June 5, 1992 Spring Meeting

Kennedy Green Room

Being president of Pro Musica these two years was an easy and pleasing assignment.

What a president supposed to do?

Generate new ideas to keep the members interested, alive, with a sense of individual involvement and organization accomplishment and worth, a feeling of well-being within. Then implement the ideas.

That was easy. I just listened to Dean Thayer.

He said, “Why doesn’t Pro Musica establish a new faculty and staff award for excellence in service to students?”

“Certainly,” we replied. A most appropriate sort of award for Pro Musica.

So I appointed a committee—a steering committee—to implement the idea. Ramona Cormier was chair, assisted by Elmer Spreitzer and Charles Bartlett. They chose Judith Bentley as the first recipient. Their judgment was so insightful that the announcement was greeted with a standing ovation at the CMA honors and awards ceremony.

Then Dean Thayer suggested, “Why don’t we set up a brown bag lunch meeting of the Pro Musica executive committee to generate ideas?”

I said, “Certainly. Why don’t we?”

So we picked a day and Joy sent out the meeting notices and that proved to be another good idea. True, sometimes the brown bag was a Styrofoam box, but the ideas transcended that little environmental glitch.

Again Dean Thayer suggested, “Why don’t we create a newsletter especially for members of Pro Musica and people we hope will become members?”

“Sounds like a fine idea,” said the executive committee board. So our dean set about finding an editor to implement the idea. The first choice for the job said “Yes.” Then she was tapped to be interim editor of The Montivus! The second choice did not follow through. So Dean Thayer threw the editor of the University relations newsletter for legislators some compliments about the publication. Awhile later, the president of Pro Musica succumbed to the flattery and offered to take the job sans pay, but hopefully NOT without praise.

In another suggestion the dean said, “Why don’t we invite BGSU alumni to the campus for one of our musical events?”

“Another good idea, Robert! Why not?” So I arranged a meeting with the dean, two assistant alumni directors, Vernetta House and Allen Zink. They are responsible for the development of alumni chapters throughout northern Ohio and southern Michigan. They are enthusiastic about the idea and work with Marty Porter and their alumni chapter leaders on the details for a spring 1993 event.

Lest you think that your president has been merely a sponge for the creative bursts of the dean, I want you to note a couple of things I did during my presidency.

Soon after taking the post I became aware of the LPs and CDs and audio cassettes recorded by faculty and students of the college. I reasoned, why doesn’t Pro Musica become the catalyst for marketing these splendid recordings to members of Pro Musica and beyond? A good idea—not easy to implement—but, as Bob reported to you, it is very close—just needs a bit of fine tuning to make it play in Bowling Green.

Taking a page from my money-making years at the TV station, I suggested that I write a letter to the faculty and staff at BGSU, what is a university without musical arts? Who should be prime promoters of music performance and education? Faculty members who agree a university can’t live without music (fortunately, this letter went out before the governor began his budget-balancing act).}

One more idea from the Office of the President. What do you think we should call the Pro Musica newsletter? What do you think of The ProMusica? The executive committee thought that absent a better idea, the name would serve. Look for the first issue of The ProMusican in September, with issues to follow in December and March.

I can’t think of an organization I would rather president of than Pro Musica, so long as I have Dean Thayer, Joy Kantner, Caroline Linbeck, Pat Fitzgerald, Tom Kinney, Chris Dakom, Gwen Laughard, Margaret Hesket, Suzanne Crawford, Ramona Cormier, Teri Sharp, their committees and other members of the Board to work with.

Thank you all for this pleasant interlude.

This meeting is adjourned.

Duane Tucker, president

Promoting Musical Excellence

Pro Musica supports the College of Musical Arts by inviting the participation of alumni, friends, parents and the Bowling Green community in a wide variety of musical events and by providing financial support for projects that are often beyond the reach of state funding.

