



October Inspirational Concert Will Raise Money For Programs

Last year it was the talent show. This year we'll present a concert of inspirational music on Sunday, Oct. 24 to raise funds for the Chancel Choir.

Titled "You Raise Me Up: Songs of Hope and Inspiration" the concert will be the choir's only fund raiser for the year.

"We're going for familiar music that everyone will identify with," says Kevin McBeth, choir director. Selections will include: "You'll Never Walk Alone",

"Climb Every Mountain", "The Impossible Dream", "Do You Hear The People Sing" and "You Raise Me Up".

There will be an orchestra as well as inspirational readings and multimedia. As with past fund raising concerts, choir members will be expected to sell tickets and help with the production.

Money raised from the concert will be used to cover costs of the choir's youth scholarship program, outreach activities and general choir expenses.

Last year, choir officers approved an annual fund raising plan that calls for alternating a talent show with a major concert each fall.



Soprano Christina Vogel, on the left in this photo, rescued this damsel in distress from a truck stop in Effingham, Ill., on the way home from Indianapolis. A gift for her daughter, Grace, no doubt.

82 Sign Up For Great Britain Tour

With less than 10 months to go before the Chancel Choir departs for a tour of Great Britain, a total of 82 singers, spouses, friends and groupies is signed up to make the journey.

"Our goal is to have 100 on the trip," Kevin says. If you've been thinking about making the trip, there's still time to sign up.

The first payment will probably be

due in late October, although the exact deadline and amount due have not been received from the tour company.

Once a total number of singers has been determined, the venue where the choir will sing will be selected. Although the locations will depend on the final number of singers, Kevin has requested: Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral in London; Coventry Cathedral in route to Scotland St. Giles Cathedral and St. Cuthbert's Church in Edinburgh.

Continued on Page 2



The impending invasion of Great Britain by the Chancel Choir has this would-be Visigoth looking concerned. He's actually Baritone Jim Belval portraying Goliath in the Music Maker's spring musical.

Choir Scholar Headed To Truman State

After a summer mission trip to the Amazon River basin in Brazil, Courtney Schaefer, recipient of the 2004 Chancel Choir youth scholarship, is headed to the less exotic

First Rehearsal Is Aug. 26

Ready to sing again? Better be. The first rehearsal of the 2004-2005 season is Thursday, Aug. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

The choir will begin singing for Sunday worship on Aug. 29. On our first Sunday back we'll sing for both the 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services.

environment of Truman State University this fall.

Courtney plans to major in theater and education in a five-year program leading to a masters degree. She has been active in church and was a member of Manchester Chorale, Joyful Noise and youth groups.

A graduate of Parkway South High School, she is the daughter of Angela and Jeff Schaefer.

Each year the Chancel Choir awards a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who has been active in the church's youth and music programs.

Applications are accepted in the spring and a selection committee headed by the choir's vice president interviews candidates and makes a final selection. A total of six applications were reviewed this year.



Courtney Schaefer, daughter of Angela and Jeff Schaefer, received the 2004 Chancel Choir's \$2,000 scholarship.

Chancel Times

August 2004

Chancel Choir Officers ~ 2004-2005

Jim DescherPresident
Mary DeanVice-President
Ann GarberSecretary
Janie WalkerAsst. Secretary
John LemenTreasurer
Jacque RocchioAsst. Treasurer
Barb Barrett, David Givens,
Lois Hendrickson, Chris Kennedy
.....Member Representatives
Maurice ParisienPast President

Operations Staff

Jo Ann Jones, Carol Shaffer,Hospitality
Rose CarlislePhone Tree
To Be DeterminedFellowship Friends
Sandy FordSocial Events
Jim BelvalOperations
Fran McMillianRecognition
Melissa LarsenWardrobe
June Van KlaverenPublicity
Harriet Kettenhofen, Rose Carlisle,
Janie Walker, Carolyn Andrews,
Jo Ann JonesLibrarians

Section Managers

To Be DeterminedSoprano
To Be DeterminedAlto
To Be DeterminedTenor
To Be DeterminedBass

Kevin McBethDirector of Music Ministries
W. Theodore CronbaughAccompanist

Chancel Times Editor/Webmaster Gary Ford

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82 Sign Up For Great Britain Tour; Concert Sites Are Still Being Planned

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The Chancel Choir will depart for Great Britain on Sunday, June 5, 2005 and return on Tuesday, June 14, 2005.

