us this year than last. But I urge you, if you want to be assured of a place in the motel, *get a roommate*! Setting the example, all of the officers will have roommates.

Roomrates are:

Camp Motel: Double Occupancy: \$26

Camp Motel: Single Occupancy: \$52

Lodge: \$15 (you provide your own linens)

Larry Collins

DIRECTIONS

Thank you for praying for John Bell and me

as we worked for you in Ukraine April 20-28. I had thought that this mission pre-trip might be quite different from past trips in light of the fact that we were not going with Ed Seabough and Travelink as our travel guides. But it was very similar because John and I not only enjoyed free housing and free meals at the hospitality of Michael Gott International, but more importantly, they had connections to every key person we needed to meet.

John will have a wonderful picture review of our travels and plans at the Columbus Avenue concert in Waco. We will be able to give you (one year out) the most complete itinerary in the history of our international ministries. You've already seen it in email form and posted on our website. There will be tweaking of that itinerary all year long, but the major elements are set. This evening I gave permission to Jan and Michael to add a second concert the evening of our final day in Ukraine. We will give a 5:00 concert and 7:00 concert on the final Thursday because the pastor was convinced that we would be turning away hundreds if we did not add a concert. The addition of the concert just means that we will have the opportunity for more individuals to turn to Christ.

Our plan to take the Viking River Cruise ship was dramatically confirmed as we bounced along the always interesting highways in Ukraine. Also, the lack of adequate restaurants that could handle large crowds quickly made our decision to have our own floating restaurant another good decision.

The pastors and people of the churches of Ukraine are wonderful. We heard tremendously impressive choirs and soloists in a number of churches. We will have to be at our finest to challenge these fine musicians. We are in for a tremendous trip. The Lord went before us in every sense as we made decisions about concert halls, churches, and how to use our energies and resources in the best way. Thank you for your prayers as we worked. They definitely had a great impact as the Lord led us in every way possible.

Can't wait to tell you more at the Waco concert!

Don Blackley

May Rehearsal Schedule

- 1:30 Instrumental Rehearsal
- 2:00 Rehearsal
- 3:15 Break
- 3:45-5:15 Rehearsal
- 5:15 Dinner
- 6:25 Rehearsal with guest choirs
- 6:48 Pre-concert music,
- 7:00 Concert.

April Attendance Report

What a great time of worship in Granbury. It is certainly one of the joys in my life to sing with this tremendous group of men as we lift our voice in praise to the King!

Total in attendance at Granbury is 115.

This includes a couple I know of who were there who did not pull their name tag. Remember guys, attendance is checked primarily by you pulling your name tag. When a name tag is gone, I know you were at the concert. So, please take a moment when you arrive to find your name tag and put it on BEFORE you take a seat in the choir loft or orchestra section.

At any given concert, if you arrive late (ie. - just in time for supper), then email me and let me know so I can make sure you are counted. If we have a certain number of guys in attendance throughout the year, we receive a stimulus check from the federal government. LOL, just kidding! This does however, give us a way of keeping tabs on those who have been absent so we can check on them and see if everything is okay.

Bill Howell

The Singing Men of North Central Texas is a ministry of



2009-2010 Concert Dates

September 17

FBC Killeen, Bruce Berry, Host

October 15

FBC Sunnyvale, Michael Bridges,

Michael Stuart, Hosts

November 20

FBC College Station, Bill Killion, Host

Park Central BC, Steve Maxwell, Host

January 14

FBC Terrell, Brent Cheatham, Host

February 11

FBC Stephenville, Michael Beatty,

Derrel Thompson, Hosts

March 4

Southmont BC, Larry Newberry,

Ed Miller, Hosts

FBC Bedford, Larry Colins, Host

April 15

Dallas Baptist University, Ed Spann, Host

May 6, 2007

The Heights BC, Trent Blackley, Host

REPERTOIRE SUGGESTIONS

Remember, you can now bring suggestions for repertoire for the 2009-2010 season. We will receive suggestions through the May 7 concert. Officers will make selection the following day, May 8.

Please bring 12 copies of music, and if at all possible a recording of the tune you are suggesting. It does not have to be in TTBB voicing. It is fine for it to be an SATB recording. It would very helpful for it to be in cd format. As always, we will be looking for a wide variety of music embracing many styles.

If it is not set in TTBB, we can always have that done by some of our own men or even jobbed out to other arrangers. Please give all submissions to your president, Neal Terwilliger or director, Don Blackley.

SMONCT Officers 2009-2010

Director	Don Blackley
President	John Bell
President-Elect.....	Larry Collins
Pianist.....	Charles McLeod
Vocal Coach	Scot Cameron
Instrumental	Jonathan Aragon
	Rob Platter
Handbells.....	Glen VanLandingham
Publications	Ed Miller
Sound	Bruce Berry
Treasurer	Derrel Thompson
Secretary	Bill Howell
Enlistment	Chuck Bridwell
Librarian	Lynn Christie
Webmaster	Stan Ford
Media	John Bell
Marketing	Cal Brim

From the Turtle Keeper



Our April offering was: \$4,412.41
CD sales were: \$2,305.00
Total for the night \$6,719.41
Our current balance on hand is now \$85,839.39

Just a reminder that we are planning on making a payment of \$800 to the Gotts in June for the \$1,000 payment that is due. You will still need to send in \$200 for that payment. We hope to make more payments later, but that will be determined later.

If you are finding yourself fully funded via your church or other source, or don't need the SMOT stipend money, please let me know so that we can apply that money for others that may have greater need.

Derrel Thompson

From Our Host

Columbus Avenue Baptist Church
1300 Columbus Ave, Waco, TX 76701

