



Corralin' the Chorale

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the VILLAGE CHORALE of LAGUNA WOODS

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THE WHOLE WORLD IS SINGING

And especially the Village Chorale!

With just four rehearsals before we climb to the stage for our Annual Spring Concert '09 Conductor Doug Custance and Performance Accompanist Juanita Tsu are in the process of polishing and refining for an outstanding presentation of music from around the world. And in the process the audience will be treated to several visual extravaganzas. Costumes, dancing, and big screen presentations will top off the Chorale Brazilian, Israeli, Ghanan, Pacific Rim, Russian, Swiss, Hawaiian, German, Spanish, Korean, and good ol' US music.

The Spring Concert '08 was a patriotic concert. The year before that the music was everything "LaScala to Broadway" and in '06 the music had a "Rockin' with the Chorale" emphasis.

The Chorale is ending this forty first year with 100 members, not quite reaching the 117 record membership of 1971, the year Clubhouse 3 opened but exceeding the lower membership of 56 in the Spring semester of 2002, the year before H. Douglas Custance began his tenure as Village Chorale Conductor.

Chorale Associate Conductor Named

The Village Chorale has turned yet another corner in its reach for excellence! With the naming of Michael Blinco as Associate Conductor the Chorale has added new musical depth, versatility, example, and youth to our teaching staff. Mike has already endeared himself to the Chorale with his two-octave voice range, performance excellence, competent piano skills, conducting prowess, music knowledge, and active sense of humor.

With a long term goal of singing with the Chicago Lyric Opera Mike is currently working with the "Bach Collegium," San Diego, doing a series of concerts of Period Baroque for chorale and orchestra. Mike, a graduate of the Chapman University Conservatory of Music, Orange, has performed in numerous operas and concerts in Orange County and elsewhere nationally and abroad.

Mike comes from a Rancho Bernardo three-generation musical family, with one sister graduating from Colorado State and one sister graduating High School this year. Maestro Blinco will conduct John Rutter's "For the Beauty of the Earth" and will solo in the "Tum Balalaika" in the upcoming "The Whole World is Singing" concert.



NEWS BITS

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TICKET SALES COMPARATIVE UPDATE

	S'07	W'07	S'09
		Full House	
Week 1	53	127	185
Week 2	137	217	219
Week 3	197	283	263
Week 4	260	355	309
Week 5	324	445
Week 6	434	515
Box Office	---	592

POLLY'S PIES DINE-IN Anne Cullinane is working on another Rebate event...but this is different from any we have had! Though the date has not been scheduled it will be in June, when we do not meet for rehearsals! We are encouraged to invite guests - lots of them! Polly's promo says "pass out your flyers to friends, family, co-workers, and even the officer that wrote you a traffic citation that day! The more you circulate flyers the more funds you will raise. And keep in mind, Americans are some of the most charitable people in the world—all you have to do is ask, and they will show up to support your cause." Polly's will help to promote and decorate the restaurant for our event, raising awareness of our Scholarship program as well as interest in Chorale Membership - and at a hearty 20% rebate for all sales. We will notify you via our website, the Globe, and direct email.

"GIVE ME THAT BARBERSHOP STYLE"

Calling all Barbershoppers! Whether you are a died-in-the-wool Barbershopper or brand new to the art (or anywhere in between) this is your opportunity to check out what it is all about. Be at Clubhouse 1 Dining Room 3 from 8 to 11 am on Mon thru Wed July 6th thru 9th for "performance prep" under Doug Custance. On the program will be "O Bury Me Out on the Lone Prairie," "Shaboom, Shaboom" "Good Night Sweetheart," and "Cruisin In My Model T." The performance will be in the CH1 Art Room on July 9th. Time to be announced.

CHINA PERFORMANCE TOUR Members of the Village Chorale have been invited to participate with the new Irvine Valley Emeritus Symphony and Choir for a Performance Tour in China August 5th thru 12th this summer. Doug Custance, Choirmaster and Valerie Geller, Symphony Conductor, will be heading up the team of musicians on the tour which will include Beijing, Suzhou, Hangzhou, and Shanghai. Naomi Gao of Star River International Travel is the Tour Manager. Several of the 24 available spaces have already been taken. Further information is available at 626/839-5719.

