

Gladys Knight Gets 16th ELLA... Neil Sedaka Picks Up 1st Golden Mic Award... Congrats To Phoebe Jacobs & Mercedes Ellington!



KNIGHT BRIGHTENS BEVERLY HILLS! Gladys Knight was presented with the 16th ELLA Award at a star-studded event on 9/10 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. L to R: Johnny Mathis, Gladys Knight, Jerry F. Sharell, President/CEO Society of Singers, Ginny Mancini, Chairman Emeritus of SOS and Zach Horowitz, President/COO, Universal Music Group. Huge thanks extended to these performers: Phil Perry, Melissa Etheridge, Wayne Brady, Jerry J. Sharell, Bubba Knight, Kimberley Locke, Rebecca Sjöwall, Johnny Mathis and Smokey Robinson. Special thanks to Benjamin Wright who handled the music director duties!

FABULOUS PHOEBE!

Kudos galore to Phoebe Jacobs on receiving the A More Wonderful World Award from the Beth Israel Hospital Louis Armstrong Center for Music & Medicine in New York. Presenting the award to Phoebe is Dr. Mark Persky. Phoebe has been a long-time member of SOS and currently is Executive VP of the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation. She was honored because of her support of others, especially those involved in jazz. We are honored to have Phoebe as an active member of SOS and if she ever writes the book, I'll be first in line to get one. JFS.



MARVELOUS MELISSA!

Ms. Etheridge sang "Neither One Of Us" and laid claim to it for about four magnificent minutes at the ELLA. In the words of one reviewer, "She blew the roof off the Hilton Ballroom! Melissa showed so much soul that she could have easily segued right into "Midnight Train To Georgia" and not miss a beat! Ms E. had a ball and so did everyone else in the room! You had to be there!"



ROBINSON RULES!

Smokey Robinson has become one of the finest gentlemen of song in the world. He sang "Every Beat Of My Heart" and had the audience in the palm of his hand. It was just him and his guitar accompanist. The room was so quiet you could hear the ice melt and Smokey gave the song a slow and pretty sound. The regal Mr. R. got a well-deserved standing ovation!



SEDAKA SPARKLES! The night of October 26 at Avery Fisher Hall in NY was dedicated to paying tribute to Neil Sedaka for his many decades of special music! The show was stupendous! Of course the night belonged to Neil who graced the audience with a half hour of magnificent musical memories! Charles Wallert, President of SOS Chapter East, presented Neil with the first Golden Mic Award on behalf of all our members. (More on page 8).



ELEGANT ELLINGTON! Countless congratulations to our friend and SOS member in NY, Ms. Mercedes Ellington on receiving The Paul Robeson Citation Award! This lovely woman has a supreme artistry that has always reflected the integrity of her craft and her dignity. Her choreography is recognized worldwide, as well as her performing, producing and directorial accomplishments. We are proud to have Mercedes with us.

THE VOICE

A quarterly publication of Society of Singers

CONTRIBUTORS

Wendy Garfinkel, Sharon Ingram,
Jerry F. Sharell, Judy Varley

It is the mission of Society of Singers to benefit the health and welfare of professional singers worldwide. SOS also focuses on advancement of the vocal arts by awarding scholarships to students at accredited universities.

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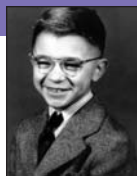
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President's Pages



Ladies and Gentlemen:

It has been a very exciting and gratifying year and it's not yet over! The energy, belief and passion I am receiving from our members and particularly the Board of Directors is heartwarming and helps me know that I'm not just wasting my time promoting the mission of SOS. In June I started a radio show in LA on KGIL 1260AM on Sunday nights from 7 to 10 PM. The cool thing about the show is that I can talk about Society of Singers as much as I want to... and I do. I try to keep the preaching to a minimum, but that's really difficult. I believe that our mission is important and contributes to making lives better for nearly 200 singers annually. I now have to ask all of you for a large favor: Please ask five of your best friends to become members of SOS and then ask them to get five more of their friends to do the same. Here's an idea for a holiday present... you can give the gift of membership in SOS to a good friend.

My personal congratulations and thanks to Charles Wallert and the BOD at Chapter East in NY for all the hard work they have done to build our membership and our visibility in the Apple. They have had quite a busy year and their membership grows... daily! Turn to their pages and you'll see proof!

As I write this note to you the writers have declared a strike on all the television/movie entities... the price of gas in LA is now around \$3.25 and rising... Joe Torre just took the Dodgers managerial gig... *American Gangster*, the movie looks like a smash... my appreciation of the Barry Manilow/Johnny Mercer song, "When October Goes" grows after every birthday... my grandkids love *High School Musical* and seeing my family as much as possible is supremely important to me.

