



The Chorister

Volume 3, Issue 4

November 1, 2016

Singing Locally, Giving Globally!

- Intergenerational singing community of all ability and experience levels
- Excellence in choral artistry
- Noted guest conductors, clinicians, soloists, & instrumentalists
- Eclectic array of music including choral standards, commissioned pieces, and major contemporary works interspersed with folksongs, jazz, world music, and sacred selections
- Substantive Community Service

Check Us Out On You Tube!

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Assistant Director

Wayne Perry

*

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NEWSLETTER

EDITOR

Liz Phelan

Calendar

Sun. Nov. 4 MD State Boychoir, Bethel Presbyterian 7:30 p.m.

Sun. Nov. 20 Chamber Choir—Ladew Presbyterian 3:00 p.m.

Sun. Dec. 4 Christmas Concert—St. Matthews Lutheran, 4:00 p.m.

Thurs. Dec. 8 Chamber Choir—Ladew Topiary Gardens, 6:30 p.m.

Sun. Feb. 19 Chamber Choir—St. James Episcopal, Monkton, 3:00 pm

Sat. Mar. 11 A Capella Showcase—Perry Hall HS, 7:00 p.m.

Director's Notes

How does a non-profit such as a community choir support itself?

In 2010, the idea of an evening to inform and inspire our friends and family about the dual mission of the Deer Creek Chorale was born. I had recently joined the Towson Golf and Country Club which had a lovely venue in a central location, perfect for such an evening. And the craziest idea of all was to offer it as a free event. Obviously this went against any business model for raising money but the Board of Directors voted to try it.

What would such an evening look like? We chose a Thursday night in late October to hold the event. The Chamber Choir would sing, a guest speaker would inspire, and the Board members would provide information and moderate the proceedings.

Board Update

As the fall season continues to move forward and our Thanksgiving celebration looms ever closer, it is more than fitting for all of us to take time to reflect on the numerous ways we are blessed. Personally, I am fortunate to have such a loving, successful family. Also, all of us live within an hour of each other which affords the opportunity for frequent "real time" contacts, especially with our five precious grandchildren.

In our busy, action-filled, and hectic daily lives it is often too easy to not only overlook our blessings but to forget the needs



Artistic Director Marty Banghart

There would be a lovely array of finger foods and an open bar plus a display board showing our activities.

Now you might ask, how did we raise money? Well, in the beginning it was truly a leap of faith

by all involved. **Steph Davis** was the president at the time and we decided to ask **Jackie McCosh**, a charter member of the choir and the recipient of a hand-capped van due to the proceeds from a silent auction which was held at the previous winter concert, to speak about the choir and what it meant to her. She so moved and inspired the guests who were present that folks opened their hearts and pocketbooks to support us.



Marty & Jackie

Tragically that was the last time any of us saw Jackie since she died in November, but what a legacy she left behind! Part of her speech can still be viewed on YouTube in a video entitled Deer Creek Chorale: A Giving Organization.

As the years progressed, we have had memorable guests including **Linda Hall, Tom Hall, Ruth Drucker** (actually gave the attendees a voice lesson), **Arian Khaefi, Paul Head**, and this year, **Jose Bowen**. The event has grown in scope and this 10th anniversary, we celebrated in style on October 29th at Silo-Hill with lively entertainment, delicious food and an inspiring speaker. We are all blessed and grateful to our sponsors for all they continue to do to help our organization remain vibrant, giving and musically inspiring for the next decade.

of others as well. This year's Deer Creek Chorale community service benefit is focused on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease awareness. Many of our choristers know colleagues or friends who have family members that are impacted by these insidious, pernicious diseases. Indeed, some of our chorale may currently have members of their own families who are either stricken by these diseases or have died from them. Anyone who has first-hand experience with Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease knows full well how they rob



Board President Pete McCallum

individuals of their physical health and emotional dignity. Additionally, these diseases cast tremendous financial, psychological, and time responsibilities on caregivers.

The Deer Creek Chorale Board of Directors is honored and proud to guide our organization's efforts in this 10th anniversary concert season's community service initiative. Please continue to consider how you can support our Alzheimer's and Parkinson's benefit as your finances and time permit.

(Continued on page 4)

Spotlight On... Bass Dan Cassenti



Dan Cassenti

Dan Cassenti, from Belcamp MD, joins the DCC this year as one of the newest members of our bass section. He has sung in a church choir and has taken guitar and piano lessons, but his real passion is creating recordings with other singers on Smule.com. You can actually hear him singing hundreds of songs on that site, if you search for DanOnVocals. Smule gets fellow singers together to sing duets with one another, and he is totally addicted to it.

