



NHGMCM Winter Notes

Winter 2007

News and Information from
The New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus

Ten Years of Chorus Pride

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Sing We Joyously Concert Dates

* PLYMOUTH

Saturday, Dec. 1, 7:30pm
Plymouth Congregational Church

* NASHUA

Sunday, Dec. 2, 4:00pm
**** NEW VENUE ****
Collings Auditorium
Daniel Webster College

* PORTSMOUTH

Saturday, Dec. 8, 7:30pm
Christ Episcopal Church

* MANCHESTER

Sunday, Dec. 9, 4:00pm
Derryfield School

More details inside or
online at:

WWW.NHGMCM.COM

Ten years! I still react with wonder and amazement when I think of The New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus being together for ten years. It's not because I don't believe that it has been so many years since we first started giving concerts or that we are still around a decade later. Rather, it is all about pride we still have a decade later.

Back in December of 1998 when less than twenty of us performed our first concert in front of a small group of family and friends it was all about pride. Fast-forward to December 2006 when we sang to nearly one thousand between our four concerts it was about pride. This year it continues to be with pride that we present our holiday concert *Sing We Joyously*. Each member has pride in who we are, what we do, and how we do it. As a group, we have

pride in our sound, our presentation, and the music we choose.

Since this year we celebrate a milestone of our tenth year together it only seems fitting that this concert be special and reflective. Usually I create the program of music by selecting and deciding which pieces of music the chorus perform. This year the members of NHGMCM have selected the songs they'll sing from our past nine years of holiday concerts. Each member had the opportunity to vote on his favorites from each year. I tallied the votes and the results will be the music you will hear this December.

We are proud to present some of our favorites such as: *Go Tell it on the Mountain* and *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year* to *Mary Did You Know?* and *The Hallelujah Chorus*.



Buy tickets online at:
WWW.NHGMCM.COM
(mittens not required)

This concert is bursting with great music that is sure to leave you humming or singing a tune or two. Yet, this concert is not just a celebration of The Chorus, for the greatest pride we have is performing for you.

We look forward to singing for you in December. Until then, have a wonderful autumn.

Luc Andre Roberge
Director NHGMCM

Scholarship Update

For each of the past three years, the Chorus has awarded a \$500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior in the state of New Hampshire who is seeking to further her or

his education in college as a full time student in the Performing Arts, which include all Music, Theater, and Voice majors. The scholarships are funded by a percentage of our concert

ticket sales. We strongly believe in making a contribution to the future of the arts in New Hampshire by supporting students interested in becoming future performers. (continued p.2)

Scholarship Update

(continued from front page) This year, we are making a concentrated effort to reach out to a larger field of potential applicants by personally contacting high schools throughout the state. We are now accepting applications for our fourth annual scholarship which will be awarded in the spring. Inter-

ested parties can obtain further information, including application forms, by contacting the chorus by email at: info@nhgmc.com or from our website at www.nhgmc.com. The deadline for applications is April 20, 2008.

We are hoping that as our member-

ship and audiences increase, our scholarship program can expand as well. Your continued support will help make that possible.



Attention: Quilt Winners

(and everyone interested in the future of the NHGMC)



As most of you probably know, the New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus (NHGMC) has a tradition of raffling quilts at all of our concerts. Currently, this is our one and only fundraising event. The raffles have been very successful, and we've been able to offset some of the costs of our performances.

But, we're ready to take the chorus to the next level. That next level includes new initiatives like performing at better venues with more comfortable seating and better parking, a more exciting/colorful program, and

more advertising and community involvement to increase the chorus' visibility. All those things cost money. So, keep on the lookout in your mailbox for news about our upcoming fundraising events. We are now in the planning processes for those events, including a tenth anniversary CD, a possible NHGMC cookbook,

or maybe a social evening with the guys in the chorus for a fun, informal evening of entertainment.

But back to those quilts for a minute.