I ask you to read this message of thanks and gratitude and then reread it. Then let me know that you are on our team and that you will be out there contributing to SOS so we can continue our mission of helping financially strapped singers. The Scholarship Program we instituted a few years ago has brought joy and hope to dozens of youngsters. Let me be among the first to wish all of you and yours the best holidays you ever had... and may one of you win the damn lottery! Happy Thanksgiving... Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Jerry F. Sharell
President & CEO



JFS, Joanne Sharell and Frankie Valli backstage after a super SRO show at the Morongo Casino near Palm Springs, CA. It was a classic evening with 19 hit songs in-a-row!



A MUSICAL SALUTE TO THE SONGS OF GUS KAHN AND HARRY WARREN! It was SRO at the Beverly Hills Civic Center recently for this great show produced by Corky Hale. Songs were sung by: Jerry F. Sharell, Jennifer Leigh Warren, Corky Hale, Sally Kellerman, Peggy King and Byron Motley. A marvelous night!

Sharon Ingram was born and raised in Maryland and went to school at *Howard University* where she majored in broadcast journalism and minored in theatre arts. After Howard, Sharon moved to New York where she mostly partied but earned a living in publishing and musical theatre! Two years ago she decided she was tired of the New York grind and moved to LA in order to pursue drama and TV. Sharon began working at SOS shortly after arriving and has probably spoken to most of you. She has been here for two amazing ELLA's now, and handles the membership database and other administrative duties. In her spare time she enjoys watching and playing tennis, going to the movies, live entertainment shows, and fine dining if someone else pays!





Jerry, Brandon "Randy" Phillips, President/CEO, AEG Live, Adam Friedman, CEO, The Nederlanders... under the palms of Beverly Hills!



TOASTING IN LA. JFS, Susan Markheim, Front Line Management and world-famous manager (U2), Paul McGuinness. That's water in those glasses, folks!



ON 1260AM/KGIL Radio in LA. Carmen Fanzone, producer/flugelhorn player on the marvelous new Sue Raney CD, *A Tribute to Doris Day*, the lovely Sue and host, JFS. Sharell calls the album, "one of the year's finest... by anyone."



BOB AND JER. Guesting on a Sharell radio show recently paying tribute to Merv Griffin in his best friend, noted actor, Robert Loggia... a classic radio salute on KGIL-AM/1260AM in LA. Sharell is on the radio every Sunday night on 1260AM from 7 to 10 PM playing songs from The Great American Songbook.



RUNNIN' WITH RON! Ron Weisner slowed down just a bit to take this cameo with Jerry. Friends since '63, these two get together regularly and reconstruct... everything! Weisner is one of the busiest producers in LA with these credits: *The BET Awards, The BET Silver Anniversary Special, The Smokey Robinson Walk Of Fame Show* and his Executive Producer status on a number of albums by Curtis Mayfield and the recent CD by Gladys Knight, *Before Me*.



A TIME OUT! Morris I. Diamond and lovely chanteuse, Gogi Grant... at a recent Big Band Academy event!



MICKY'S NEW LOOK! It's cool gangster attire for former Monkey Mickey Dolenz with black suit and black fedora, but he was wearing brown shoes!



HAPPY B-DAY, CC! It was party time in Beverly Hills at the Karen Lynne Gallery for the birthday celebration of Carol Connors. Pictured alongside the lovely cake are these multi-dimensional beauties, Marilyn McCoo and Florence LaRue. The cake was designed by Paula Karcher.

Moments To Remember!



LET'S HAVE A LIL' TEA! Seen holding glasses of iced tea 1943... L to R: Gracie Barrie, Nick Sevano, Frank Sinatra, Mildred Fox and Sgt. Morris I. Diamond.



JUST A LITTLE SUNNING! It was "time off" in 1941 at the Tommy Dorsey estate in Bernardsville, NJ. L to R: Ziggy Elman, great trumpeter; Francis Albert Sinatra, sensational singer; Morris I. Diamond, band boy/assistant manager of the TD Orchestra.



LAFFS GALORE! At the 1994 ELLA Award cocktail party honoring Peggy Lee, somebody said something terribly funny! L to R: Ginny Mancini, Artie Shaw, Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme.



JERRY AND JAMES! We took this picture in the mid 80's when I was working at MCA Home Video and James Stewart pitched-in with the publicity of the home video release of *The Glenn Miller Story* in which he was the star. Jimmy was a real old-school trouper and stayed on the promo trail for a few days across the USA. I treasured that experience of working with him. He was a great guy! JFS.

Human Services



Wendy Garfinkel,
MSW, MA
Director of Human Services
wendy@singers.org

Following a summer meeting of the Scholarship Committee, I am proud to introduce the SOS 2007 Scholarship Award recipients. The committee is extremely pleased with the talent and promise that was introduced this year, and we wish all of our students the best of luck with their studies and their upcoming performances. I also wish to thank the committee for its participation and expertise. We are always looking for new members to serve, so please contact me if you are interested.



