



Overtures & Encores

Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra League

January 2012
Vol. 17 Issue 5

Volunteers supporting today's symphony and tomorrow's musicians.

General Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2012
10:30 a.m. - Registration,
11:00 a.m. - Meeting/Program
12:00 - Lunch

The Beacon Club
Price \$18.00

Program

Dr. Barry Ross
&

Dr. Steve Kamerling

The Strings of Our Heart

2 Choice Menu

Penne Kalamazoo

Fresh Asparagus,
Button Mushrooms & Red Peppers
sautéed in olive oil
Tossed with Penne Pasta & Cheese
or

Chicken Dijoanise

Sautéed Pecan Encrusted
Chicken Breast with
Honey Dijon Mustard Sauce
House Salad with House Dressing
Fresh Baked Rolls and Butter
Vanilla Ice Cream with
Chocolate Sauce
Tea - Coffee or Soda

Reservations

by Tuesday, February 7th
to Janet Thieme * 743-7140
email: jsthieme@aol.com

President's Notes

Mary Klenow, *President*

Hello Friends!

Hoping you had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends.
Wishing you a wonderful, healthy and happy New Year!

The next few months KSOL will be busy preparing for our exciting **Spring Homes Tour**. We will be in the very capable hands of Mary Lam-Rodrigues and Jessica Maronto. We hope you will join in the fun of project planning with your fellow KSOL friends!

Please remember that we encourage you to bring guests and introduce them to KSOL at a general meeting. KSOL has much to offer its members, including educational and entertaining speakers at our general meetings. Remember we do need you to volunteer your talents to assist with fund-raising projects, staffing the Instrument Petting Zoo and volunteering in the KSO office.

"Grab your sweetheart" and plan to attend our February general meeting, it falls on Valentine's Day!



February 2012 Program: *The Strings of Our Heart* Janis Clark, *Program Chair*

Our February 14th, Valentine's Day, meeting will feature the romantic renditions of guitarist and vocalist Steve Kamerling along with the soaring melodies of our own Dr. Barry Ross on violin. They will perform some of our favorite songs, from Gershwin to Lady Gaga, in a style that is totally unique and guaranteed to warm hearts even in chilly February.

fund-raising concert to benefit the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony. Dr. Ross can be heard regularly performing jazz and classical music in Kalamazoo.

Dr. Ross delighted KSOL members last year, sharing his joy, passion and love for music at our February meeting. We could not think of a better Valentine's Day gift to ourselves than to have him back again this year. Mark your calendars and reserve your spot today!

Dr. Steve Kamerling has been a guitarist, bassist (acoustic & electric) and a vocalist for over 40 years. He has performed with top 40 and jazz combos in Kalamazoo, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Chicago and Lexington at numerous clubs, festivals and private venues. He specializes in jazz and pop standards and is strongly influenced by New Orleans style of jazz. Steve has a diverse repertoire and currently arranges music for Lana Hawkins Jazz Quartet and is her regular guitarist. He has a PhD in Pharmacology and works for Pfizer as a Research Scientist.

Dr. Barry Ross is Assistant Conductor of the Kalamazoo Symphony and Professor Emeritus of Music at Kalamazoo College where he founded the Kalamazoo College and Community Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra. He has performed as solo and chamber violinist as well as conductor throughout the Midwest. For 32 years he appeared as Concertmaster of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, and since 1987 has served as Assistant Conductor of that orchestra. In 2006 he formed the String Orchestra of Kalamazoo for young musicians, and in 2008 Ross founded BeethovenFest!, an annual all-volunteer



Dr. Barry Ross
&
Dr. Steve Kamerling

Education/Scholarship

The **Kushner and Company Instrument Petting Zoo** will be hitting the road again on January 25. These winter months are filled with zoos, so we are hoping that any snow days do not fall on zoo days, as happened to us three times last year!

We will be visiting 31 schools in 2011-12, which puts us on the road 33 days. Those numbers are the same as last year; however, last year we saw 86 classes of students, and this year, we are scheduled to see 92 classes. The average class size is between 24 and 25 students per class, so that means we will be sharing the zoo with approximately 2,250 students this year!

