



Because We Sing.....

The Valley Chorus

50 Years of Music
1956-2006



Clara Belle DeLill - Director

Larry Hoey - Accompanist

Brass/Strings/Percussion

Saturday, May 13, 2006 7 PM

Athens High School Theatre



Concert Program

The Star Spangled Banner arr. Duane Klinko
Duane Klinko Conductor

Sound of Music Medley Rodgers & Hammerstein
Arthur Rae Conductor

There's No Business Like Show Business Irving Berlin
C. David Kaley Conductor
Jennifer Kann, Dave Ludwig, and Sandy Edsell Soloists

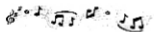
Blessed Be the Name of the Lord Dale Grotenhuis
Norman Campbell Conductor

Alleluia Randall Thompson
James Hillman Conductor

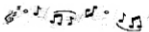
Battle Hymn of the Republic Peter J. Wilhousky
John Felt Conductor

The Last Words of David Randall Thompson
David H. Smith Conductor

America, Our Heritage arr. Hawley Ades
Clara Belle DeLill Conductor



INTERMISSION



I Want to Be Happy Vincent Youmans
Swingin' with the Saints Mark Hayes
THE VIBRANT VOICES

Because We Sing Mac Huff

When I Fall in Love Russell Robinson

For the Beauty of the Earth John Rutter

It Don't Mean a Thing Tom Anderson
Scott Chaffee Soloist

Unchained Melody arr. Mark Brymer

I'm Gonna Sing Robert Hunter

The Impossible Dream arr. Mac Huff
Janel Golden and Joan McCarty Soloists

Arthur Rae – “Art” was the founding director (in 1956) and although he left the very next year, he just couldn’t seem to stay away, taking over as director again in the 1960s, the 1980s and briefly in the 1990s. Art was a role model for several of his successors, who share fond memories of singing with the Valley Chorus under his direction. A Waverly graduate, he earned music degrees at Ithaca College after WWII and taught choral and instrumental music in Waverly and Elmira Heights. When Art Rae and the Valley Chorus are mentioned in the same sentence, you can be sure people are recalling the production of “The Sound of Music.” He spent 12 years as director and played a major role in keeping the chorus going in the early years.

C. David Kaley – Kaley became director in 1968, a role he filled for the next nine years. But his ties to the chorus began in 1962 when he joined the chorus under Art’s direction. He came to Waverly the year before to teach elementary and high school vocal music. During his 16 years at Waverly, he was instrumental in forming the select vocal group, “the Choraleers.” A resident of Florida since 1977, Kaley was employed for several years at Lockheed-Martin, where he was a co-founder of the Martin-Marietta Chorale. He continues to share his musical talents at his church.

Norman Campbell – Director from 1977-1980, Campbell graduated from Athens and Mansfield. He came home to teach vocal music at Athens in 1972 and is remembered as the founder of the “Reflections.” Campbell later served as music chairperson and director of choral music at Abington Heights School District, twice included among the country’s “Best 100 Programs for Music Education.” He continues to do solo work at churches in the Scranton area and to give private vocal lessons.

James Hillman – Hillman’s tenure as director was brief (1990-91), but his ties to the chorus go back over several decades. Singing in Valley Chorus while still in high school, he rejoined after college and came back again under Art Rae — once as an emergency sub for an ailing tenor soloist and in the role of Baron von Trapp in “The Sound of Music.” A graduate of Waverly and Mansfield, Hillman taught in Wellsboro before coming back to Waverly in 1978. For most of his years at Waverly, he has taught instrumental music and next year, expects to direct a senior band of 130 musicians — his “biggest band yet.”

Duane “Corky” Klinko – Klinko served as director of the Valley Chorus from 1986 to 1992. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from Ithaca College and taught in the Waverly Central School system for 33 years, the last 10 as vocal music teacher. He is a well known professional trumpet player, appearing with such performers as Natalie Cole, The Temptations and Robert Goulet and as a member of several local groups, including “Swing Street.” Since 1997, he has done numerous national tours as a member of the Sammy Kaye Orchestra.

John Felt – Felt is another Valley-raised musician, teacher and performer who is “just thrilled to see the chorus still going strong after all these years.” As director from 1992-1995, he was most impressed with the dedication of chorus members who were willing to work on the music and come each Monday night because they loved to sing. Felt graduated from Sayre and Mansfield, taught for 10 years in Towanda, and, since 1991, has taught in the Corning-Painted Post district. He is also Assistant Pastor at the Independent Baptist Church in Elmira.

David H. Smith Jr. – Following in the footsteps of his mentors (he credits Klinko and Hillman as the major influences in his choice of a musical career), Smith served as director from 1999-2004. A Waverly graduate, Smith served with the U.S. Army Band of Fort Knox as a vocalist and tuba player before earning degrees in music at the Crane School and Ithaca College. He is the choral and theory teacher at Corning’s West High. The Valley Chorus presented the oratorio form of his major work, “Scrooge, The Musical.” He has written a number of both vocal and instrumental works for school and church groups.

