

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Guild Members,

Let me start by wishing you and yours a Happy New Year! Hopefully your Christmas Holidays were restful and enjoyable. The Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale launched us into the Christmas Season with the Holiday Pops, where our Belles and Beaux ushered and sold over 100 raffle tickets. The Lone Star Brass Christmas concert, December 19, topped off the season.

January 9, 2010 is the Permian Basin String Quartet performing at the CEED Bldg. The Belles/Beaux signed up are Taylor Sparkman, Luke Sparkman and Clair Breaux. If you need Texas Scholar hours, one more person can work then too. The third Masterworks concert

at Mid-Cities, **Viva Italia** with the NYAC Winner, **Moran Katz, Clarinet** will be **January 23, 2010**. If you have not used your Flex Pass tickets this concert will be one you won't want to miss. Belles/Beaux please consider attending the concert as your one concert attendance requirement, if you have not already done so. The following Belles/Beaux are signed up to work:

Shift 1: 5:45-7:30 Jerrika Midkiff, Clair Osborn, Chelcee Robinson, Shelby Schlueter

Shift 2: 7:30-9:00 Grace McDonald, Haley Miller, Anthony Almanza, Caleb Vieth.

The annual Gala Ball entitled **Arabian Nights Rhapsody** will be February 6, 2010 at the Odessa Country Club. Be sure to read Connie Coats' newsletter submission regarding the Ball as it contains many important details. Donations to the Silent and Live Auction, decorating and cleanup at the Ball are not exclusive to the Project Committee. All members are encouraged to help in some way. Please contact Connie with your commitment. If your invitation hasn't arrived it will arrive soon.

The next Pops Series entitled **Craig Schulman sings Heroes, Monsters & Madmen** is March 6, 2010, 7:00 pm at the CAF. One very lucky auction winner from the Gala Ball will earn the opportunity to be "**Dorothy**" from the **Wizard of Oz** during this concert. The costume for the part will be provided. The **lucky winning** bidder will also win 6 premier sponsor seats to the concert that evening. All families with girls to teens will want to be ready for this Live Auction item. It is sure to be a memorable evening!

The next General Guild Meeting will be Thursday, January 14, 2010, 7:00pm, at the home of Jill Sparkman, 10 Santa Ana Ct. As usual, the Board will meet one hour prior to this meeting. This meeting is very important as it will focus on our one and only fundraiser, the annual Gala Ball, as well as the final opportunity for Active Members with Senior Belles/Beaux to fulfill their meeting requirements. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. The Ball Committee will meet at the conclusion of the general meeting.

If you are interested in attending one of the upcoming concerts, please contact the MOSC office at 563-0921 for reservations. Be sure to mention that you are an Odessa Symphony Guild member with Flex-Pass privileges. Thank you for supporting the Midland-Odessa Symphony & Choral through your membership in the Odessa Symphony Guild. They could not serve the community as well as they do without you. Many thanks!

Deanna Peden
President, OSG

Ball News

Hello Everyone,

The Gala Ball "Arabian Night Rhapsody" is February 6, 2010 at the Odessa Country Club. You will be receiving your formal invitation the first week of January. If you're interested in purchasing tables, please secure them as soon as possible. Please let this letter serve as your informational resource.

There will be a mandatory ball rehearsal for all Belles and Beaux on January 31, 2010 at the Odessa Country Club at 2:30 p.m. for the freshmen, sophomores and juniors. The seniors' rehearsal will follow at 3:00 p.m. The senior and their escort need to attend the rehearsal, as the Waltz will be practiced. Brush up on your Waltz prior to the rehearsal.

The ball will officially begin at 7:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception including entertainment by the String Quartet. Family pictures will begin at 5:30 p.m. Student class pictures begin at 7:00 p.m. with the freshman group picture first. The sophomore group picture is at 7:15 p.m., juniors at 7:30 p.m. and seniors at 7:45 p.m. This should allow us plenty of time to line everyone up in a timely manner for the presentation. Parents, please be sure your students understand that they must stay with the group until their class picture is taken. The schedule really gets thrown off if we have to search for kids who have wandered away. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

As in the past, we will be having the "Presentation of the Roses" for seniors. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to honor our Belles & Beaux. We are selling roses for the seniors at a cost of \$15.00 each. There will be a note card attached to each rose for a personal note from you to the Belle or Beau. We are also selling carnations at a cost of \$10.00 each for freshman, sophomores and juniors as a way for each of them to feel special as well. Let your family and friends know that they, too, can honor our Belles and Beaux by purchasing a flower. We are trying to sell flowers prior to the ball to ensure that they are ready when the ball begins. If you have questions or want to purchase flowers for your special Belle or Beau, call Bert Beall. Corsages and boutonnieres will also be provided to all seniors with matching flowers for their presentations.

