

Sigma Alpha Iota Volusia County Alumnae Chapter

NOV/DEC 2012

ISSUE 3



Sister Birthdays

Nov. 29 Barbara Larson
Chris Leese



* Instrument Petting Zoo *

Held on September 29, 2012 over 230 children attended and in addition to that total their parents or guardians. Successful coverage by the media and local merchants.

SHARLA MERCADO, CHAIR

She continues to reflect the truest ideal of a Sigma Alpha Iota Sister!

DELAND --

Most zoos feature exotic animals like monkeys, tigers and elephants.

But the zoo at Stetson University Saturday was one filled with saxophones, drums and instruments of all kinds for children to look at and play.

The fifth annual Musical Instrument Petting Zoo drew

230 kids and their families, beating last year's attendance of 142.



The event was organized by Sigma Alpha Iota and the Stetson Community School of Music and featured Cameron Huster, a

professor of Harp at Stetson, who also gave demonstrations. This was shared by Channel 13 News

"King of Instruments"

On October 16, 2012, once again Dr. Boyd Jones agreed to provide a concert with his students on the Organ and Harpsichord and the Volusia County Alumnae provided a reception following the concert. Again we were able to raise money through donations to further the interests of Sigma Alpha Iota.

October Musicale



Eta Pi Welcome Luncheon

Our Annual Welcome Luncheon

Beautiful tables, wonderful fellowship between the Volusia County Alumnae Chapter and the Collegiate Eta Pi

Chapter. The excitement of service by participating in the Instrument Petting Zoo successfully launch a new year of service. Thank you Kristin Woolard, Social Chair!

CONCERTS

Oct 21

Bel Canto-3:30pm at Westminster-by-the-Sea Presbyterian Church.

Dec 9, 3:30 pm: Bel Canto- Messiah at Our Lady of Lourdes

Dec. 13, 6:30 pm: Cypress creek Elementary Musical "Yes, Virginia"



Sister News

CHAPTER MEMBER TO COMPOSE DOCUMENT FOR STETSON SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Much to her surprise, Patty Fort has been asked by new Director of Choral Activities Tim Peter to write a "document on Stetson's choral history." Dr. Peter, coming to Stetson with little background in Stetson's history, traditions, etc., other than what he has been told since beginning to consider accepting this appointment, feels that, now that people who "had a handle" on this even as far back as the Giffin years (1936-1972, with time out for service in WW 2) are becoming thin on the ground, it may be time to make a conscious effort to preserve the history of Stetson's choral heritage in writing for both present and future students and faculty, as well as to be a memento for alumni/ae and retired faculty.

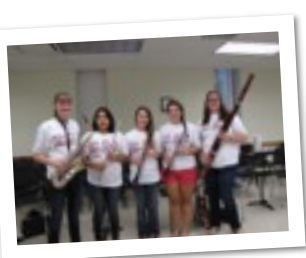
Why specifically choral history? For one thing, it's less expensive to sing than to mount large instrumental ensembles. Stetson's early close connection with Florida Baptists, not to mention its daily chapel requirement, made singing a very natural expectation and activity. In the late 19th and early 20th century -- pre-television, pre-LPs, let alone CDs and all the unending new crop of electronic connectedness opportunities, a new one every 20 minutes -- people sang -- actually sang, themselves -- far more than is common today. A national survey once discovered that people all over the country who knew anything about Stetson reported that it was the Glee Club they knew about -- the result of many far-reaching as well as nearby tours the Glee Club made. Had you realized that, of major Florida colleges with histories of choral singing, until about 1948 only Stetson had been coed from its beginning and thus could sing the big choral repertoire -- the oratorios, the Bach passions and masses, etc. It's said in some archival materials, though this is tricky to prove, that the first performance of *Messiah* ever given in Florida was sung at Stetson in 1905. And so it went.

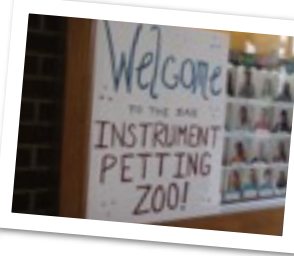
Patty is expecting that information for this document will come partly from a number of archival sources, in both university-wide and specifically Music School records, and partly from reflections by former students of the various choral conductors Stetson has had over the years. The work is in early stages at this point, and this is about all that can be said of it now, but Patty is enjoying the challenge.

(Contributed by Patty Fort upon request of the Editor)

Congratulations to Julia Hood, for the successful run as musical director of the musical "South Pacific" at the Athens Theater.

Cameron Huster also made headlines in The West Volusia Beacon news for a concert at Stetson University.





Volusia County Alumnae Chapter News

We want to continue to stay in touch with Rabel Parson as she continues to recover.

Many of our sisters are involved in teaching and performing music all over Volusia County.

Sandra Perry, recently conducted her first concert as a teacher. Congratulations!!
Rose Grace's concert schedule continues to keep her happy and very busy!



Sigma Alpha Iota Sisterhood



"We help one another in every way"