

# Corralin' the Chorale

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the VILLAGE CHORALE of LAGUNA WOODS

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## The Laguna Woods Village Singers to Perform Eight Madrigals

May Day can bring a variety of pictures to mind -- from may poles to may baskets or alternately, sometimes intimidating political parades and demonstrations. But the picture we want you to plan for is a day of lilting carefree music, 16<sup>th</sup> Century costumes, and frivolity. That is the picture laid down for the Village Singers May 1<sup>st</sup> performance of eight Madrigals. European Madrigals are typically four/five part secular polyphonic music

Titles of this musical package betray the fanciful, romantic, and carefree themes: "Toss the Pot," "April is in My Mistress' Face," "Sing We and Chant It," "Adieu, ye City-Prisoning Towers," "Fair Phyllis I Saw," "My Bonny Lass, She Smileth," and "In these Delightful Pleasant Groves."

If you don't recognize the titles you might recognize the writers: Thomas Morley, Henry Purcell, Thomas Tomkins, John Farmer, Thomas Ravenscroft, and from the Italian school, Orland di Lasso.

## GET WELL MESSAGING

When sickness or injury happens to someone among us, they need to know they have our collective support. Hopefully, our well wishes can boost sagging spirits and help get them on their feet again. . . When you or another Chorale member is heading to the hospital for treatments or minor surgery or has to stick close to their bed it is time for cheering up. Let Shirley Behar (949/583-1821) know so that a card may be sent. An added bonus. . . a card from you, too!

## The Season Is Upon Us Get Ready to Ride

What season are we talking about? The 5 weeks starting the first Tuesday in April. The 5 weeks when Chorale members trade dollars for tickets to the May concert. Some of those dollars will have been collected from neighbors, relatives, and friends. Some of those dollars are Chorale members' money that they will use to purchase tickets for resale. In any case be ready April 5<sup>th</sup> for the race to sell tickets to our May 14<sup>th</sup> 3 pm concert.

## Chorale Picture Taking Day

March 8<sup>th</sup>

Arrive by 12:45 in Costume



## THE CHOICE IS YOURS!

You can start planning now what to do on Tuesday afternoon, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Go sky-diving, take a nap, write a sonnet, check out Macy's, take someone to Schlotzky's, plant petunias . . . On that day you are free to do any or all of the above.....or just come to the empty rehearsal room and hang out while everybody else is enjoying Spring Break!

**REBATE DATE** Our most favorite rebate relationship is with Mechanical Mann.....They not only supply a check every few months! They supply a tableful of yummy treats! Tentatively, Monica Gomez will show up on Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> with arms loaded! Come ready to eat!....and come ready to pick up coupons for your next car care needs!

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** An essential part of making sure the Chorale members are in the right place and on the same page is the Board of the Village Chorale. Five members are elected, others are appointed. Candidates to serve as President, V.President, 2<sup>nd</sup> V.President, Secretary, and Treasurer for the 2011-2012 year are enlisted by the Nominating Committee and presented to the choir for election in April. Though membership on the Nominating Committee is obviously one of the more important of Chorale duties it is a short-lived and rewarding responsibility. Be proud of yourself -- make your contribu-tion to a continuing well-run Chorale by volunteering to serve on this year's Nominating Committee! Tell an officer.

**SOLOIST AUDITIONS** Three or four soloists will be chosen to perform at our May concert. . . you can be one! Or try-out your duet or trio! The date is Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. A sign-up sheet will be made available. Plan now....practice now....so that you are ready to present yourself and your music performance ready at your audition. Talk to Juanita Tsu soon if you will need an accompanist.

Which will it be?

Which will it be?

IS THIS A 150% YEAR? or THIS IS A  
150% YEAR!

Tips to make it happen

Attend the Voice and Rhythm Class Regularly

Look at your music between rehearsals

Pay attention during rehearsals

Practice mentally while other parts are singing aloud

Use your mind and body

Luhn that R does not exist in this choir (Learn sounds like Luhn)

Best way to luhn to sight read is to sight read

John Madden was best because he focused on fundamentals

Those we call gifted know how to get there:  
practice, practice, practice.

