



# The Chorister

Volume 3, Issue 5

December 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 YouTube!

### ARTISTIC STAFF

#### Director

Martha Banghart

#### Assistant Director

Wayne Perry

\*

### BOARD OFFICERS

#### President

Pete McCallum

#### Vice President

Patrick Dickerson

#### Treasurer

Suzanne Zantop

#### Secretary

Meredith Leroy

\*

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Liz Phelan

### Calendar

**Sun. Dec. 4** Christmas Concert—  
St. Matthews Lutheran, 4:00 p.m.  
Call time 2:45 ready to go.

**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 Show-  
case—Perry Hall HS, 7:00 p.m.

**Sun. Apr. 30** Music & Memory  
Spring Concert, Goucher, 4:00 p.m.

**Tues. May 9** DCYC Concert—  
Bethel Presbyterian, 3:00 p.m.

## Director's Notes

In this time of giving and thanksgiving, I am reminded of the blessings inherent in being a choral director....working with diverse, talented, inclusive, and compassionate singers who inform and inspire their audiences with emotionally-charged performances. Our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala was a huge success and quite a fitting party to celebrate our many accomplishments.

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, the Chamber Choir presented their first concert of the season at Bethel Church featuring the premiere of "The Beatitudes" by Welsh composer and colleague **Nigel Jones** who dedicated the piece to the Deer Creek Chorale on its 10th anniversary. Quoting Nigel, "I have set the Beatitudes



Artistic Director  
Marty Banghart  
with Nigel Jones

from Matthew. The Reason? Well, as a child I went to our local Welsh Baptist chapel every Sunday morning and afternoon. The morning service was a children's service and we were required to recite (from memory) just one verse from the Bible each week.

We would troupe up into the area in front of the pulpit, known as the Big Seat, and recite our verses in turn. Your chosen verse could be from any part of the Bible. However, when I was about 10 years old I decided that I would offer the Sermon from the Mount in one-verse-at-a-time installments. It probably took me quite a few weeks to get through it but I enjoyed the project. These verses have stayed with me ever since".

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, "Behold New Joy" will be held at St.

Matthew's Church at 4 p.m. With great excitement, we will welcome the debut of our own Deer Creek Youth Choir under the direction of **Julie Culotta**. I hope everyone connected with our organization, whether a family member, friend, sponsor, or avid music lover, will attend this special concert of holiday music. String players will accompany the spritely Pergolesi "Magnificat." **Donald Wolcott** will supply the organ accompaniment for "Behold New Joy" and **Shisa Butera** will accompany "The Christmas Garland" which includes audience participation. Join us as we ring in the Christmas season and delight in hearing the premiere of the first youth choir in Harford County. There is no better gift than the gift of MUSIC!!!

## Board Update

The holiday season is fast approaching and there is much to celebrate in the life of the Deer Creek Chorale as the first semester of our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert season is concluding.

- First, our rehearsals have been wonderful, and our excellent music staff has been doing an outstanding job preparing us for the winter holiday concert.
- Second, it has been magical to witness the formation and preparation of the Deer Creek Chorale Youth Choir. Julie's and Amanda's musical leadership, combined with the enthusiasm, as well as the vocal

proWess of our youth choristers, adds a special dynamic verve to our organization.

- Third, this year's "Inform and Inspire" was a phenomenal success in every sense of the word. Our Development and Marketing Committees demonstrated the power of collaboration in sponsoring this event. Integrally related to "Inform and Inspire," the annual financial campaign is off to a promising start.
- Fourth, the Deer Creek Chorale Alzheimer's Walk team exceeded the financial expect-



Board President  
Pete McCallum

tations resulting from its participation in the walk event on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> by raising contributions totaling approximately 50% above the targeted goal of \$2000. So the Deer Creek Chorale continues to cultivate a culture of excellence artistically, financially, and philanthropically.

It is the unwavering dedication of our choristers that is a key ingredient to the continuous success of the Deer Creek Chorale. Keeping this in mind, it is important that everyone become

(Continued on page 3)

## Spotlight On... Soprano Brooke West



Brooke West

Soprano **Brooke West** is in her first season singing with the DCC. She has been singing for the past eight years and is now a junior in the Fallston High School Choir. She has participated in various Fallston theater productions, including Don't Drink the Water, Annie, and most recently Arsenic and Old Lace. She also performed at Carnegie Hall in Mortals and Angels, A Bluegrass Te Deum this past January. Sound familiar?

