

THE DUKE ELLINGTON SOCIETY CHAPTER #90

P.O. BOX 29587 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017-0787

Terrell A. Allen, President
(202) 529-5972

Grant Wright, Treasurer
(202) 526-0828

January 11, 1988

Hi Ellingtonian,

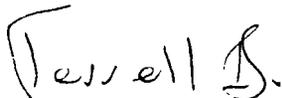
A happy holiday to you and yours and a hope that your Xmas was as beautiful and rewarding as mine. As you already know, we didn't schedule a meeting for January for obvious reasons, but we are having our regular meeting on February 6th at Omega House, 13th and Harvard Streets, N.W. Our host will be Dr. Ted Shell whose collection of unreleased Ellingtonia rivals that of any serious collector on the Eastern seaboard. So, a treat is in store for all of us who take it upon ourselves to show up - on time - for our first meeting of the year. Don't forget - we start promptly at 8:30 p.m. So please be on time.

And now for our annual gentle reminder for dues. All we need is a gentle prod to encourage us to take care of our financial obligations. Dues are \$25.00 per year for single memberships and \$40.00 for couples. We are very fortunate in that we don't have any "dead beats" (like some other clubs I've been associated with) that take advantage of our hospitality month after month, year after year, without contributing anything. No - we don't have that problem, so all I have to say is Dues are Payable now and, as usual, you'll come through. Thank you!!!

So - until February 6th - stay cool. We have news and information about Ellington 88 and 89 to discuss. Very important.

Happy Yuletide - again.

Love you madly,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

ELLINGTON IS FOREVER.

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February 25, 1988

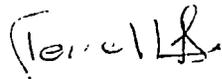
Hi,

My jumbled notes don't tell me who our host for the April meeting is - (probably Don McCathran) and we'll let you know in plenty of time, but Ray Knight is in charge of the March 5th session, and that fact is etched in granite. ☺ Ray has some special new Ellington tapes from Denmark and other recordings of different big bands playing Duke's music.

The meeting starts punctually, as always, at 8:30 p.m. Saturday night, March 5th, at Omega House. I know you've already sent in your reservations to Oldham for Ellington '88, but we still have to talk some more about our Date with the Duke in '89.

Have you forgotten dues? Please don't. Those who haven't paid yet, get in touch with me, please. We have to talk!!!

Madly,



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March 25, 1988

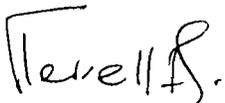
Hi Friend,

So I was wrong about this being Don McCathran's month!! More's the pity. Don asked to be excused for now so we'll schedule him for later, but in the meantime we have a most worthy substitute - our old standby, Jack Towers. Jack is entertaining the New York Chapter this week with the 1940 Fargo tapes - new, clean tapes with some unreleased material and he has promised to share this program with us on Saturday, April 2nd, 8:30 p.m. at Omega House, 13th and Harvard Streets, N.W.

We have more big things to talk to you about at meeting-time. We're right in the middle of our plans for formal incorporation and we need your presence and your input.

So - take good care. We'll see you on the 2nd.

Love and peace,



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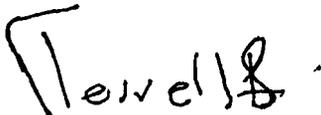
April 28, 1988

Hi Ellingtonian,

Hodges and Webster!! Two of the most important reed-men of their generation and more importantly both of these titanic talents graced the Ducal sax-section for many of Duke's most satisfying and productive years. The Rabbit and the Brute!! What genius lay hidden behind those affectionate, but inane nicknames. Anyway, rhetoric aside, the Baltimoreans are going to examine, in depth, the careers of Johnny and Ben at our May 7th session. This meeting should be a sell-out - and the price is right. Just your attendance is all we require and you'll be handsomely rewarded with some of the greatest music you'll ever hear. Trust me.

See you Saturday night, May 7th, at Omega House, 13th and Harvard Streets, N.W. We're still talking Big Business, so please come and please be punctual.

