



Chorale News

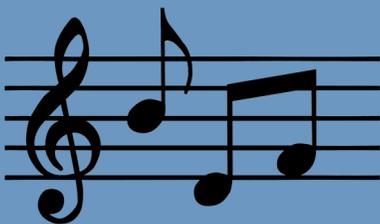
Spring, 2017

BRC's 2017 Events and Performances

July 4, 2017 — 12PM
Singing at Culpeper Courthouse.
Be there at 11:15PM to practice.

August 28, 2017 — 6:30PM
First Rehearsal at Open Door
Baptist Church

First Concert—December 7, 2017
6:30PM -Culpeper Baptist Church



Memories

Sperryville

It was about nine o'clock at night in April of 2011. We had just performed "Songs of the Mountains," a terrific Spring concert, to a good-sized crowd in Sperryville. While the caterer was taking up their utensils and packing to go, the word went around to the tired singers that we needed to fold and put away tables and stack chairs, and then take down the risers and sound equipment and pack them into the wagon. That is hard work, but it's something we're used to doing. Some of our volunteers had been working at the concert site since early afternoon, and everyone was tired from singing and feeling worn out, but we pitched in and got it done.

We thought we were finished, but then our Concert Master reminded us that there were still dishes to be washed. This had



been a dinner concert, and we had saved some money by using the dinnerware belonging to the site. A general groan went up at the thought of an even longer evening. "Why didn't we use the caterer's dishes?" someone asked. But, we all knew the answer. The income from tickets would not cover the costs of putting on the concert, and the Chorale needed to save money where we could.

So, a band of eight tired volunteers stayed on to tackle the mountain of plates, glasses and flatware required for serving about 100 people. Each of us was tired and not looking forward to the job. But, aprons, gloves, soapy water and a production line were soon assembled and the work began. Then Cathy ter Weele, our Youth Director, started singing a song from the program, and we all joined in. How can you not sing, at any time? The pile of dirty dishes dwindled and the shelves were soon filled with sparkling clean dinnerware. The singing kept up as we swept then mopped our way out the door. Everyone smiled and said "goodnight." It was ten thirty by then, and many of us had an hour of driving ahead of us. But, we were smiling. What a great time that was, dishes and all!

Singing Along – Orange

We were performing our George Gershwin concert for the residents of a long-term care facility in Orange. The concert was fun and the facility, as always, had made us feel very welcome. The residents, in wheel chairs, on walkers or canes, moving slowly, sometimes accompanied by aides, came into the room and settled down for the music. We began the concert, trying to extend ourselves, as much as we could through music and smiles, to our very quiet audience.

Not long after the concert started, we noticed that some of the residents were singing along to the Gershwin favorites, big smiles on their faces. That wonderful interchange of energy between performers and audience was beginning to build. When we wrapped up the concert with Irving Berlin's "God Bless America," nearly all the residents sang along cheerfully, big smiles on their faces, some of them with tears on their cheeks.

Watch future Issues for more memories. If you have a Chorale memory to share, please contact us at info@brcsings.com

In Very Good Company

I have enjoyed greatly the second blooming... suddenly you find – at the age of 50, say – that a whole new life has opened before you. *Agatha Christie*

QUESTION – What do these have in common? The Blue Ridge Chorale of Culpeper, *The Carol Burnett Show*, the Beatles' album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, The Doors' first album, Lunar Orbiter III, the Twenty-fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, Ira Levin's book *Rosemary's Baby*, Disneyland's "Pirates of the Caribbean" ride, actress Lauren Graham, the Boeing 737, Aretha Franklin's "Respect," actress Nicole Kidman, ATM machines, comedian/actor Will Ferrell, the movie *In the Heat of the Night*, the Beatles' song "All You Need Is Love," Sally Fields as *The Flying Nun*, singer Faith Hill, the musical *Hair*, actress Julia Roberts, the movie *Cool Hand Luke*, the countertop microwave oven, *Rolling Stone* magazine, the Chevy Camaro, the handheld calculator, the Slurpee, the book *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*,

Thurgood Marshall becoming Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court, the Monkee's song "Daydream Believer," the game "Battleship," the Big Mac, Cap'n Crunch with Crunchberries, Walt Disney's movie *The Jungle Book*, Hostess Ho-Hos, the movie *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?*, Hasbro's Lite-Brite, Pringle's Newfangled Potato Chips, and the movie *The Graduate*.

ANSWER – Fifty years! Like a few other notable mentions above, the Blue Ridge Chorale is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. Our fall season will be spent preparing us for Christmas Concert 50 – the best one yet! Sing with us – it's going to be great!

Our first rehearsal for the Fall season will be on Monday, August 28th at Open Door Baptist Church at 6:30 pm. We will rehearse each Monday evening (including Labor Day) until our concert, which is set for Saturday, December 9th at 7:00 pm at Culpeper Baptist Church.

This will also be Director Bob Burnett's final concert with us – he's retiring – so it will be an extra-dynamic program. Join in – we're going to have a wonderful time! See our website, www.brcsings.com, for more information.

Articles by Carolyn Osborne

50th Anniversary

Please come join us for our 50th Anniversary concert on December 9th at 7 PM at the Culpeper Baptist Church

July 4th Singing!!

Join us to sing at the Independence Day celebration at the Courthouse in Culpeper at noon next Tuesday, July 4th.

Singing for this event is a wonderful way to get your holiday started. Come to Open Door Church on Monday, July 3rd at 6:30 pm for a quick rehearsal, and to get ready for a great July 4th event! You don't need to be a Chorale member to sing with us for this community activity. Come and sing!





**Fauquier Community Theater
April 9, 2017**



Pictures by Sara Carpenter Rayaprol



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Verdun Adventure Bound May 7, 2017



Pictures by Sara Carpenter Rayaprol