A letter from the President

This past year, Pro Musica has lived its mission: Promoting Musical Excellence. Peruse this list and see if you agree:

1. The 96 grants were awarded by 261 members who pledged $27,630. Some of the destinations included: Carnegie Hall, Paris, Akron, Montreal, New Orleans, Greece, Ghana, Ireland, Chicago, Denver, Italy, Salzburg and Boston. BGSU students have touched the world.

2. Jamis Haskell and Morgan Rich, student representatives, led two student meetings attended by 31 of the 34 new student members. Since both students graduated this spring, Pro Musica student members elected Anthony Gollima and Martangela Chatzistamiaou to represent students during this school year.

3. Board members Joan Callcedoc, Deborah Fleitz, Virginia Marks and Kerry Vandock left the board at the end of their respective terms. Each was recognized for their generous commitment of time, support and inspiration to Pro Musica’s endeavors. They will be missed and are trusted to not become strangers.

4. The board welcomed new members David DuPont, Paul Hoverman and Dr. Robert Thayer.

Please join us next year as Pro Musica marks its 25th year of Promoting Musical Excellence. There is fun to be had and lives to touch. Join us; please as we make new memories by touching the lives of students who are our future.

Sincerely,

Karol Spencer, president

College of Musical Arts
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0290

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Special thanks to Nancy Lenhart, editor of the Pro Musica News
About a very important matter—it was nearly an emergency.

“...Yes, I said, while the nurses and parents scurried about me, across the halls into one lab or patient rooms. I stayed on the phone to hear the conversation.

“Dr. Lenhart? I hear that you give lectures about the American Civil War. Is that true?” asked Dr. Diane Tucker in a pleading voice.

“I answered, “Dr. as he is known to Defiance citizens.” “I must admit to an inordinate fondness of the subject...”

I gave a lecture in Chicago and then boarded an early plane and flew into Winston Churchill’s widow her butlers arranged tea for us on the lawn and a large, rambling front porch. Nevertheless, Aunt Jane Haber, his father’s sister—married, immediately mentioned two things: transcription and travel. Listening to explanations of transcriptions he described reminded me instantly of Alan Turing work that broke the Enigma code in WWI. Vince spent one summer transcribing Francesco Cavalli’s La Virtu de’ strali d’Amore performed in collaboration with Ryan Shields and BGSU’s theater & film department in November 2007. Also performed that same month at the Eastman School. Ann told me that her husband would probably “fend very well in the middle ages as a monk,” because of his love of academics and research. In fact, he doggedly insists, “I will be transcribing when I die!”

We don’t want him to do that, so thankfully he loves red wine and touring wineries in the Sonoma Valley (or in other far-away places). And he loves Ann—descent of the harpsichord variety. Vince has given many performances at BGSU, statewide, and internationally in Corfu, Greece, in July 2006 and 2007. He has also given many papers, at least 15 since 2003.

Vince loves to travel with his family. In the past few years they have taken Caribbean cruises and 2007. He has also given many papers; at international in Corfu, Greece, in July 2006 and 2007. He has also given many papers, at least 15 since 2003.

The conference presented 14 Bach scholars from different countries. Hearing a variety of languages discussing Bach was a unique experience. Traveling to Belfast was educational, I read a lot about the history of Northern and Southern Ireland, the British Empire and recent incidents in Belfast. The opportunity to interact with individuals and hearing them speak helped me to be cognizant of my own culture.

While the focus of the conference was Bach’s B-Minor Mass, I found a great deal of interest about culture in Bach’s time and how he fit into it. I experienced the interaction of professionals on various levels and felt I’ve been represented myself and BGSU in positive ways.
Pro Musica Memories

As I picked up the phone again (for the 200th time, it seemed)—that pleasant May afternoon in 1983, a smiling voice asked if Dr. Frances Lenhart could possibly come to the phone to talk about a very important matter—it was nearly an emergency.

“Yes,” I said, “while the nurses and patients scrambled around me, across the hall into the X-ray lab or patient rooms. I stayed on the phone to hear the conversation.

Dr. Lenhart said, “I hear that you give lectures about the American Civil War. Is that true?” asked Dr. Duane Tucker in a pleading voice.

