Greetings listeners and friends of KMSU,

Well, we’ve gotten through the bitter cold of January and now maybe we’ll get snow. One thing is for certain: KMSU will continue to deliver exceptional programming, and we couldn’t do that without your generous support. Thank you!

There are a few events coming up in the near future, and one big event coming in the fall. In case you didn’t know, KMSU is officially 50 years old this year. The station was licensed by the FCC in 1963. I was five years old. Yes, I know what you’re thinking… I qualify for lots of “Senior Discounts” starting this year. Well, while we’re contemplating the passage of time, let’s celebrate! Watch for details on a big reunion this fall of former KMSU students and volunteers. In the meantime, come to the Beau Soleil concert at Hooligan’s on Saturday, February 9th. You’ll enjoy some awesome Cajun music. Show starts at 7:30 pm. You can get tickets here. Then on Saturday, February 16th at Patrick’s on Third in St. Peter, KMSU welcomes The Cactus Blossoms.

You don’t want to miss that show, either. That one starts at 7:00 pm. Both of these concerts are made possible through funding from the Minnesota State Arts & Cultural Heritage fund.

One more thing I wanted to mention is upcoming changes to our Home Page. Before long, we will debut our new online look, and we hope you’ll like it.

Thanks again for your continued loyal support, and enjoy our Minnesota winter while it’s here!

Gully

After working for twelve years as a flight attendant for North Central Airlines (later Republic Airlines), Lona Falenczykowski began a new career on the air at KMSU in September 1986. She debuted as “Ms. Lona, the Jazz Flight Attendant” with Henry Busse Jr. on his show “Henry Busse Jr. and Friends.”

Over the years, Henry and the other “friends” who played Jazz brought acclaim to KMSU, making it the go-to station for jazz enthusiasts in Southern...

Please See Ms. Lona, page 4
"There was a need for inspirational gospel music in the area."

Sonny Bryant, host of Sonny’s Gospel Hour.

Sonny’s Gospel Hour  Every other Monday—2pm to 3pm

The Music
The show offers a unique type of inspiring music on The Maverick. With music from Mahalia Jackson, Sam Cooke and many others, the Gospel Hour provides a unique type of music. According to host Sonny Bryant, “There was a need for inspirational gospel music in the area. The community needs something to lift them up a little bit” and that’s exactly what the Gospel Hour does every other week on KMSU.

The Host
Native of Houston, Texas, and former lead singer for The Platters, Sonny Bryant moved to Mankato a couple of years ago. Since he moved to the southern Minnesota area, he continues his successful career as a singer. For decades he has performed a variety of all-time popular songs, including Sinatra, Sam Cooke, The Platters and more. Having released four solo albums, Sonny continues to tour the area with great accomplishment.

The Show
“Sonny’s Gospel Hour” started airing in the fall of 2012 and can be heard for one hour every other Monday at 2pm. Sonny encourages everyone to listen to his show and send any feedback, as well as gospel music suggestions. Bob Murphy’s “Listen to my music” was discontinued and could no longer run due to the distance and time constraints for the host.

Sonny can be reached at sonnysings1@hotmail.com.

In his spare time Sonny provides African Drums lessons for all ages and has been featured on Ms. Lona’s Show in 2012. Sonny asserts that he is “honored to be part of the KMSU team” and hopes to continue the show for as long as possible.

Clandestino  Saturdays—2pm to 3pm

The newest Spanish program “Clandestino” hit the airwaves in September, 2012.

Themed after the Manu Chao song of the same title, Clandestino offers the Spanish-speaking community a unique time to share the richness of the Latin American culture, as well as the issues that the Latino immigrants face in southern Minnesota.

Part of the Saturday Spanish block, the show typically starts with a discussion of current Latin American and world news and then proceeds to the week’s main topic, which may involve politics, music or community events.

Clandestino has had live interviews with local and international musicians that had an impact in the Latino community. Among the featured artists are Hector Guerra from Spain, Bang Data from California, Mark Rodriguez…

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...from Mankato, among others. The hosts (José Barriga and José Espinoza) are happy to be part of KMSU and are thankful for the audience’s reception; they expect to grow in the outreach and service to the Spanish-speaking community.

BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet

KMSU, The Maverick, teamed up with the Department of Music Performance Series, to co-sponsor the two-time Grammy Award winning Cajun music band BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet. This world-class band will perform live at Hooligan’s on Saturday February 9th.

BeauSoleil has been nominated, and bestowed with a variety of international awards. Some of them include: 1998 Grammy for Best Traditional Folk Album, 2009 Grammy for Best Cajun Music Album, Best Non-European Cajun Band 2011 in Cologne, Germany, and more.

Besides performing at the Super Bowl XXX Half Time Show in 1997, BeauSoleil has been featured on the PBS Television show “On Canvas” in 2009. Michael Doucet (right) has been featured in the CBC Radio program “C’est La Vie” and was one of 12 recipients of the National Heritage Fellowship by the National Endowment for the arts.

For more information go to: www.mnsu.edu/music.

The Cactus Blossoms—February 16th

Minnesota true country music at its finest!

The Cactus Blossoms will be performing at Patrick’s on Third in St. Peter at 7:00 pm. You can watch one of their videos here.
Ms. Lona continued...

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...Minnesota. The group included Dr. John Trost, Michael Scullin, Lowell Schyreyer, Reuben Shonbom (aka Red Lewis) who served up a generous helping of music and fun. Henry Busse Jr., son of Big Band Leader Henry Busse, and Ms. Lona spent 10 years bantering about jazz and life.

Budget cuts in the mid '90s saw KMSU shrink to a few staff members. Henry Busse was let go, and KMSU volunteers, like Lona, kept jazz radio alive as they continued to do their shows without him. The station manager later moved the jazz shows from the afternoons to evenings, and Henry's old jazz companions each had an early-evening show.

Lona quickly got used to flying solo. She found on-air "friends" of her own, including former Vikings Head Coach, Dennis Green, singer Maud Hixson, composer Ervin Drake, interviewing them and inviting them to share music from their collections.

We recorded most of Lona's shows since day one. We have recordings for almost all her broadcasts the last 27 years. We hope to listen to the entire canon of shows when we are in the rest home. Lona's musical tastes go beyond jazz. She plays all kinds of music and can talk to anyone about almost anything during her shows. One never knows what one will hear on The Ms. Lona Show. Expect mostly jazz, fun and frivolity.

Currently, Lona broadcasts her radio show 7 pm to 9 pm on Monday Evenings on KMSU.

Tim Scott

“...volunteers, like Lona, kept jazz radio alive...”

A Flashback in Time

- KMSU first aired on January 7th, 1963 with only ten watts of power.
- KMSU was operated entirely by students, who received academic credit as their only pay.
- The very first programs aired between noon and 8:00 pm, Monday through Friday.
- The original library contained over 2,000 LPs and were mainly albums released by major recording companies in the preceding two years.
- In November, 1963 there were Russian lessons offered on air through KMSU.
Gold Anniversary Trivia!

This year, KMSU, The Maverick will have a monthly trivia on KMSU’s history. How much do you know about KMSU???

Prizes will be given away for the winners!

Who was the director of KMSU, when it started operating in 1963?

Send your answers to kmsumaverick@gmail.com