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE. (standing L to R): Billie Barnum Crotty, Kathy Spanberger, Maxi Anderson, Wendy Garfinkel, Cassie Thornburg; (seated L to R): Ray Charles, Milt Okun, Randy Poe.

SOS Scholars

Dear SOS,

Thank you so much for your support in this challenging field. It's really inspiring to have found an institution that encourages young singers, and I'm proud to be a part of it. This time spent in graduate school to refine vocal and performance technique is invaluable and means the world to me. The cost of training and beginning a career can sometimes seem overwhelming, but this scholarship is a huge help. Upon completion of my Master's degree, I plan to participate in young artist programs across the country and begin my career as a professional singer.

Thanks again for all your support!

Amy Dancz

Amy received a Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship and attends the New England Conservatory.



Dear SOS,

I would like to thank you for the generous gifts and donations that have made the *Berkman Scholarship* possible. Thanks to your gift I have the opportunity of being a recipient of one of the \$1,500



scholarships. With the aid this scholarship has provided I will be continuing my education in Vocal Performance at the *University of Utah* in Salt Lake City. I am thrilled to become part of the Society of Singers family as I begin my singing career.

Though my journey has been longer and different, it has turned me into the performer that I am today. I plan on continuing down my "road less traveled" hopefully turning hard work, practice and education into a successful career. Thank you so much for your role in helping me to attain my goals and dreams. I wish the Society of Singers the best of luck in all of its endeavors, and hopefully one day I can thank all of you in person.

Thankfully Yours,
Cecily Ellis

Dear SOS,

I'd like to offer my immense gratitude for the generous *Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship* that I was awarded. This scholarship will greatly assist me financially as I pursue my vocal and educational goals at the *Manhattan School of Music*. SOS is such a remarkable organization, and I am so grateful for your contribution to the vocal arts.

Thank you so much for helping me achieve my life-long dream of becoming a successful opera singer!

Sincerely,
Daryl Freedman



Dear SOS,

I would like to express my utmost thanks for your financial support during my last year of graduate school. This is a big year in terms of auditions for young artist programs and any help is most welcome! Once more, thank you again for your generosity!

Sincerely,

Julie-Anne Hamula

Julie received a Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship and attends the University of Texas, Austin School of Music



Dear SOS,

Thank you very much for contacting me and giving me the great news! I really appreciate your support in helping me to achieve my goal and get my Masters in Jazz Vocal Performance! This help is really a blessing since I am working on a new CD. I will send you a copy when it's completed. Thank you again and I will certainly contribute what I can!

With best wishes,

Beat Kaestli

Beat received the Ella Fitzgerald Foundation Scholarship and attends Queens College, NY.



Dear SOS,

I am writing this letter to express my heart-felt thanks and gratitude for the *Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship* I received to assist me in attending the Opera/Vocal Arts program at *USC*. In the few short weeks I have been in school, I have already been cast in several of their opera productions, and other fantastic performing opportunities are constantly being offered. The professors at *USC* have been nothing short of spectacular, and the atmosphere there is conducive to my rapid growth as a performer, artist and person.

The cost of tuition is extremely high, about \$11,000 a semester, and I shudder to think about paying back my huge loans after I graduate. Young singers entering the opera field rarely make much money when they first get started, but with hard work and determination, things tend to even out financially over time. The scholarship I received has already been put to good use, helping my family and me to cover the cost of such a fantastic education. I plan to keep SOS aware of some of the big performances I have coming up, including several appearances as a soloist with the Los Angeles Master Chorale at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Sincerely,
Jon Lee Keenan



Dear SOS,

I want to thank the Society of Singers for awarding me a *Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship* for the 2007/2008 academic year. Since I remember, music was my primary interest. After finishing studies in Poland I decided to continue my education abroad. I chose *UCLA* because of the great faculty, fabulous program and many opportunities that the school offers to young people. However, it seemed impossible for me to come and study here due to financial obstacles.

I want to thank you very much for enabling me to study at *UCLA*. I would not be able to continue my education without your help.

Sincerely,
Anna Kwiatkowska



Dear SOS,

I am honored and extremely grateful to be chosen as the *Mount Scholarship* recipient. Thank you for your support in helping me to pursue my dream of becoming a professional opera singer. I hope to learn a lot this year at the *New England Conservatory* and I will keep you abreast of my progress. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Rebecca Luttio



Dear SOS,

I'd like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for being selected as a recipient of a *Herb Alpert Foundation*

Scholarship for the 2007-2008 season. The money will be extremely helpful as I finish up my Master's in Opera Theatre from the *University of South Carolina* this year. I intend to use some of the scholarship to help offset travel costs this fall as I continue to audition around the U.S. for the next exciting experience in my life. I will keep in touch as I start to tackle the beginning phases of the young artist process. I am honored to be a recipient of this award and I appreciate all that it will do for me. Thank you very much.



