



DECATUR CIVIC CHORUS

Executive Board

President: Nora Geer

President Elect: Paula Thorson

Treasurer: Bill Philips

Secretary: Peggy Clayton

Director: Scott Keesey

Assistant Director:
Lindsey Benne

Accompanist: Lisa Nall

Assistant Accompanist:
Betty Baccus

Music: Betty Baccus
& Barbara Giebelhaus

Patrons: Nancy Van Wyk

Programs: Tom Watson

Publicity: Carl Seale

Social: Rochelle Stockett

Staging/Safety: Frank Barrett

Wardrobe: Cindy Robinson

Website: Nora Geer

Director Emeritus:

Mary Anne Sharp

Inside this issue:

Director's Letter	1
Walt Thornton	1
Contact us by email	1
Tax Information	1
President's Letter	2
Special Recognitions	2
Patron Chair letter	3
DCC on Social Media	3
Sponsors/Patrons	4

The historic Decatur Civic Chorus is deep into the spring semester of this, their 71st season continuing to add new members to the choral forces. It was during this season that the world was abruptly “knocked off kilter” by the threat of coronavirus. While school systems shut down, travel plans cancelled and social distancing becomes our temporary norm, the Decatur Civic Chorus too was forced to pause to protect our members from the threat of this virus.

The members of the Decatur Civic Chorus were actively preparing an April 26th performance at First Baptist Church Decatur. With rehearsals temporarily on hiatus due the health concerns, the board of directors overwhelmingly voted to cancel this performance. The performance was to have been a musical journey through the life and mindset of immigrants making the journey to America.

Not many of us that call the United States home can trace our ancestry back generations to find the conciseness of when we originated here. In fact, the very large majority of us cannot call even North America our homeland. Whether four generations ago or a month, whether following a dream or not by choice of their own, the journey was real, powerful and running the gamut of emotions. The concert was to include a variety of selections speaking to a dream, a farewell, loneliness and despair, hope, and ultimately the arrival.

It is our hope that the threat of coronavirus will soon pass, and the chorus may resume rehearsals. With the spring season passing by quickly and perhaps summer travel plans resuming, the chorus hopes to, at the very least, perform an abridged version of this “Immigrants Journey to America.” Please check back frequently with our website in order to stay informed about a future shortened performance.

For more information on becoming a member or patron of the Decatur Civic Chorus please feel free to email: sdkeesey73@gmail.com

Scott D. Keesey
Artistic Director
The Decatur Civic Chorus

Remembering Walt Thornton



Born on October 23, 1927, Walt lived in the Atlanta area his whole life. He and Alcie raised their four children in Decatur and Avondale Estates. He loved his family and it was not unusual to hear singing in his home. Walt and Alcie were members of the Decatur Civic Chorus for many years. He was a Bass and the section was blessed to have his voice and enthusiasm. He loved to sing, so not only did he sing with the DCC but shared his talent with the choir at Columbia Presbyterian Church.

He was active in his community, a member of the Avondale Men's Club and the Avondale Citizen Patrol. He was an expert at crossword puzzles and a great chef. Walt passed away on January 4, 2020. He will be missed by all who had the honor of knowing him.

Visit our website at www.decaturovicchorus.org. If you would like to receive information about upcoming Decatur Civic Chorus concerts by email, please send us an email to webmaster@decaturovicchorus.org with the words “Add to Email List” in the heading.

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.

Dear Patrons and Sponsors,

In light of the current guidelines for containing the coronavirus, we made the tough decision to cancel our DEAM benefit concert as well as our annual spring concert. The Chorus made a donation to DEAM in lieu of the concert, and if you would like to contribute, please go to their website <https://www.deamdecatur.org/> for instructions. We will continue to monitor the virus situation with the goal of a postponed spring concert as soon as we are able to do so.

We appreciate our patrons and supporters! We rely on your support year-round. If you are able, please consider a donation to assure that we can continue our over-70-year history of free public concerts to the Decatur/DeKalb community.

We pray that this terrible virus is conquered quickly so that we can all get back to doing what we love! For us that is singing for you!

Take all precautions and stay well.

Nora Geer

President

Special Recognitions

In Memory of Polly Christie

By Phyllis White

In Memory of Jackie B. Crover

By Robert W. Kelso

In Memory of Betty Dunkel

By Steven Vincent

In Memory of Patti Ireland

By Ronald & Kathleen Everett

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

By Marian K. Knight

In Memory of Ken Massingale

By Genie Massingale

In Memory of Sherwood Merchant

By Peggy T. Merchant

In Memory of Angelo Pitillo

By Café Lily & Elizabeth Pitillo

Remembering Alcie Thornton for her great sense of humor

By Kendall D. Newman

In Memory of Walter Thornton

By Betty Baccus
Arnie & Nancy Van Wyk

In Memory of Linda Vincent

By Steven Vincent

In Celebration of Susan Boyan

By Jack Boyan

In Celebration of Mr. & Mrs. Peter J. Van Wyk

By Arnie & Nancy Van Wyk

In Celebration of Joyce Woods

By Paul & Sandra Woods

In Honor of the Enchanting, Extraordinary Decatur Civic Chorus

By Dr. Cynthia L. Hill

In Honor of Nancy Douglas

By Lisa Allen

In Honor of Peggy Merchant

By Elizabeth C. Moseley

In Honor of Bill & Marcia Philips

By Patricia Hilscher
Colin Moore
Douglas H. & Ingrid S. Neale

In Honor Tracy Roberts

By Colin Moore

In Honor of Nancy Van Wyk

By Leslie Schworm

Springtime Greetings to Our Sponsors and Patrons,

We have had many rainy days, but you, our sponsors and patrons bring sunshine even on dreary days.