Dan enjoys all kinds of rock music,

though alternative and classic are his favorites. Special bands for him include Collective Soul, The Good Goo Dolls, The Beatles, Counting Crows, and Live. He is partial to seafood, pizza, and Italian foods. His daughter, **Lucy**, is the most special person in his life. Those who know him would tell you he has gone from being introverted to relaxed, creative, and friendly. Dislikes for Dan? He is not fond of the tendency in some to be over-controlling.

When not making music Dan can be found working as a research psychologist, figuring out how the mind works. He's studied memory, multi-tasking,

consciousness, skill acquisition, etc. For fun he likes to write fiction, walk in nature, attend a writer's group, visit museums, amusement and water parks, and attend concerts. He has published two short stories and has a draft novel in the works.

To date Dan has traveled to Canada and 46 of our 50 states. Arkansas, Oklahoma, Alaska, and Hawaii are still on his bucket list. What might surprise you about Dan? He has his Ph.D., but doesn't like to be called "Dr. Cassenti." He is just Dan.

The DCC is delighted to welcome him into our singing family.

Benefit Partner—Causes of Alzheimer's?

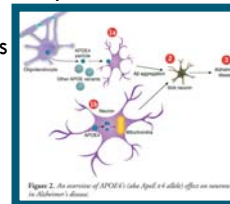
The causes of Alzheimer's are still a mystery, but through advances in brain-imaging techniques, researchers are understanding more. In people with early-onset Alzheimer's, a genetic mutation is usually the cause. Late-onset Alzheimer's arises from a complex series of brain changes that occur over decades. The causes probably include a combination of genetic, environmental, and lifestyle factors.

The importance of any one of these factors remains unclear. It is known, however that age-related changes to the brain may harm neurons and contribute to Alzheimer's damage. These age-related changes include shrinking of certain parts of the brain, inflammation, production of unstable molecules called free radicals, and a breakdown of energy production within a cell.

Genetics also seem to play a significant role in the development of Alzheimer's. Most people with Alzheimer's have the late-onset form of the disease, in which symptoms become apparent in the mid-60s. The APOE gene is involved in late-onset Alzheimer's. This gene has several forms. One of them, APOE4 increases a person's risk for Alzheimer's (and can also be associated with early-onset Alzheimer's). However, having the gene does not necessarily mean a person will develop the disease, and some Alzheimer's develops without the gene at all.

Also, scientists have identified a number of regions of interest in our DNA genome that may increase a

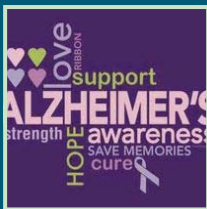
person's risk for late-onset Alzheimer's.



APOE Protein enters and destroys neurons

Early-onset Alzheimer's occurs in people age 30 to 60 and represents less than five percent of all people with the disease. Most cases are caused by an inherited change in one of three genes, resulting in a type known as early-onset familial Alzheimer's disease, or FAD. Infrequently, the disease appears to develop without any specific, known cause, much as it does for people with late-onset disease.

Most people with Down syndrome develop Alzheimer's. This may be because people with Down syndrome have an extra copy of chromosome 21, which contains the gene that generates harmful amyloid protein. For more info see nia.nih.gov/alzheimers



Our Community Outreach Focus!

Congratulations Banghart Scholars!

We are proud to announce eight Banghart Scholarship winners for the 2016-2017 year. **Amber McCafferty** from C. Milton High School, **Claire Chambers** from Harford Community College, **Julie Foster** from North Har-

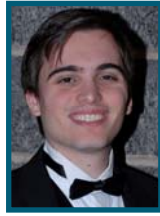
ford High School, **Michelle Hubner** from Fallston High School, and **Sarah Ross** were recipients of our Gold Level Award. **Autumn Dennis** from North Harford High School and **Katie Allen** from Hereford Middle School received

our Silver Level Award, and **Hannah Hieronimus**, from North Harford High School won our Bronze Level Award. Congratulations to all of these excellent choristers!



Marketing Matters...

Our 10th anniversary season presents a new set of blessings and challenges for our marketing committee. This year, we wish the best of luck to Board member Dan Davis, who is moving on from the Board of Directors as he comes out of retirement for what has proven to be an incredible job in the printing industry. Kudos to you, Dan—we at the DCC are proud of your accomplishment as you travel throughout the country—hopefully spreading the word about what we do along the way!



Marketing Chair
Patrick Dickerson

With this change come a few switches in our marketing committee process, mainly with advertising. Do you submit an ad to our program every year. Or do you have one for this year? Ads with artwork and payment may now be given to **Lexi Morris** at rehearsal, or you may submit your ads, artwork, and payment quickly in just minutes by visiting deercreekchorale.org/support-us/advertise-in-our-programs. If you have questions, contact Lexi at alexis.morris@deercreekchorale.org.