The tour includes eight nights and 10 days as follows:

- 2 days of travel
- 4 days in London
- 1 day in Stratford-Upon-Avon
- 3 days in Edinburgh

Cost of the tour will be \$2,500 to \$2,600 per person and will include

airline transportation, lodging, two meals a day, guided excursions, feeds and other incidentals. Check the tour information for details.

Although the 82 people already committed to the trip have each paid a \$100 deposit, others wishing to join the tour may still sign up.

Music Celebrations International (MCI) is managing the tour. The company handles travel for the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and other large singing groups.

Fall Kickoff Party Set for August 21

The Chancel Choir's annual Kickoff party is set for 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 21 at the home of Sandy Wilmoth, 710 Chancellor Heights Dr. in Manchester. Invite a new member or a former singer to return. The party will be potluck. Sandy's home is easy to find. From the corner of Manchester and Henry roads, go north on Henry until you reach Chancellor Heights Drive (the seventh street to the right at the end of a long wooden fence), turn right (east) and follow the street around to the left. If you get lost, call 636-227-3144 and we'll talk you in.

Attorney Ascends To Throne As Queen of Chancel Choir

With a stern admonition to “do nothing” and a court order to back it up, Joanne Descher was installed as Queen of the Chancel Choir during ceremonies at the end of year party June 19.

The coronation ceremony narrowly averted cancellation when a member of the audience questioned Descher’s suitability to be Queen because of her profession. She is an attorney.

After a brief moment of reflection, the Chief Justice reluctantly ruled that Descher could be enthroned with a special oath and other remedies. Although the candidate was hesitant to swear that she was the “trailing spouse” of the choir’s president, the ceremony proceeded without interruption.

Descher succeeds Queen Joy Parisien who was thanked for her year on the throne before being defrocked and returned to the crowd as a commoner.

The annual Coronation is conducted by the Royal Court of Chanceldom with the Chief Justice presiding. He was accompanied this year by four agents of the Royal Music Police who provided security and acted as bailiffs for the proceeding. The Royal Herald and a court percussionist provided ceremonial music.



Chancel Choir Queen Joanne Descher is vested with the regalia of her monarchy by Chris Kennedy, agent of the Royal Music Police, as Royal Herald Mike Latimer stands watch. The annual Coronation ceremony is held each year at the Chancel Choir’s end-of-year party at Hall’s Manse-Up-on-Ballas.

Choir Treasury Set To Manage Trip Funds, Expenses

A quick glance at the treasurer’s report below might lead you to believe the Chancel Choir is loaded with cash and this will be an easy year. Of course, you’d be wrong.

Choir Treasurer John Lemen is careful to point out that the healthy balances listed in the treasurer’s report actually reflect money either collected in advance for the Great

Britain trip, collected for the Indy trip but not yet paid out, or money earmarked for the scholarship we awarded this spring.

The choir’s actual treasury balance if you subtract all of those committed funds listed above is \$9,247.87.

That means we will need plenty of help with the fall fundraising concert, our one and only fund raiser for the year.

John, along with assistant treasurer Jacque Rocchio, will be responsible for collecting and accounting for all Great Britain money, as well as managing funds for the Fall Choir Retreat next month, and collections for any event along the way such as the holiday party.

A monthly treasurer’s report is provided to the Chancel Choir officers and is available to any member of the choir.

Treasurer’s Activity Report

	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Prior Treasury Balance (6/10)			\$13,523.18
Revenue			
England Trip Funds from members		1,000.00	
Indianapolis Trip Funds from members .		11,326.00	
Choir Expenses			
Flowers	71.19		
Plaque for Scholarship	44.00		
Current Treasury Balance (7/7)			\$25,733.99

Choir Fund Balances

	<u>Balances 6/10/04</u>	<u>Balances 7/7/04</u>
Choir Fundraising	9,363.06	9,291.87
Choir Activity	0.00	(44.00)
Fall Follies	(2,539.88)	8,786.12
Fall Retreat	6,700.00	7,700.00
Total All Funds	\$13,523.18	\$25,733.18



About 60 Chancel Choir members and guests watched the River City Rascals play the Gateway Grizzlies at the T.R. Hughes ballpark in O'Fallon, Mo., on May 15. The group enjoyed a picnic at the ballpark before the game and was greeted by Rascal Dog.