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

You may designate your contribution **In Celebration of a Special Event, In Honor or In Memory** of a special person in your life. Because of the extraordinary challenges at this time the DCC has cancelled its Spring Concert. Normally your special recognitions would be noted in the concert program, but since that is not possible, they will be listed in the newsletter and again in our next concert program.

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

Take care of yourselves. As members of the DCC "extended family" you are important to us and we pray that you will remain healthy.

Nancy Van Wyk

Patron Chairman

Sponsorship Levels

Diamond Sponsor- \$2,000 & above

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

Gold Sponsor- \$500 - \$999

Silver Sponsor - \$200 - \$499

Bronze Sponsor - \$100 - \$ 199

Patron – up to \$99

Sponsor and Patron names will be listed in the concert program.

Visit and follow DCC on FaceBook

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/decaturocivicchorusga> to read about recruitment efforts, event announcements and view photos and videos.

The Decatur Civic Chorus - Sponsors & Patrons - August 2018 – February 2020

Diamond \$2,000 & Above

Gus & Barbara Giebelhaus
IBM
Arnie & Nancy Van Wyk

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

Elizabeth A. Parker
Phyllis Sharpton

Gold - \$500 - \$999

Larry & Peggy Clayton
Mary Newell Cobb
Floral Hills Funeral Home &
Memory Gardens
Lou Brown Jewell
Personal Care
Romeo & Rochelle Stockett
A. S. Turner & Sons

Silver - \$200 - \$499

Betty Baccus
Mary W. Brown
Earl & Patricia Donaldson
Dr. Cynthia L. Hill
Weyman T. Johnson, Jr.
Genie Massingale
Peggy T. Merchant
Pam Mills
Kendall D. Newman
Helen Bowers Ogren
Bill & Marcia Philips
PrintMaster of Decatur
Wilma Schanz Rhoads
Ruth Kirby Sanders
Marilyn Self
Dale & Kirby Smith
Patricia A. Stevens
Bill & Mitzi Thomas
Bob & Debbie Thomas
Hodgson Thomas & Family
Carolyn C. Thorsen
Madge E. Watson
Tom & Darleen Watson

Robert R. & Carolyn B.
Woodson Fund

Bronze - \$100 - \$199

T. D. Ameritrade Clearing
Naomi Bell
Kathaleen S. Brown
Café Lily
Catherine W. Carter
Charles Cope
Barbara Disney
David & Debbie Disney
Lois Fox-Felkel
Kevin Fry
Hal & Mary Jane Horsburgh
Bob & Mamie Mabery
Carolyn M. Meeks
Elizabeth C. Moseley
Daniel B. Mundy
Ralph & Sara Murchison
Douglas & Ingrid Neale
Patricia A. Ridgeway
Carl Seale Team, Virtual
Properties Realty
Lydia Sharian
Mary Rose Simpson
Cheryl Sullivan
Robert & Pauline Weaver

Patrons of the Decatur Civic Chorus

Lisa Allen
Martha N. Aron
Ruth Black
Thomas H. Black
Jack Boyan
Donald & Linda Bricker
Sheila Brock
Kathaleen Brown
Gail Cabisius
Wynne A. Callaway
Georgia Sue Cameron
Rita G. Carter
Candy Casarella
Donna Dalton
Deanna Davis
William K. Davis

Decatur School of Ballet
Linda Dill
Dorothy Downey
Ronald & Kathleen Everett
Janet Fortenberry
Jeff Geer
Nora Geer
John & Sandy Grimes
Kathy J. Hill
Patricia Hilscher
Katie E. Jones
Ruby P. Jones
Betty G. Jordan
Robert W. Kelso
Marian K. Knight
John & Regina Kreiner
Mary Kuekes
Werner & Mary Ann Kuettner
Bruce Mather
S. Victor Mazza
Mark Merchant
Colin F. Moore
E. F. Moore
Rosalie North
Jean O'Callaghan
Randy Potter
Mary S. Reding
L. Joseph Sanders
Leslie Schworm
Mary Anne Sharp
Charles & Ellen Stokely
Steven Vincent
Ken & Rachel Walls
Carolyn D. & Melvin R. Weiss
Phyllis White
Barbara J. Wilkie, PhD
Joy Wilson
Joyce A. Woods
Paul & Sandra Woods
Gerald Wright