The success of a good choir is to know when  
to let others do "their" thing.

Practice the Inner Game of Music

Jump on Top of the note instead of reaching up from below

Repeat frantically:  
The Point is in the front, The Space is in the back

Secret to singing high is to minimize the consonant

A red letter day is reading music with key signatures

The last sharp is TI / the last flat is FA

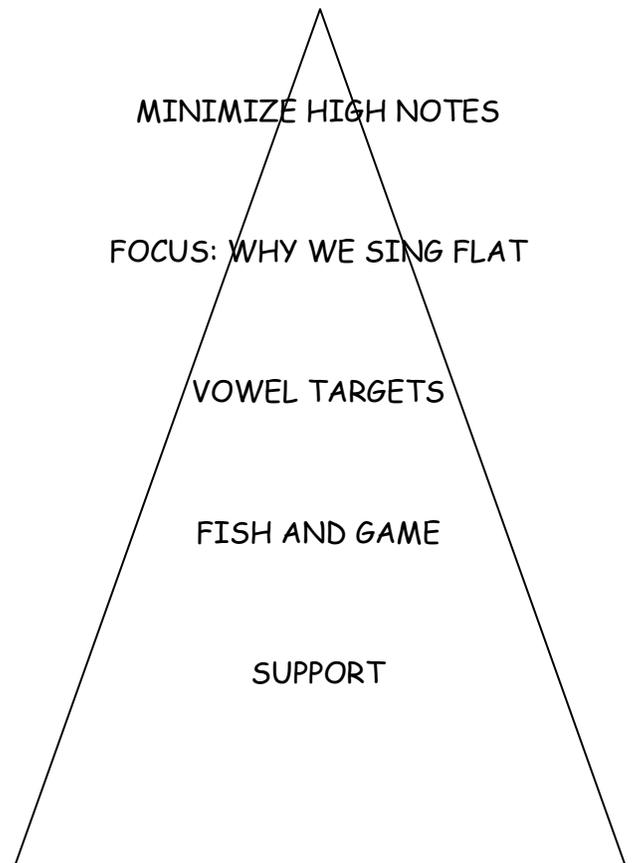
Multiply your skills...sing 15 min as soon as you wake up

DO-SOL is an important interval - especially for basses

The goal is to lengthen your top notes

How do you "get there"? Put in the time

Attach your breath to the end of the phrase



## POSTURE

### DOUG CUSTANCE VISITS JANE SEYMOUR

Jane Seymour tells the story. . .

On Saturday night (2/19/11) we had an inaugural Open Heart event at our home.(in Malibu). Close to 400 people attended and we were sold out. Everyone's generosity was extraordinary and the evening was so memorable.

The tables were spectacular. Metal and candle lit crystal trees hung with Open heart ornaments and surrounded by a mix of beautiful fresh flowers as well as permanent botanicals from my new line. Mixing both fresh and artificial flowers made for spectacular color and design and everyone fell in love with the combination. The food was delicious and we drank Patron Tequila and our own JS Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

We honored four people for opening their hearts to others. Pat & Emmitt Smith, Robin Roberts, Jesse Billauer and Susan Rizzo Vincent.

India Arie performed, impromptu, a part of her song that Robin helped write about opening your heart.

Susan Rizzo was introduced by me- more to come on her story and how she continues to spread the Open Heart message.

Jesse was introduced by Jose Pasillas and spoke so eloquently- moving us all to tears. During his speech the thunderstorm struck and the generator blew out. Fortunately nothing stops Jesse. he continued as our electricians who were also guests of the evening located temporary power. It was very dramatic.

The entertainment began with the brilliant William Joseph on piano along with violin and cello. He was followed by our son Johnny's band PT5 Plead The Fifth who performed two songs with his father James playing harmonica. They were great. Then came Lea Maria Cappelli, a new young 16 year old singer who amazed everyone.

