## **Highlands Chapter Annual Report**

2009 has been an eventful year for our sixteen-member Highlands Chapter. Following is a summary of the events that were held in the previous year.

Highlands Chapter started off the year with a welcome coffee/business meeting on August 29, 2009. We invited Dr. Lisa Withers, Assistant Professor of Emory and Henry College, to conduct a workshop titled "Surely, you jest!: An Overview of Humor in Piano Music from the 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Centuries." The workshop was warmly received.

A workshop and a student recital were held in the fall. On October 3, 2009 Pianist/organist Antje Maria Traub from Switzerland gave a workshop sharing her teaching experience back home. Fall student Recital was held at Squires at Virginia Tech on November 15, 2009. Eight students participated.

Our highlight of the year is the Rebecca Orr Memorial Benefit Concert and Piano Technique Festival. This year was the 27<sup>th</sup> year the Highlands Chapter sponsoring this event. The 27<sup>th</sup> Rebecca Orr Memorial Benefit Concert was held on January 29, 2010 at Squires, Virginia Tech and the Piano Technique Festival was held on February 20, 2010. About 55 students participated in the Piano Technique Festival. There were two contestants competing for the High school scholarship. The judges all gave high marks for both of the contestants and declared both of them winners. Each of the winners received a scholarship of \$175.

Spring Student Recital was held on April 25, 2010 at Covington Performance Hall at Radford University. Seven students participated.

We ended our year with a nice luncheon on May 21, 2010 at Macado's.

Sonya Ho, President Highlands Chapter