



# GNHCC News & Notes

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## Quick Notes:



## Refreshments:

Altos, Tenors and Basses, please bring something to share for refreshments this week.

## Be Aware:

The New Haven Symphony will be performing in Woolsey Hall on Thursday evening this week. So, once again, parking will be challenging. Plan to arrive early and carpool if possible. When you do arrive early, lend a hand with setting up. Your help will be very much appreciated!

## GNHCC Rehearsal Retreat Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>

This will be a fun day and an important boost to our preparations for our June concerts. In addition to singing, we'll also spend some time getting to know each other better. We need everyone to participate. So, if you haven't already done so, be sure to clear your schedule and mark your calendar for May 1<sup>st</sup>. Exact times and location will be announced very soon.



The third and final workshop from this Semester's series, **Multicultural Influence on Choral Singing**, was held this past Saturday. Guest presenter, Neely Bruce took workshop participants on a musical tour of Americana—from William Billings through samples from nearly two and a half centuries of compositions up to his own new composition in Billings' style commemorating the Bill of Rights. Throughout the workshop, Bruce led participants in singing choral compositions from *The Sacred Harp* and from the collection of songs performed at the New Haven Convergence event which he organized in June of 2002.



**Vickie Gerdon, Chair of GNHCC's Community Impact Committee with guest speaker, composer, conductor, pianist and scholar of American music, Neely Bruce who is a noted Professor of Music and American Studies at Wesleyan University.**

## Member Corner

K.Deane Bell (Bass I) has been a member of GNHCC since the mid 1980s, when his sister-in-law, GNHCC Secretary Laura Hintz invited him to a rehearsal. Laura recalls that Deane won the 50/50 raffle that night, paid his dues, and stayed! Involved with music since his youth, he traveled to Europe for the first time with his children's choir in Rhode Island. He continued the tradition of singing and traveling on trips with GNHCC and the Waterbury Chorale. On the trip to China several years ago, many people stopped Deane to just to admire his distinguished moustache!



Dean is a project manager specializing in lighting for a large electrical firm whose recent projects include Morse College and Ezra Stiles College at Yale University, the Connecticut Convention Center and the Waterbury Palace for the Performing Arts. He and his wife Karen, who attends all our concerts, have three sons; one is a music teacher, and another sang with GNHCC for a season. Deane and Karen have 1 ½ grandchildren, the second due in May. In honor of Deane's upcoming 'special' birthday, his sons chipped in for him to do eight laps as a solo driver at the Daytona Race Track. Ask him how he felt taking that first bend at 145 miles an hour!