



Children's Chorus of Carroll County
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November '08 Newsletter

REQUEST FROM OUR HOST CHURCH: Grace Lutheran has requested that from now on, during Tuesday evening rehearsals, the hallway be kept clear outside of the LPV/ DB rehearsal area, between the bathrooms and Grace Hall. Parents and others are welcomed to be in the gathering area on the rug or in the library when it is not in use by the church. After 7:00pm, a sitting area on the lower level where the Music Makers rehearse is also available.

THERE IS REHEARSAL ON ELECTION EVENING, NOVEMBER 4

Grace Lutheran Family pictures will be taken that evening; we will not be able to use the library or the usual gathering place. You are welcomed to sit in Grace Hall.

“**With One Voice**” concert tickets will be sold at the sign-in tables at rehearsals on Tuesday, November 4th and Tuesday, November 11th. Tickets are \$10.00 adults and \$5.00 under 16 (no charge for BC singers). See the calendar below for more info on the concert.

Grants: The Chorus is applying for grants to **Black and Decker, Nationwide Insurance and M&T Bank**. If any of you are employed by these companies, you could help us with this process. Please contact Diane Jones, mismoosic@gmail.com, at your earliest convenience.

Students arriving late impact what is accomplished for the entire rehearsal. Both the individual student and the group are affected. All students need to be involved in warm-ups to not just get ready for the rehearsal, but to build good vocal technique. Students arriving late create distraction for students who are already in place. **Please do your best to be punctual.**

Carroll Cabin Fever, the Chorus' signature fundraising event, will be held at Martin's Westminster on the evening of February 20, 2009. You all know what the weather will be like, so we encourage you to prepare to come in out of the cold and warm up with some great food and beverages. “Standard Delivery” will be playing, Joe and Audrey Cimino will charm us with their fabulous vocal blends, there will be a silent auction and, as in the past, a good time will be had by all! Carroll Cabin Fever is designed for garnering support from those in the community who may not otherwise be involved in the Chorus. Please help by inviting friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to this special event. Also, Karen Pieper and her committee will need assistance with many aspects of this project, especially with donations for the silent auction. Then next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4th at 7pm. in the Library. Questions, email Karen at pieper304@yahoo.com .

Printer Cartridges and old cell phones: We will be collecting these again this year. Look for the bin in the common area outside of Grace Hall (the area where the LPV's and DB's sign-in).

Della Bella Doings

Il Choro Della Bella Voce, affectionately known as the Della Bellas, are off to a great start this season. This group, made up of fourth and fifth graders, experiences an increasingly challenging repertoire in order to prepare them for the Bel Canto group.

This fall the chorus is working on music that is in two-part harmony, and even one song that includes a section in three-part harmony. They are singing a song in Latin, and a song that is based on a tune by Johann Sebastian Bach. Choir members have done an excellent job meeting the challenges of the repertoire.

At most rehearsals, the group takes a few minutes to play "Are You Smarter than a Music Teacher". Two choir members draw cards with musical terms or symbols written on them that they must then identify. If they need help, they may call on a life-line from the chorus. They receive a small prize for the correct answer. This is a fun way for chorus members to improve their music literacy skills. The group also participates in singing games from time to time as a way of celebrating the joy of singing together in yet another way.

Della Bella singers are looking forward to sharing their hard work with you at our concert!

Blast off at Space Camp, by Christopher Nusbaum
(Christopher is a member of the Della Bella's.)

Who wants to go to Space Camp? Well, I did and I was one of 197 visually impaired kids from around the world that were lucky enough to go to SCIVUS, Space Camp for Interested Visually Impaired Students! It was in Huntsville, Alabama at the US Space and Rocket Center, which is the actual training center for the astronauts. And that's what we were for a week, astronauts in training.

I can't pick my favorite thing that we did; all of it was really fun. But, one of my favorites was the simulated missions. Before I tell you about that, here's how the camp was divided. Depending on their age, Space Camp put the campers into groups, Space Camp (the one I was in), Space Academy, (middle school), and Advanced Academy (high school.) In each group, there were teams named after astronauts, I was on the Armstrong team. So, in the missions, each age group did a different kind a mission, and each team did their own mission. When we did them, we had a script in Braille of things to say over the pretend radio, according to the mission positions the counselors and chaperones picked for each of us. There was a mission control office, and a simulator of a space shuttle. We had a computer keyboard in front of us with special buttons to push during the mission. From there, it's just like a mission you'd see on TV, with the launch countdown, space walk, a lot of talking on the radio, and the rockets, which are called, solid rocket boosters, or SRB's. But, that's only one thing we did that I really enjoyed. Space Camp is one of those things that brings so many good memories, the whole thing will stick with you for a long time. To sum it up, Space Camp was a blastoff!!!

BC Parents: To those of you who sent in the **towels** to help with the acoustics in the Theater room, **many thanks**. It does make a difference. Let's try to have all of the students have towels to maximize the positive effect.

CALENDAR:

Voce Viaggio, the select traveling voices of the Bel Cantos, will be singing at the prestigious **November 8 Marine Ball**. This black-tie affair will celebrate the 233rd birthday of the marines, and will be attended by the upper echelon of the military. *Wish us well! This is scary and exciting at the same time.* We are, however, honored to be of service in this way.

Nov. 15: Sing-In: 8:30am – 12:00pm @ Friendship Valley Elementary. Tim Gregory, clinician. In addition to rehearsal, each group will have a session with Tim Gregory. Tim has been a friend of the Chorus for many years and we are honored to consider him a part of "who we are." He is a phenomenal teacher, a lover of life and all things musical. Tim brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from around the world and shares it in an energetic and compelling way with all of our children. Some of our parents and singers say that the time with Tim is their favorite activity of the year. *Please note that Music Makers are not included in this activity.

Nov. 22, "With One Voice," 6:30pm warm-up, 7:30pm performance: an evening of fine music to benefit Carroll County Domestic Violence Safe House. Bel Canto's (BC) will be singing at this stellar event, joining many other musical groups from our area to delight our listeners and raise money for a most worthwhile endeavor. The concert is at the beautiful St. John Catholic Church, Westminster. *Everyone is encouraged to attend.*

Dec. 12 Taneytown Business Breakfast, DB and BC, informal uniforms. Arrive at the Taneytown Bowling Alley at 7:15AM; enjoy a complimentary breakfast, warm-up our voices, sing traditional carols and fun pieces at 8:00AM and finish by 8:30 at the latest. We always have a great time. In addition, it is important opportunity to garner public support. We are looking forward to having many as many Della Bella's (DB's) and Bel Canto's (BC's) as possible join us!! In the past there has always been carpooling.

Dec. 13 Final rehearsal: Big Baker Chapel, McDaniel College:
LPV 9:00 – 10:00am; DB 10:00 – 11:00am; BC 11:00 – noon; VV noon – 12:30pm
Students not attending will no be able to sing at the Winter Celebration.

Dec. 14 Winter Celebration: 3:00pm. Formal uniforms. Call times TBA
Special guest performer and accompanist: Elaine Bryant, harpist.