



CHORALE NOTES January, 2016



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Get Ready to Sing, Starting this Monday!

On Monday, January 11th, we'll meet at Open Door Baptist Church to begin our spring Chorale season, and our Youth Chorus will start the week following (Jan 18th). Our Director, Bob Burnett and Youth Director, Cathy ter Weele, have a great concert season lined up for us – musical and fun.

Our program this spring will focus on the works of Irving Berlin, the very talented and prolific American composer whose music shaped much of America's music throughout the 20th Century. Look on pages 3 and 4 of this issue and you'll see the names of song you know and songs you've heard. Berlin's music is melodic and very sing-able and fun.

We hope you'll be part of our chorus this Spring. Our holiday season concerts were so much fun, and it looks like this season will be even more so!

Start Up Schedule

(all at Open Door Baptist Church)

Mon. 01/11: First Chorale Rehearsal.
6:30–8:30.

New and returning members welcome!

Mon. 01/18: Second Chorale
Rehearsal. 6:30-8:30

New and returning members welcome!

Mon. 01/18: First Youth Chorus rehearsal.
5:45-6:15

New and returning children welcome!

Mon. 01/25: Third Chorale Rehearsal.
6:30-8:30

Chorale Registration deadline for new and returning members.

Mon. 01/25: Youth Chorus second
rehearsal. 5:45-6:15

New and returning children welcome!

And on from there, we'll meet each Monday until early May. Rehearsals will be held **each** week. The only exception is bad weather. Watch your email if you're in doubt about the weather.





Director's Corner – Bob Burnett

Our Christmas concerts were a wonderful experience for both performers and audiences. An oft-repeated comment was that the performances provided ENTERTAINMENT, not just a CONCERT. I think this was due in large part to the enthusiasm displayed by the BRC through such things as body language, smiling faces, and Red Scarves! My personal thanks for the eye contact and the overall commitment to musical excellence. This excellence transformed a Good program into an Exciting one, especially enlivened by the sharing of directorial responsibilities and the outstanding performances by duets and soloists. Congratulations and profound thanks from me to all.

NOW.....on to Spring, 2016

Our tentatively titled "Berlin and Beyond" will consist of songs by (or about) Irving Berlin. The master of American melody, Berlin's songs have an enduring popularity.....Think "God Bless America," "Puttin' on the Ritz," "There's No Business Like Show Business," and lots more – wait and see!

"The lyric makes a song a hit; the melody makes it last." – Irving Berlin

This will be a fast and fun set of tunes. And it all starts on Monday (Jan 11th). Hope to see you then.
Bob

Notes from the President – Patti Christie

Are you ready????

After the delightful Christmas season, I hope you are all feeling "chorale withdrawal" and ready to start rehearsals for our spring show. I think you will be pleased with the music Bob has chosen. After you see it, I would like for you to put on your thinking caps and let me know what comes to mind when you hear these songs. Who knows what we may be able to turn a thought into!



Don't forget to ask your friends, family, and coworkers to join us. We have had quite a few calls and emails from new people and I am looking forward to meeting everyone. I will be giving out an informational sheet to everyone the first night and will continue to update you as I have more details. Please let me know if you have questions or something that you need to have me pass on.

Thanks for the fun and hard work of last season! See you on Monday night. - Patti

A Transformative Tale

This fall, the two ladies in the first photo, Patti Christie and Peggy Carpenter, put together two beautiful Christmas gift baskets to benefit the Chorale. They approached businesses and individuals for donations of gifts, coupons and handmade items and assembled them into two beautiful gift baskets, each of which was valued at \$250 or more. They arranged and oversaw a raffle ticket sale, through the Chorale members. Two lucky raffle participants won these beautiful baskets, and the Chorale benefited from a very successful fundraiser. Thank you, Patti, Peggy, donors and participants!



Left, Patti, Peggy and the box contents. Right, the boxes, all assembled. Aren't they beautiful?



Berlin, age 18, at his first job with a music publisher. This was the beginning of a 60 year music career.

Irving Berlin's Songs, from A to Y

American composer and lyricist **Irving Berlin** (1888 – 1989) is widely considered one of the greatest songwriters in American history. Berlin's music forms a great part of the Great American Songbook.

Time Magazine, 2001 estimated that Irving Berlin composed around 1,250 songs. Of his many compositions, twenty-five reached #1 on the pop charts.

Berlin wrote 17 full scores for Broadway, including: *The Cocoanuts*, *Miss Liberty*, *Call Me Madam* and *Annie Get Your Gun*.

Follow the Crowd

Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor (Emma Lazarus)
God Bless America^[6]

Happy Holiday
Heat Wave

How About Me?
How Deep is the Ocean?
How Dry I Am

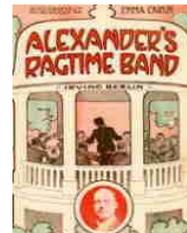
I Got Lost in His Arms
I Got the Sun in the Mornin' (and the Moon at Night)

I Like Ike
I'm a Bad, Bad Man
It's a Lovely Day Today
I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm

Just a Little Longer

Kiss Me, Honey, Kiss Me

Let's Face the Music and Dance
Let's Have Another Cup of Coffee
Let's Take an Old-Fashioned Walk



Written in 1911, "Alexander's Ragtime Band" was Berlin's first major hit.



