



### ~ A Note from Our Excited Editor-in-Chief ~

The excitement is building and is felt by all the members. Not only is it getting close to performance and we're putting in the extra rehearsals, we're looking forward to our opening at the Performing Arts Center. This editor understands that the facility is spacious and the acoustics amazing!

Because the PAC is such a popular venue, our standard performance times had to be shifted. Our Tremendously Talented Tenor, Kerry Montgomery, Managing Editor, will give you details later in this newsletter.

Also in the issue is an article that expresses our gratitude. Kerry, you do such a great job. It was really hard going alone before you and your energetic crew joined this Idiot Savant.

Member's Milestones return. Mozell Toy Kerry, and there is nothing yet listed in Church Chatter, but the space will appear to remind people to send in their church doings.

This editor ends on a note of sadness. When we sang Broadway recently, Grant had us singing a song from the Producers, "...We're glad you came but we have to shout Adios, au revoir, wiedersehen, ta-ta-ta, Goodbye, get lost, get out!", we had no idea that we would have to do just that to a dear family member. See "End of an Era" in this issue.

This editor hopes that you enjoy the show as much as we enjoy bringing it to you. – Alfreda E. Newman, Editor in Chief

### ~ Don't Be Left Standing Out in The Cold~

Don't be left standing out in the cold alone in Messiah Lutheran's parking lot. There is a new date & time for our dress rehearsal & performance and don't forget both are at The Performing Arts Center at Valdosta High School, on the corner of North Forest St. & Inner Perimeter Rd.

- Dress rehearsal – Saturday, December 8th, from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm (please be at the PAC by 9:30 am) Concert dress is not required for this rehearsal.
- 1st performance – Saturday, December 8th, at PAC Cast call @ 6:30 pm and performance @ 7:30
- 2nd performance – Sunday, December 9th, be at PAC Cast call @ 1:30 pm, performance @ 2:30

Also as a reminder, don't forget to check the pictures available in the Member's Handbook section on our website as to what to wear, if you have any questions make sure to ask your section leader.

## ~Good Bye To An Era~

If you look through the Valdosta Choral Guild scrapbook, you will see a long history of extremely talented choral directors. This editor has been singing with the Guild for 14 years and under 3 different directors; until Grant Brown took the baton.

Over the years I've worn a Santa hat or antlers, worn bonnets and held a telephone. Props are sometimes expected. That first Christmas concert with Grant! During rehearsals, we were told there would be dancers. Ok, dancers are an interesting addition. Boy was I in for a surprise when I got to dress rehearsal!!!! There was a fireplace for Santa to come down, Mama in her kerchief and Papa in his cap, geese, ducks, maids milking, rifles, and duck calls....and antlers and Santa hats. It was far more than just dancers!!!

Not only is Grant a wonderful singer <with perfect pitch> and a talented director, he is intimately involved with Theater Guild Valdosta. He designed the set for the most recent production. As our VP John Mitchell said, "Grant, you took us to a whole new level by blending our choral music with theater!" Grant, you are going to be *sorely missed*!!! Perhaps you will consider doing the theater while the next director does the choral.

Sadly, this Christmas concert has to be Grant's last production. He has health problems that must be addressed. We are in need of a director for our spring performance. If anyone has any ideas of a director that might want to serve until a permanent director can be found, please send your ideas to: [valdostachoralguild@gmail.com](mailto:valdostachoralguild@gmail.com)

## ~Thanks-For-Giving~

This November we have so much to be thankful for!!

We offer an extra special thank you to Pat Sullivan and Chris Williams from Clientell for generously supplying all the postage needed to send out our patron sponsorship mailings! This is a substantial expense and we are deeply grateful! We also want to thank Greek Row for supplying each of our members with Valdosta Choral Guild T-shirts! Now we will be recognizable around town. If you want to check them out, come to our Christmas concert and see how stylish we look! This donation will not only make us look good but give us a cohesive appearance when we are out in the community performing for various functions, and possibly increase interest in the Guild to new members & sponsors!

