

Minnesota Loon-y Tunes 'Seeds' Fundraiser

Reporter for **Minnesota Loon-y Tunes**, **Judy Nobles** tells us that the Chapter enjoyed their successful fund-raising for Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation so much that they wanted to continue in that same vein after the campaign was over.

"We all felt strongly that we wanted a charity that related to music in some way and that we wanted to serve our local area. Through **Schmitt Music, our sponsor**, we heard about Wonder World Music, and after informing all our Members about the organization, we unanimously adopted it as the recipient of our future efforts. We have raised about \$275 for them so far and look forward to doing much more."

To continue their efforts the group keeps a 'watering can' poster in the store that helps with 'seed' money. Very cute.



Darlene Hagen designed and made the poster and decorated the watering can. The 'seeds' are blossoming into instruments.

The Points Corner

January Double Points: Help Session: Normal Points are 1000. Double Points this month are 2000.

RULES and RESTRICTIONS: Upon completion of a Help Session, Members may claim 2,000 points (Double Points). Members can only claim Help Session Points **twice in a 10-or-12 week class session.**

February Double Points: Enroll A New Member In LIFE: With all the new class members coming in from Win A Trip To HOH, why not get additional points by having them join LIFE? Normal Points are 1000. Double Points this month are 2000.

RULES and RESTRICTIONS: Members can only claim points for Enrolling a New LIFE Member when that new member's application and fees have been received by LIFE.

Monroeville Gets Busy

Midge Kurpiewski, reporter for **Monroeville Lowrey LIFE**, sponsored by **Trombino in Monroeville, PA** lets us know that her group has been full steam ahead since last summer with dozens of special LIFE concerts and playing out in their community. This happy group uses very holiday to create a special 'event' that they can get together around and make music.

Dennis Awe even made it out for the 4th of July last year for a star-spangled spectacular. Here's some of the happy group below:



Pictured above are: Monroeville President Raine Campbell, Secretary Erma Carpell, Store Manager Kevin Trousdale, and Reporter Midge Kurpiewski.



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ordering. Hal Leonard songbook code: **102318**

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handling charge.

They Were The Best Of Times

Last year we started a new 'tradition' of letting a Chapter choose the year's worth of Hal Leonard Songbooks that our Members get at discount.

This year (drum roll, please) **Dallas Metro LIFE** sponsored by **Romeo Music** in **Dallas, TX** has the honor of selecting our 'theme' and the books to accompany the theme for the year.

Dallas Metro has chosen '**Back To The Fifties**' as our 2009 year theme and our first song book is 'DOO-WOP'. A really great addition to any collection with some foot-tapping, make you want to dance songs that will take you back to the soda shop, bobby socks, ducktails and hanging out with your friends.

L.I.F.E. Style

*People With A Passion
For Making Music*

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Happy New Year - Welcome 2009!

A new year is upon us and before we kick things off, we hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season with lots of family, love and laughter.

With 2009, we're now entering our 6th year. We have (as of this printing) 66 Chapters worldwide, and 2400 enthusiastic, fun-loving, music-making, laugh-a-lot Members. We think that's pretty neat to be a part of such a big, happy family. In fact, LIFE is officially deeming 2009 to be **'A Year of Friendship'**. We'd like all our Chapters to keep this theme in mind throughout the year as you perform at events and volunteer in your communities.

Why the Year of Friendship? We'll we all the know the short answer - it's what happens when you make music. Sooner or later a few chords turn into a new group of friends. But there's more to it than that. It starts with the question we get asked most, "What exactly do you do?" The answer of course is nothing, and everything!

Our main responsibility is to have fun! LIFE is an opportunity for those who have spent their lives working and taking care of others, to take some time for themselves as they pursue their new-found passion - making music. This is the place to have fun and enjoy yourself.

In every Lowrey class around the country and at every LIFE Meeting, there is always laughter, fellowship and a sense that this is the place where worries and the every day take a backseat to more important 'issues' - like who's bringing what for pot-luck, where are we playing out next, what group can we help raise funds for, and how can we keep from getting picked for the Hula Hoop contest at HOH!

Our Mission is simply to gain higher visibility for our age group (retirees) and to reshape the way music makers are viewed sometimes - as 'academic' students, rather than a fun-loving group who don't care as much about hitting all the right notes, as they do enjoying themselves and passing along that joy to others.

We advance our agenda with good humor and laughter. And as a connected group (of 2400 no less) - our plans for taking over the world through music are sure to come to fruition! (just kidding!)

So friends, enjoy this new year of 2009. Share it with your other friends, make new ones and remember **'A Year of Friendship'** is exactly what LIFE is all about.