Fall Choir Retreat Returns to Dittmer For Last Time

This year's fall Chancel Choir retreat will return to the Revive Us Again Conference Center in Dittmer, Mo., on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 24 and 25.

The retreat, normally on the first or second weekend in October, is being held earlier this year at the request of the church's historical committee to avoid conflicts with the Chapel Anniversary weekend in

October.

This will be the final year for the Revive Us Again center in Dittmer. Next year, the retreat will return to the Mercy Center in Frontenac where previous retreats have been held. Schedule conflicts at Mercy Center forced the choir to find an alternative location two years ago.

The Chancel Choir literally opened the newly constructed Dittmer Center in 2002 when it was the first group to use the facility.

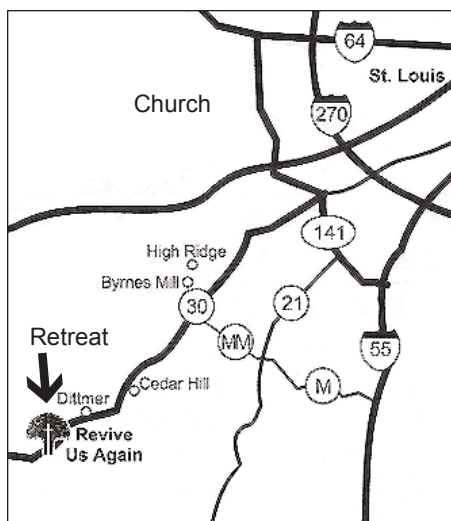
Format for this year's retreat will be similar to last year, according to Kevin. "It will be the official start to the holiday music rehearsals," he said. "We'll have singing, fun and games as usual."

Rehearsals will begin after dinner on Friday evening. Entertainment and movies will follow later Friday. A full day of rehearsals and recreation is planned for Saturday. The retreat will conclude after dinner on Saturday night.

The Revive Us Again Conference Center is located on Highway 30 (Gravois Road) near the town of Dittmer. Distance to the center from our church is 29 miles. The driving time from the church is approximately 45 minutes.

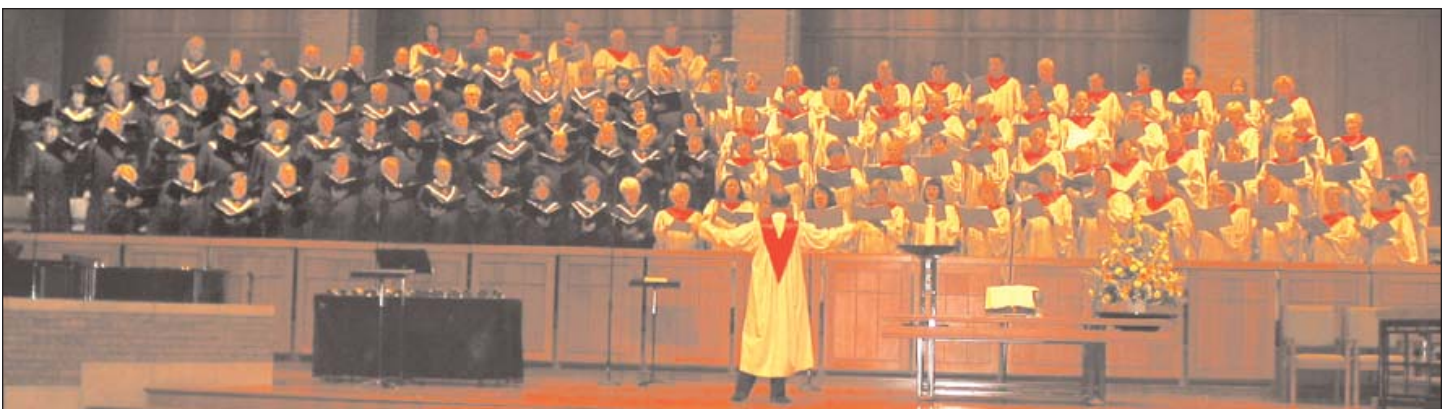
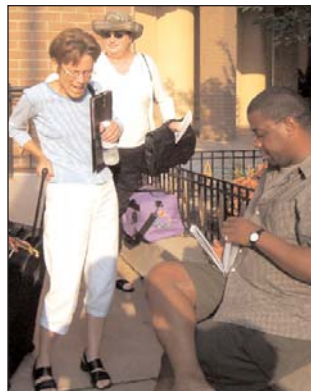
You can take Highway 141 (or I-270 if you like traffic) to Highway 30 (Gravois) and head southwest. A map is shown above.