“Actually,” answered Dr. Fran (as he is known to Defiance citizens) “I must admit to an inordinate fondness of the subject…”

I gave a lecture in the auditorium, followed by a reception and fired by Winston Churchill’s widow, her butlers arranged tea for us on the lawn and...


Dr. Tucker died this year, leaving a legacy of medical uniform.”

I gave a lecture in England attended and later cozied up to keyboard studies. His brother Ricky liked popular music and learned his harpsichord. The provost decided to go with a probationary contract, which lead to tenure. Vince values, how to tell him when he had hit his salary ball so far into the 1915 that he walked around the bases. The two men had one thing in common: to excel in what they loved most.

Named for his father, Vincent (Vince) Lenhart was born March 28, 1945, just before the end of World War II. He was to become the eldest of seven children, raised at Squirrel Hill in Pittsburgh by his father, an attorney in insurance, and his mother, head librarian at Carnegie-Mellon University.

The family lived in a big house with six bedrooms, four bathrooms or four on the third floor and a large, rambling front porch. Nevertheless, Anne Hader, his father’s sister—married, but with no children of her own, would rescue the 10-years-old Vince from a time and babymoon for him in her home in Chelsea in Upper Manhattan, northeast of Washington. Drowzy summer afternoons were spent playing marathons. Monopoly at tables on the front lawn. Autumn Vince and his siblings back at St. Philomena Catholic School until they matriculated into Central Catholic High School. Vince began taking (not very enthusiastically) piano lessons at age eight. He played the trumpet and baritone in hand, participated in musicals, and was co-opted to keyboard studies. His brother Rikki liked popular music and learned keyboard and played the accordion.

After high school, Vince attended Carnegie-Mellon University where he graduated in 1968 with majors in performance and music education. He enlisted in the army and was sent to Ft. Jackson, FL, where he spent one month and five days. When the army discovered he was legally blind with 20/400 visual acuity, they said thanks and sent him home.

Back in school at Indiana University he obtained three important things: a penchant for gourmet cooking, a masters of music in biology and musicology and a Ph.D in 1981 in musicology; and—a certain petite redheaded singer named Ann Bremer—the most important savored best. Vince and Ann photographed each other in chorus. He was a bean pole and she was a doll. They married December 28, 1971, and have two children, Vincent Justus IV (Jay) and Ann Margaret (Annie). Vince was hired by Paul Kennedy in 1973 as an instructor in music history and teaching harpsichord. The provost decided to go with a probationary contract, which lead to tenure. Vince values, how to tell him when he had hit his salary ball so far into the 1915 that he walked around the bases. The two men had one thing in common: to excel in what they loved most.

Nancy Lenhart, Deborah Fleitz, member-at-large Douglas Wayland, vice president Andrew Housholder, president pro-tempore

Kate Velazquez

I came into New Orleans in the dead of night after nearly 20 hours on the road. We were exhausted—overwhelmed with emotion. But then, as we drove over the top of the I-10 Bridge, the Mississippi lights opened the night sky with a panoply of color. We screamed and cheered, thrilled to be in the Crescent City.

The beginning of the trip was representative of the whole; a long, hot journey... but we made it and we made it together. The team worked, got lost, laughed and cried, improvised and implemented plans within seconds, but we arrived on time. New Orleans is full of possibilities: life and death, jazz and blues, second line funerals or a music festival on French Street. Music breathes energy through the city.

We spent most of our time in schools changing the lives of children through arts organization, New Orleans Outreach that implements after-school programs. I was team lead for KIPP-McDonogh 15, a creative arts school in the French Quarter. Nearly all the kids qualified for school lunch programs; paradoxically, I was glad to be working in a considering applying to study with—meeting important to personal and professional growth.

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of the Pro Musica News

A special year of promoting excellence! In 2007–2008 nearly $28,000 was awarded to 67 College of Musical Arts students in need of funds toward travel expenses to attend national and international competitions, festivals and conferences.

Summer 2008