



Musician Profile: Joseph Sheppard (Shep) Crumrine

City/Town of Residence: Milwaukee

Instrument: Cello

How long have you been with Concord? Six seasons

What is your earliest musical memory? Listening to little 45 rpm records on a toy phonograph. I remember they were molded in a clear red vinyl.

What got you interested in music, and what was your involvement growing up? I took a little piano from a next-door neighbor who taught out of her

home. Then I began cello in the grade school string program in 4th grade.

Why do you perform with Concord? I enjoy playing with a group of musicians who love to play, and who take learning their parts seriously. The repertoire is interesting and I often am exposed to music that I have not played before.

What has been the high point of your involvement with Concord? Playing in a cello section that is quite strong and plays well together. There are always one or two pieces during the year that are especially intriguing as new and challenging.

What do you do for a living? Retired music therapist after a 38-year career in mental health.

Tell us about your family? My wife of 38 years is a musician, a pianist. We met as music therapy interns, but she left the field and became an attorney after about four years. We have played together for family and for weddings at times. We are long-time subscribers to the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and we often have classical music on when we are around the house. Our one son played piano very well thru his junior year in high school. He completed a double major in math and physics at Beloit College, and just completed his PhD in physics. (We believe the Mozart effect was a help.)

What are your hobbies besides practicing and playing? We enjoy camping, kayaking, hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, movies, cooking, road trips, transcontinental train trips, and gardening. I practice Thai Chi, yoga, and healing touch as well as going to the gym, running, sailing, and swimming.

What is your favorite recording? Contenders would be: Tomita – Snowflakes are Dancing; Pink Floyd – Dark Side of the Moon; Emerson Lake and Palmer – debut album; Rene Fleming – Richard Strauss 4 Last Songs; Mahler Sympony No. 5 – the Adagietto; Mahler Symphony No. 8 – Finale; Beethoven Symphony No. 4; Jul Jul, Strahlender Jul – Zero8; Carl Jenkins – The Armed Man – Benedictus (also the version by Two Cellos); and Ennio Morricone – Once Upon a Time in

the West by Quattrocelli.

Who is your favorite composer? Impossible to say.

What is one thing most people don't know about you? I may still pursue a PhD.

What is your advice for kids who are interested in music? Practice three times per week, 20 minutes each day, and use a metronome for at least five minutes each time.