Students who have signed up to decorate will do so on Friday, February 5th beginning at 4:00 p.m. Parents may arrive as early as 3:00 p.m. to begin decorating. We are going to complete the decorating on Friday. All ball committee members need to be there to decorate. If you have not brought your basket item for your child's grade theme, we need those as soon as possible. If you are unsure of what you need to bring, please call Johnna Rosson. If you prefer to make a cash donation, that would be great as well. The main concern is that we all get our donations to Johnna as soon as possible. Also, there are still a few that have not picked up or paid for their raffle tickets, please do so ASAP. Contact Debbie Coombes and she will get them to you. Don't forget to fill those out and turn in the stubs for the drawing.

Last but certainly not least, a big thank you goes out to Coombes Equipment for sponsoring the trip for our raffle. Thank you Kevin Coombes! I also want to thank my wonderful ball committee including Bert Beall, Kathy Berryhill, Debbie Breaux, Shirley Breaux, Debbie Coombes, Sherri Dugan, Sondra Eoff, Debbie Fowler, Suzette Furst, Carolina Keith, Stephanie Latimer, Jana McDonald, Sally Osborn, Rebekah Perry, Mary Puetz, Johnna Rosson, Kathy Roundtree, Jill Sparkman and Leslie Sparkman for their time and commitment to ensure that our Belles & Beaux's have a wonderful experience at this year's Gala. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve with each of you. I look forward to a wonderful "Arabian Night Rhapsody" at the Gala.

Connie Coots,
Gala Ball Chairman

Ball Committee Request for Donations

Please bring items to the January meeting

These items will be used for the silent auction on the night of the Gala Ball in February.

Freshman moms need to bring items for a relaxation basket. **Suggested items:** lotions, bath gels, scented soaps, candles, gift certificates for massages, manicures/ pedicures, etc.

Sophomore moms need to bring items for a grilling basket. **Suggested items:** cookbooks, utensils, aprons, spices, sauces, grill, patio items, etc.

Junior moms need to bring items for a romance/ Valentine's Day basket. **Suggested items:** wines, chocolates, candles, DVD's, CD's, heart items, gift cards to various restaurants, large red basket, etc.

Senior moms can bring items for any basket.

We also need large baskets for these items. We will gladly accept donations from local businesses, individuals, artists, etc. to be placed in the silent auction as well. Any questions or suggestions, please call Johnna Rosson @ 770-4729.

Dear Belles and Beaux,

I hope all of you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you to the Belles/Beaux that attended the Christmas concerts. I know this is a very busy time of year and everyone appreciates all of your hard work. If by chance, you do not remember when you signed up for a concert, please call or email me, or check the website for information. Also, if you know you are unable to attend your shift, please let me know as soon as possible as I have some Belles/Beaux that need shifts. If you have not been assigned all of your shifts, please let me know.

Senior Belles/Beaux, time is getting near. Please remember to email a picture or call me with a description of the dress you are planning on wearing for the ball. We do not want any of you wearing the same dress. Thank you so much for all of your hard work. You are greatly appreciated.

*Lesli Coody,
Belle/Beau Chairman*

Important Dates

- * **General Meeting**
Thursday, January 14, 2010 * 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
10 Santa Ana Ct.
- * **Annual Gala Ball**
Saturday, February 6, 2010
Odessa Country Club

MOSC President's Note

Vintage Harmony will be here before you know it! Mark your calendars for March 25, 2010. The MOSC board of directors is asking for the guilds' help with one of our events at Vintage Harmony. Vintage Harmony is a fundraiser for the MOSC that is organized by the Board of Directors; it is a relaxing evening of wine tasting and food pairing at The Willows with music by each of our chamber ensembles. Last year we included a cork pull with our event and here is how it worked, each board member donated a bottle of wine worth \$35 - \$50, we have a nice display set up of all the bottles, at the door as people come in they have the opportunity to purchase a cork for \$40 or 3 for \$100, then they draw a numbered cork out of a bowl. We have the corks numbered to match the number of bottles of wine we have. At the end of the evening you match your cork up with the numbered bottle in the display and take home the wine. We had about 30 bottles of wine last year and the corks were all purchased as soon as the event began. This year we would like to have around 50 bottles in the cork pull. We are asking that each guild donate at least 10 bottles of wine to help with this event. We are asking the membership of the guilds to please drop off your donation at the MOSC office beginning in January. For our alcohol license we have to list the bottles, vintage and value in order to include them in the cork pull. We hope that we can count on your support!

We support, promote, and enhance cultural and musical appreciation by educating the community and financially supporting the Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale.

www.odessasg.org

*Sincerely,
Stephanie Latimer
President, Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale*