



## The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington

"Every Voice Matters... in a World That Listens"

Our 26th Season

# The Rag

June 8, 2010

June: Altos in charge of set-up & providing water

Our Season Sponsor: Brother Help Thyself

### WE HONOR:

▪ our legacy as a proud & outstanding non-auditioned musical & educational chorus  
▪ effective consensus-based decision-making  
▪ community  
▪ our financially healthy, not-for-profit arts organization  
▪ our LGBT identities  
▪ artistic integrity  
▪ gender cooperation & gender equality  
▪ having fun  
▪ diversity  
▪ our commitment to developing talent  
▪ the LGBT choral movement

### TONIGHT...

Tue. 6/8, at CHAW (7:15-9:15 PM)  
• 7:00-7:15 – Set-up by Altos  
• 7:15-7:25 - Stretching, breathing exercises, vocal warm-ups  
• 7:25-8:45 – run-through of all music in program order, with soloists as needed  
• 8:45-9:00 – "The Arrow and the Song," with Nan Raphael (flutist)  
• 9:00-9:15 – touch-ups  
• 9:15 – all assist with clean-up

### NEXT REHEARSALS...

Tue. 6/15, at CHAW (7:15-9:15 PM)  
• 7:00-7:15 – Set-up by Altos  
• 7:15-7:25 - Stretching, breathing exercises, vocal warm-ups  
• 7:25-8:15 – run-through of all music in program order, with soloists as needed  
• 8:15-8:45 – review of ASL with Miako  
• 8:45-9:15 – continuation of run-through  
• 9:15 – all assist with clean-up

**Also:** Rehearsal next Wed. 6/16, 7:15-9:15 PM, at CHPC

### NEWS...

#### Welcome Back, Nan!

Tonight we welcome Nan Raphael, who will be performing flute with us on "The Arrow and the Song." Nan was the piccoloist with the US Army Field Band for 26 years, retiring in 2003. Nan sang with the LGCW a few seasons ago. Welcome back!

#### From the Mail Bag

From Steven Cupo at TICKETPLACE: "I just received the email ... regarding your organization. I just wanted to reiterate how sorry we are see you go. You have been a wonderful client. In addition, your chorus has been a great feature of the gay, lesbian and artistic community of Washington, DC. We, at TICKETPLACE and the Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington, send you good wishes in all your future endeavors."

From Ray Killian, former LGCW Music Director:

Dear People:

It was with sadness and a sense of understanding that I received the news about the LGCW closing shop after many years of making music and affecting change in our country's sexual politics. Allow me to share with you some thoughts using our first significant work together, Gian Carlo Menotti's *Unicorn, Gorgon and the Manticore* (which represent the 3 stages of an artist's life; and in this case, the artist was Menotti's partner, Samuel Barber).

"The Unicorn" – Our first year together was so exciting. I can still picture the audition....and the first rehearsal (in the basement with the roof near my head...LOL). We were about recruitment, visioning, going on retreat to Smith Mountain Lake, getting our ensemble sound (which came to be a nice trademark) and thinking about how to meaningfully serve the community around us. We had exciting rehearsals, successful concerts and run-outs (do you remember Hagerstown, the DOJ and DOS, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival and other "firsts?"). We really reached out...and continued to reach for understanding with others right up until our final run-out to Paul's church in Salem, OH. What a privilege to be a part of that history. And how wonderful that Paul's association with the LGCW began so early and continued.

"The Gorgon" – As we matured together, so did our repertoire and our venues. We put out *LGCW Live!* at the [GALA Choruses] Leadership Conference which we hosted. The collaborations with UNISON, DCDD, and others led to friendships, understanding and opportunities to band together to bring 'our' music to a world that needed it. One of the most wonderful selections was Robert Convery's *Songs of Children*. I think that was my favorite program, not only because it introduced you to this brilliant and kind man and his incredible music, but we took this to the GALA Choruses Festival in 2000, and made quite an artistic statement (in a hockey arena...if I recall correctly). The run-out to the art museum in San Jose was a blast, with Sound Circle following us. What fun! What music we made!

"The Manticore" – In our maturity, we make tougher decisions. The state of our economy, shattered for many reasons, has left a wake of tragedies in the arts community. The loss of your voice is part of that tragedy. I believe honest Abe once said that war was too important to leave to the generals--and a certain rationale for having a civilian commander-in-chief. Not for tactics and techniques, but for its proprietaries and purposes. To borrow a metaphor, "The arts, like sex, are too important to leave in the hands of professionals." Now we have worked with many professionals who are *amateurs*. They truly love what they do. But you came because of your love for singing together and trying to make a difference. Well, you **did make a difference!** We are not close to achieving full and equal pay for women, our service members continue to serve unequally, and there are a HOST of environmental injustices to add to the human ones...but we are CLOSER than ever. The LGCW can look back with pride that, perhaps, because we used our voices, the world listened. While not everyone heard the same thing at one time, I believe that we touched the innermost, unsharable and personal of places, and therefore touched all.