Respectfully,
Evan McCormack

Dear SOS,

I am writing to express my sincere thanks for the honor of receiving a 2007 *Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship*. I am so grateful for the opportunity to pursue my Master's studies at the *New England Conservatory* with the support of the Society of Singers. This scholarship will allow me to continue the exploration of the vocal and operatic literature at *NEC*. Over this next year I look forward to honing my performance skills and achieving the next level of my musical development. Thank you for your generous support. I greatly appreciate the SOS's help toward the realization of my life-long goal!



Sincerely,
Stephanie Piraino

Dear SOS,

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to perform at the 16th Annual *ELLA* on September 10, 2007. It was an unforgettable evening. Even though my heart remains dedicated to opera, I will never forget my first experience with a big band. What an amazing, talented group of musicians! And the performances that night were so special, so magical. I was very honored to be there.



I would also like to thank SOS for awarding me a *Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship*. It was certainly a surprise when you came out and told me on stage that night! A very welcome surprise as this second scholarship will help to offset the costs of my second and final year as a Master's student in vocal performance at *UCLA*. I will always remember the generosity of SOS and am extremely grateful for your continued support.

Warmest regards,
Rebecca Sjowall

Dear SOS,

Thank you very much for choosing me as one of the 2007 *Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship* winners. This award will help tremendously as I enter into the second and final year of my



Masters at *Ohio State University*. This fall I plan on auditioning for summer programs and a few Young Artist programs for the following year. I will keep SOS informed of my progress and hope to meet some of you along the way. Thank you so very much for this gracious award.

Sincerely,
Nicole Snyder

Dear SOS,

I want to thank you so much for your generous scholarship! Without it I would have been unable to attend graduate school. This year I have been cast as a lead in two university productions: Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi* and Polly in *Three Penny Opera*. Thanks to you I am able to finish my Master's degree and go onto bigger and better things! Thank you again.



Best,
Krista Wilhelmsen
Krista received a Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarship and attends the University of South Carolina.

SOS Continues to Make a Difference in New Orleans

Dear SOS,

You cannot know the joy of riding in a car with air conditioning especially when the heat index is 102. I also have new brakes and a new tire. I thought you might get a kick out of the fact that the driver's side-door no longer opens. Thank goodness the passenger's side still works. Burning some extra calories is always a plus.



I am now working on releasing my third CD. The music is finished. The photos have been taken and the designer is working on the layout. The project has been long in the making as it was started in June of 2005. I released *Call Me Baby* to keep the ball rolling one year after the storm. It was a good venture as I have played many new gigs because of that CD.

I'm No Angel should be released sometime in early November. In the meantime I am working 12-18 gigs a month. The Ritz Carlton phoned and said they had more dates for me in October and another hotel is looking at me as they want to add another singer to their program. I also had an interview with Young Audiences. It is a creative job teaching children and one that I really want to do.

I also have a small soap and bath salt business. The Ritz is one of my best clients. I am sending you a fleur de lis soap that has lavender essential oil in it. I hope you enjoy. Again, I just want to say that SOS has been such a tremendous help with my finances that have been so difficult since Hurricane Katrina. Someday I will be in a

situation where I can help another singer. I hope that day comes soon.

My love,
Lisa Lynn, New Orleans

Since Lisa wrote this letter, she will have started her job with Young Audiences. She continues to expand her soap business. For anyone interested in purchasing her soaps, please call Wendy at SOS at 818.995.7100. The soap she sent is wonderful and makes a great gift!

Dear SOS,

We would like to thank you and your staff for your financial assistance with our car insurance and electric/gas bill.



Summertime is tough here in New Orleans, but since the storm things have been so topsy-turvy that we especially thank you on behalf of all the singers you have assisted with the SOS-Donner Katrina Relief Fund. Perhaps one day if any of you pass through town we can thank you personally and play some music for you in our gratitude for building hope in our community.

Peace to you all,
Mark D. McLaughlin & Caroline Beckelheimer (aka Slewfoot & Cary B), *New Orleans*

And in New York...

Dear SOS,

I wanted to write and thank you so much for reviewing my file and graciously paying for a month of my health insurance. It is such a huge help, and I am so grateful to Society of Singers. I am very glad Carol at the Actors Fund pointed me in your direction! Thank you again and hope to speak with you soon!



