



# The Society Page

Volume Thirteen

Issue #2

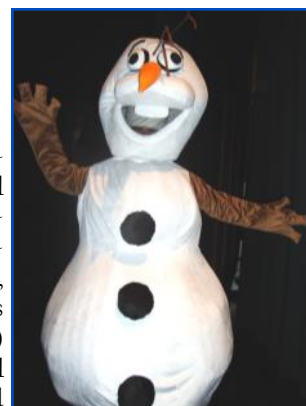
September, 2014

## More Fun Than a Barrel of... INSIDE: ...snowmen?

**Concert News****New Digs!****SoundCheck****Family Photos****Get Social!****2014-15 Calendar****Scholarship**

by Sharyn Thomas

On June 29th, the Stafford Regional Choral Society put on a Family Fun day event at Colonial Forge High School, featuring free music and activities for the families of North Stafford. Festivities kicked off with face-painting, wand-making, and pictures with kids' favorite Disney characters (even Queen Elsa and Olaf made an appearance!) As a bonus for those already weather-weary, all events were held indoors, keeping kids cool and happy.



The show began with a surprise, when choral members arose from within the audience to sing *Do You Feel the Rhythm?*, ending up at the stage and ready to be led through the rest of the show by Princess Fiona and Snow White. The next number, *You've Got a Friend In Me*, was followed by two upbeat tunes in keeping with the Cowboy theme, folk songs *Cindy* and *Banjo Pickin' Girl*. Next up, Dennis Alwine and Jenny Piner slowed things down a bit with a superb duet of *Somewhere Out There*.



The next piece was both familiar and new, as SoundCHECK, the SRCS outreach ensemble, sang, scatted, and ditted a vocal arrangement of *Linus and Lucy* (the Peanuts theme); the only thing missing was Snoopy doing his classic dance. SoundCHECK then transported the audience from classic America all the way across the sea to the Serengeti with *Can You Feel the Love Tonight?* The men then took the stage with a fun a cappella arrangement of *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*. Next, we were reminded by Kermit and soloist Alysha Jeans that it's not easy *Bein' Green*, but guest director Rachel Colby (and soloists Dennis Alwine and Don Spellmann) cheered us up with *Good Vibrations*. Keeping the good feelings going, the audience was asked to join in and sing along with *Happy* and soloists Pamela Abel, Kol Bergstrom, and Angela Ammerman, giving kids a chance to get some wiggles out.



The Scholarship Spotlight featured Andrew Liang, who was awarded the 2014 SRCS instrumental scholarship. Mr. Liang treated the audience to a performance of *When Sunny Gets Blue*, ushering in the intermission and a chance for little legs to stretch. An extra-long intermission allowed time for refreshments, more photos, crafts, and face painting—plus a chance to buy raffle tickets for the Disney Parks Pass Give-Away. Following a generous intermission, the audience was treated to familiar show tunes *Seize the Day*, by the stellar SRCS Men and *My Favorite Things*, by SoundCHECK. The littlest audience members were thrilled to see Olaf and Queen Elsa take the stage to sing a medley of songs from the movie *Frozen*, featuring soloists Dawn Abel, Kimberly Leone, Chris Moore, and Angela Ammerman.

(Continued on page 4)

# From the Chairman of the Board

*Mark Jones*

*Because I'm happyyyy-yyyy-yyy-y...*

That refrain permeated my brain in an infinite loop during and after this past summer concert. I'm sure anyone who was there can empathize, but as I appreciate the fact that it finally wormed its way out of my ear (until now, right?), I realize that it's the perfect descriptor for our Choral Society. After every performance, the Board members discuss successes and ways to improve. A recurring theme in the feedback from singers and audience members alike is *happy*. Audiences enjoy themselves immensely, and that is due in great part to the obvious and pure FUN the singers themselves are having. We all love singing or we wouldn't be here (there?) in the first place, but it matters that we have great music to sing, amazing instrumentalists alongside us, and talented technicians bringing it all to light - and sound. It feels good to be part of that finished performance, both on the giving and receiving ends.

But I think *happy* is much more than that.

It's greetings and hugs exchanged when singers return to rehearsal, and the glow we feel when we leave because, wow—those are such *good people*. It's the times we all have to stop rehearsing and just laugh at the perfect pun or a goofy prop, and it's the victorious feeling of conquering that tricky line after *just one* more run. It's the privilege of being led by not one, but two, incredibly talented directors, and the warmth of knowing they are equally valued as friends. It's also the knowledge of being part of something bigger than just us, just the songs, even just the concerts. It's pride in building an organization that satisfies a need - for musicians, performers, our communities, and the youngsters who become lifelong musicians because of SRCS.

I commend you all—you are such a talented group with a great willingness to embrace the vision of our Artistic Director. You would think Barbara would have a tough time following her previous acts, but she keeps coming up with winners, and the coming season is no exception. I've been singing for almost 40 years and worked with many gifted directors, but I can tell you that Barbara is easily one of my favorites. We have a treasure in her, as well as in Kevin, Katy, and in ourselves as a Society - not only of musicians, but of friends.