Clara Belle DeLill – Our current director started with the Valley Chorus in 1966 when she was in her last year at Waverly High School. Art Rae gave her her first solo with the group in December of that year. With the exception of four years away in Princeton, NJ for college and a few years having children she has continued with the group. She has served the group in every capacity from first being a singing member to a soloist, then accompanist in 1986 and now director starting in 2004. Along with her chorus duties she fills her time teaching private voice and piano lessons, being director and organist at the Sayre Presbyterian Church for the past 27 years and her candle business - Delightful Candle Designs.

Member List

Soprano 1



Rosannette Abrams 1986
Priscilla Ammerman 1997
Sylvia Arcesi 2001
Judy Burgess 1981
Tracey Colwell 2006
Linda Doane 2003
Sandy Edsell 1969
Elizabeth Fice 1991
Janel Golden 2005
Mary Johnston 1960
Suzanne Kaiert* 2004
Elizabeth Keator 2003
Courtney Lewis 2005
Laurie Ludwig 1993
Joan McCarty* 1985
Gwen Montz 1963
Doris Neiley 2002
Dorothy Patterson 1976
Carol Ransom 2005
Susan Robinson 1976
Mary Ropp 1980
Judie Scrivener 1989
Sandy Thurston 2003
Patricia Wanck 1981

Soprano 2

Alice Boston 1959
Phyllis Chaffee 1981
Leslie Fagan* 1992
Hilda Gardiner 1985
Karen Garman 2004
Kelly Hopkins 2006
Jennifer Kann* 2003
Judy Kleese 2005
Vanessa La Due 2004
Patti Mallas 2001
Evelyn Nichols 1978
Nancy Shenfield 1980
Rocky Thibault-Finan 2006
Joan Tippett 1970

Alto 1

Robin Benesh* 2001
Kathleen Blackman 1984
Margaret Burdick* 1970
Gloria Ciavardini 2004
Stacey Coston 1993
Pat Parsons 1982
Joan Patterson 1973
Sarah Ransom 1991

Alto 2

Rita Billings 1977
Nellie Brewster 1960
Nancy Burlingame 1999
Faye Chandler 2004
Cheryl Gorton 2004
Marcia Kesten 2005
Janet Morrow 1985
Gretchen Rentschler* 1963
Carol Robinson 1998
Peggy Tracy* 2002
Judy Tucker 2000

Tenor 1

Brandon Benesh* 2004
Scott Chaffee* 1998
Ron Clupper 2006
Darcy Dibble 1998
Dave Ludwig 1993
Justin Shaw* 2001

Tenor 2

Richard Biery 2006
Peg Durnin 1986
Charles Gorton 2003
Don Montgomery* 1961

Bass 1



Tim Bard 2002
James Biery 2006
John Borits 2004
Howard Brewster 1998
Tom Colegrove 1986
Jack Patterson 1984

Bass 2

Ron Billings 1957
Joseph Blood, Jr.* 1991
Jim Craig* 1981
Tom King 2000
Harry Patterson* 1957
Ted Pinkard 2006
Charles Stout* 2004

*Vibrant Voices Member**

Date is First Year of Membership

Directors & Dates of Service

Arthur Roe - 1/56-12/57, 12/60-12/67, 12/84-5/86, 12/98-5/99 - 12 years

William Greenwood - 5/58-5/59 - 1 year

C. David Kalby - 12/68-5/77 - 9 years

Norman Campbell - 12/77-4/80 - 3 years

James Hillman - 12/80-5/81 - 1 year

John Ellis - 12/81-5/84

Dwaine Kivick - 12/85-5/92 - 6 years

John Fell - 12/92-5/95 - 3 years

Lorraine Adams - 12/95-5/98 - 3 years

David H Smith - 12/99-5/04 - 5 years

Clara Belle DeLill - 12/04 to present



Accompanists

Dorothy Williams - 1955-1957

Genevieve Cotton - 1958-1959

Dorothy Williams - 1960-1963

Vera Ellenberger - 1964-1978

Linda Allyn - 1978-1980

Judy Dimmick Fells - 1980-1982

Joan Eike - 1982-1984

Larry Hoey - 1985

Clara Belle DeLill - 1986-2004

Larry Hoey - 2004-



Additional Piano/Organ Players

Katherine Allen - 1956-1963

Aida Pitterson - 1962

Stephen Crout - 1963-1965

Beverly Quick - 1966

Betty Dimmick - 1967

Alvera Owen Lattari - 1968

Judy Dimmick Fells - 1969-1974

Gary Tucker - 1984-1985