Continue to sing. Add your voice to a group that needs and wants you. Be proud of who you are. If you are not singing, then support a choral group in another way. Best wishes to all!

Editor's Note: Ray now lives in Colorado Springs, and invites your e-mails at [COMUSICBEAR@COMCAST.NET](mailto:COMUSICBEAR@COMCAST.NET).

## Thank You...

- ...to Barbara and friend-of-the-chorus Dean Reichard for allowing us to borrow their sound equipment for possible use at Hillwood and/or our June 20 concert. (We will be trying it out at tonight's rehearsal.)
- ...to Eric for volunteering to coordinate our post-concert reception. (Eric will announce our individual "to bring" items.)
- ...to Jane for donating the cost of Suede's housing for 3 nights.
- ...to Jeff D. for copying and mailing music to our ASL interpreter.
- ...to Jeff S. for keeping us in tune with our concert budget.
- ...to Jill for arranging the piano tuning at CHPC for our concert.
- ...to Paul for compiling program content for our Hillwood and June 20 programs.
- ...to Rick for creating and sending out the PatronMail e-blast about our final concert.

## Last Call: Bio and Questionnaire Responses

Paul is completing program content for submission to our formatter on Thursday June 10. He would love to include bios and questionnaire responses from all current choristers. He is still in need of the following:

- David – both needed
- Doris – both needed
- Kathryn – both needed
- Mary Beth – both needed
- Ron – questionnaire submitted (need bio)

If you need a reminder of the questionnaire questions, please see the 4/27 *Rag*. If you need a reminder of the bio blurb, please see the 5/25 *Rag*. Both are available online in the Members section.

## Remember: Wednesday Rehearsal Next Week

In addition to our regular Tuesday rehearsal next week (June 15), we will also have rehearsal on Wednesday, June 16 (7:15-9:15 PM) at Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church (CHPC). Please plan to attend.

## Sell Tickets!

Remember that we do not have physical tickets to sell for this concert; rather, we will have all "tickets" at the Will Call table on the day of the concert. This will save us a considerable amount of money; however, it's more important than ever to promote the concert and remind people to attend! Tickets may be reserved by calling the Chorus Hotline (202-546-1549) or via the LGCW web site. We have a GREAT concert to offer – let's fill every seat!

## Annual Meeting: Tuesday, June 22

Please plan to attend our final annual meeting on Tuesday, June 22 (tentatively scheduled for 7:15 PM at CHAW). We will coordinate a covered dish dinner for this meeting. Later in the summer, we will need to convene another meeting to determine what to do with our library and piano.

## SPRING CALENDAR...

### June (Altos)

Tue	8	Rehearsal, including rehearsal with Nan (flutist for "The Arrow and the Song")
Sat	12	<b>Performance</b> at Hillwood Museum & Gardens (2:30 PM; call time at 12:15 PM – go to Administrative Conference Room) <i>Capital Pride Parade (step-off at 6:30 PM)</i> * Note: LGCW is not performing at the Street Festival this year.
Tue	15	Rehearsal, including ASL work (8:15-8:45)
Wed	16	Rehearsal at CHPC
Sat	19	Dress Rehearsal at CHPC (10:00 AM-2:00 PM; call time for set-up at 9:15 AM)
Sun	20	<b>Performance</b> at CHPC (4:00 PM; call time for set-up at 1:30 PM; warm-up at 2:30 PM; warm-up will include ASL brush-up with Janne)
Tue	22	<i>Annual Meeting</i>

**Special Offer:** Ed Wood, a long-time LGCW supporter, member of the LGCW-affiliated ensemble Not What You Think, and DC Realtor will donate 5% of his sales commission to the LGCW for referrals he receives from a member of the chorus family that result in a sale. This offer applies to both sellers and purchasers. If both seller and purchaser in the same transaction are referrals, he will double the contribution, making it 10%. Ed at City Houses: (202) 232-4167.

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### The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington, DC (LGCW)

\*\*\* CFC # 30249 \*\*\*

P.O. Box 65285 / Washington, DC 20035

Chorus Hotline: (202) 546-1549 - call ANYTIME to leave a message

[www.lgcw.org](http://www.lgcw.org)

*The Rag* is usually pub'd for every Tue. rehearsal during the LGCW's concert season. Submissions for *The Rag* are welcome and should be received via e-mail no later than 8:00 PM on Sunday. Send submissions to Paul at [music.director@lgcw.org](mailto:music.director@lgcw.org). *The Rag* is also available online at [www.lgcw.org](http://www.lgcw.org)