Joyce and Dennis Kaplan
National LIFE Chapter Presidents

Triangle LIFE Gets Off To a New Year

We want to warmly welcome The Triangle LIFE Chapter back into the fold. Sponsored by **Maus Piano and Organ Company in Raleigh, NC.** the group has recently re-focused their efforts and commitment to their Chapter.



Chapter president Fred Howes tells us, “We have 16 members and we meet for Chapter business every other month. We’re trying to increase our Membership and have recently scheduled some exciting social activities like a luncheon at the State Art Museum (great idea!), a Christmas dinner a local jazz club restaurant (we like that, too!) and a picnic lunch at one of our class leaders homes. We have a really enthusiastic group of officers who work together to create an interesting Chapter for our Members.” Fred also submits the following!

Q: Why are an organist’s fingers like lightning?
A: Because they rarely strike the same place twice.

Pictured above playing for the Magnolia Glen senior center are: Back row - l-t-r:

Marie Brancato, Brenda Newman, Marge Jackson, Jerry Walker, John Jackson, Tony Maighnath, Jim Pommerenke, Fred Howes and Staffer Dan Gauldin. Front row l-t-r: Dolores Slater and Paulette Simmons

Q: What do you get when you throw a piano down a mine shaft?

A: A flat miner.

Q: What do you get if you drop an organ on an army base?

A: A flat major.

Meet New Chapter ‘The Treasure Valley of LIFE’

We want to welcome one of our newest Chapters, **The Treasure Valley of LIFE**, sponsored by **Dunkley Music in Boise, Idaho.** The group started in October of last year with 13 Members and by early December they’d already played out at one nearby nursing home and had several others on the ‘docket’. We’re looking forward to hearing more from this good looking group in the months.



Front row: Wanda McConnell, Maralyn Wells (president), Betty Hetrick, Fae Gee (reporter), Louanna Hemmer (co-leader, secretary) and Roberta Lowrey.

Back row: Grace Osborn, Bud Hetrick, Ruby Reutzel, Vel Edwards, Dixie Wayment and Allen Wayment. Not pictured are: Shirley Buckholtz (activities coordinator).



Minor Songs

Many have asked me what songs to use for the minor Intros on the newer SU organs and the new Prestige organ. Well, Brad Bryan (our business director) loves to play songs that are in a minor key. So all but one of the suggestions below came from Mr. Bryan. These minor songs will make the styles suggested sound very different than when you play them with songs in major keys so have fun.

Happy New Year!

Bil

SONG	STYLE
Besame Mucho	Ballroom Polka
Blue Skies	Frank & the Count
Charade	Guitars 3 / 4
Chim Chim Cheree	Guitars 3 / 4
Cumana	Salsa (or any fast Latin)
El Choclo (Kiss of Fire)	Mambo
Godfather Theme	Mr. Showman
Golden Earrings	Soft 'n Easy Basic
Harlem Nocturne	Ballad
Hit the Road, Jack	Tennessee Tons
House of the Rising Sun	McSwing
It Had Better Be Tonight (Pink Panther)	Samba
Masquerade	Jazzee
Music to Watch Girls By	Wanderful
Sealed with a Kiss	Bossa Nova
September Song	Ballroom Latin
The Good, The Bad & the Ugly	Classic Western
Those Were The Days	Bluegrass
Washington Square	Southern March
When Johnny Comes	6/8 March
Puttin' On the Ritz	Stride Piano (or Honky Tonk)

Ballin' The Jack

Rock 'n Roll really hit the charts in 1955. So the music of the first half of the fifties decade included many different styles from artists like Perry Como, Leroy Anderson, The Ames Brothers, Guy Lombardo, Al Jolson, Sammy Kaye, Hank Snow, Joe Stafford, Phil Harris, The Mills Brothers, Frankie Laine, Mario Lanza, Patty Page, and Georgia Gibbs. Ballin' the Jack had been around since 1913 and in 1950 became a hit for both Georgia Gibbs and Danny Kaye. Ballin' the Jack, the Hokey Pokey, and the Bunny Hop were the popular "party songs" of the 1950s. So, use Swing Basic (Hop) and the style and play it through two times. If you also know the other two songs they play all three as a medley. You should have everyone up and dancing with this one!

Jim Burris

Chris Smith

Intro

First you put your two knees close up tight— Then you

swing 'em to the left, then you swing 'em to the right,

Step a round the floor kind of nice and light— Then you

twist a - round and twist a - round with all of your might,

Stretch your lov - ing arms straight out in space, Then you

do the Ea - gle Rock with style and grace.—— Swing your

foot way 'round then bring it back.—— Now

that's what I call Ball - in' the Jack!——

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time. It includes an 'Intro' section followed by ten lines of music. Each line of music is accompanied by a guitar chord symbol in a box above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The chords used are: C, A7, D7, G7, C, E7, F7, E7, A7, D7, Ab7, E7, Am7, Dm7, G7, and C.