VOTE FOR CHANGE TO BY-LAWS Two amendments to Article VI Finances of the Village Chorale By-Laws as approved by the Board of Directors will be presented for a club vote at the May 5th Rehearsal. The approved changes will then be forwarded for the required approval at the next meeting of the Village Golden Rain Foundation.

1. To maintain sound financial accountability for the dollars which flow through the Chorale bank accounts two Board members will be appointed by the Chorale Board of Directors in January and in June to "Review" and to "Track" checking account activity.
2. To maintain sound financial accountability two Board members, appointed by the Board, are required to count and tabulate collections of funds.

CHORALE MEMBERS AND GUESTS TO BE FETED

Chorale members, still in concert dress, will have opportunity to mingle with Chorale friends and supporters following the "Whole World is Singing" concert at a Reception spelled elegance in Dining Room 2 just down the hall from the CH3 auditorium. With tables decorated by a friend of the Chorale, Mina Horist of Laguna Niguel, guests will be able to relish the moment over punch, cookies, and hors d'oeuvres in a style a step or two up from the recent Faculty Concert. A signup sheet for hors d'oeuvres and setup/cleanup will be on the Check-in table.

"A CABARET NIGHT" SOIREE Help celebrate and christen the new 9 foot grand piano in Doug Custance' home at a special Soiree planned for Saturday, May 16th at 6 p.m. Members of several groups which Doug teaches will entertain and be entertained. Refreshments. Sign up on the Chorale Check-in table. Maps provided.

THE CHORALE ANNUAL PICNIC With Chef Pat Cardinale at the Grill, Karen Cardinale overseeing the pot-luck table, and Marjie Sutton at the Mic the Annual Picnic will be held on Tuesday May 26th on the Dining Room 2 patio at Clubhouse 2. Some of you will want to bring salads and/or desserts (there will be a sign-up sheet) but everything else for a fun picnic and program to end the 2008-2009 season will be provided. Last year's first-ever Annual Picnic set the format for a "delicious" (to the mouth *and* to the emotions) event! This year's picnic is just as enticing—or maybe more so!

I CAN'T MEMORIZE!
CAN TOO

Introducing! Our New Officers

President Phil Enns

Phil Enns is a retired College Professor, having taught Statistics at the St. Louis University School of Business, and in Lexington, KY and Ann Arbor, MI. During his years in Ann Arbor, MI he was Statistician for Auto Emissions, a Division of the Environmental Protection Agency.

When Phil and Jan moved to the Village late summer '07 Phil learned about the Village Chorale from the Globe. Having experienced choral and solo singing and theatre with groups in Ann Arbor MI, Lexington KY, and St. Louis MO he immediately decided to check us out!

Phil served briefly as President of the UM Alumni Club in St. Louis before leaving the area.

First Vice President Ed Bailey

Many of us remember our pleasant surprise when we first heard Bass Ed Bailey's impressive solo voice a couple of years ago! Ed and Mike Kennedy, who have hung out together for many years, joined the Chorale in 2005. Ed has one child and 3 grandchildren from a previous marriage.

Ed's work resume includes Parts Administrator for Toyota, and working for Bank of America when it was still Security Bank.

Ed is a coin collector. His greatest coup was purchase of a 1909 SVDB Lincoln penny for \$10 and selling it for \$600.

The most important thing to Ed is his Religion—He is a Priest in his church. As well as vocal performance he has quite a history of instrumental study—violin!

Second Vice President Bonnie Shelton

Bonnie *had* to join the Chorale last September - her grandchildren insisted since it would add 15 years to her life! (Remember that promotion last fall?)

And as a member of this year's Nominating Team, Bonnie Shelton was a "natural" to accept an officer's position! Her computer skills include keeping in touch with her grandchildren (ten of them) on FACEBOOK. Her music skills include a history of singing in school and church choirs and enough piano expertise to help their children practice.