Retreat details, such as cost, schedule and registration deadlines, will be announced at the first choir rehearsal on Thursday, Aug. 26.



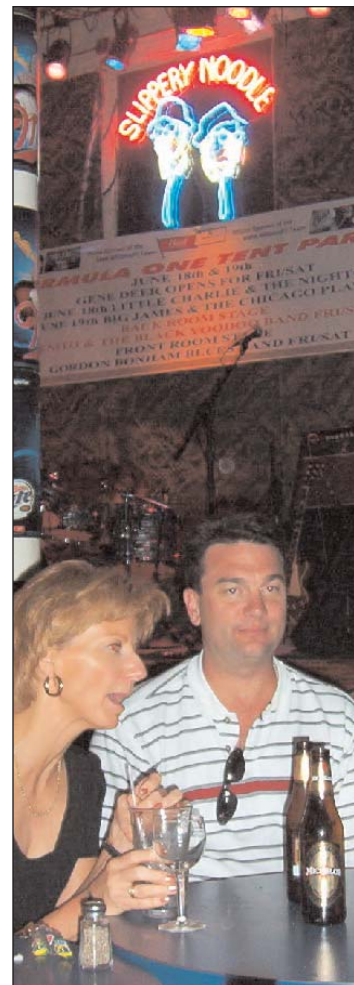


Indianapolis Is More Than Race Cars

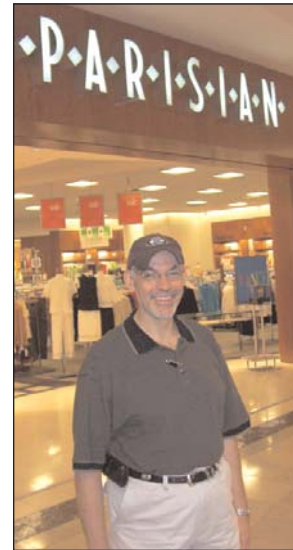
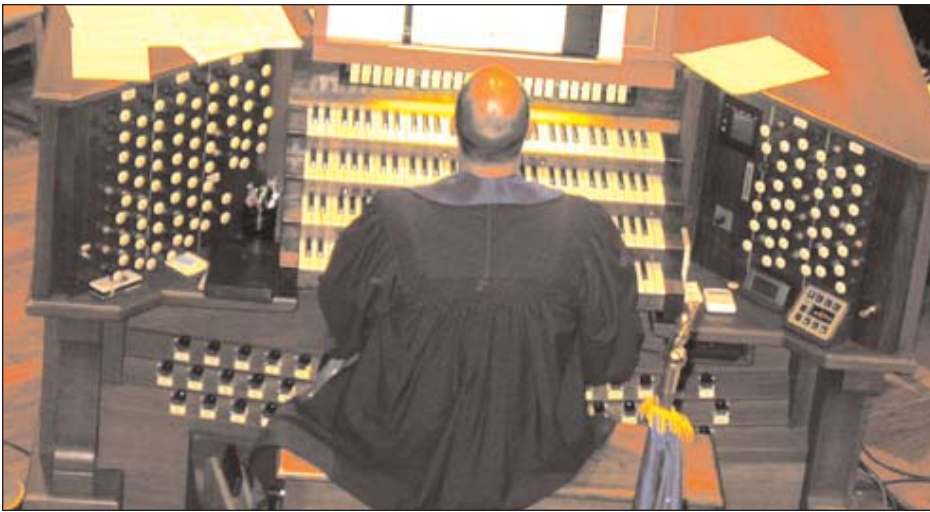


It's Churches and Cafes

The choir's biannual tour took it to Indianapolis this year with stops at two churches and several restaurants. Memories include a 90-degree sanctuary, a friendly Indy choir, those #@&!% robe boxes, and the shopping.