Here are just a few of Berlin's many popular songs, from A to Y:

A Pretty Girl Is Like a Melody
Alexander's Ragtime Band
All by Myself
Always
Anything You Can Do (I Can Do Better)

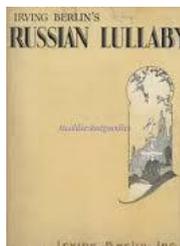
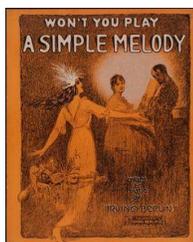
Be Careful, It's My Heart
Blue Skies

Change Partners
Cheek to Cheek^[6]
Choreography
Count Your Blessings (Instead of Sheep)

Doin' What Comes Natur'llly
Easter Parade

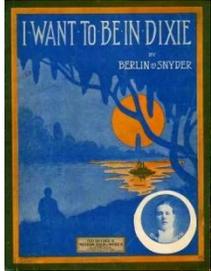
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Berlin wrote "When I Lost You" when his first wife, Dorothy Goetz, died of typhoid fever only six months after they married. He married again after a while, and wrote "Blue Skies" to celebrate the birth of his daughter.





No Strings (I'm Fancy Free)

Oh, How I Hate to Get Up In the Morning!

Play a Simple Melody (Musical Demon)

Puttin' on the Ritz

(there are no Q's)

Remember

Sayonara

Sisters

Stepping Out (with My Baby)

That Mysterious Rag

The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing

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The Girl that I Marry

There's No Business Like Show Business

Top Hat, White Tie and Tails

Unlucky in Love

Virginia Lou

When I Lost You

White Christmas

(not surprisingly, no X's)

You Can Have Him

You Can't Get a Man with a Gun

You'd Be Surprised

(there are no Z's)



Irving Berlin has no place in American music – he is American music.

Jerome Kern



Berlin wrote "God Bless America" in 1918, while in the Army, but didn't publish it until 1938, when Kate Smith introduced it on her Armistice Day radio program. After that introduction, the song's success soared. Berlin established the God Bless America Foundation, which directed the royalties from the song to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America. Above is a photo of Irving Berlin singing "God Bless America" at a scouting event.

After the Sept 11, 2001 attacks, "God Bless America" resurged in popularity. This stamp, commemorating Irving Berlin and his song, was issued Sept 15, 2002.

Sources: Wikipedia. Google Images. www.songwritershalloffame.org/songs/C3

Singing Our Way through the Holidays

Final Rehearsals!



Carols at the Community Tree Lighting

An event we look forward to each year is caroling at the Culpeper Community Tree Lighting. Usually, about twenty Chorale members, active and inactive, assemble for this event. It's a fun, relaxed start to the holidays, and we all, Chorale and community, enjoy the singing and the warm companionship. This year there was a great turn-out and we all had a fine time.



Concert at Dogwood Village

We gave our first performance of our *Joy!* Concert for the folks at Dogwood Village in Orange, which is one of our favorite places to sing.



Remembering a Friend

A Chorale member and friend's memorial was the same day as the Prince Michel concert, but about ten of us were able to attend, to sing "Going Home" in her honor. It was a lovely service and very moving to take part in.

The Prince Michel Concert



Singing at Prince Michel Vineyards is always wonderful because of the bistro atmosphere, and the beautiful surroundings. We also can interact easily with our audience, which is a joy.

The light, though it's great for the concert itself, is very challenging for amateur photographers, so our photos can't do justice to how lovely this venue is. It was a full house, and a terrific evening!

More Caroling

We were invited to sing at an open house at Minuteman Mall, and sang in shifts all afternoon. It was fun!

More Carols! Singing at Walden Hall

This season we were invited to carol at a Christmas party at the beautiful Walden House in Reva. We had a great time and actually got to sing in a staircase – a really lovely one.



...and this wonderful season of singing wrapped up at the State Theatre, where we had a wonderful concert, with lots of room to spread our musical wings! Photos on the following pages...

The Concert at the State Theatre! (photos by Sara Rayaprol)



The Chorale, with accompanist Brittany Bache on left, and Director Bob Burnett on right.



The Youth Chorus rocked "Peppermint Candy Cane"



Bob...



Sopranos! Lisa Zinn's solo.



Drawing for the Christmas Gift Boxes (see page 2).



Brittany.



Charity Sillero's solo



Faces



Bows and Flowers! Kudos and thanks to our Directors, our Accompanist, our President and Board, all of our singers and volunteers and their wonderfully supportive families! We worked hard, sang well, and had a lot of fun! See you soon!