

to Jane Weeks - and continues to play in the orchestra.

"This a chance for more amateur players to have exposure to more advanced players," he says of the 30 or so instrumental orchestra members. "It's also important for students coming on as well. For example in the larger centres, they may not have the same opportunity (to play with in

an orchestra with with more experienced musicians) because the competition is too tight. Here, in a smaller community, they have the opportunity to play and perform before they go off to school. We have been lucky to have a flow of senior high school students who get that extra bit of experience playing in a group."

Starting after Labour Day weekend, the orchestra practices

every Wednesday evening, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Trinity United Church in Cobourg. The choir of 30-40 members, rehearses every Tuesday evening, same hours.

"We're looking at new ways to make music attractive to the concert goer," NOS Music Director Mr. Jaskiewicz says. Self-effacing and given to sudden smiles and dry humour, his passion for music - and connecting to a broad audience - is infectious.

"Wait till you see what we have lined up for this next season! We have our first concert October 29, with George Gao. He blends oriental music with the more traditional. He will be playing a piece commissioned for us that features the viola, cello and erhu. The erhu is a very beautiful sounding instrument."

Twice a week, September through June, Mr. Jaskiewicz driven from Toronto to lead direct the orchestra and choir groups. The rehearsals all work toward the concert series of the year.

"I have to laugh when Matthew says, 'I'm veddy worried' at dress

rehearsal,"

choir member Carol Henley of Cobourg laughs. "But then, the concert comes and it's wonderful! I can hardly believe it's us!

"Matthew has introduced some absolutely wonderful music to us. Choir is a big thing for me. I'm always up for choir. I love the music and we go for coffee afterwards. For me, I look forward to learning new, big works that Matthew gives us. And, like the orchestra members, there's no other place I'd have the opportunity to do these works. It (choir practice) is like a two-hour freebie music lesson. I've made lots of friends, many friends, in choir."

Carol is a charter member of choir formed 22 years ago.

As music director, Mr. Jaskiewicz seems to have the gift of hearing only potential, of challenging the musicians to rise to the power of the music he selects for them.

"I'd always wanted to sing Handel's 'Messiah' since I was a boy in the Netherlands," Pieter Wyminga, a choir member from Colborne says. "I'm a so-so

took the NOS choir to Toronto for a concert at the Hummingbird Centre. This summer, he was awarded Toronto Arts Council Marilyn Lastman award for his contributions.

"We are so very, very fortunate to have Matthew," Carol Henley states.

The call is out for new members to join for the start of the new season in September. For the orchestra, instrumentalist with a Grade 8 proficiency are invited to attend. For the choir, ability to read music is an asset. There are no formal auditions. Call (905) 342-3743, fax (905) 342-3745, or e-mail artifice@eagle.ca for more information.

"Sometimes I think I should stop this and do something to make some money," Matthew admits on a hot, steamy Friday evening in Cobourg. He has driven from Toronto expressly for this interview. "But then there's the music ..."

And those transcendent moments when time stands still to listen to music of his pupils.

August 31, 2000

COLBORNE CHRONICLE

600 DEATH NOTICES

600 DEATH NOTICES

MURRAY, JOYCE FLORENCE

Peacefully, at the Northumberland Health Care Centre on Saturday, August 26th, 2000. Joyce Naylor in her 79th year. Beloved wife of the late Thomas (Ted) Murray. Loving mother of the late Tom Murray. Lovingly remembered by her daughter-in-law Doreen Murray and grandchildren Sean and his wife Roxanne and Tara and Mark all of Whitby. Dear sister of May, Gladys, Bill and Len. At Joyce's request a private graveside service will be held in Mount Lawn Cemetery, Whitby. Friends are invited to attend a Memorial Service on Saturday, September 2nd, 2000 at 11 am in Trinity Anglican Church, Colborne. Donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society (cheques only please). Joyce's family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all the friends and neighbours who have helped her through her difficult time. Arrangements entrusted to the MacCoubrey Funeral Home, 11 King St. W., Colborne (905) 355-2829

WARNER, GEORGE FREDERICK

Peacefully, at the Northumberland Health Care Centre on Sunday August 27, 2000. George Warner in his 67th year. Beloved husband of Margaret Semlitsch of Castleton. Loving father of Brad and Kelly Warner of St. George, Ontario, Susie and Garry Mensen of Delta, Ontario and Grant and Jody Warner of Campbellford. Dear grandfather of Nicole, Jenifer, Ashley, Matthew, Adam, Elizabeth, Joshua, Justin, Tamara and Logan. Brother of Harold Warner, Lynn Warner and Mona Moffat. Friends are invited to attend a Memorial Service on Saturday, September 2, 2000 at 2 pm at Castleton United Church. There will be visiting at the church 1 hour prior to service time. Donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society or Heart & Stroke Foundation (cheques only please). Arrangements entrusted to the MacCoubrey Funeral Home, 11 King St. W, Colborne (905)355-2829

Music is part of county way of life

The Northumberland Orchestra Society was founded in 1978 under the direction of Philip Schaus.

The Castleton Cramahe Singers, a local choir, was looking for a new director. Philip Schaus stepped up, and in 1979, the choir joined the symphony as the newly constituted Northumberland Philharmonic Choir.

Current Music Director Matthew Jaskiewicz came to the

NOS nine years ago.

Throughout its history, the Society has included and encouraged young local musicians, many now pursuing professional musical career. Annually, the NOS awards three Col. J. C. Foote V.C. Awards to deserving local young musicians. Col. Foote was a founding member of the NOS.

Today, the orchestra includes some 30 community musicians led

by a core of professional players, plus up to 45 local choristers. They come from 35 communities including the towns of Campbellford, Cobourg and Port Hope,

the villages of Colborne, Grafton, Brighton plus points beyond the east and west boundaries of the county.

The NOS is committed to promoting and playing high-quality orchestral, choral and chamber music and encouraging development of instrumental musicians and choristers throughout Northumberland County.

A registered not-for-profit organization governed by a board of directors, the Northumberland Orchestras Canada and The Ontario Choral Federation.

For more information on how to become a members, or to find out more about the upcoming concert series, contact NOS Manager Jane Weeks at (905) 342-3743, fax (905) 342-3745, or e-mail artifice@eagle.ca