Tour photos by JoAnn Jones, Lori Holcomb and Gary Ford





Gourmet Dinners Raise Funds For Youth



Tenderloin, mint chocolate cheese cake and broadway show tunes were served up in grand style for guests of Jim and Joanne Descher, purchasers of one of the choir's two dinners offered in last year's Youth Auction. Guest were greeted by tuxedo clad waiters with wine glasses in hand, and served appetizers from silver trays. Following the multi-course dinner, a volunteer ensemble sang show tunes for the happy diners. The meal was served in the home of Jim and Sue Belval. A second gourmet meal purchased by Rose and Dean Carlisle was prepared and served in November. Don't put your chef's hat away yet, the choir donated two similar meals that were sold at the Youth Auction this spring and will be served in the coming months.



Busy Year of Growth and Outreach Greets Newly Installed Officers

Several items are already on Chancel Choir president Jim Descher's list of things to accomplish this year. The new president, along with other elected choir officers, were officially installed June 19 at the choir's end-of-season party.



Descher

"This is going to be a great year. We're doing special concerts. We're going to Great Britain. We'll be busy," Descher says.

His list of things to do includes assisting Kevin with planning for the Great Britain trip, directing the choir's annual fund raising concert in October, revising the choir's election policy to avoid last minute surprise nominations, and work to address the choir's growing pains, Descher says.

In addition to Descher, other elected officers are:

Vice president/president-elect, Mary Dean; secretary, Ann Garber; assistant secretary, Janie Walker;

treasurer, John Lemen; assistant treasurer, Jacque Rocchio; member representatives, Barbara Barrett, David Givens, Lois Hendrickson and Chris Kennedy; and past president, Maurice Parisien.

Operations staff for the year will include:

Hospitality – JoAnn Jones and Carol Shaffer

Phone Tree – Rose Carlisle

Fellowship Friends – To Be Determined.

Social Events – Sandy Ford

Operations – Jim Belval

Recognition – Fran McMillian

Wardrobe – Melissa Larsen

Publicity – June Van Klaveren

Librarians – Harriet Kettenhofen, Rose Carlisle, Janie Walker, Carolyn Andrews and JoAnn Jones

Section Managers – To Be Determined

Newsletter Editor – Gary Ford

Webmaster – Gary Ford

Chancel Choir director Kevin McBeth will recruit section managers this fall. The managers followup on absent members, help with signups and collections as needed.

Chancel President

By Jim Descher

I hope everyone is getting excited at the prospect of our regular choir sessions starting soon. Kevin will dust off the baton. Everyone will smile at the conclusion of the first song. Even with a few rough spots, it's going to sound great!

I have a few thoughts I would like to share with you. As our choir continues to grow, it is important for us to keep in mind the little things that give us that "small group" feel. Little things, like wearing our nametags at every practice and introducing ourselves to every new face go a long way.

Perhaps most important of all is to attend practice and sing at every Sunday service possible. While we could never expect to have 100 percent attendance every week, it is imperative that we strive for that.

Our numbers seem to swell right before our big concerts and it's great that we have a large number of singers for the Christmas and guest-conductor shows. But we affect a far greater number of people every Sunday than we ever do during a single concert performance.

I know a guy who joined MUMC years ago in large part because of the Chancel Choir. Every Sunday he went to church to hear, and be inspired by, the beautiful music. Ten years later that guy writes this column.

Showing up every Sunday might seem trivial; maybe not as important in light of the number of members we now possess.

Just keep my story in mind and remember that it is the most important thing we can do. See you at rehearsal.



