



# DECATUR CIVIC CHORUS

## Executive Board

Co-Presidents: Peggy Clayton & Beth Allyn Parker

Co-Presidents Elect: Dan Mundy & Tom Watson

Treasurer: Teresa Lentini

Director: Scott Keeseey

Assistant Director: Lindsey Benne

Accompanist: Lisa Nail

Assistant Accompanist: Betty Baccus

Music: Betty Baccus & Barbara Giebelhaus

Patrons: Nancy Van Wyk

Programs: Tom Watson

Publicity: Carl Seale

Staging/Safety: Frank Barrett

Wardrobe: Cindy Robinson

Website: Nora Geer

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Director Emeritus:

Mary Anne Sharp

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## Director's Letter

We have made it through another grueling winter as the budding trees and flowers remind us that long, warm days, full of color and life, are soon to come. As the Decatur Civic Chorus prepares for our upcoming spring performances, we too look forward to warmer days and late nights on the front porch. We rehearse each Monday evening capturing in our song the wonder of all that is available to our senses in the spring and summer months.

Our performances this spring focus on the celebration of the human experience while on this beautiful planet. From the rolling hills, the raging rivers and green pastures to the white peaked mountains the chorus will capture the majesty of our earthly home in song. In addition, the chorus hopes to explore the human symphony of emotions that accompanies our personal exploration of this glorious earth. We present musical offerings of wonder, laziness, conflict, fatigue, joy, and accomplishment. It is through these natural emotions, the ebb and flow of our "inward experience" that we process all that is available to us since our creation. We truly have so many earthly and physiological wonders to sing about!

The performance of Verdi Requiem that was scheduled prior to Easter Sunday with the Decatur Civic Chorus and the choirs of Carrollton First United Methodist Church has been postponed due to rehearsal scheduling conflicts.

Another opportunity is being planned on May 7, 2017 that would be a shared performance with the Henry Singers, the community chorus based in Henry County. Please check the Decatur Civic Chorus website ([www.decaturocivicchorus.org](http://www.decaturocivicchorus.org)) for upcoming details.

The DCC will present its full spring concert "On Top of the World" June 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm in the sanctuary of Oak Grove United Methodist Church, 1722 Oak Grove Road, Decatur, Georgia.

I hope that between long sits on the porch and gazing at fire flies that you will make it to one of our spring performances as we celebrate all that this earth and its occupants have to offer! We are truly honored by your support and hope that we will share many more afternoons of music together.

*Scott D. Keeseey*

Artistic Director  
The Decatur Civic Chorus

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If you would like to receive information about upcoming Decatur Civic Chorus concerts by email, please go to our website: [www.decaturocivicchorus.org](http://www.decaturocivicchorus.org) and click on the email link under "Get Email from Decatur Civic Chorus."

Tax Information: The Decatur Civic Chorus is a non-profit organization under section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS code. (The tax ID # is 58 1298703.) Donations to the DCC may be deductible; please consult with your tax advisor.

## Co-Presidents' Letter

To Our Wonderful Patrons,

It is hard to believe that this chorus year is coming to a conclusion. We will be presenting "On Top of the World" on Saturday, June 4, 2017 at 3:00 pm at Oak Grove United Methodist Church. We hope to see you there.

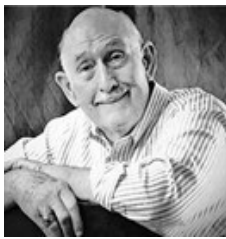
As a chorus, music continues to inspire us, wake our emotions and stir up wonderful memories. We hope our music does the same for you.

Thank you so much for your support through the years!

*Peggy Clayton and Beth Allyn Parker*

Co-Presidents

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## A Special Tribute to Richard Pharr "Pete" Williams 1935 - 2017

The Decatur Civic Chorus remembers a good friend and long-standing member. Those of us who sang with him knew him simply as Pete Williams.

Before joining the DCC, Pete was very active in the music community in Atlanta. He made his Atlanta singing debut with Albert Coleman's Atlanta Pops Orchestra in June 1956 performing at local venues such as the Fox and Chastain Park. He served Atlanta churches as a soloist and director.

He was a member of the Chorus for over 30 years and participated with the DCC when they sang at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall. He also traveled with the Chorus on numerous international concert tours including those to Mexico, Spain, Italy, Ireland and Scotland.

Oh, how he loved to sing! Many times, before rehearsals began, he could be heard vocally warming up. He was a gifted and accomplished musician; his operatic tenor voice added beauty and richness to the DCC and he was a featured soloist in many performances. Though he was very serious about singing, he always had a ready smile and a quick wit that brightened the lives of those who knew him.

During his time with the DCC he served in many leadership roles and was always willing to "haul" risers in his pick-up truck to various performance venues as needed. When his health no longer allowed him to sing with the Chorus; he continued his support by serving as an usher for concerts.

Pete touched the lives of many people and we were blessed to call him our friend.

## Patrons Chairman's Letter

Springtime Greetings to Our Sponsors and Patrons,

It is hard to know where to begin. Each time I compose a letter to you I feel as if I am writing to friends. It has been an honor and great fun for me to get to know many of you, if not personally, then by name.

Your continued support through the years, both verbal and financial, is so very much appreciated. The Chorus never takes your patronage for granted. We are amazed and humbled by your loyalty through "tough times."

