



Corralin!

the Chorale

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the VILLAGE CHORALE of LAGUNA WOODS

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The Singing Revolution

Music has been central to Estonian culture for centuries. Although Estonia is one of the smallest countries in the world, it nonetheless has one of the largest collections of folk songs. But Estonians have historically used music as a political weapon as well. It is said that song was used in protest of the German invaders of the 13th century, and also in resistance to the Russian occupation under Peter the Great in the 18th century.

In the 19th century, Estonians started a song festival tradition called Laulupidu, where choirs from around the country come together to sing for days. 25,000 to 30,000 people sing on stage at the same time. But the founding of Laulupidu was as much an expression of the desire for self-determination and independence as about song.

In the late 1980's music was once again used as a unifying force when hundreds of thousands gathered to sing forbidden Estonian songs, demanding their right for self-determination from a brutal Soviet occupier.

The documentary film, "The Singing Revolution," will be shown on Thursday, April 9, at 7:00 p.m. on KOCE as part of the station's pledge drive. This deeply moving informative film documents how Estonia threw off the Soviet yoke almost entirely peacefully through quiet resistance that involved a lot of singing, something that lies deep in the country's tradition. The idea that tyranny can be overcome with non-violent resistance is something worth learning about and celebrating.

AUDITIONS WINNERS FOR MAY CONCERT ANNOUNCED!

Soloists chosen to appear on stage during the upcoming May 23rd "The Whole World Is Singing" Concert are Shirley Behar, Elizabeth Chen, Rosie Hackney, and Juanita Tsu.

Shirley will be singing a medley of 3 tunes in Ladino "Cuando Elrey Nimrod"; Elizabeth will be doing a Taiwanese number "Wish You Come Back Soon"; Rosie Hackney will appear on stage with two of her Filipino grandchildren to sing "Ohoy Alibangbang"; and Juanita Tsu will sing the Chinese "Drinking Wine Under the Moon".

Thanks goes to Dorothy Stevens for organizing and arranging for the auditions. And thanks to judges Pat Gardner, Rhea Frantz, and Maribeth Clausen from the "Harmonaires" who together with Director Doug Custance made the winning selections.

Ticket Sales

It is a long way from total 434 tickets sold in Spring '07 to the 592 tickets sold for our one and only full house at the Winter '07 concert. Look at the comparisons:

| | | |
|--------|-----|-----|
| Week 1 | 53 | 127 |
| Week 2 | 84 | 90 |
| Week 3 | 60 | 66 |
| Week 4 | 63 | 72 |
| Week 5 | 64 | 90 |
| Week 6 | 110 | 70 |
| Week 7 | --- | 77 |

Raise your hand if you would rather sing to a full house! We will have just 6 weeks this semester for our friends, neighbors and relatives to learn about our fantastic program coming up. Raise your hand if you are needed to tell them! Raise your hand if can top last year's! Raise your hand if you're going to sell, sell, sell!

The Village Chorale Chamber Singers and Bach Orchestra to Perform

Under the direction of H. Doug Custance and with Juanita Tsu at the keyboard the Chamber Singers, Bach Orchestra, and Soloists will perform "Christ lag in Todes Banden" this Friday at 3:00 p.m. at the Mission Lutheran Church at La Paz and Yosemite in Laguna Niguel. Soloists named for the performance are Soprano Vicki Fuggi, Alto Elise Ybarra, Tenor Charles Pereau, and Bass Dave Blinko.

It is hoped that this offering will be the first in a series of future performances chosen from the list of more than 200 surviving Bach Cantatas.

This cantata was likely first performed in 1707. Orchestrated for strings, it was written in a style in which all seven verses are set in the Lutheran chorale (known by many under the title "A Mighty Fortress") and sung one after the other in seven diverse choral and solo movements in Bach's robust contrapuntal form and unrivalled harmonic organization.

Chorale participants joining soloists Vicki Fuggi and Chuck Pereau are sopranos Carol Andrews, Shirley Behar, Karen Cardinale, Janet Dwyer, Karen Min, and Dorothy Stevens; altos Marlyn Chan, Julie Matonic, Maxine Quitiquit, and Margie Sutton; tenors Jay Hoang, and Ken Min; basses Pat Cardinale, Del Matonic, and John Stevens. Non chorale members will be altos Colleen Cornick and Jayne Van Langeveled and tenors Jim Machulda, Ed Rodriguez, and Bill Yarbrough, Jeanne Fleming serves as rehearsal accompanist.