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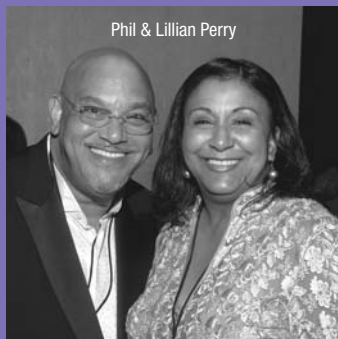
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Phil & Lillian Perry



Sharon Watkins & David Mirassou



Melissa Etheridge



standing L to R: Rob Heller, Chris Burke, Bobby Colomby, Alex Hodges, Ben Bernstein;
seated L to R: Marshall Reznick, Akiko Rogers, Sherry Hines, Carla Lauer



Dave Koz, Monica Mancini, Mitch Moore



Corky Hale Stoller, Morris Diamond, Barbara Marcus



Marvin & Dodo Gayle, Sandra Krause, Bill Fitzgerald

THE 16TH

Ella

AWARD

PRESENTED TO

Gladys Knight

SEPTEMBER 10, 2007



Gladys Knight



Eugenia Wright & Lee Bailey

Gary LeMel, Tasha LeMel, Asha Puthli



Jerry & Mercedes Ellington

standing L to R: Marilyn McCoo, Florence La Rue, Merrie Lynn Ross
seated L to R: Barbara Morrison, Mara New, Carol Connors,
Llana Rosenbluth



Carol Connors & Gladys



Gladys' Backups: Latoiya Williams, Neil Taffe,
Antionette Morgan and Jerry



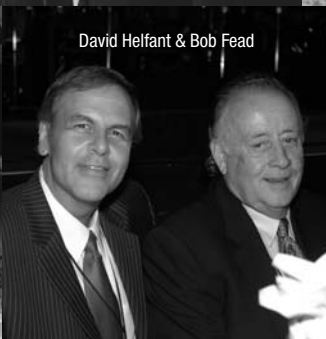
Jackie Berryhill, Jody & Steven Uslan, Gail Mitchell



Wayne Brady



James Leach, Pat Rogers, Arlene Fishbach, Greg Curtis



David Helfant & Bob Fead



Florence LaRue & Pat Boone



Marilyn McCoo, Dawnn Lewis, Billy Davis Jr., Kiki Shepard



Dolores Nemirow, Shirley Livingston, Gina Furth



Jerry & Janet Carroll



Jerry F. Sharell & Jerry Joe Sharell



Sheriff Lee Baca & Arthur Kassel



Charles Wallert & Ginny Mancini



Bubba Knight



Betty Rose, Angela White, Martha Robey



Marc & Susan Chalek, Edye Rugolo



Robert Gasper & Dr. Antonella Castaldo



Corey Reynolds & Tara Schemansky



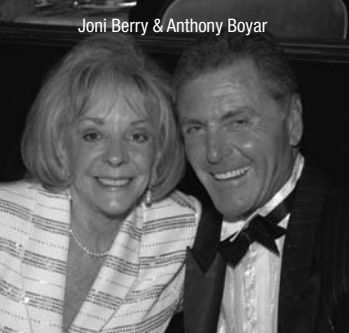
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Gladys Knight,
Kimberley Locke



Alex & Bud Friedman



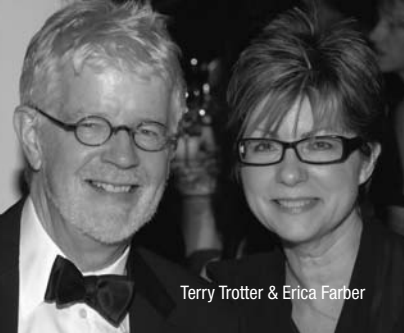
Johnny Mathis & Margot Wallert



Joni Berry & Anthony Boyar



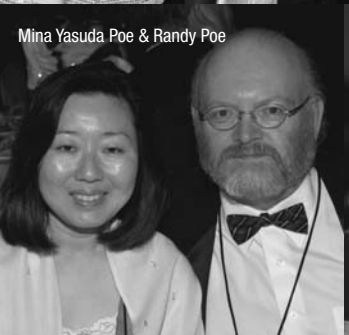
Smokey
Robinson



Terry Trotter & Erica Farber



Norm Crosby & Mitzi Gaynor



Mina Yasuda Poe & Randy Poe



Shirley Boone



Jack & Roxanne Carter



Debbie Boone



Jackie DeShannon, Al Schlesinger, Paula Gordon



Rebecca
Sjöwall



Jerry &
Susan Muneo



Webb Lowe & Ruta Lee



Cliff & Candace Smith



Sheila & Alan Ett

Chapter East



Most Wonderful Times

This has been an extremely active time for Chapter East. I am proud to report that we have over 100 new members this year and we are adding to that number every day. Congratulations to some of our members who received various honors and recognition recently. **Phoebe Jacobs** received the *A More Wonderful World Award* from Beth Israel Hospital, Louis Armstrong Center for Music & Medicine. The prestigious *Actor's Equity Paul Robeson Humanitarian Award* was bestowed to **Mercedes Ellington**. ASCAP has selected board member and former SOS scholarship recipient, **Ryan Scott Oliver** to receive the first-ever *Harold Adamson Award*. "The View from Here," a new song written for the musical *Darling*, with music and lyrics by Ryan Scott Oliver, will help to kick-off the Festival of New American Musicals in Los Angeles. Congratulations to all!

