

**Congratulations,
Carl, on twenty
wonderful years!**



Carl St.Clair with John Evans,
Pacific Symphony Board member
since 1986, who immediately
recognized Carl's capabilities.



"Work Hard, Be Grateful, Stay Humble"

- Carl St. Clair

President's Message:

The Center Club was "filled to the rafters" at our League General Membership Luncheon on Feb. 1. We always have our best attendance when Carl St.Clair is present, but this was our largest and most enthusiastic audience ever! Mindy Ball, principal harpist with the Pacific Symphony since 1979; John Evans, long time Board of Directors member and past president of the Board; and Tim Walton, *arts-X-press* student and counselor alum all paid tribute to Carl and shared memories that made us laugh and cry. Of course, Carl's inspiring talk was the highlight of the afternoon. **Happy 20th anniversary with the Pacific Symphony, Carl!**

Janice Smith

Memories and Accolades of the past 20 St. Clair years: Mindy Ball, Pacific Symphony harpist, and John Evans, Past President of the Board



Pacific Symphony principle harpist, Mindy Ball, has been with the orchestra since its inception. At the February 1 members' luncheon, she recalled those early days: "When it was decided to search for a new music director several candidates were reviewed. All that came to a screeching halt when Carl St.Clair graced our podium on February 1, 1990, yes, 20 years ago today, in a program full of program changes and concert soloists. It was so well received by the musicians, the Board and the audience. Carl had boundless enthusiasm, and he was willing and eager to not only move to Orange County, but *become* Orange County. On February 26, 1990, Carl St.Clair was officially announced the second Music Director of the Pacific Symphony Orchestra."

"Carl was a source of imagination and creativity; the next chapter of our history was well underway. In no time, this "diamond in the rough" Texan became our shining diamond in Orange County and remains the vision to this day for our symphony and its future." "Carl, your orchestra has experienced twenty journeys around the sun with you. You inspire us and teach us. You give us vision for the future because you are Our Vision. We explore and we invent with you. We, as your orchestra, do whatever you imagine because we do it together."

- Mindy Ball

Memories continued:

Remarks by John Evans: “Today I am ‘wearing’ my Leonard Bernstein Mont Blanc Fountain Pen that Carl used in signing one of his early Symphony contracts. Fitting, since Leonard Bernstein was his mentor. And I am carrying this “stick” (his baton—he used to whittle them from a chopstick—I can’t think it was for budget reasons) given to me for the 20th PSO anniversary season along with a signed program—again with the Bernstein pen. (Looking to Carl) Early in 1998 I asked you if I might have a baton you actually used in a performance. I was hesitant to impose upon you in this way, so I didn’t bring it up again. To my amazement, months later, immediately after the concert which opened the 20th anniversary season, you approached me and handed the baton you had used that night. You signed the program with my Mont Blanc Leonard Bernstein pen, the same one you used earlier to sign your PSO contract renewal at the Westin. I was on that committee over 20 years ago—beginning with a field of 200, narrowing to 11, most of whom auditioned. When Carl conducted the PSO the first time, I still recall this strong, confident, young, almost boyish long-haired conductor energetically coming out on stage January 30: it was exactly 20 years ago just the day before yesterday, January 30, 1990, to conduct the Tchaikovsky 6th. In my journal I wrote: ‘I like him a lot. No contest.’ We offered him, the job, begged him to join us.” ♦

Luncheon Meeting at The Center Club April 19, 2010



The guest artist at the April 19 Members’ luncheon will be Symphony piccoloist, Cindy Ellis. She will demonstrate her world of big to little flutes, all of which are required to make beautiful symphonic music.

Cynthia Ellis has been playing piccolo and flute with the Pacific Symphony since she was a student in 1979. She is often

heard in Southern California ensembles and orchestras on flute. She has also recorded extensively.

Ms. Ellis holds a Master of Music degree with Honors from California State University, Fullerton where she teaches flute, directs the flute ensemble, and holds a lectureship position.

Cindy and her trumpeter husband, Tony, are Pacific Symphony “Stand Partners.” They will share their Stand Partner experiences with us. ♦

Back to the Future: June 14, 2010 “Many hats of volunteering”



Don your favorite hat for the League General Membership Luncheon on June 14 at The Center Club.

We’re sure to see many “Vesta” hats purchased at the luncheon, “Un Cabaret et Des Chapeaux,” that the

Pacific Symphony League and Founders Plus of the Performing Arts Center cooperatively held last year honoring Vesta Curry. The June 14 program will celebrate the variety of projects in which League volunteers participate, committee reports, installation of officers and a mystery game.

Featured artist will be the talented eight year old violinist, Julia Wang. She is a third grader at Ladera Elementary in Tustin, which is one of our Class Act schools. She has been playing since she was four, and is taught by Pacific Symphony violinist, Dana Freeman. You don’t want to miss this one! ♦

News from the Symphony Store

by Sharon Stewart

The Symphony Shop has exceeded the profit goal we set for the entire year months ahead of schedule! We are working hard to expand and upgrade the merchandise we offer.

