



PIANIST JUNE

... Mrs. Biering only female Singing Cadet.

'Den Mother' June Is Lone Woman In Singing Cadets

One of the key members of the Singing Cadets isn't a cadet at all. As a matter of fact, she's not enrolled at A&M and doesn't like to sing.

This not so mysterious person is Mrs. June Biering, pianist and accompanist for the Singing Cadets.

For the past five years Mrs. Biering has played for all performances on the Cadets, ranging from campus performances in the Memorial Student Center to tours all over the state.

Mrs. Biering's role with the Cadets came about in an unusual manner. Robert L. (Bob) Boone, director of the group, needed someone to play the piano for a solo he was presenting in Bryan. He called a local pianist who suggested Mrs. Biering.

"She was very apprehensive when I called. She told me she didn't play for just anybody, but finally suggested that I bring over some music. It started out as a 15-minute get-together and turned into a three-hour concert. It was a meeting of the minds, you might say," Boone recalled.

A week later, at Boone's request, Mrs. Biering became the lone female in the Singing Cadets. "She thinks the Cadets are the greatest, and they feel the same way about her. It's sort of a mutual admiration society," Boone said.

Sometimes the Cadets introduce her as their den mother, but she doesn't mind. Her keen sense of humor helps her to have a good time everywhere they perform.

"She loves people and is very popular everywhere we go. June is witty and loves to talk. When we are looking for her on a trip, we just find the largest group of people. She's usually the center of attention," Boone chuckled.

Music has always been a part of Mrs. Biering's life. She started playing the piano and violin when she was eight years old, and at 12 gave a concert, featuring both instruments. Later she dropped the violin and devoted more time to piano, doing her first professional work when she was 18.

Her earlier performance was given coverage in the Army-Navy Journal. Since her father was a colonel, she was what she herself calls "an Army brat." Although she was born in Oregon, she lived there only a short time. Other places she called home include Honolulu, Panama and the Orient. Travel is still her cup of tea, with Mexico being next on the agenda, as soon as she can persuade her husband Gus, district sales manager for Caterpillar Tractors.

Latin rhythms are favorites with the white-haired pianist. Her love for such music stems from her work with musicians when she was music director of Radio Station WOAI in San Antonio for several years.

"We had some small combos. Most of the men were Mexicans, and really talented. I learned a lot of their rhythms by working with them," she said. "I played nothing but classical music until I got into radio," she added.

Boone calls Mrs. Biering a very serious performer. "She wants everything she does to be the best. June has the knack for being sensitive to the performer. She takes ordinary music and makes it full. You might say she can take a dish of vanilla ice cream and make it into a banana split with all the trimmings," he explained.

Mrs. Biering contends that "filling in," or "providing that little extra something when it's needed" has become automatic. "It's hard not to do it," she smiled.

Since the composition of the Singing Cadets changes each semester, Mrs. Biering finds it difficult to say what they do best. "Sometimes we have more basses, other times more tenors," she explained, adding, "I'll tell you this—they are most inspirational. They have helped to keep me here."

Her hobbies include her pets, a black mare, dogs, cats and birds. "I've got a dog as big as a bear," she grinned.

She also loves to cook. "I like to cook anything, just as long as it's something different," she said.

Browder Medical Fund Hits \$2,300

The Julie Browder Medical Fund totaled more than \$2,300 Wednesday as the infant was reported to be apparently winning her fight against disease which left her temporarily blind and deaf.

The child is presently at her grandparents' home in Granbury, and her eyesight and hearing appear to be returning to normal.

The daughter of veterinary medicine student James T. Browder was stricken with a severe viral

infection and admitted to a local hospital Jan. 1. She was later transferred to Dallas where her parents consulted a neurosurgeon to consider possibility of surgery.

The fund was started Jan. 12 by the First Year Veterinary Medicine Wives Club to help defray the medical expenses involved in treating the infant. Club members placed collection jars throughout the Bryan-College Station area in various business establishments.



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