So don't keep this wealth to yourself! Let's see how many new singers we can enlist for our Christmas concert! 'Tis the season, and you know what they say about being merrier... Keep your calendars open this fall - you don't want to miss fun events like the first SoundCHECK concert on Nov. 2 and a social on Sunday, September 28. Check inside this newsletter and on the web site for details on these and other events. I hope to see you there!

Regards,

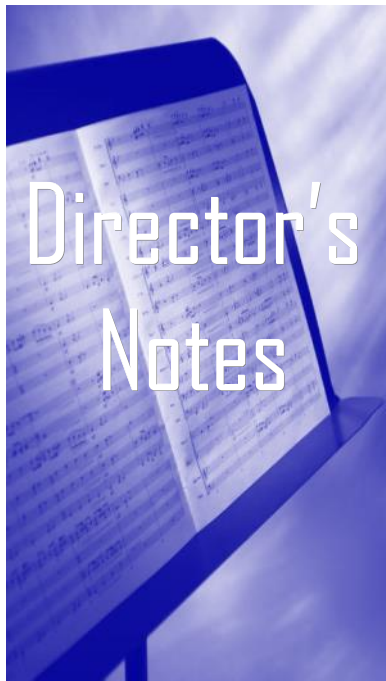
*Mark Jones*

*Fall* Sunday, September 28  
2-5 PM  
*SOCIAL*



Before 'n' After Café at Embrey Mill  
25 Apricot St. Stafford, VA 22554

**All members are welcome at monthly meetings of the Board of Directors. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. at The General Store in Fredericksburg.**  
**NEXT MEETING:**  
**October 14, 2014**



## Artistic Director

*Barbara Perry*

Hi, Everyone!

I hope you have had a great summer. We have had some great events and now we are gearing up for the next season. First, the Family Fun Concert was truly FUN! We had so many families and kids come out for this concert and we all had a great time! Who knows, maybe Family Fun should be a yearly event!? What do you think?

SoundCheck has been busy this summer. They performed the National Anthem for the Stafford Cardboard Regatta, the EOD Warrior Golf Tournament and the Celebrate Virginia Live Concert Series. Just last weekend they performed several pieces at the Fredericksburg *Via Colori* and at the Fredericksburg Welsh Festival. They are preparing for their first concert on November 2 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. Please come out and support them for these wonderful events

For the Main Society Singers, we start rehearsals for our Christmas Concert on October 5th. We start registering at 5:30 and sing at 6:00. This is a great time to bring a friend!

For a look ahead.... March 28, 2015 we will be collaborating with the New Dominion Choraliers. We will perform Schubert's Mass in G in a combined choir concert at the Hilton Performing Arts Center and we will be featured on our own as well. Then our Spring Gala with a new and really fun theme...come to the Christmas Concert on December 21st and I will tell you!!

*Barbara Perry*

## SoundCHECK Director

*Kevin Perry*

SoundCheck is continuing to plug away and help SRCS fulfill its mission of providing musical performances to the community. By the end of the year, the ensemble will perform upward of 20 community functions, from fundraisers benefitting wounded warriors, Veteran's day concerts, national anthems for various community events, and full concerts for festivals like *Via Colori* and the Fredericksburg Welsh Festival. Stay tuned to purchase tickets for SoundCheck's first concert, *First Date: A Boy and a Girl*, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. The concert will be inspiring, and the music uplifting. The choir cannot wait to share with you the music they will be working on, see you there!

*Kevin Perry*

**REHEARSALS STARTING!**

**Christmas 2014**

➤ **NEW LOCATION** ◀

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**

**1201 Courthouse Rd., Stafford, VA 22554**

Registration Oct. 5 at 5:30 P.M.

Rehearsals Sundays 6-8 P.M.

*All rehearsals and performance will be at St. Peter's.*

*Due to circumstances beyond our control, we are currently unable to meet at Colonial Forge High School. We are so grateful to St. Peter's Lutheran Church for inviting us to rehearse and perform in their beautiful space! It will be tempting to let the autopilot drive you to CFHS this fall, so don't forget! Remind each other and don't forget to invite new singers! We are excited to get back to music on October 5!*



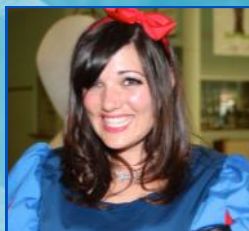
(Continued from page 1)

The children were invited to take part in the Kids' Parade, led by PJ the Clown, while the chorus led the audience in a medley of favorites from *The Musical World of Walt Disney*. As the little ones returned to their seats, a small a cappella ensemble treated the audience to a bouncy but familiar rendition of *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*, featuring soloists Adriane Johns, Keith Barrett, Chris Moore, and Dawn Abel. Keeping with the traditional Americana theme, the show reached a crescendo with *Homeland* and *United We Stand*, before the singers ushered the show to a close with the old *Mickey Mouse Club* sign-off.