Her favorite piece of music from the DCC repertoire is "A Christmas Garland" because she lives for the holidays and this piece reminds her of all the warmth of Christmas and her family. Beyond the DCC she loves to listen to many different

types of music, including Broadway show tunes, alternative rock, and even some rap. Especially with friends, music is a way to express herself and have fun. She especially loves the shows Les Misérables, Hamilton, and Little Shop of Horrors. Some singers and bands that she enjoys are Hozier, Young the Giant, Donald Glover, David Burd, and many more!

When not making music Brooke is doing schoolwork and singing along with her favorite Broadway shows. She loves to sing with her friends, sit around bonfires, and work with friends in school plays and musicals. She used to play rugby and likes to paint when she gets a chance. She is not a fan of disrespect, lack of sleep, and homework on a Saturday.

Those who know her would say that Brooke is genuine, dedicated, curious, and always ready with a lame joke. She likes to look at things from a new and different way. Favorite foods for her include apples, hot chocolate, mashed potatoes, Hershey's chocolate, and the last slice of pizza from the box. Special people in her life are her parents, close friends, teachers who make school enjoyable, and her drama company. To date she has traveled to New York, Florida, Paris, and Italy.

What might surprise you about Brooke? She has a twin brother and is one of a large, athletic family. However she herself is not athletic and is the first person in her family seriously interested in music. We are delighted that Brooke has joined our DCC family!

## Alzheimer's Walk a Great Success!



Our Community Outreach Focus!

This year members of the DCC are doing all they can to promote Alzheimer's Awareness. To that end a Deer Creek Chorale team of 24 members, families, and friends participated in the Harford County Walk for Alzheimer's on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

In addition to their walk, the group sang the National Anthem to kick-off the event.

Seven hundred sixty people participated in the event which has raised \$117, 546. to date. Team DCC raised \$2830—the eighth highest amount raised by any local group!

We got a lovely thank-you note from **Nicole Gorski** from the Alzhei-



mer's Association thanking us for our participation.

Our appreciation goes to **Jennifer Hayes**

who organized Team DCC, and to all who donated and walked to support the effort!

### Miss Giving Tuesday?

It's never too late! When you're tired out from all the holiday shopping, making a donation to the DCC might help to feel the spirit of the season again. Make your tax deductible gift now!

## A Magical Evening!

The Deer Creek Chamber Choir gave a stunning performance on November 20<sup>th</sup> at Bethel Presbyterian Church, kicking off the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert season. The choir and accom-



panist **Lori Geckle** were rewarded by two standing ovations and free-flowing tears from audience and singers alike. Their next

performance will be at St. James Church on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. Don't miss it!!

## Singing With the BSO!

Choristers **Meredith Leroy** and **Christine Masters** recently sang with the *Rusty Musicians* group performing the 4<sup>th</sup> Movement of Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony with the BSO. The *Rusty Musicians*, comprised of members of the Choral Arts Society, the BSO, other groups, and assorted individuals from all over the area, gets together periodically to hone

skills with the BSO. Then they perform to a closed house or to family and friends only.

**Linda Hall** was the concertmaster and rehearsed the group separately, while the BSO had its own rehearsal. Then the orchestra and singers joined and performed the Beethoven piece

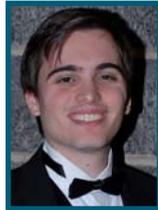
together. Meredith said it was an interesting experience – more like a dress rehearsal since there was no audience. They had fun singing with Linda, **Marin Alsop**, and the orchestra.



Meredith and Christine singing with Rusty Musicians and the BSO

# Marketing Matters...

Here we come a caroling! It's that time of year, as we all know, and one of the best times to share news about your favorite community choir. Rehearsals are on hiatus for a month, but let's not forget that we should spread the word in the off season too! Here are some fun ways to share about DCC for the holidays:



Marketing Chair  
Patrick Dickerson

Keep some DCC bookmarks handy. You never know when you can hand them out to friends and family as you get together for the season. You can

even give them to your cashiers during Christmas shopping! If you want to go the extra mile, add them in a Christmas card (I know Marty does it from time to time). Check the table in the foyer before or after rehearsal to see if any are available.