Katharine McPhee blew us all away with her songs, especially her rendition of Somewhere Over the Rainbow. She was so sweet and so much fun- we played dress up in my closet before the show.

Then came Jakob Dylan and one of the Wallflowers- such extraordinary music. To end the evening William & Katharine performed his Oh America Song and we were brought to tears.

Not included in the Seymour account. . .

LW Village Chorale director, Doug Custance, took advantage of the opportunity to attend and to be with a slew of celebrities including William Joseph. He has included the Oh America Song in the repertoire for the upcoming May 14<sup>th</sup> Village Chorale Concert

### Report from the "Happy Birthday with a Capital HAPPY!"

Event  
60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party  
Gifts for the Saddleback Scholarship Fund  
have mounted to more than  
\$1,300!

We want to make it crystal clear that we think "Crystal Catering" outdid themselves with a scrumptious menu elegantly served on beautifully laid tables:

Caesar Salad,  
Orange Glazed Carrots, Squash Medley,  
Herb Roasted Chicken,  
Carved Roast Beef with Horseradish Sauce,  
Dinner Rolls, Tea and Coffee,  
Birthday Cake

*New member Andrea Alexander, alto, summarized it:*

I had such a great time. The food was amazing. The music lifted my spirit and I was very fortunate to sit at a table with people who I had not met before. They were most enjoyable. What a great opportunity to hear good music and at the same time raise funds for a very worthwhile cause: "Scholarships." I think it is most important to keep the Arts flowing in our schools at all levels.

*Elizabeth (Betty) Canepa, alto, proclaimed:*

Great afternoon! Good Food!

*New member Richard Furrell, tenor, echoed:*

It was an honor and a pleasure to sing with the Chorale. All guests and friends with whom I spoke liked the choice of songs, the sounds of the singers, and the "presence" of the director.

*Al Gross, bass, raved:*

Well planned. Well executed. A lot of fun!

*Lupita Jimenez, alto, commended it:*

It was fabulous! Wonderful decorations. Sparkling program. Excellent food. It rated 100% in my estimation.

*Bob Sherinian, bass, praised it:*

The String quartet was great. Had a great time. Can't wait till Doug turns age 70.

*Dorothy Stevens, soprano, described it:*

It seemed as if everyone really enjoyed themselves...Village Singers, Chorale, String Ensemble, Kool Cats, Barbershoppers, Soloists, and Juanita, Doug, and Company. Very nice meal prepared by Linda Custance and family.

*New member Jayne Van Langeveld, alto, appreciated it:*

IT'S NOT ABOUT WHETHER YOU WIN OR LOSE . . .  
. . . BUT HOW YOU PLACE THE BLAME.

SIGN AT AN ANIMAL SHELTER: CHILDREN LEFT  
UNATTENDED WILL BE GIVEN A PUPPY OR A KITTEN!

RED MEAT IS NOT BAD FOR YOU. BUT FUZZY GREEN MET  
IS!

The party was a wonderful tribute to a great director. We learned new things about Doug and appreciate him even more.

THEIR FEET SMELL AND THEIR NOSES RUN.

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE FIRE AT THE CIRCUS?  
THE HEAT WAS IN TENTS

# Reminders for **March**

- Tue 1 **NOMINATIONG COMMITTEE FORMING**  
Voice & Rhythm Class 1-2 pm  
**Chorale Rehearsal** 2-4 pm  
**LW Village Singers Rehearsal** 4-4:30 pm
- Sat 5 **Happy Anniversary! Hanne Booth**
- Sun 6 **Happy Birthday! Iris Gilboard**
- Mon 7 **Happy Birthday! Lidia Tepelian**
- Tue 8 **CHORALE PICTURE DAY** WEAR Chorale Costume  
Voice & Rhythm Class 1-2 pm  
**Chorale Rehearsal** 2-4 pm  
**LW Village Singers Rehearsal** 4-4:30 pm
- Fri 11 **Happy Birthday! Carol Andrews**
- Sun 13 **Happy Birthday! Janet Dwyer**
- Tue 15 **SPRING BREAK! NO CLASS**
- Thu 17 **Happy Birthday! Joel Breeding**
- Tue 22 Voice & Rhythm Class 1-2 pm  
**Chorale Rehearsal** 2-4 pm  
**LW Village Singers Rehearsal** 4-4:30 pm  
**Happy Birthday! Catherine Aubert**
- Wed 23 **Happy Birthday! Lennie Habenicht**
- Mon 28 **Happy Birthday! Hanne Booth**
- Tue 29 **SOLOIST AUDITIONS** 1-2 pm  
**Chorale Rehearsal** 2-4 pm  
**LW Village Singers Rehearsal** 4-4:30 pm