The Sponsors and Patrons of the DCC are very special people. We depend on your generosity to assist us in meeting the financial obligations of the Chorus. We again request your show of support through attendance at our concerts and contributions.

You may designate your contribution **In Celebration of a Special Event, In Honor or In Memory** of a special person in your life. As time permits, these special recognitions will be noted in the Spring Concert Program. Any contributions made after the program has gone to print will be included in the next newsletter and concert program.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks extended to each of you for your support and commitment.

*Nancy R. Van Wyk*

Patron Chairman

### Special Recognitions Received Since the Christmas Concert

**In Memory of Evelyn Arnn**

By Ed Arnn  
 Kyle Arnn  
 Krista Safrit

**In Memory of Evelyn Arnn**

By Beta Kappa Chapter of  
 Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa

**In Memory of Alva Bentley**

By Wayne & Ann Bell

**In Memory of Nancy Bridges**

By Martha Highsmith

**In Memory of Ms. Nancy B. Bridges**

By Robert R. & Carolyn B. Woodson Fund

**In Memory of Bill Cameron**

By Georgia Sue Cameron

**In Memory of Jane Cope**

By Charles L. Cope

**In Memory of John Crawford**

By Carolyn Crawford Thorsen

**In Memory of Jim Dill**

Anonymous

**In Loving Memory of my husband, Jim Dill  
 a member of the Decatur Civic Chorus  
 from 1972-2010**

By Linda Dill

**In Memory of Polly Christie Hinde**

By Patti Ireland  
 Joyce Paris  
 Vee Simmons  
 Pat Warthan

**In Memory of John Jones**

By Martha Highsmith

**In Memory of my husband,  
 James A. Knight**

By Marian K. Knight

**In Memory of Sherwood Merchant**

By Ken & Rachel Walls

**In Memory of Angelo Pitillo**

By Café Lily

**In Memory of Joyce Selin**

By Sarah C. Mason

**In Memory of Pat Shelton**

By Beta Kappa Chapter of  
 Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa

**In Memory of Lois Vernon**

By Sarah C. Mason

**In Memory of Pete Williams**

By Ed Arnn  
 Randall & Phyllis Aucker  
 Betty Baccus  
 Larry & Peggy Clayton  
 Barbara Disney  
 Barbara & Gus Giebelhaus  
 Jeff Geer  
 Nora Geer  
 Hal & Mary Jane Horsburgh  
 Bob & Mamie Mabery  
 Peggy Merchant  
 Russell & Nancy Pool  
 Patricia Ridgeway  
 Mary Anne Sharp  
 Mary Rose Simpson  
 Dawn & Hodgson Thomas  
 Arnie & Nancy Van Wyk  
 Pat Warthan  
 Linda C. Wiley  
 Sarah Wiley  
 Garland H. Williams

**In Memory of Sue Self Williamson**

By Norman & Joan Self

**In Celebration of the  
 Dedication of DCC Members**

By Lois Fox-Felkel

**In Honor of Elizabeth Abraham**

By the Abraham Family

**In Honor of Patti Ireland**

By Rita G. Carter

**In Honor of Carl Seale**

By Linda & Donald Bricker

**In Honor of Pat Warthan**

By Rita G. Carter

## Concert Benefitting the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund

On January 21-23, 2017 Georgia and all the southeast were hit with wave after wave of deadly tornados. In response to this, the Decatur Civic Chorus hosted a benefit concert. All proceeds from this concert were marked for South Georgia. We invited the churches that are part of the Decatur Cooperative Ministry to be included in the concert. The following choral groups participated:

**Avondale Pattillo UMC Choir**

**The Bubba Rays**

**Festival Singers of Atlanta**

**Church of the Epiphany Choir**

**Decatur Civic Chorus**

Avondale Pattillo UMC supplied their sanctuary at no charge. On March 11 the groups assembled and put on a 1-hour concert. John Lemley was our Master of Ceremonies and Shawn Gardner spoke on behalf of the Red Cross. She reports that the concert took in \$1,692.

Thanks to the ladies of Avondale Pattillo for providing delicious refreshments following the concert.

*Dan Mundy and Tom Watson,*  
Co-Presidents Elect

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## DCC Aspires to Sing in the Great Britain Choral Festival

“A Celebration of Peace”

Commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armistice Ending WWI

The Great Britain Choral Festival in 2018 commemorates the end of “The Great War” honoring this momentous time in history.

The DCC would like to participate in this festival and is in the process of planning a trip. We would be part of the 400 singers who will lift their voices in Ely Cathedral in Great Britain on July 1 – 5, 2018. The festival will feature six pieces by Ralph Vaughn Williams, including his “Dona Nobis Pacem.” If you love to travel, please consider joining the DCC for the 2018 Spring Season as we prepare for this trip. All former members who would like to join us are most welcome. If you would like additional information please email Barbara Giebelhaus at [giebel@bellsouth.net](mailto:giebel@bellsouth.net).

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## DCC Invites You to Become a Sponsor

Please take a moment to consider the sponsorship levels listed below and give as you are able.  
Any amount will be received with gratitude.

**Diamond Sponsor-** \$2000 & above

**Platinum Sponsor-** \$1,000 - \$1,999

**Gold Sponsor-** \$500 - \$999

**Silver Sponsor -** \$200 - \$499

**Bronze Sponsor -** \$100 - \$ 199

**Patron –** up to \$99

**Names of Sponsors and Patrons are listed in the concert program.**