Born in St. James, Minnesota (where's that you ask?) Bonnie and hubby Austin live in the Gate 1, 2, 3 area. They are thrilled when any or all of their 3 daughters, son, and/or grandchildren visit. Last summer a big event was the visit by two of the granddaughters and their Mom from Glasgow, Scotland.

Bonnie has found pleasure in gardening and cooking but right now would rather be knitting, playing games, and doing Bible study. She collects Memories. She is most passionate about her family and friends.

Secretary Anne Cullinane

You won't find our Gloria Anne Cullinane being intimidated by her position as Chorale secretary! She has a wealth of valuable leadership experience!

As a very small child Anne loved to sing and dance; she had voice lessons from age 9 to 16; she sang in a Women's trio from age 16 to 29 (wasn't that when the Andrews Sisters were a big thing?); then she sang in a church choir age 29 to 35, directed a Youth choir, from age 35 to 43; sang in the South Coast Singers 2000 to 2004; and has served to the present as the Keyboardist and Tenor in the Worship Team at St. John Neumanns, Irvine. She is well known in the area as a Speaker/teacher for Women's groups.

Anne is a very busy lady working 30 plus hours per week as a Marriage and Family Therapist. But she loves her work—otherwise she would be very bored! Anne and hubby Andy live down past the Nature Trail not far from Gate 4. They have 7 children, 15 grandchildren, and 21 great grandchildren. One of them has been serving in Iraq.

Anne likes to sew, read, and travel. Other of Anne's "favorites" are Hero: John Wayne; Author: Louisa May Alcott; Magazine: "Ophrah"; Words: Faith/Love; Decade: 50s; Conversation Topic: Values and beliefs; TV: HGTV; Food: Spanish; Saying: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

By mentioning her piano playing 3 times in a recent BIO she has shown evidence of her love and skill at the piano. And she's not done yet! She plans to learn *more* about *everything she can!*

Treasurer Mary Michael Kennedy

We all know Mike! — that pretty red headed Soprano who claims a front row chair at rehearsals! She comes to the Treasurer position in the Chorale with a 4 year membership history and many years of business experience. Her work record includes California Dental, the Marketing Department at Bridgestone Firestone, and most recently as Assistant Manager at the nearby Draper Damon Outlet.

Her love for music which began in a 2nd Grade Choir led her to a 30 year dabble/study of music and drama. Mike likes to read, especially mystery stories. Other favorite things include Turner Classics on TV, the living room in her home, painting fine art, network surfing, antiques, Bible study, hiking, restaurant hopping, and gardening but is most passionate about Music and Religion. She could eat ice cream all day! And if she could she would travel the world!

Born in Daytona Beach, Mike especially enjoyed living in Sacramento and in Nashville, Tennessee. She lives now in the Gate 10 area.

Mike is widowed and has 7 children and 13 grandchildren. One of her grandchildren brought special pleasure as she recently watched him dance and sing in "42nd Street."

Some claims to fame are shaking hands with Pope John Paul, Arnold Swartznegger, and Richard Nixon.

Been there—done that activities include fishing, woodworking, skiing, golf, beading, photography, cooking, astronomy, and birding. But she hopes someday to take pen to paper and write fiction!

