



MU PHI EPSILON

The Ann Arbor-Detroit-Toledo Tri-Alumni Chapter Mu Phi Meeting

Date: May 11, 2021

Time: 7:35 – 9:20 p.m.

Maintaining a long Springtime tradition, fourteen members of the Alumni chapters of Great Lakes Province 1 met via Zoom on May 11, 2021, hosted by the Ann Arbor Alumni chapter.

President's Reports:

Corky Landes, president of the Ann Arbor Alumni chapter, informed us that members of the Ann Arbor chapter have been individually busy, some more than others, over this past year, chiefly doing performances via YouTube, Livestream (for church services), and remote recitals. The chapter has maintained its regular schedule of meetings, including hosting a performer from Epsilon Lambda (EMU) (via video), having an online Christmas party with Carol singing, poetry reading by **Debbie Ash** and watching a choral video of some German Carols prepared by **Susan Bissiri** and her mini-choir. The chapter also awarded a scholarship to an Epsilon Lambda student at the April meeting; and is in the process of completing a "Music for Jamaica" project, as member **Melissa-Kay Grey** has connections with a school in Jamaica which can benefit from the a donation of Used Music. The chapter intends to continue Zoom meetings during the winter months. June 2021 and September 2021 meetings will be outdoor deck meetings.

Elaine Moore, president of the Toledo Alumni chapter, reported that Toledo has been pretty inactive over the duration of the Covid constraints, despite the fact that Ohio has been somewhat less restricted than Michigan. Church services have continued, which has meant that organist members have been able to play fairly regularly; the Toledo Symphony has been operating with fewer players, mostly strings, but without many wind instruments. A lot of music making has been limited, and there have been no regular chapter meetings, as members have been very cautious.

From **Donna Chrzanowski**, president of the Detroit Alumni chapter, we learned that Detroit has managed to have their regular monthly meetings, and even performances, both live (online) and pre-recorded. Since the Detroit chapter membership covers a large geographic area, meeting via Google-Meet has been helpful insofar that members who normally have a difficult time coming out to meetings in person have been able to come to the virtual meetings. Detroit plans to continue to have online access to their meetings going forward, as a regular part of what they do, to assist in helping members attend their meeting. Detroit had a special Founders Day event: **Andrew and Kathy Meagher** performed. Also, member **Kassia Martin**, flute, and her husband Sam, clarinet, performed duets for one of their meetings. The Nuts-and-Granola fund-raising sales have not done as well especially since **Marion Alan** has not been able to be as involved. Detroit has added Kroger as part of their fund-raising program; this was easy to set up but it is still early to see if that will be successful. Detroit now has a member who graduated from Phi Kappa (WSU): **Michael Katopedes**. He applied and has been accepted into U of M's organ/church music curriculum. Donna reports that most of Mu Phi members in Phi Kappa have graduated, so keeping that chapter going will be a challenge.

In Memoriam:

Nancy Murphy (Ann Arbor Alumni) led the group in recalling in love and gratitude those who have passed from our midst: from Ann Arbor -- **Janice Clark, Glennis Stout**; from Detroit -- **Kathy von Schwarz**; and from Toledo -- **Merrie Elizabeth Kendrick**.

Details about each person were shared to honor these our sisters who have gone before us (see attached flyer for photos). "May the Music, Friendship and Harmony which this sisters shared with us abide in our hearts forever. May their kindly deeds and years well spent always serve as a source of inspiration to us who were privileged to know them. Let us who here remain rededicate ourselves and our talents in the cause of our art so that Music, Friendship and Harmony might flourish in the world."

Laurel Federbush, harp, (Ann Arbor Alumni) performed three works she arranged for meditation:

- Liebestraum, a.k.a. Dream of Love (Franz Liszt)
- Lascia Ch'io Pianga "Allow me to weep" (George Frederic Handel) from his opera "Rinaldo" (HWV 7)
- Nocturne in E flat, Op. 9 No. 2 (Frederic Chopin)

Social Time:

The evening concluded with attendees catching-up personally and sharing what they have been doing in the last part of the pandemic.

Respectfully submitted, **Nancy Murphy** (Ann Arbor Alumni)