Susan Baker has found two wonderful items we are stocking on a regular basis– the beautiful “Pashmina” shawls, selling for an incredible \$25 and the sparkly crystal beaded bracelets, at \$15. Last fall, we added hand-crafted one of a kind, necklaces by Gretchen Schields. Gretchen is a nationally known artist who creates in many mediums and has evolved from fashion illustrator to jewelry designer. It amazes me how many people walk over and say, “Oh, that’s a Gretchen Schields piece”. Small, fun items are also doing well – we stock umbrellas; decks of cards; cookie cutters in musical designs; music boxes in the shape of violins, cellos, and pianos; and books about music and composers often with a CD included. The next time you are in the Concert Hall come over and see what we order for the rest of the concerts! *Editor’s Note: Sharon and her Store crew are at all Symphony concerts, before, during and after the concerts. Congratulations and Thanks!* ♦



Nominations for League Officers 2010–2011

The Nominating Committee, Lynn Selich, chair, Sandra Brown, Janice Johnson, Kathy Mills, and Julie Wiseman, are pleased to present the following slate of officers for 2010-2011. Further nomination for officers may be made from the floor at the April meeting with the previous verbal or written consent of the candidate. The membership will vote on the slate at the at the April 19 meeting.

President	Janice Smith
1 st VP, Membership	Claire Burt and Janice Johnson (co- chairs)
2 nd VP, Volunteers	Suzanne Chonette
3 rd VP, Ways & Means	Jaye Yaruss
4 th VP, Programs	Betsy Foster
Corresponding Sec.	Vivian McCluney
Recording Sec.	Julie Wiseman
Parliamentarian	Lynn Selich

Membership Roster changes:

Biscay, Samuel – last name spelling change
Brantman, Donna – phone number change to 949-515-9513

Dietiker, Walter – zip code change to 92660

Lustig, Tina – change email to tlustig@me.com

Selich, Lynn – change email to

lynnselich@roadrunner.com

Notice the “Additional Pages for the Roster”

Dates to remember

March 28 – Supper Club, featuring Pacific Symphony principal oboeist, Jessica Pearlman, home of Sheila and Jim Peterson

April 13 – 2nd Annual Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Event, Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

April 19 – General Membership Luncheon, featuring Cynthia Ellis, Pacific Symphony piccoloist, The Center Club

April 25 – Gala 2010, Disneyland Resort

May 18 – A Gala Night with Joshua Bell, Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

May 23 – Supper Club, featuring László Mezö, Pacific Symphony cellist, location TBD

June 14 – General Membership Luncheon “Many Hats of Volunteering”, The Center Club

Celebration Raffle

Congratulations to Joyce and Spencer Covert, the grand prize winners of the Celebration Raffle. Robin Kalota, Rhoda Cady, and Dennis Laherty were the lucky winners of the Black, Starr & Frost, limited edition, diamond and sapphire pins.

The League raised \$35,000 to benefit Pacific Symphony’s music education programs for children. We appreciate the volunteers who sold raffle tickets at more than 50 concerts and events, 465 volunteer hours, and the additional League members who sold to friends and family members. A special “thank you” to Julie Wiseman and Barbara Sue Johnson who sold the most tickets. ♦

Spring Music for Kids

Kids, kids, kids! Busses, busses, busses! That's all you see around the Performing Arts Plaza on June 2, 3, 8, and 10 except for a Pacific Symphony League volunteer flaying her arms valiantly trying to direct the chaos into her own traffic symphony. There are teachers, Class Act parents, volunteers, and the kids dressed in their picture finest.

It's the **Spring Youth Concerts** – the culmination of the Class Act education program! Thousands of local school children are bussed in to attend concerts at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall, and volunteers are a critical part of the logistics process. Volunteers assist with seating children, loading and unloading busses, greeting school groups, and keeping the traffic flowing.

As a volunteer, you may sign up for any one or four days of concerts. The time commitment is four hours from 8:00 a.m. to noon each day.

Volunteers are also vital for the Musical Carnival portion of the **Family Musical Mornings** concerts. League volunteers, as well as volunteers from several community groups, arrive at 8 a.m. for an 8:15 orientation and stay until 1 p.m.

The last opportunity to volunteer for a Musical Morning concert will be April 17, for "Orchestra from Planet X". The Magic Circle Mime Company joins Pacific Symphony for a fun sci-fi thriller where two aliens descend on the concert with their own ideas for influencing "earth Music."

To volunteer and experience first hand the Pacific Symphony's Education for Youth programs at their best, contact Suzanne Chonette at schonetter@yahoo.com or 949-675-3715, or Mollie Gilmore at the Pacific Symphony office 714-876-2386. ♦

***Pacific Symphony League
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