Reminders for **May**

- Fri 1 **Happy Anniv! Grace Sams & Hank Gioia**
- Sun 3 **BACH IV PERFORMANCE II in Santa Ana**
- Mon 4 **Happy anniversary! Janet Dwyer
Happy Anniversary! Iris Gilboard**
- Tue 5 **TICKET SALES 1:30— 2 & 4—4:30 pm
Soprano/Alto Sectional Rehearsal 1-2 pm
Chorale Rehearsal
Happy Birthday! Joe Castro**
- Fri 8 **Happy Birthday! Star Warford**
- Sat 9 **Happy Anniversary! Karen & Ken Min**
- Sun 10 **Happy Birthday! Grace Lin**
- Tue 12 **LAST DAY TICKET SALES 1:30— 2 & 4—4:30
Concert Soloists Rehearsal 1-2 pm
Chorale Rehearsal 2-4:00 pm**
- Sat 16 **"A CABARET NIGHT" SOIREE 6 pm
At Doug Custance' home**
- Tue 19 **TEA Sectional Rehearsal 1-2 pm
Chorale Rehearsal 2-4 pm**
- Thu 21 **Happy Anniv! John & Dorothy Stevens**
- Fri 22 **DRESS REHEARSAL / 1:00-5:00 / On Stage**
- Sat 23 **SPRING CONCERT 3 pm / Curtain Call 1 pm
Reception following concert in DR 2
Happy Birthday! Winnie Rice**
- Tue 26 **SECOND ANNUAL PICNIC/CH2-DR2 Patio
12:30 - 2:30 pm
LIBRARY WORKDAY CH3 / 3-4 pm**
- Fri 29 **Happy Birthday! Adrienne Cross
Happy Anniversary! Mary Rose**
- Hoang**
Happy Birthday! Gloria Kirbens

*Is your May 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.

Soprano Grace Sams & Bass Hank Gioia - Grace and Sam are Federal Retirees. Snowbirds from Alexandria, VA near Washington, DC. with 5 children & 8 grandkids, they'll be back next fall. They both have sung in Metropolitan Chorus—Arlington, VA & studied at a local Community Coll.

Soprano Janet Dwyer - Janet & Doug celebrate 5th Anniv; He is a great supporter of her music! Janet is Scholarship Chair; Janet is a certified Music Practitioner; She likes the Aliso Creek Park, CH2, CH3, and the balcony of her unit!

Alto Iris Gilboard - Born in NY; likes Jazz & Symphonic; Took piano lessons & ballet but wishes she had kept at it; does golf and tennis! Misses ice skating, skiing, old friends! Knits, reads, cooks, makes jewelry! Joined last fall!

Tenor Joe Castro - Joe has been one of favorite soloists since joining W'05. Joe is good at Frisbee. He likes music, not politics! His favorite author: Poe; favorite magazine: Road & Track; favorite time of day: Sleep time. Likes USC!

Alto Star Warford - Most interesting place lived - top of mtn 8 mi from paved road in Texas! Collects ear rings! Is happy (as are we all!) to say "I'm still alive, and there are more songs to sing! Does computers, books, photography!

Soprano Karen and Tenor Ken Min - Enjoyed travel to Mediterranean last summer & Korea last month! They are awaiting good news of their only daughter's pregnancy! Both are involved as Board Members! Both active in the Village!

Soprano Grace Lin - Born in Taiwan, Grace joined S'08! Lives with hubby Fong Jen in gates 1-2-3 area!

Soprano Dorothy and Bass John Stevens - Celebrating 53 yrs!! Love to be with 2 children, 4 grandchildren! Joined in W'03! John is Village Symph Orch Pres! Both have many interests! Both are good at computers!

Soprano Winnie Rice - Her singing teacher helped her rise above fear of singing solos! Loved Elvis! Loves Kathleen Battle, Julie Andrews! Likes Aliso Creek & CH3 & all the grounds! Is a swimmer, fine arts painter, computer buff, . .

Soprano Adrienne Cross - Plays drums & piano. Sang with Barbershoppers before joining in S'08. Is a published poet & writer. Likes music, films, art! Loved living in Italy! Would like to "solve" some of mysteries of human existence!

Soprano Mary Rose Hoang loves languages! Joined fall '06. Likes all the Technical gadgets of '08-'09! Is busy creating slide shows. Collects magnets of places visited. Likes to read, surf the net; cook; hike; do computer games; & movies!

Soprano Gloria Kirbens - Was mapmaker in Denver! Known for her one-person fine-art shows, she is an outstanding artist! Is widowed! Has 2 children, 2 grandchildren! Has held V.P. & Chairmanships many times in 9 yrs membership!

Unabated - a fishhook without a worm

Legend - the edge of a cliff

Intense - where campers sleep

Rampage - Section of a book about male sheep

Subsidy - a town underneath another town

Deduce - de lowest card in de deck

Kinship - your brother's boat

Minimum - a very small mother