



Frustrated Maestros - Eastern Sharps & Flats



November 2024 Newsletter

Music Camp Survives Helene

The 18th Annual Music Camp is in the books, and despite a number of mid-course corrections, it will go down as one of the best.

Hurricane Helene ravaged much of the Southeast in late November. The Carolinas were particularly hard hit with Asheville, NC suffering probably the worst of Helene's wrath. The Great Eastern Area Rally scheduled for the week of October 20th in Asheville was subsequently cancelled. Surprisingly, nearby Gaffney, SC suffered only minimal damage. Our Music Camp, which was scheduled the week of October 13th in Gaffney, proceeded as planned. A few of our members from South Carolina experienced extended power outages, roof damage, downed trees etc., but they were still able to make it to Music Camp (bless their hearts). We did have some cancellations due to personal issues and one cancelled to go help with the aftermath in North Carolina.

When it was all said and done we ended up with a total of 12 Rv's and 21 Frustrated Maestros. The band included Jim Carroll and Carl Turner (guitar); Cliff Freed and Nick Hefner (A-Sax/T-Sax); Ari Siegler, Phillip Fuller, and Bruce Taylor (Trumpet/Flugelhorn); Paul Monat (Tuba/Cornet); Cindy Lee (Flute); Steve Schultz (Percussion); Sue Siegler (Co-Director and Flute); and, Ron Hazelett (Co-Director and Keyboard). The Chorus included Pat Murton, Elisabeth Schultz, Gail Taylor, Richard Taylor, and Marty Turner. Dwelion Howard, who had planned to be part of the Maestro produced Talent Show during GEAR, drove up from his nearby South Carolina home one morning to introduce himself. He told a humorous story about his unusual first name.



Seated L-R: Pat Murton, Cindy Lee, Helen McKeever, Marty Turner, Gail Taylor, Elisabeth Schultz
Standing L-R: Paul Monat, Ron Hazelett, Jim Lee, Sue Siegler, Ari Siegler, Cliff Freed, Jim Carroll, Carl Turner, Bruce Taylor, Phillip Fuller, Nick Hefner, Steve Schultz, Kathy Fuller. Not shown: Rick Taylor, Bill Murton



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Music Camp: continued from page 1

With the cancellation of GEAR, so went the *Gear's Got Talent* show. Much of our Music Camp time was to be devoted to putting this show together. With the serendipitous gift of freed-up time, we were able to delve into selected music in greater depth than would have normally been available at Music Camp or pre-Rally rehearsals. We played some from the usual Red Books and the Marston Library, but the real treat was to be able to play several new band arrangements that were more challenging than our old stand-by's. Sue had found arrangements of songs like *Hawaii Five-O Theme*, *Just the Way You Are*, *Theme from New York, New York*, *The Blues Brothers Revue* and *Under the Sea*. The intent is to keep adding to this collection of more contemporary music and make it available to all Maestros, along with both Red Books and the Marston Library.

Social activities are always an important part of Music Camp. Catching up with old friends and meeting new friends is tops on the list. Our kick-off meeting included Happy Hour (a daily event) followed by a Potato Bar Dinner. An outing to Osaka Steakhouse (Hibachi Grill) turned out to be not only a great dinner but also a fun place to celebrate Cindy Lee's "birthday". It was so much fun we considered going back for her real birthday—whenever that is.

Ahhh...a dinner party for 20. What a great evening. Can it get any better?

Wellmaybe the thrill of having your eye-brows singed could bring your heart rate up!



Most days were capped off with traditional jam sessions—sometimes in the clubhouse, sometimes outside by the pavilion, around a campfire.

Ari, Paul, Nick and Dora (the little white thing with a tail) jam around a camp fire. Fortunately Helen and her trusty phone came to the rescue to shed some light on the subject (music). Not shown are Cliff Freed and Steve Schultz.



Many Thanks to Bill Murton for photos used in this Newsletter.





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ES&Fs Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting for the Eastern Sharps and Flats was held on Saturday morning, October 19th. It was preceded by a wonderful pancake breakfast put on by Sue and Ari Siegler.

Minutes of the meeting will be published in a future Newsletter. A few items of interest include:

- Election of Officers—the following slate of Officers were elected
 - President—Bruce Taylor
 - Vice President—Elisabeth Schultz
 - Secretary—Kathy Fuller
 - Treasurer—Gail Taylor
 - National Director—Bill Murton
- GEAR 2025
 - Ocean Lakes Resort in Myrtle Beach, NC
 - Week of November 2nd, 2025
 - 300 sites being held
- Music Camp 2025
 - Voted to approve
 - Week of October 26th
 - Cannot be held at Ocean Lakes
 - Committee is checking out 3 potential (nearby) sites
- FMCA Family Conventions 2025
 - Perry Georgia—Week of March 9th, 2025
 - Gillette Wyoming—Week of July 13th, 2025
- Following the adjournment of the ES&F’s Meeting an emergency meeting of the SEA Sharps was called for the purpose of electing Officers as follows:
 - President—Nick Heffner
 - Vice President—Carl Turner
 - Secretary—Elisabeth Schultz
 - Treasurer—Jim Carroll
 - National Director—David Fuller

Many thanks to all who have stepped forward to serve as Officers of the Eastern Sharps & Flats and/or the Sea Sharps.

Also, many thanks to Sue Siegler and Ron Hazelett for their willingness to serve as Musical Directors. The East coast chapters are truly blessed to have them, even though Frustrated Maestros have much in common with middle schoolers (proficiency in causing headaches).