Love,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

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May 26, 1988

Dear Ellingtonian,

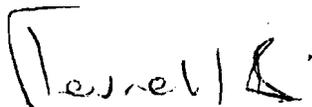
We have both good news and tragic news this month. Good news first - Jack Towers and all the rest of the contingent of Chapter #90 that are delegates to the Ellington Conference in Lancashire, England will make their report at our meeting of June 4th. Jack will furnish the music and the others will offer their commentary on the good-happenings that they are enjoying, now, even as you read this! So come prepared for a good evening of fun and games. Bring along a visitor or two for our best meeting of the season. You'll enjoy it.

The tragedy is in the sad news that we have lost our treasurer, Grant Wright, who passed away on May 16th after a long illness. Our loss is monumental. Grant was the only treasurer that #90 has ever had. We depended on him to keep our books straight and our bills paid which he did efficiently and faithfully all these years. We are going to miss him greatly. We will elect another treasurer, of course, but no one will be able to take Grant's place. Rest in peace, my dear friend - rest in peace.

Dr. Shell and Marian, his sweet wife, are inviting us to share their hospitality at their home on Lake Caroline on July Fourth. This is an event that we look forward to every year. To those of you who haven't been able to attend in times past, may I remind you that good times - fishing, crabbing, swimming, boating, etc. - are had by all. The directions are simplicity itself. Take 95 South to the Ladysmith exit - then right to Route One. Make a left turn and go a mile or two to the Lake Caroline entrance.

See you at the meeting on the 4th of June.

God bless,


TERRELL A. ALLEN

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September 22, 1988

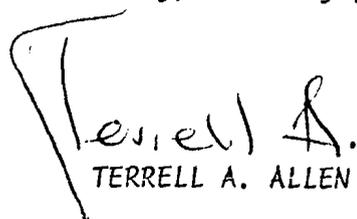
Greetings - Music Lover:

It doesn't seem like the summer season is just about over. But it is and it's time for us to start concentrating full-time on Ellington '89. Preparations are in full swing under the capable leadership of Ann Ledgister and you'll find out just where you fit in when you come to club meeting Saturday evening, October 1st. As I have been telling you for the past few months, we have our work cut out for us and without your full whole-hearted cooperation we are doomed to failure!! So please be present, punctual, and cheerfully amenable for some hard work in the hectic days ahead.

The nonpareil, Jack Towers, is our host for our opening session. I know the fabulous things he has on tape for our enjoyment, but I won't tell you. Let it be a surprise. 😊 You'll enjoy it, I promise you. Trust me.

Until meeting-time at Omega House - 13th and Harvard Streets, N.W. Stay cool.

Madly, as always,


TERRELL A. ALLEN

Dear Stef: -

Thanks so much for the new tape. My tape machine was on the blink and couldn't be fixed so I had to get another one before I could listen to your tape. It's beautiful and I appreciate it very much.
Love to M. Liz
T.A.

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Terrell A. Allen, President
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Jack Towers, Treasurer
(301) 559-4126

October 24, 1988

Hi Ellingtonian,

Preparations and plans for Ellington '89 are accelerating as the time for the conference nears. As you no doubt remember, Ellington '83 was the first International Conference ever held and Chapter #90 hosted it and with the untiring and unstinting help of honorary members Don Miller and Jerry Valburn, it was an unmitigated success. In fact that Event was the paradigm for all the other conferences that followed - the ones in Chicago, Oldham, Newark, and Toronto. Those just mentioned have all been bigger and more elaborate, but ours was the FIRST.

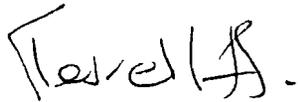
Now our time has rolled around again and we are doing our best to make it bigger and better than all the others combined. 😊

Having said all of that, lest we forget, we're still meeting every first Saturday evening at Omega House at 8:30 p.m. and our host for November 5th will be my friend, the urbane and erudite Richard K. Spottswood. Dick is taking time out from his ethnic-oriented radio program - the Dick Spottswood Show. It airs every Sunday at 3:00 p.m. on WAMU-FM, 88.5 on your dial. Dick is dedicating his program to the recently departed Ellington greats, Lawrence Brown and Sam Woodyard.