Dean



Garber



Walker



Lemen



Rocchio



Barrett



Givens



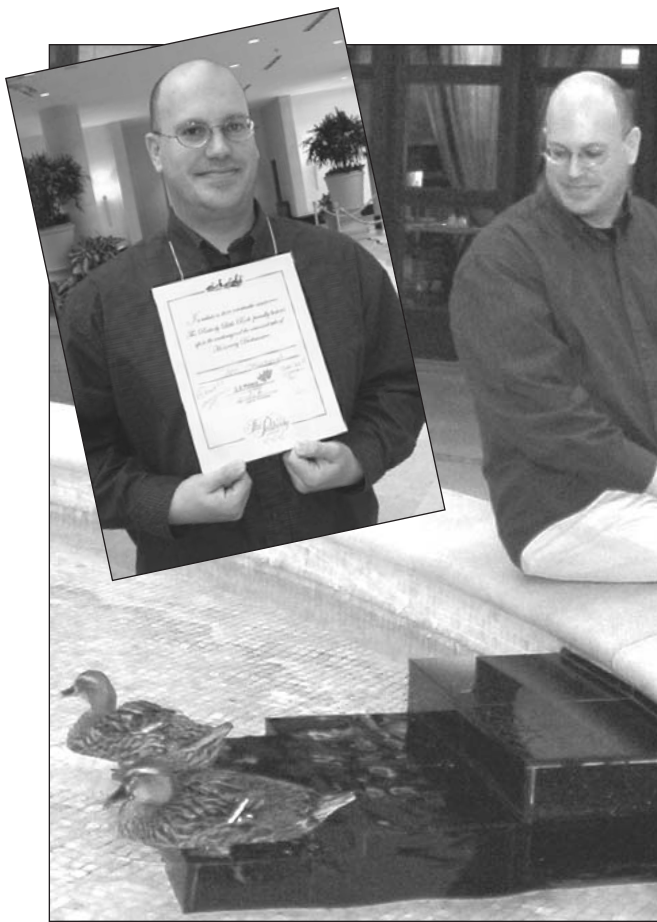
Hendrickson



Kennedy



Parisien



In addition to his keyboard skills, music associate Ted Cronbaugh is now a certified Duck Master. He was chosen to lead the ducks in the Peabody Hotel lobby during a Coventry Choir tour to Little Rock this spring. Photos of the procession are available on the choir's Web site.

Music Commissioned For Memorial Concert

Two noted composers are at work writing commissioned pieces to be debuted at the Memorial Concert on April 3. Mark Hayes is doing a new arrangement of "I Want Jesus To Walk With Me" and Robert Ray is doing a gospel piece based on Trust In The Lord, Proverbs 3, Kevin's mother's favorite scripture. The concert will honor Kevin's mother's memory as well as others. Planning for the concert is still underway. More details later.

Choir Will Sing Only at 10:30 a.m. Services

This year the Chancel Choir will return to its original schedule of singing only at the 10:30 a.m. service each Sunday. Kevin says this year will be a time of growth as we look at expanding the choir's responsibilities in 2006.

Holiday Party Is Set For Saturday, Jan. 8

The Chancel Choir will return to Spazio's in Westport for another holiday party on Saturday, Jan. 8. Last year's change of date, style and location was so popular, choir officers immediately authorized a return visit.

Chancel Calendar

Saturday, Aug. 21, 5:30 p.m. ~ Annual Back-to-Choir Party at Sandy Wilmoth's home

Thursday, Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m. ~ First rehearsal of season
Sunday, Aug. 29, 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. ~ Choir sings for worship

Friday/Saturday, Sept. 24 & 25 ~ Choir Retreat

Sunday, Oct. 17 ~ Music Ministry Dedication Sunday.

Sunday, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m. ~ Choir Fundraising Concert: You Raise Me Up! Songs of inspiration and hope.

Sunday, Dec. 12 or 19, 7:30 p.m. ~ Keyboards and Carols, holiday concert with Manchester Choral

Saturday, Jan. 8 ~ Holiday Party at Spazio's

Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 16-19 ~ Holiday concert with St. Louis Symphony (tentative).

Sunday, March 27 ~ Easter

Sunday, April 3, 7:30 p.m. ~ Music For Madie. A memorial concert honoring memory of friends and family connected with the Music Ministry, featuring Chancel Choir, One Voice and Coventry Choir. Debut of commissions by Robert Ray and Mark Hayes.

Sunday, May 22, 7:30 p.m. ~ Sing Me To Heaven! Preview concert for the Great Britain tour.

Sunday-Tuesday, June 5-14 ~ Tour of Great Britain.



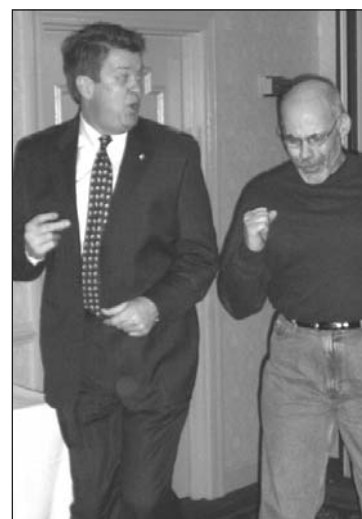
Summer Thursday night dinners have been popular this year. As many as 40 singers and guests have dined at a variety of restaurants. Here, the Chancel Choir fills the deck at Keith's American Bistro in Chesterfield on Aug. 5.



