

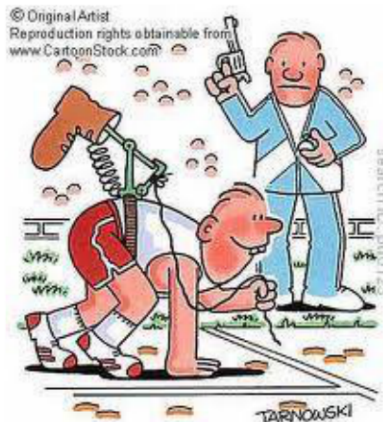


An Occasional Newsletter

Volume 2 Number 1 Fall 2011

### ~ VCG Rehearsals Begin ~

On your mark, get set, GO!!!!



Our Singers, Patrons and Friends are our best recruiters for the Choral Guild. There's still about a week before rehearsals start and plenty of time to lasso & hogtie your friends and drag them to rehearsals.

There are no auditions except for solos and ensemble work. Even if they can't read music, they can ask for help. The established members would be glad to help them. Besides, there will now be rehearsal CDs to help.

We are always eager to welcome new singers at the beginning of each concert season. So, talk it up with your singing friends at church, in the workplace, in the neighborhood – anywhere! Say a good word about VCG and invite them to sing with us starting on Monday, August 22 at 7:30 PM in the First Baptist Church's choir room. Bring your friends along. Past members we haven't seen for awhile are cordially invited to return!

Share the map with your singing friends and have them join us: <http://mapq.st/rahNrs>

► First Baptist Church ~200 W Central Ave ~ Valdosta GA 31601 ~ (229) 242-0484

Hope you had a great summer!! See you again shortly.

### ~ Swaying to the Music ~

We have a new accompanist this fall. Her name is Brittany Brown and she recently moved to the area.

Brittany is a teacher of four-year-olds at Oakwood School and is married to the new pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church. He was featured in an "At Random" article in the Valdosta Daily Times several weeks ago. She is a delightful young woman who has accompanied groups throughout her school years and is quite accomplished. We're lucky to have her!

## ~ Christmas Carol Composition Contest 2011 ~

Sponsored by The Valdosta Choral Guild

Open to all interested composers and students of composition.

### The Basic Contest Rules:

1. The song/carol will be 1.5–3 minutes long, written for SATB chorus with piano accompaniment; optional solos or descant.
2. The song/carol must be completely new, unpublished and not an arrangement of an existing Christmas song or carol.
3. The song/carol must have a Christmas-related, English language text.
4. The song/carol must be written in standard musical notation, legible for the singers and accompanist.
5. A composer may submit more than one song/carol for this contest.
6. Submissions must include the composer's contact information – home/cell phone, email address, mailing address and an SASE for the return of original compositions at the end of the contest.

### Cash Awards Are:

First Place – \$150

Second Place – \$75

Third Place – \$50

The three winning compositions will be presented and prizes awarded to the winners by the Valdosta Choral Guild at their Christmas concerts in early December 2011.

All compositions must be received by September 16, 2011 at P. O. Box 4842, Valdosta, GA 31604. Winners will be informed by September 23, 2011.

The Valdosta Choral Guild reserves the right to make a sufficient number of copies of the top three winning compositions for performances in early December 2011 without any fees due the composer. Following the Valdosta Choral Guild's December 2011 concerts all copies of the compositions will be the sole property of their composers.

Judges for this competition will be selected by the 2011 Valdosta Choral Guild Board of Directors.

~ Questions regarding this competition will be submitted to ~

Grant Brown, Musical Director, Valdosta Choral Guild with site form

Visit ~ [ValdostaChoralGuild.org/9835-christmas-music-competition-2011.html](http://ValdostaChoralGuild.org/9835-christmas-music-competition-2011.html)

### ~ Rehearsal CDs Coming ~

In an attempt to make rehearsal time away from our Monday night rehearsals more productive, we're working to create rehearsal CDs for each voice part. Just think of it, a CD with just your part on it for all of our music on the Christmas Concerts for you to work with any time you please. No excuse for wrong notes! You just have to *USE IT* for all of us to reap the benefits.

We're hoping to have these ready for everyone in early September. Note learning made easy. Won't it be wonderful to sing along with our rehearsal CDs in the car and at home and really *NAIL IT* for the concert?!