Kent Drake, Mercedes Ellington, Janet Carroll, Margot and yours truly represented Chapter East at the ELLA. One of the highlights was a conversation with **Johnny Mathis** about the importance of the work SOS undertakes. This fabulously talented artist is deeply committed to our cause. Moving right along, I was proud to be a judge, along with board VP, **Terri Stevens** at the Senior Idol Competition. **Gene Dicks** was the winner beating out a very talented field of contestants. Former Idol winners, **Lee Ann Brill** and **Ed Deacey** brought the house down with a duet of "You Don't Bring Me Flowers." They will be performing at the Chapter East Christmas Party. You do not want to miss this! Once again **Marlene Schuss** and **Bob Geltman** did a fantastic job with another Senior event. Speaking of Lee Ann Brill, we also attended the premier of the film *The Devils' Dominoes* starring Vincent Pastore and Daniel Baldwin. Lee Ann sang and co-wrote the theme song as well as being the featured vocalist on the movie soundtrack.

Taking the show on the road, the next stop was Hollywood, FL. where recent Satchmo recipient, **George Benson** and board member, **Darryl Tookes** performed at the Hard Rock Resort & Casino, both shows were worth the trip from anywhere! There is a book and screenplay under way for *There Must Be a God - The Ray Abruzzese Story*. Ray played for Bear Bryant at Alabama and convinced another kid from Pennsylvania to stay at Alabama when the kid wanted to leave. That kid was Joe Namath. They were later roommates and teammates in NY with the Jets. We were partners in the legendary Bachelors III nightclub. While in Florida I got a chance to visit Ray. He is battling Parkinson's disease and portions of the book sales will go to help fight Parkinson's.

I contributed a chapter to the book. SOS and our work are prominently mentioned.

Back home to the NY NARAS Chapter Awards. A truly great evening at Cipriani's downtown with awards to **Bon Jovi**, **Alicia Keys**, **Donnie McClurkin** and the celebration of the 50th anniversary of *West Side Story*. Chapter President, **Charlie Feldman** delivered a very passionate and inspirational speech. Also kudos to Executive Director, **Elizabeth Healey** and Administrative Coordinator, **Lorena Mann** on a wonderful event! Board VP **Janet Carroll** starred in The New York Musical Theatre Festival's production of *The Last Starfighter*. Janet also sang with the Canterbury Choral Society at Carnegie Hall (Nov 9) Mahler's 8th Symphony.

Chapter East's first Golden Mic was given to **Neil Sedaka** at his 50th anniversary celebration, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center. The house was completely sold out! Several members of Chapter East were in attendance as well as CEO Jerry Sharell. The performances by **Captain & Tennille**, **Clay Aiken**, **Dion**, **Natalie Cole**, **Paul Schaeffer**, **David Foster**, **The Bad Plus**, **Renee Olstead**, **Lou Christie** and **Connie Francis** in tribute to Neil, were touching, entertaining and great! I cannot describe the feeling waiting in the wings with Cousin Brucie and these great artists prior to presenting the award to Neil. As I said onstage, two components of greatness are being timeless and unique. Neil, you are those and more!

The very next day was the *Copacabana* book signing by author, **Kristine Baggelaar** at Barnes & Noble. Terri Stevens and the Copa Girls were there (see photos). Proceeds of sales from all books went to SOS. Thanks Kris and **Donna Rauch** (Barnes & Noble).

We closed out October with our wine tasting and gourmet dinner at Emilio Ballato. This evening was a great success with current members and many new members that joined SOS that evening. Sommelier, SOS member and accomplished pianist, **Robert Ruvio**, generously provided the wines courtesy of Wine Wave www.winewave.com. The wines and food were great and Robert was most entertaining in his presentation.

Condolences to our beloved Terri Stevens on the passing of her husband Ed Norbeck. Ed will be missed by all of us at Chapter East.

On a festive note the Chapter East Christmas Party will be Monday, December 10, 2007, 7-10PM at Blondies, 1770 Second Avenue (E.93-94) NYC. Special live performances, unlimited open bar, full buffet. Donation - \$85.

Make reservations early as space is extremely limited! Society of Singers, 212.922.0300, 501 5th Ave. Suite 614, New York, NY 10017

Happy Holidays!
Charles Wallert
President
Chapter East Society of Singers
chaptereast@singers.org

Copa Book Signing



L to R: author Kristin Baggelaar, Copa Girl Evelyn Peterson (Ohlrich); Copa production singer and former president of SOS Chapter East, Terri Stevens; Copa Girl (1944) and production singer (1946), Julie Wilson; Copa Girl Susan Marie Seton (Vitiello); Maxine Barrat (Carter), dance partner of Don Loper, early 1940s; and Copa Girl Joan Wynne.



L to R: Copa Girl alumni club member Marianna Schindler, former Copa Girls Susan Marie Seton (Vitiello) and Evelyn Peterson (Ohlrich), former Copa production singer/SOS Chapter East president Terri Stevens (Norbeck), and dancer Maxine Barrat (Carter), former partner of Don Loper.