FACULTY RECITAL – A PRECIS

GELLER, VIOLIN - TSU, PIANO -
CUSTANCE, VOICE

Performance: Exceptional

Attendance: 250 plus

Donations to Scholarship Fund: \$1,275

Food Service: Plenty of helpers, Plenty of Good Food

Kudos to our faculty for a beautiful hour of fine music at the first ever Village Chorale Faculty Recital on March 25th in Clubhouse 1.

Not knowing how many people to expect was a disadvantage as far as setup for orderly seating but we managed by adding chairs as people walked in the door.

Gloria Kirbens' now-famous punch recipe was a hit as usual! Thanks Gloria for planning, purchasing, preparation, and serving.

There were plenty of good helpers - among them Mary Rose Hoang, Ducksoon Yu, Pauline Wang, and Mary Ann Choi (who is not even a Chorale member but was invaluable together with Ducksoon in the clean up).

And there were enough cookies (and hors d'oeuvres) to serve a much larger crowd was a bonus. (Extra cookies are in the freezer awaiting the May concert reception). Thanks to Vick Fuggi, Marie Sutton, Julie Matonic, Betty Denton, Marie Yang, Rita Berlin, Maxine Quitiquit, Gloria Kirbens, Betty Canepa, Joyce Hale, Dorothy Stevens, Karen Cardinale, Sung Ja Kim, Janet Dwyer, Bonnie Shelton, Marlyn Chan, Mike Kennedy, Elizabeth Chen, Carol Axel, and others for a wonderful assortment of goodies!

REMEMBER OUR SERVICEMEN

Adam Scoccia is again collecting your cards, letters, and care packages for Servicemen. You drop them off in the box on the check-in table and they'll be on their way! Thanks!

2 Tools: Name Tags and the Hippocampus

We distributed name tags to ALL members! They are invaluable for wiping "Hey, You!" from our vocabulary!

Likewise, the hippocampus is a major tool - a component of the brain. It belongs to the limbic system and plays major roles in long term memory and spatial navigation. Although it does not seem to store information itself, the hippocampus is essential for learning new information - it consolidates and moves information from short-term to long-term memory. One of the primary functions of sleep is the consolidation of information. The hippocampus replays activity from the current day while you sleep.

The moral is: "Use the tools you've been given." Wear your name tag and take a nap!

NEWS BITS

THE LIST OF CHORALE MEMBERS which will appear in the Concert Program needs to be proofread and updated. Please find your name on the printout (on the check-in table) as soon as possible. If information is correct place a checkmark ✓ next to your name. Write out needed corrections/additions or see Carol.

THE VILLAGE CHORALE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Tuesday, April 14th. Election of the officers for the fiscal year beginning May 30, 2009 year will be held. The Nominating Committee Chairman Lennie Habenicht, Joyce Hale, and Bonnie Shelton have reported the slate of candidates to be voted upon: Phil Enns, President; Ed Bailey, First Vice President; Second Vice President, Bonnie Shelton; Anne Cullinane, Secretary; and Mike Kennedy, Treasurer. Nominations from the floor will be accepted with pre-approval by the candidate.

SMILE! CLICK! Its probably not unusual to see club members carrying around cameras at Village club meetings and events. But we are pretty sure that we are unique in having a John Stevens ready, willing, and Oh! So Expert! to deliver excellent product! Whether setting up the bi-annual group photo or snapping shots here and there to add to our historical recordkeeping John is a pro! And we all appreciate it!

RALPH'S REBATE PROGRAM Anne Cullinane has found a new way to add Rebate Dollars to our treasury! Its easy! Its thrifty! Why not? At some time or other nearly all of us buy groceries at Ralphs! The same plastic that earns discounts at Ralphs will add money to the Chorale treasury! All you have to do is 1) log on to RALPHS.com. 2) Click on "Community Contribution" 3) Follow the easy steps to sign-up or renew! 4) Sit back and watch your grocery shopping earn money for the Chorale!

MECHANICAL MANN rebate and treats coming! Monica Gomez will be back next Tuesday (following the annual business meeting) with her table of goodies! AND of course she'll have another rebate check for us . . . they calculate the dollars we spend on our car repairs at Mechanical Mann and deliver a check a couple times a year! And we LOVE the cash and the calories!

NONAGENARIAN ERNA SHARF passed away three weeks ago after a short illness. Although she did not sing with us this year many of you will remember Soprano Erna Sharf who celebrated her ninetieth birthday last year on the day of our "First Annual Picnic and Awards Day." She attended rehearsals and events with her care giver Carmen Ricaurte. Erna was a happy, happy lady and a real fighter. We miss her!