Come prepared for a musically enlightening and entertaining evening.

See you on the 5th and until then

Love you madly,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

ELLINGTON IS FOREVER.

INTERNATIONAL ELLINGTON CONFERENCE '89

DUKE ELLINGTON SOCIETY, INC.
CHAPTER 90
907 SIXTH STREET SW. 214C
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024
(202) 554-5187

October 31, 1988

Mr. Sjef Hoefsmit
c/o Valkenstraat 35
4847 TH Teteringen
The Netherlands

Dear Sjef:

The response - happily - to our requests for presenters, panelists, lecturers, et al for Ellington '89, has been overwhelming for which we are exceedingly grateful. We are very pleased that you have expressed an interest in presenting a feature at our four-day conference. We need a little information on the following:

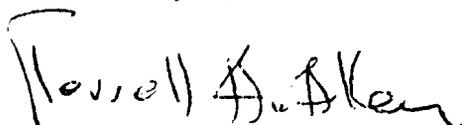
1. Title of your presentation;
2. a brief summary of the main points of your presentation;
3. your time requirements (we are asking our presenters to limit their features to an hour); and
4. equipment needed - such as film projector, cassette player, etc.

This last item is very important because we are a non-profit organization and funds for feature expenses are limited.

If we choose your presentation for inclusion in Ellington '89, we will so advise you in plenty of time so as not to inconvenience your preparation.

Please let us hear from you soon.

Thank you,



TERRELL A. ALLEN
Chairman, Program Committee,
Ellington '89

913 Hamilton Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20011

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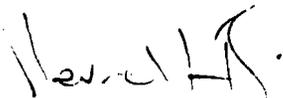
November 23, 1988

Dear Ellingtonian,

We wish to publicly acknowledge our appreciation to the hosts who, so willingly and cheerfully, share their recorded music with us. They have been doing it for a long time - month after month, year after year, through good weather and bad, and we want them to know, one and all, that we love them madly. All of the presentations have been first-rate and Dick Spottswood's study in depth of Lawrence Brown at our November session was a case in point. If you didn't make it you missed a good one! Which leads me to say that Nat Kinnear is our host for the December 3rd meeting and I know you'll be there, come Hades or high-water.

I'll say no more except you'll surely want to know how Ellington '89 is progressing and what part you are expected to play. So be there - you'll be glad you came.

Madly,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

Dear Spet:-

I like your second option best - the train. So lets all grab a ride on the Choo-Choo, the A Train ~~and~~ and the Day-break Express etc.

Talk to you again soon

Love
Terrell A.

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Jack Towers
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December 29, 1988

Happy Holidays - Music Lover,

Saturday night, January 7th at Omega House is fun night for Chapter #90. Fun music, fun-food and drink and a fun-time for all. Ed Morris is host with maybe a smidgen of help from Bob Reny, so you can be sure that we are in for a night of "unbridled" pleasure. 😊

Not to belabor the obvious, but it's dues-time again and let us not forget that we need your dues to continue operating from month to month. So bring it with you or mail it to Jack Towers at least before the first of February.

We do have some business to discuss - important business concerning Ellington '89, but that won't deter us from enjoying ourselves. Come early and bring a friend. It will be the closest thing to a party that we will have before our big Banquet Dance on the Maestro's birthday - April 29th.

So - until January 7th at 8:30 p.m. at Omega House, 13th and Harvard Streets, N.W.

Later and madly,

Terrell A.
TERRELL A. ALLEN

P.S. I almost forgot to tell you that Roland Hayes, a faithful member of many years standing, is recuperating very nicely from major heart surgery. Drop him a line or give him a call. He'd appreciate hearing from his many friends in the chapter. T.A.A.

*Hi -
Hope your holidays are merry &
bright. And bless you both -
Terrell A.*

ELLINGTON IS FOREVER.