



April 2011

Together we make GREAT Radio!

News from the Director



General manager and Program Director, James Gully

Greetings listeners and friends of KMSU! As I write this, the snow is melting and signs of Spring abound. What a welcome season after a very snowy winter!

Spring Pledge Drive

KMSU launches its Spring on-air fundraiser on April 6th, with the Shuffle Function 24-Hour “Pledge Drive A-Go-Go” set for 6:00 p.m. Thursday, April 7th through 6:00 p.m. Friday, April 8th. As always, the “Pledge Drive A-Go-Go”

promises to be the launch pad that we need to have a successful fundraiser (and tons of fun to listen to!)

You may receive an appeal in the mail, and we would be

delighted if you choose to support KMSU by returning the enclosed self-addressed envelope with your gift to KMSU. Our goal is **\$25,000**, which is a tall order, but achievable with your support. Please help us reach our goal by supporting your favorite local independent public radio station. KMSU doesn't exist without listeners like you. It's all for a good cause! You can even donate now by clicking [here](#) or calling us at (507) 389-5678.



Pledge Drive Volunteers

Legacy Funding



We are truly blessed to have been funded by the state Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund (Legacy Amendment passed by voters in 2008). Unfortunately, that funding is not guaranteed for the next biennium. It is our hope that Legislators at the State Capitol will deem us worthy of continued Legacy funding, based on our stewardship of this soon-to-be-completed biennium's funds. One caveat of Arts & Cultural Heritage funding is that the funds can only be used for events, programming and initiatives outside of our normal operations. This means, while we've been able to do some wonderful things with Arts & Cultural Heritage dollars, we still have to operate exactly as before, with fundraising, underwriting partnerships and grant seeking to make financial ends meet.

State Funding for Minnesota Public Radio

In general, state funding is always a priority at KMSU and this upcoming biennium is proving to be quite challenging. KMSU typically receives approximately \$35,000 in state grants per year. About \$26,000 from a Community Service (Operations) grant, and \$9,000 from an Equipment grant. I have personally had conversations with key Legislators who are responsible for these budget decisions. Those conversations have generally been productive and positive. I think it's safe to say that there is no anti-public broadcasting agenda at the State Capitol. For the most part, Legislators believe the [ampers](#) stations are doing a good job of serving the public. Thank you again for your support and encouragement. We are proud to serve you!

KMSK-FM (91.3) A New Studio in Austin, MN

The KMSK studio build-out continues, with our expectation that we'll be originating local programming in Austin before this month is over. If you haven't been following this new initiative, feel free to read the account in the [Mankato Free Press](#).

Who's Who at KMSU



**Bob Murphey - host of
"Listen to My Music"**

Bob Murphey joined the KMSU team about 6 months ago. "This is one of the greatest things I have done," says Murphey, host of "Listen to My Music." On Murphey's show, you can expect to hear Big Band Swing music from the 40's and 50's, the revival of Big Band music from the 90's, and some West Coast Jazz.

Murphey grew up in Minneapolis, MN and graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Economics and a minor in Geography. He was married in 1958 and had 6 children. In 1985, Murphey moved to Arkansas and held a position as the Vice President of construction for 25 years at Wal-Mart. After retiring in 1998, he moved back home to Blaine, MN to be closer to his

family. Murphey started his musical career in high school and continued in college by joining the Marching Band. He has also played in dance bands around the area and in drum and bugle chords.

Murphey started collecting music in 1948-1950. "It has been 60 years of collecting music and a lot of fun," says Murphey. It was not until he met Lona Falenczakowski, host of "Ms. Lona Tonight," that he found out what to do with his large collection of music. Murphey joined Lona on her show one evening and they really hit it off. After hearing Murphey's part of the program that evening, the General Manager, Jim Gullickson, offered him the opportunity to host his own show.

Today, Murphey favors the artist Ted Heath and has one of the largest personal collections of his music in the world. Through the Ted Heath Music Appreciation Society, Murphey has met people from all over the world with the same passion for Big Band Swing music. Murphey has friends in New Zealand, Australia, Scotland, and England tuning in to his show from KMSU's [website](#). "As long as people enjoy this music and want to listen to it, I will be here," says Murphey. Murphey would like convey a special thanks to Jim Gullickson, Lona Falenczakowski, and Julian Bernal for all the help and support they have given to him throughout these 6 months. You can catch "Listen to My Music" every other Monday from 2-3 p.m.

April Featured Shows

Shuffle Function: Shyboy Tim and Shelley, sworn enemies of commercial radio, have vowed to save radio from itself. Their tools: coffee, the Shuffle Function vinyl and CD vaults, and the bottomless resources of the music geek community. Join the cause weekday mornings from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. and Thursday evenings at 6 p.m.

Ms. Lona Tonight: Lona Falencykowski, retired flight attendant, wife, mother and Betsy-Tacy Society fanatic, began playing an eclectic mix of Jazz, American popular songs, and local artists in 1985. Expect fun, frivolity, wit, and banter. Tune in to “Ms. Lona Tonight” on Monday evenings from 7-9 p.m.

“KMSU/KMSK is part of the independent public radio Network, ampers, the second largest public radio group in Minnesota, with over 300,000 listeners.”

Thoughts from KMSU Listeners

I have been listening to KMSU since 1996, for sure. I recently started listening to Five Counts and I love it. Keep up the good work guys.

-John, New Ulm

Every Sunday night, I always listen to Blue's Before Monday with Mark and Gary. I just want everybody at KMSU to know that you guys are doing a wonderful job. Thank you for playing some incredible music!

-Sumit Kapali, Management student, MNSU

Be our Friend on Facebook!

Join KMSU on Facebook and have an even better connection with your station. Our Facebook page is updated weekly with special news and events. We love to receive “comments” and feedback from our listeners. Join us [here!](#)



Students at KMSU

KMSU serves not only as a radio station but as a learning atmosphere for over 15 students at Minnesota State University, Mankato. The students gain experience through numerous positions at the station including News Reporters, Public Relations, and Board Operators. KMSU has over 8 student News Reporters who conduct stories for the Southern Minnesota News Project on KMSU. The reporters are also in charge of hosting the Radio Ala Carte, a student run variety show, broadcasted every week day at noon from the Centennial Student Union. The Public Relations students take care of the promotional events, newsletter, maintaining the events calendar, updating the website, and numerous tasks that come their way. The students would like to thank KMSU for its dedication to student education!





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KMSU 89.7 FM / KMSK 91.3 FM is a non-profit, commercial-free, Independent Public Radio station serving south-central Minnesota with a blend of cultural, news and artistic programming that's unique to the region.



Together We Make Great Radio!

KMSU is a member of, [ampers](#), a network of 12 independently licensed and managed, community-based public radio stations in Minnesota. KMSU annually provides more than 450 hours of free air time for organizations and causes—equivalent to nearly 18 full days of local public service programming, valued at \$25,000 annually.



How You Can Help

KMSU is always looking for volunteers to help with daily tasks around the station and with upcoming events. If you would like to share your time and talent, contact [Jim Gullickson](#) or [Karen Wright](#) at (507) 389-5678.