### ~Did you ever Wonder...~

One of the highlights of our Christmas Concert 2010 was our unique presentation of "The 12 Days of Christmas."

Have you ever wondered what happened to all the gifts "my true love" received? I mean, that's a lot of French hens, geese a-laying, swans a-swimming, ladies dancing, lords a-leaping, etc.

Well, wonder no more. This season we have the hilarious musical answer, "The 12 Days After Christmas" – complete with sound effects!

Join us for our first rehearsal on August 22 at 7:30pm to learn all about it!

### ~ VCG Christmas Concert Dates ~

The dates for the Christmas Concerts are set and on the calendar at First Baptist

Dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 10, time to be announced

Concerts will be performed.

Sunday, December 11 at 2:30 PM & Monday, December 12 at 7:30 PM

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**

Dates for the Spring 2012 Concerts will be confirmed and announced later this summer.

### ~ All the, All the Outs in Free!! ~

If you took a road sign for the last concert and didn't bring it back, please put it in your car and bring it to the first rehearsal. Thank you.

## ~ Spotlight On ~



Dick Uhlir, our Membership Chairman, was one of the founding members along with Dick Saeger back when the Guild was the Valdosta Choral Society. Around 1979 a small group gathered to formalize the Society.. Dick Uhlir had been on the faculty of the University of Georgia and was a member of the Athens Choral Society during his time there. The Valdosta Choral Society's bylaws were modeled after the Athens Choral Society bylaws.

He is a graduate of Ball State University and the University of Illinois. His career has been teaching children with disabilities and later became Professor Emeritus of Special Ed at VSU by teaching the teachers what he learned in the classroom..

Dick also sings with the VSU Symphony Chorus and with David Johnson at Trinity Presbyterian Church. That works out to about 5 hours a week of rehearsals.

In his spare time, he enjoys several cardio-exercise sessions per week and is an Auxiliary Volunteer at SGMCC.

## ~ Party Time! ~

We will have our Fall party on the evening of Saturday, October 1. Place and exact time will be announced in the September newsletter. For now, just reserve the date on your calendar for a great time!

## ~ Membership Handbook ~

Dick Uhlir, our outstanding Membership Chair and current Spotlight On, brought a Handbook proposal to the last board meeting. The board kicked around some ideas and Dick will have the Handbook ready to pass out a couple of weeks into the next rehearsal season.

There will be lots of helpful information regarding the Guild: articles about dues, concert attire, rehearsal attendance, Guild history and so much more. Thank you, Dick for all of your hard work! You can bet they won't let Alfreda anywhere near the handbook!



## ~ European Tour for the Summer of 2013 ~

Lynn Corbin, "Director Emeritus" of the Valdosta Choral Guild, is putting together a tour to either Italy or Austria. Details can be found on our website.

Visit ~ <http://www.valdostachoralguild.org/europe-2013.html>

## ~ Lowndes' Lampoon ~

I know you have gotten used to this Looney Tune, no, this insane, MAD editor, but your hopes will be dashed this issue. Many comics need straight men and you clowns aren't feeding me any material to work with!!! If you don't get on the ball and do your job, what you will be getting is the dry facts with misspelliinggs that Grant sends me. He is a fabulous Music Director, but comic he ain't!

"Your Mission", whether you decide to accept it or not, is to start sending snippets of the things you hear or things from your life, to [valdostachoralguild@gmail.com](mailto:valdostachoralguild@gmail.com). If you're not careful, "The Secretary will disavow any knowledge of your existence". Send the facts, "Just the facts Ma-am!" This editor is perfectly capable of twisting them herself.

"Thank you for your support!!"

Alfreda E. Newman

Editor in Chief



## ~ VCG Website ~

Have you checked out our website recently? It looks great, is up to date and has lots of helpful information and a complete archive of past newsletters. Since you've been talking to potential singers about joining us, refer them to the website for complete information.

Visit ~ [valdostachoralguild.org](http://valdostachoralguild.org).

They'll be impressed!

## ~ HAPPY ~

August



John Akers  
Nancy Burridge  
Winnie Dooly  
Alisa George  
Kay Vincent

Birthdays

~ Birthday!! ~