We completed three zoos last fall, so that leaves 30 days of zoos left to do from January 25 to May 11, 2012. The picture shows docents and students on December 8, 2011, at the Tree of Life Christian School on Lake Street in the former St. Joseph school. Their school newsletter had this to say about their first-ever zoo experience: *"The kids had an amazing time experiencing many instruments they had never seen or played before. It is exciting to see children giving glory to God through music and instruments!"*

Once again, I have had a tremendous response from the do-

Chicago Bus Trip Retrospective

Thirty-eight KSOL members and guests traveled to Chicago on November 16 for a fabulous day of experiences in that great city.

We shopped on State Street (some favorites were Macy's and Nordstrom's Rack) and up and down Michigan Avenue to Crate and Barrel, Nordstrom's, Brooks Brothers and more. Three of us found a great store called "Marbles, the Store for the Brain" that carries all kinds of games to enhance learning, creativity, and memory. We bought gifts for many of those on our lists at that one store. What fun! Handbags and boots and gifts for grandchildren were among other prize purchases.

At least two members found time to visit the Art Institute and others went on an architectural tour. Some met friends and

Spring Homes Tour

It's time to think about our **Spring Project on May 18-20, 2012**. The KSOL will be hosting a **Country Homes Tour** in the Alamo Township area. We are very excited to share with you that we have five homeowner commitments at this time. Thanks to the efforts of Dan Kilgore of Kilgore Designs (whose home will also be featured on the tour), we have been successful in acquiring these commitments. In addition, KSOL members Mary Klenow, Babs Herman, and Jane Baley have been instrumental in making this project possible.

To report, we had our first Homeowners Meeting on October 9th at the home of Dan and Sue Kilgore. While meeting and mingling with neighbors, participating owners enjoyed a light reception prepared by KSOL members. At the meeting, homeowners were informed about what to expect for the tour and had the opportunity to ask questions. We were

Jane Hoogerheide, Education/scholarship Chair

cents, with around 50 of them volunteering to staff the zoos. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who make this outreach possible.

Last, but certainly not least, congratulations to Liz (KSO Director of Education) and Brandon Youker on the birth of baby Bryce, who made his appearance on December 30!



Jo Arnold & Anne van Giessen, Chicago Bus Trip Co-Chairs

relatives for visits. Several had an early lunch at the beautifully decorated Walnut Room at Macy's before continuing to shop.

Thirteen of us met for dinner at Rosebud's, a wonderful, traditional Italian restaurant on the corner of Rush and Superior where we had delicious meals and enjoyed being with friends.

We are already looking forward to next year's trip and welcome all suggestions!



Mary Lam-Rodrigues & Jessica Maronto, Country Homes Tour Co-Chairs

very pleased with the turnout and look forward to working together with the homeowners on this project.

In January, we will be formalizing the Home Tour committee and have our first meeting. Many of you have great experience on past tours, and we look forward to working with you. For new members, this is a fun opportunity to meet other members while helping to raise funds to support our beloved Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mary Lam-Rodrigues by email at mary.lamrodriques@gmail.com or by phone (269) 353-6767.



Mary



Jessica

Membership

Happy New Year, everyone.

To begin the New Year, we have started a Mentor program for our newest members. Various Board members will be calling new members to urge them to become involved in KSOL by becoming a part of one or more of our committees or projects. Helping to facilitate that involvement, the mentors will address any questions, concerns or suggestions the new member might have and assure that they are satisfied with KSOL. We'd also like to encourage **all** members to become involved on KSOL committees and projects. If we can be of help to you with that, please give us a call. Kay Burtis at 323-1495 or Diane Heckler at 375-2922.

Please watch for our "**suggestion box**" at the general meetings for any thoughts or concerns regarding KSOL. Paper and pen will be provided, signature optional.