Reminders for **April**

- Tue 7 TICKET SALES BEGIN 1:30— 2 & 4—4:30 pm
Soprano/Alto Sectional Rehearsal 1-2 pm
Chorale Rehearsal 2 - 4 pm
Happy Birthday! Pauline Wang
- Fri 10 BACH IV CONCERT 4 pm Mission Lutheran Ch
- Tue 14 TICKET SALES 1:30— 2 & 4—4:30 pm
Tenor/Bass Sectional Rehearsal 1-2 pm
Chorale Rehearsal 2 - 4:00 pm
ELECTION of NEW OFFICERS
Mechanical Mann Treat 3:45 -4:15 pm
- Wed 15 **Happy Anniversary! Susan Pien Hsu**
- Sat 18 **Happy Birthday! Betty Canepa**
Happy Anniversary! Irene Sellers
- Mon 20 **Happy Birthday! Pat Cardinale**
- Tue 21 TICKET SALES 1:30— 2 & 4—4:30 pm
Soprano/Alto Sectional Rehearsal 1-2 pm
Chorale Rehearsal 2 - 4 pm
- Mon 27 **Happy Birthday! Jerry Fiscus**
- Tue 28 BOARD MEETING / 12:30-1:30 / Conf Rm
TICKET SALES 1:30— 2 & 4—4:30 pm
Tenor/Bass Sectional Rehearsal 1-2 pm
Chorale Rehearsal 2 - 4 pm
- Wed 29 **Happy Birthday! Larry Irion**
Happy Birthday! Lupita Jimenez

*Is your April birthday or anniversary not listed?
That would be because you didn't tell us on your BIO!*

www.villagechorale.com

Any time you miss a rehearsal check our website
for new announcements, stats, and reminders.
You will also find there lots of pictures, music, videos,
and other items of interest.

①

REMEMBER, HALF THE PEOPLE YOU KNOW ARE
BELOW AVERAGE.

②

WHEN THERE'S A WILL I WANT TO BE IN IT!

③

DISCOVER WILDLIFE! HAVE GRANDKIDS!

④

LORD, IF I CAN'T BE SKINNY, LET ALL MY FRIENDS BE
FAT!

Soprano Pauline Wang - Joined W'03, had babycare hiatus, returned W'08. Dreams of being a "Juanita" at the piano. Pre-retire: was in Architectural field. Likes fiction, comp games, cooking, & photography (esp. of 4 grandkids),

Soprano Susan Pien Hsu - Allen & Susan moved to LW just weeks ago. They were married in 1963. They have 2 sons, 2 grandchildren. A music teacher taught her to love singing! Favorite places in LW: CH3 & CH1 because of music classes

Alto Betty Canepa - is passionate about MUSIC! Swims. Is a widow with 2 children, 9 grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren (and she's not "that" old!) Loves to spend time with grandchildren but would also like to travel!

Soprano Irene Sellers - We know one of her passions: Dancing...but also food! Also enjoys knitting, reading fiction, cooking (she collects recipes), and gardening. Her hero: Her mother. Favos: TV-KOCE, Restaurant-Mexican

Bass Pat Cardinale - Loves when he can travel or golf or cook new recipes! Collects coins! Is most passionate about exercise, singing, golf, theology! Maybe in the future? astronomy, woodworking, jewelrmaking, birding, photography.

Bass Jerry Fiscus - Collects eggs—ceramic, stone, glass, wood, etc. Is single! Is on hiatus from chorale because of health! Won 4 blue ribbons, 3 green ribbons, & grand prize in LW Cookie Challenge for Best Holiday Decorated Cookies!

Bass Larry Irion - Is thrilled watching 1st grandson Kevin becoming age 2! Likes fishing, skiing, cooking, snorkeling, woodworking, fiction! Is passionate re: Freedom & Politics. Is famous for his speaking voice! Favo time of day-late eve

Alto Lupita Jimenez - Was an Educator. Appreciates her Psychology teacher who opened a new world of thinking. Could listen to Opera all day! LW Favo places: Fitness center, CH4. Recently mastered operating a webcam.

Where Have We Heard This Before?

"There are actually choirs
where the director has to spoon-feed
everything on the page."

"Only sing at the top half of the note!"

"Resonance has a history"

"If you want to practice safe singing
use vibrato only as a condiment!"