**Soprano Carol Andrews** - Important activities: Ashley and Connor (ages 10 and 7), Bible Study and Choral Music/Wishes for more time for gardening, antiquing, reading, writing, keeping contact with friends from CA, WI, CO, IL.

**Alto Catherine Aubert** - Sang in chorales in Switzerland, France, England, & here / 68+ yrs training/teaching piano/Collects stamps, coins, books, CDs / Secret desire: "If only I could be Cinderella before midnight" / Does computers. . .

**Alto Hanne Booth** - and hubby David have been married 51 years and have 2 children, 2 grandchildren / She studied piano 10 yrs., directed a children's choir for 12 yrs., had many years of voice lessons, and sang with a conservatory choir in Denmark / As a snow bird she joined us 5'09 / Wishes she could master double rotation jumps in figure skating! Seriously! In her favorite attire - figure skates and lycra tights /Favorite LW place is down by Aliso Creek.

**Bass Joel Breeding** - Plays classical & jazz piano / Is part-time piano tech / is impressed by teens' opportunities / Would like to visit India /Would write book titled: "Harmony of Science & Christianity" / Has 7 grandchildren.

**Soprano Janet Dwyer** - H.S. music teacher pushed her toward music in college / Is Certified Music Practitioner /Sings "Auld Lang Syne" in Scottish-ese / Likes Worship Music & Puccini / Will try new but prefers the familiar.

**Soprano Iris Gilboard** - Did singing and acting in school plays / Now Tutors 2<sup>nd</sup> grade reading / Would write a book on helping others achieve self-esteem / Desires visit to Prague/Czech Republic / Enjoys participation in LW clubs.

**Alto Lennie Habenicht** - Joined Chorale '94 / Served 2 yrs as Pres. / Is gardener & reader / Enjoys TV / Enjoys visiting family / Does computer games, fishing, golf, gardening / Plays piano "poorly"

**Soprano Lidia Tepelian** - Spends happy summer days visiting grandkids in Michigan & Las Vegas / Enjoys Yamaha piano class / Was born in Damascus / Is a hair stylist / Enjoys knitting, cooking and of course singing



**In Concert: Village Chorale and Orchestra with Guest Choir on tour from Washington, D.C.**  
**Guest Artist Ashley 1<sup>st</sup> (Formerly of Orange County, Now a New York City Recording Artist)**  
**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> • 3 pm • Clubhouse 3 • Ticketed Concert For the Public**  
Met Composer William Josseph: "Oh, America I Hear You"  
William Hall: "I Know Where I'm Goin" • Folk Song: "Shenandoah" • plus much more

PEOPLE HAVE A HAPPY TIME YACATIONING IN IRELAND  
BECAUSE THEY ARE WALKING ON EIRE.

SOME PEOPLE'S NOSES AND FEET ARE BUILT  
BACKWARDS:

THE MAGICIAN GOT SO MAD HE PULLED HIS HARE OUT.

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE GUY WHOSE WHOLE LEFT SIDE  
WAS CUT OFF? HE'S ALL RIGHT NOW.

I USED TO HAVE A FEAR OF HURDLES, BUT I GOT OVER  
IT.

HE DROPPED A COMPUTER ON HIS TOES AND HAD  
MEGAHERTZ.