



# Corralin! the Chorale

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the VILLAGE CHORALE of LAGUNA WOODS

Vol 2 No 7 February 17, 2009

## NEWS BITS

**PRIMARY CHILDREN NEEDED** For the opening number of our May 23<sup>rd</sup> afternoon concert primary children (grades 1 - 6) are needed to appear on stage in costumes of many lands. If you have a grandchild or a friend who can help us fill the stage with a mass of costumed children please give that info to our Performance Team Chairman Ned Read. Most efficient way is to give him a piece of paper with info including i) your name; ii) child's name; iii) if you are providing costume; iv) the nation it represents.

**COSTUMES NEEDED** For the opening number of our May 23<sup>rd</sup> afternoon concert ethnic costumes of many lands are needed. If you have a costume but don't know of a child whom it would fit please consider bringing it to loan for the occasion. If the costume is of great value we will want you to be involved in the caring and wearing of it for that few minutes on stage. Please give Ned Read a slip of paper with info including i) your name; ii) age and gender of child who might be able to wear it; iii) the nation it represents; iv) a note re: its value.

**CHORALE PICTURE DAY** is not scheduled until the second Tuesday of March but there is urgency to know that all Chorale members need to arrive at 1 p.m. that day in concert dress. That means men who will be borrowing tuxedos will need to confer with Director Doug Custance and all women purchasing costumes (\$35.00) need to confer with Costume Chair Nancy Howerton (635-9588) asap.

**BIOS NEEDED** We can't know your birthday, etc. unless you tell us. Please turn in your salmon colored Bio asap.....place on check-in table or give to Pres Carol.

## PUNCH<sub>and</sub>COOKIES

There were lots to choose from - Chocolate Chip, Macadamia Nut, Oatmeal, Sugar, Tea Cakes, Valentines, Oreos - you name it! Fifteen contributors helped pull it off! And of course Gloria Kirbens with her scrumptious Punch added that special touch!

Thanks go to Lennie Habenicht, Irene Sellers, and Shelby Silverman for helping to serve! And thanks to all that brought cookies! ie. Marie Spradley, Joyce Hale, Lennie Habenicht, Margie Sutton, Iris Gilboard, Dorothy Stevens, Shirley Behar, Shirley Levin, Hanne Boothe, Marcy Barr, Maxine Quitiquit, and Rujing Zong.

## March Faculty Recital

Juanita Tsu, pianist; Valerie Geller, violinist; and Doug Custance, Baritone will be featured in a unique Concert on stage in the Main Lounge of Clubhouse 7 at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Custance and Ms. Tsu serve as director and accompanist for the Village Chorale while Ms. Geller is director of the Symphony Orchestra of Laguna Woods. Mr. Custance and Ms. Geller are on the faculty of Saddleback College Emeritus Institute. Ms. Tsu served on the faculty of University of Massachusetts, Lowell for 23 years.

All donations collected will be used for Scholarship Awards to deserving Music students. There will be no reserved seats.

## APRIL CHORAL CONCERT

A Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> concert at the Orange County Performing Arts Center in Costa Mesa will include the "Chichester Psalms," written by Leonard Bernstein for boy treble or countertenor solo, choir and orchestra. Bernstein stated explicitly in his writing that the solo part may be sung by a countertenor or a boy soprano, but never by a woman. This was to reinforce the idea that this "Psalm of David" from the Hebrew Bible, was to be heard as if sung by the boy David himself.

Upper balcony tickets for the 7:30 p.m. concert can be purchased through Doug Custance Tuesdays through March 10<sup>th</sup> at \$20 per seat. Carpooling for the concert will be arranged.

Other musical offerings by the Choral Society will be "I Can Tell the World," "Elijah Rock," "He's Got the Whole World In His Hands," "Were You There," Leonard Bernstein's "Overture to Candide," and Sergei Rachmaninoff's "Concerto # 2." for piano and orchestra.

## Village Chorale May Concert

The Claudio de la Cruz Flamenco Dancers will perform in the Village Chorale's "A World of Music" annual concert

on Saturday afternoon, May 23<sup>rd</sup> on stage in Clubhouse 3. The dancers will be featured in their own Flamenco Dance as well as with the Chorale for the "Voce Diz Que Sabe Tudo" Brazilian Folk Song performance.