Audience members of all ages enjoyed the show, which kept a brisk but smooth pace, allowing plenty of breaks and lenience for impatient little ones. The Disney Princesses kept children engaged and excited between numbers, interacting with the audience and keeping the attitude light and refreshing. The Stafford Regional Choral Society puts on three or more concerts a year; keep an eye on their website at [www.staffordchoral.org](http://www.staffordchoral.org) and be sure to catch the next show!



# Family FUN!





# Scholarship News

Barb LeRoy

*Stafford Regional Choral Society is pleased to announce the 2015 Scholarship Competition.*

The SRCS Scholarship Program is designed to enable talented high school seniors to continue their study of music during college regardless of their major course of study. SRCS is composed of lifelong musicians pursuing a variety of career paths; our scholarship awards allow students to work toward their dream and careers without sacrificing their love of music. Scholarships are awarded based on performance auditions scored by a panel of impartial judges. Applicants must submit complete application packets postmarked by the stated deadline and must audition on the stated date. Applications are provided to counselors and music teachers at all area high schools, and also available online at [stafford.choral.org](http://stafford.choral.org).

All high school senior musicians are encouraged to apply for the 2015 SRCS Scholarship! Spread the word!

*\*The BOD welcomes our new Scholarship Chair - thanks for volunteering, Barb!*

## Fall SOCIAL

**Sunday, September 28 2-5 PM**

*We know you miss your SRCS pals –  
we can't wait for October, either!*

*Come out for casual conversation, stay as long as you like!*

*Bring a buddy, bring a spouse, bring a future new singer!*

*Food and assorted beverages available for purchase.*

*Live band starts at 3!*

**Before 'n' After Café at Embrey Mill**

**25 Apricot St. Stafford, VA 22554**

*Coffee, Tea, Beer, Wine  
Sandwiches, Salads, Soups,  
and more!*

Commuter Lot

I-95

Courthouse Rd.

Austin Ridge Rd.

Shelby Rd.

B & A  
Cafe

Apricot St.

Alder Ln.

# Cliff\$Notes

*Cliff Cusick*

I want to thank everyone for their patience during the Treasurer's transfer from past to present. I think everything went reasonably well. We have also made a complete transfer from our previous bank to our current bank "Union First." They have done a great job in helping me with any questions I had. Several of our Board members will begin preparing the budget for our 2014/2015 season. During this new budget process, we will strive to keep costs at a minimum. Our primary concern is for the least cost to the membership. Wish us luck as we tackle this endeavor. We, the SRCS Board, certainly hope to see you in October, ready to start a great, new singing season.

*Cliff Cusick*



SRCS presents SoundCHECK in Concert!

## *First Date: A Boy and a Girl*

Sunday, Nov. 2, 2014 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Seats are limited! \$10 at the door or from any SoundCHECK member

### 2014—2015 Calendar of Events

September 28	Fall Social at <a href="#">Before 'n' After Café</a> at Embrey Mill	2-5 P.M.
October 5	Registration for Christmas Concert rehearsals; first rehearsal*	5:30 P.M.
Oct. 5-Dec. 20	Rehearsals for Christmas Concert*	6-8 P.M.
November 2	First Date: A Boy and a Girl -SoundCheck	2 P.M.
Dec. 20	Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Concert*	9 A.M.
Dec. 21	Christmas Concert*	3 P.M.
Feb. 1, 2015	Registration for NDC/Gala rehearsals; first rehearsal	5:30 P.M.
March 28	Dress rehearsal/performance Schubert Mass in G at Hilton PAC	1 P.M.
May 3	GALA	5 P.M.

*\*Christmas concert and all rehearsals will be at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Stafford*

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Corporate sponsorships receive free advertising space in the SRCS *Society Page* newsletter and all concert programs for a year! Your message can reach thousands of community-minded patrons. Enquire today!  
[www.staffordchoral.org](http://www.staffordchoral.org)



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1204 American Legion Rd., Stafford, VA  
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For sponsorship information:  
[info@staffordchoral.org](mailto:info@staffordchoral.org)

or

SRCS  
P.O. Box 6161  
Fredericksburg, VA 22403

## *Bronze (\$25)*

"Coach" Bill Behring	Mary P. McLaurin
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Wayne and Linda Burke	Joan R. Norvell
John and Donna Creasy	Patricia Rossmair
Marcia Jeans	Chris and Carol Smith
Jerry and Virginia Clement	Christine Whitlow

## *Silver (\$50)*

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David and Cheryl Hoffman  
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Cynthia Seiffert  
Don Spellmann  
David Terzian  
Mark and Angie Jones

## *Gold (\$100)*

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Ann Smith  
Bill and Bonnie Trainor

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