NOTE: The deadline for all ad submissions with content and payment is November 15th, and all sales are final. That gives just a few weeks left to get your ads in! We need enough time to get our program designed, reviewed, and printed before the December 4th concert.

One final point of business: with Dan on the road we could use some more minds like his on our committee. If you would be interested in joining our efforts, please contact me at **Patrick.w. dickerson@gmail.com**. Let's talk about what you have in mind!

DCYC News...

DCYC kicked off its inaugural season on Friday, October 14th with a Welcome Night and Potluck Dinner. With over 50 in attendance, it was a wonderful evening for DCYC singers and their families to come together to meet one another, as well as representatives from the Deer Creek Chorale Board and the DCYC staff. The singers and their parents are equally excited about this special opportunity to be one of

the founding members of DCYC.

Fifteen singers from nine different schools across Harford and Baltimore Counties came together for a fantastic first rehearsal on Tuesday, October 18th. The members of DCYC are an enthusiastic, hard working, and incredibly warm and welcoming group of young singers. We enjoyed jumping into our fall repertoire, as



DCYC Director
Julie Culotta

well as taking time to get to know one another through various name games and team building ice breakers. DCYC will have an open rehearsal on **Tuesday, December 6th** where singers are encouraged to "bring a friend." We will be auditioning more singers to join us for our Spring Season, beginning in January.



Past Service Highlights—Project C.U.R.E.!

During the 2011-2012 season, the DCC partnered with Project C.U.R.E. and collected over 600 boxes for the Kits for Kids program. Kits for Kids provide personal hygiene and basic "medicine cabinet" items that are scarce in the developing world. If a child gets hurt, families might have to travel a long distance by bicycle, bus, or even on foot to receive care at the nearest hospital or medical clinic. Working with pediatricians and nurses, Project C.U.R.E. developed Kits for Kids to give parents the supplies they need to provide basic care at home.



Marty and Mary Sue Shaw
Loading the Truck

Project C.U.R.E. is the world's largest distributor of donated medical supplies to resource-limited communities across the globe, reaching families in over 130 countries. In 1987, Dr. James Jackson founded the organization to help bridge the staggering health resource gaps in the developing world by matching medical supplies and

modern equipment with facilities in need, to empower doctors and nurses with the tools they need to treat disease, deliver vaccines, perform lifesaving surgeries, and ensure safe childbirth.

Project C.U.R.E. has now grown to operate 15 collection and distribution centers across the U.S. These centers accept and ship excess supplies and specialized equipment from hundreds of U.S. hospitals and medical manufacturers. In 2015, 20,000 volunteers nationwide worked more than 107,000 hours to help Project C.U.R.E. deliver 145 containers valued at \$53.4 million to 47 countries. In addition, Project C.U.R.E. sends volunteer medical teams to underserved facilities abroad to provide free care and train local healthcare staff.

Stephanie Davis, past president of the DCC, has been volunteering as an assessor (evaluating needs) for Project C.U.R.E. since 2011, travelling to five Sub-Saharan Afri-

can countries. She recently returned from Uganda, where she worked with Restoration Gateway (RG). RG serves the people in the northern Uganda area who still suffer from the long conflict with the Lord's Resistance Army. Many were kidnapped and sexually exploited or forced to bear arms, participating in killings and other atrocities. 2,500,000 orphans struggle to survive in Uganda; half of them lost parents to HIV/AIDS. No other nation has a higher percentage of children orphaned by AIDS.

Remarkably, in a few short years, in partnership with the community, RG serves 140 orphans, operates a primary and secondary school, auditorium/gym, employs nine senior Ugandan staff, and more than 108 community workers. A medical and dental clinic have been operational since 2012, and a new 180-bed hospital will be opened to the public in the spring of 2017.

The DCC is proud to have been a part of this outstanding humanitarian effort!

What's The Buzz?



Birthdays and Celebrations

Wow! We have eleven birthdays to celebrate on six days this month! **Lauren Satterfield, Lindsay Satterfield, and Hannah Rose Hieronimus** all celebrate on **Nov. 1st**. **Allyson Waldon** follows on **Nov. 6th**, then **Kathy Browning** on the **11th**, and **Christine Master** on the **13th**. Next come **Patrick Dickerson, Tom Dickerson, and Margy Hopkins**, all on **Nov. 24th**. And finally **Meredith Leroy** and **David Sack** end with celebrations on **Nov. 30th**. We hope that all have a very wonderful day. And a happy belated birthday to new member **Cathy Cox** who celebrated her birthday on **Oct. 18th**!