Since our last newsletter, the following notes have been sent to our members:



- ❖ Well wishes to Rosemary Holtzer on her second hospitalization in December. She is now residing at The Fountains at Bronson Place.
- ❖ Welcome our New Members
Anne Redner and Colleen McBride

Kay Burtis and Diane Heckler, Membership Co-Chairs



Kay Burtis



Diane Heckler

- ❖ A thinking of you note to Kay Burtis on the illness of her husband Merv who is undergoing radiation treatments.
- ❖ Get Well note to Mary Jane Walker on her knee surgery.
- ❖ A note of sympathy to Pat Berninger on the December death of her son, David.
- ❖ Congratulations to Liz Youker on the birth of baby Bryce.
- ❖ Best wishes to Stacey Little on her new position and regrets on her departure from the KSOL office staff as Associate Director of Development.
- ❖ Speedy recovery wishes to Ann Gianakaris after knee replacement surgery.
- ❖ Thank you notes to Jan Boesch and Barb King for their time and work in co-chairing the very successful October Fashion Show.

❖❖❖ **KSOL Inclement Weather Policy** ❖❖❖

According to KSOL General Policy 2.a., "**Board meetings and general meetings shall be canceled if either the Kalamazoo or Portage Schools are closed for the day because of inclement weather.**"

In the case of inclement weather on a meeting day, an effort will be made to contact members by email or phone, but members should check local stations or the Internet for school closings and plan accordingly.

KSOL Book Club

We hope to see many of you at Kazoo Books, 2413 Parkview, at 10:00 a.m. on January 17, when Margaret Woodhams will lead our discussion of the *The Soloist* by Steve Lopez. This best-selling memoir deals with the unlikely friendship between the author and a homeless violinist living on Skid Row in Los Angeles.

We will not meet in February or March, which will give you plenty of time to read our selection for April 17, *The Bells* by Richard Harvell. This whimsical novel is set in 18th century

Janet Thieme, Book Club Coordinator

Europe, at the peak of Italian opera's popularity, and tells the story of a young man "who could bring an audience to tears with his voice." According to one reviewer, "The plot of *The Bells* contains enough drama, tragedy, romance and silliness to please any opera lover."

Start reading and come join us, if you can, for an interesting discussion and another opportunity to spend time with your fellow league members.

Public Relations

Barbara Farraye, Public Relations Chair

KSOL will participate in the *Women's Lifestyle Expo* on **March 2 and 3**. Get ready to let our community know **who** we are and **what** we do! More details later.



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Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra League
359 South Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 100
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Editors: Margaret & Jim Woodhams

Address Service Requested

Please Expedite

February Calendar of Events

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|-------|---------|---------------------|--|
| Fri. | Feb. 3 | 8:00 pm | KSO Pops - Miller Aud.
<u>Stars of Wicked</u> sing Broadway Hits
Raymond Harvey, Conductor |
| Tues. | Feb. 7 | 12:45 pm
1:30 pm | Executive Committee
Full Board Meeting
Home of Janis Park |
| Tues. | Feb. 14 | 10:30 am | General Meeting Registration
The Beacon Club |
| Fri. | Feb. 17 | 8:00 pm | Symphonie Fantastique - Miller Aud.
Raymond Harvey, Conductor |

March Calendar of Events

- | | | | |
|-------|---------|---------------------|---|
| Tues. | Mar. 6 | 12:45 pm
1:30 pm | Executive Committee
Full Board Meeting
Home of Anne van Giessen |
| Sat. | Mar. 10 | 8:00 pm | Spanish Rhapsody - Miller Aud.
<u>Johannes Moser, Cello</u>
Raymond Harvey, Conductor |
| Tues. | Mar. 13 | 10:30 am | General Meeting Registration
To Be Announced |
| Fri. | Mar. 30 | 8:00 pm | Spring Evening
Cityscape Events Center |

Spring Project Country Homes Tour – May 18-20, 2012

Mission Statement

The Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra League is a volunteer organization committed to promoting and supporting the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra (KSO) by:

- raising funds for the operating budget of the KSO
- promoting the appreciation and understanding of symphonic music in the community, and by
- providing symphonic music educational opportunities for the youth in the community