Santa Didn't Make It This Year



Breaking with tradition, this year's Chancel Choir holiday party had classy dining, dancing, no white elephant gifts and no Santa Claus. A record number of choir members, spouses and friends gathered at Spazio's in Westport on Jan. 10 to make merry and shake those happy feet.



Notes Chancel

HEADS UP. Move over PGA guys, Baritone **Larry Woolweaver** is ready for the tour. That was him making the hole-in-one on the 17th hole at Paradise Valley on July 24. It was 176 yards of perfection.

DOCTOR PLEASE. It was nurse and house guest for Soprano **JoAnne Jones** when Suyapita Macias and her mother from Central America spent several weeks in St. Louis for corrective orthopedic surgery. Soprano



Tenor Chris Kennedy changed careers for a couple of days in February at the Chicago Cubs Fantasy Camp in Florida.

Nancy Kibens served as a translator.

FLASH-LIGHTS ANY-ONE? Many choir members sat in the dark for up to three days when a summer storm knocked out the power in July. For some it meant a night with KMOX, for others it was a trip to a friend's house. "I'm buying batteries before the next storm," one alto said defiantly.

ROYAL

SPYS. Recent intel indicates a royal sighting when Chancel Choir Queen **Joanne Descher** was spotted on a beach in Cancun, Mexico, in early July. Although compromising photographs have been obtained, no choir business was conducted.

HE DOES WHAT? Newcomers look out, the choir is filled with interesting people. For instance can you identify members with these professions: Which member once worked as

a repro man lifting cars from dead-beats? Who spends her days calculating when we all will die? Who comforts patients in a GI Lab before and after colonoscopies? (Answers below)

MEOOW MONSIEUR?. In a journey worthy of nine lives, Soprano **Mary Dean** scoured the four corners of Europe in July for the perfect continental cat food. Finicky eaters are her life as marketing guru for Nestle Purnia. Catnip anyone?

NO CHURCH KEY NEEDED.

Locked doors can't stop some members of the choir. When the doors wouldn't open at Broadway United Methodist in Indy, one soprano pried open a window and climbed on in landing in the balcony.

IT'S ONLY SWEAT. Does a choir go flat or sharp when the loft reaches 90 degrees? One thing's for sure, it cools off anyway it can. A wig went flying for Alto **Kristie Whitney** during a break. And Soprano **Mary Dean** turned into a water girl pouring liquid for the masses.

TOURING COMPANY. Our choir travels as a self-contained unit.



You never know who you can trust. Especially if it involves food and Soprano Sue Woolweaver. Here, she lifts a crab leg from an unsuspecting Tenor Don Erhardt during dinner at Keith's American Bistro.

On the Indy trip, we brought along two lawyers, a dentist, an orthopedic surgeon, and a nurse.

HELP ME.

Only one casualty was reported on the trip when spouse Sandy Ford fell face first into the hotel hallway carpet.

SHE WORE VELVET. Alto **Jackie Smith** elected to get



Yes, that's Soprano Barb Barrett in front of the Great Wall of China. This summer she visited her son Ryan who lives in Shanghai

married instead of going to Indy. Bass **Tom Lawrence** crashed her Vegas wedding unannounced and uninvited, relaying progress reports to a cell phone on the returning Indy bus.

SHHHHH.

Don't tell choir robe matron Alto **Melissa Larsen**, but we didn't wear our robes at the Broadway church and we left them on the bus overnight. Mums the word.

HAT BOXES ONLY. Fortunately there were empty seats on the bus to hold the packages from the massive shopping junkets to the Nordstrom next door to the Indy hotel. One soprano was overheard saying there isn't anything like this in St. Louis, but couldn't find anything she wanted.

BLUES LICKS. Some of the more rowdy choir members hung out one night at the Slippery Noodle Saloon in Indy. The group is said to have picked up some new vocal techniques and Choir President **Jim Descher** is anxious for the next gospel concert.

FOX TROT. This year's holiday party left Santa out in the cold with the reindeer. But, reigning Choir Queen **Joy Parisien** showed everyone that royalty can also have happy feet.

Those two women following Soprano **Barb Barrett** around the Rascals game were her sisters. She assures us they aren't triplets and only slightly resemble each other. They were so impressed with the O'Fallon ballpark they left the next morning for China. Haven't seen 'em since.

Answers: Repo man Chris Kennedy, actuary Kathryn Cox, and nurse Sandra Schlicht-Wiechel.