Welcome New Member!

This month we are delighted to welcome one more new choristers to the DCC. **Cathy Cox** joins our Alto section. Welcome aboard!



Mark Your Calendar Now!

DCC members and former members shine in upcoming performances! Plan a night out to see them in action.

Carousel—Former DCC member **Colleen McGonigle** will be playing lead



role of Julie in the Bucknell Opera Company (Lewisburg, PA) production of the musical **Carousel** in the Weis Center for the Performing Arts on **Nov. 11th** and **12th at 7 p.m.** It should be an incredible performance, and admission is free!



Arsenic and Old Lace

Members **Sarah Ross** and **Michelle Hubner** are performing in the Fallston HS production of **Arsenic and Old Lace** on **Nov. 11th** and **12th** at Fallston High School at **7 p.m.** Tickets are \$5.



Bye Bye Birdie—Chorister **Jocce Sevilla** will be playing the role of Ursula Merkel in North Har-

ford HS's production of **Bye Bye Birdie** on **Nov. 11th (7 p.m.)** and **12th (2 & 7 p.m.)**. Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased at <http://www.seatyourself.biz/northharford>



Beauty and the Beast—Chorister **Amber McCafferty** will be performing in the C. Milton Wright HS production of **Beauty and the Beast** on **Nov. 18th (7 p.m.)** and **19th (3 & 7 p.m.)**. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at www.seatyourself.biz/cmw.

Looking for a Keyboard?

Dave Sacks has a high quality keyboard that he does not use and would like to donate it to someone who can use it – perhaps for students, schools, churches, or others who can put it to use. See **Jean or Dave** at rehearsal.

A Missing Chorister?

If you've missed seeing **Dave Sacks** at rehearsal, think of him out around the world encouraging governments to order oral cholera vaccine to reduce cholera deaths! To read the latest go to www.stopcholera.org.



Shawn Kirchner's "Behold New Joy"

Composer, arranger, singer, and pianist Shawn Kirchner (b. 1970) was raised with his triplet brother and sister in Cedar Falls, Iowa. He currently serves as Composer in Residence for the Los Angeles Master Chorale (LAMC) and his compositions and arrangements are performed by choirs throughout the world. As a singer, Kirchner has performed with the Master Chorale and the LA Philharmonic in collaboration with the world's leading composers and conductors. His "pop" singing credits include more than two dozen recent feature film soundtracks, including *Avatar*, *Frozen*, *The Lorax*, *Horton Hears a Who*, *Wolverine: X-Men*, and *License to Wed*.



Shawn Kirchner

Kirchner has a strong interest in folk-song and carol traditions. In 2011 he was commissioned by the LAMC to write "*Behold New Joy: Ancient Carols of Christmas*" as a suite of Latin carols. As his source he used *Piae Cantiones*, a Medieval Latin carol book compiled by a Finnish cleric and published in 1582. His work transforms several carols into a modern melody using familiar tunes.

Not merely an "arrangement," Kirchner describes "*Behold New Joy*" as a fantasia on Christmas carol melodies. "To the scholar of the music of Christmas, nothing is more exciting than happening upon an obscure, nearly forgotten carol that still breathes with life," he writes. "For centuries, such carols have

been dusted off, reshaped, and shared anew, bringing fresh bursts of Christmas joy to the festivities of the season."

As an admitted folk song and carol "junkie," Kirchner says that he is intrigued by seeing what kinds of melodies and texts last through the centuries. A particular focus is the genre of popular carols that seem to have always existed, but that in fact only began to circulate in English since the 19th century. An example is "*Good Christian Men Rejoice*" which Kirchner reverts to the original text dating back to the Germanic and Latin of the 14th C.

The DCC is pleased to be showcasing this outstanding meld of ancient and modern texts and tunes at our December 4th Concert.

Board Update (Con't)

(Continued from page 1)

Although the "Inform and Inspire" and "Alzheimer's Walk" events have already occurred, there are many other opportunities in which you can be involved. These include pledging a contribution to the Deer Creek Chorale annual campaign, performing in the 10th anniversary gala "Memory and Music" spring concert at Goucher College, attending the A Cappella Showcase,

and attending the various Chamber Choir and Deer Creek Youth Choir concerts. Also, just as in any organization, there will be ideas developed by our choristers that focus on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's awareness. Performing meaningful community service is an integral part of who we are—let's continue to serve gladly and generously.

Live in Concert!

Hosted by Bethel Presbyterian

Who? The MD State Boychoir

When? Sunday, November 5th, 7:30 p.m.

Cost? FREE, but a free will offering will be collected to benefit the choir

More Info? Contact Melissa Dick at 410-692-5082