L to R: Copa Girl Evelyn Peterson, Copa production singers Terri Stevens and Julie Wilson, dancer Maxine Barrat, Copa Girl Susan Marie Seton (kneeling), author Kristin Baggelaar and Copa Girl Joan Wynne.



MOVIE PREMIER OF THE DEVIL'S DOMINOES. John Pizzo, Scott Prestin, Michael Chinn, Charles and Lee Ann Brill (sang theme).



George Benson, Charles, Darryl Tookes - Post performances - Hard Rock Casino, Hollywood, FL.



Former Alabama & NY Jets star Ray Abruzzese, who also was a partner of Joe Namath and Charles in the legendary Bachelors III nightclub.



MY WAY/THEIR WAY! Judith Regan, Sirius Radio personality, recently recorded the Paul Anka song, "My Way" with Rod McBrien producing/arranging. Here are the terrific three after the recording session and Paul's appearance on the JR Show.



NARAS NY AWARDS. Lara Polakowski, Richie Sambora and Charles.



At Emilio Ballato restaurant in NY for the SOS Wine Tasting are Lorena Mann, NARAS, Robert Ruvio, sommelier and Brian Polakowski.

Neil Sedaka Tribute 10/25/07 SOS Golden Mic Award



Steven Ernst, Kent Drake, Jerry, Charles and Jamie de Roy.



Rebecca Olstead, Renee Olstead and Jerry.



Jerry, Paul Schaeffer, Charles and Ivana Trump.



Daryl Dragon and Toni Tennille, Captain & Tennille with Jerry and Charles.



Jerry, Neil Sedaka and Charles.



Jerry, Leba Sedaka and Charles.



Jerry and Connie Francis.



Rob Cotto, Sedaka Music and Charles.



Renee Olstead and Charles.

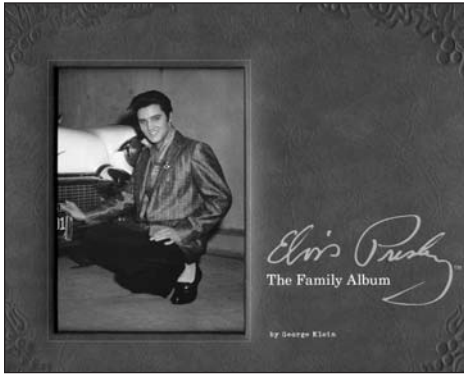


Peter Gemignani, Nina Murano, Rod McBrien, Charles, Kent Drake and Janet Carroll.

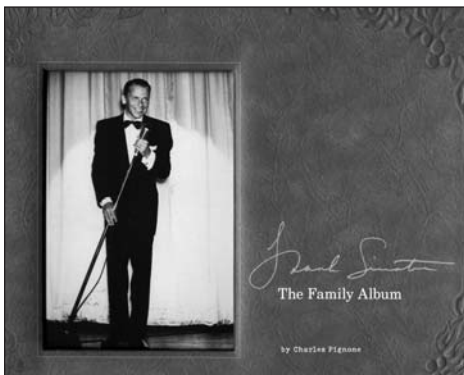


Terri Stevens and Charles.

President's Pics!



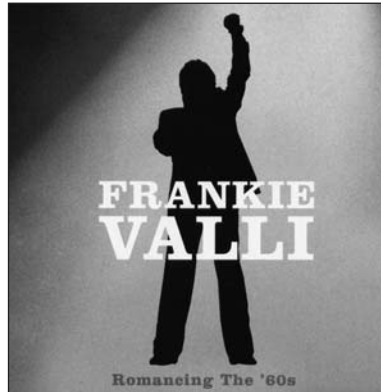
Elvis Presley *The Family Album* by George Klein. Fans will see Elvis as they never have before in over 150 rare or never-before-seen photos of music history's greatest legend. In this unique keepsake volume, designed to resemble a vintage album (complete with a padded cover, an inset photograph and firsthand recollections from family and friends), fans can see a side of Elvis that only those closest to him knew. Compiled and captioned by longtime Elvis friend, George Klein, this is a very personal account of Presley's private life and a look behind the scenes of his professional life. Elvis served as best man at Klein's wedding and they remained the best of friends. Now a major Memphis media personality and host for the past two decades of *The Elvis Hour* radio program, Klein has received numerous awards for his work in the field.



Frank Sinatra *The Family Album* contains photos taken by Frank Sinatra himself, as well as private family photos of Ol' Blue Eyes on vacation with his wife and children, backstage at his many concerts, and taking a break on the sets of his movies. Candid memories and photo captions from Nancy Sinatra, Jr., Sinatra accompanist Bill Miller, Frank's granddaughters and others, further add to the intimate feel of this heartfelt portrait of a star. Author Charles Pignone offers a unique perspective on the man that existed behind the bright lights and screaming fans. Pignone is also author of *The Sinatra Treasures* and the producer-archivist for the Sinatra family.

