

***Cornucopia, The Book: Twenty years of articles from the Cornucopia newsletter, edited by Marilyn Bone Kloss.*** ISBN 978-0-9851008-0-3. MBK Publishing, Marilyn Bone Kloss, 1 Concord Greene #8, Concord, MA 01742-3170. 2012, \$30 (\$20 for IHS members).

Marilyn Bone Kloss has worn many hats for the IHS. She has been on the Advisory Council and is currently assistant editor of *The Horn Call*, editor of IHS Online, and Area Representative for the state of Massachusetts. It is in this last capacity in which *Cornucopia* figures. This wonderful newsletter began in 1992 as a means of keeping people wanting to play in the New England Horn Choir informed of rehearsals, upcoming events, etc. Over the years, as the readership has grown, it has taken on a more universal purpose: “For anyone interested in the horn.” From a modest beginning with about 200 subscribers, the current readership includes over 1500 in 49 US States (+ DC), eight Canadian provinces, and 28 other countries. I myself have been a subscriber since the mid-1990s, when I was an Area Rep, and this newsletter is, to me, the model of all newsletters — articles of general interest, news and reports, announcements of upcoming events, and so on, that truly are sensitive to the interests of its readers. Even though the focus has been New England (particularly Boston), there always seems to be something for everyone. Marilyn’s interest in reminding us all of the lifelong joys of playing the horn, that horn-playing is not just about professional players, and how we must encourage everyone to continue to play, has been an important mission and guide for the content of *Cornucopia*, the newsletter, a true labor of love.

Such is the case with this celebratory 170-page volume of newsletter articles and reviews selected from the past 20 years. The sections include: People (e.g., bios, interviews, obituaries), Community (reports on groups, festivals, concerts of note), Life with the Horn (perspectives from players on subjects ranging from life after music school to Ghengis Barbie), The World (perspectives from other countries), History (of the IHS and a few historical instruments), Technique (warm-ups to improvisation to issues of aging), Education (lessons to programs, students, and teachers), Equipment (maintenance to new inventions), and Reviews (Book, Music, and Recordings).

Lest there be any confusion, this is NOT a reference book, but the articles have a wonderful balance of breadth and depth that make them worthy of consultation, especially considering there are many fascinating insights that may not be found anywhere else. Marilyn is responsible for authoring many of the articles, but guest authors from all walks of horn-life contribute more. The articles average about 500 words each — short and sweet! The layout is very well done — clean text, nice color pictures, easy to read and to get around in the book. As mentioned above, *Cornucopia* has been a labor of love for Marilyn, and this comes through loud and clear. What a nice celebration of a wonderful newsletter and a more-wonderful person, both devoted so deeply to the horn and the people who play it!

*-Jeffrey Snedeker, Editor for Music and Book Reviews, The Horn Call*