Tell EVERYONE about Amazon Smile. We have an Amazon Smile account, and before you get all of your online shopping finished, visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and choose the DCC as your charity of choice. We then get a per-

centage of what you pay. Imagine if we all used it, along with five of our friends. That's over 350 people!

GO CAROLING! I for one love getting together as a group and singing to friends who are stuck at home for the holidays. Share some cheer, bring some warm apple cider, cookies, you name it! And make a big ol' name drop for DCC while you're out in the neighborhood. In fact, send me an email if you're interested! [Patrick.w.dickerson@gmail.com](mailto:Patrick.w.dickerson@gmail.com).

## DCYC News...

It's true. There are few things that help us to ring in the holiday season more than voices joined together in song. The founding members of DCYC are thrilled to make their debut performance alongside the Deer Creek Chorale on December 4th. In only seven rehearsals together, we have become fast friends and a beautiful choral ensemble through our common love of singing. While it has been a short fall season, the singers of DCYC have grown so much already in their vocal technique, tonal memory and ear training, and their musicality and sensitivity as we polish our rep-

ertoire for our holiday performance.

On Tuesday December 6th, DCYC will hold our first Open House ("Bring a friend to choir night") from 5-6:30 p.m. at Bethel Church. Students are welcome to come and join in some music and team building games as they learn more about the DCYC. Parents of interested singers are encouraged to join us at 6:15 p.m. for a brief performance and information session. Children who join us for our Open House may receive an invitation to join DCYC without



DCYC Director  
Julie Culotta

an additional audition. E-mail Julie at [youthchoir@deer creekchorale.org](mailto:youthchoir@deer creekchorale.org) to RSVP for the DCYC Open House!

DCYC will be welcoming new singers to join us in January. Parents of interested singers who do not attend the Open House should submit an Audition Request form on the website. We are grateful for your continued support in spreading the word about this new youth choir!



## Past Service Highlights—Camp Sunrise!

During the 2010-2011 concert season, the DCC partnered with Johns Hopkins Camp Sunrise to provide camps for five children with childhood cancer.



Established by the American Cancer Society in 1987, Camp Sunrise started with only seven campers. Today, Camp Sunrise is maintained and sponsored by Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Can-

cer Center's Division of Pediatric Oncology with over 100 patient campers.

Camp Sunrise is a week-long, overnight summer camp held in early August in Maryland, for children who have been diagnosed with or have survived cancer. Campers are given the opportunity to establish strong peer relationships with the other children they can relate to who are

going through the same experiences and feelings as they are with their cancer treatment. At Camp Sunrise, campers also gain independence from the regimen of cancer treatment, and enhance their self-confidence by trying new activities offered while attending the camp. The DCC was happy to have been able to help these children. For more information: [hopkinsmedicine.org/kimmel\\_cancer\\_center/centers/pediatric\\_oncology/](http://hopkinsmedicine.org/kimmel_cancer_center/centers/pediatric_oncology/)

## Bethel News...

Bethel Presbyterian would like to invite the community to "A Traditional Christmas Concert" on **Saturday, December 10th** from **4-6 p.m.** in the church. During intermission

there will be a Christmas Decorating Contest where attendees will vote on the best decorated tree, and light refreshments will be served. There is no charge, but a free will

offering will be collected. For more information contact Melissa Dick at 410-692-5282 or email her at [melissadick@bethel-md.org](mailto:melissadick@bethel-md.org).



## Board Update (Con't)

(Continued from page 1)  
emotionally and spiritually refreshed during the holiday season which often can become frenetic and hectic as we engage in the

"busy-ness" of completing all of our preparations. By taking the time to deliberately savor the enjoyment of being with family and friends over this special time, we can

experience the true joy of the season. May your holidays be festive, joyous, and splendid in every way!



# What's The Buzz?



### Birthdays and Celebrations

We have eight birthdays to celebrate this month. **Jocee Sevilla** begins the month with her December 1<sup>st</sup> birthday.

**Mary Sue Shaw** celebrates on December 8<sup>th</sup>. **Julie Ford** follows on December 11<sup>th</sup>, then **Jim Ulman** on December 14<sup>th</sup>, **Katherine Frawley** on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and **Julie Cullotta** on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Finally we have **Jennifer Howard** and **Joseph Close** who both celebrate on Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup>. We wish all a very happy birthday during this holiday season!