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## Reminders for February

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- Tue 3 **Alto Sectional Rehearsal** 1-2 pm  
**Chorale Rehearsal** 2-4 pm  
*Happy Birthday!* Jeanette Rice
- Thu 6 *Happy Birthday!* Doug Custance
- Tue 10 **Bass Sectional Rehearsal** 1-2 pm  
**Chorale Rehearsal** 2-3:45 pm  
**PUNCH & COOKIES** 4 pm
- Sat 14 *Happy Birthday!* Ducksoon Yu
- Tue 17 **Soprano Sectional Rehearsal** 1-2 pm  
**Chorale Rehearsal** 2-4 pm
- Wed 18 *Happy Birthday!* Beth Donahue  
*Happy Birthday!* Shirley Mitchell
- Sat 21 *Happy Birthday!* Hank Gioia
- Tue 24 **Board Meeting** 12:30 - 1:30 pm in Conf Room  
**Tenor Sectional Rehearsal** 1-2 pm  
**Chorale Rehearsal** 2-4 pm
- Sat 21 *Happy Birthday!* Carol Hammond

Other long-time members are Tenor Shirley Levin '92; Alto Lennie Habenicht '94; Bass Jerry Fiscus '95; Soprano Shelby Silverman '97; and three who joined in '98: Soprano Grace Hudson, Soprano Jeanette Rice, and Bass Dick Smith.

**Soprano Jeanette Rice** - Enjoys chorale, golf, bridge! Favorite things—Hero: Tiger Woods / Restaurant: Olive Garden / Author: Sidney Shelton / Magz: Bridge / Word: Hello /. Sings/sang with diverse groups & church choirs.

**Director Doug Custance** - Favorite things — Word: yes / Time of day: Tues 2 pm. / Team: Rams / Author: Clifford D. Simac / Decade: the next one / Magazine: Choral Journal / Conversation topic: censored / Vista: Continental Divide

**Alto Duckson Yu** - sings in her church choir; has 2 children, 2 grandchildren; is a retired registered nurse; was born in Seoul, Korea. Lives in area of gates 1 and 2.

**Soprano Beth Donahue** - Sang 40 years with Sweet Adelines, NJ. Likes OC for its business & good Senior Citizen activities. Loves every room in her home. Says re: favorite age: "Every age has its promises." Likes listening to stereo.

**Alto Shirley Mitchell** - Widowed after 57 yrs, Most interesting place she lived: Pahrump, NV. Enjoys swimming, cooking, Fiction, Golf, Bible Study, Computer Games, Hiking, Would love to travel! Collects Angel sculptures.

**Bass Hank Gioia** - Hank & Grace are snowbirds returning this mo. to Arlington, VA, Will be back in Sept. Sings in Arlington's Metropolitan Chorus. Father of 5, Grandfather of 8. Is a Federal Retiree.

**Soprano Carol Hammond** - Enjoys Painting/fine art, War History, Fiction, Beading, Restaurant hopping, & Gardening. Sang in choral groups since NJ H.S. choir. Is former Chorale Reporter. Is good at Colors, English, Poetry.

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# 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.

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## COUNT THEM : SEVENTEEN

Seventeen members have been added to the roster of the Village Chorale this semester pushing membership to a current peak of 98 members.

New to the Chorale this semester are tenors Nessa Goldstein and Jimmy Tung and basses Graham Johnson and Albert Yu. New altos are Marcy Barr, Karin Johnson, Maxine Quitiquit, and Margaret Silbar, Sopranos Hanne Booth, Betty Chang, Elizabeth Chen, Geraldine Farragler, Sung Ja Kim, Ann Linthorst, Noreen Maiorano, Yvonne Wang, and Marie Yang are also new to the Chorale. Two who joined the group this year have dropped but hope to come back next fall.

Holding the record for most number of years in the Chorale is Soprano Maribeth Clausen who joined in 1988.

Four current members joined the Chorale in 2000 - Dick Bissell, Shelly Ellman, Kay Jones, and Betty Denton. Four members joined in '01, four members joined in '02, five joined in '03, and only two were new in '04. Thirteen began in '05, eight in '06, and ten in '07. In January a year ago eight joined and last fall twelve of our current members joined. Two long-term members, Phyllis Trilling and Shirley Mitchell, have dropped since the first rehearsal on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Total membership as we go to print is 98. Twenty one of us live outside the Village - in Laguna Hills, Mission Viejo, Lake Forest, Aliso Viejo, Laguna Niguel, Trabuco Canyon, Dana Point, Irvine, Corona del Mar, Monarch Beach, and Newport Coast.

There are 44 sopranos, 27 altos, 9 tenors, and 18 basses. However, attendance records for the first five weeks of the semester indicate huge absences - especially among the sopranos. Averages were: sopranos - 32; altos - 23; tenors - 7; and basses - 16.