**Quilt winners can get
FREE ADMISSION!
Read this story for further details.**

The Board of Directors wishes to thank all the people who have volunteered their time over the past ten years to make and donate the quilts to

the NHGMC. But, when we raffle off those quilts, we never know what happens to them. Maybe you quilt winners have hung it on your wall or maybe you snuggle under it at night. Whatever the case may be, we'd love for you to take a picture of you and the quilt so that we can share your pictures with others through our website or just give the pictures to the guys who made the quilts to show them how their hard work has given others joy. So, if you have won a quilt in the past, please consider taking a picture of you with your quilt and either email it or mail it to the NHGMC. (Picture creativity is encouraged).

Also, if you plan on attending one of our winter concerts, please let us know in advance if you want to bring your quilt that you have won in the past to this performance and we'll make arrangements to display it during intermission. In return, you'll get one FREE admission to that performance. If you'd like to bring your quilt to the concert please contact us by email at board@nhgmc.com or call us at 866-644-6274.

Chris Cockshaw
President, Board of Directors

New and Returning Members

This season, we welcome two new members to our chorus; Rob Recio and Jonathan Britton. We also welcome back returning members Sam Sanzone and Santos Torres.

Rob Recio is a new Tenor II. Rob is 52 and is dating. "Who is he dating," you might ask? He's dating the lovely and talented Chuck Hill, who is one of our baritones and also one of the original members of the NHGMC. Rob is originally from Danbury, Connecticut, but recently moved to Campton, New Hampshire. Rob lists his occupation as "finance" and his favorite activities are reading and doing home repairs on his new home.

When asked why he joined the chorus, he says "to sing *Winter Solstice Moon*." I'm not quite sure if he is joking with this answer, but when you hear the song at our concert, you can be the judge. Rob's favorite movie is *It's a Wonderful Life* and the CD in his stereo is Barbra Streisand's *Broadway Album*. Yes, Rob's just



From left to right: Santos Torres, Jonathan Britton, Sam Sanzone, and Rob Recio.

breaking down those gay stereotypes (but it is a great album, though).

Rob's favorite book is *Stranger in a Strange Land* by Robert A. Heinlein and his favorite quote is also by Heinlein: "Love is that condition in which someone else's happiness is essential to your own."

Jonathan Britton is a new bass, and he seems to be enjoying the season so far. He's 53 and single, and lives in Pembroke, New Hampshire. He was a

self-proclaimed "air force brat" and was originally from San Rafael, California. He enjoys motorcycling and traveling and his favorite quote is "That's nice."

When asked why he joined the chorus, he says that he was coerced by Rick Carlin. And we thank Rick for such excellent coercion! The CD in Jonathan's car right now is by Fleetwood Mac and he thinks that the sexiest man alive is Sean Connery. I think we can all agree that when it comes to Sean Connery: That's nice!

Santos returns this season after taking a leave of absence to take some college courses that met on the same evening as our rehearsals. And Sam returns to us after pursuing some personal and professional goals that conflicted with our rehearsal schedule. Both Sam and Santos achieved great things during their hiatus from the chorus, and we welcome them back to our chorus family.

Update Your Contact Details

We are in the process of transitioning from paper newsletters sent via the U. S. Postal Service (like this one) to an e-mail based "e-newsletter." It is more cost effective for our budget and, in the process, we are saving trees.

We need your help to keep you in the loop about chorus happenings. Please take a moment to review your address information on the back page of this newsletter. If your email address is on

file with the us, it will be under your name.

If your name, address, or e-mail details are missing, incorrect, or incomplete, we would like to get them updated. Send us a quick e-mail at info@nhgmc.com with your old and new information. Alternatively, you may call us toll-free and leave a voice mail with the same details. Our toll-free number is 866-644-6274.



Purchase Tickets



Tickets for our Tenth Anniversary Concert Series *Sing We Joyously* are now available. Prices remain at \$17 for adults and \$15 for children (under age 13) and seniors (ages 65 and older). We encourage you to purchase tickets via our website at www.nhgmc.com. It's easy and secure. You may also purchase tickets by calling us toll-free at 866-644-6274, or by contacting a chorus member.



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A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization



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Visit us online at:

WWW.NHGMCCOM

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**NEW
VENUE!**