## ~Music Matters~

Does our Music Matter to you? Well it matters very much to us. It matters so much that we members spend every Monday night together and many hours of our personal time rehearsing. It matters so much that we constantly try to improve our singing, not just as a group but individually. It matters that we don't have to sing, or you don't have to hear the same songs every year, so we purchase new choral music. It matters to us that we make our performances extra special, with musicians, dancers etc. but both can be very expensive. It matters to us to share our excellent performances with all audiences at a very affordable charge and to provide tickets free of charge to individuals and organizations that otherwise would be unable to attend. It matters to us and we hope it matters to you too. For those of you that have sent in your donations, thank you so much, your generosity is much appreciated.

Without your support we couldn't continue to bring you the quality music we've all become accustomed to. Right now we greatly need the rest of you to get involved and get your donor/patron cards back to us as soon as possible. We haven't heard from even 10% of you this year, and we miss you very much. You really do matter to us, and we hope our music matters to you.

### ~ Member's Milestones ~

This month, I, Kerry Montgomery ("the tenacious tenor") officially became a "mother-in-law", celebrating my daughter's wedding on a beautiful sunny day at Reed Bingham Park! Sunday, November 25th several of our members will be contributing their vocal skills, singing The Messiah at St. John's Catholic Church. The performance starts at 4:00pm and although there is no charge for admission, donations will be accepted supporting LAMP. Bravo to Paulette Butts, Anna Marie Schaer, Jane Whitehead, Michael Linger, Sarah Riggle, Martha Cummings & Richard Uhler!

### ~ Church Chatter ~

This part of our Newsletter is for you! I know there are things going on out there—I've heard the rumors! If you have anything to add, advertise or announce just shoot me an email at: [valdostachoralguild@gmail.com](mailto:valdostachoralguild@gmail.com).

### ~Links We Love~

- VSU Theatre & Dance [www.valdosta.edu/comarts/VSUTheatre-DanceTicketsMemberships](http://www.valdosta.edu/comarts/VSUTheatre-DanceTicketsMemberships)
- Symphony <http://www.valdostasymphony.org/nov.php>
- VSU Music Calendar <http://www.valdosta.edu/music/calendar/>
- Theater Guild Valdosta <http://www.theatreguildvaldosta.com/>

### ~Are We Having Fun Yet~

This is from our local Valdosta Police officer and resident tenor, a very reliable source!  
Three notes walk into a bar...

A C, an E-flat, and a G go into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry, we don't serve minors." So the E-flat leaves, and the C and the G have an open fifth between them. After a few drinks, the fifth is diminished and the G is out flat.

An F comes in and tries to augment the situation, but is not sharp enough. A D comes into the bar and heads straight for the bathroom saying, "Excuse me. I'll just be a second."

Then an A comes into the bar, but the bartender is not convinced that this relative of C is not a minor.

Then the bartender notices a B-flat hiding at the end of the bar and exclaims, "Get out now. You're the seventh minor I've found in this bar tonight."

The E-flat, not easily deflated, comes back to the bar the next night in a 3-piece suit with nicely shined shoes. The bartender (who used to have a nice corporate job until his company downsized) says, "You're looking sharp tonight, come on in! This could be a major development."

This proves to be the case, as the E-flat takes off the suit, and everything else, and stands there au

natural.

Eventually, the C sobers up, and realizes in horror that he's under a rest. The C is brought to trial, is found guilty of contributing to the diminution of a minor, and is sentenced to 10 years of DS without Coda at an upscale correctional facility. On appeal, however, the C is found innocent of any wrongdoing, even accidental, and that all accusations to the contrary are bassless.

The bartender decides, however, that since he's only had tenor so patrons, and the sopranout in the bathroom, everything has become alto much treble; he needs a rest, and closes the bar.

### ~Birthdays~

Harriet Crum

Eugene Hayes

Ann Embry

Ole Vigerstol

Michael Linger

Terry Erksine

Bob Hubbard

Judy Faulkner