

Annual Meeting Report

Thursday, June 17, 2021 – 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Hi Everyone. Welcome. Although the scope of my report is supposed to cover from June to June, to me, the Annual Meeting Report for this year should have a starting date of March 11th, 2020. That was the date Tom Philips, our President in that year, was forced to call a Special Meeting of the Board. The Board discussed and passed the following:

MOTION. The Chorale concerts scheduled in March and April 2020 are cancelled. All Chorale rehearsals are cancelled until further notice, effective immediately.

From April 21st, 2020 onward, the Board met via ZOOM. Bud relayed the financial reports and projections through PDF files by e-mail and Joe projected them up on the “ZOOM screen” during our meetings so that each expense and income # could be explained explicitly. We, as a Board, strove diligently to be as frugal as possible throughout these pandemic months. . . for e.g.: We did award our Scholarship during the 2019 – 2020 season, but felt compelled to hold off on it during the 2020 – 2021 term. Heart-wrenching decisions, but necessary ones. Donations could come in but we would have no ticket sales!

On Tuesday, July 21, 2020, the Board held its Retreat, the purpose of which is to lay out the framework for the year ahead: Finances, Board Member Roles and Responsibilities, Concert Production, Member Dues, etc. . . . All of which was under this cloud of the pandemic.

Joe had chosen Dan Forrest’s “Requiem for the Living” as our featured piece in our April 2021 Concert with Donald playing the new pipe organ at Chatham Congregational and he looked forward to ZOOM rehearsals until the Chorale could return to its normal routine.

The 50th Anniversary of the Chorale was discussed – the official organization of the Chorale being 50 years ago – January 1972. Therefore, we could celebrate our 1st concert during 2022, should the pandemic persist.

One thing’s for sure: if you wanted to stay close with your fellow Chorale members, ZOOM gave you that opportunity! Thank you so much, Joe! You could tune in a bit early and stay late, chatting away. . . the interpersonal experience was well worth it! I, personally loved the segments like that fabulous tenor that sang the piece from the Messiah! Remember pulling up on August 20th to collect our music and pay our dues? All socially distanced????

This year two very special people from our Chorale family left us. The first being, Dr. E. Robert Harned, the co-founder of the Chatham Chorale. He and Gerry Morley were the first co-directors of our organization. He will be remembered fondly. Secondly, an artist who’s work you see Capewide: in dentist’s offices. . . in restaurants. . . and she did US: (SHOW POSTER) SINCE SINGING IS SO GOOD A THING. . . I WISH ALL MEN WOULD LEARN TO SING. In September, 2020 we lost our friend, longtime member of the Chorale and wonderful artist: Liz Mumford. We’ll miss her.

(2)

In October, Joe told the Board he was looking into developing a new Chorale marketing video, (7 minutes long) for the web-site. Joe and Bill Leigh have collaborated on wonderful things for our web-site – so I hope you tune in! It even has a DONATE BUTTON!

The Chamber Singers started meeting every other Monday evening with Joe. They're anticipating an up-coming Concert. Let's hope things keep going in a positive direction so that the best laid plans can occur!

We continued to see light at the end of the tunnel, albeit, baby steps. In January 2021 the Board started to think: soft opening for September 2021. – Also: hope for the Cape Symphony Concert in early December!

At every Board meeting COVID CORNER was on our agenda. We all care about the health and well-being of each and every member of our organization. We discussed herd immunity, not letting your guard down, the comparisons in vaccinations AND, everything that I'm sure you are discussing among yourselves. It was a heavy time. . . . and it still is--- because it's on-going.

There's going to be a Spectacular Anniversary Booklet published this year spearheaded by Lynn Herbst and committee. It'll be loaded with 50 years of material you all will just want to pour over!

By March, 2021 facilities were allowing 50% capacity – but NO SINGING!

April came and ZOOM was still going strong with 40 – 45 people per week.
Museums were opening up.
The CDC eased up on masks and
Small pods of people could go hiking together. . . . What about SINGING????

In May the budget looked good, very good – donations had rolled in over the past year. . . .
Holiday Pops IS being planned!
Masks indoor and outdoor would be suspended as of June 15th!!

And guess what – We're gonna sell tickets!!!! You KNOW we're back if we're gonna sell tickets to our up-coming season!

Keep praying! That's all I have to say! Things are definitely looking up!
Thanks for listening, and know I can't wait to be back with you – in person!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Nabywaniec