### Leaf Peeping!

**Mary Sue and Glenn Shaw** enjoyed a two-week road trip in Canada, traveling through Quebec,



New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. The scenery was beautiful and the weather was lovely, while at home in Maryland it was raining. Highlights of the trip included "leaf peeping," a stop at Ben and Jerry's in Stow, VT, and visiting Cavendish, PEI and the home of Lucy Maud Montgomery who wrote "Anne of Green Gables."

### Another Dance Competition

On November 12<sup>th</sup> **Suzanne Zantop** and **Lynn Moore** danced in the Destin Open ballroom competition at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Destin, FL. We look forward to hearing all about it!



### All-County Honors Chorus

Soprano **Katie Allen** auditioned at

Carver High School and was accepted into All-County Honors Chorus for Baltimore County Public Schools. Over 400 students auditioned and only about 70 were accepted. Katie's concert will be at Owings Mills High School on **December 10<sup>th</sup>**. She was the only person accepted into the All-County Honors Chorus from Hereford Middle School.

### Maryland All-State Honors Chorus

**Katie** and soprano **Amber McCafferty**, a junior from C. Milton Wright HS, were both invited to audition for the Maryland All-State Chorus, and both won acceptance into that prestigious group! Over 1100 students auditioned in three locations throughout the State of Maryland, and fewer than 200 were accepted. That concert will be held in March. Congratulations, Katie and Amber!

# An Inspiring Inform & Inspire Event!

By *Cris Martin*

Our tenth anniversary Inform and Inspire was the most successful to date! Décor set the tone. The music barn at Silo Hill was transformed with large trees covered in lights, tables with candles, and flower-filled pumpkins. There was a beautiful silo connected to the barn and on the first floor there, attendees found a large wooden harvest table laden with every kind of fruit, vegetable, artisan cheeses and breads, pates, and hot dips.

On the second silo level the DCC's lovely blue grass mass was playing. People then explored the third level, finding a beautiful pillowed seating area lining the circumference of the silo and providing views of the surrounding countryside and a gorgeous sunset. The massive fireplace mantle was covered in large pumpkins and gourds with grapevines filled with white lights. **Steve Scheinberg's** trio played for 90 minutes for an appreciative crowd.

The DCC charitable giving displays, located on the lower level, were redone by **Sharon Kachur**, who did a remarkable job showcasing the DCC educational opportunities and charitable partners.



Diners feasted on beef tenderloin, poached salmon, fresh baby green beans almandine, a fall mixed grain, and a beautiful salad. Corn muffins rounded out the meal with cookies and coffee for dessert. Wine and beers were complimentary, and there was a cash bar.

Highlights of the evening included celebrated Goucher President **Jose Antonio Bowen's** inspiring words about the importance of music in liberal arts education, after which he delighted the audience with an improvisational jazz piano performance. **Dr. Danny McDavitt** spoke about the inspiration for several parts of our newly commissioned piece of his that we will

perform at our spring Alzheimer's concert. **Carolyn Black-Sorir**, sang Gershwin, and after an evening of "Jamin' With the DCC," each guest departed with jam made by committee members.

To date we have received donations of \$21,000 for the annual campaign. The raffle of our six fabulous raffle baskets raised about \$2800 of that total.

Our sincere thanks goes to committee members **Cris Martin, Colleen Case, Lynn Moore, Steph Davis, Marty Banghart, Suzanne Zantop, Christine Master, and Meredith Leroy** for their outstanding efforts. A great big thank you, as well, goes to **Mary Sue** and **Glenn Shaw** who donated all the fruit for the jam, to **Dinah Widder** for her beautiful décor work, to **Lynn Moore** for the flowers, and to all who attended or worked that evening. Everyone's collective efforts resulted in a truly memorable night!

# Can You Identify the Carol or Song?



- \* My exclusive yuletide desire is a full complement of incisors.
- \* Are your tympanic membranes in synchronous vibration with my own?
- \* Smooth-shelled, castanea undergoing a thermal transformation in unstable but energetic uncontained combustion gases.
- \* Indulge your person in a festive yet minimalist yuletide.
- \* A low pressure system is negatively impacting the outer environment giving rise to considerable apprehension.
- \* The aforementioned constitute a cross-section of my personal preferences.