Both books are now available on-line and in bookstores.

Little, Brown and Company
www.hachettebookgroupusa.com



FRANKIE VALLI *Romancing The '60s* (Universal/Motown)

Valli brings all his passion and respect for the pop and R&B hits we grew-up with. His perfs on "Any Day Now"... "This Guy's In Love With You" and "Sunny" will definitely make you want to see him perform live. Charts by Artie Schroeck and Charles Calello with production by Bob Gaudio make this effort a smash. Great gift for your holiday list!



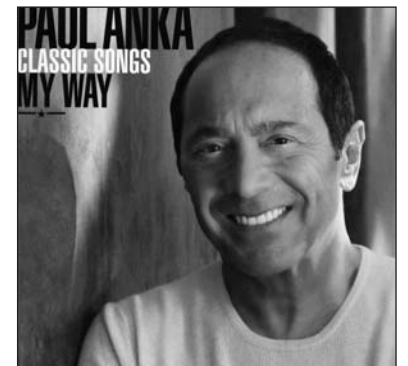
THELMA HOUSTON *A Woman's Touch* (ShoutFactory)

Thelma has been on hit street before and this CD will put her back-in-action. This is her first studio album in 17 years and it features cover songs by male artists such as Luther Vandross, Marvin Gaye and Sting. Thelma puts her ID on all of them. She is a total crowd pleaser and will always be remembered for her version of "Don't Leave Me This Way" which was a smash in '77. She is remarkable!



CALABRIA FOTI *A Lovely Way To Spend An Evening* (Faccia Bella Records)

An incredible vocal album by one of the new singers in town. She sings as good as she looks! Calabria is surrounded by some of the best musicians in LA with Bob McChesney on trombone and producing. This could be a definite contender for a Grammy in the Best Traditional Vocal category! This is romantic jazz... for cuddling and will put you in the mood. Johnny Mathis said, "This recording of Calabria Foti is some of the most beautiful and artistic music I have heard. It's a treasure!"



PAUL ANKA *Classic Songs My Way* (Decca)

Paul scored last year with an album of hits-by-others with re-coloring and re-birthing some treasures. This CD is in the same special class of great songs and orchestrations and features duets by Paul and Michael Buble on "You Are My Destiny" and a marvelous version of "My Way" with Jon Bon Jovi. Wait'll you hear "Both Sides Now!" This is a must-have for your collection. Anka celebrates his 50th anniversary in the entertainment industry as one of the best entertainers... ever! A legend you must see to appreciate!

SUE RANEY *Heart's Desire A Tribute To Doris Day* (Fresh Sound)

This tribute to Doris is loaded with 14 sensational songs that DD made famous. Sue gives them all a 2007 sound and it is fabulous. Some of my favorite tracks: "Que Sera Sera," "Secret Love," "It's Magic," "Love Me Or Leave Me" and an outstanding version of "I'll Never Stop Loving You." Music arranged and conducted by Alan Broadbent. Produced by Carmen Fanzone. A masterpiece!

MIRASSOU MAKES MARVELOUS WINE!

It was a murky Monday night (11/05/07) in Studio City and a few of us gathered at the Pinot Bistro to enjoy fine food and wonderful wine with David Mirassou as our host and guide. The evening was arranged by Bob Fead, Charlie Schaffer, Executive Chef at PB and David. Take a look at these happy faces! A good time was had by all... as rainbows were in everyone's wine!



IN PASSING

Rose Bampton, opera singer
Carol Bruce, singer
Bobby Byrd, soul funk singer
Thomas W. Dawes, musician, jingle writer, *The Cyrkle*
Merv Griffin, singer/entertainer/entrepreneur
Robert Goulet, singer/actor
Jerry Hadley, songwriter
Evelyn Knight, singer
Jon Lucien, jazz singer/songwriter
Janis Martin, singer
Ron Miller, songwriter
Oliver Morgan, blues vocalist
Ed Norbeck, husband of Terri Stevens
Luciano Pavarotti, opera singer
Bill Pickney, singer (*The Drifters*)
Herb Pomeroy, singer
Teresa Stich Randall, opera singer
Max Roach, drummer/composer
Aaron Russo, manager
Beverly Sills, opera singer
Willie Tee, singer/songwriter
Hank Thompson, King of Western Swing
Miyoshi Umeki, actress
Randy Van Horne, choral arranger, conductor
Porter Wagoner, singer/composer
John Wallowitch, singer/songwriter
Joe Zawinul, jazz pianist/composer

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In Memory of Tom Poston

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In Memory of Edward F. Norbeck

Kristin Baggelaar

Happy Birthday Donald Kahn

Beth & Van Alexander

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An apology will be printed in the next edition.

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